

The Murfreesboro Diamond

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Bradford out, Buchanan appointed to fill spot

LITTLE ROCK -- Ninth Judicial District West Prosecutor Jana Bradford will not fulfill her elected term and will be replaced next month by a former opponent appointed by the governor.

Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders announced Monday the appointment of longtime Ash-down attorney and former prosecutor Mickey Buchanan to serve out Bradford's term, effective Sept. 2. The judicial district includes How-ard, Pike, Little River and Sevier counties.

The governor's announcement did not provide a reason for Bradford's decision to step down. Buchanan's appointed term will end Dec. 31.

Buchanan was defeated by Bradford for election to the prosecutor position in 2022 and Bradford took office in January 2023. Bradford was defeated for another term this year by her former deputy prosecutor, Erin Hunter of De Queen, who takes office on Jan. 1, 2027.

MHS football program to be digital in 2026

MURFREESBORO -- The Murfreesboro cheer program has announced that the school will go digital with the 2026 Football Programs.

The program will feature the MJHS and MHS football teams, cheerleaders, and band.

"This is a great way to show your support for a specific Rattler or your business/organization," said cheer coach Melissa Jones.

This year's program will feature:

- Full-color digital format
- Easy access with a QR code and shareable link
- Free for all fans, families, alumni, and community supporters to view and share

For businesses or families that would like to purchase an ad, fill out the Google form at <https://forms.gle/JrCsRMnBGDpnahQy5> or contact Jones, Melissa Cornish or Hannah Taylor.

"We appreciate your support of our student-athletes and can't wait for another exciting football season! Go Rattlers!" said Jones.

Food bank to deliver boxes on August 19

TEXARKANA -- Harvest Regional Food Bank will distribute TEFAP USDA Food Boxes directly from their truck in Murfreesboro on Wednesday, Aug. 19, from 8:30-10:30am or until all boxes have been distributed.

Recipients must come inside the municipal building located at 204 E. Main St. to check in. Check-in starts at 7 a.m.

Once checked in, recipients will go back to their vehicle and proceed to line up along 2nd Avenue & Owens Street towards First United Methodist Church.

Food boxes will be loaded directly into vehicles from the back of the municipal building.

The next Mobile Pantry is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2026.

Recipients must bring photo identification or proof of address to verify they are residents of Pike County. Distribution is limited to one box per household and two households per vehicle.

Fatalities incurred in two vehicle accident

MURFREESBORO -- A two-vehicle accident on Tuesday, Aug. 4 in Pike County killed two drivers, according to the Arkansas State Police.

The accident happened around 6 p.m. on Highway 70 in between Glenwood and Kirby and killed Gail Davis, 71, of Fayetteville and Garrett Whitt, 33, of Hot Springs.

Davis was driving eastbound in a 2023 Nissan Rouge when she crossed the centerline and hit a westbound 2022 Chevrolet Silverado driven by Whitt.

ASP Cpl. Michael Summitt worked the accident and listed the conditions as cry and clear at the time of the wreck.

DO YOU KNOW SOMETHING
WORTH TELLING?
Submit Your Local
News to the Diamond!
mdiamond@windstream.net
Call (870) 285-2723 For More Information



Staff photo
BALLOT DRAW ... Ballot placement for the county's municipal elections were conducted last Friday at the Pike County Clerk's office in Murfreesboro. Pictured above is Pike County Election Commissioner Terry Hutson (standing) as he converses with mayoral candidate Jack Bonds and council candidate Doris Scoggin.

Municipal elections set as filing closes

Murfreesboro to settle contested mayoral, council position races in November

MURFREESBORO -- Following the closure of the filing period for municipal elections last week in Pike County, several positions will be contested in the the November elections.

Jack Bonds and Mary Jean Barbre filed for the position of Murfreesboro mayor.

Also in Murfreesboro, three people -- Patrick May, Doris Scoggins and Angie Strawn -- filed for the West Ward position one on the city council.

In addition in Murfreesboro, Mark Barnes filed for North Ward position one, Joan Hooper for North Ward position two, Lewis Gills for South Ward position one, Jane Fugitt for South Ward position two and Cody Bachmann for West Ward position two.

The Town of Delight will see no contested races with filings from Lee Gatliff for mayor, Dana Hightower for recorder/treasurer, Rhonda Abbott for council position one, Ty Sherrod for council position two, Brandi Rowton for council position three, Ronnie Cox for council position four and Chris Goodson for council position five.

Incumbent Glenwood Mayor Billy Plyler registered for election along with Johnny Cox for councilman of North Ward position two in Glenwood. South Ward position two on the council went without a filed candidate.

In the Towns of Daisy, Lisa Cogburn filed for mayor, Rebecca Frazier for recorder/treasurer, Amanda Huggins for council position two, Scotty. Frazier for council position three and Nicholas Stant for council position four. Council positions one and five saw no candidates file.

No one registered for election in the Town of Antoine in any of the positions, including mayor, recorder/treasurer, and positions one through five on the council.

The elections will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2026.

For questions or more information on being registered to vote in the election, please call the Pike County Clerk's office at (870) 285-2743.

Visitors can now cruise the Campbell Highway

PIKE COUNTY -- The long planned Glen Campbell Memorial Highway is now official.

Signs were placed recently on State Highways 301, 19 and 26 by Branch Construction.

The legislative effort was started in 2023 in Arkansas Senate Bill 535 that was sponsored by local elected officials Senator Steve Crowell and Representative Justin Gonzales following the groundwork being done by the Murfreesboro Advertising and Tourism Commission.

The bill stated that "Glen Travis Campbell was born on April 22, 1936, in Billstown, Arkansas ... [and] began to learn to play the guitar when he was four years old with a five-dollar guitar bought from the Sears, Roebuck Company catalogue."

Campbell, who left Arkansas during his teenage years "always billed himself as being from Delight, Arkansas" and would go on to "achieved fame within the music industry by playing guitar with well-known musicians, including the legendary group of studio musicians known as the Wrecking Crew, The Beach Boys on their landmark album, Pet Sounds; Frank Sinatra on Stangers in the Night; and The Monkees on I'm a Believer.

Campbell would achieve solo fame with the songs such as Gentle on My Mind, By the Time I Get to Phoenix, Galveston and Wichita Line-man.

He also has star appeal on the screen and not just the radio airwaves, appearing in several movies and shows with Arkansas connections, including "True Grit", based on Arkansan Charles Portis' novel of the same name and as the star of the movie "Norwood" based on the book also by Charles Portis as well as hosting



Staff photo
HERE'S YOUR SIGN ... Steve Campbell (left) and Jamie Terrell of the Murfreesboro Advertising and Tourism Commission stand next to the recently installed Glen Campbell Memorial Highway sign in Murfreesboro.

CAMPBELL
Continued on Page 2

CAMPBELL Continued from Page 1

The Glen Campbell Goodtime Hour and The Glen Campbell Music Show.

In his later years, in 2014, Campbell raised awareness about Alzheimer’s disease when he opened up to his fans about his struggle with the disease in a documentary chronicling his farewell tour called “Glen Campbell: I’ll Be Me.

Campbell died on August 8, 2017, and is buried in the Campbell family cemetery in Billstown.

The bill stated that “the designation of the Glen Campbell Memorial Highway is essential to preserve the music history of southwest Arkansas; [to] honor one of Arkansas’s famous sons; and [to] promote the economic development of communities in Pike County.

While the bill didn’t pass in 2023, in late 2025 the City of Murfreesboro, the Town of Delight and the Pike County Quorum Court all passed resolutions in support of the act.

On Dec. 5, 2025, the Murfreesboro Advertising and Tourism Commission, with chairman Jamie Terrell’s signature, sent a letter of request to the Arkansas Highway Commission to officially approve the measure of the memorial highway.

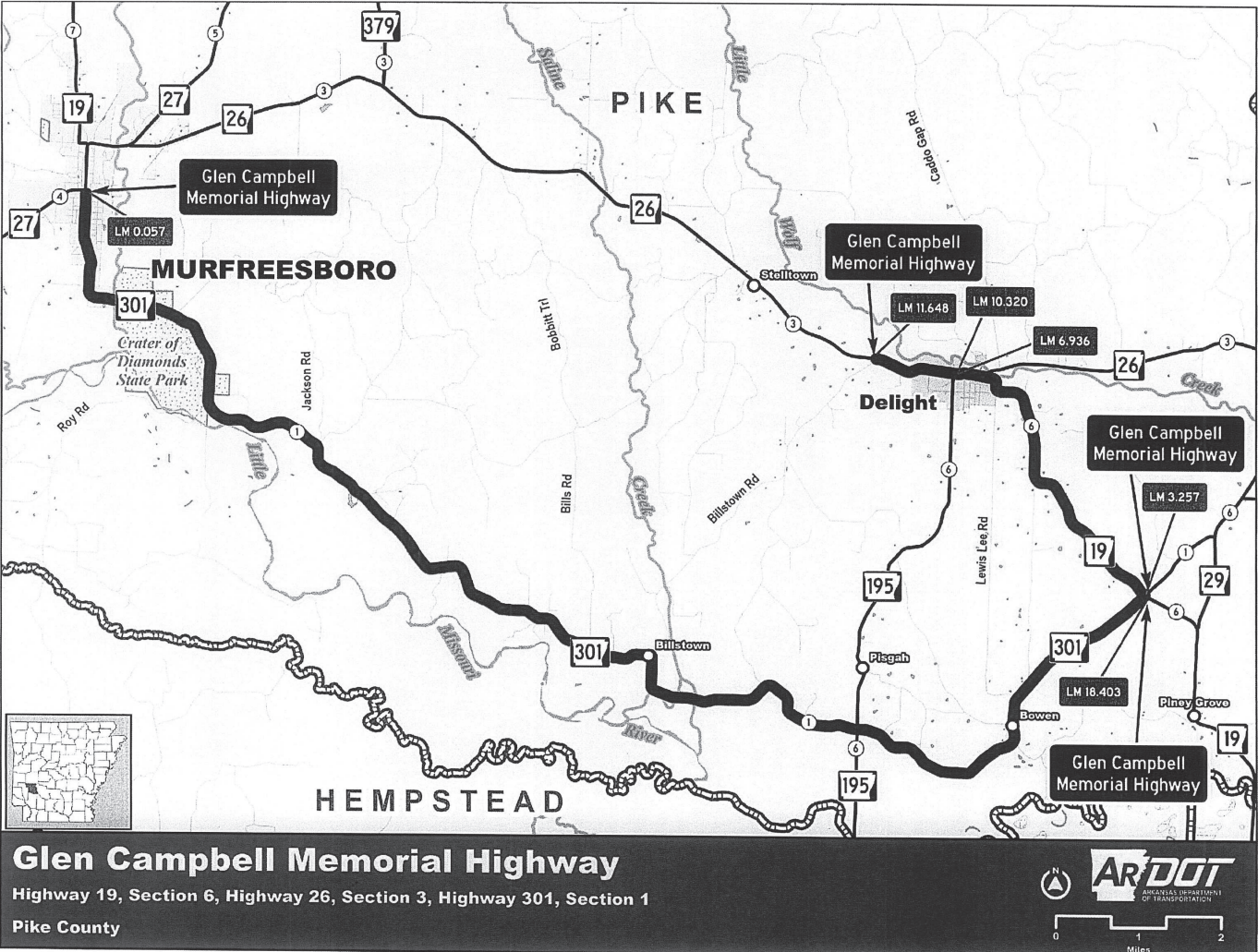
Then, on Feb. 13 of this year. the Arkansas Department of Transportation replied to the commission saying they preliminary approved the plan with only the details of sign left to be worked out.

“It means everything ... not just to the family, but to the communities,” said Steve Campbell. “We get about 6-10 visitors a week at the cemetery, and a lot of tourists come through here for the diamond mine, for the lake, and hunting. It’s just an experience. Having the Glen Campbell Highway down 301 to 19 and 29 back into Delight it guides people. This is where he came from.”

Steve, who is Glen’s nephew, would go onto tell a story “from back in the old says.”

He said on the stretch of Highway 301 headed to the Pike County Courthouse square, the Campbell family came to the Pike County Fair in Murfreesboro, approximately 1939-1940.

“All the family would come ... Uncle “Shorty” Campbell and my father were part of a mule race that started about here [where First Baptist Church is now] and ended at the courthouse square. These mules had already brought the wagons with the Campbell family in it. There were about six to eight entries. They took off -- but there was a blacksmith’s shop on the right just be-



fore the square. These mules had been taken to this blacksmith’s shop many, many times. Shorty was in third place, but when the two mules in the lead peeled off to go to the blacksmith’s shop, the lead two mules turned in, allowing Shorty to go right on by to win the race.”

Steve said the award was free ride tickets at the fair, which Shorty eventually “shared with his brother after he saw his long face.”

“So the history is all right here in the area,” Steve concluded.

“It will be good for all of south Pike County, the whole of the county, good for everybody.”

Tourism Commission secretary/treasurer Jane Fugitt said Crowell was instrumental in getting the final steps accomplished for the memorial highway.

She added that ARDOT approved the much rarer memorial highway designation after all of the highways entering Murfreesboro were of the “scenic highway” variety.

Stopping the march of fall armyworms, saving forage

It has been a hot summer here in Pike County, with many producers taking advantage of putting up the hay they need in time for winter. However, the armyworms have made their way into the county in some areas causing forage losses. This has been pressuring pastures and hayfields in the area.

The fall armyworm (FAW) is one of the most devastating pests of pastures and hayfields, reducing both forage availability and hay yields. Damage can appear almost overnight, and infestations can be easily overlooked when the caterpillars are small and eat very little. Beginning as early as late June or July significant fall armyworm populations can occur in Arkansas.

Fall armyworms are more common in southern Arkansas. They appear in midsummer, especially in bermudagrass pastures. Fall armyworms have dark stripes and a light-colored, Y-shaped marking on their heads. Fall armyworms are sensitive to cold. They overwinter in southern Florida, southern Texas, and Central and South America. Fall armyworms usually don’t debut until July. Warm spring weather could make damage appear sooner.

FAWs feed on variety of forages but often prefer lush well fertilized bermudagrass and threaten newly emerged small grains and ryegrass.

Producers are encouraged to diligently scout their pastures and hayfields for FAWs. Examine at least 10 one sq. ft. samples at random across the field. Female fall armyworm moths prefer to lay eggs in areas of abundant growth, be sure to include a few of these areas in your 10 samples. If you need help with scouting, please contact the office and we can make a farm visit to help.

Other indicators of fall armyworm presence include silver leaf tips, feeding damage and birds feeding in the field.

Chemical control is usually needed when 2 or 3 worms per square foot are present. Read label instructions and follow all harvesting and grazing restrictions. In situations where mixed-sized worms are present, strongly consider using products with



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CODIE MCALISTER

PIKE COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT

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RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System

longer residual activity.

Products containing anthranilic diamides, IGRs and the tank mix of diflubenzuron plus a pyrethroid exhibit longer residual activity than pyrethroids alone, spinosyns or the carbamate against armyworms.

Pyrethroid insecticides are faster acting than insect growth regulators and work well on small and medium-sized caterpillars. In general, insect growth regulators will have longer residual activity than pyrethroids. However, because insect growth regulators are slower, they should be used when the caterpillars are small. Most insecticide labels will provide a rate range (low to high). Consider using the higher rate if the armyworms are large because they are harder to kill. Products available to control both armyworm species in forage are updated annually and listed in MP144, Insecticide Recommendations for Arkansas. You can pick a print copy of it up at the Pike County Extension Office or view it online by visiting the following website www.uaex.uada.edu and searching MP144.

NEW WORLD SCREWORM UPDATE

As of August 11, 2026, there still has not been a case of New World Screwworm detected in Arkansas. In southwest Texas and far southeast New Mexico, the total of confirmed cases is 45. Four of those cases are currently active while forty-one cases are currently inactive cases. Continue to monitor your livestock and pets closely, and if you suspect a case of New World Screwworm, contact the Arkansas Department of Agriculture.

PIKE COUNTY FAIR UPDATE

August 1 was the deadline for livestock and poultry entries. If you have youth that registered poultry, they will need to be tested before coming to the fair. This testing will take place August 22, 2026 from 5-8 PM at the Kirby Baseball Fields. All chickens and poultry to be shown at the Pike County Fair must be tested

during this time.

Horticulture, floral, and all other entries into the Martin and Crawford Buildings may be entered on Monday September 7 from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM. A full list of the Pike County Fair schedule may be found at this website: www.pikecountyfairandrodeo.com/schedule

DROUGHT MONITOR

The Drought Monitor shows for parts of Pike County as of August 4, 2026, to be abnormally dry. Pike County also remains under a burn ban as of August 11, 2026.

For more information and recommendations regarding agriculture and natural resources, contact the Pike County Extension Office at 87-285-2161 or your local county extension office. You can visit the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension website for more information at www.uaex.uada.edu.



Submitted photo

ARMYWORM

Murfreesboro Diamond

Your Hometown Newspaper since 1975

Located in the County Seat of Pike County • Murfreesboro, Arkansas
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Published by Nashville Leader Inc.,
418 North Main Street
Nashville, AR 71852

Periodical Class postage paid at Murfreesboro, AR

The *Murfreesboro Diamond* (USPC 103-230) is published every Wednesday.
Subscription Rates: \$45 per year in area: Pike, Howard, Hempstead, Clark, Nevada & Montgomery counties; \$57 per year elsewhere.
\$35 for 6-months in area; \$45 for 6-months elsewhere.
College Subscriptions- \$30 for 9-months.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 550, Murfreesboro, AR 71958
Telephone: 870-285-2723

Business Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Wednesday 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. • Friday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Please Send Change of Address Information to:
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Any erroneous statement published in the newspaper will be gladly and promptly corrected if called to the attention of the management.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE
FRIDAYS AT 3:00 P.M.

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PIKE COUNTY, ARKANSAS
PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
GORDON EUDEAN HINES, deceased No. 55PR-25-40

PUBLIC NOTICE

Last known address of the decedent: 919 North Washington Ave., Murfreesboro, AR 71958

Date of Death: June 23, 2025

An instrument dated August 03, 2026, lawfully appointed DHOREA KENCAYD as Administrator of the above estate. That all persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, duly verified, within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in the estate. This notice first published on this day of August, 2026.

DHOREA KENCAYD
Petitioner

BY: /s/ Dustin Bissell
DUSTIN BISSELL
Attorney for Petitioner
306 E Broadway, Glenwood, AR 71943
(870) 356-2589
Arkansas Bar #2022047 (d.b. 137w., 6,7,)

Stavely and Associates



Commercial Listing
#26032514 - Formerly "Murfreesboro Nursing Center" building and all contents are being offered for sale. This is a great opportunity to step in and open a ready to operate much needed business in the Heart of Murfreesboro. 25 rooms with each offering double occupancy, half bath and furnished beds. Kitchen is totally functional with refrigerators, ovens, stoves, dishes, tables, chairs, pots/pans, glasses/plates, etc. Laundry room, maintenance garage, will all tools and equipment to maintain property. Administrative offices, front desk and large gathering room. Contact our office for all the details. **ADVERTISED PRICE \$1,200,000.**

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City council hears of planned interest in former nursing home

BY JOHN BALCH
Nashville News-Leader staff

MURFREESBORO -- The Murfreesboro City Council took care of the second reading of an ordinance and will have one more reading next month before adopting the policy that would designate and set regulations for certain city streets and highways within the city limits for use by utility task vehicles (UTVs). The reading was by title only Monday night with the final

reading scheduled for the council’s Sept. 14 meeting. In related news, Mayor Jim O’Neal reported that he and council member Jane Fugitt will meet with state tourism officials next week with the primary topic concerning the Crater of Diamonds State Park and whether the state will permit the UTVs to access and park at the state park. Recorder/Treasurer Penny Lamb also cleared up an issue involving \$5,000 pledged by the city for the Pike County Economic Commission to help pay and defray the cost of hiring a director.

The issue was brought up by council member Cody Bachmann. Lamb said it took the commission several months to send the city the bill for the pledged money and when she did receive the bill the commission still had not hired anyone. “So, I sat on it for a couple months, thinking that they were going to get someone hired for the position that our money was going to be used for,” Lamb said. Lamb further explained that she did not submit the pledged funds because “I did not feel it was appropriate for us to pay out funds for something that the county had not filled its portion of.” Lamb said she possibly “overstepped my bounds” but as recorder/ treasurer it is her job to “protect the interest of the City of Murfreesboro, and that’s what I felt that I was doing.” She also said the check for the pledged funds was now ready and awaiting the mayor’s signature. Mayor O’Neal told Bachmann he would sign the check and get it to the commission first thing the next morning. Mayor O’Neal reported during the meeting that Danny Dougan of Glenwood is “very interested” in possibly purchasing the now-closed Murfreesboro nursing home and converting it to an assisted living facility. The mayor also informed the council that the city is tentatively scheduled to receive a \$400,000 grant for overlay work on city streets. The council also approved Lamb’s financial report which included the following beginning and ending balances for July: General Combined -- \$311,954/ \$296,300 Street Combined -- \$394,601/ \$379,487 Park -- \$45,975/ \$33,400 Special Funds -- \$333,423/ \$328,421 Advertising & Promotion -- \$57,492/ \$64,685 Waterworks -- \$937,829/ no ending balance available

Another continuance issued by court for King

MURFREESBORO -- The murder case against a Pike County man has been given another continuance and is set for pretrial in October. Gage King, 24, of Murfreesboro, is charged with the second-degree murder of Daniel Cain Lamb, 44, on June 18, 2025. He was scheduled for a pretrial on Monday, Aug. 10 but the case has now been moved with an Oct. 5 pretrial date and an Oct. 22 jury trial date set for Oct. 22. According to case information, a special agent with the Arkansas State Police Criminal Investigation Division was notified of a shooting on June 18, 2025 that occurred at 220 Pike City Road. The agent first arrived at approximately 12:46 a.m. at the intersection of Pike City Road and Highway 26 where he observed paramedics and officers with the Pike County Sheriff’s Department also at the intersection. He was informed Lamb had allegedly been shot in the chest by King at 220 Pike City Road. Lamb was ultimately pronounced dead at the scene.

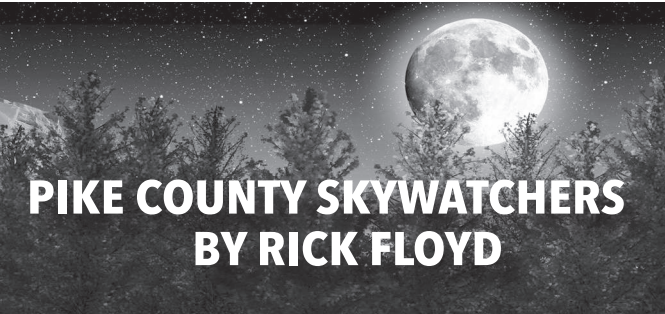
Lamb had apparently gotten to the intersection in a vehicle driven by Melissa Campbell, 52, of Delight, who reported she had driven to the intersection to meet first responders following the shooting. Officers then went to the Pike City home and took King into custody. Campbell told investigators that she and Lamb went to the home to confront King regarding a prior incident. She said King came out holding a gun and Lamb got out and started to approach King when he fired a round from a .22 caliber rifle. Lamb was able to get back into the vehicle. Campbell said King pointed the gun at her vehicle so she allegedly drove forward and hit King before fleeing the residence. King later told the ASP agent that Campbell and Lamb had come to the home and made threats towards him. He said he went inside and retrieved the rifle and that when Lamb began approaching he told him multiple times to stop before he fired the shot.

Man charged following short car chase

MURFREESBORO -- A Murfreesboro man has been charged with multiple offenses related to a traffic stop that he allegedly fled from earlier this month. Darrell Edward Evans, 60, was charged Aug. 7 in Pike County Circuit Court with fleeing, resisting arrest, speeding, defective brake lights and driving left of center. Evans pleaded not guilty to the charges Monday and a Sept. 28 pretrial date was set. According to case information, the Murfreesboro Police Department was attempting to stop Evans in a 2005 Chevrolet Silverado on Aug. 2 when he allegedly failed to stop. Evans led an officer on a short pursuit up Highway 19 North before driving through a ditch and pulling up in front of his residence. Evans reportedly did not comply with the officer’s commands but later complied after the officer’s Taser was deployed. After Evans was placed under arrest, he stated, “I’m not going anywhere until I talk to (Pike County Sheriff) Travis Hill.” The pursuit reached speeds of 75 to 80 MPH n a 55 MPH zone with an approximate distance of 3.10 miles. Also on Aug. 7, Jeremy Ward, 34, of Prescott, was charged in Pike County with possession of a controlled substance and drug paraphernalia following a traffic stop July 30 in Delight. Ward pleaded not guilty to the charges Monday and a Nov. 30 pretrial date was set.

According to case information, Ward was stopped for unconfirmed liability insurance and an inoperative lamp. A check of Ward’s status showed he had a search waiver on file due to a previous conviction and a search of his person and vehicle took place. Suspected methamphetamine weighing .42 grams and paraphernalia were recovered.

PAIR SENTENCED MONDAY
During Monday’s court in Pike County, two defendants were sentenced after entering guilty pleas. Joshua G. Lemons, 35, of Nashville, pleaded guilty to the charge of criminal nonsupport; sentenced to four years of probation, fined \$1,500 plus court costs and ordered to satisfy child support arrearage. James Lloyd Cogburn, 61, of Glenwood, pleaded guilty to the charge of possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine); sentenced to four years of probation and fined \$1,000 plus court costs.



Watch for falling stars

The Perseid meteor shower, as mentioned in last week’s article, has been active since mid-July, and it reaches its peak time on August 12 and 13. The best time to sit out and watch for the meteor flares is after midnight, more specifically between 2 and 4 a.m. See last week’s article for where in the sky to look. Meteors of the Perseid shower are bits of debris left by the Comet 109P/Swift-Tuttle as it comes around the Sun before journeying away again. It was discovered in 1862, and last appeared in our solar neighborhood in 1992. It will be back here in the year 2125. Each time it passes it leaves a debris trail and each year at this time Earth passes through it. An observer might see 50 or more meteors per hour under a non-light polluted sky (get out of town if you can). The Perseids are noted for their bright flashes and lingering trails, and the astounding thing is that those bright streaks of light are for the most part made by particles the size of a pea or just a grain of sand. They hit Earth’s atmosphere at a speed of 130,000 mph. It seems Congress will take a 5 week break, so the Sunshine Protection Act (the bill to make Daylight Saving Time the standard time for the U.S.) is on hold until the Senate reconvenes. The House of Representatives has passed the bill. There are some doubts that the Senate will pass it, given those who think permanent standard time would be best. Nineteen states (not Arkansas) have already passed legislation to adopt the Sunshine Act if passed by Congress. One big sticking point is the lengthening of darkness during the mornings of winter. Here, the latest sunrises in winter would be well after 8:00 a.m.

LETTER TO EDITOR POLICY

All letters to the editor must be signed, along with a phone number (that will not be published) provided for confirmation purposes. The Murfreesboro Diamond reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity. Letters must not be libelous or contain any profanities.

Send letters to P.O. Box 550, Murfreesboro, AR 71958 or email to mdiamond.editor@windstream.net

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

UAMS

HOUSE CALL

Dr. Amber Norris is an assistant professor in the UAMS Department of Family and Preventive Medicine who treats patients at UAMS East Regional Campus in Helena.



Q: How is emphysema treated?

A: Emphysema is a chronic lung disease that damages air sacs in the lungs, making it harder to breathe and more difficult for the lungs to transfer oxygen to the blood. The American Lung Association estimates that more than 3 million Americans have emphysema.

Emphysema is a form of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and can affect anyone. Smoking is the primary cause of emphysema. Chemical or dust fumes in the air, secondhand smoke, and smoke from campfires or wood-burning stoves can also lead to the condition.

Shortness of breath, cough with excess mucus, chest tightness, fatigue, and wheezing are some symptoms of emphysema. The condition can exist long before symptoms present themselves,

and they can be mistaken for other common health problems. Complications of emphysema include high blood pressure in the lungs, elevated levels of carbon dioxide in the blood, heart failure, pneumonia, and respiratory failure.

Blood tests and a pulmonary test of lung function are some methods of diagnosing emphysema. The condition cannot be reversed — treatment options focus on slowing damage to lung tissue and easing symptoms. Medicines to expand air passages and corticosteroids to reduce airway inflammation may be prescribed. See your health care provider for an initial examination.

First Baptist Church

Back to School Splash

Aug. 15 • 5:30-7:30 p.m.

• *Ages 4-12 unless accompanied by adult* •

dunking booth, bounce house with wading pool, water balloon fights, hot dogs, drinks

The First Baptist Church is located at 500 S. Washington • Murfreesboro

For more information call Bro. Damian Rogers at 870-331-1826

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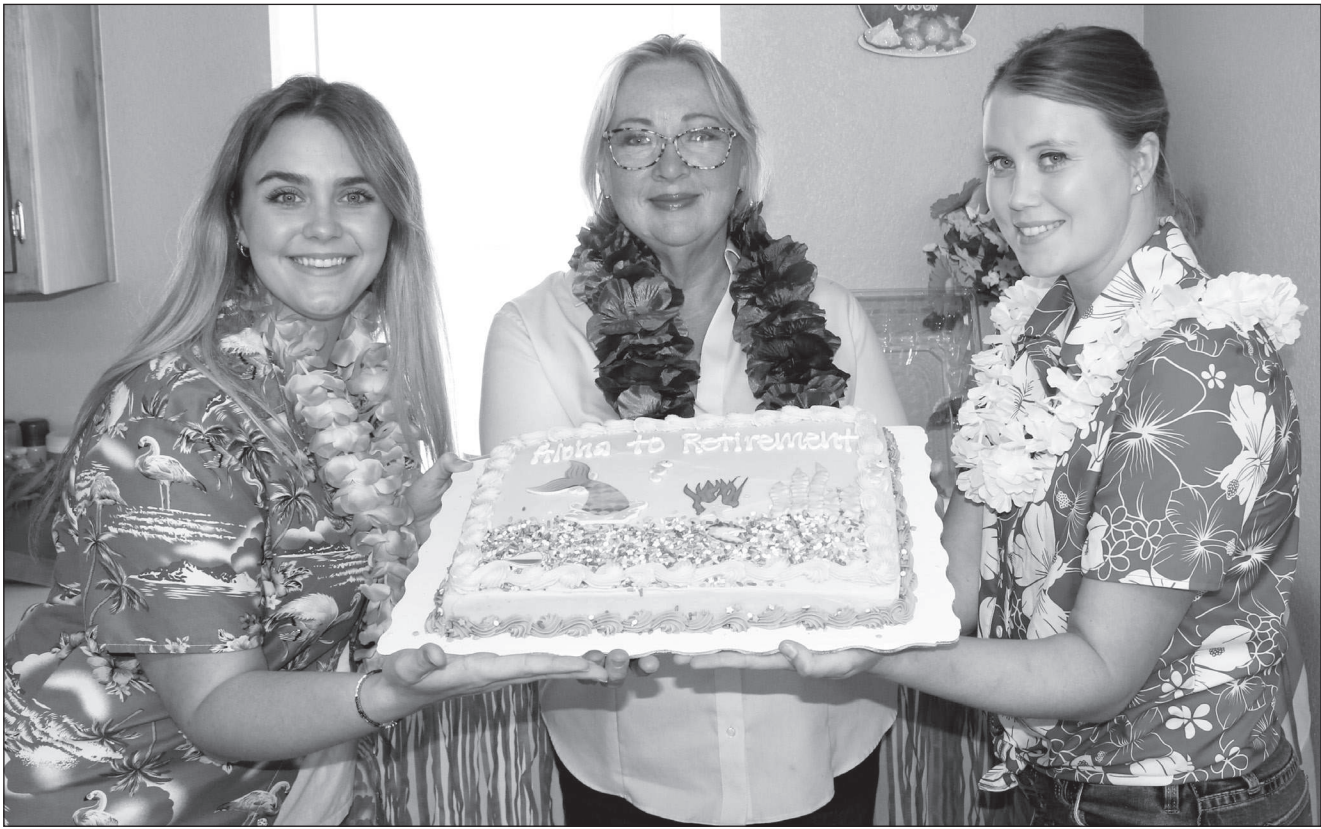
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Staff photos

LANGLEY RETIRES ... Eva Langley was recently provided with a bon-voyage luau retirement party at the Pike County Extension Office. In attendance was personnel from the extension state office, extension home council (EHC) members from across the county and local dignitaries. The popular family and consumer science agent will look to spend time with her family and complete her numerous unfinished sewing projects. “She made work so much fun ... and she really came in clutch with a good soup!” said agricultural agent Codie McAlister. “Eva’s skill was pushing people to be the best version of themselves.” The extension office is currently seeking Langley’s replacement, or as McAlister said, “we are actively looking for a great fit.”

‘Dear Preacher’

By Buddy Ray, Murfreesboro Church of Christ

What a Christian Was Intended to Be

Scripture describes a Christian as one who has been baptized for the remission of sins and is now walking in newness of life (Romans 6:1-4)... Are you?

The Bible describes a Christian as a saint, separated from and living differently than the world (1 Corinthians 1:2; Hebrews 12:14)... Are you?

Scripture describes a Christian as a priest, one who is able to approach God freely, on behalf of oneself or someone else (1 Peter 2:9)... Are you?

The Bible describes a Christian as a sheep which follows the Great Shepherd (Hebrews 13:20)... Are you?

Scripture describes a Christian as a light in the midst of darkness (Philippians 2:15, 16)... Are you? The Bible de-



scribes a Christian as a functioning, useful member, (part of a body, the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:27)... Are you?

Scripture describes a Christian as a block in the greater edifice, or spiritual building (1 Peter 2:5)... Are you?

The Bible describes a Christian as a child within the family of God (Romans 8:14, 16; Ephesians 5:8)... Are you?

Scripture describes a Chris-

tian as a servant who works and labors on behalf of our Master (Ephesians 6:6)... Are you?

The Bible describes a Christian as a citizen of heaven – one who may have temporary residence here on earth, but who is acting in accordance with the privileges and responsibilities of the spiritual country (Philippians 3:20)... Are you?

Scripture describes a Christian as a sojourner – one not really at home on earth, but one on a journey toward a better place (1 Peter 2:11)... Are you?

Lance Cordle The Encourager – Calvert City Church of Christ Volume 22, Number 33 – August 15, 2010

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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

THE TENTH SON OF JACOB, AND THE SIXTH BY LEAH, (GEN. 30:19,20) WAS ZEBULUN. THERE IS NOT MUCH RECORDED HISTORY OF ZEBULUN OTHER THAN HE WENT DOWN TO EGYPT WITH HIS FATHER (EX. 1:3) AND HE HAD THREE SONS: SERED, ELON, AND JAMLEEL (GEN. 46:14). JACOB, IN BLESSING HIS SONS, PICTURED ZEBULUN AS DWELLING AT THE HAVEN OF THE SEA. THE TRIBE OF WHICH ZEBULUN WAS THE PROGENITOR, WAS SPRUNG FROM HIS THREE SONS, OF WHICH THE PRINCE OF THE TRIBE WAS ELIAB, AT THE TIME OF THE "WANDERING IN THE WILDERNESS." AT THE FIRST CENSUS, THE TRIBE NUMBERED 57,400 FIGHTING MEN (NUM. 1:31) AND AT THE SECOND CENSUS 60,500 FIGHTING MEN! MOSES, IN HIS BLESSING OF ZEBULUN, AS A TRIBE, SAID, "REJOICE, ZEBULUN, IN THY GOING OUT... FOR THEY SHALL SUCK THE ABUNDANCE OF THE SEAS AND THE HIDDEN TREASURES OF THE SAND!" (DEUT. 33:16,19)



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BACK TO SCHOOL
* -- Theme Related Clue

- ACROSS
- 1. Eye affliction
 - 5. Mowgli to Raksha in “The Jungle Book”
 - 8. Cured pork product, pl.
 - 12. *Every lap you run in gym class completes one
 - 13. Ripped
 - 14. Throw up
 - 15. Mythological ship
 - 16. Agitate
 - 17. Like worthless promise
 - 18. *”Go to the ____’s office”
 - 20. Hatchling’s home
 - 21. Wasted on the young?
 - 22. “Amazing!”
 - 23. * ____ Core, academic standards
 - 26. *”Rock N’Roll High School” band
 - 30. Be obliged
 - 31. Orange ____ tea, pl.
 - 34. Of low density
 - 35. Earthenware pots
 - 37. Farm layer
 - 38. Bagpipes sound, in Scotland
 - 39. Vessel’s “spine”
 - 40. “Mary, Mary quite contrary” place
 - 42. Radio knob, abbr.
 - 43. Blended family family member
 - 45. Trotters
 - 47. Owned
 - 48. San Diego baseballer
 - 50. Castle defense
 - 52. *a.k.a. lunch room
 - 56. “ ____ little cubby all stuffed with fluff”
 - 57. Knight’s breastplate
 - 58. Bit of smoke
 - 59. Willow twig
 - 60. Pub arrow
 - 61. Popular street-lining trees
 - 62. Post-deductions amount
 - 63. Opposite of WSW
 - 64. Somebody ____

- DOWN
- 1. Dueler’s blow
 - 2. Unit of pressure
 - 3. Yellowstone Park denizen
 - 4. Amerigo to America
 - 5. *Plagiarize, technically speaking
 - 6. Heep of “David Copperfield”
 - 7. *School signaling device
 - 8. *Unwelcome load
 - 9. Current unit, pl.
 - 10. Catcher’s catcher
 - 11. Chester White’s home
 - 13. Three in one
 - 14. Animal toxin
 - 19. Poultry houses
 - 22. “It ____ a dark and stormy night...”
 - 23. Too many in the kitchen?
 - 24. Baby owl
 - 25. Free-for-all
 - 26. Tear
 - 27. Lacking guile
 - 28. Baseball fielding mistake
 - 29. “She ____ sea shells...”
 - 32. * ____ Academy, online study aid
 - 33. “ ____ the land of the free...”
 - 36. *Reading building blocks
 - 38. Stall call
 - 40. *Character in Greek Mythology reading assignment
 - 41. Firstborn
 - 44. Nymph chaser
 - 46. Diminutive
 - 48. Like nature worshipping, e.g.
 - 49. Flamb
 - 50. Dante’s Beatrice, e.g.
 - 51. Passing mention
 - 52. Relinquish
 - 53. Small brook
 - 54. Doctrines
 - 55. Part of church lessons

CROSSWORD

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4-H Is More Than Livestock – Edition 1: Food Challenge Cooking Up Confidence, Teamwork, and Life Skills

When many people think of 4-H, they often picture cattle, pigs, goats, or other livestock projects. While animal projects are an important part of 4-H, they are only one of the many opportunities available to young people. Through this new series, “4-H Is More Than Livestock,” we’ll be highlighting the wide variety of projects that help youth discover new interests, develop life skills, and prepare for the future.

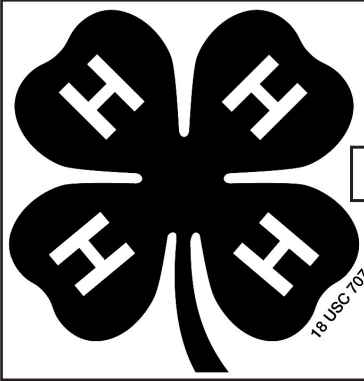
For Edition 1, we’re featuring one of Pike County 4-H’s newest success stories—Food Challenge.

The Arkansas 4-H Food Challenge is much more than a cooking competition. Youth work together as a team to prepare a healthy meal using mystery ingredients while being judged on nutrition knowledge, food safety, time management, teamwork, communication, and presentation skills. Participants learn valuable life skills that will benefit them far beyond the kitchen.

On Tuesday, August 4, 2026, Pike County 4-H proudly represented the county at the Arkansas 4-H Food Challenge, where two teams demonstrated outstanding creativity, teamwork, and determination.

The Jr Team, Sassy Spatulas, earned an impressive 2nd-place finish at the state competition. Their success reflects countless hours of practice, effective communication, and the ability to work together under pressure. Throughout the competition, the team showcased excellent problem-solving skills while preparing a nutritious meal within a limited amount of time.

Pike County’s senior team, the Camo Cookers, also represented the county with enthusiasm and pride. Although they did not finish in the top three overall, they were recognized with the Most Creative Team Name Award, highlighting their originality and positive team spirit.



4-H Pike County

HEAD, HEART, HANDS & HEALTH

SHANNON BALLARD • 4-H PROGRAM ASSISTANT
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS, DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE PIKE COUNTY
PHONE (870) 285-2161 • E-MAIL SBALLARD@UADA.EDU



Both teams displayed exceptional sportsmanship, confidence, and professionalism while competing against some of the top 4-H Food Challenge teams from across Arkansas.

While preparing delicious recipes is certainly part of the competition, the true purpose of Food Challenge is helping young people develop essential life skills. Members strengthen their communication, leadership, critical thinking, decision-making, creativity, and teamwork while learning about nutrition and food preparation. These experiences help prepare youth to become confident leaders in school, their communities, and future careers.

“We are incredibly proud of both the Sassy Spatulas and the Camo Cookers,” said Pike County 4-H staff. “These young people represented Pike County with positive attitudes, determina-

tion, and outstanding sportsmanship. Their dedication and hard work were evident throughout the competition.”

Congratulations to the Jr Team, Sassy Spatulas on their 2nd-place state finish and to the Camo Cookers for receiving the Most Creative Team Name Award. Your accomplishments demonstrate that success in 4-H comes in many forms.

Stay tuned for Edition 2 of “4-H Is More Than Livestock” as we continue exploring the many exciting opportunities available through Pike County 4-H. Whether it’s cooking, performing arts, photography, robotics, leadership, STEM, shooting sports, or community service, 4-H offers something for everyone.

Because in 4-H, it’s about so much more than livestock...it’s about learning, leading, serving, and becoming beyond ready.

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4-H Foundation awards scholarships, sponsorships to members

BY TRACY COURAGE

U of A Division of Agriculture

LITTLE ROCK — More than 40 Arkansas 4-H members start college later this month with scholarships earned through years of project accomplishments, leadership development and community service through 4-H.

The Arkansas 4-H Foundation recently awarded \$91,500 in college scholarships to 41 members. The scholarships ranged from \$1,000 to \$8,000 each.

More than 40 other members who had winning record books in their project areas will share in \$61,500 in sponsorships to attend National 4-H Congress in Atlanta later this year. All 4-H members keep record books detailing the impact of their project work, leadership and citizenship development, and community service.

Local awardees included:

The largest scholarship — the Sue Marshall Scholarship — provides \$8,000 to recipients. Opal Samons of Montgomery County and David Culver of Franklin County each received the award. Samons will attend the University of Arkansas this fall and plans to major in chemical engineering. She’s been in 4-H since she was 5 years old and served on the 4-H state officer team as vice president for the Ouachita District.

“I’m so grateful to receive this scholarship,” Samons, of Mount Ida, said. “It’s going to help out a lot.”

Zack O. and Jennie D. Jennings Scholarship — \$2,000, Tessa Deann Stone, Nevada County

Raymond Cox Scholarship — \$1,000, Daniel Jackson, Clark County

Advanced Record Book Winners

Forty-one 4-H members were advanced record book winners and will receive \$1,500 sponsorships to attend National 4-H Congress in Atlanta in November.

Howard County -- Lillian Trombley, Animal Science; Kody O'Brien, Outdoor Education

Pike County -- Cayden Ballard, Civic Engagement; Cale Humphry, Water, Wildlife and Fisheries Management

Arkansas 4-H is the youth development program conducted by the Cooperative Extension Service, part of the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture. It offers programs for youth ages 5-19 in every county in Arkansas. To learn more, visit <https://4h.uada.edu/>. To learn more about the Arkansas 4-H Foundation, visit <https://arkansas4hfoundation.org/>.

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Backing the Blue for safer Arkansas communities

BY JOHN BOOZMAN
U.S. Senator, Arkansas

WASHINGTON D.C. -- The men and women in law enforcement dedicate their lives to protecting their neighbors, responding in moments of crisis and helping build stronger communities. They answer the call when others need help most and deserve our support and the tools necessary to serve safely and effectively.

To support public safety, we must build trust between law enforcement and those they serve.

Across The Natural State, National Night Out events give residents and officers the opportunity to create or maintain relationships outside of emergency situations. The Pine Bluff Police Department and Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office hosted a joint event where residents could connect with the officers who serve them. Rogers and Springdale also hosted events recently that brought families and first responders together to reinforce healthy police-community partnerships. And a similar opportunity is scheduled for residents of Bentonville in October.

These gatherings remind us that the men and women behind the badge are also our neighbors, friends and fellow Arkansans. But building trust must be matched with action. Our officers

need the tools, training and resources to safely serve their communities and respond to the challenges they face every day.

Law enforcement agencies in our state recently received significant federal investments to support public safety. A federal STOP Formula Grant provided \$1.8 million to strengthen statewide initiatives, while additional Byrne Justice Assistance Grants are helping departments purchase equipment, improve training and expand their ability to combat crime. I am pleased that the Working Families Tax Cuts package bolstered these successful programs so they can support even more law enforcement agencies with resources to combat violent crime.

I have also worked to secure targeted investments through the Fiscal Year 2026 appropriations process, including \$5.5 million to establish the Arkansas Criminal Intelligence Network, allowing agencies to share critical information and evidence analysis in real time.

Additional funding I secured is supporting real-time crime centers in Jonesboro and Batesville, upgrades for the Bald Knob Police Department and resources for the Arkansas State Police Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

Crime does not stop at city or county lines, and our efforts to combat it shouldn’t either. By improving information sharing, expanding technology and strengthening partnerships between

agencies, we can better protect Arkansas families.

Enhancing tools, resources and training for first responders is an important part of promoting public safety. And it is unquestionably necessary in light of the risks they face every day. That is something we must never lose sight of.

Earlier this summer, Arkansas lost one of these heroes when Marked Tree Police Officer Trevor Howard was killed while serving his community. On June 28, Officer Howard lost his life in a vehicle crash when an impaired driver struck his patrol vehicle after running a stop sign. His fellow officer, Anthony Johnson, was also injured and has since recovered.

Officer Howard served with the Marked Tree Police Department for nearly two months after spending five years with the Lawrence County Detention Center. He leaves behind family, fellow officers and a community grateful for the role he played in protecting them. We continue to keep his loved ones and colleagues in our thoughts and prayers.

Supporting law enforcement is an ongoing commitment. By strengthening trust between officers and the people they serve, providing agencies with the resources they need and honoring the sacrifices made by those who wear the badge, we can help build a safer, stronger Arkansas.

Registration now open for 2026 Great Arkansas Cleanup

ARKANSAS -- The Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful, housed within the Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT), announced Thursday, August 6, that registration is now open for the 2026 Great Arkansas Cleanup (GAC).

The GAC is Arkansas’ largest fall volunteer cleanup and beautification initiative. The campaign runs Saturday, Sept. 12, through Saturday, October 31, bringing together volunteers to improve the places they live, work, and play.

The 2025 GAC demonstrated the power of volunteerism across Arkansas. More than 8,300 volunteers contributed a total of 59,166 volunteer hours during 293 cleanup events in all 75 counties. Together, they collected 10,170 bags of litter; removed 65,864 pounds of recyclables; cleaned nearly 998 miles of roadway and 584 miles of shoreline; improved 1,543 public spaces; created 87 gardens and green spaces; planted 834 flowers,

shrubs, and bulbs; planted 485 trees; distributed 2,900 wildflower seed packets; and reached an estimated 3.6 million Arkansans through cleanup and education efforts.

“ARDOT is committed to continuing the fight against litter in Arkansas,” said ARDOT Director Jared Wiley. “More than just an eyesore, litter can become hazardous for both the traveling public and those left cleaning it up. At the Department, we have a unique responsibility to help preserve the natural beauty that surrounds our infrastructure. The Great Arkansas Cleanup provides an opportunity for us all to work together toward a more beautiful Natural State. I encourage every Arkansan to ask themselves, ‘Am I part of the problem or the solution?’”

Individuals, schools, businesses, civic organizations, churches, youth groups, and local governments are encouraged to register for a cleanup or beautification project. Students can also

earn volunteer service hours while making a lasting impact in their communities.

Volunteer opportunities will be available in all 75 counties, including events hosted by Arkansas State Parks, Keep Arkansas Beautiful affiliates, and local community partners. Registered events may request complimentary cleanup supplies — including trash bags, gloves, safety vests, and event T-shirts — while supplies last.

To register a cleanup event, volunteer, or learn more about the 2026 GAC, visit KeepArkansasBeautiful.com.

ABOUT KEEP ARKANSAS BEAUTIFUL

Housed within the Arkansas Department of Transportation, Keep Arkansas Beautiful serves as the state’s designated Keep America Beautiful affiliate. The Office leads statewide efforts in litter prevention, recycling, beautification, and community engagement to inspire Arkansans to protect and enhance the Natural State.

Experts reveal health benefits of water types

BY REBEKAH HALL
*University of Arkansas
Division of Agriculture*

LITTLE ROCK — Consumers may have noticed more electrolyte water or alkaline water drinks being sold in stores or advertised online, but what benefits do these products actually provide?

Extension health experts say that electrolyte beverages can be helpful following prolonged physical activity, excessive sweating, or illness that causes significant fluid loss. But for most people and most situations, plain water remains the best choice for everyday hydration.

“Electrolytes are important minerals that help the body balance fluids and support the nerves, muscles, heart and blood pressure,” said Bryce Daniels, assistant professor and state health specialist for the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture. “Most people get enough electrolytes from regular foods and drinks.”

Alkaline water products are marketed as being less acidic than regular water. Lida Araghi, assistant professor and nutrition and food safety specialist for the Division of Agriculture, said that while electrolyte products can be useful when fluid losses are substantial, the evidence for alkaline water is much less convincing.

“The body already regulates blood acid-base balance through systems that include the kidneys, so alkaline water should not be described as ‘neutralizing,’ ‘detoxifying,’ or reducing acidity throughout the body,” Araghi said.

Daniels and Araghi said it is important for consumers to check product labels for added sugars, calories, caffeine, sodium and potassium.

“People with kidney disease or those who have been advised to limit sodium or potassium should consult their healthcare provider before routinely using electrolyte or highly mineralized products,” Araghi said.

facts and ingredient labels,” Araghi said. “Electrolyte water is also not necessarily the same as a sports drink, which may contain carbohydrates or added sugars.”

pH-balanced water generally means the water has been processed to reach a particular pH, Araghi said. The term alone does not tell consumers how many electrolytes it contains or indicate that it provides a health advantage.

Alkaline water has a pH above 7, commonly around 8 or 9. “It may be naturally alkaline because of its mineral content or made alkaline through processing or ionization,” Araghi said. “It is often promoted as a way to ‘neutralize’ acid in the body.”

ELECTROLYTES

Daniels said electrolytes carry a small electrical charge when dissolved in water or body fluids.

Electrolytes are especially important when the body loses fluid through heavy sweating, vomiting, diarrhea, illness or intense exercise. Daniels said that when fluid loss is high, the body may lose both water and electrolytes, which can increase the risk of dehydration or electrolyte imbalance.

According to the Mayo Clinic, water is generally the best way to replace lost fluids, but a sports drink may help maintain electrolyte balance when someone is exercising or training for more than 60

minutes.

After exercise, people can often replace fluids and electrolytes through water plus a balanced snack or meal, Daniels said. The American Heart Association recommends drinking water during exercise and, afterward, eating a healthy snack such as orange slices, bananas or a small handful of unsalted nuts.

HEALTH RISKS

There are downsides to consuming electrolyte or alkaline water products, especially if people use these products as an everyday replacement for water, Daniels and Araghi said.

According to the Cleveland Clinic, electrolyte drinks are not meant to be consumed all day like water.

“Too many electrolytes can contribute to electrolyte imbalance, and possible symptoms may include confusion, irregular heart rhythm, breathing problems, fatigue, headaches, muscle cramps or weakness, or constipation,” Daniels said.

Alkaline water also has some safety considerations. The Mayo Clinic states that alkaline water has been linked to safety concerns, especially when the pH is higher than 9.8, including the risk of high potassium levels in the blood, also called hyperkalemia, particularly for people with kidney disease.

Another practical downside to these products is cost, Daniels added.

“The Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health notes that some commercial electrolyte products are costly while offering only small amounts of nutrients,” Daniels said. “And there is no evidence that electrolyte drinks are healthier choices than water for the average person.”

Learn more by calling the Pike County Extension office at (870) 285-2161,

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PIKE COUNTY, ARKANSAS
CIVIL DIVISION

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH,
MURFREESBORO, ARKANSAS PLAINTIFF**

vs. Docket No. 55CV-26-104

**ALL PARTIES KNOWN AND UNKNOWN,
INCLUDING HEATH BUCK and SHANNA BUCK,
HAVING AN INTEREST IN THE HEREIN DESCRIBED
REAL PROPERTY DEFENDANTS**

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a Petition has been filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk

of Pike County, Arkansas, to quiet and confirm title in and to the following described property situated in Pike County, Arkansas, to wit:

First United Methodist Church of Murfreesboro, Arkansas per D273 at Page 565:
A part of the NE-4 NE-4 and part of the NW-4 NE-4 of Section 2, Township 9 South, Range 26 West, Pike County, Arkansas, and being more particularly described as follows: Commence at the NE Corner of Section 2 (where once was a 1” pipe) and run thence N87°56’19W, 129.97 feet along the Northerly Boundary of said Section 2, to a RR Spike found for the SE Corner of Section 35, Township 8 South, Range 26 West, and run thence N88°07’30”W, 738.21 feet still along the Northerly Boundary of Section 2 to a point, leaving the Section Line, run thence S00°08’31”W, 480.00 feet to a ½” rod found for the Point of Beginning; continue thence S00°08’31”W, 197.86 feet to a ½” rod found; run thence S89°26’52”W, 738.00 feet to a ½ rod found; run thence N05°00’00”W, 300.00 feet to a ½” rod found; run thence S83°00’00”E, 770.35 feet back to the Point of Beginning, containing 4.271 acres, more or less.
LESS AND EXCEPT, per D275 at Page 414:
A part of the Fractional NE-4 NE-4 of Section 2, Township 9 South, Range 26 West, Pike County, Arkansas, and being more particularly described as follows: Commence at a 1” pipe found for the NE Corner of the NE-4 NE-4 of Section 2, Township 9 South, Range 26 West, and run thence N87°56’19”W, 129.97 feet along the Northerly Boundary of Section 2, to a RR Spike found, run thence N88°07’30”W, 738.21 feet also along the Northerly Boundary of Section 2 to a ½” rod found, leaving the Section Line, run thence S00°08’31”W, 480.00 feet to a ½” rod found, run thence N83°00’00”W, 230.88 feet to a ½” rod set at a point that is 10.0 feet distant from and perpendicular to the East wall of an existing building, this point being the Point of Beginning, run thence S10°34’58”W, 36.45 feet parallel to the said building to a ½” rod set, run thence N79°25’02”W, 56.08 feet parallel with the South wall of the said building to a ½” rod set, run thence N10°34’58”E, 32.94 feet parallel with the West wall of the building to a ½” rod set, run thence S83°00’00”E, 56.19 feet back to the Point of Beginning, containing 0.045 acres, more or less.
Any person claiming title or interest of any kind to said property is hereby notified to appear herein on or before thirty (30) days from the last date of publication of this Notice, to assert his or her title or interest in said property and to demonstrate why title to this property should not be quieted and confirmed in First United Methodist Church, Murfreesboro, Arkansas, Plaintiff herein.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Court this 29th day of July, 2026.

Sabrina Williams,
Pike County Circuit Clerk

(*e.t.b., 608w, 6,7,8,9*)

PUBIC NOTICE

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

JORGE MARTINEZ PLAINTIFF

VS. CASE NO. 55DR-26-29-I

NOEMI ORTIZ DEFENDANT

WARNING ORDER

STATE OF ARKANSAS)
COUNTY OF PIKE)

The Defendant, NOEMI ORTIZ, is hereby warned to appear in this Court within 30 days from the date of first publication of this Order and answer the Complaint for Divorce filed against NOEMI ORTIZ by the Plaintiff, JORGE MARTINEZ.

Failure to file a written answer within 30 days may result in an entry of judgment by default against you or otherwise bar you from answering or asserting any defense you have.

WITNESS my hand and seal as Clerk of the Circuit Court of Pike County, Arkansas, this 5th day of August, 2026.

Sabrina Williams

CIRCUIT CLERK

(*d&s., 126w., 12,19*)