

Leader Board

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Howard County Farm Family of the Year.
Section C

Soup kitchen, pantry boxes Wednesday at MS church

The Mineral Springs Church of Christ soup kitchen with pantry boxes will be Wednesday, June 24, from 2-5 p.m.

The menu includes sandwiches, chips and cookies.

Grab and Go Meals for children 18 and under will continue each Monday and Thursday from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

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

SOUP KITCHEN
MINERAL SPRINGS CHURCH OF CHRIST
318 BRIDGEMAN DRIVE, MINERAL SPRINGS
JUNE 24 - 2 PM-5 PM
MENU: SANDWICH, CHIPS, COOKIES
Pantry Boxes available!
SOUP KITCHEN SCHEDULE:
SECOND AND FOURTH WEDNESDAYS, 2-5 PM
AT THE CHURCH BUILDING
870-451-4441
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Homecoming planned at Center Point July 3-5

The bi-annual Center Point homecoming will be July 3-5.

Registration will begin at 5 p.m. on Friday, July 3, and resume at 10 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Headquarters will be at the Center Point Community Center, 210 N. Center Point St.

Early bird registration is \$45; after that registration will be \$55.

Information may be mailed to Carolyn Jefferson, 184 Texas St., Nashville, AR 71852.

Howard County Fair and carnival Aug. 24-28 at fairgrounds in Nashville

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Planning for 2026-27 continues at Nashville

By Jjohn R. Schirmer
News-Leader staff

The Nashville School Board Monday night continued preparations for the 2026-27 academic year, dealing with matters ranging from personnel to school supplies.

The board approved the following hires:

Clara Prater, junior high girls basketball coach and teacher. Prater is a graduate of Vilonia High School and Arkansas Tech University, where she played basketball for the Golden Suns.

J.T. Carter, IT technician

Kim Greenfield, primary ALE teacher
Lee Greenfield, secondary math

There were no resignations to consider at Monday's meeting.

Board members accepted a recommendation from Superintendent Doug Graham to purchase school supplies for primary and elementary students at a total cost of \$40,000.

The board approved \$25,000 of federal Title I funds for primary school supplies and \$15,000 for elementary.

"This is in line with what we've done in the past," Graham said.

The district has purchased supplies for those two campuses in recent years.

In other business, Graham reported that one of the three buses involved in a wreck near Benton on a senior class trip has been totaled by the insurance company.

"We received payment in full for that bus," Graham said, in the amount of \$150,000.

The district received three bids to replace the totaled vehicle, according to Graham.

They included International at a cost of \$156,635; Blue Bird \$174,086; and Thomas, \$166,457.

The board approved Graham's recommendation to accept the bid from International. "Basically, we'll buy it for \$6,000 in district money with the rest from the insurance settlement," he said.

Graham gave an update on campus painting projects during the summer.

They include painting the hallways at Nashville High School, faded lettering, arena handrails, two primary classrooms, four primary restrooms, primary school handrails, elementary school

See School • Page 5A



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

DISCUSSION OF HANDBOOKS. Nashville school administrators reviewed proposed changes in their student handbooks at the school board meeting Monday night. The group includes Ashley Riggs, Michael Coffee, Mirando Serrano and Nathan Evans.

City, county to share mobile command costs

By Louie Graves
News-Leader staff

Nashville and Howard County will share costs of the purchase and rigging of a mobile RV command center.

Mayor Larry Dunaway, Fire Marshal Justin Thornton and Police Chief Amy Marion shared speaking duties to tell the city council Monday that they had purchased the vehicle and that it had been transported from Washington State. The city's cost following

renovations is \$20,082, the council was told.

Aldermen were told that local officials involved in a recent manhunt were impressed by a mobile command center brought from Miller County to assist in the search.

The vehicle can be used by the county sheriff, the Office of Emergency Services, city police, and others.

The vehicle has a total of 12,000 miles, and is a 2006 model on a

frame designed for these uses. It is prepared for the city's radios and computers.

The city and county were unable to follow usual purchase provisions because of time constraints, the aldermen were told.

In its brief meeting for June, the council heard an economic development update from Vanessa Weeks, executive director of Developing Howard County, who said there were some current developments she was unable to disclose.

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

Also present were Mayor Dunaway, Police Chief Marion, Fire Marshal Thornton, Finance Director Kimberly Green, City Recorder Lauren Clements, Parks and Recreation Director Meghan Floyd and Code Enforcement Officer David Riggs.



News-Leader file photo/DEDE ROBINSON

PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION. Fireworks explode over the Nashville City Park at the 2025 Stand Up for America event. The 2026 edition of Stand Up will be Saturday, July 4.

Stand Up to offer music, fireworks July 4 at city park

Country music star Neal McCoy will be the headliner for the Stand Up for America patriotic celebration Saturday, July 4, at the Nashville City Park.

Among McCoy's hit songs are "No Doubt About It," "Wink," "Billy's Got His Beer Goggles On" and "The Shake."

Gates will open at 4:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 each for ages 13 and up. Children ages 6-12 will be admitted for \$10. Those ages 5 and under will be admitted free.

Tickets are available from the Nashville Chamber of Commerce. They may also be purchased from the chamber website at nashvillearcoc.com or by scanning the QR code on the Stand Up for America ad on page 1B.

The Stand Up event will include food trucks, bounce houses, face painting and music.

There will be a fireworks display after McCoy's performance.

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



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

SIXTY-FIVE DAYS TO KICKOFF. "MJ" Jefferson (19) eludes a tackler during team camp earlier this month at Ouachita Baptist University. The Scrapppers will begin the season Friday, Aug. 28, against Bismarck at Scrapper Stadium.

Scrapppers to host Lions in season opener Aug. 28

The Nashville Scrapppers will open the football season with a home game against Bismarck Friday, Aug. 28.

Kickoff is set for 7:30 p.m.

Nashville will play three straight non-conference games before an open date Sept. 18.

The District 7-4A race will begin Sept. 25 with a home game against Arkadelphia.

Fouke and Hope are joining the district, replacing Haskell Harmony Grove and Bauxite.

Hope has been a non-conference contest in the past, but the Bobcats are in 7-4A for the 2026-28 classification cycle.

Fans will get an early look at the Scrapppers at the Back-to-School Bash Friday, Aug. 7.

Nashville will host Hot Springs Lakeside Tuesday, Aug. 18, at 7 p.m. in an Arkansas Activities As-

sociation benefit game.

The regular season includes the following:

Aug. 28 - Bismarck, home, 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 4 - Magnolia, away, 7 p.m.

Sept. 11 - Arkansas High, home, 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 18 - Open date

Sept. 25 - Arkadelphia*, home, 7 p.m.

Oct. 2 - Fountain Lake*, away, 7 p.m.

Oct. 9 - Fouke*, home, 7 p.m. (Homecoming)

Oct. 16 - Ashdown*, away, 7 p.m.

Oct. 23 - Hope*, away, 7 p.m.

Oct. 30 - Malvern*, home, 7 p.m.

Nov. 6 - Genoa Central*, away, 7 p.m.

The Class 4A playoffs will begin Nov. 13.

* District 7-4A game

Coming up

Arkansas Activities Association dead weeks through July 5
7-on-7 at Ashdown July 7 and 14
7-on-7 at Lake Hamilton July 9
7-on-7 at Hope July 21
School starts Aug. 3
Back-to-School Bash Aug. 7



Obituaries



Glen A. Sweeden

Glen A. Sweeden, age 76, of Murfreesboro, Ark., passed away on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, in Hot Springs, Ark. He was born Sept. 17, 1949, in Daisy, Ark., the son of the late Preston and Elice Crow Sweeden.

Mr. Sweeden was a member of Saline Church of Christ and served as Elder. He enjoyed being outdoors, fishing and hunting when he had the opportunity. But more importantly he enjoyed being with his family and going on trips with Susie.

Glen, alongside Susie, were the owner and operators of Sweeden Tractor in Murfreesboro for 44 years. Customer service was very important to him, and he was always on call and ready to assist his customers who were needing help no matter the day or time.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one sister, Gail Russell, two nephews Preston "Pep" Glenn and John Jones and one niece Misty Boatwright.

Survivors include: his wife of 50 years, Susie Sweeden of Murfreesboro; two daughters, Kerri Beth Curry (Jonathan) of Hot Springs, and Jenni Sue Hayes (Robert) of Damascus; Papa's pride of his life, his two grandchildren Caleb and Kellen Curry both of Hot Springs, his honorary grandson Blaze Lucas. Also survived by two sisters Gloria Bagwell (Jerry Lee), Genesa Sarasin (Ted) of Red Oak, Texas; two nephews Garrett Sarasin, Harold Glenn and one niece Kathey Hawthorne. As well as his special fur pal Buddy.

Visitation will be 10 a.m., until service time Saturday, June 20, at Murfreesboro Church of Christ.

Memorial services will begin at 11 a.m., Saturday, June 20, at Murfreesboro Church of Christ, with Buddy Ray, Roger Cox and Logan Foshee officiating, under the direction of Latimer Funeral Home in Murfreesboro.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Saline Church of Christ, 23 Sweeden Ln. Murfreesboro, AR 71958, or Pleasant Home Cemetery, P.O. Box 350, Murfreesboro, AR 71958.

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

Eddie Raymond Brown

Eddie Raymond Brown, 82 of Hope, Ark., formerly of Tollette, Ark., died Sunday, June 14, 2026. He was born Nov. 14, 1943, in Tollette, Ark., to the late Zebedee Brown and Willie Lee Murrell Brown. He was retired from Weyerhaeuser.

Services will be Saturday, June 27, 2026, at 11 a.m. at First Church of God in Christ in Tollette with burial to follow in Crofton Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Nashville Funeral Home.



William Dean Murray

William Dean Murray, 73, of Nashville, Ark., co-owner of Murray and Company Realty, went to be with the Lord on June 14, 2026. He was born on May 29, 1953, in Nashville, Ark., to the late William Thaddeus Murray and Christine Shankles Murray.

Dean is survived by his loving wife of 40 years, Carol Murray; his children, Kara McMillan, Jesse Gomez (Juany), Kara McMillan, Kristi Wall (Kamby), Tracey Cagle (Chad), Stacey Murray, Julie Murray, and Thad Murray; 13 grandchildren; Sammantha Gomez, Ashley Gomez, Kenzie Gomez, Kenzie Wall, Kylie Wall, Everette Cagle, Claire Cagle, Alyssa Barnhart, Xavier Adams, Christan Barnhart, Nicolette Barnhart, Logan Taylor, James Dean Murray and one great-grandchild, Cruz Perez. He was preceded in death by his parents and an infant son, Jacob Boone Murray. He was a huge NASCAR fan and dearly loved his family and doing for others. He also loved tinkering with his tractor and playing with his companion, his dog Boccoe who he cooked for. If you could not find anything check for his notes that he left with a sharpie. Dean will be remembered for his devotion to his family, his faith, and his service to the Nashville community. His memory will be cherished by all who knew and loved him.

In lieu of flowers memorials in his honor may be made to the Howard County Children's Center, 1577 Hwy 371 West, Nashville, AR 71852.

Funeral Services were held Saturday, June 20, 2026 at 11 a.m. at Nashville Funeral Home with Bro. Kevin Sartin and Dr. Glen Lance officiating.

Lisa Vonne Welch

Lisa Vonne Welch 57, of Nashville died June 19, 2026. She was born April 11, 1969, in Murfreesboro, the daughter

of Ray Fendley and the late Schevonne Gresham Fendley.

Survivors include: her husband, Robert Welch of Nashville; her father, Ray Fendley; her two children, Paycie Welch, and Bevonne Scott and husband Brandon, all of Nashville; a brother, Steven Fendley and wife Leslie of Nashville; and three grandchildren.

She was a member of Murfreesboro Church of Christ.

Services will be Thursday, June 25, 2026, at 11 a.m. at Nashville Funeral Home with Buddy Ray officiating. Burial will follow in College Hill Cemetery near Murfreesboro. The family will receive friends from 10 a.m. until service time at the funeral home.



Jesse Earl Young

Jesse Earl Young, 83, of Nashville, Ark., passed away on Thursday, June 18, 2026, in Hot Springs, Ark. He was born Oct. 24, 1942, in De Queen, Ark., the son of the late Oscar and Maggie Mignon Mills Young.

Mr. Young was a member of the Church of Christ. He was a longtime Scrapper Band Booster, a Boy Scout and Cub Scout leader, and a lifelong Razorback fan. Jesse was a proud United States Marine serving from 1964 to 1967. During his career he was employed for 40 years with Tyson Foods. He also had the honor of receiving the Nashville Chamber of Commerce Man of the Year Award in 1993.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his five brothers and sisters.

Survivors include his wife of nearly 62 years, Sharyn Young of Nashville; two sons David Young of Nashville, Mark Young of North Little Rock, and one grandson, Adam Byers, as well as a number of nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be 5-7 p.m., Wednesday, June 24, at Latimer Funeral Home in Nashville.

Graveside services will be 11 a.m., Thursday, June 25, at Redmen Cemetery in De Queen, with James Jamison officiating, under the direction of Latimer Funeral Home in Nashville.

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



WELCOME TO NASHVILLE. A ribbon-cutting Thursday morning welcomed new chamber member Chimney Solutions and Roof Commander. The company is opening a bricks-and-mortar headquarters here. At the ribbon-cutting were, from left, Ruby Floyd, 9, holding Floyd, a rescue dog, Ruby's aunt Dena Floyd Tollett, company president Dustin Henderson, his associate John Strickland, and chamber board members Susie Berruquin and Jim Pinson.

FINANCIAL FOCUS by Josh Tice, Edward Jones Investments

How do you see your retirement?

portant, but it's only part of the picture. If you're within five to 10 years of your target retirement date, it's time to start thinking about what you actually want your retirement to look like. After all, getting to retirement isn't the end goal — it's what you want to do once you're there that matters.

Start by asking yourself these five questions.

When do you want to retire? The age at which you retire matters more than you may realize. Retiring early sounds appealing, but it means saving more and having less time to do it. It can also create gaps in health care coverage and income before key benefits kick in. For example, Social Security benefits can begin at 62, but at a reduced amount. Full benefits are available between ages 66 and 67, depending on birth year, and waiting until 70 means the maximum benefit. Medicare doesn't start until age 65, and penalty-free withdrawals from retirement accounts generally aren't allowed until age 59½.

For couples, timing gets even more complicated. Staggering retirement dates can sometimes maximize benefits; in other cases, retiring at the same time works better.

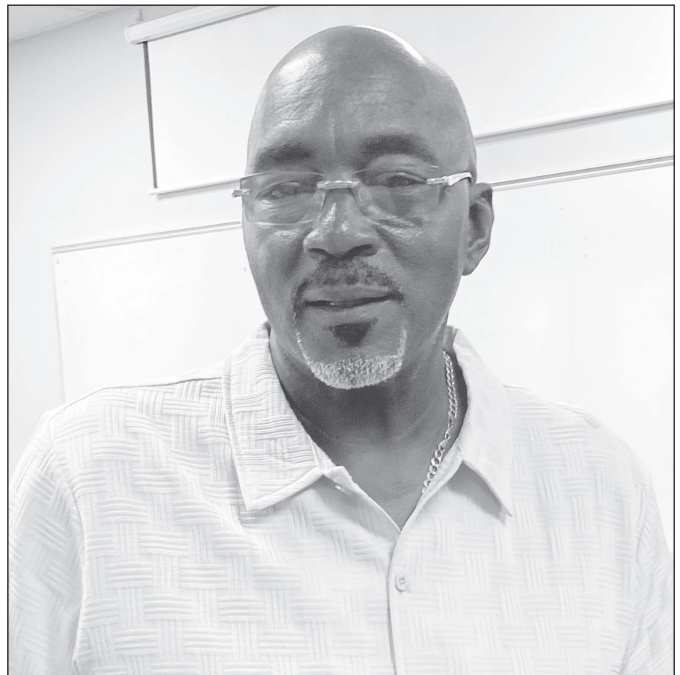
A financial advisor can help you sort through these decisions and find the approach that makes the most sense for your situation.

How do you want to spend your time in retirement? Many new retirees are surprised to find that having unlimited free time feels disorienting rather than freeing. Thinking ahead about how to fill the days with meaningful activity — whether

that's travel, volunteering, pursuing hobbies or spending more time with family — can make the transition smoother.

It helps to sketch out what a typical week, month or even first year might look like. If there are big gaps, it's worth thinking now about what might fill them in rewarding ways.

Where do you want to live as a retiree? Some retirees stay put, while others downsize or relocate entirely. Either way, it's wise to consider whether a chosen location will work well as you get older, taking into account factors like proximity to family, access to health care, cost of living and climate.



"JUNETEENTH." Many people do not understand the significance of "Juneteenth" which celebrates the delivery the message of freedom from slavery to still-enslaved people in Galveston, Texas. The announcement came nearly two years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the legislation, Kevin Brazile told Nashville Rotarians, Wednesday. Brazile said that the holiday was dear to him, and that he frequently speaks or preaches on the subject. Brazile will be a part of the July 4 Stand Up for America gala in the city park.

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Catholic Mass times here will change in July

Weekend Mass times will change at St. Martin Catholic Church in Nashville beginning Saturday, July 4.

The congregation is getting a new priest, Fr. Martin Siebold, whose residence will be in Hope where he

also has responsibility for Our Lady of Good Hope.

Saturday Mass here will be in Spanish at 6:30 p.m.

On Sunday, there will be a bi-lingual Mass at 8 a.m. Other changes will be announced.

In Memory



Chris Kitchens
August 23, 1980 - June 25, 2005
We Love & Miss You!!!
Mom, Dad and Family

The Nashville News-Leader

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Public Record of Howard County

Items or documents that were filed, issued or recorded at the Howard County, Ark., courthouse during the period June 11-17, 2026, unless noted otherwise, included the following:

Marriage Licenses
(Marriage licenses cost \$60 at the County Clerk's office)

June 12. Bruce Tyler Spears, 33, Amity, and Jaci Dawn Tune, 32, Amity.

Civil Court
CV26-101, June 10. Velocity Investments LLC vs. Leah Stagers. Debt.

CV26-102, June 15. Cavalry SPV vs. Sarah Parker. Contract.

CV26-103, June 16. Southland Management vs. Courtney Hendrick. Unlawful detainer.

CV26-104, June 16. Nashville Rural Water vs. Eric Billings. Contract.

CV26-105, June 17. Deere & Company vs. Brandon Mays. Debt.

CV26-106, June 17. Bank of America vs. Rita Stewart. Debt.

Domestic Relations Court
DR26-55, June 15. Kerri Foster vs. Stephen Foster. Divorce.

DR26-56, June 15. Gustavo Santamaria vs. Leticia Organista Bibliano. Custody.

DR26-57, June 15. Teresa

Reese vs. Cameron Reese. Divorce.

Criminal Court
(NOTE: POCS = possession of controlled substance; PODP = possession of drug paraphernalia; DOCS = delivery of controlled substance. Defendants are innocent until proven otherwise.)

CR26-39, June 15. State of Arkansas vs. David Bentley, 61, white male, 1894 Hwy. 371W, Nashville; POCS, class D felony; PODP, class D.

CR26-40, June 15. State of Arkansas vs. Lauren D. Harris, 30, white female, Mineral Springs; 1st degree terroristic threatening, class D.

CR26-41, June 15. State of Arkansas vs. Holly N. Watts, 34, white female, 115 Murphy Lane, Nashville; POCS class C; POCS misdemeanor; PODP class D; Public intoxication, misdemeanor; furnishing prohibited articles, class B.

Land/Property Transactions

Quitclaim Deed
June 12. Linda Pate and Patrick Lamb; to Brenda Spradling; Lots 18-19-20 and part of Lot 21, Block 44, Town of Nashville.

Executor's Deed
June 15. Cody Colbey, executor of the estate of Donald Joe Chandler, deceased;

to Cody Colbey, 1.3 ac. in S28 T7S R28W.

June 15. Cody Colbey, executor of the estate of Donald Joe Chandler, deceased; to Marissa Colbey; 0.5 ac. in S30 T7S R28W.

Trustee Deed
June 15. (Successor) Cynthia L. Prescott, successor trustee of the Reid Family Trust; to William Reid Prescott; 12 ac. in S23 T7S R28W.

Warranty Deed
June 12. Tim E. Shields and wife Lily M. Shields; to Melanie Musick and husband Verl Musick; property in S24 T9S R27W in the City of Nashville. \$227,500.

June 15. Cody Tedford and wife Kara Tedford; to William Stewart and wife Cheyenne Stewart; property in S3 T5S R28W.

June 16. Loren Roy Conrad and wife Kimela A. Conrad; to Carley Conrad; undivided 1/3 interest in 0.89 ac. in S23 T9S R27W.

June 16. (Special) Federal National Mortgage Association; to Kara Danielle Tedford; Lots 9-10-11-12, Block 25, and Lot 1, Block 28, Original Town of Dierks. \$43,325.

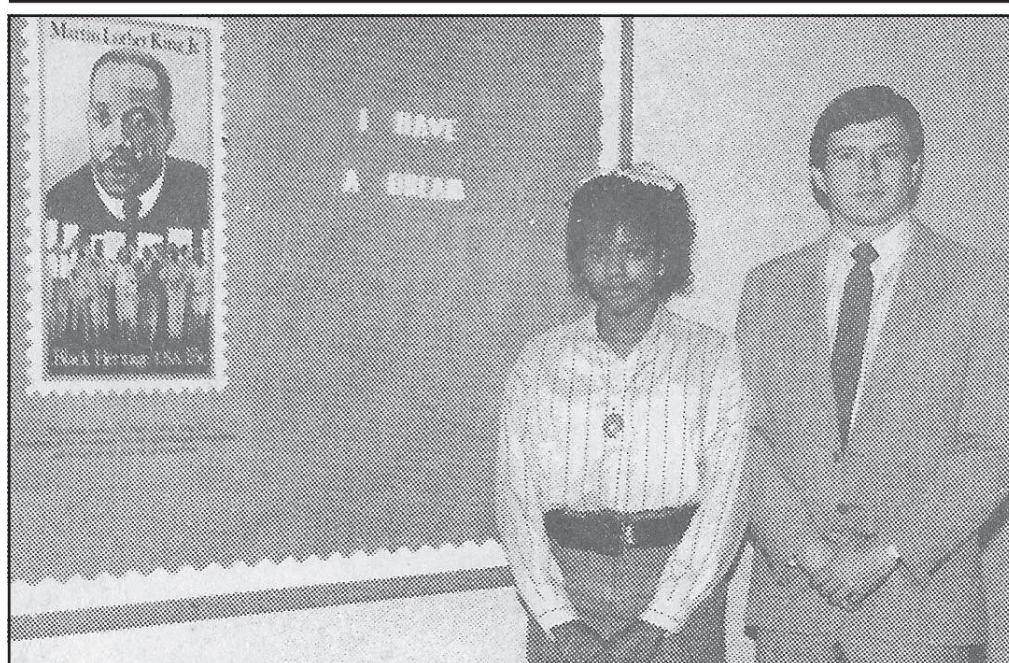
June 17. Simcha Z. Stern, et al; to Casey Roberts; property in S17 T10S R27W. \$12,000.



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



Nashville Junior High Student Council president Angelia Vaughn and Principal Tom DeBlack led a tribute to the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1988.

140 years ago: June 1886
During the past month an enormous black bear has been seen on several occasions in the neighborhood of Mr. J. B. Chesshir's farm. Some five miles north of this city.

On last Monday night the 21st, a hunting party from Corinth, lead by James and Joseph Jameson, raised his bearship, and after a lively chase of several hours, across farms, through briar thickets and swamps, during which the dogs were severely punished by the enraged beast, the party all drew off, except the Jameson boys, who kept close up behind the dogs throughout the night.

They were joined early Tuesday morning by Robert Malden, A.G. Hale, Doc Hale, Jord Hale, M. H. Hale, Tom Russell, Jno. Ferguson, J.A. Jones and Wm. Dorsey.

The chase was a most exciting one, and ended in the death of bruin about 10

o'clock Tuesday. Probably 25 shots were fired. The fatal bolt came from an old-fashioned long-range rifle in the hands of Wm. Dorsey. The bear measured 7 ft. and weighed 300 pounds.

120 years ago: July 1906
A Texas girl may die from rattlesnake bite on a train. While on her way from her home at Temple, Texas, to Chautauqua, N.Y. a few days ago, Miss Bettie Murell was bitten by a rattlesnake, which was in her berth in the sleeping car.

She received prompt medical treatment and continued her journey. Advices from Chautauqua say her condition is serious. She was unconscious for several hours. The snake was killed. How the reptile came to the berth is an unsolved mystery.

104 years ago: July 1922
The city council of Nashville passed an ordinance

making it unlawful for chickens or other fowls to run at large within the city.

45 years ago: July 1981
Three youths have been implicated in the vandalism of all four Nashville public schools early this week.

One of the youths is a junior high student, one is a junior high dropout and one recently moved into the area, according to police. Superintendent Carl Barger said that the damage could run as high as \$400. Windows were broken and offices entered and ransacked at the primary, elementary, junior high and senior high facilities.

Two of the youths were caught in the hallway by Barger and a policeman who had been alerted by an exerciser, late Tuesday night, but they escaped on foot. City officer Oliver Pugh later apprehended the youths. The trio faces charges in juvenile court.

Bench trial, jury trial dates set in Howard County criminal court

Dates for a bench trial and a jury trial were set or confirmed last Wednesday, June 17, during the regular day for criminal court in Howard County.

On the bench was Judge Tom Cooper.

The bench trial -- without a jury -- is for Meagan Hill, 31, white female, Nashville, who is actually facing two separate cases filed in 2025. She is charged with possession of controlled substance in one case, and with second degree domestic battery in the other. Her trial is set for July 22.

A jury will possibly be called for an Aug. 25 trial of Steven Williams, 50, white male, Foreman, who is charged with a class D felony, possession of controlled substance. Motions were set for 10 days earlier.

In a probation revocation trial, Bethany Sigman, 32, white female, Nashville, was charged with failure to meet terms of her probation on a 2022 conviction for drug possession. After pleading true she was sentenced to three years in the Arkansas Department of Correction with a further four years suspended imposition of

sentence.

Trial dates
The judge also set dates for pretrial motions and potential jury trials for:

-- Colby Westbrook, 30, white male, De Queen, charged with residential burglary and theft of property, has an Aug. 5 date for pretrial motions.

-- Alex Allen, 24, white male, Lockesburg, charged with residential burglary and theft of property, has an Aug. 5 date for pretrial motions.

-- Tonia Stapleton, 42, white female, Saratoga, charged with trafficking fentanyl, class Y felony, and possession of controlled substance, class C, has a Sept. 30 date for pretrial motions.

-- Preston Roberson, 57, black male, Nashville, charged with felon in possession of firearm and with aggravated assault, has an Aug. 5 date for pretrial motions.

-- Robert Johnson, 56, black male, Nashville, charged with theft of property and two misdemeanors, has an Aug. 5 date for pretrial motions.

-- Holly Watts, 41, white female, Nashville, charged

with two counts of drug possession, possession of drug paraphernalia, public intoxication, and furnishing prohibited articles, has an Aug. 12 date for pretrial motions.

-- Gonzalez Chrisp, 73, black male, Ozan, charged with drug possession and paraphernalia possession, has a June 24 date for pretrial motions.

-- David Bentley, 61, white male, Nashville, charged with felony counts of drug possession and paraphernalia possession, has an Aug. 5 date for pretrial motions.

WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT

The City of Dierks will be accepting applications for a full time position (40 hours a week) for the **Water Department** through July 1, 2026 until 3:00 p.m. There will be a 30 day trial period after which you will be evaluated. Benefits include 15 paid holidays, retirement and insurance.

This position requires:

1. A high school diploma or GED is preferred
2. A valid driver's license

GENERAL JOB SUMMARY

1. Taking water payments
2. Answering phones
3. Must have general computer skills
4. Have the ability to work well with others as well as by themselves.
5. Must be able to count money, make change.
6. Other job task as assigned by the Mayor.

The above information is intended to describe the general nature of this position. Any previous experience is helpful but not necessary.

Interested persons may obtain application at the Dierks City Hall, 202 West Third St. Dierks, AR. 71833

Candidates desiring to be considered for the above position should address each of the above requirements within the body of their resume/application. The City of Dierks reserves the right to reject any and all applications.

The City of Dierks is an equal Opportunity Employer.

NOTICE OF VACANCY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HOWARD COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

The public is hereby notified that a position on the Board of Commissioners of the Howard County Housing Authority will become vacant on June 30, 2026. The new term will expire on June 30, 2031. Anyone interested in applying for the vacancy must be a resident of Howard County, and able and willing to participate in regularly scheduled and emergency meetings of the Board of Commissioners.

Those interested should contact Ross Allen, Executive Director at 870.845.1080 for more information, or submit a letter of application to the Howard County Housing Authority at PO Box 238, Nashville, AR 71852.

The board will meet to consider applications on July 1, 2026, so applications should be submitted before that time.

Women, minorities, and those currently enrolled in HCHA rental assistance programs are encouraged to apply.

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Point of view

It's just a mimic Natural talent derails my Epstein, Hormuz torment

YES, I AM STILL HERE peeking out my window on Main Street, and I want to tell you about an event that made me become very reflective on a recent early morning as I waited for the coffee to cool. I was seated comfortably on my patio and was contemplating a mockingbird which was perched on a highline in the alley. I could tell it was a mockingbird because of the way it flicked its tail. It was singing at the top of its precious little mockingbird lungs.

My mind was already scrambling to find something other than the Strait of Hormuz or Epstein's List to think about.

So, I thought about the mockingbird. "That bird is so smart and talented," I said to myself, reminded that the mockingbird is the State Bird of Arkansas and got its name by reportedly mocking the songs of other birds.

Do they really do that? Really? All birds?

Almost as if on cue it began cooing like a dove.

Wow! How talented! Did the mockingbird Mom teach her fledgling to do that? I had no idea it could 'do' doves.

It cooed again. Such a mournful yet lovely song.

For moment at least the Strait and Epstein were out of mind, thanks to this bird's talent.

Wow! It must have actually earned its name by mimicking sounds it heard in its surroundings.

Coooo. Cooooo. Wow, the mockingbird not only mocks the sound of a dove, it does it extremely well. I admired this morning's real life performance for awhile.

The Almighty --- through our human nature --- has given us the gift to appreciate the unique offering of this bird.

In all honesty I'm fairly sure that the bird isn't mimicking other birds solely for our pleasure.

Coooooooo. But I was really impressed by its dove imitation.

By this time my coffee had cooled to sipping temperature. As I lifted the cup some movement on the ground nearby caught my attention.

It was a dove.



THE STRANGEST THING. Seven or eight years ago I departed from my regular brand of toothpaste and decided to try Arm & Hammer because it contained baking soda. But I only used it one time because it made my lips and gums burn. I must've been allergic.

Threw the tube away.

Years passed and I decided to try it again. Maybe they've changed the ingredients, I thought. Or maybe I've evolved.

But no. Brushed with it one time and had the same allergic results.

I asked Mr. Google, and, yes, that brand sometimes causes "swollen lips, mouth sores, a burning tongue or perioral dermatitis (which I won't bother trying to explain right now).

When I finally convinced my daughter I didn't need to go to the emergency room, I sneaked back to the bathroom and threw the tube into the trashcan.



AN OBITUARY in Sunday's "Texarkana Gazette" caught my eye. It was for a Stamps, Ark., lady named Mary Ann Cowling, 86. She was apparently very active in her community -- a teacher; played organ and piano at her church.

She was also the widow of a man I knew named Joe Cowling. He was gone from high school by the time I got there.

Joe is the reason for this brief note in today's column.

He was a great Scrapper fullback and was a pretty good trombone player in the band.

He was one of my idols. I remembered a game -- Scrappers were playing here against Hot Springs. Joe burst into the open and it was going to be a long footrace to the end zone. He handed the ball off to speedster teammate Woody Futrell who easily outran the Hot Springs defenders.

After starring here Joe went off and eventually became mayor of Stamps.

Joe had an older brother, Bobby, who played football for the Rice Owls, the Razorbacks and, finally, the Henderson Reddies, if my memory is intact. Their family lived on Sunset Street.



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



WORD GAMES. They're the Lying twins: New and Improved.



HE SAID: "From a small seed a mighty trunk may grow." Aeschylus, playwright
"Great Oaks from Little Acorns Grow," school motto, Acorn, Ark., near Mena



SHE SAID: "Our attention spans have been reduced by the immediate gratification provided by smartphones and social media." Katherine Ryan -- Canadian comedian

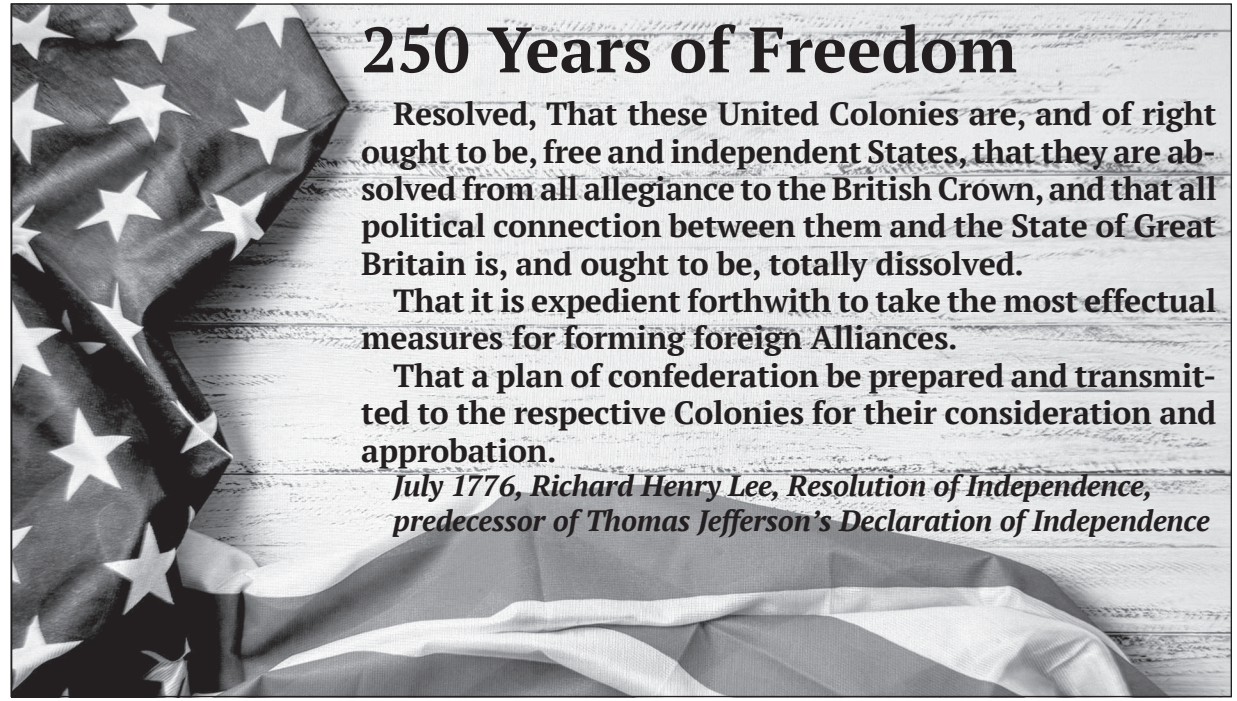


SWEET DREAMS, Baby

Mine Creek Revelations



By
Louie Graves



250 Years of Freedom

Resolved, That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved.

That it is expedient forthwith to take the most effectual measures for forming foreign Alliances.

That a plan of confederation be prepared and transmitted to the respective Colonies for their consideration and approbation.

July 1776, Richard Henry Lee, Resolution of Independence, predecessor of Thomas Jefferson's Declaration of Independence

Legislative council looks at changes to school vouchers, other state issues

By State Sen. Jimmy Hickey
The Arkansas Legislative Council (ALC) and its subcommittees met this week.

ALC is one of the most important legislative committees that meet in the interim between legislative sessions.

Through its various subcommittees, it provides legislative oversight of the executive branch of government.

The Hospital, Medicaid, and Developmental Disabilities Study Subcommittee met Monday morning. Members reviewed presentations related to Workforce Implementation, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, an overview of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and more.

That afternoon, the Administrative Rules Committee met to review and discuss changes to rules in the Arkansas Children's Education Freedom Account (EFA) Program.

The changes include requiring parents to receive pre-approval from the Department of Education for any purchases that are not considered core educational expenses.

The rules make fees for some community or homeschool athletic leagues reimbursable while restricting expenditures for sports that limit participation based on tryouts. Equipment or travel costs would also not be considered eli-

gible expenses.

The new rules also cut the amount of EFA funds that can be carried over from year to year, from \$20,000 to \$8,500.

Tuesday morning, the Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Subcommittee (PEER) reviewed various temporary appropriation requests from the Maternal Health Outreach Media Campaign, Wynne High School, the State Police, and more. Members also reviewed federal grant appropriation requests, fund transfers, and various other items.

That afternoon, the ALC Review subcommittee reviewed methods of finance, discretionary grants, reports, and service contracts for state universities and departments.

The ALC Lottery Oversight Subcommittee reviewed the proposed budget for the Arkansas Lottery for fiscal year 2027.

On Wednesday, the State Insurance Programs Oversight Committee reviewed and approved contracts from the Employee Benefits Division and Office of Property Risk.

The Personnel Subcommittee reviewed and approved requests from the Office of Personnel Management and the Department of Military, among others.

On Thursday, five Arkansas Legislative Council subcommittees met to review items ranging from a "one door" model to allow Ar-

kansans to access employment, job training, and social services from a single framework to asbestos abatement programs and law enforcement standards and training.

The Executive Committee reviewed rules pertaining to consolidation and annexation of school districts and approved \$2 million in funding so that parent districts are not financially harmed when a campus forms a new district.

Four isolated school districts in the state are leaving parent districts for the upcoming school year.

Umpire is detaching from the Cossatot River School District. Kingston will separate from the Jasper School District, and Timbo and Rural Special are separating from the Mountain View School District.

Legislators were also updated on the construction of the new Arkansas State Crime Laboratory and new technologies and methods that the lab is using to improve turnaround times.

The reports of this week's ALC subcommittees were reviewed and approved in the full ALC meeting on Friday.

After ALC adjourned, the Senate met in chamber to approve recent gubernatorial appointments to state commissions and boards.

You can watch the full meetings on demand and download related documents at <https://arkleg.state.ar.us/>.

Arkansas's Fourth District offers many options for higher education

By U.S. Rep. Bruce Westerman
The success of higher education isn't necessarily measured by the number of diplomas distributed, but by the lasting impacts of its graduates on society.

Through stronger communities, greater economic opportunity, and excellent leadership, these scholars often yield a return on the investment made in their education in immeasurable dividends.

Here in the Fourth Congressional District, we are especially blessed with so many wonderful options for receiving an education after high school graduation.

From the northern part of the district all the way down to the southernmost portion, I'm always pleased to visit with leaders from these colleges and universities to hear more about the deep, personal impact they are making on the lives of their students.

Through education programs that provide hands-on opportunities, like trade schools or vocational training, and a typical lecture hall experience, these schools are providing future generations of Arkansans with the tools they need to pour back into their communities and become exceptional leaders.

Last week, I had the privilege of visiting Arkansas Tech in Russellville and the University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana.

During these visits, the staff took great care to make sure my staff and I were able to hear and see how these higher education institutions are benefiting their local communities.

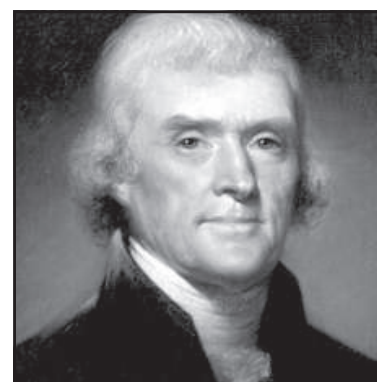
Coming back to Washington, D.C., last week with these visits fresh in my mind, it was certainly easy to vote in support of legislation brought to the floor of the

House of Representatives that works to benefit our schools and students alike.

The No Aid for Ghost Students Act of 2026 puts measures in place to ensure that student aid funding isn't being drained by bad actors who take advantage of such a beneficial system through scams or fraud.

It is crucial that schools verify student identity for applications that have been flagged as suspicious before disbursing the aid. And more awareness must be brought to the school's attention if any suspicion of identity fraud is detected.

House members continue to deliver on our promise of rooting out waste, fraud, and abuse so that our systems can work for the people they were intended to serve, rather than those who game the system.



"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

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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.

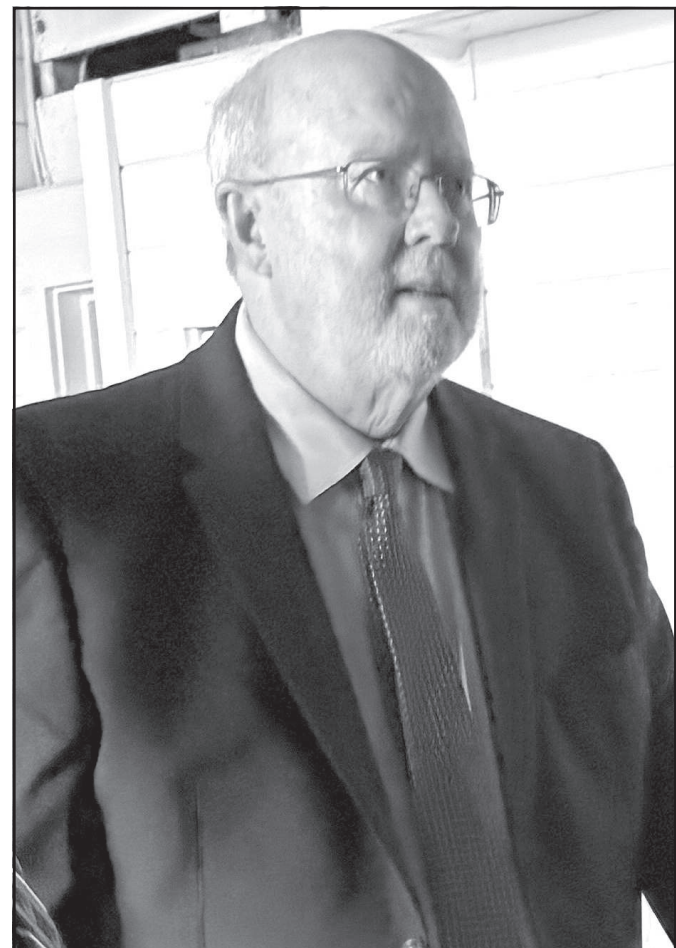
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All letters must be signed and must not be libelous, superfluous or obscene. Letters may be edited to conform to newspaper style and to fit space requirements.



Chris Benson is introduced at the Scrapper Hall of Fame induction June 13 at Midtown Social. He was among 11 Hall of Fame inductees.



Skip Moody represents his grandparents, the late E.T. and Louise Moody, at the Scrapper Hall of Honor induction June 13. There were six Hall of Honor inductees.

School

Continued from page 1A

hallway touchups, and the Scrapper Dome.

Total cost will be \$16,275. "The competitive bid was through Howard Construction," Graham said, with Boomer Brown overseeing the project.

Principals from the district's four campuses presented proposed student

handbook changes for 2026-27.

Board members approved the changes, which will be outlined in a future issue of the *News-Leader*.

The board also approved changes in Personnel Policy Committee policies based on model guidelines from the Arkansas School Board Association.

Graham reviewed the state's final accreditation report for Nashville and said the district is "fully accred-

ited by the state board by following Arkansas Department of Education rules."

Graham updated the project to install new turf at Scrapper Stadium.

"Work is scheduled to begin the first week of July, and we'll go from there. Hopefully, they will stay on time once they get started," he said.

The district is replacing the stadium's 10-year-old turf, which carried a warranty of eight years.

In the financial report, Graham said the district is 83 percent through the budget and has an operating balance of \$6,623,000.

"I remind you that July is when we make summer payments for July and August. They will drop our operating balance. There will be three months of payroll instead of one," he said.

Board members present Monday night included Jerry Wilson, David Hilliard and Tem Gunter.

Heritage Symposium set July 25 at Washington

Historic Washington State Park will host the 20th Annual Red River Heritage Symposium Saturday, July 25, from 1-5 p.m.

The theme is "Threads Along the Red River: 250 Years at One of America's Crossroads" and will focus on the significant American events that took place in the Great Bend Region of the Red River in the 19th century.

Topics and speakers will include the following:

"Hunter and Dunbar Expedition and Exploration in southwest Arkansas" by Pam Beasley of Historic Washington State Park.

"Documenting Trammel's Trace" by local histo-

rian and author Gary Pinkerton of Houston, Texas.

"Methodist Influence and Circuit Riders" by local historian Keenan Williams of Hope.

"Civil War Battle of Prairie D'Ane Archeology" by Dr. Carl Drexler of the Arkansas Archeological Survey.

As part of the symposium, an all-day Friday and Saturday workshop for teachers and researchers will take place July 24 and 25, beginning at 9 a.m. Lunch is included both days.

Teachers can earn a total of 12 credit hours by attending both days. The Saturday morning workshop will include a bus tour to sites

in southwest Arkansas and northeast Texas related to the route of Trammel's Trace. The tour is sponsored by the Arkansas State Archives.

Research workshop presenters will include staff from Historic Washington State Park, Arkansas State Archives, Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives. Sessions will incorporate Washington, Arkansas, and 19th-century-related topics into curriculum standards for the classroom.

Topics covered will include: how to document veterans of the American Revolution, free African-American communities in antebellum southwest Arkansas, Arkansas "America

250" resources, African-American highlights of southwest Arkansas, Under standing and deciphering 19th century handwriting, and law and order in the courtroom of 19th century southwest Arkansas.

The cost of attendance at the workshop and symposium is as follows:

Friday Research Workshop \$25

Saturday Morning Bus Tour \$15

Saturday Symposium \$20

All Events \$50

Check-in will begin at 8 a.m. at the 1874 Hempstead County Courthouse Visitor Center. Registration must be made by July 22; contact 870-983-2684 to register.

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65 days remaining in the Countdown to the Scrapers' season opener Aug. 28 at home against Bismarck

SEALED BIDS FOR RICH MOUNTAIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE VEHICLES

Beginning **June 1, 2026**, Rich Mountain Electric Cooperative will accept sealed bids for cooperative vehicles in our Mena Office. Anyone interested may bring in a bid in a sealed envelope, marked **BID ENCLOSED**, or mail it to P.O. Box 897, Mena, AR 71953. Please include a good contact phone number with the bid. All vehicles may be inspected by appointment at our poleyard location in Mena on Fairgrounds Road from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Contact Brian at RMEC at 479-394-4140 for an inspection appointment. **Rich Mountain Electric will accept bids until the close of business on July 3, 2026.** Winning bidders will be notified by phone once the bidding period has closed and arrangements will be made at that time for pick up. All payments must be made and vehicles/equipment must be removed by **July 10, 2026 or the bid is VOID.**

Payment methods include a personal or company check with a bank letter of guarantee.

Listed below are the vehicles/equipment available for bid:

Year	Make	Model	Engine	Mileage	Transmission	Fuel	VIN Number	Unit #
2011	Ford	1/2 Ton F15 4x4 Pickup	V8 5.0 L	144,803	Automatic	Gas	1FTMF1EF4BFC39876	2011-29
2006	Ford	3/4 Ton 4x4 Pickup	V8 5.4L	168,217	Automatic	Gas	1FTNF215X6ED84312	2006-39
2000	GMC	2 Ton Digger Truck	3126 CAT	94,603	6 Speed Manual	Diesel	1GDM7H1C5YJ527974	2000-04
2008	GMC	1-1/2 Ton C500 4x4 Basket Truck	Duramax	151,985	Automatic	Diesel	1GDE5C3928F409026	2008-10
2001	Ford	1-1/4 Ton F450 4x4 Basket Truck	7.3L	145,481	Automatic	Diesel	1FDXF47FX1EB11198	2001-21



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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.



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News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

PATRIOTIC. Nashville Elementary School singers performed at the May meeting of the Nashville School Board. Many wore red, white and blue in observance of America 250. Melisa Musick (back row, left) is the director.



News-Leader photo/EMILY GAINES

NEWS-LEADER READERS IN ALASKA. Jax Gaines, nearly 9, and Rylee Gaines, nearly 6, of Hot Springs look over a copy of the *Nashville News-Leader* at Cooper Landing, Alaska, about 100 miles south of Anchorage. Jax and Rylee spent last week visiting Anchorage and Kotzebue with their mom and dad, Emily and Tony Gaines, and their grandfather Jeff Alexander. They packed a copy of their mother's hometown newspaper to take on the trip.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

TEACHER RECOGNITION. Nashville teachers who had 80 percent or higher growth scores on the 2025 state-required Atlas test include April Sartin, Haley Davis, Alayna Scott, Karlie Worley, Nikki Ray, Jennifer Johnson, Mayra Cardona, Ginny Schwope, Viviana Bustamante, Tesla Gills, Heather Harmon, Kynnedi Parnell, Mindy Brinkman, Ashton Conrad, Monica Wallace, Aleshia Erwin, Kathryn Hughes, Jennifer Walker, Erin Bell, Deidra Murphy, Valerie Gillaspay, Sydney Howard, Ashly Simmons, Joanna Howard and Tabitha Jones.

Growth on test scores noted

The Nashville School District recently recognized teachers who had 80 percent or higher growth scores on the 2025 ATLAS test required by the Arkansas Department of Education.

They include the following:

Viviana Bustamante, Mindy Brinkman, Heather

Harmon, Ginny Schwope, Amanda Brown, Ashton Conrad, Nicole Ray, Aleshia Erwin, Jennifer Walker, Kynnedi Parnell.

Tabitha Jones, Karlie Worley, Tesla Gills, Erin Bell, Valerie Gillaspay, Krista Trimble,

April Sartin, Monica Wallace, Mayra Cardona.

Kathryn Hughes, Deidra Murphy, Ashley Simmons, Jennifer Johnson, Haley Davis, Alayna Scott, Sydney Howard and Joanna Howard.

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SPORTS LEADERS

Players of the Week as selected by The Leader sports department

Arkansas student-athletes

High school athletes throughout the state are taking a two-week break from their summer workouts and drills during the Arkansas Activities Association's dead weeks. Players and coaches are required by the AAA to observe the two-week period. Summer routines are allowed to resume Monday, July 6.

This weekly feature sponsored by **McDonald's of Nashville**
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Texas Cowboy Hall of Famer Neal McCoy

Country music legend to bring 'Texas Spirit' to Nashville

Hubert Neal McCaughey Jr., known to fans everywhere as Neal McCoy, was born on July 30, 1958, in Jacksonville, Texas, where music shaped the rhythm of daily life. With a Filipino mother, an Irish-American father, and a household full of country, R and B, rock, and gospel, Neal grew up with an ear for everything. He began singing in church and later performed with an R and B band long before country music claimed him.

After college, Neal met his wife Melinda while working at a mall shoe store. Around that same time, he entered a talent contest judged by Janie Fricke and won it, earning an opening slot for Charley Pride. Those years with Pride were life-changing and gave Neal the stage presence and humor he is known for today.

When Neal signed his first label in the late 1980s, he recorded under the name Neal McGoy, a phonetic spelling of his last name. But by the time he signed with Atlantic Records in 1990, fans were already calling him "McCoy," and the name stuck. It became the brand

behind one of the most recognizable entertainers in country music.

His breakthrough came in 1994 with the platinum album No Doubt About It, which produced two number one hits, No Doubt About It and Wink. Through the rest of the decade, Neal released two more platinum albums, a gold album, and many hits that remain fan favorites, including The City Put the Country Back in Me, For a Change, They're Playin' Our Song, The Shake, and Then You Can Tell Me Goodbye. Over his career, he has sold more than six million records, released fifteen studio albums, and charted twenty-five singles.

Neal's patriotism has become a defining part of his public life. Since 2001, he has traveled on seventeen USO Tours, entertaining American troops across the globe. He calls those tours some of the greatest honors of his life. In 2016, he began reciting the Pledge of Allegiance live on Facebook every morning. That simple daily act has reached millions of viewers and recently passed 3,000 consecutive days.

His humanitarian work has earned him major honors from the Academy of Country Music, the Country Radio Broadcasters, and the Masonic Grand Lodge. Neal and Melinda also founded the East Texas Angel Network, which has raised more than fifteen million dollars for families with children facing life-threatening and or life challenging illnesses. Neal hosts an annual golf tournament, dinner, auction, and concert to support the cause.

When he is not touring, Neal enjoys life at home, spending time with his three grandchildren, playing golf, working the Old Glory Horse and Cattle Ranch, and cheering from the stands at football and baseball games.

With forty years of touring behind him, Neal still brings unmatched energy to every show. As he likes to say, "No two shows are the same."

Article & Photo Courtesy of the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame tchhof.com

June: Alzheimer's Awareness Month Understanding risks, warning signs

By Rebekah Hall
University of Arkansas
Division of Agriculture

During Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month in June, extension experts encourage Arkansans to watch for warning signs of the disease and take swift action to receive earlier treatment.

Bryce Daniels, extension assistant professor and state extension health specialist for the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, said dementia is a broad term that describes a decline in memory, communication, problem-solving and other thinking skills severe enough to disrupt daily life.

"Dementia is not a single disease," Daniels said. "Within the larger category of 'dementia,' Alzheimer's disease is the most common underlying condition, meaning it is a specific brain disorder that causes symptoms known as dementia."

According to the Alzheimer's Association, about 7.4 million adults aged 65 and older live with Alzheimer's disease in the United States. Of these individuals, 74 percent are age 75 and older. Worldwide, more than 57 million people live with dementia, and between 60 to 70 percent of them are estimated to have Alzheimer's disease, according to the World Health Organization.

Daniels said that according to the Mayo Clinic, Alzheimer's disease starts when proteins build up in the brain, forming "sticky plaques and tangles."

"Over time, this buildup damages and kills brain cells, causing the brain to shrink and memory and thinking to decline," Daniels said. "Just like buildup in blood vessels can raise the risk of heart disease, buildup in the brain can interfere with normal function and increase the risk of Alzheimer's disease," Daniels said.

Who is at risk?

Daniels said age is the strongest risk factor for Alzheimer's disease, as most people with the disease are age 65 or older. Family history can also play a role.

"Having a parent, brother or sister with Alzheimer's increases your risk," Daniels said. "Risk is higher if multiple family members are affected."

Daniels said most people with Alzheimer's develop symptoms in their mid-60s or later, which is called late-onset Alzheimer's. When symptoms begin before age 65, it is referred to as early-onset Alzheimer's. While the disease can begin earlier in life, this is less common, Daniels said.

Certain genes can also increase the likelihood of developing Alzheimer's, although they do not guarantee disease development, Daniels said. Other risk factors include:

- **Head injury or traumatic brain injury:** "Past serious or repeated head injuries are linked to a higher risk for Alzheimer's," Daniels said. "Risk is greater with injuries involving loss of consciousness or repeated impacts."

- **Cardiovascular and metabolic health conditions:** Conditions that affect the heart and blood vessels, such as high blood pressure, diabetes and high cholesterol, can increase risk. "These conditions can damage blood vessels and reduce blood flow to the brain," Daniels said.

- **Lifestyle factors:** Certain habits increase risk, including physical inactivity, smoking or tobacco use, poor diet or obesity, and limited mental or social activity.

"The key takeaway is that while some risks like age and genetics can't be changed, others can be improved to lower risk, such as physical activity, heart health and smoking," Daniels said.

Warning signs

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Alzheimer's Association, 10 warning signs of Alzheimer's include:

- **Memory loss that disrupts daily life:** "This can be forgetting recent information, important dates or asking the same questions repeatedly," Daniels said.

- **Challenges in planning or solving problems:** Trouble following a plan, managing bills or concentrating.

- **Difficulty completing familiar tasks:** "This could include trouble doing daily activities like driving, shopping or following a routine," Daniels said.

- **Confusion with time or place:** Losing track of dates, seasons or where you are.

- **Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships:** Difficulty reading, balancing or judging distance.

- **New problems with words in speaking or writing.**

- **Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps:** "This can involve putting items in unusual places and being unable to find them," Daniels said.

- **Decreased or poor judgment:** "Making poor decisions, especially about money or personal care, is something to keep a close watch for," Daniels said.

- **Withdrawal from work or social activities.**
- **Changes in mood or personality.** "Keep an eye out for increased confusion, anxiety, fear or mood swings," Daniels said.

If you notice any of these signs, it is critical that you do not ignore them, Daniels said.

"Changes that disrupt daily life are not a normal part of aging," Daniels said. "Schedule an appointment with a doctor. A healthcare provider can help find the cause, and some causes may be treatable."

Early detection allows for earlier treatment, planning and support, so seeking an early diagnosis can be very beneficial, Daniels said.

To talk to someone for support, the Alzheimer's Association offers a free, 24/7 helpline with guidance and resources. Call the helpline at 800-272-3900.

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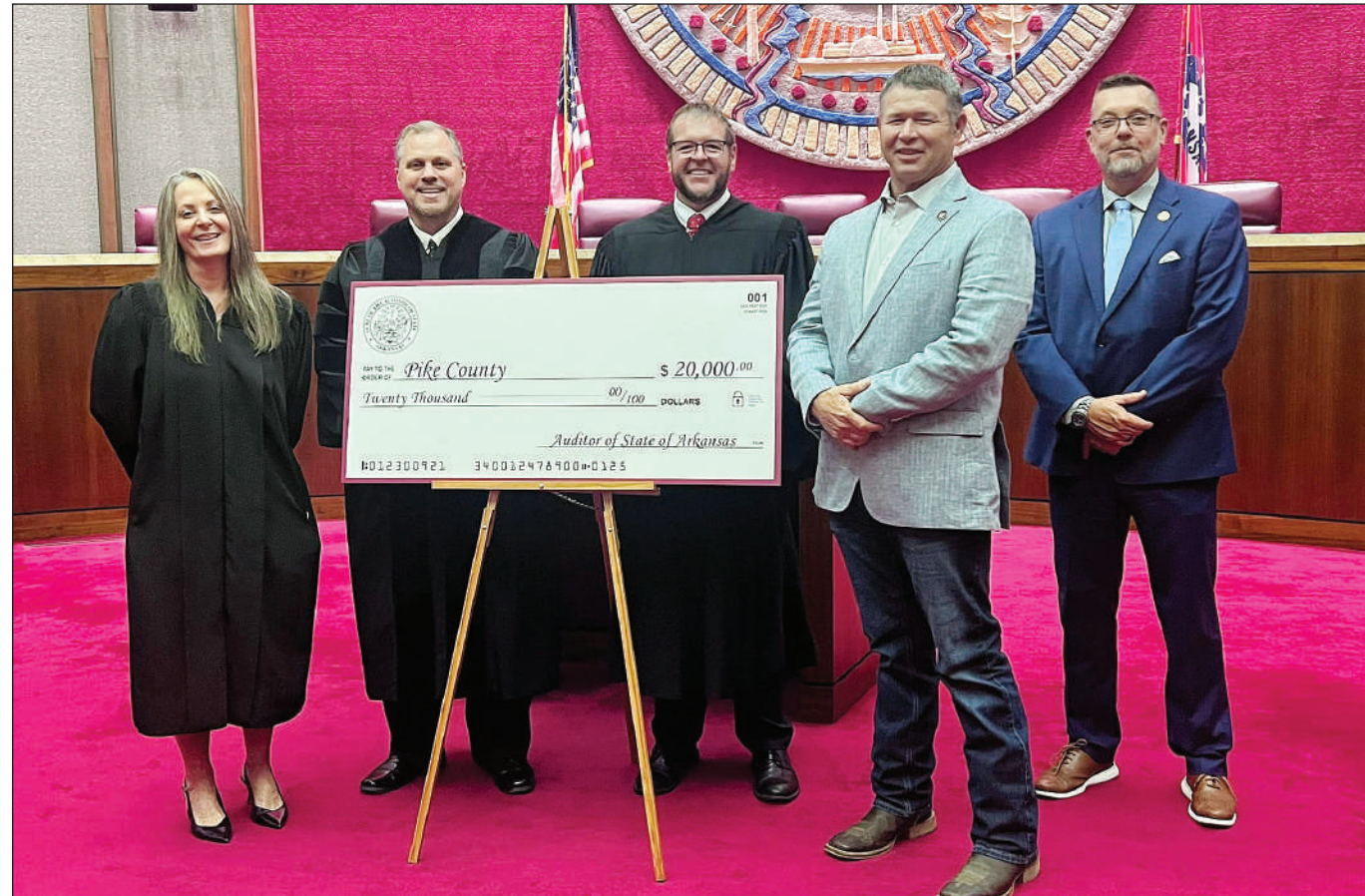
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FUNDS FOR SECURITY UPGRADE. Pike County has received a check for \$20,000 to help pay for improvements addressing security concerns in the Pike County Courthouse. "Approximately two months ago, a gentleman from the state Court Security Commission had a walk through with me in our courthouse, to advise me on what we needed improvements on. When we applied, we ranked high enough to receive [financial] help from them. I'll be applying again next year for this grant," said Pike County Judge Eddie Howard, who is pictured above (just right of check) at the state Supreme Court in Little Rock to receive the grant funds.

Pike County District Court

June 16, 2026
BF=Bond Forfeited
Pike County
 Coleman, Zoe Rosemarie, 25, Flippin, \$330 BF, no proof of liability insurance; \$220 BF, failure to appear; \$220 BF, failure to appear
 Davis, Jonathan A., 49, Amity, guilty of failure to pay; \$1,270 balance; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$20; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$205; guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$340; guilty of defective lights, fined \$140; guilty of failure to yield to emergency vehicle, fined \$310
 Holloway, John Walton, 18, Jackson, Miss., \$150 BF, speeding; \$220 BF, failure to appear
 Howell, Andrew B., 31, Hot Springs, guilty of fictitious tags, fined \$140; guilty of no driver's license, fined \$140; guilty of failure to maintain control, fined \$140; guilty of leaving scene of accident, fined \$210
 Johnson, Glenda Irene, 59, Delight, \$340 BF, driving with suspended license
 West, John Herman, 73, Norman, passing stopped school bus, under advisement to dismiss, fined \$600
City of Murfreesboro
 Sounds, David C., 56, Kirby, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$125
 Scherlinger, Susan Marie, 42, Amity, \$180 BF, use of phone when driving
 Teague, Joey Dalton, 20, Murfreesboro, guilty of failure to pay; \$1,480 balance
Arkansas Game & Fish Commission
 Bryan, Joshua Eric, 40, Prescott, \$235 BF, no ski area
 Dufrene, Stuart M., 47, Prescott, \$235 BF, insufficient PFD
 McIntosh, Jamison H., 18, Nashville, \$235 BF, no running lights
 Rowe, Parker D., 25, Ashdown, \$235 BF, over capacity in boot
 Saulsbury, John Jason, 55, Louann, \$235 BF, no running lights
City of Glenwood
 Cogburn, Eric W., 37, Norman, guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$360
 Mathis, Stacy Lynn, 51, Little Rock, guilty of careless or prohibited driving, fined \$150; guilty of disregarding stop sign, fined \$150; guilty of leaving scene of accident-personal injury, fined \$580
 Sullins, William, 49, Delight, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$125
Bench Trials
Pike County
 Lamb, Taylor K., 33, Delight, guilty of third-degree domestic battery, fined \$1,000
City of Murfreesboro
 Welch, Timothy Daniel, 30, Murfreesboro, guilty of possession of controlled substance, fined \$1,110 and license suspended for six months; guilty of improper use of signals to stop or turn, fined \$160; guilty of obstructing government operations, fined \$500; guilty of resisting, arrest fined \$2,500
City of Glenwood
 Murray, Jillian Alexandra, 25, Glenwood, third-degree domestic battery, under advisement for one year to dismiss

Look Up Monday

Arkansas National Guard to honor America's 250th birthday with 'Flyover Arkansas'

In honor of America's 250th birthday, the Arkansas National Guard will conduct flyovers of select cities in the week of June 29 through July 2, leading up to Independence Day.

C-130 Hercules cargo aircraft from the Arkansas Air National Guard's 189th Airlift Wing and UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters from the 77th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade will showcase elite military aviation and spark patriotism from one corner of the state to the other.

"By celebrating our country's 250th birthday, Americans are uniting across the country in a shared commitment to faith, freedom, and national pride," said Colonel Joel Lynch, Arkansas National Guard public affairs officer. "When we combine patriotism with purpose, we continue to make history."

Weather permitting, "Flyover Arkansas" will occur on the scheduled below:

Monday, June 29 — Benton, Hot Springs, Mt. Ida, Mena, De Queen, Ashdown, Texarkana, Lewisville, Hope, Prescott, Nashville, Murfreesboro, Arkadelphia, Malvern
Tuesday, June 30 — Downtown Little Rock, Sheridan,

Rison, Fordyce, Camden, Magnolia, El Dorado, Hampton, Warren, Hamburg, Lake Village, Arkansas City, Monticello, Star City, Pine Bluff, Perryville, Danville, Waldron, Booneville, Charleston, Greenwood, Fort Chaffee, Fort Smith, Van Buren, Ozark, Clarksville, Russellville, Dardanelle, Morrilton, Conway, Maumelle

Wednesday, July 1 — Beebe, Searcy, Heber Springs, Batesville, Mountain View, Ash Flat, Mountain Home, Salem, Pocahontas, Walnut Ridge, Newport, Augusta, Lonoke, Des Arc, DeValls Bluff, Clarendon, Forrest City, Wynne, Harrisburg, Jonesboro, Lake City, Paragould, Corning, Piggot, Blytheville, Osceola, Marion, Marianna, Helena, DeWitt, Stuttgart

Thursday, July 2 — Clinton, Leslie, Marshall, Yellville, Berryville, Eureka Springs, Pea Ridge, Bentonville, Springdale, Huntsville, Harrison, Jasper

Arkansans are encouraged to follow along by joining the official "Flyover Arkansas" Facebook event page, where schedules, community flight paths, and updates will be shared as the holiday week approaches.

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2 arrested for vandalism at Lockesburg city park

By Patrick Massey
The De Queen Bee

Two juveniles have been arrested in connection to extensive vandalism at Lockesburg's Ida Margaret Coulter Stone City Park that caused an estimated \$15,000 in damage.

According to the Sevier County Sheriff's Office, a deputy responded to the park on the morning of June 13 after receiving a report of vandalism at the concession stand restroom facilities.

According to the report, Lockesburg Mayor Chuck Martin told investigators he discovered water running from the men's restroom while making his routine rounds. After entering the building, he found toilets and sinks damaged and water flowing throughout the facility. Martin also discovered the utility room had been forcibly entered and that power to the building had been shut off.

While inspecting the

women's restroom, Martin reported finding additional damage. He then turned off the water supply, contacted the sheriff's office and began reviewing surveillance footage.

Authorities said surveillance video showed four juveniles entering the restroom area before the damage was discovered.

In addition, damage to playground was reported and authorities were also informed that speakers were removed from a utility room at the park.

During the investigation, deputies interviewed several juveniles. The sheriff's office report states one juvenile admitted damaging metal bars on playground equipment and acknowledged carrying speakers away from the park.

Because the individuals involved are juveniles, their names are not being released. Damages to the park were estimated at \$15,000.

Furr benefit June 27 at park

The community is invited to come together in support of a local family at a benefit chicken dinner and raffle event scheduled for Saturday, June 27 at the Nashville City Park.

The event will be held for the Jammy Furr family and will take place in the park's stage area beginning at 10 a.m. and will continue until all meals are sold out.

In addition to the meal, raffle tickets will be available for several prizes, including a firearm, a Turtlebox speaker, and a handmade quilt. The raffle drawings will be conducted by Jammy Furr following the conclusion of the event.

Winners do not need to be present unless otherwise required by applicable regulations.



News-Leader photo/JOHN BALCH

READY TO 'STAND UP FOR AMERICA.' The Lifeline Ministry's Sisters of Hope members (from left) Rayniah Alvarez, Raymiah Alvarez and Ke'Anay Flowers will be part of the patriotic portion of this year's Stand Up for America event on July 4 at the Nashville City Park. Not pictured is Keshal Flowers. Country music star Neal McCoy will be the headliner for the Stand Up for America patriotic celebration. Tickets are \$25 each for ages 13 and up. Children ages 6-12 will be admitted for \$10. Those ages 5 and under will be admitted free. Tickets are available from the Nashville Chamber of Commerce. They may also be purchased from the chamber website at nashvillearcoc.com or by scanning the QR code on the Stand Up for America ad in today's newspaper.

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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.
Fr. Salvador Vega, Pastor
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Wednesday Evening Worship 5:30 p.m.
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380 *Facts About The BIBLE* BY JOHN LEHTI

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

EVIL HAMAN

WHEN THE JEWS IN THE PERSIAN KINGDOM HEAR THE DECREE CONDEMNING THEM TO DEATH, THEY PUT ON SACKCLOTH AND ASHES TO MOURN....

...INCLUDING MORDECAI, WHO HAS SERVED THE KING FAITHFULLY AS AN OFFICIAL IN THE PALACE GATE...

THE NEWS OF THIS DECREE TRAVELS FAST THROUGHOUT THE CITY

... AND NOW THE QUEEN'S HANDMAIDS HEAR OF IT....

WE MUST TELL THIS TO THE QUEEN!

YES! IT IS SOMETHING NEW TO TALK ABOUT THERE'S BEEN NO FRESH GOSSIP FOR WEEKS!

SO THE NEWS REACHES ESTHER, THE BEAUTIFUL QUEEN - THE FAVORITE OF KING AHAŠUERUS - AND ALSO THE NIECE OF MORDECAI, THE JEW! FOR IT WAS MORDECAI WHO RAISED ESTHER FROM A LITTLE CHILD TO THE BEAUTIFUL WOMAN WHOM AHAŠUERUS PICKED TO BE HIS QUEEN! AND TO THIS DAY, NO ONE IN THE CITY OF SHUSHAN OR EVEN THE PALACE, ITSELF, HAS KNOWN THAT MORDECAI IS THE QUEEN'S UNCLE!

Next Week COUNTERPLOT!

SAVE THIS FOR YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRAPBOOK

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

Come worship with us!
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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.
Facebook Live or listen to 98.7 FM

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Sun. School 10:00 a.m.
Sun. Morning Worship 10:50 a.m.
Sun. Evening 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday WOW 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
Pastor: Bro. Brian Finn
Radio Program: 9:45 Sunday Morning • B99.5 FM
Visit us at: www.hollycreekmbc.net

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Wednesday Bible Study for all ages at 6:30 p.m.
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Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
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Wednesday Service: 6:00 p.m.

UPDATE

New World Screwworm

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has confirmed additional detections of New World Screwworm (NWS) in Texas and New Mexico. While there are no detections in Arkansas at this time, livestock and animal owners should stay alert and take preventative action.

NWS does not pose a food safety risk and consumers should remain confident that all meat or poultry products in the food supply chain are appropriately inspected and safe for consumption.

(The most current information on NWS preparedness in Arkansas can be found on the Department's NWS webpage. The most current information on NWS detections in the U.S., including identified Infested Zones, can be found on the USDA NWS detection page.)

Online NWS Suspect Reporting System
Animal owners and veterinarians can submit suspect NWS reports using the Department's online reporting form. Users may upload photographs and location information. Department staff will follow up with instructions for next steps, including sample submission and recommended protective actions.

If NWS is suspected, isolate the affected animal immediately and avoid moving any animals off the premises. Suspect cases may also be reported through your regular veterinarian or by calling the Arkansas Department of Agriculture at (501) 823-1746.

Arkansas Animal Entry Requirements
All warm-blooded animals entering Arkansas from an infested state (but



Early Stages of a New World Screwworm Larvae

not from an Infested Zone) must be accompanied by an Interstate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (iCVI) dated within 7 days of entry. The certificate must include the statement: "All animals in shipment were inspected and found free of evidence of NWS infestation."

Group-housed food producing animals may be visually inspected in their group settings according to federal NWS response guidance. Individual inspection is required for all other animals.

Table eggs, hatching eggs, and chicks under five days of age are exempt from this interstate movement requirement, as are National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) Types B, C, D, and J moving on a USDA VS Form 9-3.

Movement of animals into Arkansas from identified NWS Infested Zones will be restricted according to established federal NWS response guidance. A state entry permit will also be required and can be obtained on the Department's animal entry permit page.

Products Available



Adult New World Screwworm Fly

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) maintains a list of animal drugs available for treatment and prevention NWS. A list of pesticides for use in control of NWS is available on the Department's NWS webpage.

What Animal Owners Can Do Now

Animal owners should watch for wounds that fail to heal, foul-smelling discharge, tissue damage, or visible maggots in or around a wound. These symptoms can progress quickly, so prompt attention is critical.

Livestock owners are encouraged to obtain a valid Premises Identification Number (PIN) to increase their readiness for NWS response. A valid PIN is required for interstate and intrastate animal movement from an NWS Infested Zone.

The County Cows Pike County hosting unique scavenger hunt June 25-July 8

By Hallie Caldwell
Pike County Farm Bureau

I have hinted at it before. It's the long awaiting "fun thing" I had planned. Through Farm Bureau's Women's Leadership in Pike County, I have started a scavenger hunt called "The County Cows."

The goal of this is to get our Pike County Kiddos out and about throughout businesses in our community. I have 7 businesses lined up for this go round! They are all hid in Murfreesboro, Glenwood, and Delight. Some might be a little tougher to find then others.

Here those long awaiting hints are for these Heifers.
1. Docky- Boats, burgers, fishing, and more. Lots to do outside this store.

2. Sham- Hands, Heart, Health, and Hands. Think 4-H.

3. Patty- Over the river you go! You can get your farm friends' needs and yourself a nice outfit too!

4. Brooke- named after a local celebrity chef on wheels.

5. Bessie- Right where this leadership program started!

6. Sissy- Two sisters working together to bring you icy flavors!

7. Blondie- could be a coffee flavor or hairstyle! Now with the fun comes some rules.

Remember to be respectful in these businesses when looking for these little heifers. When you find one take a picture with the cow and tag me in it on Facebook. This is the only way you will be entered in the drawing.

After doing that leave the cow there so someone else can get the chance to find it.

The more cows you find the more times your name gets entered into the drawing. The scavenger hunt June 25- July 8 after that on July 15, we'll announce the winner.

Our winner will get a \$25 gift card to Malibu Sno Glow!

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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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Sailors see some sea creatureswhen they sail the seven salty seas.

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Creatures of Our Seas!

Do you think a "new," giant creature will be found during your lifetime? If it is, how do you think it will look and live?

There are so many fascinating creatures that live in our seas and oceans. Scientists today are diving to the deepest parts of the oceans to explore and photograph sea life that no humans have ever seen before.

Almost everything in the sea is food for something else.

This is a giant...

In some parts of the world, people consider me (a puffer fish) a special and rare treat. But, my poisonous parts and spines keep almost everything else from eating me.

Can you read the clues and fill in the names of these 10 sea creatures?

Oops...! did it again!

This Sea Creature...

- is really a fish that grows up to six feet long; it can be a shocking experience to meet it (2 words)
- "gallops" through warm waters; when tired, it can use its tail to cling to seaweed (2 words)
- has an arm, arm, arm, arm, arm, arm, arm, arm; can squirt black ink to trick an enemy
- comes in many sizes; a giant one can have eyes up to 15 inches wide, the largest in the world; it has eight arms with suction cups and two tentacles for catching dinner
- uses its "double-edged sword" to slash through a school of fish for, or to fight
- is a mammal; it is easy to spot when it "blows off steam"
- is loved by sailors for its friendliness and intelligence
- swallows water to blow up into a large ball; its sharp spines discourage other fish from trying to eat it (2 words)
- has no bones, looks like umbrella; may have tentacles with poison in them to kill fish or harm enemies
- usually has five arms; sometimes, if one is lost, it can grow back (2 words)

Ocean Harvest All around the world (China, Japan, Canada, Iceland) people collect seaweed from the ocean and use it as a vegetable or make it into snacks. In coastal areas of the U.S. like Maine you can find Dulse, a reddish-brown seaweed that is popular to eat.

Can you find and circle these sea items people eat or drink?

swordfish
tuna fish
lobster
mussels
oysters
salt
clams
fish
crab
water

N C S R E T S Y O
C A A O U W E R
L R O B H A O P G
O A G F T Y R T I
B B N E I Y D R T
S U R K J H F J M
T O J H F R I U E
E R F I S H S M V
R U G C D S H K H
H G C R E J H U S
P O I L K A T A I
G F S K O U M G F
T M I M J S A
I L A I A C N
H U J L G F U
N G T Y C I T

Ocean Friends

Stingray wants to go to visit his friends today.

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Start

Finish

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DEMO WORK. AGFC staff and contractors remove a low-water low-water crossing on the Rolling Fork River. AGFC photo.

AGFC completes fish passage improvements in Southwest Arkansas

By Randy Zellers
AGFC

World Fish Migration Day, a global event held every two years on May 23, is often associated with coastal communities that depend on annual movements of commercially and recreationally attractive fish species, such as salmon in the Northwest and tarpon along the Gulf Coast. Landlocked Arkansas has just as much cause to celebrate because free movement of fish is the key to the rich species diversity shared by many of The Natural State's free-flowing ephemeral streams.

Two of the largest threats to that free movement are siltation from eroded streambanks and barriers like dams, poorly designed bridges and low-water crossings.

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's Stream Habitat Program works tirelessly to combat both of these issues, restoring stream banks to reduce erosion and removing those man-made barriers that block fish passage throughout The Natural State.

The Little River Watershed includes the Cossatot, Rolling Fork, Saline and Little rivers and Robinson Creek. This watershed is not only a Nonpoint Source Priority Watershed for the Arkansas Department of Agriculture, but a large portion of the watershed is a Tier 1 Conservation Opportunity Area with many federally listed species and species of greatest conservation need.

In 2022, the AGFC began work with the ADA Natural Resources Division on a grant to restore stream connectivity to the watershed by removing four failing low-water crossings that blocked the passage of many aquatic organisms. By summer 2023, three of those barriers had been removed on the western Saline River, thanks to a valuable partnership between the AGFC, ADA and Weyerhaeuser. This progress reconnected more than 25 miles of stream, leaving one obstruction to tackle in the project.

"After inventorying and prioritizing remaining fish passage barriers in the watershed, our sights were set on removing a vented, low-water crossing on the Rolling Fork River to complete the original 319 grant," Tim Burnley, AGFC Stream Habitat Program Coordinator, said.

This month, that barrier was removed and is being replaced with a span bridge crossing, completing their original grant for the project.

"While reconnecting the rivers, the program also added streambank stabilization structures to ensure that the habitat remains in great condition," Burnley said.

Although the original grant is complete, the AGFC isn't done with opening up fish passage in the Little River Watershed.

"While completing the initial grant project, we identified five additional

low-water crossings, these on Robinson Creek, which was historically home to the federally listed leopard darter," Burnley said. "We secured an additional \$2.2 million National Fish Passage Program grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to remove and replace those crossings, the first of which was also replaced by May."

Burnley says the Stream Habitat Program plans to remove or replace all planned fish passage barriers by the end of 2027.

When these fish passages are completed, Robinson Creek will return to a free-flowing stream from the Oklahoma border to De Queen Lake.

"Weyerhaeuser also is committed to removing the last barrier in Oklahoma," Burnley said.

"They are also working to remove other barriers on Cross Creek, a tributary to Robinson Creek. Once connectivity is fully restored, we plan to reintroduce leopard darters to their historical habitat."

Conservation cannot be accomplished without teamwork, and the Stream Habitat Program has been fortunate to have great partners in accomplishing the work thus far.

Weyerhaeuser, Polk County, ADA-NRD, the Southeastern Aquatic Resources Partnership, USFWS and many divisions across the AGFC have been instrumental in making this project possible.

Water Party June 25 at The Springs of MC

The Springs of Mine Creek Health & Rehabilitation will host a "cool off" water party on Thursday, June 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Springs' address is 810 N. 8th Street in Nashville. The event will include popsicles, refreshments and fun. Family and friends are invited to attend.

For more information, call 870-845-4600.

'Jar-Rassic Gardens' June 29 in Pike County

Pike County 4-H will host a "Jar-Rassic Gardens" program on Monday, June 29 at the Pike County Extension Offices in Murfreesboro from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Attendees will "discover and create their own world in a jar" by making terrariums. Students will also learn about plant parts through snacks and learn about soil particles.

The cost of attending the event is \$10, and attendees are asked to bring their lunch. Interested participants are asked to register as soon as possible so sufficient materials may be on hand at the event. For more information, including the link to the registration form, call the Pike County Extension Office at (870) 285-2161.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-7

HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE FORMATION OF A RED RIVER INTERMODAL AUTHORITY; AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN HEMPSTEAD COUNTY, HOWARD COUNTY, LAFAYETTE COUNTY, LITTLE RIVER COUNTY, COUNTY, AND SEVIER COUNTY, ARKANSAS DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND AUTHORIZING AND PRESCRIBING OTHER MATTERS PERTAINING THERETO

WHEREAS, Howard County, Arkansas (the "County") is authorized and empowered under the provisions of Title 14, Chapter 143 of the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated (the "Act") to join with one or more counties for the purpose of forming a regional intermodal facilities authority for the purpose of economic development for the water resources of the Red River and its tributaries in the State of Arkansas, to include navigation; and

WHEREAS, it is proposed that Howard County join with the other five (5) before mentioned Counties to form a Red River Regional Intermodal Authority under the Act of the purpose of acquiring, equipping, constructing, maintaining and operating regional intermodal facilities and such other facilities as authorized by the Act, as now or hereafter amended; and

WHEREAS, an Agreement for the formation of such an authority has been prepared, a copy of which has been presented to and is before this meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1

A. The Quorum Court hereby finds and determines that it is in the best interest of Howard County to join with the with the other five (5) before mentioned counties in the formation of a regional intermodal facilities authority for the purpose of acquiring, equipping, constructing, maintaining and operating regional intermodal facilities and such other facilities, to include navigation, as authorized by the act, as now or hereafter amended.

B. The Agreement for the formation of the authority provides that the authority to be created shall have no independent right or power to levy truces to fund its operations or to pay its debts except truces levied upon and collected from shippers, transporters or users loading or unloading freight, commerce or passengers at a terminal or other facilities of the authority.

C. The Agreement for the formation of the authority provides that the obligations of the authority to be created shall be payable from and secured by revenues, property and other resources of the authority and shall not constitute a general or limited obligation of the counties participating.

SECTION2

The formation of a regional inter-nodal authority pursuant to the act to be known as the "Red River Intermodal Authority" (the "Authority") and the County's participation in the same are hereby authorized.

SECTION3

There is hereby authorized the execution and delivery of an Agreement by and between Howard County and with the other five (5) before mentioned counties (the "Agreement") and Howard County Judge and County Clerk are hereby authorized to execute and deliver the Agreement for and on behalf of Howard County. The Agreement is hereby approved in substantially the form submitted to this meeting and the County Judge is hereby authorized to confer with the parties thereto in order to complete the Agreement in substantially the form submitted to this meeting with such changes as shall be proposed by such persons executing the document, their execution to constitute conclusive evidence of such approval.

SECTION 4

The County Judge and County Clerk, for and on behalf of Howard County are hereby authorized to execute and directed to do any and all things necessary to affect the execution and delivery of the Agreement and the performance of all acts of whatever nature necessary to effect and carry out the authority conferred by this Ordinance. The County Judge and County Clerk are hereby further authorized and directed, for and on behalf of the County, to execute all papers, documents, certificates and other instruments that may be required for the carrying out of such authority or to evidence the exercise thereof.

SECTION 5

The County Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to file in the office of the County Clerk, as pan of the minutes of the meeting at which this Ordinance is adopted, for inspection by any interested person a copy of this Agreement and such document shall be on file for inspection by an interested person.

SECTION 6

The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be separable and if any section, phrase or provision shall, for any reason be declared to be invalid, such declaration shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the sections, phrases and provisions.

SECTION 7

The Quorum Coun finds that the immediate implementation of this ordinance is necessary and that it is in the best interest of the public health, safety and welfare for this ordinance to be effective immediately after its adoption so as to allow for the immediate execution of the

Agreement and the pursuit of the endeavors contemplated therein.

Passed and approved this the 15 day of June 2026.

ATTEST:
KERI TEAGUE- HOWARD COUNTY CLERK
BRENT PINKERTON- HOWARD COUNTY JUDGE
(This publication was paid for by the Howard County Judge. The amount paid for this publication is \$378.00)

YARD SALE
1115 Grove St.
Nashville
Thurs. & Fri.

Downsizing Sale
204 DOE RUN (Deerwood)
Friday, June 26
7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 27
7:00 a.m. - Noon
Slot Machine, Birkenstocks, Crystal, Tools, Dog Pens, and Lots of Kitchen Utensils

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HELP WANTED
Cash Saver is now hiring evening supervisor (full time position with benefits).
Send resume to Rking115@yahoo.com for interview date.

Attention Master Builders!
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Vacation Bible School Time at Grace Country Church
526 Hwy. 371, Lockesburg

June 28th - July 2nd
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Is there a God who cares?

EMERALD CROSSING
An Irish Adventure Through Psalm 23
Featuring a live drama, Gospel Presentation each evening
More info @ 870-828-0049

FOR SALE
This 60 acres near Old Washington and 2 miles from Grandview Wildlife Management Area is a **Hunter's Dream**. Lots of oak and pine timber and a beautiful creek running through the middle plus a pond. Access is through a locked gate with a gravel timber company road that dead ends into the property. The area around the property is leased and controlled which makes this place very private.
NEW PRICE \$150,000.
CALL 870-703-1628.

Financial expert shares tips for saving money on vacation

By Rebekah Hall
University of Arkansas
Division of Agriculture
For Arkansans looking to save money on their summer vacations, an extension financial expert suggests setting a vacation budget, comparing costs of flying versus driving and planning ahead for food and entertainment.

Laura Hendrix, extension associate professor of personal finance and consumer economics for the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, said that throughout the year, every household needs a good spending plan that includes regular monthly expenses as well as periodic expenses, such as holidays and vacations.

"Consider total income, less regular expenses, and designated savings for retirement and future goals to determine how much money remains for discretionary spending like entertainment and vacations," Hendrix said.

"Ideally, the household budget will include a line item for vacations. Money can be set aside each month.

"Having a pre-determined limit will help prevent overspending or racking up credit card debt," Hendrix said. "Plan ahead, estimate all expenses and create a budget for your vacation."

Flying or driving?
Hendrix said families should consider time and money when deciding whether to fly or drive to their vacation destination.

"Check comparisons for both and consider your preferences," Hendrix said. "If you are flying, be sure to think about the cost of transportation once you arrive at your destination. Will you need to rent a car, pay for public transportation or pay for ride-shares or taxis?"

To calculate driving costs, Hendrix suggests the following:
Estimate gas expenses by taking total trip miles, dividing by the vehicle's fuel efficiency in average miles per gallon, and multiplying by the current average price per gallon of gas.

Consider any additional maintenance your car may need to be ready for a road trip.
Consider additional meals and lodging: "Depending on the length of the trip, you may have to spend the night on the way," Hendrix said.

Add the costs of toll road fees and parking.
"Driving can be a sizeable cost savings, but families should also consider the additional travel time required," Hendrix said.

To calculate flying costs, Hendrix suggests the following:
Find the best airline ticket prices: "Comparison shop different airlines, flights and rates," Hendrix said. "Be flexible with dates and times for the best rates."

Estimate flight expenses by multiplying the best ticket price by the number of travelers.
Consider airport parking, checked bag fees, car rental, taxi or public transportation.

Hendrix said it is also important to always check with the airline about rules and rates for children.

"Adults may not be required to purchase a ticket for an 'infant in arms,' sitting in the adult's lap, and there may be discounts for children," Hendrix said.

Book lodging carefully
Hendrix said that with so many copycat and third-party websites, booking lodging online can be very complicated.

"Calling a hotel directly is one of the best ways to make sure you are not dealing with a scam or third-party site," Hendrix said.

"A third-party site is a platform that sells hotel rooms that it does not own, reserving the room at the hotel on your behalf. These sites may make it more difficult to alter or cancel reservations if you need to make changes. If you call the hotel and an employee redirects you to reservations, you will know that you are dealing with a reputable reservation representative.

"Some hotels offer price-matching, so it's always okay to ask if you think you've found a great rate online from another site," Hendrix said.

Hendrix said there are now many other lodging options available to travelers, including private short-term rentals.

"For services that book privately owned properties, be sure to check ratings and reviews before booking," Hendrix said.

This is also a great opportunity to take advantage of rewards, discounts or coupons, she said.

"If you travel frequently, you probably know that you can earn rewards points for free night stays at chain hotels," Hendrix said. "Some credit cards also offer hotel reward programs. Always check for discounts, such as those offered for senior citizens or by AAA. Check out travel and tourist sites for coupons."

Consider a hotel's amenities as well.
"A complimentary breakfast will help you save on meals, and a pool can provide free entertainment for the kids," Hendrix said. "Hotel shuttles can also cut down on your transportation costs."

Do your research
Hendrix said it is always a good idea to get a head start on planning for food, entertainment and other daily expenses, especially if your family wants to visit a theme park, zoo or other attraction.
"Vacation spending is more than lodging and transportation," Hendrix said.

It can also help to research deals and discounts for restaurants or events near your vacation destination.

"Check with restaurants, activities and events for discounts or free options," Hendrix said. "Some places offer special ticket rates for children and seniors."

Visit the extension Personal Finance page to learn more about building financial security, money management and more.



Forecast looking up for Friday at the farmers' market

By Melanie Schwartz • Market Manager

Last Friday brought another week of summer abundance to the Howard County Farmers Market.

Shoppers found green beans, local honey, farm-fresh eggs, lamb, yellow squash, red and green tomatoes, jalapeños, cucumbers, onions, garlic, fresh flowers, jams, sourdough bread and other baked goods, personal care products, and a variety of locally made crafts.

Fortunately, the storms held off until the final 30 minutes of the market, allowing most shoppers and vendors to enjoy a productive morning. The forecast for this Friday looks much more favorable.

In addition to the market's regular vendors, shoppers can look forward to visits from Aunt B's Coffee Cart and the Unique JFC Dawgs food truck. Whether you're in the mood for a fresh cup of coffee, a specialty drink, or a hot dog for breakfast or lunch, there will be plenty of options to enjoy while you shop.

The Howard County Farmers Market is open every Friday from 7 a.m. until noon at the market pavilion. Stop by to stock up on fresh, locally grown produce and support the people who grow, raise, bake, and create right here in our community.

NOTICE: The Howard County Farmers' Market is looking for the next person who will help lead the Howard County Farmers' Market. The Market Manager works closely with vendors, customers, sponsors and community partners to coordinate weekly market operations, marketing, special events and outreach.

Lockesburg to host Freedom Fest July 4

Everyone is invited to celebrate Independence Day with a full day of activities, food, entertainment and fireworks during the City of Lockesburg's annual Fourth of July Freedom Fest on Saturday, July 4.

The celebration will take place throughout the day at Lockesburg City Park and will feature a barbecue cook-off, vendors, live music, family activities and a fireworks display.

Festivities kick off with the BBQ Cook-Off, with cooking and judging taking place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Organizers are currently accepting teams for the competition. The entry fee is \$25, and chicken for the event is being donated by Pilgrim's. Participants must smoke their meat on-site, and prizes will be awarded. Entry deadline is June 26. Proceeds from meat sales will benefit Lockesburg City Park.

For additional information about the Freedom Fest, vendor registration, cook-off

entries or T-shirt orders, contact Regina Grubbs by calling (870) 279-0824 or Lockesburg City Hall at (870) 289-3261.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that the Regular Meeting of the Housing Authority of the County of Howard's Board of Commissioners has been called.
The meeting will be held as follows:
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF HOWARD BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, July 1, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.
Bobby Keaster Community Center
1010 S. Pope St., Nashville, AR 71852

General Practice of Law
Victor Martin
Attorney at Law
420 N. Main, Suite 1 • Nashville
phone: 870-845-5256
fax: 870-845-5899
vmartinlaw@gmail.com

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

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Rain again? The sidewalk moves inside!

On The Sidewalk Racks of Apparel & Shoes at Low - Low Prices

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Sale Days: Thurs, June 25th - Sat, June 27th

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Name: _____
Address: _____

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

How SW ARKANSAS PLAYED THE LOTTERY IN MAY 2026

County	Cash 3	Cash 4	Fast Play	Instant Settlement	New Lotto	Lucky for Life	Mega Millions	Natural State	Power Ball	Total Sales
Hempstead	\$68,545	\$29,859	\$11,766	\$423,335	\$3,172	47,020	\$4,425	\$5,210	\$59,445	\$562,787
Howard	59,024	20,160	7,234	246,159	2,248	4,520	2,895	2,197	4,916	349,352
Little River	4,926	3,402	1,453	117,601	928	3,395	2,505	1,460	4,291	139,961
Pike	507	544	7,111	153,838	2,804	4,310	2,055	3,441	4,863	179,472
Sevier	7,035	351	1,438	191,511	2,048	5,000	1,070	4,118	5,963	218,533
State Total	\$1,128,053	\$660,926	\$1,183,120	\$37,890,114	\$854,140	\$1,397,340	\$851,275	\$1,035,067	\$1,674,359	\$46,673,394

Some figures are rounded up to nearest dollar/State totals are estimates

SOURCE: Arkansas Lottery Commission

Level 3 Hot Springs sex offender arrested in Glenwood park

A Hot Springs sex offender who apparently works in Glenwood is now facing charges in Pike County after visiting a city park.

Stephen Matthew Beckowitz, 41, was charged June 19 with being a registered offender entering a water park, swimming area or children's playground contained within a public park.

According to case information filed by the Glenwood Police Department, an officer observed a blue van in the John Benjamin Recreational Park, which is maintained by the City of Glenwood and the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission. When the van left the

park, a check of its license plate showed the owner to be Beckowitz and identified him as a registered sex offender.

A traffic stop was conducted as the van pulled into the subject's workplace. After determining Beckowitz' sex offender assessment status was high risk and Level 3, he was taken into custody. His employer was advised of the situation and said he was unaware his employee was a sex offender.

It was noted in the case file that Beckowitz is appealing this assessment status. He pleaded not guilty to the charges Monday with an Aug. 3 pretrial date set.

Stavelly and Associates



#26007359 - Country living minutes from town, offers custom built home with approx 17.40 acres and additional rental/investment home. With highway 27 frontage and county road frontage, this property offers a 3 bedroom 2 bath home with approx 1,600 sq ft of living space, open concept, kitchen with island, stove and dishwasher to convey, dining area, living room with tray ceiling, wood burning fireplace, oversized master with master bath, walk in closet, double vanity and jacuzzi tub, laundry closet, and sun-room. Double carport, newer CH/CA and new roof. Additional rental/investment home has 1,300 sq ft of living space, under a current rental agreement. Property has an older barn, detached garage, and shop building. Property is fenced for cattle, offers a pond and some timber. Contact our office for all the details or to schedule your private viewing. **ADVERTISED PRICE \$395,000.**

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

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

102 North Main Street • Nashville
 870-845-1188

Featured LISTING!

103 N. 10th St., Nashville



This beautiful 1,125 sqft home offers 2-bedroom 2 bath and would make a great starter home. It sits on 0.26 acres with a nice fenced in back yard. Located in the heart of Nashville just minutes from the city park. **PRICE \$168,000.**

www.murrayandcompanyrealty.com

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



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1 bed, 2 full baths Log Home with approx. 1,400 sq. ft. of living space situated on approx. 12.93 acres with a rural secluded setting. Family area features a large brick wood burning fireplace, beamed ceiling. Bath features a Jacuzzi tub. Central A/C & Heat. Property has a 24 x 24 shed with 220 volt wiring and a pond.

Located at 1270 Hempstead 31, Nashville
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 Terry Ray 870-845-7757
 Dale Bennett 870-557-6597 • Carolyn Reed 870-200-0201
 Robert Crocker 870-285-5779
 Melinda Bennett 870-451-2226

PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 -S
 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE
 NO. 2025-16

THE 2026 HOWARD COUNTY OPERATING BUDGET
 ORDINANCE.

BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE QUORUM COURT
 OF HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS:

SECTION I: The 2026 Howard County Budget Ordinance
 No. 2025-16 should be Amended as follows:

Howard County Elections, Extra Help (1000-0109-1003) should increase by \$900.00, Social Security Matching (1000-0109-1006) should increase by \$1,533.05, Other Professional Services (1000-0109-3009) should increase by \$2,068.95. The increase comes from reimbursement for 2026 School Elections from the following schools: \$343.25 from the Cosatot River School District, \$883.00 from the Dierks School District, \$476.50 from the Mineral Springs School District No. 3, and \$ 1,899.25 from the Nashville School District. The \$900.00 increase comes from the State Board of Election Commissioners Stipend Payment for County Election Commissioners.

SECTION 2: This ordinance is to be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

Attest:
 Keri Teague- Howard County Clerk
 Brent Pinkerton- Howard County Judge
 (This publication was paid for by the Howard County Judge. The amount paid for this publication is \$83.70)

PUBLIC NOTICE

2002 CHEVROLET CAVALIER
 VIN#1G1JC524027459654

2002 TOYOTA AVALON
 VIN#4T1BF28B82U202021

2020 INTERNATIONAL LT625
 VIN#3HSDZAPR8LN267200

2015 GREATDANE TRAILER
 VIN#1GRAA0621GB705338

2007 BMW 328
 VIN#WBAVA335X7KX81925

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: 1)

PUBLIC NOTICE

MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND INTENTION TO SELL

YOU MAY LOSE YOUR PROPERTY IF YOU DO NOT TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION. IF YOUR PROPERTY IS SOLD, YOU WILL REMAIN LIABLE FOR ANY DEFICIENCY AND AN ACTION FOR COLLECTION MAY BE BROUGHT AGAINST YOU.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on July 13, 2026, at or about 01:30 PM, the following real property will be sold at the Main Entrance of the Howard County Courthouse, 421 N. Main St., Nashville, AR 71852 to the highest bidder for cash:

Part of the SW 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 24, Township 9 South, Range 27 West, described as follows: Beginning at the Northeast corner of said SW 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 24, Township 9 South, Range 27 West; thence South 510 feet; thence west 150 feet; thence North 510 feet; thence East 150 feet to the point of beginning.

More commonly known as: 1513 TINSDALE ST, NASHVILLE, AR 71852

On March 31, 2006, ESTATE OF JOHN DAVID COMPTON executed a Mortgage in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), as mortgagee, as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc, its successors and assigns, as Beneficiary, which was recorded March 31, 2006, in Book 2609, at Page 2609 in the real estate records of Howard County, Arkansas. Default has occurred in the payment of said indebtedness, and is now wholly due. The loan is now in default.

Tenants of the property may claim an interest in the real property herein.

The terms of the call are certified funds paid at the conclusion of the sale or wiring of funds within twenty-four hours of the sale. All transfer taxes will be the responsibility of the purchaser. The party initiating this action is Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc., 3217 S. Decker Lake Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84119, 800-258-8602.

May 11, 2026
 Date

Chase Taskerud
 Managing Attorney, Arkansas
 Marinosci Law Group, P.C. as Attorney in Fact for U.S. Bank NA, successor trustee to Bank of America, NA, successor in interest to LaSalle Bank NA, as trustee, on behalf of the holders of the Washington Mutual Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, WMALT Series 2006-5 Trust

LEGAL PRECEDENT IS NOT CLEAR AS TO WHETHER THE SENDING OF THIS LETTER MAKES US A DEBT COLLECTOR. TO THE EXTENT IT DOES, PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. HOWEVER, IF YOU ARE IN BANKRUPTCY OR HAVE BEEN DISCHARGED IN BANKRUPTCY, THIS LETTER IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED AS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT OR AS AN ACT TO COLLECT, ASSESS, OR RECOVER ALL OR ANY PORTION OF THE DEBT FROM YOU PERSONALLY.

IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY IN THE MILITARY SERVICE OR HAVE BEEN IN THE MILITARY SERVICE WITHIN THE PAST YEAR, AND YOU ENTERED THE SERVICE AFTER SIGNING THE PROMISSORY NOTE AND DEED OF TRUST, PLEASE NOTIFY THIS FIRM IMMEDIATELY AS YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO RELIEF UNDER THE SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT. WHEN CONTACTING THIS FIRM ABOUT YOUR MILITARY SERVICE, YOU MUST PROVIDE THIS FIRM WITH EVIDENCE OF YOUR MILITARY STATUS. IF YOU DO NOT PROVIDE SUCH EVIDENCE, WE WILL ASSUME THAT YOU ARE NOT ENTITLED TO PROTECTION UNDER THIS ACT. (PNA: 52 - 3)

NEWS-LEADER CLASSIFIEDS

BUSINESS SERVICES

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

Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 202 W. Howard St. on Wednesdays Only from 8 to 9 p.m. Melissa - 870-200-5437, Warren 870-557-0446

Tiny House #718 for rent, Mineral Springs. 870-200-0528 (pd. 1,2)

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOHN DAVID COMPTON, DECEASED
 NO. 31PR-25-68

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATRIX AND FILING OF CLAIMS

Last known address of decedent: John David Compton
 Date of death: August 19, 2025

The undersigned, Julia McCorkle Williams, was appointed administratrix of the estate of the above-named decedent on the 12th day of June, 2026.

All persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, duly verified, to the undersigned within six 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 this 24th day of June, 2026.

Julia McCorkle Williams, Administratrix
 BY: Victor Martin, ABN 2018116
 Attorney at Law
 420 N. Main, Suite One
 P. O. Box 922
 Nashville, AR 71852
 (870) 845-5256 phone
 (870) 845-5899 fax

(VM: 1, 2)



News-Leader photo/JOHN BALCH

RED AND BLACK FRIEND OF JACK. This young non-venomous milk snake, which resembles a venomous coral snake, was just enough to make your jump while it was curled up outside in a dark driveway.

Registrsation now open for Summer II, fall classes at UA Hope-Texarkana

Registration is open now for Summer II and fall classes at the University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana, and eligible parents are encouraged to ask about the Arkansas Career Pathways Initiative as they make plans to attend UAHT.

The Arkansas Career Pathways Initiative is designed to help parents pursue college classes and career training by helping remove common barriers to enrollment, persistence, and completion.

At UAHT, Career Pathways connects qualifying students with resources

that may include assistance with tuition, textbooks, testing fees, uniforms, supplies, childcare, transportation, technology, tutoring, academic support, career guidance, and other needs related to their education and training.

Summer II classes at UAHT begin July 6 and fall classes begin August 19. Summer II provides students with an excellent opportunity to earn college credit, stay on track for graduation, or get a head start before the fall semester. UAHT offers more than 50 degree and certificate pro-

grams, including academic transfer options and career and technical programs designed to prepare students for in-demand jobs.

Students interested in Career Pathways can complete the pre-application at arpathways.com or contact the UAHT Career Pathways office at 870-722-8159 or 870-722-8527.

For more information or to enroll in Summer II or fall classes at UAHT, contact the Purtle Advising Center at 870-722-8124, email pac@uaht.edu, or reach out to your academic advisor today.

Suspect in Gentry Auto arson case to return to court this week

By Patrick Massey
The De Queen Bee
DE QUEEN – A Sevier County man charged in connection with a fire that caused more than \$5 million in damage to Gentry Chevrolet last year is scheduled to return to court this week.

Charlie Moss, 39, is set to appear in Sevier County Circuit Court for a pretrial hearing on Thursday, June 25. A jury trial is currently scheduled to begin July 15 if he maintains his plea of not guilty.

Moss and co-defendant Trent Walker Gentry, 27, are each charged with one count of arson involving damages of \$100,000 or more, a Class Y felony punishable by 10 to 40 years or life in prison

if convicted.

Gentry received a continuance during a pretrial hearing in May.

He is scheduled to reappear in Sevier County Circuit Court on Oct. 8, with a jury trial currently set to begin during the week of Oct. 26.

Both defendants have entered pleas of not guilty and have been released after posting bonds in the amount of \$150,000.

The charges stem from a multi-agency investigation into a fire that broke out around 4:30 a.m. on Sept. 3 at Gentry Chevrolet in De Queen.

The blaze heavily damaged the dealership's service department and de-

stroyed multiple vehicles. Firefighters from De Queen, Horatio and Cossatot battled the flames for roughly four hours before bringing the fire under control.

Investigators from the Arkansas State Police, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and a private investigator hired by the dealership's insurance carrier joined the probe after evidence indicated possible arson.

According to authorities, surveillance footage from nearby businesses appeared to show two vehicles arriving at the dealership shortly before the fire began. Investigators later identified the vehicles as belonging to Gentry and Moss.

Pike County's 'wet drive' to hold fundraiser Saturday in Murfreesboro

The effort to get county-wide alcohol sales on the ballot is making strides toward the goal, but is still well short of the final number to achieve voter consideration in November.

The Vote Pike County Wet effort has amassed approximately 600 petitions thus far, but is still working toward the minimum 2,291 qualified petitions by the August 1 deadline.

To help the effort, the group will host a fundraising event in the Chimney Rock Grocery parking lot in Murfreesboro on Saturday, June 27 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Places to sign the petition include:

- Gypsy Underground -- Murfreesboro
- Chimney Rock Grocery -- Murfreesboro
- Harvill Insurance --

Murfreesboro

- OK Cafe - Glenwood
- Tobacco Store - Glenwood

- Farmers Market (Saturday Mornings) - Glenwood
- Langley Store - Langley

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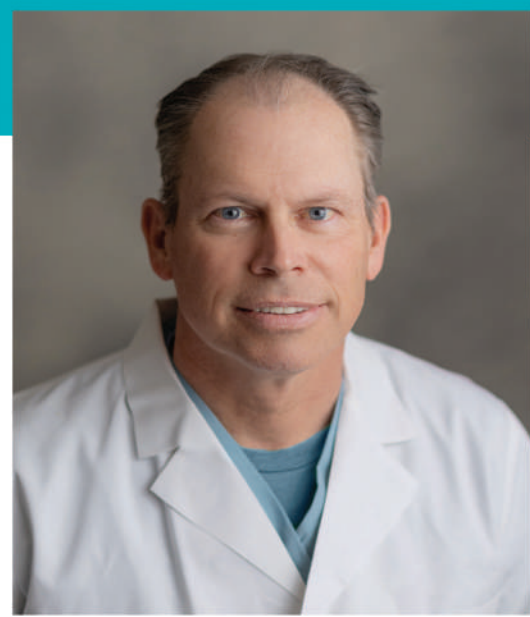
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Mickey, Briley, Candie & Delaney Ford



Since 1947, the Arkansas Farm Family of the Year Program has served as a vehicle to recognize outstanding farm families throughout the state.

The objectives of the Farm Family of the Year program are:

- To give recognition and encouragement to farm families who are doing an outstanding job on their farm and in their community.
- To gain recognition of the importance of agriculture in the community and state.
- To disseminate information on improved farm practices and management.

We salute our friends Mickey and Candie Ford on being selected Howard County Farm Family



Reliable Poultry's Stan Rucker with Candie, Briley, Mickey and Delaney Ford



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Howard County Farm Family of the Year

The Ford Family of Umpire

By John Balch
News-Leader staff

"This is actually as true a farm family you could find," says Candie Ford, the matriarch of Howard County's 2026 Farm Family of the Year.

Candie and husband Mickey were both "born into farming" and now their kids, Delaney and Briley, are working and living in their footsteps.

"Farming is the lifestyle we live and the way we have raised our children," Candie said. "Our kids know how to work and aren't afraid to take on the hard tasks in life. In our opinion, there isn't a better way to raise a child to value hard work, and God's creation, than on a farm."

The Ford family runs a growing poultry and cattle operation in Northern Howard County that spans 750 acres near Umpire and includes Shady Lake Farm, Shady Lake Cattle Farm and Bailey Poultry Farm, the latter being where Candie was raised and learned how to live and love the farm life.

In fact, Candie's first visit to the family's chicken houses was when she was just two days old.

"My mom didn't have any help to watch me so she took me and my brother with her to work," she said. "Working in chicken houses was a way of life for me, not a job."

In addition to their Howard County farm, the Fords own and operate a 350-acre farm in Gurdon, which is part of the 1,000-acre dairy cattle farm on which Mickey grew up. The family now runs a cow-calf operation on the Clark County property

where Mickey's parents still live and help him and Briley tend to the cows. On that farm, they raise 100 head of momma cows and produce around 600 rolls of hay each year.

Production at Shady Lake depends solely on family labor, not hired help. And, that's okay with Briley, whose mom thinks could practically run the farm by himself.

Briley, 14, got his own John Deere tractor when he was just nine and "was turned loose operating it that year." Candie said she doesn't even go to the hayfield anymore other than to deliver cold drinks. The boy has his own hay mower and can operate pretty much every piece of equipment on the farm.

Briley once asked his granddad for a piece of farm equipment for Christmas, preferably something in John Deere Green.

"He eats, sleeps and breathes it," mom said. "When God created him, He created a farmer."

The only thing Briley may love more than farming and his John Deere tractor is his dog, Toby, a young Mountain Cur that shadows his master, even on the back of his four-wheeler with sister aboard.

"He doesn't have anybody to play with out here except his dog," Candie said. "He says his sister doesn't want to play much any more."

Production at Shady Lake will take a hit in August

Farm Family
Continued Next Page



THE FORD CHILDREN OF UMPIRE. Briley, 14, is shadowed by his Mountain Cur, Toby, outside the home of Howard County's Farm Family of the Year on Shady Lake Road near Umpire. Delaney, 18, is a rising basketball player who has signed on to play college women's basketball at Henderson State University.

Howard County's 2026 Farm Family of the Year



Congratulations to the Mickey & Candie Ford Family!

The Mickey & Candie Ford Family are proof that hard work, dedication and integrity are the hallmarks of families who realize the American Dream. They are an essential part of providing food and resources to their local community, state and beyond.

We are honored & thankful to have the Ford family as members of our community & part of the Diamond Bank family!

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Farm Family

Continued

when big sister Delaney, 18, heads off to Henderson State University where she has signed up to play basketball. She already holds an associate degree in teaching and plans are to teach middle school math and get into coaching.

Delaney is somewhat famous in these parts for her basketball prowess. She didn't start playing basketball until mid-season of her eighth grade year at Empire High School. Then she proceeded to earn 1A-7 conference honors her sophomore, junior and senior seasons plus All-State honors as a junior and a senior. She was also an Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) Academic All-Star/Scholar Athlete and the official AAA record holder with 52 points in a single game. She scored a total of 1,690 points in her short career. Her senior year stats included 28.18 points per game and 6.7 rebounds per game.

"The work ethic and drive to achieve her full potential comes from being a farm kid and learning to

value hard work and what it takes to make something from nothing," Candie said her of daughter who graduated in May from Empire High School.

All that despite neither of her parents ever playing basketball. Briley said he is carrying on the hardwood tradition with the Empire Wildcats but will have to find another practice partner with big sister's departure in August.

"She's a huge help on the farm," mom added. "We will certainly miss her."

Normally this time of year, the Ford children would be gearing up to show in the Howard County Livestock Show. But this year, Delaney will be too busy with the start of college and basketball and Briley doesn't want to show without his big sister.

All of Delaney's show goats were recently sold off to another family with plans to help get them started. Delaney showed animals for 10 years and her brother showed for nine of those, and they have all the winning ribbons and trophies to prove it.

Candie recalled that one summer Delaney learned to make goat milk soap from those very goats, and turned

it into a small enterprise. At \$5 each, she sold \$1,000 worth and opened her very own checking account. She worked under the business name Paw Pig Farm and also sold goat milk for a short time.

Another lesson learned from being "a farm kid."

Education is a central value for the Ford kids whether in the classroom or in the chicken houses. Both parents have backgrounds in education. Candie worked with the EAST Lab for three years at Nashville High School and holds degrees in agriculture business and business administration, which she said are put to use daily to keep the farm running smoothly.

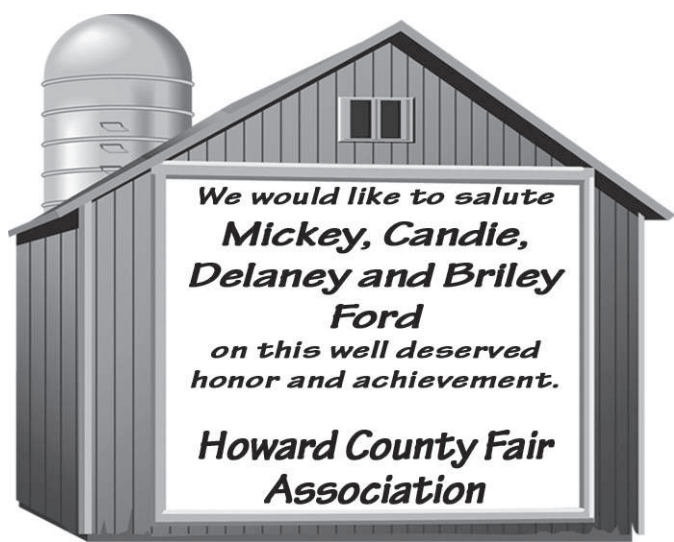
Mickey just wrapped up a 28-year career in education, which included being an agri teacher up to his final assignment as high school principal with the Cossatot River School District. He is now back on the farm full-time.



Farm Family

Continued Next Page

A VISIT WITH GRANDFATHER. Briley and Delaney are pictured here on a hot afternoon on Shady Lake Road with their maternal grandfather, Darrell Bailey, who also lives on the farm.



Congratulations
to
**Mickey, Candie,
Delaney & Briley Ford**
on being selected
**Howard County
Farm Family for 2026**



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Congratulations to the Ford Family

2026 Howard County Farm Family

Delaney, Mickey, Candie and Briley Ford with Farm Bureau Agent Cheyne Manning



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THE FORD FAMILY WITH GUESS WHO? Candie, Briley, Mickey and Delaney Ford in one of their two gardens along with the ever-present Mountain Cur, Toby.

Farm Family Continued

"We are very proud of both our children as they both excel in school, athletics and the farm!"

The Fords have already accomplished many goals over the last 20 years including twice being named the No. 1 overall grower for the Tyson Broken Bow/Grannis complex. Earning that title remains an annual goal at

Shady Lake.

The Shady Lake farm produces 226,000 birds annually and 1.8 million pounds of meat while the Bailey farm produces 168,000 birds annually and 1.3 million pounds of meat. Each farm has two houses under two separate Tyson contracts.

(Note: The Fords were knocked out of the running for that Tyson title in March 2019 when a tornado took out the two Shady Lake Farm houses. The family rebuilt from the ground up and welcomed chickens back on Labor Day that same year.)

The Ford's cattle operation

Briley will surely be glad to know the future plans for expansion at Shady Lake are in the works and involve "purchasing equipment that makes the farm run more efficiently," perhaps something in John Deere Green.

Plus, the family is also open to purchasing more land to expand the cattle operation. "With a son who loves to farm, we need to acquire more land so he will have plenty of opportunities to stay on the farm and work when he graduates high school."

 A black and white photograph of the Ford family standing in a field. Mickey is on the right, Briley is in the middle, and Delaney is on the left. A tractor is visible in the background.

**Congratulations to the Ford's,
2026 Howard County Farm Family**

**DISTRICT 4
HICKEY
SENATE**

 A black and white photograph of the Ford family standing in a field. Mickey is in the center, Briley is on the right, and Delaney is on the left.

*Congratulations
to our customers, the Ford Family
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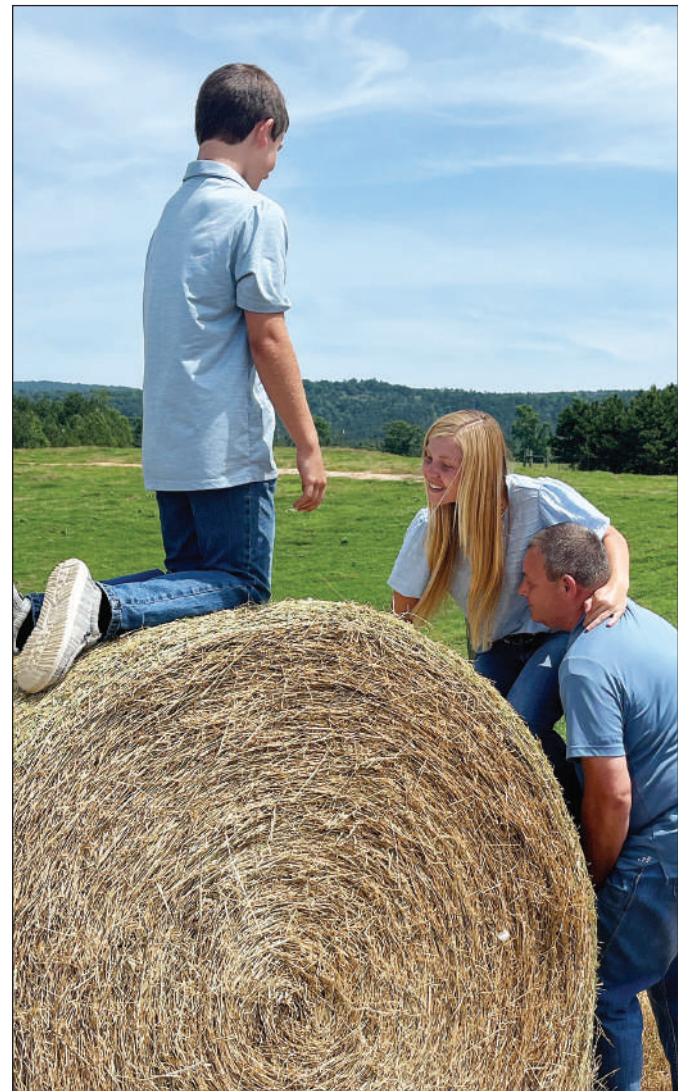
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On The Farm with Howard County's Farm Family of the Year

All Photos by John Balch

BRILEY IN HEAVEN with his John Deere tractor and his hay rake



A LITTLE HELP FROM DAD

Delaney gets a lift from her dad Mickey

YES, TOBY IS ON BOARD

Delaney and Briley with Toby on board head out across cattle field

Saluting the Ford Family



Candie, Delaney, Briley, and Mickey Ford with Tyson Representative Roger Daughtry

on being chosen 2026 Howard County Farm Family.

Denise Sweat, Farm Credit; Mickey, Briley, Candie and Delaney Ford and Kyle Webb, Farm Credit



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The Mickey Ford Family

2026 Howard County Farm Family!

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1973 D.I. Green
 1974 Clay Godfrey
 1975 Eugene Green
 1976 H.T. Chambers
 1977 Jerome Johnson
 1978 Jerry Chambers
 1979 Ralph Chesshir
 1980 Hug Carver
 1981 A.D. (Sonny) Raulerson
 1982 Vaughn Wakefield
 1983 Renny Chesshir
 1984 Delmar Henderson
 1985 W.T. Strasner
 1986 James Sharp

1987 Elton (Bud) Shaw
 1988 Bill Signer (District)
 1989 Gary Bearden (District)
 1990 Ray Rogers
 1991 Phil Eford
 1992 Randy Allen
 1993 Alan Green
 1994 Scott Kitchens
 1995 David Simmons
 1996 Odell Wesson
 1997 Kerry Smith
 1998 Ron Alexander
 1999 Joey Jamison
 2000 Robert Stuart

2001 Arian Stanley (District)
 2002 Bruce Flemons (District)
 2003 Randy Hughes
 2004 Pat Frachiseur (District)
 2005 Kirk Bell (District)
 2006 Steve Spigner
 2007 Junior Hilliard
 2008 John Jamison
 2009 Bobby Billings, Jr.
 2010 Steve Alexander
 2011 Gregg Greene
 2012 Bobby Falcon
 2013 Pace King
 2014 Mark Kitchens

2015 Brian Billings
 2016 Joel Whisenhunt
 2017 Nathan Hill
 2018 Randall & Kelly Pugh
 2019 Gregg, Mason & Marcus Greene
 2020 Leo Hughes Family
 2021 Newton & Merles Cheatham
 2022 Brandon & Samantha Manasco
 2023 Mark & Sarah Myers
 2024 Billy & Yolanda Barton
 2025 Jared & Cathren Smith (District)
 2026 Mickey & Candie Ford

Annual Arkansas district farm families announced

The 79th annual Arkansas Farm Family of the Year program has announced its eight district farm families, highlighting the diverse sectors that make up the state's largest industry, agriculture. Judges will visit these farms to determine the Arkansas Farm Family of the Year, which will be announced Dec. 11.

The District Farm Families of the Year are:

- Northwest District: the Haley family of Maysville (Benton County)
- Western District: the Rogers family (Logan County)
- West Central District: the Frachiseur family of Gillham (Sevier County)
- Southwest District: the Fawcett family of Winthrop (Little River County)
- Southeast District: the Hornbeck family of DeWitt (Arkansas County)
- East Central District: the Vinson family of Rose Bud (White County)
- Northeast Central District: the East family of Clarkedale (Crittenden County)
- North Central District: the Newland family of Dennard (Van Buren County)

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