

The Murfreesboro Diamond

\$1.00
USPC 103-230

Serving South Pike County, Arkansas Since 1975
◆◆◆ Home of the Crater of Diamonds State Park ◆◆◆



Red/White game to be held Monday at MHS

MURFREESBORO -- The Murfreesboro Lady Rattlers will hold their annual Red/White games this Monday, Nov. 2 starting at 6 p.m. in the Murfreesboro High School gymnasium. Entry to the event is by a donation of water, Gatorade, laundry detergent or towels. Along with the games, a "Chuck-A-Duck" event will be held, where attendees can buy ducks to throw for the chance to win prizes.

Fall fest to be held Saturday on Square

MURFREESBORO -- The Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce will hold their Diamonds in the Fall Festival this Saturday, Oct. 31 at the Pike County Courthouse square. The day will kick off at 2 p.m. with vendors setting up. At 3:30 p.m., cars may begin coming to the west side of the square to start getting ready for trunk or treat. The dog costume contest will be held at the stage at 3:30 p.m., followed by the kids' costume contest at 3:45 p.m. Also included will be a weenie dog race at 4 p.m, costume contests and music. The event will conclude with the trunk or treat around the square starting at 5 p.m. In case of rain during the day, the trunk or treat event will be moved to the community room at the Murfreesboro Municipal Building located at 204 East Main.

Chili cook-off conducted by county 4-H Saturday

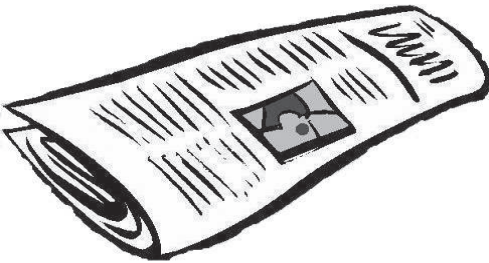
MURFREESBORO -- The third annual 4-H chili cook-off will be held this Saturday, Oct. 31 at 2 p.m. The event will be conducted at the pavilion on the square at the old City Service building. All local chili enthusiasts are asked to enter their favorite recipe and support the Pike County 4-H program. The rules state that entrants bring their chili pre-cooked, with judging starting at 2 p.m. Participants are asked that they make at least one gallon of chili, which will be sold following the judging. The entry fee for the contest is \$25. To enter, contact Shannon Ballard at (870) 200-2419. Following the event, members of the public can purchase chili from the contest for \$8, which will include a cup of chili, crackers, cheese and cookies.

Benefit set to help local resident with cancer battle

MURFREESBORO -- A benefit for Kristi Wastain will be held on Sunday, Nov. 1 at the Murfreesboro Senior Adult Center. The meal will start at 11 a.m. The menu will include pulled pork sandwiches, baked beans, potato salad and dessert. A silent auction will follow the meal. Wastain was recently diagnosed with cancer.

Juniors selling poinsettias, deadline this Friday

MURFREESBORO -- The Murfreesboro High School junior class will sell poinsettias for the Christmas season as a fundraiser. The six-inch potted plants will be the red variety and cost \$15 each. Orders and money must be turned in by this Friday, Oct. 30 to a junior class sponsor. The plants will be delivered in early December.



Submit Your Local News to the Diamond!
mdiamond@swarkansasnews.com
Call (870) 285-2723 For More Information



Submitted photos/Jillian Caldwell

BATTLING DRAGONS ... The Murfreesboro Rattlers played at Junction City last week, falling to the Dragons by a 40-6 score. The loss moves the Rattlers to 1-7 on the season, with the final two games set at home, including this Friday against Spring Hill. Above, (left) Keith Wilkinson (2) looks to disrupt a Junction City passing attempt, while (right) Rattler quarterback Jarrin Burgess (1) looks downfield on a passing attempt.

Rattlers defeated by Dragons 40-6

Rattlers hope for some relief from injury bug this week

MURFREESBORO -- The Murfreesboro Rattlers now sit at 1-7 after a 40-6 loss to Junction City (3-5) last Friday night. Rattler head coach Jay Turley said the Rattlers scored first, and were effective in the first quarter of bleeding the clock. "Our game plan was working -- Junction City was moving the ball, but we were making the earn it." He said the Dragons finally scored in the second quarter, and the Rattlers failed in their opportunity to answer. A long run by D-I prospect Nehemiah Caldwell set the Dragons up for another score to take a 16-6 lead. The Rattlers drove the field only to throw an interception with approximately 30 seconds, which allowed enough time for the the Dragons to quickly drive the field and go up by a 22-6 score at half. "We played well in the second half, we just couldn't score," Turley surmised. He said Junction City's size and speed finally just wore the Rattlers down. "We've had 11 starters at some point this season not play in the game, including a couple more in the game. But the ones we had in there were clawing and scratching, playing their hearts out. They left it all on the field and there was not quit in them. We can't do anything about injuries." Turley said one of the Junction City's yardage chain crew gave him a compliment he took to heart. "He said it was one of the best acting group

of kids he'd ever seen, they had good attitudes, weren't cussing and fought hard in the game. That's something to be proud of -- we are teaching life lessons, and when you are 1-6 and you have a choice of fighting or quitting, and the kids still choose to take the high road, maybe we are doing something right. The kids haven't let go of the rope -- after the game they were just wore out, and I told them I couldn't have been more proud of them." He said the team maintained the same great attitude in Monday's practice despite the loss. "Look -- we have the final two games at home, with the playoffs over, now we are playing for ourselves, for pride and for the community. We can go into the offseason with some momentum with a couple of wins and send our seniors out on the right note in their final two games. I expect them to play hard. We will play hard." This week the Rattlers will host Spring Hill this Friday, with the Bears holding the same record as Murfreesboro (1-6) and their lone win coming against Mountain Pine, which is the Rattler's only win of the year. "They are mostly flexbone offensively and a 4-4/4-3 defense, which is what we see most weeks. They haven't had the injuries we have -- they are just young, but will soon be helped by additions from their undefeated junior high team." Turley said that while Spring Hill was "in the same boat" as the Rattlers, they were a "scrappy" team that "plays hard and is well coached."

"They run the perfect offense for their talent to maximize the best of their abilities." Turley said senior quarterback Kooper Caldwell would likely make his return this week after missing the past two games with a rib injury. He said that Cale Humphry was also a candidate to return. He said that a few ninth graders might see some playing time the next couple of weeks, including Jacob Shaw and a lineman or two. "It should be a heck of a football game," he said of the clash between the evenly matched teams. "It's just been a weird year with all of the injuries and the what if's. We've had seniors go down, a junior with a heart issue, our starting quarterback and wide receiver, and a lineman break a collarbone. Look, the cards just didn't fall our way. We will continue to fight, we have some really good kids, and I wouldn't have it any other way than to go into battle with them. I enjoy being around them. Has the season been frustrating -- of course it has, but sometimes in life the ball doesn't always bounce your way. You have a choice to keep fighting or just lying down." Turley hopes for a packed stadium the final two weeks of the season. "I swear there were more of our fans in the stands than Junction had, and that's just crazy. Our fans keep supporting the team -- Murfreesboro is a football town. Our seniors are almost done, and we are going to go out and lay it all on the line. I want to end the season on a good note."



Staff photo

A FRIGHTFULLY GOOD TIME ... The Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce has raised over \$13,000 at the haunted hospital event this year. The effort, held at the former Pike County Hospital in Murfreesboro, located at 315 East 13th Street will be open this Friday and Saturday nights to conclude the event. Admission to the event will be \$10 for those ages 10 and older, or \$5 for those younger than 10. The haunted house opens at 6:30 p.m. nightly and through 7:30 p.m. will operate as a "kid friendly hour" in which animatronics and decorations will be set up, but no live actors. From 8-11 p.m. each night the house will be "fully open." Proceeds from the event will go toward improving next year's event as well as new decorations for the chamber's Hometown Christmas events in December.

The power of one caring adult: how 4-H volunteers shape tomorrow’s leaders

Behind every successful 4-H member is often someone who believed in them before they believed in themselves. Whether it’s a club leader, parent, volunteer, or mentor, these individuals play an important role in shaping the next generation of leaders.

When people think of 4-H, they often picture livestock shows, cooking competitions, community service projects, and educational workshops. While these activities are an important part of the program, there is something equally valuable happening behind the scenes ... relationships are being built, confidence is growing, and young people are discovering their potential. Sometimes, all it takes is one caring adult to make a lasting difference in a child’s life.

In Pike County 4-H, volunteers and adult supporters do much more than help organize meetings or supervise activities. They encourage members to step outside their comfort zones, try something new, and learn from their mistakes. They celebrate accomplishments, offer encouragement during disappointments, and remind young people that success isn’t always measured by ribbons, trophies, or awards.

For some youth, 4-H may be the first place they discover a talent they didn’t know they had. For others, it may be where they find their voice, develop leadership skills, or gain the confidence to stand in front of a crowd. And sometimes, the most meaningful lessons happen during the smallest moments...a conversation after a meeting, a word of encouragement before a competition, or simply having someone show up to support them.

The impact of a caring adult can extend far beyond the 4-H



program. The lessons young people learn through positive relationships help prepare them for challenges they will face in school, future careers, and everyday life. One of the greatest things about 4-H is that you don’t have to be an expert in agriculture, cooking, or public speaking to make a difference. You simply need a willingness to share your time, talents, and encouragement with young people.

Our community is filled with individuals who have valuable skills and experiences to offer. Whether it’s teaching a workshop, helping with a community service project, sharing career knowledge, or volunteering at an event, every contribution matters.

At Pike County 4-H, we believe that investing in young peo-

ple is one of the greatest investments we can make in our community. The next time you see a 4-H member confidently giving a speech, helping a neighbor, leading a meeting, or competing in an event, remember that their success represents more than individual hard work. It also reflects the encouragement, guidance, and support of people who took the time to care. Because sometimes, the greatest impact we make isn’t in what we accomplish ourselves, but in what we inspire others to become.

If you are interested in becoming involved with Pike County 4-H or sharing your talents with local youth, contact the Pike County Extension Office at (870) 285-2161. Together, we can continue making the best better, one young person at a time.

Not enough evidence to pursue murder charges, prosecuting attorney says

Ninth West Judicial Prosecuting Attorney Mickey Buchanan filed a motion on Oct. 16 which has been approved by a judge for an “order of nolle prosequi” in the murder case against a Pike County man.

Buchanan stated in his filing that effectively dismissed the second-degree murder charge against Gage King, 24, of Murfreesboro, was because a “key witness has recanted the statement given. After review of the evidence available the State has determined that there is not evidence enough to go forward. The family of the victim has no objection to said Motion.”

Honorable Judge Bryan Chesshir approved the motion on Oct. 16, also noting the family had no objection to the motion.

“Nolo prosequi” is a Latin phrase, more commonly known as “nolle prosequi,” means the prosecution no longer wants to pursue the charges against the defendant but does leave the door open to refile the charge if other evidence comes to light.

King was charged with the second-degree murder of Daniel Cain Lamb, 44, on June 18, 2025. He was scheduled for pretrial Monday, Oct. 5 with an Oct. 22 jury trial date before the status of the case was charge.

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 that 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, 53, 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 drove forward and struck King with the vehicle 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.

Local student on ASMSA watchlist for ‘above-level testing performance’

HOT SPRINGS — The Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts (ASMSA) recently recognized Benjamin P. Cox, who participated in ASMSA’s Talent Identification Program (ASMSA-TIP) in 2025-2026 and earned the Recognition designation for their above-level testing performance.

ASMSA-TIP provides middle-grade students from across Arkansas the opportunity to challenge themselves through above-level testing and enrichment experiences. Students who qualify for the Recognition designation have achieved ACT scores that meet or exceed college readiness benchmarks in one or more ACT subject areas.

In 2025-2026, ASMSA-TIP served 1,158 sixth- through eighth-grade students and 200 Gifted and Talented educators across the state. Ultimately, more than 700 students submitted ACT scores

to ASMSA-TIP, with 477 students qualifying for recognition in some capacity.

For more information about ASMSA-TIP and its programs for sixth- through ninth-grade students in Arkansas, visit asmsa.org/tip.

ABOUT ASMSA

The Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts is one of 17 public residential high schools in the country specializing in the education of academically gifted students. Located in historic downtown Hot Springs, the school is a campus of the University of Arkansas System. For more information about Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts, visit www.asmsa.org or call 501.622.5100.



BENJAMIN COX Submitted photo

Bald Knob resident charged with felony drug offenses

MURFREESBORO -- A Bald Knob man has been charged in Pike County Circuit Court with felony drug offenses.

Shayne Pearrow, 55, was charged Oct. 22 with possession of 13.37 grams of methamphetamine and paraphernalia. He pleaded not guilty to the charges Monday and a Jan. 11 pretrial date was set.

Also on Oct. 22, felony drug charges were field against William Wheeler, 53, of Amity. He is charged with possession of meth (less than two grams) and drug paraphernalia. Wheeler

pleaded not guilty to the charges Monday and a Jan. 11 pretrial date was set.

TWO SENTENCED

Two defendants were sentenced Monday in Pike County Circuit Court after entering pleas.

David Claren Bentley, 62, of Nashville, pleaded guilty to possession of a controlled substance and was sentenced to six years in the Arkansas Department of Corrections with one year suspended.

Rickey Garza, 35, of Mabelvale, pleaded “true” to violating the terms of his probation. He was sentenced to three years in the ADC with credit for time served.

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.

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

EVERYONE HAS A RIGHT TO FOOD

Find a Food Pantry in your community:
arkansasfoodbank.org/food

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PIKE COUNTY,
ARKANSAS PROBATE DIVISION II

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JANE CAROLYN BEAN, DECEASED NO. 55PR-2026-57

NOTICE

ADDRESS OF DECEDENT:
507 Mountain View Rd. Glenwood, Arkansas

DATE OF DEATH OF DECEDENT:
April 30, 2026

An instrument dated the 22nd day of June, 2023, was, on the 21st day of October, 2026, admitted to probate as the Last Will and Testament of JANE CAROLYN BEAN, Deceased, and the undersigned has been appointed Executor thereunder. A contest of the probate of the Will can be effected only by filing a Petition within the time provided by law.

All persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, duly verified, to the undersigned within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this Notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in the estate. Provided, that claims for injury or death caused by the negligence of the Decedent shall be filed within six (6) months from the date of first publication of the notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in such estate.

THIS NOTICE first published on the 28th day of October, 2026.

TIMOTHY CURT BEAN, EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE OF JANE CAROLYN BEAN, DECEASED

C/O ADAM WILLIAMS, ATTORNEY FOR FARRAR & WILLIAMS, PLLC
1720 Higdon Ferry Road Suite 202 Hot Springs, AR 71913
501-525-4401
(f&w, 236w. 16,17)

Drought relief may come this winter

BY MARY HIGHTOWER
University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture

NORTH LITTLE ROCK -- El Niño is still driving the weather, and it's keeping a heavy hand on the wheel.

While El Niño isn't responsible for Arkansas' intensifying drought, it may bring the state some relief.

This year's El Niño is classified as "'very strong,' which is the highest category of these phenomena, the others being 'weak,' 'moderate,' and 'strong,'" said Christopher Buonanno, science and operations officer for the National Weather Service at Little Rock.

"The strength is categorized by measuring the sea surface temperature anomalies in a portion of the Pacific Ocean, which is a driver of the atmospheric response that promotes the conditions associated with an El Niño," he said.

"As of this time, these anomalies are warmer than ever recorded," Buonanno said. "This type of condition has not been experienced before, and therefore presents a difficulty in making predictions."

However, there are signals that Arkansas might see some relief.

"Looking at the Climate Prediction Center forecasts for the winter months in Arkansas — December, January and February — above-normal temperatures are favored," he said. "In terms of precipitation forecasts, above-normal precipitation conditions are favored, especially across southwest portions of the state."

Through the end of January, Climate Prediction Center forecasts indicate that drought conditions will improve, Buonanno said.

"Precipitation systems that affect the Mid-South in winter generally tend to create precipitation in a more widespread manner, and last longer than summer systems," he said. "One event will not end the drought, but a pattern of equally spaced precipitation events over a period of time would support drought improvements."

Will this winter be snowy or icy?

Buonanno said, "I looked at a number of stations in Arkansas for historical trends in a very strong El Niño. There does not appear to be a strong signal either way concerning snowfall amounts."

However, "another feature that affects winter conditions in North America is the nature of the polar vortex," he said. "This feature is forecast to be stable this winter. This condition would generally keep the arctic air well north of Arkansas."

DROUGHT, ONGOING BURN BAN

Arkansas will need a lot of precipitation to improve drought within a one-month period, according to the National Centers for Environmental Information, part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. For example, in southeast Arkansas, the state will need 364.19 percent of its normal rainfall, or 18 inches of rain, to ease drought. The last time Arkansas saw such intense drought was in 2012.

Murfreesboro Fire Chief Ricky Branch reminds local residents that any small amount of rain this week will not be enough to lift the ongoing burn ban.

He said to help keep the community safe, the burn ban prohibited a number of activities, including:

- No open burning
- No yard debris burning
- No bonfires
- No burn barrels
- No outdoor burn piles

SMALL ADS DO WORK ... YOU JUST READ ONE!
Call (870) 285-2723 to reserve yours in the next edition

Benefit for

Kristi Wastian

Sunday, Nov. 1

Murfreesboro Senior Adult Center

Meal starts at 11 a.m.

Serving pulled pork sandwiches,

baked beans, potato salad & dessert.

Meal price is donation only

Silent auction to follow the meal

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: What is chronic venous insufficiency?

A: Chronic venous insufficiency is a condition in which valves in the leg veins become damaged and do not allow blood to flow back to the heart, resulting in blood pooling in the legs. Leg veins have one-way valves that do not close properly in those affected. A National Library of Medicine report estimates that chronic venous insufficiency affects between 10% and 35% percent of U.S. adults.

There are various causes of chronic venous insufficiency. Valves can be damaged by a blood clot in a deep leg vein. Sitting or standing for long periods can cause excessive pressure on the veins and weaken the valves. In some instances, the cause is congenital — people may be born without valves in leg veins.

Symptoms of chronic venous insufficiency include burning or tingling in the legs, increased leg pain when standing, swelling in the ankles and lower leg, and varicose veins. Those who are overweight, who are or who have been pregnant, or those who are required to stand for extended periods are at risk for the condition.

Compression stockings, regular exercise, elevating the legs, and controlling weight are some methods to treat chronic venous insufficiency. Visit your healthcare provider if you have questions.

Email your health questions to housecall@uams.edu.

Obituaries

Lester Dwayne Hornbeck, 90, Murfreesboro

Lester Dwayne Hornbeck, 90, of Murfreesboro, Arkansas, finished his earthly race and stepped into eternal life with Jesus on Sunday, October 18, 2026.

Dwayne was born August 24, 1936, in Arkansas County, Arkansas, the youngest of seven children born to Lester and Carrie Hammett Hornbeck. His childhood was filled with fun adventures with his closest in age brother, Glenn, and the many friends/cousins who lived nearby. He loved to be outdoors, to hunt and fish, and throughout his life his favorite place to be was in a deer stand at A.L. Turner Farm, worshipping God as he was surrounded by the beauty of creation.

He attended Prairie Gem school and retained friendships with some of those classmates all of his life, including his lifelong friend, Bobby Hudspeth. He and Bobby talked on the phone often and would always say to each other that if anyone asked them where they went to school, they would say, "Why...all the IMPORTANT people went to Prairie Gem!" Dwayne graduated from DeWitt High School and went on to attend Arkansas Tech. While there, he received his calling as a minister of the gospel and transferred to Ozark Bible College in Joplin, Missouri. As a child, Dwayne had attended First Christian Church in DeWitt with his family and while there he was encouraged by Brother Harold Maffett to become a preacher. This church has always been a big part of his ministry and he was grateful for all the people in it.

Dwayne served in the Arkansas National Guard and then the Missouri National Guard and received Honorable discharges from both.

In 1959, Dwayne married the love of his life, Barbara Shields, and they had 67 1/2 wonderful years of marriage. Dwayne truly modeled loving his wife as Christ loved the Church, and even to the end he called her his beautiful bride and wanted nothing more than to be with her every day. He set a wonderful example for his children, grandchildren, and all those around him. He loved his children unconditionally, and over the years loved and welcomed their friends as if they were his own, including Terri's friend (and his bonus daughter), Donna Ratliff Hill.

Over the years, Dwayne pastored churches at Dark Corner Christian Church near Dumas, Arkansas, Stuttgart Christian Church in Stuttgart, Arkansas, First Christian Church in Piggott, Arkansas, First Christian Church in Selmer, Tennessee, New Testament Christian Church in Little Rock, Arkansas, and Hot Springs Christian Church in Hot Springs, Arkansas. He and Barbara moved back to DeWitt in 1981 to help care for their elderly parents, and both worked at and later owned Duly's Auto Parts. While living in DeWitt, Dwayne served as an Elder at First Christian Church for many years. In February of 2018, Dwayne suffered a stroke, but inspired everyone around him with his determination and dedication to rehabilitate his body, which in turn made them want to work harder as well. His strong grip would shock people when they expected it to be frail, and he could plow a garden with one hand better than many could with two. He enjoyed working in his yard for many more years and had to be told when to take it easy and rest, because he had a strong work ethic. In 2020, when he and Barbara moved to live near their daughter, he became a faithful member of First Christian Church in Murfreesboro, Arkansas. No matter where he lived, his daily goal was to make sure everyone knew about Jesus Christ. Even at his 90th birthday party in August of 2026, he made sure to share the gospel with those who attended.

Dwayne was very involved in community activities wherever he lived. He was a member of the Lions Club in different places over the years, serving in all offices, including President. He served as treasurer of DeWitt Industrial Development Commission for many years. Along with his father



and other men, Dwayne was instrumental in helping build and develop Bradley Christian Service Camp near Star City. Even today, so many adults have said he was their favorite preacher at Camp Bradley. He had a knack for knowing just when to be fun and when to be serious, and people could tell he really cared about them. He coached Steven's football and baseball teams with the Lake Hamilton Optimist Club. Dwayne also served on the Board of Christ on Campus at University of Arkansas in Fayetteville for 20 years.

In later years, Dwayne's natural ability to tell stories led to his authoring two novels, Hossfly, That's Me! and Sweetwater Plantation, as well as a 366 day devotion book, Sweet-er Than Honey.

Dwayne was preceded in death by his parents, his siblings, CW Hornbeck, Lela Ella Hornbeck, Raymond Hornbeck, Eloise Hornbeck, Joyce Hornbeck Cooper, and Glenn Hornbeck; his first son-in-law, Greg Oxner; and his precious in-laws whom he loved so much, Roy Raymond "Duly" Koen, Jr., and Vernie Clark Shields Koen.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Barbara Shields Hornbeck, his favorite daughter, Terri Hornbeck Oxner (Chris) Sharp of Murfreesboro, his favorite son, Steven Hornbeck (Cathy) of White Hall; his grandchildren, Holly Oxner (Paul) Hurn, Tanner Oxner, Christopher (Callie Anna) Oxner, McKenzi Oxner

(Hayden) Boyd, Noah Hornbeck, Kayli Oxner Roberts, Abigail Hornbeck (Austin) Shores, and bonus grandchildren, Kara Sharp (Jonathan) Turner, Chloe Sharp (Dylan) Perdue; and nine great-grandchildren, Tilden Turner, Josiah Hurn, Lynnlee Hurn, Finley Perdue, Reuben Hurn, Reid Roberts, Sophia Oxner, Emerson Boyd, and Ian Roberts. He loved each one and his greatest desire was that they all would love and serve the Lord all their days. Family and friends alike will miss his laughter, his jokes, and the way he loved to tease his wife with the things that would earn a "look" from her and a laugh from the kids and grandkids.

The family would like to thank Patrick Litster, PA-C, with the medical clinic in Murfreesboro, Arkansas, for his continued care for Dwayne; the administrators, nurses, aides, and therapists at The Blossoms at Dierks, Arkansas for their loving care as he rehabbed there; and we would also thank Dr. Johnson, Dr. Pumphrey, and all the precious nurses at Howard Memorial Hospital in Nashville, Arkansas, for their loving care in multiple stays, but especially as they also ministered to our whole family during his last days and hours. You will never know how much it meant to us.

Visitation was held on Saturday, October 24 at First Christian Church in DeWitt with funeral services beginning at 11:00. Burial followed in Cedarcrest Memorial Gardens by Essex Funeral Home. There will be a memorial service at a later date in Murfreesboro.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made either to Christ on Campus (UofA), PO Box 1678, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72702, or to We-Go Mission Coalition, 1604 Somerset Way, Van Buren, Arkansas 72956. Both were dear to Dwayne's heart. www.essexfuneralhome.com

Barbara Denny, 80, Delight

Barbara Denny, 80, of Delight, Arkansas passed away on Saturday, October 24, 2026, at her home. She was born November 23, 1945, in Little Rock, Arkansas the daughter of the late Willard Thacker and Billie Jean Starling Reed.

Mrs. Denny was a devout Christian and a proud member of the Delight Methodist Church for forty-six years. She served as worship leader for many years and as board secretary up to 2023. She also was a member of the Delight EHC for several years. Barbara graduated from Grove City - Jackson High School. After high school she attended the University of Arkansas and was proud to be a student in 1964 when the Razorbacks won the National Championship. She was a huge sports fan and loved supporting many teams over the years, but her favorite was following her grandsons' teams where she was a proud and vocal supporter.

During her 30-year career that she spent at the Pike County Court House, she served in the Pike County Clerk's office, the collector's office, and eventually was elected as the Pike County Assessor where she served for many years.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband Joe Denny, a sister Sherry Young and one brother



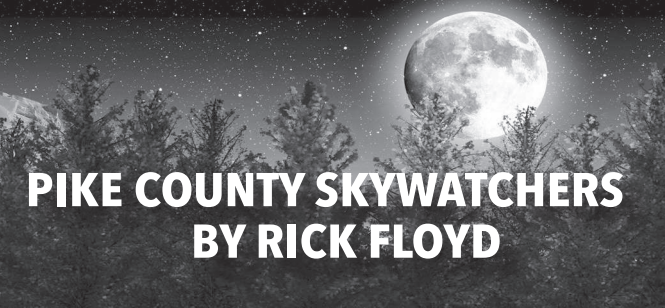
Chuck Thacker.

Survivors include one daughter Tracy Denny-Bailey and husband Scott; two grandsons Adam Bailey and wife Lainy, Alex Bailey and fiancé Allison King; two great-grandsons Madden and Maddex Bailey; one sister Tonzie Price; three sister in laws Kathryn Broussard, Doris A. Denny and Shirley Denny; as well as a number of nieces, nephews and friends.

Visitation was held on Tuesday, October 27, at Latimer Funeral Home in Murfreesboro.

Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, October 28, at Delight Methodist Church, with Rev. Jim Henderson officiating, burial to follow in Delight Cemetery, under the direction of Latimer Funeral Home in Murfreesboro.

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



PIKE COUNTY SKYWATCHERS

BY RICK FLOYD

‘Fall Back’ Sunday

Pike County will "fall back" this Sunday at 2 a.m. Daylight Saving Time will once again yield to Standard Time. So, be sure to wake at 2 a.m. this November 1 to move your clock back one hour.

That extra hour of sleep on Sunday will give incentive to wake before dawn the next day to see the waning crescent Moon in the east, and lined up below it Mars, Jupiter, and Regulus the alpha star of the constellation Leo the Lion. You can relive the experience the next morning on November 3 with a variation. The thinner crescent Moon will be below the line of Regulus, Jupiter, and Mars.

Regulus, a blue-white star, is one of the brightest in our sky. It is at the lion's chest and part of the stars forming the head and mane. However, some people see that same group of stars as a backward question mark with Regulus at the bottom. Ancient peoples saw that question mark grouping of stars as a sickle and Regulus is at the base of the handle.

The constellation Leo the lion is one of the 12 constellations of the Zodiac. It is one of the constellations recognizable as its namesake, with head, mane and body in big cat pose. Leo, a morning constellation now, is at its peak (overhead) in spring.



Latimer FUNERAL HOME

Helping Families Connect, Honor & Remember

BURIAL INSURANCE • MONUMENTS • PRE-NEED FUNERAL PLANS

NASHVILLE

(870) 845-2233



MURFREESBORO

(870) 285-2194

P.O. Box 298 Nashville, Arkansas 71852

1211 Anthony Ave., Murfreesboro, Arkansas 71958

www.latimerfuneralhome.com



Where To Find A Copy of the Diamond:

People's Pharmacy

Jordan's

Gypsy Underground

Tobacco & More

EZ Mart

NEWSWORTHY ITEMS?

Call us:

(870) 285-2723

HAUNTED HOSPITAL FINAL WEEKEND



THIS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHTS
AT THE FORMER PIKE COUNTY HOSPITAL







Attorney General Griffin reminds Arkansans of election law hotline as early voting is underway

LITTLE ROCK – Attorney General Tim Griffin today issued the following statement regarding his office’s Election Integrity Unit as early voting is underway in Arkansas for the 2026 general election:

“Election integrity remains a top priority for me. Three

years ago, I established the Election Integrity Unit to complement the existing Election Law Hotline, where citizens can submit complaints. This Unit does a great job investigating election-integrity complaints and has the authority to bring a lawsuit against

those who violate our laws and one of the reasons Arkansas remains first in the nation in election integrity.”

Griffin reminds Arkansans that his office’s Election Law Hotline is open year-round to receive complaints concerning potential election law viola-

tions. Arkansans wishing to file a complaint may call (833) 995-8683.

In March 2023, Griffin established the Election Integrity Unit under his office’s Special Investigations Division, with Chief Wayne Bewley serving as its director. In April 2023, Act 544 of 2023 became law, granting the Office of the Attorney General the power to file civil suits for election-related offenses.

‘Dear Preacher’

By Buddy Ray, Murfreesboro Church of Christ

THE HEARING OF FAITH

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified? This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Galatians 3:1-2

There is a way of hearing the gospel that will lead you to the Lord. There is a way of listening that will lead you away from the truth. Everyone has some concept of what the Bible teaches. Our own understanding of the Holy Scriptures is based upon what we perceive to be the truth about our soul’s salvation. The hearing that will save is the heart listening to God’s will, no



matter how it agrees or disagrees with our own convictions. The hearing of faith is completely in agreement with what God commands us to do to be saved. We are to obey God rather than men. (Acts 5:29) Therefore, submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands

you sinners; and purify your hearts you double-minded. James 4:7,8

Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord and He will lift you up. James 4:10

Therefore, to him that knows to do good, and does not do it, to him it is sin. James 4:17

Paul and James insist by inspiration that the hearing of faith involves paying clear attention to God’s revealed will and being faithfully obedient to it. To do less is sin. To do more is also rebellious. If you are a child of God, continue to grow in God’s grace and truth. If you are not a child of God, be born again of water and the Spirit. Repent and be baptized for the remission of your sins and God will cleanse you and add you to His Church. (Acts 2:38-47).

Angel tree forms now available in Murfreesboro

MURFREESBORO -- Program director Angie Strawn has announced that 2026 angel tree forms have been released.

They may be collected at the Murfreesboro Library, Murfreesboro City Hall or the Pike County Sheriff’s Office Lobby.

The deadline to return the forms for participation in the program is Thursday, Nov. 17.

For questions on the angel tree program, please call Strawn at (870) 285-5269.

Voters to face four constitutional amendment questions at ballot

STATE CAPITOL WEEK IN REVIEW
State Senator Steve Crowell

LITTLE ROCK -- Arkansas voters face a wide-ranging slate of constitutional amendments on the upcoming general election ballot, including measures on voting eligibility, the right to bear arms, and economic development. A public works bond issue is also on the ballot.

Issue 1: Defining Who is Eligible to Vote in Arkansas

This proposed constitutional amendment would explicitly state that only United States citizens who meet Arkansas’s existing voter qualifications may vote in any state or local election. It restates current requirements for electors, including citizenship, Arkansas residency, age 18 or older, and lawful voter registration, and reinforces the state’s voter ID rules for both in-person and absentee voting.

The amendment maintains provisions for issuing free state photo IDs to eligible voters and outlines how provisional ballots are handled when ID is not presented.

Issue 2: The Right to Keep and Bear Arms

This proposed constitutional amendment would revise Article 2, Section 5 of the Arkansas Constitution to broaden and reinforce the right to keep and bear arms. It specifies that citizens have this right not only for common defense but also for hunting, recreational use, and any other lawful purpose.

The amendment clarifies that the right includes possessing and using ammunition, firearm accessories, and firearm components. It also declares the right to keep and bear arms as a natural, fundamental, and individual right that “shall not be infringed.”

Issue 3: Economic Development Districts

This proposal would amend the Arkansas Constitution to give the General Assembly broad new authority to support economic development across the state. It would allow lawmakers to create Economic Development Districts within cities, counties, or multi-county regions, and permit those districts to issue bonds, levy certain charges, and receive public funds for development projects.

The amendment would allow public money, including loans and grants, to be used for a wide range of economic purposes such as reducing unemployment, expanding transportation and commerce, and improving or developing real estate tied to economic growth. Economic development districts created under this authority could finance projects and issue bonds without being subject to the state’s existing constitutional debt limits.

Local governments would also be allowed to provide funding or lend credit to these districts, an exception to current prohibitions on aiding private entities. The amendment revises definitions of “economic development projects,” “services,” and “infrastructure,” expanding eligible uses to include manufacturing facilities, corporate headquarters, sports complexes, industrial parks, and more.

Property located within an economic development district would be exempt from most taxes, except those levied by the district itself. The amendment also clarifies that bonds backed by property taxes for economic development must still be approved by local voters.

Finally, the measure gives the amendment priority over any conflicting constitutional provisions and includes a severability clause.

Issue 4: Water, Waste Disposal and Pollution Abatement Bonds

Citizens will also vote to authorize up to \$500 million in state-backed bonds to support a wide range of water-related public works projects, including flood control, irrigation, drainage, waste disposal, and wetlands restoration.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

(870) 285-2723 • mdiamond@windstream.net

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

Bank of Delight

503 E. Antioch St. Delight

(870) 379-2293

Facts About The BIBLE

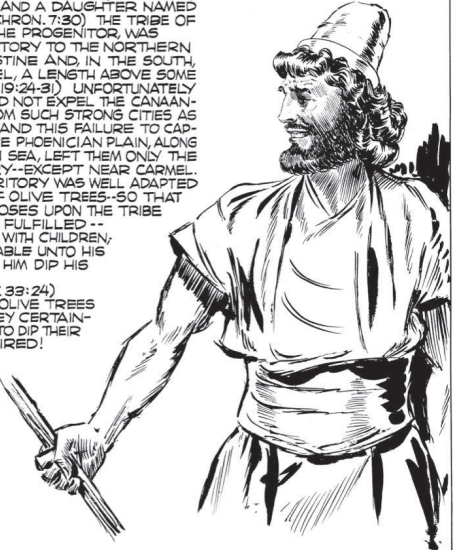
BY JOHN LEHTI

THE EIGHTH SON OF JACOB!

ASHER WAS THE SECOND SON OF ZILPAH, LEAH'S MAID SERVANT (GEN. 30:12, 13, 35:26) HIS BLESSING GIVEN BY JACOB ON HIS DEATHBED IS THIS WORDED: "OUT OF ASHER HIS BREAD SHALL BE FAT, AND HE SHALL YIELD ROYAL DAUGHTERS." (GEN. 49:20)

HE HAD FOUR SONS AND A DAUGHTER NAMED SERAH (GEN. 46:17, 1 CHRON. 7:30). THE TRIBE OF WHICH ASHER WAS THE PROGENITOR, WAS ASSIGNED THE TERRITORY TO THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF PALESTINE AND, IN THE SOUTH, BOUNDED BY CARMEL, A LENGTH ABOVE SOME SIXTY MILES (JOSH. 19:24-28). UNFORTUNATELY THE ASHERITES COULD NOT EXPEL THE CANAANITE INHABITANTS FROM SUCH STRONG CITIES AS SIDON, ACCO, TYRE, AND THIS FAILURE TO CAPTURE AND OCCUPY THE PHOENICIAN PLAIN, ALONG THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA, LEFT THEM ONLY THE INLAND HILL COUNTRY--EXCEPT NEAR CARMEL. HOWEVER, THIS TERRITORY WAS WELL ADAPTED FOR THE GROWING OF OLIVE TREES--SO THAT THE BLESSING OF MOSES UPON THE TRIBE OF ASHER COULD BE FULFILLED: "BLESSED BE ASHER WITH CHILDREN; LET HIM BE ACCEPTABLE UNTO HIS BROTHERN AND LET HIM DIP HIS FOOT IN OIL." (DEUT. 33:24)

AND WITH ALL THE OLIVE TREES THAT THEY GREW THEY CERTAINLY HAD ENOUGH OIL TO DIP THEIR FEET IN IF THEY DESIRED!



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!

BIRDS

* -- Theme Related Clue

ACROSS

- 1. Consumer
- 5. Drivel
- 8. Mary of direct marketing fame
- 11. Taxon, pl.
- 12. Mosaic piece
- 13. Speculate
- 15. Similar
- 16. Eye part
- 17. Belgian port city
- 18. *”The Birds” producer and director
- 20. *”Mourning” bird
- 21. Kicks out
- 22. *”Birds do it, ____ do it,” sing.
- 23. “Hot” prefix
- 26. Suggest
- 30. Treaty of Rome org.
- 31. Dump
- 34. *Horus’ mother
- 35. Spills over a container edge
- 37. Hole puncher
- 38. Finals
- 39. Type of balsam
- 40. Thumb, anatomically speaking
- 42. *New Zealand parrot
- 43. Suppresses
- 45. *Big Bird, e.g.
- 47. Shark part
- 48. Yo-Yo’s instrument
- 50. Bleak
- 52. *Bird with largest wingspan
- 56. *Popular origami bird
- 57. Mongolian desert
- 58. *Hen to chick
- 59. Silly and scatterbrained
- 60. Affirm with confidence
- 61. Sailor’s call
- 62. Number cruncher, acr.
- 63. Color

64. Totes

DOWN

- 1. D-Day beach
- 2. H. H. Munro’s pseudonym
- 3. Sign of escape
- 4. Ill will
- 5. Basketball foot maneuver
- 6. Smart ones?
- 7. Reach a high
- 8. a.k.a. Kyiv
- 9. Green Gables resident
- 10. Hitherto
- 12. U of A home
- 13. Poet Nash
- 14. *Albus Dumbledore’s companion
- 19. Dark fertile soil
- 22. Board of Directors, acr.
- 23. MCAT and LSAT, e.g.
- 24. Serf
- 25. Cause for food recall
- 26. Pay a visit
- 27. Japanese port city
- 28. Sand clock, e.g.
- 29. Test form
- 32. Vietnam’s neighbor
- 33. *Parliament member
- 36. *Barbara’s ____ Cereal
- 38. Glorify
- 40. Mightier than sword
- 41. Oblong cream puff
- 44. British sailor, slangily
- 46. Conventional
- 48. Garlic unit
- 49. What tide did
- 50. Golf club handle
- 51. Pro ____
- 52. Lab culture
- 53. Pearl Harbor island
- 54. Urban haze
- 55. Simon does what?
- 56. Public health org.

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7			8	9	10
11					12					13	14	
15					16					17		
18				19						20		
			21					22				
23	24	25					26			27	28	29
30				31		32	33			34		
35			36			37				38		
39					40				41		42	
43				44				45		46		
			47				48	49				
	50	51				52				53	54	55
56						57				58		
59						60				61		
62						63				64		

SWITCH & GET

\$25

Off First Month of New Service!

USE PROMO CODE: **GZ590**

Consumer Cellular

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR

888-804-0913

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

© StatePoint Media

Pike County EHC members attend district meeting in Benton

BY AVONNE PETTY
Pike County EHC Reporter

MURFREESBORO — “It starts with I” which stands for – “One Person Getting Involved, Inspiring Others, and Creating Impact” was the theme of the recent AEHC District Meeting held in Benton. Those attending from Pike County were the following: Pike County EHC Council President, Jeanette Deaton, Dorothy Ingram, Beth Steuart, Susie O’Neal, and Brenda Castle. Several members received recognition for being 25 or 35 year

members of the origination. Guest speakers were AEHC State Service Project Keith Stratham-Cleek FCS Educator and Anna Goff FCS Program Associate. The theme for this program is re-pairing, repurposing, and recycling fabric instead of filing our landfills with clothing. His emphasis was on shopping at thrift stores. Howard County made everyone “Get Up and Move.” Trevor Vines, Saline County Communications Director, encouraged everyone to get out and vote. Each county Extension Office has free copies of a 2026 Voter Guide explaining the ballot issues.

Judy Van Hamilton, the Ouachita District Vice President conclude the meeting encouraging members to “Let your Light Shine for Everyone to See.” This idea was illustrated in the table decorations brought by each county in attendance. A new member said she really enjoyed the meeting and that it was very informative about what EHC is. For further information about EHC in Pike County drop by or call the Extension office at 870-285-2161 in Murfreesboro or contact a member in your area.

DAR chapter holds October meeting in Murfreesboro

BY FRAN STRAWN

The Mine Creek-Paraclifta Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) met October 13, 2026, at Connections Coffee Shop in Murfreesboro, Arkansas. The following members were present: Regent, Elizabeth Overton, Fran Strawn, Judy Hile , Gwen Harrison, LeAnn Turner, Patsy Young, Betty Johnson and Overton’s granddaughter, Ava Delozier, who is a member of the Children of the American Revolution. Five prospective members—Michelle Parker, Amanda Reid, Leah Hainen, Jeannie Gorham, and Robin Scott—were introduced, along with guest Betty Ray Huffhines. Members reported that Constitution Week activities were a success, with patriotic displays in local schools and bells ringing in schools and communities as part of the annual Bells Across America observance. Plans were also discussed for the chapter’s upcoming Veterans Day ceremony scheduled for November 11, 2026. The program, Honoring 250 Years of Service will begin at 11:00 am at the Howard County Courthouse, followed by lunch for Veterans and their families at the Carter Day Center. The program will include speaker, Jason Newton and patriotic music by the NES

choir. Following the meeting, members and guests enjoyed lunch at Connections Coffee Shop. Several then toured the Ka-Do-Ha Indian Village Museum near Murfreesboro in recognition of Indigenous Peoples’ Day, observed on October 12. One of the day’s most memorable highlights was a pair of unexpected encounters that brought the DAR’s spirit of service and fellowship to life. During the meeting, Elizabeth Overton noticed a gentleman wearing a cap indicating he was a veteran. She approached him and learned that he had served in the Vietnam War. Overton presented him with a Vietnam Veteran pin in appreciation of

his service. He later shared some of his experiences serving in Vietnam with the group. As the meeting was drawing to a close, another visitor noticed the DAR members and introduced herself as a fellow member of the organization. Both visitors were from out of state and were enjoying a visit to Murfreesboro. These chance encounters made the gathering especially meaningful, offering an opportunity to honor a veteran and welcome a fellow Daughter while both were away from home. The experiences served as a reminder that appreciation for our veterans and the bonds of sisterhood can reach far beyond our own communities.



Submitted photos/Jillian Caldwell

DAR ADVENTURE ... At the Ka-Do-Ha Village in Murfreesboro. Mine Creek-Paraclifta DAR members and guests enjoyed visiting the museum and gift shop. Pictured (L to R) is Betty Johnson, Betty Huffhines, Fran Strawn, Ava Delozier, Gwen Harrison, Michelle Parker and Elizabeth Overton.

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

Call Rebecca McGraw at (501) 374-1500 to place your ad here!

Prepare for power outages with **Briggs & Stratton® PowerProtect(TM)** standby generators - the most powerful home standby generators available. Industry-leading comprehensive warranty (7 years (\$849 value.) Proudly made in the U.S.A. Call Briggs & Stratton 1-855-554-0140.

Get a break on your taxes! **Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired.** Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-866-587-0119 today!

INJURED IN AN ACCIDENT? Don't Accept the insurance company's first offer. Many injured parties are entitled to major cash settlements. Get a free evaluation to see what your case is really worth. 100% Free Evaluation. Call Now: 1-877-392-0158. Be ready with your zip code to connect with the closest provider.

Audien Hearing. The world's first hearing aid with touchscreen controls. No tiny buttons, apps or prescriptions. 45-day risk free trial. Free shipping. Lifetime support. More than 1.5 million happy customers. Call Audien 1-855-429-8720

No more cleaning out gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and a lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-855-977-9614 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Get 15% off your entire order. Plus, Military & Seniors get an additional 10% off. Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

Olshan Foundation Solutions. Your trusted foundation repair experts since 1933. Foundation repair. Crawl space recovery. Basement waterproofing. Water management and more. Free evaluation. Limited time up to \$250 off foundation repair. Call Olshan 1-833-436-1947

WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP: A small amount of water can lead to major damage to your home. Our trusted professionals dry out the wet area and do repairs to protect your family and your home's value! If you have water in your home that needs to be dried, call 24/7: 1-877-318-6830. Have zip code of service location ready when you call!

SERVICES

ATTORNEY

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS. Unable to work? Denied benefits? We Can Help! WIN or Pay Nothing!

Randolph Baltz
Former SSA Attorney
Office: (501)374-6800

End your tax worries today. Let us make your tax problem our priority. Scared, stuck with high tax amounts? Our A+ tax professionals can help. Call for a **FREE** consultation. Call Priority Tax now 1- 877-961-6859

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your **FREE** Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-844-210-5510 www.dental50plus.com/arpres #6258

STOP OVERPAYING! FOR HEALTH INSURANCE! Reduce premiums and out-of-pocket costs while getting the coverage you need! Call now for a **competitive free quote.** 1-877-895-0019. Plus... Income based government subsidies are available for those that qualify!

AGING ROOM? NEW HOMEOWNER? STORM DAMAGE? You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-877-850-0034. Have zip code of property ready when calling!

YOU MAY QUALIFY for disability benefits if you have are between 52-63 years old and under a doctor's care for a health condition that prevents you from working for a year or more. Call now! 1-877-885-0051.

CASH PAID FOR HIGH-END MEN'S SPORT WATCHES. Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Daytona, GMT, Submariner and Speedmaster. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-877-741-6437.

Prepare for power outages today with a **Generac Home Standby Generator.** Act now to receive a **FREE 5-Year** warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-877-319-0598 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

STRUGGLING WITH STAIRS? STAY SAFE AT HOME. Acorn Stairlifts® are the perfect solution for arthritis, COPD, and mobility challenges. A+ Rated by the BBB. Special \$250 Savings and a **FREE** In-Home Consultation. Call 1-855-248-7803 Today!

Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! **Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup!** and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-877-313-1596 today!

We Buy Houses for Cash AS-IS! **No repairs. No fuss. Any condition.** Easy process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Call today for your fair cash offer: 1-877-224-1648.

SunSetter. America's Number One Awning! Instant shade at the touch of a button. Transform your deck or patio into an outdoor oasis. Up to 10-year limited warranty. Call now and **SAVE \$350 today!** 1-888-497-7510

Consumer Cellular. - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. **No long-term contract, no hidden fees** and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-844-868-3831

We Buy Vintage Guitars! Looking for 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-877-521-1029.

DIRECTV. All your entertainment. **Nothing on your roof!** Sign up for Directv and get your first three months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package \$84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-855-400-3297

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

MILLWOOD CORPORATION

BUYER OF TIMBER & TIMBERLAND

Matt Tollett (870) 703-6939

Jason Porter (870) 703-1039

Johnny Porter (870) 703-1628

P.O. Box 1316

Hope, AR 71802

Classifieds

MINI STORAGE in Murfreesboro. 870-845-6304. (gs:4-tf)

SMALL ADS WORK

CALL 870-285-2723

FAGAN ROOFING

ALL TYPES OF ROOFING

We are insured!

Quality work,

Free Estimates

In Business Since 1992!

Greg (870) 356-8934



Submitted photos/PC4-H

AWARD WINNING PUMPKINS ... Pike County Quorum Court Members judged the 4-H Pumpkin Decorating Contest before their October meeting recently. The winners are as follows: Cloverbud Division 1st - Owen Morpew, 2nd - Maggie Morpew, 3rd - Kade Friend; Junior Division, 1st - Adeline Haney, 2nd - Jolena Brewer, 3rd - Larkin Haney; Intermediate Division 1st - Nora Morpew, 2nd - Name Withheld, 3rd - Jasper Morpew

Council agrees to purchase UTV for street department

MURFREESBORO -- The Murfreesboro City Council took care of a quick agenda at its October meeting including the purchase of a UTV for the street department.

Agreeing that it was “cheaper than buying a truck,” the council voted to purchase a Kawasaki 410 4x4 Mule from Futrell Marine in Nashville. The vehicle’s one-time cost will be \$15,900 and that includes the extras to make the vehicle street legal.

The vehicle will be paid for with street department funds.

Mayor Jim O’Neal also appointed a committee consisting of council members Jane Fugutt, Cody Bachmann and Lewis Gills to start preliminary work on the city’s budget. The committee is set to meet Nov. 5 at 6 p.m. with the next council meeting set for Nov. 9 at 6:00.

Council member Mark Barnes announced during the meeting he was submitting

his resignation from the Murfreesboro Advertising & Tourism Board. Mayor O’Neal and the council accepted the resignation but the mayor said he would let the incoming mayor make the recommendation for his replacement. The position has to be occupied by a council member, O’Neal added.

The council also voted to keep the city’s millage rate at 3.0 with passage of a resolution and approved Recorder/Treasurer Penny Lamb’s financial report, which included the following beginning and ending balances for September:

General/Operating \$294,477 / \$257,732
Street/Operating \$397,670 / \$399,452
Park Fund \$48,351 / \$51,539
Special Funds \$330,778 / \$329,653
Advertising & Promotion \$64,668 / \$64,668
Waterworks Combined \$733,459 / \$745,747

Council members Betty O’Neal and Kirk Stone were not in attendance for the October meeting.



WORKING FOR ARKANSAS. GETTING THE JOB DONE.

**BRUCE WESTERMAN BRINGS THAT
APPROACH TO CONGRESS WHERE MORE
THAN 1 OUT OF 4 BILLS SIGNED INTO LAW
CAME OUT OF THE COMMITTEE HE CHAIRS.**



**BRUCE
WESTERMAN**
UNITED STATES CONGRESS

WWW.BRUCEWESTERMAN.COM

PAID FOR BY WESTERMAN FOR CONGRESS



Need individual health insurance for 2027?

Call or come by today!
We'll help you find the health,
dental or vision plan that's
right for you.

Lisa Chandler Insurance
705 S. Main - Nashville
870-845-5930
NPN 1264226

*Soliciting agent for Arkansas Blue Cross.
Plans available only to residents in Arkansas.*

01750.01.01-v102226-1058



SMALL ADS DO WORK ... YOU JUST READ ONE!

(870) 285-2723

NOTICE OF ELECTION

This notice is prepared by the Pike County Election Commission to inform the public that the **2026 General Election** will be held on **November 3, 2026**. The notice also provides the public information regarding this election as required by law:

EARLY VOTING DATES & TIMES:

- Monday-Friday, October 19-23, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturday, October 24, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Monday-Friday, October 26-30, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturday, October 31, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Monday, November 2, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Location of Poll, Address, Ballots Assigned to Poll:

- Pike County Clerk’s Office, 112 N Washington, Suite A Murfreesboro, AR, Vote Center / All Ballots
- Bainum Learning Center, 128 E Broadway, Glenwood, AR, Vote Center / All Ballots

ELECTION DAY VOTING:
ELECTION DATE: November 3, 2026
HOURS: 7:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.
Location of Poll, Address, Ballots Assigned to Poll:

- Bainum Learning Center, 128 E Broadway, Glenwood, AR, Vote Center / All Ballots
- Bethlehem Baptist Church, 2589 Hwy 27 N, Kirby, AR, Vote Center / All Ballots
- Delight Cafeteria, 623 Webb St, Delight, AR, Vote Center / All Ballots
- Murfreesboro Municipal Building, 204 E Main, Murfreesboro, AR, Vote Center / All Ballots

IN THE EVENT OF A RUNOFF -- VOTING DATES AND TIMES:

Runoff Early Dates

- Tuesday-Friday, November 24-27, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Monday, November 30, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Pike County Clerk’s Office Location Only

Runoff Election Date: Tuesday, December 1, 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Murfreesboro Municipal Building Location Only

ABSENTEE VOTING:
To request an absentee ballot, or to see if you are qualified to vote absentee, contact the County Clerk’s office using the information below:
112 N WASHINGTON, SUITE A, MURFREESBORO, AR
(870) 285-2743
OFFICE HOURS: M-F 8 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.

BALLOT CANVASSING AND COUNTING:
All processes listed below will be conducted at the **PIKE COUNTY CLERK’S OFFICE** located at **112 N WASHINGTON, SUITE A, MURFREESBORO, AR**. The dates and times are provided below:
Activity, Date, Time:

- Canvassing and Counting of Absentee Ballots, November 3, 1:00 p.m. to Completion
- Compiling & Publishing Unofficial Election Results, November 3, 7:30 p.m. to Completion
- Counting of Election Day Ballots, November 3, 7:30 p.m. to Completion
- Initial Duplication of Ballots, November 4, 9:00 a.m. to Completion
- Initial Review of Provisional Ballots, November 4, 11 a.m. to Completion
- Provisional Ballot Hearings, November 9, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- Final Review and Counting of Provisional Ballots, November 9, 1:00 p.m. to Completion
- Recount (IF NEEDED), November 10, 10:00 a.m. to Completion
- Post Election Audit, November 12, 9:00 a.m. to Completion
- Canvassing and Counting of UOCAVA Absentee Ballots (IF NEEDED), November 13, 1:00 p.m. to Completion
- Certification of the Election, November 13, 1:00 p.m. to Completion

ELECTION OFFICIALS:
Election Officials appointed to conduct early voting, election day voting, and all other required duties will be posted for public viewing in the Pike County Clerk’s Office, on October 12th and remain posted for not less than 10 days. An objection must be filed with the County Clerk in writing prior to the following deadlines. An objection that an official is a spouse of a county election commissioner, a county party chair, or a spouse of a county party chair must be filed within 7 days of October 12th. An objection that an official is married to a candidate or related to a candidate within two degrees of blood relations must be filed within 10 days of October 12th.

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE (BALLOT DRAW ORDER)

U.S. Senate:
Hallie Shoffner – Democratic
Senator Tom Cotton – Republican
Jeff Wadlin – Libertarian

U.S. Congress District 04:
James “Rus” Russell, III – Democratic
Congressman Bruce Westerman

Governor:
Colt Shelby – Libertarian
State Senator Fred Love – Democratic
Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders – Republican

Attorney General:
Attorney General Tim Griffin -Republican

State Treasurer:

State Treasurer John Thurston – Republican

Lieutenant Governor:
Lieutenant Governor Leslie Rutledge- Republican
Michael Kalagias – Libertarian

Auditor of State:
Auditor of State Dennis Milligan - Republican

Secretary of State:
Michael Pakko – Libertarian
Kelly Grappe – Democratic
Senator Kim Hammer - Republican

Commissioner of State Lands:
Secretary of State Cole Jester – Republican
Christopher Olson - Libertarian

State Representative District 89:
State Representative Justin Gonzales – Republican

Pike County Circuit Clerk:
Sabrina Williams – Republican

Justice of the Peace District 4:
Leotis Snowden – Democratic
Billy Hill - Republican

MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES:

Mayor of Murfreesboro:
Jack Bonds
Mary Jean Barbre

Mayor of Delight:
Lee Gatliff

Mayor of Daisy:
Lisa Cogburn

Mayor of Glenwood:
William C. Plyler

Murfreesboro City Council Member West Ward Position 1:
Patrick May
Angie Strawn
Doris Scoggins

UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES: (not listed on ballot)
Pike County Judge: Eddie Howard – Republican
Pike County Clerk: Randee Edwards – Republican
Pike County Treasurer: Loletia Rather – Republican
Pike County Assessor: Staci Stewart – Republican
Pike County Sheriff & Collector – Travis Hill - Republican

Justice of the Peace Dist. 1: Roger D. Floyd – Republican
Justice of the Peace Dist. 2: Robbie Crocker – Republican
Justice of the Peace Dist. 3: Seth Henry Kirkham – Republican
Justice of the Peace Dist. 5: Jerry Fendley - Democratic

Justice of the Peace Dist. 6: Ron Parker – Republican
Justice of the Peace Dist. 7: Robert Mac Irvin – Republican

Justice of the Peace Dist. 8: John J. Plyler Jr. – Republican
Justice of the Peace Dist. 9: Paul Baker - Democratic
Missouri Township Constable: Ricky Branch – Democratic
Mountain Township Constable: Chance Reid – Republican

Daisy Recorder/Treasurer: Rebecca A. Frazier
Daisy Council Member Position 2: Amanda Huggins
Daisy Council Member Position 3: Scotty W. Frazier
Daisy Council Member Position 4: Nicholas Stant
Delight Recorder/Treasurer: Dana Hightower
Delight Council Member Position 1: Rhonda Abbott
Delight Council Member Position 2: Ty Sherrod
Delight Council Member Position 3: Brandi Rowton
Delight Council Member Position 4: Ronnie Cox
Delight Council Member Position 5: Chris Goodson
Glenwood Council Member North Ward Position 2: Johnny Cox
Murfreesboro Council Member North Ward Position 1: Mark Barnes
Murfreesboro Council Member North Ward Position 2: Joan Davis Hooper
Murfreesboro Council Member South Ward Position 1: Lewis Gills
Murfreesboro Council Member South Ward Position 2: Jane B. Fugitt
Murfreesboro Council Member West Ward Position 2: James “Cody” Bachmann

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS REFERRED TO THE PEOPLE BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Issue No. 1
(Popular Name)

Issue No. 2
(Popular Name)

Issue No. 3
(Popular Name)

Issue No. 4
(Popular Name)

VIEWING YOUR BALLOT PRIOR TO VOTING:
Any voter may look up his or her sample ballot on the Secretary of State’s website at: <https://www.voterview.ar-nova.org/voterview>. Ballots will be available no later than 20 days prior to the election. Sample ballots will also be available at the polling site.

This publication was paid for by the Pike County Clerk’s Office, the amount for this publication is \$499.05

(PCC: 14 & 17, 1,109w)