

The Murfreesboro Diamond

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Band boosters to sell chances for hunting pack

MURFREESBORO -- The Rattler band boosters are hosting a fundraiser featuring drawings for three outdoor products. The drawing will be held during the Friday, Oct. 30 Spring Hill home game. The winner ticket holder will win a 30-gallon American Hunter gravity feeder, an 18-foot Muddy Legend XLT archery stand and a bolt action Glenfield 350 Legend rifle with a 3-12x44 Sig scope. Tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for five tickets. To purchase tickets, use the QR Code below or pay via Cash App to \$rattlerbandbooster1. All participants must be at least 18 years of age, and should keep receipt as proof of entry. When purchasing tickets, please add your full name and phone number in the payment note. All proceeds from the sales will support the Rattler Band.

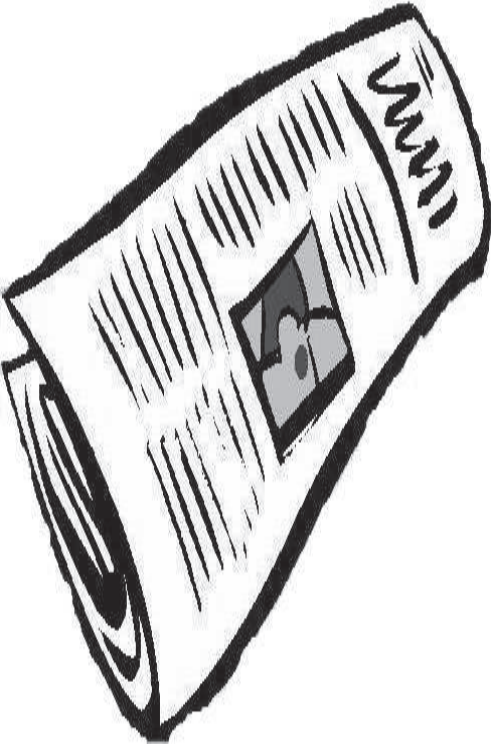


Pecan orders now being taken for holidays

MURFREESBORO -- The Pike County Conservation District is now taking orders for Fresh Mammoth Pecans, assorted flavors of Fudge and Raw Peanuts. The last day to order is October 21. Payment is required when order is placed. For more information or to place an order call during business hours on Monday through Wednesday (870) 285-2424 or email pikecountyconservation@gmail.com. The office address is 131 N. Kelley St. Murfreesboro, AR. 71958. Orders should arrive the second week in November.

Benefit set for Delight resident this Sunday

DELIGHT -- A benefit meal will be held for Angel Rowton in Delight on Sunday, Sept. 13. The event will start at noon at the Delight School Cafeteria. The meal will consist of a pork butt plate with sides, drink and a dessert for \$12 or greater donation. All proceeds from the event will go directly to Rowton to help with her medical expenses and daily needs during her battle with cancer.



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



OFF AND RUNNING ... The Murfreesboro Junior High Rattlers are 2-0 on the season with victories of 22-16 over Centerpoint and 34-8 over Danville at home last week. The Junior Rattlers will be off this week before returning to the field on September 19 at Mineral Springs.



Tough loss to Danville makes Rattlers 0-2 early *Squad travels to Genoa Central to battle undefeated Dragons Friday*

DANVILLE -- The Murfreesboro Rattlers fell to 0-2 on the season after a heartbreaking 35-34 loss on the road at Danville last week. The Rattlers fell behind as Danville's Jake Crane scored on a 37-yard TD rush for the game's only first quarter score. MHS would get back into the game on an Aiden "Bubba" Stinson 17 yard TD rush in the early second quarter. The two-point conversion failed, leaving Danville with a 7-6 lead. On the ensuing possession Danville broke free for a 65 yard TD run. The PAT attempt was no good, extending their lead to 13-6. The Stinson show continued in the second quarter, as the back caught a pair of passes from QB Kooper Caldwell (47 and 30 yards) to give the Rattlers a 22-13 lead heading into halftime. Danville would come back quickly in the third, returning the opening kickoff 60 yards for a touchdown, narrowing their deficit to 22-20. Keith Wilkinson would score on a six-yard reception, and after the two-point conversion failed, the Rattlers extended their lead to 28-20. Crane would cap the next Danville possession with a one yard TD run, and with the two-point conversion tied the score at 28. Caldwell would cap the next Rattler drive with a two-yard rush for a score. The two-point conversion failed, giving Murfreesboro a 34-28 lead heading into the final quarter. MHS would utilize a drive that ate up much of the fourth quarter (from seven to two min-

utes), but ultimately came up unfruitful in the red zone, returning the ball to Danville with just two minutes remaining in the game. That proved to be more than enough for Danville, who scored with an 8 yard run and successful PAT kick to win the game 35-34. Overall, the Rattlers (417 yards on 76 plays) outgained the Little Johns (364 yards on 55 plays) with a very balanced offense - 197 yards passing and 220 rushing. Danville was much more ground based, rushing for 316 yards and passing for 48. MHS had 20 first downs, and was very efficient on late down attempts, going 7-16 on third down, but 4-5 on fourth down conversions. Danville was 3-8 on third down conversions and 0-4 on fourth down attempts. Murfreesboro had three direct turnovers (one fumble, two interceptions) to Danville's one (fumble). The Rattlers won the penalty battle (6/39 yards) versus Danville (7/16 yards) but two of those came at a very costly time for Murfreesboro - a holding call that helped end the final drive and a roughing the passer call that helped progress Danville's game winning drive. Individually, Caldwell was 21/32 passing for 197 yards, three TDs and a pair of interceptions. He would also rush for 94 yards on 15 attempts and a touchdown. Stinson had 118 yards on 19 rushes with a score and seven receptions for 96 yards, two

TDs and a two-point conversion. Wilkinson would add 68 yards on seven receptions, a touchdown and a two-point conversion reception. Cayden Ballard had three receptions for 19 yards. Danville's QB Crane was 5/12 through the air for 35 yards and gained 135 yards on 13 rushes and two touchdowns. **COACH'S COMMENTS** In spite of the loss, head coach Jay Turley said that he was "probably the most proud" of the Rattlers effort Friday night as any team he has ever coached. "I saw a bunch of kids who fought their hearts out for 48 minutes and left it all on the field." Turley said injuries had the team down to it's final reserves going into the final part of the game. "I looked over to the sideline, and I couldn't find someone to put in ... but the kids that were in there were giving it their all. They were tapping their [helmet], and I was like 'I can't pull you, I don't have anyone else to put in.' Ultimately, we just came up on the short end of the

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stick Friday night.”

Turley said he would never blame the officials for an outcome, but a “phantom” holding call in the last drive negated a first down at the five-yard line and put the Rattlers behind the sticks in the red zone. On the ensuing possession that culminated in the Little John’s game winning drive, a roughing the passer call was at best “a bang-bang play, a 50/50 call, more like 70/30 against ... I wouldn’t have called it.”

“The holding call just killed us – it made us have to throw the ball, and we didn’t have our whole crew in there. There was just very limited things we could do [in that moment].”

Turley said Stinson came into the game sick, and was literally running on fumes at the very end in his overall excellent game.

“He had an unbelievable game – didn’t play a lot of defense because he was sick ... he was throwing up before the game, he didn’t look well. You can build on things like that, when you have kids that are tough and get out there and compete, even when they don’t feel well. I would have carried him off the field if I needed to.”

Despite the 0-2 record, Turley said there was nothing to be concerned about as of yet.

“I told the kids after the game there was nothing to hang their head about – we played a good 3-A football team. Prior to the game, I didn’t know if we would have a chance to win. Then we had a 22-point second quarter and a 15-point third quarter. We should have scored to win the game in the fourth, but it was nothing to be ashamed about.”

“We played hard and physical,” Turley said. I got a text from Danville’s head coach and he talked about how beat up his team was after the game. That’s always good to hear – I don’t think that was ever the case last year. We came to hit and we did.”

The injury list has mounted for the Rattlers early in the season, and Turley said it was going to come down to mental toughness in order to move forward.

“A lot of our guys don’t know the difference between pain and injury – and until we figure that out, we may stay banged up all year. Football is painful.”

It continued to impact the team Monday, as roughly half the roster was at practice in the early morning of Labor Day.

“There is a difference between a pain and an injury – an injury is okay. I get it – you are injured. But we have kids that are playing through injuries, and we have some kids that are banged up and can’t play. That’s frustrating. [Monday] we had 15 kids show up [to practice] ... that’s frustrating. We had a couple kids that were sick, the rest were just no shows, and that’s just disappointing. We had a long talk with the guys that were here, and they need to step up and be the voice of accountability to those that weren’t here – it’s unacceptable. We are here, trying to win football games. We have a good football team. After Friday night I am sure of that, showed me all I needed to see. Danville was pretty dang good – bigger, faster and stronger than us, and we really beat their butts. We won almost every statistical category, except the one that matters – the scoreboard. We were just wore out on that last possession, and not up two scores because we didn’t execute the drive before. They ran the ball down our throats.”

The last drive aside, Turley felt the Rattlers were better overall conditioned than Danville, and said the Little Johns head coach agreed.

“If [Danville] was in better shape, they might have beat us by two touchdowns instead of squeaking out a one point win. They are bigger, faster, stronger than we were, they were supposed to win the game. They are well coached, athletic kids, with size up front. So, yes, our conditioning could be better, but we are getting there. It’s just hard in this heat, because there is only so far we can push them so far. There is a fine line to where you can push them, and then it becomes dangerous, and I will always err

of the side of caution. I will always take care of the kids first.”

On the positive side of things, Turley said the team may have found some answers on Friday night, rushing for 220 yards.

“I don’t think we did that last year at all ... we were very balanced, and our defense played really good early, until we just ran out of gas. Lots of positives, we played really physical ... lots of positives to build on. Kooper Caldwell had a great game, both at quarterback, and played defense for us – has to of the biggest hits we’ve had all year. He threw the ball efficiently, two interceptions one just came out of his hand wrong, the other was a missed read. Other than that he was on – at one point he had ten completions is a row, he just finished the game unbelievable after a slow start. The offensive line played 110% better than they did the week before. We were more physical and moved people out of the hole. It took us a while, but once we got going ... we rushed for 220 yards. They were doing something right. We found some things we can do well, and try to stick to that. We have things we can work on that we do well.”

Turley said the last two weeks, as well as Friday night’s game, would set them up for the conference season.

“We are playing tough competition to set up ourselves up for the conference battles to come. Our conference is better this year – Junction City and Gurdon are up to number two in the state, depending on what poll you look at, Mineral Springs and Dierks are ranked statewide.”

However, Turley feels his squad is being overlooked thus far, and is fine with that.

“We are better than what people think we are, and that’s fine, I like being the underdog. We had the bullseye on our back last year, being two-time defending conference champs. Everybody was out for the Murfreesboro Rattlers and gave us their best game.”

AT GENOA CENTRAL

Turley said this week the Rattlers would travel to play a “much improved” Genoa Central team.

The Dragons are 2-0 with wins over Spring Hill (18-0) and Parkers Chapel (32-6) in the first two weeks of the season.

“They haven’t beat any powerhouses, but they are 2-0. They are gaining confidence, and I am sure this is a game they think they need to win, because their conference is brutal. If they are going to win another game, I’m sure they feel like this is the week.”

Turley said that it would be good for the Rattlers to win a game for confidence.

“I don’t think our kids are down, I think they understand they are getting better, but it still would be nice to have a win under our belt before conference. I’d like for them to get that, but we will have to play well, and a lot of that may depend on how mended we get this week.”

The Rattlers will have a bye week following the game against Genoa Central, which should allow they to mend some of the ails.

“The goal of this week is to not get anyone so injured they can’t be back after the off-week, and we need to take advantage of that,” said Turley.

Garrett Lamb, according to Turley is the Rattlers’ best offensive and defensive lineman, and has missed the first two weeks of the season.

“If he’s not 100% by Friday, he’s not going to go.”

Turley then credited sophomores Benji Brewer at offensive guard and Jaxon Crabtree at defensive end for stepping in and spelling him while he was out.

On other injury fronts, Cayden Ballard is still nursing a sprained ankle and Cale Humphry also has a lower leg ailment.

“We’ve got to get healed ... football is a war of attrition. You have to be both mentally and physically tough to play this game and play through it.”

Turley said Drake Eoff was likely out for the season with torn ligaments, while Alex Parker was likely out for two to three more weeks with his injury.

Entire state urged caution as wildfire risk heightens

LITTLE ROCK -- The Arkansas Department of Agriculture is urging Arkansans to stay alert as wildfire danger continues to rise across the state. All 75 counties are now designated at a high wildfire risk, and more than 65 counties have active burn bans. Persistent drought and extremely dry vegetation have created conditions where fires can ignite easily, spread quickly, and become difficult to control.

Wildfire risk levels are determined using current fuel dryness, drought indicators, and long-range weather forecasts. Unattended campfires, debris burning, and other outdoor flame sources can escape containment in moments.

RECOMMENDED PRECAUTIONS

To help reduce the likelihood of wildfire ignition, the Department urges residents to:

- Avoid all outdoor burning, including campfires, trash burning, grilling with open flames, and any prescribed or controlled burns.
- Never leave an outdoor flame unattended.
- Use caution when driving or operating machinery near dry vegetation. Avoid driving over tall, dry grass; ensure trailer chains do not drag; and do not drive on flat tires.
- Properly extinguish and dispose of cigarettes—never discard them outdoors.

Smoke or fire should be reported immediately to the Department at 1-800-468-8834 or to local authorities.

Arkansans can monitor current conditions by checking the Department’s county-by-county fire map, viewing active incidents on the wildfire dashboard.

Arkansas is home to more than 18.8 million acres of forests and over 11.5 billion trees. The Department protects more than 15 million acres of non-federal forestland through seven districts across the state, where foresters and rangers work daily to prevent, detect, and suppress wildfires. The Department currently maintains a force of 175 wildland firefighters to support wildfire response in all regions of Arkansas.

LOCAL BURN BAN NEWS

Following a following a recent wildfire at Cowhide Cove, all locals and visitors to the area are urged to be extra vigilant as wildfire danger continues across the state and area.

In a safety notice issued by PotlachDeltic, shared to the newspaper by the Murfreesboro Fire Department, the company has a complete fire ban on its properties and leased land units.

The following activities are prohibited:

- No mowing or bushhogging
- No grilling or outdoor cooking involving open flames
- Be cautious when when towing on the property. Wheel rims on underinflated tires and dragging chains can create sparks when they come into contact with pavement or rocks in the soil.
- Do not park in tall grass -- hot exhaust systems in grassy or wooded areas may create a fire hazard.
- No smoking, fireworks or tannerite

Officials are asking all clubs, members and guests to be aware of the temporary restrictions.

It was stated that the restrictions could remain in place for some time and it was crucial for everyone to be aware and exercise caution. The company said users will be notified once the burn ban was lifted.

According to the Murfreesboro Fire Department, Weyerhaeuser owned properties have also gone under a stringent fire ban.

The Murfreesboro Fire Department reminds residents that wildfires should be reported by calling 9-1-1.

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 e-mail to mdiamond.editor@windstream.net

Murfreesboro Diamond

Your Hometown Newspaper since 1975

Located in the County Seat of Pike County • Murfreesboro, Arkansas

Home of the Crater of Diamonds State Park

Little Missouri River • Lake Greeson

- John Robert Schirmer, Publisher
- P.J. Tracy IV, Editor
- Christy Coccarelli, Office Manager/Photographer

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:
Murfreesboro Diamond
P.O. Box 550, Murfreesboro, AR 71958

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.

Where To Find A Copy of the Diamond:

People’s Pharmacy • Gypsy Underground

C-Stop • Tobacco & More • EZ Mart

Murfreesboro Diamond Office

PUBLIC NOTICE

Starting August 31, 2026, the Pike County Road Department will be replacing culverts off the highway on John Ashley Road. This process could take up to 2 weeks. All traffic will need to be redirected to Deer Run Lane.

Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. If you have any questions, please contact the Pike County Judge’s Office at 870-285-2414.

Eddie Howard
Pike County Judge

(p.c.j., 67w., 9,10)

END THE

STIGMA

5K

SEPTEMBER 12th

LAKE FAYETTEVILLE PARK
FAYETTEVILLE, AR

SEPTEMBER 19th

BURNS PARK SOCCER COMPLEX
LITTLE ROCK, AR

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TAX DEADLINE APPROACHING

PIKE COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE

(870) 285-3121 FOR INFORMATION

OCTOBER 15, 2026

YOU CAN MAKE PAYMENT ONLINE AT WWW.COUNTYSERVICE.NET

WILL BE CLOSED MON. OCT. 12 FOR COLUMBUS DAY HOLIDAY

OFFICE HOURS - MONDAY-FRIDAY
8:00 A.M.- 4:30 P.M.

GLENWOOD OFFICE
MONDAY & FRIDAY - 8:00 A.M.- 4:00 P.M.
ALSO - WEDNESDAY (7TH & 14TH) OF OCT: 8:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.

This publication was paid for by Pike County, office of the Tax Collector. The amount paid for this publication is \$ 54.00.

Pike County Fair Week is here -- come out and support our youth

The Pike County Fair is officially underway this week, and the fairgrounds will soon be filled with livestock, exhibits, families, friends, and plenty of excitement! For many of our young exhibitors, fair week is something they have been working toward for months. Long before the gates open and the first animal enters the show ring, these youth have spent countless hours feeding, caring for, practicing with, and preparing their animals for their opportunity to compete.

Throughout the week, we encourage everyone in Pike County to come out and support our livestock exhibitors. You don't have to have a child showing or know everything about livestock to enjoy a show. Come sit in the stands, cheer for the exhibitors, and see firsthand just how much work these young people have put into their projects.

While the ribbons, banners, and trophies are exciting, one of the most important opportunities to support our youth comes at the Pike County Fair Premium Sale. The Premium Sale is an opportunity for local businesses, organizations, families, and individuals to show their



support for the young people who have worked throughout the year on their livestock projects. When you support an exhibitor through the Premium Sale, you are doing much more than contributing money. You are recognizing their dedication, responsibility, and hard work. For a young exhibitor standing in that sale ring, seeing local businesses and community members supporting them sends a powerful message:

your hard work matters, and your community believes in you.

We especially encourage our local businesses to get involved. Supporting the Premium Sale is an investment in Pike County's young people. These exhibitors are developing responsibility, work ethic, perseverance, communication skills, and sportsmanship—qualities that will follow them long after their days in the show ring are over. And you don't have to be a business owner to make a difference. Individuals, families, organizations, and groups can support the sale, too. Every contribution, regardless of size, helps show these young people that Pike County stands behind them.

Fair week is one of those special times when our entire county has the opportunity to come together. Walk through the exhibit buildings. Admire the projects. Visit the livestock barns. Attend a show. Encourage an exhibitor. And when Premium Sale time arrives, consider raising your hand and investing in one of our youth. The ribbons will eventually fade and another fair week will come and go, but our young people will remember the community that showed up for them. This week, let's fill the stands, support the Premium Sale, and show our exhibitors just how proud Pike County is of them. Come to the fair. Cheer on our kids. Support the sale. Invest in our youth.

OCC workshop to hear about mission trip to Paraguay

NASHVILLE -- The public is invited to attend an Operation Christmas Child (OCC) Workshop on Saturday, Sept. 26 from 1-3 p.m. at the First Baptist Church Family Activities Building, 417 North 2nd Street, in Nashville.

The guest speaker, will be Jim Herman, who recently returned from an Operation Christmas

Child Mission Trip to Paraguay where he participated in the distribution of OCC shoeboxes to children in three churches. The workshop will be a fun time learning more about Operation Christmas Child and meeting new people. There will be light refreshments served.

MURFREESBORO SENIOR ADULT CENTER LUNCH MENU

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 Chicken dumplings, peas & carrots, cornbread, lemon pudding cake	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 Pulled pork on bun, bakes beans, fries, apple crisp
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 Fried fish, coleslaw, pinto beans, hushpuppies, cream cheese brownies	<i>Lunch served at 11:30 a.m. For more information (870) 285-2312. Open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 8 a.m. Carry out is available for \$6.00</i>

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Keep up with all the news -- delivered to your door for \$45/year locally

‘Dear Preacher’

By Buddy Ray, Murfreesboro Church of Christ

JUSTIFIED BY FAITH
Romans 5:1

Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, made it possible for all who are children of God to be righteous in our Father's sight. The absence of conflict between us and God, conflict caused by our sins, is peace of mind and soul. We can know and be obedient to the will of God because Jesus came to earth and lived, died and rose again. This good news was preached in His Holy Name. Submission to God's will is not enough to justify us from our sins in God's sight. Paul says in Romans 5:6 - For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. This is an insight into the actions of God on our part for forgiveness.



The sacrifice of Jesus on Calvary brought that peace that passes understanding. We are cleansed through the blood of Jesus from our sins and we are saved from the wrath of God. We are therefore reconciled to God because He has set us free from the guilt of our sins. How profound and comforting it is to know that through the Lord Jesus we are in har-

mony with the desires of our God. We are daily traveling in the direction that leads to favor with God and an eternal home in Heaven.

Philippians 4:7-8 - Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is anything praiseworthy, meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me do, and the God of peace will be with you. God approves us and His peace is ours when we submit ourselves to Him in thought and in deed.

Paid Advertisement

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PIKE COUNTY, ARKANSAS
CIVIL DIVISION

FIRST STATE BANK OF DE QUEEN/PIKE COUNTY,
Plaintiff

vs.

JENNIFER D. SMITH and STATE OF ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION,
Defendants

NO. 55CV-26-42

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned commissioner, pursuant to the Foreclosure Decree of the Circuit Court of Pike County, Arkansas, which was rendered on August 25, 2026, in which First State Bank of De Queen/Pike County is the Plaintiff and Jennifer D. Smith and State of Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration are the Defendants, will on October 28, 2026, offer for sale at public auction in the lobby, 1st Floor, of the County Courthouse in Murfreesboro, Pike County, Arkansas, to the highest and best bidder the following property situated in Pike County, Arkansas:

Tract No 1:
Part of the S 1/2 NE 1/4 of Section 18, Township 8 South, Range 25 West, in Murfreesboro, Arkansas, described as follows: From the Southeast corner of the SE 1/4 NE 1/4, run North 1200 feet to the South Right of Way line of State Highway No. 27; thence run South 52 degrees 30' West 1667 feet along said Right of Way to the Point of Beginning; thence continue the same angle along said Highway 250 feet to the South boundary of the S1/2 NE 1/4 ; thence East along the South boundary of the S 1/2 NE 1/4 225 feet; thence Northerly 168 feet to the Point of Beginning, being a triangle, containing 0.47 acres, more or less.

Tract No. 2:
The West 45 feet of even width of the following described lands: A tract of land located in the S1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 18, Township 8 South, Range 25 West, Murfreesboro, Pike County, Arkansas, more particularly described as follows: Commence at the Southeast Corner of said SE 1/4 NE 1/4, run North 1200 feet to the South Right of Way line of State Highway No. 27, thence run South 52 degrees 30' West 1550 feet along said Right of Way for the Point of Beginning, thence run South 37 degrees 30' East 284 feet to the South line of the SE 1/4 NE 1/4, thence West 463 feet to the South Right of Way line of Highway #27, thence North 52 degrees 30' East 367 feet along said Right of Way line to the Point of Beginning. LESS AND EXCEPT Part of the S1/2 NE 1/4 of Section 18, Township 8 South, Range 25 West, in Murfreesboro, Arkansas, described as follows: From the Southeast corner of the SE 1/4 NE 1/4, run North 1200 feet to the South Right of Way line of State Highway No. 27; thence run South 52 degrees 30' West 1667 feet along said Right of Way to the Point of Beginning; thence continue the same angle along said Highway 250 feet to the South boundary of the S 1/2 NE 1/4; thence East along the South boundary of the S 1/2 NE 1/4 225 feet; thence Northerly 168 feet to the Point of Beginning, being a triangle, containing 0.47 acres, more or less. (collective known as "Property").

The sale will be held at 10:00 o'clock a.m., on the date stated at public auction to the highest bidder on the following terms: at the time of sale the purchaser shall be required to pay to the Commissioner ten percent (10%) of the purchase price (which shall be forfeited to the Plaintiff if the balance of the purchase price is not paid within the time stated herein), with the balance of the purchase price paid to the Commissioner within ninety (90) days of the sale date; provided that if Plaintiff is the purchaser, in lieu of payment, it may credit the amount of its bid against the judgment awarded in the Foreclosure Decree.

WITNESS MY HAND September 3, 2026.

Sabrina Williams
Circuit Clerk - Commissioner
(r.s.m.j. 678w, 9,10)

Trinity Missionary Baptist Church

Hwy 27 N. Murfreesboro

- Worship 11 a.m. • Sun. Eve. 5 p.m.
- Wed. Bible study & Prayer Meeting 6 p.m.
- Facebook services on Sunday at 10:45 a.m. & 5 p.m.

Bro. Curtis Abernathy

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Bank of Delight

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(870) 379-2293

Facts About The BIBLE

BY JOHN LEHTI

THE ISRAELITES AND THE RED SEA

LED BY MOSES, THE ISRAELITES ENCAPMED BY THE SEA AT PI-HAHIROTH IN THEIR ESCAPE FROM EGYPT. BUT THE LORD HARDENED THE HEART OF PHARAOH AND HE PURSUED AFTER THEM — WITH 600 CHOSEN CHARIOTS! (EX. 14:7-8)



IT IS PHARAOH AND HIS ARMY!

ISRAEL SHALL RETURN TO SERVE EGYPT!

HAST THOU BROUGHT US INTO THE WILDERNESS TO DIE UNDER EGYPT'S SWORDS?!

WHAT NOW CAN WE DO?!

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK!

230 SAVE THIS FOR YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRAPBOOK

Murfreesboro church of Christ

305 S. Second Ave.

Sun. Bible Study 9:30 • Worship 10:20
Sun. eve. 6 p.m. • Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.
Radio Broadcast B99.5 @ 8:30 a.m.

Bro. Buddy Ray

Attend Church This Sunday!

HAVE AN ITEM YOU'D LIKE TO SEE INCLUDED?

email us at
mdiamond@windstream.net

Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame accepting nominations for 2026

LITTLE ROCK — The Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame seeks nominations by Nov. 1 from the public for its next class of inductees.

The Agriculture Hall of Fame recognizes Arkansans who have contributed significantly to the state’s largest industry and it’s economic development. Since its first class selected in 1987, 204 men and women have been inducted.

Debbie Moreland, chair of the Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame, says anyone can nominate a person believed worthy of the honor.

“The Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame was created to honor men and women who have played roles in strengthening agriculture across the Natural State,” said Debbie Moreland, chair of the Agriculture Hall of Fame. “The Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame has honored hundreds of inductees that made a difference in Arkansas’s largest industry, which fuels the state’s economy and supports thousands of communities across Arkansas.”

The nomination form is available at www.arkansasaghalloffame.org/pages/member-nomination-form/. Forms can also be requested at 501-228-1609.

The nomination form allows space for the principal justification for a candidate’s nomination, a summary of the nominee’s contributions to agriculture and their community, a record of their professional experiences and their involvement in public service and support of agriculture.

The induction ceremony for the next class will be Thursday, March 4, 2027 at the Statehouse Convention Center in Little Rock.

MJHS RATTTLERS DOMINATE DANVILLE 34-8



AI helps target bacteria behind premature beef browning

BY JOHN LOVETT
University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture

FAYETTEVILLE -- One of the beef industry’s most costly challenges is invisible to the human eye but costs billions of dollars each year.

Every year, the U.S. beef industry loses an estimated \$3.7 billion from beef that is discounted or discarded because it turns brown before its sell-by date, even though the product is likely to still provide a good eating experience, according to the Arkansas Beef Council.

Researchers with the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station, the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture’s research arm, are working to change that in a year-long project funded by a \$20,000 grant from the Arkansas Beef Council.

Aranyak Goswami, an assistant professor and computational biologist, and Derico Setyabrata, an assistant professor of meat science and muscle biology, are using artificial intelligence and existing DNA data to identify bacteria that influence how long fresh beef maintains its bright red color.

The machine-learning approach allows the researchers to examine complex microbial patterns across samples and rank the bacterial signatures most consistently associated with beef color stability.

“Our project is taking a fresh approach to this old problem,” Goswami said. “We know that the invisible world of bacteria on beef at the time of packaging plays a big role in how long it stays red and appealing. What we don’t yet know is which specific bacteria consistently track with better or poorer color stability and may ultimately prove to be the ‘heroes’ or ‘culprits.’ That’s exactly what this research

will find out.”

Both researchers are part of the department of animal science in the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences at the University of Arkansas. Goswami is also a faculty member at the experiment station’s Center for Agricultural Data Analytics and in the department of poultry science.

Seeking natural solutions to maintain beef freshness

The goal is to build what Goswami and Setyabrata call a “Freshness Hit List,” a ranked list of five to 10 bacteria that would provide candidates for subsequent validation and future clean-label preservation research.

Setyabrata said the clean-label preservation uses beneficial bacteria already present in beef, rather than synthetic chemicals, to extend shelf life.

“That’s exactly where the market is heading,” Setyabrata said of clean-label preservation. “This project gives us an opportunity to better understand the biological factors that are associated with beef color stability and support future development of natural methods for preserving product quality, reducing waste and improving value throughout the beef supply chain.”

The \$20,000 investment by the Arkansas Beef Council will generate preliminary data that could support larger federal proposals to validate and expand the research, Goswami said.

“Research like this demonstrates the power of combining animal science, data analytics and industry partnerships to solve real-world challenges,” said Michael Looper, head of the department of animal science. “We are proud to support innovative work that improves beef quality, reduces waste and enhances value

across the supply chain.”

The Arkansas Beef Council received 25 proposals requesting more than \$632,000 in funding from April 1-30. Of those, 13 promotion projects were approved for a total of \$97,000. The council allocated \$35,000 for research projects in fiscal year 2027, with specific research projects selected for funding through the council’s review process.

“We are grateful for the council’s partnership and look forward to delivering results that make a real difference for Arkansas producers,” Goswami said.

To learn more about ag and food research in Arkansas, visit aaes.uada.edu. Follow the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station on LinkedIn and sign up for our monthly newsletter, the Arkansas Agricultural Research Report. To learn more about the Division of Agriculture, visit uada.edu. To learn about extension programs in Arkansas, contact your local Cooperative Extension Service agent or visit uaex.uada.edu.

ABOUT THE ARKANSAS BEEF COUNCIL

The Arkansas Beef Council was established by state legislation to oversee and administer the beef checkoff program in Arkansas. The council is responsible for collecting the nationally legislated \$1 per head checkoff on all cattle, regardless of age or size, marketed in Arkansas and for distributing those funds in accordance with provisions of the Order.

Congress established the national Beef Checkoff Program with the passage of the 1985 Farm Bill. On the national level, the Beef Checkoff Program is overseen by the Cattlemen’s Beef Board.



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