

THE NASHVILLE News-LEADER

Preserving Southwest Arkansas's Heritage While Leading Through the 21st Century

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Leader Board

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Christmas trees find new life as fish habitats

LITTLE ROCK — Instead of setting your used Christmas tree by the curb the day after Christmas, why not give it a second life as fish habitat in your local lake?

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission has drop-off locations across the state to leave your tree for an angler to use in their next brushpile.

AGFC Christmas tree drop-off locations work sort of like a take-a-penny, leave-a-penny tray at a cash register.

Anyone can drop off their tree, and anyone is welcome to take them to sink their own brushpiles. Anglers sinking brush should call ahead to make sure sinking brush is allowed in the body of water where they want to sink the trees.

Anglers also should make sure all ornaments, lights and tinsel are removed from the tree before sinking. Not only do they carry the same sort of environmental problem, they eventually separate from the tree and become trash that can entangle fishing lures, motors and wildlife.

"We sink our brushpiles with standard cinder blocks tied to the tree with either parachute cord or heavy baling wire," Wyatt said. "These materials last for an extremely long time and keep the tree anchored to one spot."

Trees can be dropped off at any of the following locations until the end of January:

Bois d'Arc Lake — Kidd's Landing or Hatfield Access.

Millwood Lake — Cottonshed, White Cliffs Recreation Areas and the Millwood State Park ramp on the point.

Dierks Lake — Jefferson Ridge South Recreation Area.

De Queen Lake — Any U.S. Army Corps of Engineers boat ramp

Gillham Lake — Any U.S. Army Corps of Engineers boat ramp

Lake Greeson — New Cowhide Cove and Self Creek Recreation areas.

Terre Noire Lake — Terre Noire Lake Access.

Hope — AGFC Regional Office on U.S. Highway 67 East.

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Primary Care event features snacks, Santa

The Nashville High School FBLA with advisers Lacy Britt and Carolanne Pinegar worked with Christy Young and Vicki Cook on another Primary Care Christmas.

More than 50 sponsors from the schools and Nashville community provided Christmas gifts for 61 Nashville Primary School children.

Students were invited to a party full of fun, games, snacks and a visit from Mr. And Mrs. Claus.

At the end of the party all students returned home with a sack full of wrapped gifts from their personalized list of needs and wishes.

News-Leader photos/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

PRIMARY CARE. Mrs. Santa and Santa Claus listen to kids' Christmas wishes during Primary Care sponsored by the Nashville High School Future Business Leaders of America.



HELPING OUT. FBLA members Ella Ragar (left) and Maddie Pinkerton (right) help students with their projects during Primary Care at NHS.



BUSY TABLE. Hope McCauley (seated, background) works with the primary school students.

Preliminary schematic of arts center sent to state

By John R. Schirmer
News-Leader staff

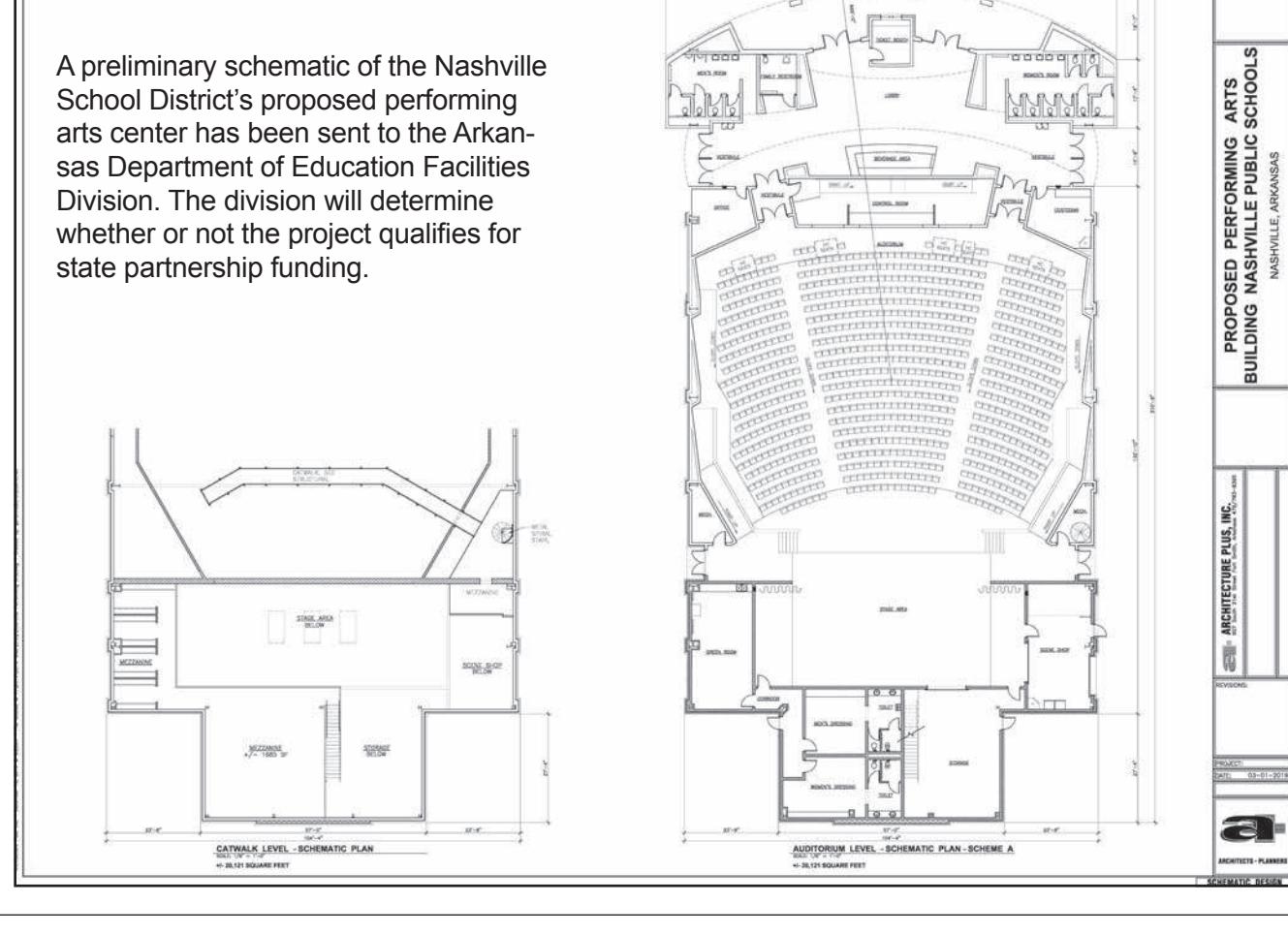
The Nashville School District has submitted a preliminary schematic of a proposed performing arts center to the Arkansas Department of Education Facilities Division.

It will be up to the division to determine whether or not the project qualifies for state partnership funding, according to Superintendent Doug Graham.

"Obviously, we're in the planning stages, just to be discussed," Graham said. "After the school board approved the center on our master plan, the state requested a schematic."

Architect Craig Boone of Architecture Plus worked

A preliminary schematic of the Nashville School District's proposed performing arts center has been sent to the Arkansas Department of Education Facilities Division. The division will determine whether or not the project qualifies for state partnership funding.



BACK-TO-BACK CHAMPIONS. The Advanced Placement/Concurrent U.S. History class last week won the canned food drive at Nashville High School for the second year in a row. Students collected nearly 1,800 cans for the Bread of Life Soup Kitchen.

NHS history class wins food drive title for 2nd year

Following two weeks of intense competition, the canned food drive at Nashville High School produced 4,000 cans for the Bread of Life Soup Kitchen.

Second block classes at NHS competed against each other, with AP/Concurrent U.S. History winning for the second year in a row. Students collected almost 1,800 cans.

The Spanish class was the runner-up with 1,400 cans.

Total collections among all second block classes set a school record.

National Honor Society and the NHS Student Council sponsored the competition. The winners received a country-style breakfast cooked by NHS media specialist Fran Strawn, Honor Society sponsor.

Obituaries



tis Abernathy officiating. Interment was in Murfreesboro Cemetery under the direction of Davis-Smith Funeral Home, Glenwood.

Pallbearers were Clyde Keys, Doug Shukers, Al Terrell, Marty Withers, Rusty Silvey, and Jim O'Neal.

Honorary pallbearers included Mark Brock, John W. Collins, Thomas and Zetta Crocker, Diane Keys, Cindy Smith, Joan Withers, Faye Cargile and Joe Ledbetter.

Memorials may be made to Trinity Missionary Baptist Church, 119 Hwy. 27, Murfreesboro, AR 71958.

Guest registry is at www.davis-smith.com.



**Lawrence 'Larry'
Ray Hughes**

Mr. Lawrence "Larry" Ray Hughes, age 79, of Cove, Ark., passed away Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2019 at his home.

He was born on Dec. 14, 1939, in Artesia, New Mexico, to the late Luther Hughes and the late Effie Jane Roper Hughes. He was married to Goldie Evans Hughes for 36½ years and was a retired heavy equipment operator. In the early 60's he was a ranch foreman at the ZX Ranch in Oregon and in the early 70's was the ambulance and emergency services supervisor, going by the handle "Lumberjack." Larry was a Christian man and loved hunting, fishing and raising his running beagles. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother and friend to all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Turner of Murfreesboro; four children and their spouses, Curtis, Jr. and Kay Turner, Gary Turner, Steve and Cindy Turner, all of Murfreesboro, and Kathy and Randy Lingo of Birmingham, Ala.; nine grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; his brother, Glen Turner of Stamps; and his sister, Cleta Cooper of Murfreesboro.

Services were held at 2:00 p.m., Friday, Dec. 20, 2019, in the Trinity Missionary Baptist Church in Murfreesboro with Bro. Jerry Hill, Dr. Johnny Baker and Bro. Cur-

grandchildren; two sisters and four brothers.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and four sisters.

Mr. Hughes was sent for cremation under the direction of the Beasley Wood Funeral Home. A memorial service will be announced at a later date.



**Dr. Thomas Jefferson
(TJ) Humphreys, Jr.**

Dr. Thomas Jefferson, (TJ) Humphreys, Jr., 64 of Saratoga, peacefully passed away on Dec. 19, 2019, in Little Rock.

Graveside funeral services will be held Monday, December 23, 2019, at 11:00 a.m. at Corinth Cemetery, in Nashville. Bro. Brent Thompson of Immanuel Baptist Church will be officiating. Funeral arrangements are being held by Nashville Funeral Home.

TJ was born in Fort Smith, Ark., on July 6, 1955. He graduated from Dollywood High School and continued to receive a Medical Degree from the University of Arkansas Medical School.

TJ was married to Mary Ann Langrell on December 20, 1976; they were married 43 years.

TJ worked as a physician for Howard Memorial Hospital for 31 years.

He enjoyed wood working, carpentry, hunting and fishing. TJ was a member of Immanuel Baptist Church. He was also actively involved in his grandchildren's lives.

TJ is survived by his spouse, Mary Ann Humphreys; his son TJ (Jeremy) Humphreys; his grandchildren, Gabe Humphreys, Connor Humphreys, Grace Humphreys, Justin Hum-

phreys, Levi Humphreys; his brother, Dr. John H. Humphreys; his nieces, Rachael Jaramillo, Mary Janousek, April Humphreys, and Ashley Ward, and other family and friends.

TJ is preceded in death by his parents, Thomas Jefferson Humphreys, Sr. and Irma Mae Frazier; and his son, Justin M. Humphreys.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be given to Immanuel Baptist, (PO Box 212, Nashville, AR 71852), or to the Justin M. Humphreys Memorial Scholarship Fund, (PO Box 1990, State University, AR 72467: 870-972-3362, A State Foundation.org; ID Number: 50180899), at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro.

The family of Dr. TJ Humphreys wish to thank Dr. Mohammad Waqas, Dr. Thurston Bauer and their staff; as well as all the Staff at CHI St. Vincent's Infirmary of Little Rock.

Mary L. Parker

Mary L. Parker, 76, of De Queen, died Friday, Dec. 20, 2019.

She was born May 9, 1943, in De Queen, the daughter of the late Ollie and Josie Cure Stover.

She was a member of Kern Heights Baptist Church and was owner and operator of Mrs. Mary's Preschool.

Survivors include: a daughter, Lesia Stephens and husband Joseph of De Queen; two sons, Monty Wayne Parker and wife, Donna of Myrtle Beach, S.C., and James Wesley Parker and wife Theresa of Texarkana, Ark.; two brothers, Jasper Stover of Texarkana, Texas and Henry Charles Stover of Idaho; a sister, Louise Icenhower of Dierks; also grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Graveside services will be at 3:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019, at Chapel Hill Cemetery with Bobby Fisher officiating. Arrangements by Wilkerson Funeral Home in De Queen.

The family will receive friends from 5:00-7:00 p.m., Saturday, December 28 at the funeral home.

Online at wilkersonfuneralhomes.com.

Local nurse arrested again Latest charges involve child pornography

A local nurse practitioner arrested last month for video voyeurism was arrested again Friday, Dec. 20, this time on charges of child pornography, according to Hempstead County Sheriff James A. Singleton.

Singleton said Justice Lee West, 30, of Blevins was arrested around 8 a.m. by Hempstead County investigators, who had seized West's cellphone and executed a search warrant on the phone and his iCloud account. Singleton said investigators found images of nude juveniles depicting sexual contact with other juveniles.

West was arrested for three counts of distributing, possessing or viewing of matter depicting sexually explicit conduct involving a child (a Class A felony for the first offense and Class B felony for subsequent offenses).

He was transported and booked on the new charges into the Hempstead County Detention Facility.

West was first arrested in November, 2019 after Hempstead County investigators concluded an investigation that began in Blevins in late October after a 14-year-old female reportedly discovered a camera while in a shower.

The teen reportedly discovered what later turned out to be a camera that was disguised as a cell phone charger plugged in a bathroom where she she showered.

At the time of his November arrest, West was employed as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse at the CHI St. Vincent clinic in



Justice L. West

Murfreesboro and had been placed on administrative leave pending without pay. The clinic was unavailable for comment concerning West's employment status.

A spokesman for CHI St. Vincent told the newspaper in November he could not confirm when West began working in Murfreesboro, but released the following statement afternoon concerning West's status with the clinic:

"Upon notification by authorities, CHI St. Vincent placed the employee in question on administrative leave without pay pending further investigation and continues to cooperate with local authorities. The safety and wellbeing of our employees, patients and visitors is our first priority and our healing ministry is committed to their security while in our facility and under our care."

West has served as a past president of the Blevins School Board and is a first responder and member of the local volunteer fire department.

He is also a former Emergency Room nurse at Howard Memorial Hospital.

Weyerhaeuser gifts college \$6,000

On Dec. 12, Sandra Gaudara, administrative assistant for Weyerhaeuser, presented UA Cossatot with a \$6,000 donation from Weyerhaeuser's "Giving Fund Grant."

These funds will be used

Time for Some New Year's Financial Resolutions

Financial Focus Edward Jones Investments

Have you thought about your New Year's resolutions for 2020? When many of us make these promises, we focus on ways we can improve some form of our health. We vow to get more physically healthy by going to the gym, or we promise to improve our mental health by learning a new language or instrument. But it's also important to think about our financial health – so it's a good idea to develop some appropriate resolutions for this area, too.

What kinds of financial resolutions might you make? Here are a few suggestions:

• *Increase your retirement plan contributions.* One of the best financial moves you can make is to take full advantage of your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan. If you contribute pre-tax dollars to your plan, the more you put in, the lower your taxable income will be for the year, and your earnings can grow on a tax-deferred basis. So, if your salary goes up in 2020, increase the amount you put into your plan. Most people don't come close to reaching the annual contribution limit, which, in 2019, was \$19,000, or \$25,000 for those 50 or older. You might not reach these levels, either, but it's certainly worthwhile to invest as much as you can possibly afford.

• *Use "found" money wisely.* During the course of the next year, you may well receive some money outside your normal paychecks, such as a bonus or a tax refund. It can be tempting to spend this money, but you may help yourself in the long run by investing it. You could use it to help fund your IRA for the year or to fill a gap in another investment account.

• *Don't overreact to market downturns.* You've probably heard stories about people who lamented not getting in "on the ground floor" of what is now a mega-company. But a far more common investment mistake is overreacting to temporary market downturns by selling investments at the wrong time (when their prices are down) and staying out of the market until things calm down (and possibly missing the next rally). The financial markets always fluctuate, but if you can resolve to stay invested and follow a consistent, long-term strategy, you can avoid making some costly errors.

• *Be financially prepared for the unexpected.* Even if you're diligent about saving and investing for your long-term goals, you can encounter obstacles along the way. And one of these roadblocks could come in the form of large, unexpected expenses, such as the sudden need for a new car or some costly medical bills. If you aren't prepared for these costs, you might have to dip in to your long-term investments to pay for them. To prevent this from happening, you may want to keep sufficient cash, or cash equivalents, in your investment accounts. Or you might want to maintain a completely separate account as an emergency fund, with the money kept in low-risk, liquid vehicles. If possible, try to maintain at least six months' worth of living expenses in this account.

It will take some effort but following these resolutions could help you move closer to your financial goals in 2020 – and beyond.

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THE CECIL "BIRDDOG" HARRIS MEMORIAL EARLY FILES

Tales from Howard County's history reprinted in honor of
longtime staff historian and photographer, Cecil Harris.

September 19, 1938 - December 15, 2012

Compiled by Patsy Young



Downtown Nashville at Christmas during the 1960s

125 years ago: 1894

Take Nashville as a centre and draw an imaginary circle extending 20 miles in every direction and you have a scope of country that is hard to beat anywhere. Most of the farmers in this circle raise their supplies and have a surplus of nearly everything to sell as a result they are in better fix than many other parts of the state.

Rev. T. O. Owens, pastor of the Methodist Church of this place organized an Epworth League at the Methodist Church last Friday night. Devotional and church services will be held every Friday evening and a business meeting on the second Friday evening of each month.

99 years ago: 1920

The Supreme Court today affirmed the decision of the Howard County Circuit Court in the case of Joe B. Darling, who was sentenced by the lower court to 11 years in the penitentiary for the killing of Chas. Delno. At the August term, Darling was convicted of murder in

the second degree and sentenced to serve eleven years in the penitentiary.

Darling killed Delno at Muddy Fork on the farm of Darling in November of last year. The killing resulted from a fuss between Darling and Delno over some cotton raised by Delno on the Darling farm and was witnessed by several persons.

97 years ago: 1922

Ed Frazier and his son Frank were bound over to the district court in McAlister, Oklahoma today on a charge of killing John Walker on Thanksgiving Day. The elder Frazier with his family was en route to Arizona from Murfreesboro and camped at Dow Lake. Walker, who resided near the camp stopped to play with some boys when it is alleged he was attacked by the two Fraziers. Witnesses said that the son, Frank, struck Walker over his head with a coat which was thought to have a rock in the pocket.

(Adv.) For your Christmas baking be sure to use Queen of the Pantry flour if you want the best results.

Waggoner Gates Milling Company, Quality guaranteed or money back. Sold at Goodlett & Hanna, phones 47 and 48

Letter to Santa: Dear Santa, Please bring me a Beebee and a giddy and a boowoo and tanny. Charlotte Ramage.

76 years ago: 1943

Urgent appeals have been received here by C. W. Ross, chairman of Howard County's Salvage Committee, from two of the largest steel producers in America, stressing the necessity for greater collections of scrap metal.

"The need for scrap iron and steel will continue as long as the war lasts," he said. "There's still a lot of it lying around in Howard County. Let's try to round it all up before Christmas."

(Adv.) 2 Big Shows for the price of one. Howard Theatre, Friday and Saturday "The Ox-Bow Incident" starring Henry Fonda and "Gals Incorporated" with Leon Errol, plus "One Ham's Family."

Public Record of Howard County

Items that were issued, filed or recorded in the Howard County, Ark., courthouse during the period of Dec. 11-18, 2019:

Marriage Licenses

Dec. 13. Dalton Wayne Haskins, 28, Nashville, and Loren Drew McJunkins, 24, Nashville.

Dec. 13. Casey Dwayne Roberts, 20, Nashville, and Savannah Brooke Carver, 20, Nashville.

Civil Court

CV19-119, Dec. 12. RJO Investments, Inc. vs. ATO Foods, LLC, dba Pizza Hut, Nashville, Ark. Contract.

CV19-120, Dec. 18. Terry and Nancy Merrell vs. Sandy Branch, LLC. Contract.

Domestic

Relations Court

DR19-165, Dec. 13. Jay Roquet vs. Debbie Roquet. Divorce.

DR19-166, Dec. 13. State of Arkansas Office of Child Support Enforcement vs. Pedro Barrientos. Support.

DR19-167, Dec. 17. Willie

Trimble vs. Kenya Trimble. Divorce.

CR19-168, Dec. 18. Telia Dunn vs. Richard Dunn. Divorce.

Criminal Court

CR19-139, Dec. 17. State of Arkansas vs. William Mann, 21, white male, Bingen Cutoff (address), Nashville; third degree sexual assault class C felony; furnishing prohibited articles, class C.

CR19-140, Dec. 17. State of Arkansas vs. Aaron S. Mitchell, 34, white male, 101 Isaac Perkins Blvd., Nashville; third degree escape, class C felony.

Land Transactions

Quitclaim Deeds

Dec. 17. USA, thru Rural Development; to Stephen Jamison and Janet Jamison; 2.02 ac. in S3 T9S R27W, aka 155 Chapel Hill Road, Nashville. \$80,501.

Warranty Deeds

Dec. 13. Chad Hostetler and wife, Charlotte Hostetler; to Jason Lowell

Harrison and wife, Stephanie Lynn Harrison; Lot 3, Block 3, McCullough's Addition, Town of Mineral Springs. \$26,000.

Dec. 13. (Corporate) Gunter-Lovelis, LLC; to Gary Revels and wife, Jennifer Revels; property in S3 T9S R27W. \$260,000.

Dec. 16. Patricia Gale Boland, Trustee of the Patricia Gale Boland Living Trust; to Allie Clifton Lingo and wife, Linda Pauline Lingo; 1.07 ac. in S30 T7S R28W.

Dec. 18. Rebecca Lynn Hill; to Rebecca Lynn Hill, Trustee of the Rebecca Lynn Hill Trust; an undivided half interest in aggregate 10.998 ac. in S29 T9S R27W.

Dec. 18. John Maines and wife, Tammy Maines; to Anthony Quinn and wife, Cathy Quinn; 23 ac. in S23 T7S R28W. \$66,700.

Dec. 18. Jeff Westfall and wife, Amy Westfall; to Justin Thornton and wife, Ashley Thornton; property in S3 T9S R27W. \$60,000.

and trials after pleading not guilty to charges of possession of controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. Amanda Willis, 55, white female, Nashville, and Christopher Willis, 55, white male, Hope, are both represented by the public defender. Pretrial motions will be heard March 18.

A not guilty plea was also given by Deangelo Northcross, 21, black male, facing felony charges of possession of controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of controlled substance. His bond was set at \$5,000 and a date of March 18 was set for pretrial motions.

Two defendants pleaded guilty and were sentenced.

Aaron Shane Mitchell, 34, white male, 101 Isaac Perkins Blvd. (the jail's address) pleaded guilty to a class C felony charge of third degree escape. He fled from deputies while being

returned to the jail from a court appearance. He was sentenced to four years in the Arkansas Department of Correction plus six years suspended.

A Nashville jailer who was charged with sexual assault with a female inmate, and also a felony charge of furnishing female inmates with cigarettes -- a contraband -- pleaded guilty and was sentenced.

William Mann, 21, white male, Bingen Cutoff (address), Nashville was represented by the public defender. He was sentenced to three years of probation, a fine of \$1,500 and must register as a sex offender.

A failure to appear warrant was issued for Billy Stewart, 21, black male, Nashville, who missed his court date to review his probation on a 2017 conviction on residential burglary and theft of property charges.

Church to provide Christmas meal

First Baptist Church of Nashville will serve a Christmas meal Wednesday, Dec. 25, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the Family Activities Building, 417 N. Second St.

Anyone in the community is invited.

There will be no carry-out meals.

Church members will deliver to shut-ins.

County Extension office to close for winter break

The Howard County Cooperative Extension Service in Nashville will be closed for winter break beginning Monday, Dec. 23, through Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020.

The office will reopen on Thursday, Jan. 2.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2004, that certain ADJUSTABLE RATE MORTGAGE was executed by D-EON PRIEST AND WIFE, KARLA PRIEST (collectively, the "Mortgagor"), as mortgagor, delivered to SEATTLE MORTGAGE COMPANY, as mortgagee, and recorded on March 17, 2004 as Instrument # 2004 1473 in the Office of the Circuit Clerk and Ex Officio Recorder, Little River County, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the First Mortgage was insured by the SECRETARY (the "Secretary") OF THE UNITED STATE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ("HUD") pursuant to the National Housing Act for the purpose of providing single family housing; and

WHEREAS, the First Mortgage is now owned by the Secretary, pursuant to that ASSIGNMENT OF SECURITY INSTRUMENT recorded on January 30, 2019 as Instrument # 2019R00220 in the Office of the Circuit Clerk and Ex Officio Recorder, Little River County, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2004, that certain ADJUSTABLE RATE MORTGAGE (collectively, with the First Mortgage, the "Mortgages") was executed by Mortgagor as mortgagor and delivered to the Secretary as mortgagee, and was recorded on March 17, 2004 as Instrument # 2004 1482 in the Office of the Circuit Clerk and Ex Officio Recorder, Little River County, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, a default has been made in the covenants and conditions of the Mortgages in that each Mortgagor has died and the property secured by the Mortgages (the "Property") has ceased to be the principal residence of at least one surviving Mortgagor; and

WHEREAS, the entire amount delinquent as of September 20, 2019 is \$208,172.89; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of this default, the Secretary has declared the entire amount of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgages to be immediately due and payable;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to powers vested in me by the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. 3751 et seq., by 24 CFR part 27, subpart B, and by the Secretary's designation of me as Foreclosure Commissioner, recorded on December 9, 2019 with the Circuit Clerk and Ex Officio Recorder of Little River County, Arkansas as Instrument # 2019R001998, notice is hereby given that on **Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.** local time, all real and personal property at or used in connection with the following described premises ("Property") will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder:

BEING ALL OF LOTS ONE (1) AND TWO (2) IN BLOCK NUMBERED ELEVEN (11) OF TOWN & COUNTRY VILLAGE FOURTH ADDITION IN ASHDOWN, LITTLE RIVER COUNTY, ARKANSAS, A PART OF THE SE 1/4 NE 1/4 SECTION 33, TOWNSHIP 12 SOUTH, RANGE 29 WEST, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK #1 AT PAGE 99.. PARCEL NO: 070-02189-000 & 070-02190-000

Commonly known as: 2425 Wren St., Ashdown, AR 71822.

The sale will be held at the Little River County Courthouse, 351 N 2nd St, Ashdown, AR 71822.

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development will bid \$214,062.00.

There will be no proration of taxes, rents or other income or liabilities, except that the purchaser will pay, at or before closing, his prorata share of any real estate taxes that have been paid by the Secretary to the date of the foreclosure sale.

When making their bids, all bidders except the Secretary must submit a deposit totaling \$21,406.20 [10% of the Secretary's bid] in the form of a certified check or cashier's check made out to the Secretary of HUD. A deposit need not accompany each oral bid. If the successful bid is oral, a deposit of \$21,406.20 must be presented before the bidding is closed. The deposit is nonrefundable. The remainder of the purchase price must be delivered within 30 days of the sale or at such other time as the Secretary may determine for good cause shown, time being of the essence. This amount, like the bid deposits, must be delivered in the form of a certified or cashier's check. If the Secretary is the highest bidder, he need not pay the bid amount in cash. The successful bidder will pay all conveying fees, all real estate and other taxes that are due on or after the delivery date of the remainder of the payment and all other costs associated with the transfer of title. At the conclusion of the sale, the deposits of the unsuccessful bidders will be returned to them.

The Secretary may grant an extension of time within which to deliver the remainder of the payment. All extensions will be for 15-day increments for a fee of \$500.00, paid in advance. The extension fee shall be in the form of a certified or cashier's check made payable to the Secretary of HUD. If the high bidder closes the sale prior to the expiration of any extension period, the unused portion of the extension fee shall be applied toward the amount due.

If the high bidder is unable to close the sale within the required period, or within any extensions of time granted by the Secretary, the high bidder may be required to forfeit the cash deposit or, at the election of the foreclosure commissioner after consultation with the HUD representative, will be liable to HUD for any costs incurred as a result of such failure. The Commissioner may, at the direction of the HUD representative, offer the property to the second highest bidder for an amount equal to the highest price offered by that bidder.

There is no right of redemption, or right of possession based upon a right of redemption, in the mortgagor or others subsequent to a foreclosure completed pursuant to the Act. Therefore, the Foreclosure Commissioner will issue a Deed to the purchaser(s) upon receipt of the entire purchase price in accordance with the terms of the sale as provided herein. HUD does not guarantee that the property will be vacant.

The scheduled foreclosure sale shall be cancelled or adjourned if it is established, by documented written application of the mortgagor to the Foreclosure Commissioner not less than 3 days before the date of sale, or otherwise, that the default or defaults upon which the foreclosure is based did not exist at the time of service of this notice of default and foreclosure sale, or all amounts due under the mortgage agreement are tendered to the Foreclosure Commissioner, in the form of a certified or cashier's check payable to the Secretary of HUD, before public auction of the property is completed.

The amount that must be paid if the mortgage is to be reinstated prior to the scheduled sale is \$208,172.89 as of November 22, 2019, plus all other amounts that would be due under the mortgage agreement if payments under the mortgage had not been accelerated, advertising costs and postage expenses incurred in giving notice, mileage by the most reasonable road distance for posting notices and for the Foreclosure Commissioner's attendance at the sale, reasonable and customary costs incurred for title and lien record searches, the necessary out-of-pocket costs incurred by the Foreclosure Commissioner for recording documents, a commission for the Foreclosure Commissioner, and all other costs incurred in connection with the foreclosure prior to reinstatement.

Tender of payment by certified or cashier's check or application for cancellation of the foreclosure sale shall be submitted to the address of the Foreclosure Commissioner provided below.

Date: December 13, 2019

Foreclosure Commissioner

Chad L. Cumming Jr.

Gill Ragon Owen, P.A.

425 W. Capitol, Suite 3800

Little Rock, AR 72201

(501) 376-3800

(501) 372-3359 (fax)

(GRO: 26 - 28)

Five defendants receive trial dates

Trial dates were set for five defendants who pleaded not guilty, or not true, to felony charges Wednesday, Dec. 18, the regular day for criminal court in Howard County. On the bench was Judge Tom Cooper.

A probation revocation date was set Feb. 12, 2020, for Jose Casiano, 36, white male, Lockesburg, who is charged with failure to meet the terms of his probation on a 2017 conviction possession of meth or cocaine with purpose of delivery. He is represented by the public defender.

A not true plea was also given by Gary Damon, 65, white male, Nashville, who is charged with failure to meet the terms of his 2018 felony conviction for financial identity fraud. He has until Jan. 15 to decide upon an attorney.

A couple has identical dates for pretrial motions

and trials after pleading not guilty to charges of possession of controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. Amanda Willis, 55, white female, Nashville, and Christopher Willis, 55, white male, Hope, are both represented by the public defender. Pretrial motions will be heard March

Point of view

Floppportunity flosst

Flustered fleeing flee-ers flub flantastic floppportunity

JUST LIKE THAT! Another year has passed, and downtown Nashville STILL doesn't have a duly authorized, certified (and armed) J-Turn Traffic Law Enforcement Officer.

For (insert a number here) years I have tried courteously but in vain to get the mayor to take advantage of my offer of almost free service. I ask merely that he officially designate me for the position and publicly give me the oath of office so we could get a picture for the newspaper. I could easily issue enough tickets to pay for a modest salary.

In avoiding his duty, the mayor has used a familiar excuse -- "I'm working on the city budget for (insert a year here)." While he's fiddling away with that alleged budget, J-Turners are thumbing their noses at everyone in the area stretching from the railroad tracks all the way four blocks north to the Post Office stoplight -- before J-Turns disrupted this area it was called the Central Business District. Now it's Arkansas Badlands.

I'm sure that if me and other law officers could ever get a J-Turn terrorist into municipal court the judge would literally throw the book at him/her/it (I don't want to ignore transgender lawbreakers).

Just this last week I saw a massive dually diesel pickup pulling a horse-trailer make an illegal J-Turn and it blocked three lanes of Main Street plus four parking spaces. Well, maybe I exaggerate a tad.

But, enough of my exaggerations. Recall all that I have done:

• I've obtained, at my own expense, a closet full of 2X size camo uniforms -- winter and summer patterns and colors. I even got a standard set of pink Air Force camos to wear on National Women's Professional Volleyball Appreciation Day.

• I've repeatedly applied for, unsuccessfully, a concealed handgun permit from the Arkansas State Police because I think this position should be armed and ready to shoot wildly over the heads of fleeing J-Turn criminals whose thoughtless actions pose such a danger to the unsuspecting public.

• And I've filed an official complaint with the Office of Economic Opportunity that the Arkansas State Police concealed handgun permit mental examination requirement is a violation of my civil rights.

• I have practiced shouting "Stop, in the name of the law" too many times to count. I will admit that I sometimes get confused with Diana Ross and the Supremes and I shout "Stop, in the name of Love," which might make a flustered fleeing flee-er flee faster (say THAT three times fast).

I'm not even sworn-in yet and already I've had a great idea to enable our town's beloved Official J-Turn Enforcement Officer to serve his appreciative public even better. I would get a semi-truckload of filled sandbags from FEMA, and buy a deer stand at the next Arkansas Game & Fish Commission auction of confiscated stuff, and I would put the stand in the middle of downtown Nashville at the corner of Main and Howard in front of Ruth Steeley's insurance office where I would have a clear shot for two blocks in any direction. Long hours spent in the stand would be lonely, and I'm sure Ruth would have someone bring me an occasional cup of coffee and a low-cal donut.

I'll actually put the deer stand on the west side of Main because my experience has been that most illegal J-Turns occur in the afternoon when the drivers are probably looking forward to spending their welfare check in a long night of boot-scooting on the Oklahoma line. The sun would be at my back and it would be easier to get off a good shot.

Even better, I could mount some powerful searchlights on top of the deer stand so that I could shoot at those sneaky nighttime J-Turn violators. Who cares if the streets are empty of other traffic? That's not the point. It's the intent of the law that is important, here.

There's only a few cold, gray days left in 2019 if the city hopes to get a tax write-off for having a certified J-Turn Enforcement Officer. I say let's take every advantage we can get. There's no telling how many J-Turn tickets I could write between now and midnight of New Year's Eve.

Just remember my pledge: I will steal only what I need, and I will give warning tickets only to the hottest and most deserving female J-Turners whom I'm sure would use this as a learning experience and not brag about it to their girlfriends.

• --- • --- •

MY CHRISTMAS TRADITION. My late wife won our Christmas tree argument easily. She wanted 10 strings of lights; I wanted one.

Okay, I said quickly admitting defeat, "But you put up the lights and I'll take them down." That seemed fair enough to her. She covered the tree with strings of lights, grinning at the thought of me trying to untangle the 10 strings later.

A few days after Christmas she reminded me of my de-stringing duty.

So I got the scissors and started cutting the strings. "Wait," she said in a panic. "You're ruining the strings."

I agreed. Strings cost a dollar. My solution did not make her happy.

• --- • --- •

THINGS I LEARNED from reading (and believing) stuff on the Internet: The cruise liner, QE2, moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.

• --- • --- •

WORD GAMES. Twins: Alive and Well. I want to be like them.

• --- • --- •

HE SAID: "I once wanted to become an atheist, but I gave up - they have no holidays." Henny Youngman, comic

• --- • --- •

SHE SAID: "I read everything. I'll read a John Grisham novel, I'll sit and read a whole book of poems by Maya Angelou, or I'll just read some Mary Oliver - this is a book that was given to me for Christmas. No particular genre. And I read in French, and I read in German, and I read in English. I love to see how other people use language." Jessye Norman, African American opera singer

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SWEET DREAMS, Baby

Nashville News-Leader

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Legislators post 'productive year'

By Sen. Larry Teague

The Arkansas legislature had a very productive year in 2019. During the regular session lawmakers balanced the budget of state government while cutting taxes and reducing the number of state agencies.

Act 182 of 2019 is an income tax reduction that will save Arkansas taxpayers \$97 million a year when fully in effect. About 579,000 taxpayers, those with net taxable incomes greater than \$38,200, will see a reduction in their income taxes.

The act also simplifies the tax tables used for calculating your personal income taxes.

Act 808 of 2019 increases the homestead property tax credit by \$25, from \$350 to \$375. It will benefit more than 716,000 property owners by \$12.5 million a year.

Act 822 of 2019 lowers tax rates for businesses over the next few years. By 2023 it will save them \$40 million a year.

The act also extends a company's ability to carry forward net operating losses. The longer carry forward period will gradually extend to 10 years. Now it is five

years. When the new provisions are in full effect, the savings to Arkansas businesses will grow by an additional \$70 million a year.

Act 910 of 2019 restructured state government, reducing the number of cabinet-level agencies from 42 to 15. Savings resulting from more efficient operations of state government are estimated to be \$15 million.

The state collected more than \$7.1 billion last year in sales taxes, income taxes and special taxes on tobacco, alcohol and gambling.

The total available for services was about \$5.6 billion after the state made refunds and bond payments, and set aside \$360 million for the Educational Excellence and Educational Adequacy funds.

The legislature approved a highway program in two parts. Act 416 of 2019 levies a new wholesale sales tax on gasoline and diesel, which will result in an additional 3 cents a gallon on gas and 6 cents on diesel. The new state rate for gasoline will be 24.5 cents a gallon, and for diesel it will be 28.5 cents.

When fully in effect, in Fiscal Year 2021, this new wholesale sales tax will generate \$59 million a year

for state highway projects and \$12.6 million each a year for both cities and counties. Increases from one year to the next will be limited to 0.1 percent per gallon.

Also, \$35 million from new casino taxes will be transferred to state highway projects. The act increases annual registration fees on electric vehicles to \$200 and hybrid vehicles to \$100. This will generate \$1.9 million a year for state highway projects.

The other component of the highway program is Issue One, which the legislature referred to the November general election ballot.

If Arkansas voters approve Issue One, it would make permanent the half-cent sales tax for highway projects that voters approved in 2012.

It raised the state sales tax from 6 to 6.5 percent and originally was promoted as a temporary, 10-year tax. It took effect in 2013 and is scheduled to expire in 2023.

The half-cent will generate \$293.7 million a year. Cities and counties will each receive \$43 million, and the state Transportation Department will get the remaining \$205 million each year.

'Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus'

Eight-year-old Virginia O'Hanlon wrote a letter to the editor of New York's Sun, and the quick response was printed as an unsigned editorial Sept. 21, 1897. The work of veteran newsman Francis Pharcellus Church has since become history's most reprinted newspaper editorial, appearing in part or whole in dozens of languages in books, movies, and other editorials, and on posters and stamps.

DEAR EDITOR: I am 8 years old.

Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.

Papa says, 'If you see it in THE SUN it's so.'

Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?

VIRGINIA O'HANLON.

115 WEST NINETY-FIFTH STREET.

VIRGINIA, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Making gift returns and exchanges simple and less frustrating starts when buying the present.

An unknown and complicated return policy can spoil some of the holiday fun and hurt your pocketbook," said Attorney General Leslie Rutledge. "Arkansans should learn the return policy prior to attempting the return. Some retailers allow shoppers to make returns for any reason, which can lead consumers to wrongly believe they are entitled, by law, to a full refund or credit."

Rutledge released the following tips for gift recipients needing to make a return or exchange this holiday season:

Ask the giver about the store's return or exchange policy.

Keep all gift receipts.

If considering returning, do not



Virginia O'Hanlon

You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart.

Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, VIRGINIA, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, VIRGINIA, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

AG's office offers tips to help make gift returns, exchanges less trying

open the box or remove the tags.

Some online retailers allow purchases to be returned in store, while others require the item to be shipped back. Check with the company ahead of time.

As a gesture of goodwill, most companies offer in-store exchanges if the customer has the receipt and the item is promptly returned. However, others have an "all sales are final" policy for deeply discounted or clearance items and do not allow returns or exchanges. Some retailers only accept returns in exchange for store credit or gift cards, not cash. Return policies not only differ from store to store but can also differ for items purchased in store and items bought online or by mail-order.

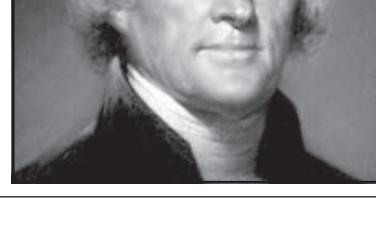
Some retailers that allow returns may charge restocking fees

for certain products. Consumers can sometimes pay a fee of 10 to 25 percent of the price of the item if the package is not in the condition in which it was purchased. Meanwhile, items like computer software, CDs, DVDs and Blue-Ray discs are not generally returnable after the seal has been broken.

Retailers are not required to accept at-will returns, and even in the case of a defective product, consumers may be required to contact the manufacturer. Sometimes retailers will require consumers to deal with the product manufacturer directly, rather than simply returning the item to the place of purchase.

The National Retail Federation estimates holiday spending to increase at least 3.8 percent to \$728 billion this year.

Merry Christmas from the News-Leader



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

Thomas Jefferson, 1787

Free press, free people

Letters policy

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

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

Person of Year 'remarkable'

By Brenda Blagg

Between the Lines

Selection of Greta Thunberg as TIME magazine's person of the year let the world know a little more about this remarkable teen activist.

The magazine profiled the young Swede, illustrating how her concern about climate change has grown, transforming the teenager into a spokesperson for her generation and for anyone concerned about the planet.

TIME called her ascent to global influence one of the "most unlikely and surely one of the swiftest" in history.

It has been that. Greta Thunberg is just 16, having become a world figure in little more than a year.

In August, 2018, she began a solitary protest outside the Swedish Parliament. She skipped school to hold that lonely vigil, her "School Strike for Climate."

Yet, her example has since helped spark a movement of millions of people around the globe to speak out about climate change.

"This is not fearmongering; this is science," TIME wrote, explaining the urgency that drives Thunberg to speak truth to power about the global warming that threatens the planet.

"She has offered a moral clarion call to those who are willing to act, and hurled shame on those who are not. She has persuaded leaders, from mayors to presidents, to make commitments where they had previously

fumbled."

Notably, she hasn't persuaded the U.S. president, who greeted her selection as TIME's person of the year by mocking her in a tweet. But she and those she has inspired to join her protests have influenced other leaders to refocus on the issue.

Listen to French President Emmanuel Macron:

"When you are a leader and every week you have young people demonstrating with such a message, you cannot remain neutral. They helped me change."

Sometimes, TIME wrote, the best way to change a mind "is to see the world through the eyes of a child."

The magazine quoted former Vice President Al Gore, who won the Nobel Peace Prize for his climate advocacy over decades, as saying this moment feels different as Thunberg and legions of other young people raise their voices.

"Throughout history, many great morally based movements have gained traction at the very moment when young people decided to make that movement their cause," Gore said.

What Thunberg is doing builds on the message that hundreds of thousands of scientists and activists around the globe have been spreading for many years.

Somehow, the voice of this otherwise ordinary teenager has pierced the public conscience.

Her story is meticulously detailed in the latest issue of TIME and is available

online at time.com. It is full of vignettes of this emerging leader and the message she preaches.

"I want you to panic," Thunberg told an audience of world leaders in Switzerland early this year. "I want you to feel the fear I feel every day. And then I want you to act."

It is that straightforward sense of responsibility that sets her apart from others.

Thunberg has been feeling the fear since she was much younger and learned in class of climate change and its effects, such as starving polar bears, extreme weather and flooding.

Her concerns triggered a deep depression for Thunberg, who has Asperger's syndrome. Her school strike got her out of her depression, she said, because she realized "there were things I could do to improve the situation."

She could not have imagined then just how much she could do — and has done at the tender age of 16.

Greta Thunberg is fittingly TIME's youngest person of the year, recognized for "sounding the alarm about humanity's predatory relationship with the only home we have, for bringing to a fragmented world a voice that transcends backgrounds and borders, for showing us all what it might look like when a new generation leads."

Brenda Blagg is a freelance columnist. E-mail comments or questions to brendajblagg@gmail.com.



News-Leader photo/PATSY YOUNG

TALKING TO SANTA. Santa Claus visits an excited child during the community breakfast and Toy Giveaway hosted by Lifeline Ministry Dec. 14. The event honors the late Cecil and Mary Harris, who were killed in an automobile accident a few hours after the 2012 giveaway.

Community breakfast features visit with Santa, toy giveaway

A fellowship hall full of excited boys and girls were treated to a breakfast and a visit with Santa, Saturday, Dec. 14.

Hosted by Rev. Marvin and First Lady Shelia Edwards, the members of Lifeline Ministry expressed God's love and peace during their annual community-wide breakfast, and each

child attending was given a toy and a jolly visit with Santa.

Members including Tra- vail Green, Corey Carthorne and Jeremy Lofton cooked a hearty breakfast of eggs, sausage, bacon and pancakes. Coordinators and serving as Santa's Elves were Latasha Flowers and Paula Alvarez.

Since Dec. 15, 2012 the event each year has been a posthumous honor for Cecil and Mary Harris, who were loved by the congregation.

The Toy Giveaway in 2012 was the last event visited by the couple before their tragic automobile death in Hope a few hours later. Family members of the couple were guests at the breakfast.

Center

Continued
from page 1A

with Graham to prepare the first sketch, which was sent to the facilities division.

"When they evaluate the project, we'll know if we qualify for the next cycle," Graham said. The approval process could take 10-12 months, meaning that work would begin about a year and a half to two years from now "if we qualify."

Graham said he will "make the argument that the Sixth Street Auditorium has seen better days. We want to move to high school" for a facility that possibly would include an auditorium with band hall and choir room attached.

In addition, "We'd like to seat half of our student body at once," in a building with at least 900 seats.

"Scrapper Arena has been a great site for a lot of school programs, but a fine arts center is more appropriate for Honor Society, plays,

band, choir, any program on the theater side of things," Graham said.

Estimates place the cost of a fine arts center alone at \$8 million, Graham said. "If we couple band, choir and a testing center, it would be about \$10-11 million. If we

receive partnership money, it's a no-brainer. If we're denied partnership funding, it's back to the people of Nashville. How important is a new fine arts center to them?"

Partnership funding currently covers from half to about 65 percent of construction costs, Graham said. If the district receives approval, "I think the school board will have a pretty easy decision. If not, we'll have to see."

Partnership funds can be used only for facilities, not other school expenses.

The actual footprint for the building is 20,000 to 22,200 square feet, Graham said. "Any facility added will be additional space."

The location has yet to be determined. "All long, I've thought between the arena

and the Scrapper Dome. If not, it could go on the old practice field. We'd have to build it up four feet to prevent flooding. That would be more expense. We would have to do a study to be sure we could build there. I think we can do it," Graham said.

In preparing the schematic, Graham said he and Boone "took two or three blueprints of fine arts centers that Architecture Plus has done and tried to get some ideas. I toured the facility at Mena. It has some similarities to what we want."

The district has undertaken a number of construction projects in recent years, all without a tax increase. Examples include Scrapper Stadium, new classrooms at high school, renovation of older high school classrooms, high school cafeteria, junior high library, junior high cafeteria, primary school classrooms.

"Obviously, the next facility the school needs to invest in is the fine arts center," Graham said. "There's a lot of interest. Our kids deserve the best facilities possible."



THE DRAWING. Killis Woodruff, 12, draws winning Christmas Bucks tickets from a bowl held by chamber executive director Mike Reese Friday morning during the chamber of commerce community Christmas coffee. Winners of \$100 each to be spent at the stores at which they registered were Gladys Brewer, Arlis Morphew, Jan Witherspoon, Brad Holland and Gail Sweeden.

Two and Three-Bedroom Apartments for Rent in Dierks, Arkansas

Howard County Housing Authority is now taking applications for two- bedroom and three-bedroom apartments for low-income families in Dierks, Arkansas.

Applications may be picked up at the Howard County Housing Authority office located at 1010 S. Pope Street, Nashville, Arkansas (off of Hope Hwy). Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily, Monday - Friday, closed on Wednesday afternoons.

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



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Sunset Church of Christ

NASHVILLE - ARKANSAS

"The eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God" (Acts 8:36-37).

Meeting Times

Sunday:

Worship @10:30 am & 6:00 pm

Bible Classes @ 9:30 am & 5:00 pm

Wednesday:

Bible Study @7:00 pm

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There is a transportation service available, call the church office to make arrangements.



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Pinnacle of Flavor

New UofA blackberry breed tames the wild

By Fred Miller

U of A System

Division of Agriculture

CLARKSVILLE, Ark. —

Ponca, a new blackberry variety from the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture, offers the pinnacle of flavor from one of the world's leading public blackberry breeding programs.

Ponca is the 20th blackberry from the fruit breeding program of the division's Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station, said John R. Clark, fruit breeder and Distinguished Professor of horticulture for the Division of Agriculture and the University of Arkansas' Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences.

"This is about as exciting as anything I've ever had my hands on," Clark said. "When I noticed how good Ponca tasted, I thought that if Ponca was someone's first blackberry, it would change their entire perception of what a blackberry is."

"It's our highest achievement for a sweet, enjoyable berry," he said.

Taming the Wild Berry

When the fruit breeding program was established by Dr. James N. Moore in 1964, Clark said, work on blackberries was aimed at taming a wild fruit. Moore wanted blackberries without thorns, and he began that effort by selecting and breeding for large berry size, plant growth traits, consistent berry production, disease resistance and other desirable agronomic traits.

By the time Moore retired and Clark took over the breeding program, Arkansas blackberries had developed from a wild berry that grew in tangled vines on the ground to cultivated crop plant with erect canes, increasingly reliable fruit production with large berries and improved resistance to common Arkansas plant diseases.

Moore's and Clark's collaboration also led to the first erect-caned thornless blackberry plants and the first steps toward something new — primocane-fruiting blackberries that flowered and fruited on first-year canes, extending the fruiting season to as late as frost.

With a solid foundation of domesticated and productive blackberry varieties and breeding lines established, Clark turned his attention toward improving flavor.

Native blackberries tended to be tart because of high acidity, Clark said, and the early varieties from the breeding program also

tended to be tart. It was the flavor most Arkansans were accustomed to and Moore preferred the tart flavor.

Finding the Sweet Spot

But Clark wanted a sweet-er berry and began breeding for reduced acidity, to reduce tartness, and increased sugars to improve sweetness. He also began to seek flavor traits that are a little more ephemeral — aromatics.

"Sweetness or tartness is the first thing you notice when you bite into a blackberry," Clark said. "But, as you chew, other fruity flavors begin to emerge. Those are the aromatic qualities."

Aromatics are a quality of fruit chemistry, Clark said, and they are harder to pin down because they are a product not only of genetics, but also of environment. He has found that Arkansas blackberries grown in other states and other countries often have flavor qualities he doesn't find at home.

And considering that Division of Agriculture blackberries are grown on every continent but Antarctica, Clark said, that's a broad range of flavor potentials.

Osage and Caddo blackberries were the first varieties to reflect that greater emphasis on sweetness, Clark said, and Ponca has raised the flavor bar to a new level.

Clark's opinion of Ponca's superb flavor is born out by both anecdotal and scientific evidence.

Berry growers, breeders and enthusiasts from across the United States and around the world regularly trek to the Division of Agriculture's Fruit Research Station north of Clarksville to see what Clark is up to. He relishes leading visitors through the rows of blackberry plants standing on the lush, rolling hills of the station, orating on the heredities, traits and characters of established blackberry varieties and advanced breeding lines.

And tasting. Visitors pluck the plump berries and get a mouthful of the results coming out of the Arkansas breeding program, and learn the names if they have them, or the number designations that identify advanced breeding lines that may be headed toward commercial release.

"I've had more people remember A-2538T (Ponca's breeding line designation) than any other to come out of the program," Clark said. "They remember that flavor."

Renee Threlfall, division research scientist in the department of food science, conducted a consumer

sensory analysis of Ponca, Caddo, Natchez, Osage, Ouachita and Prime-Ark® Traveler, all blackberries from the Division of Agriculture breeding program. The berries were evaluated by a panel of 81 consumers for shape, size, overall appearance and taste.

Every blackberry in the test ranked high for sweetness, overall flavor and overall impression, Threlfall said, and Ponca ranked highest overall.

The Particulars

Ponca is floricanе-fruiting, producing flowers and fruit on second-year canes, Clark said. It is thornless with erect canes. Berries average 6.8 grams, slightly larger than Osage and nearly the same as Ouachita. The berries' firmness is rated higher than Caddo and Osage and maintains firmness in rainy conditions.

First harvest, Clark said, is in early June at the Fruit Research Station, same as Natchez, two to four days before Caddo and Osage and seven days before Ouachita.

Clark said Ponca can produce a secondary bud crop that begins ripening 14 to 20 days after the first harvest of the primary crop, providing some recovery if cold injury occurs during spring freezes.

Postharvest storage potential has been comparable to Caddo, Ouachita and Osage, Clark said. Red drupelet reversion is low, similar to Osage and less than Natchez. Leakage from the berries was noted to be higher than other cultivars in some years, particularly when the berries are stored more than seven days. But its excellent sweet flavor is retained in storage, he said.

"Ponca plants have exhibited very good health with consistently healthy floricanе leaves," Clark said. "This contributes to its sweet flavor. It has shown to be disease-free, showing no orange rust or anthracnose and very limited cane or leaf rust in all our research trials."

Clark said winter hardiness has been comparable to Ouachita and has shown very little injury to a low of 1 degree Fahrenheit.

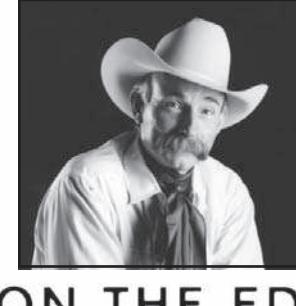
Ponca has an interesting growth habit that offers plant management advantages, Clark said. The primocanes of most blackberry varieties tend to grow taller than the floricanes, he said, and require "tipping" prior to or during harvest. The primocanes require tipping to control growth and create the hedgerow of canes.

The primocanes on Ponca have shortened internodes — the length of stem between the nodes where the leaves grow out. As a result, Clark said, the primocanes tend to not grow taller than the floricanes until after harvest. It allows growers to delay tipping the canes until after harvest is completed.

Availability

Ponca is available to licensed propagators now, Clark said. Non-exclusive licenses are available in the United States. For information, contact Cheryl Nimmo at 479-575-3953, or by email at cnimmo@uark.edu.

To learn more about Di-



BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

Testimony

Christmas is the most joyful of seasons for Believers...when publicly we are closest to God...birth of Christ.

It is also a time when we can open our hearts and remember the "second great commandment" as mentioned in Matthew 22:39, 'Love thy neighbor as thyself.' Sometimes that's hard to do.

Years ago I received a call from a close friend. He was excited because I was coming to his town to put on a cowboy poetry performance. I looked at my calendar and told him it was a mistake, I WAS NOT booked there on that date...in fact, I was booked somewhere else!

The next week he called back and said they were advertising my appearance. He sent me the newspaper promoting and selling tickets! I called the editor and explained that something was wrong. He argued with me, saying his "booking agent" had confirmed it just the day before. I said, "Somebody is scamming you. He plans to use me to draw a crowd, then tell everyone I was a 'no show', but will then say fortunately he has another group ready to take my place!"

I admit I threatened to sue him. Then I CALLED the scammer and offered to perform some surgical procedures on him that would make his voice higher.

Couple years later I got a call from a lady who lost her job because this same scammer advertised a popular performer and then the performer didn't show up. The local sponsor blamed her. I called her boss and explained she was a victim of his bait and switch. She got her job back.

Five years later the scammer sent an email out in a blanket mailing to the 'cowboy poetry world' accusing that I was no longer popular, my shows were vulgar, profane, I was a drunk, and that he himself was having to take my jobs. We received a truckload of messages from friends and fans cursing, angry, and condemning the scammer. I should have been mad.

However...by that time in my life I had made a personal commitment to the good Lord's direction, specifically: FORGIVENESS AND MERCY TO ALL WHO OFFEND.

I instructed my office not to say anything in response to any calls, emails or gossip. I suppose the scammer took a lot of heat...he wrote another email which was ignored. When the smoke cleared, I wrote him a card forgiving him. That his hate was only hurting himself and I could forgive him because I know the truth, he knows the truth and God knows the truth. And that is all that matters.

This Christmas, parts of our fellow Americans are floating in a sea of political hate. It personally harms the hater much more than the hated. It is like drinking poison and expecting the other person to die from it. Take the first step... Jesus forgave those who crucified Him.

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News-Leader photo/COURTESY OF FUMC

SINGING AWAY FOR THE HOLIDAYS. The students in Katie Keeton and Annie Washburns' classes at First United Methodist Church Mother's Day Out recently presented their annual Christmas program.

UA Cossatot academic honors

The University of Arkansas Cossatot Office of the Registrar has released the fall Chancellor's List and Vice Chancellor's List recognizing honor students.

Ninety-five students are named on the Chancellor's List maintaining a minimum of a 4.0 semester GPA while taking a minimum of 12 college credit hours. Ninety-nine students are named on the Vice Chancellor's List maintaining a minimum of a 3.5 semester GPA while taking a minimum of 12 college credit hours.

The UA Cossatot fall 2019 Chancellor's List includes the following:

nesto Bustamante, Juanisha Neal, Aaron Lott, Caleb Clayton, and Isabel Jamison

Newhope: Natalie Hengear

Umpire: Christopher Moore

Wickes: Sebastian Medina

The UA Cossatot fall 2019 Vice Chancellor's List includes the following:

Amity: Destany Bright, Hannah Davis, Eufemia Estrada, and Cullen Smith

Dierks: Morgan Allen, Eilian Hernandez, Caleb Deer, Blayn Turner, Aaron Kesterson, Walker Vallee

Glenwood: Sarrah Millette, Kaydra Fox, Kamryn Reid

Horatio: Denise Angeles, Matthew Chandler, Krystal Scott, Summer Morgan, Levi Nottingham, Eric Dickerson

and Alejandra Resendiz Kirby: Saydee Johnson and Elica Vasquez

Lockesburg: Blayne Buster, Kevin Walker, and Brittany Walker

McCaskill: Cameron Lane

Mineral Springs: Katelyn Hipp, William McAlister, Gustavo Perez, and Janey Juniel

Murfreesboro: Lakyn Roberts

Nashville: Zachary Backus, Jordan Boyer, John Hardin, Abbie Lamb, Kaillee Parker, Codie Jamison, Casey Parker, Gerson Perez, Elizabeth Rather, Oscar Luna, Brooklyn Anderson, Hannah Faulkner, and Kaitlyn McConnell

Ozan: Logan Harris

Saratoga: Ashley Jackson

Umpire: Haley Manasco

TO THE CITIZENS OF MURFREESBORO

We are blessed to live in a community as unique and compassionate as Murfreesboro. If you did not go to the Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce "Home Town Christmas" program, you missed a wonderful time with friends, live music, the lighting of the 25' Christmas Tree, Breakfast with Santa, our Christmas Parade, a visit with Santa and the wonderful food and discounts by our local businesses. The Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce, Murfreesboro Band, Kids Unlimited, live music with Jack Bonds, Ethan Pickett, Luke Cowart and Josh Roberts, all those who took time to decorate floats, cars, etc. to be involved in this year's parade are to be commended for organizing and creating the BEST "Home Town Christmas" Program ever.

It is rewarding to be the Mayor of Murfreesboro and see what can be accomplished when we all work together.

Sincerely,

Rodney Fagan
Mayor of Murfreesboro

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More Christmas Wishes

Nashville Primary School

Cynthia Bailey's Kindergarten

Marisela Aguilera -- Dear Santa, I have been very good this year. I would like a LOL doll, some new shoes, and a new case for my tablet. I will leave you some milk and cookies.

Arely Cruz -- Dear Santa, I have been kind of good this year. I would like a Barbie house, a tablet, and a phone for Christmas. I will try to leave some milk and cookies for you.

Douglas Gathright - Dear Santa, I have been a good boy this year. I would like some trucks and trains for Christmas. I will leave you some milk and cookies beside the tree.

Isabelle Jones - Dear Santa, I have been a good girl this year. I would like a Barbie doll, a REAL light brown puppy, and some pink playdoh. I will leave you some cookies and milk for your long trip.

Paris Jones -- Dear Santa, I have been really good this year. I would like a Barbie house, some LOL, and some new clothes for Christmas. I will leave you some cookies and milk.

Kaison Lewis -- Dear Santa, I have been good this year. For Christmas, I would like a phone because my tablet broke. I would also like a reindeer toy and some new clothes. I will leave you some cookies and coffee.

Jax McAdams -- Dear Santa, I have been very good this year. I would really like a nerf gun, a Nintendo Switch, and some coloring books and crayons to use. I will leave you some chocolate chip cookies.

Paisley Mobbis -- Dear Santa, I have been great this year! For Christmas, I would like a real guinea pig and a real hamster. Please bring a pen with NO holes so that our cat, Sugar, will not get them. I will leave you some chocolate cookies and warm milk.

Addalynn Morris -- Dear Santa, I have been really good this year. I would really like a new princess dress, a rainbow shirt, and some games to play. I will leave you some cookies and milk on Christmas Eve.

Olivia Mullins -- Dear Santa, I have been kind of good this year. I would really like a Baby Alive doll and a snuggly bear that has fake milk to feed it. It sleeps in a basket. I

would also like some bubbles to blow. I will leave you cookies and milk.

Olivia Nolen -- Dear Santa, I have been kind of good this year. I would really like a bird egg, a wolf toy, some black playdoh, and some letters to play with. I will leave you some vegetables and chocolate milk for your long trip.

Adrian Ortiz -- Dear Santa, I have been good this year. For Christmas, I would like a ninja, a dragon, and a toy wolf. I will leave milk and cookies for you.

Allison Reich -- Dear Santa, I have been super good this year. I would like some Barbie dolls, a Frozen book, and a toy puppy dog that has a leash and you can walk it. I will leave you a BBQ sandwich and some apple juice to drink.

Lexington Rogers -- Dear Santa, I have been super good this year. For Christmas this year, I would like a princess carriage that I can drive, a Barbie house, and some Barbies to play with. I will leave you some chocolate cookies and milk.

Jeramiyah Sorrells -- Dear Santa, I have been super good this year. I would really like an Iphone, a tablet, and a McDonald's gift card so that I can eat there whenever I want to. I will leave you some chocolate chip cookies and water because water is healthy.

Klair Stanley -- Dear Santa, I have been very good this year. For Christmas, I would like a gold ring, some pink lipstick, and a white fluffy unicorn. Will you bring my sisters a teething toy so that they can chew on it and maybe some learning toys? I will leave you some milk and chocolate chip cookies.

Emerson Thompson -- Dear Santa, I have been good this year. For Christmas, I would like a Barbie doll, a pink Barbie car, and a Barbie Dream house. I will try to leave you some cookies and milk. Merry Christmas!

Ian West -- Dear Santa, I have been a good boy this year. For Christmas, could you bring my dad a drum set and me a rocking guitar? I would also like a rocking, talking Santa that copies you when you say something to him. I want a yellow egg ball with Peppa Pig and an orange egg ball with Paw Patrol. I will leave you a cookie with a dot of cream on it and water to drink.

NHS splits with Bauxite

BAUXITE - The Nashville Scappers and Scrapperettes split a pair of District 7-4A games with Bauxite Thursday, Dec. 19.

The Scappers defeated the Miners 65-56, while the Scrapperettes fell 44-43.

Both Nashville teams are 1-1 in conference going into the Christmas break.

Devonte Witherspoon was the leading scorer for the Scappers with 22 points.

Cade McBride was next with 18 points. He hit 4 shots from 3-point range.

Bauxite led 18-11 after the first quarter, but Nashville went on top 25-24 at half-time and outscored the Miners 40-32 in the second half.

The Scrapperettes fell behind in the first half but pulled to within 1 point with

4.4 seconds left.

A missed shot at the end left Bauxite with the victory.

Honesty Taylor led Nashville with 10 points. Kyleigh Scoggins and Lauren Carver were next with 9 points each.

The Scrapperettes will compete in the Spa City Classic Dec. 26-28 at Bank OZK Arena in Hot Springs. Their first game will be Dec. 26 at 10 a.m. against Magnet Cove.

Each team in the tournament is guaranteed 3 games.

Both Nashville teams will participate in the Mineral Springs tournament Jan. 6-11.

They will return to conference play Dec. 7 at De Queen.

Three-Bedroom Apartments for Rent in Nashville, Arkansas

Howard County Housing Authority is now taking applications for three-bedroom apartments for low-income families in Nashville, Arkansas.

Applications may be picked up at the Howard County Housing Authority office located at 1010 S. Pope Street, Nashville, Arkansas (off of Hope Hwy). Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily, Monday - Friday, closed on Wednesday afternoons.

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



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And we will be closed on

Wednesday, Jan. 1st

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SPORTS LEADERS

Players of the Week as selected by The Leader sports department

Cade McBride, Nashville

Cade, a Scraper senior, scored 18 points in Nashville's 65-56 District 7-4A win over Bauxite Dec. 19. He hit 4 shots from 3-point range to help lead the Scrappers to victory.

This weekly feature sponsored by McDonald's of Nashville 845-2364 South Fourth Street



OTA GRADUATES. (Front) Leslie Rios, Alicia McCord, Meshalia Ruth, Kayle Helms, Denby Jester; (middle) Alexandra Bartholomew, Jill George, Anna Gatliff, Jennifer Neal, Lauren Steed, Loren Gills; (back) Tarnesa Ramnarine, John Simmons, and Mary McFadden.

College graduates 7th class of OTA students

The UA Cossatot OTA (Occupational Therapy Assistant) Pinning Ceremony took place at the UA Cossatot Bank of Lockesburg Gymnasium on Dec. 7. The ceremony took place as the seventh OTA graduating class received their OTA pins.

UAC Chancellor, Dr. Steve Cole, welcomed everyone at the start of the event. The OTA Program Academic Fieldwork Coordinator, Sharon Pool, introduced special guest speaker, Alisha Griffin, COTA, who graduated from UA Cossatot in 2015 from the college's OTA program. Mrs. Griffin now works as an OTA in Texarkana and serves

as an adjunct instructor for the UA Cossatot OTA Program. After congratulating the OTA Class of 2019, she encouraged the graduates to take their gifts, sense of humor, skills, and knowledge, and make a difference.

The 2019 OTA graduates are Alexandra Bartholomew, Anna Gatliff, Jill George, Loren Gills, Kayle Helms, Denby Jester, Mary McFadden, Alicia McCord, Jennifer Neal, Tarnesa Ramnarine, Leslie Rios, Meshalia Ruth, John Simmons, and Lauren Steed.

Students were recognized during the ceremony as honor graduates and for their community service as part

of the Student Occupational Therapy Association.

Both Anna Gatliff and Denby Jester received the Outstanding Student Award with Mary McFadden and Jill George receiving the award for Therapeutic Use of Self.

Additional awards were conferred to Jennifer Neal (Perfect Attendance Award), and Tarnesa Ramnarine (Professionalism and Excellence Award).

UA Cossatot's OTA Program begins in August of every year and ends the following December. The application deadline for the OTA program that will start in August of 2020 is March 1.



PROGRAM AT MES. These Murfreesboro Elementary School students recently participated in the school's annual Christmas program.

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2019 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 LT 4X4



MSRP **\$45,600**
YORK GARY DISCOUNT **-\$4,960**
CONSUMER CASH ¹ **-\$2,250**
GM INCREMENTAL CASH ² **-\$3,000**
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FIND NEW ROADS

By Jean A. Ince • Howard County Extension Agent-Staff Chair

Don't Forget Things to Make Gifts Work

We've all experienced it – that thrill of opening a gift on Christmas morning, only to discover that an essential part of making the gift work is missing – the batteries. Batteries are often the most omitted part of a gift and unfortunately the most important part. Here are some tips to help you and those you are buying for enjoy that special gift this year.

When you buy a gift, be sure to read the package thoroughly for information regarding batteries. If it says, "Requires 3 D cell batteries,"

included," you're usually in good shape. But if it says, "Requires 3 D cell batteries" or "batteries not included," you need to make sure to purchase some if you do not have them at home.

For toys, video components, cameras, or other items that require a large battery usage, consider purchasing rechargeable batteries. Rechargeable batteries not only protect the environment, they protect your pocket book. Even though the initial expense is a little more, the savings add up

over the long run. Rechargeable batteries will last a long time as long as you keep them charged.

If you do choose to buy rechargeable batteries, you will want to charge them before Christmas morning so they will be ready to go when the package is opened. This may require you to open the gift and remove the battery and charger and then repack the gift and wrap it. Digital cameras sometimes come with a charger and battery.

If the gift already comes

with a battery, it's also important to consider whether the battery is still in good shape. Many people stretch out holiday buying over the span of a year, and some items that were purchased after Christmas last year, may need to have the battery checked out before it is given this year. If you are unsure about the batteries, just purchase new ones.

When storing batteries, store them in a cool, dry place away from moisture and chemicals. Don't store batteries in toys or electron-

ics for extended periods of time. They'll corrode, ruining the battery and possibly the device.

Batteries aren't the only accessory you may need at Christmas. Many items related to computers and cameras require the proper connecting cords. These can include USB cords that attach cameras, printers, scanners and more to your computer. When you purchase an item, check with the salesperson to see if any of these items are needed. This listing may also be on the item's packaging.

You might also consider purchasing a SIM card for your digital camera. SIM cards allow you to take up to 1000 photos before downloading them to your computer or to print them. Most cameras only hold up to 12 shots before they must be downloaded or deleted. It doesn't take much time to use these shots up.

Utility scissors are another must-have for gifts. Many items come in security-wrapped packaging to prevent theft or damage at the store. They can be very difficult to open. Utility scissors make the job easier. Have a good pair handy when opening gifts.

Don't forget those large items either. Bicycles and furniture are just two of the items that require assembly. Many retail stores can assist you with this job. Ask when purchasing. If assembly is required you will need a basic tool kit to put the item together. Again, check the packaging to see what tools are needed.

Some gifts may need accessories. For instance, a doll is fun by itself, but it is so

much more exciting if you have a change of clothes. You might even consider adding other accessories such as a bed, high chair, etc. Action figures are good, but again, they are more fun if you have some accessories with them.

If you're looking for a way to present the extra items needed to make things go, consider adding them to a stocking. Items such as batteries, accessories, gift cards, and participation passes are great stocking stuffers.

Be sure to inspect each item you give this year closely before wrapping and make sure all the parts that are supposed to be included are on hand. By taking a few extra steps, you can avoid disappointment on Christmas morning.

I hope each and every one of you have a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year! The Howard County Extension Office will be closed December 23- January 1. We will reopen on January 2.

Recipe of the Week

Here's a great appetizer to serve to your guests before the big meal or when visiting with family and friends. Great for Christmas Eve snacks or watching football games!

Dried Beef Cheese Ball

2 (8 oz.) packages cream cheese, softened
1 teaspoon Accent
2 green onions, chopped
1 jar dried beef, chopped
1 small can black olives, chopped

Blend all ingredients together and chill overnight. Serve with assorted crackers.

*Note: I like to roll the cheese ball in 1/2 cup chopped pecans and then put it on the serving plate.



News-Leader photo/JOHN BALCH

ROLLING ON MAIN STREET. The Grinch was a popular character for many of the more than 30 entries in the annual Dierks Christmas Parade held Monday, Dec. 16. Float winners included Business-Lansdell Family Clinic; Church-Center Point Baptist; Civic-U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and School-Dierks High School Band.

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News-Leader photo/COURTESY OF DCC

DIERKS BANK HOSTS COFFEE. The Dierks Chamber of Commerce held a chamber coffee at First State Bank to coincide with their Customer Appreciation Day, Thursday, Dec. 19. The event was well attended (yet attempts to clear the tables of the various offerings provided by Kenya's was an epic failure). Those pictured are: Todd Moore, Kenya Quinn, Sheila Bearden, Diane Dove, Leah Pitchford, Kaitlin Kitchens, Monica Allen, Michelle Burk, Marc Jackson (aka Santa), Jaron Tipton, Jay Wisener, Laken Graham, Holly Cothren, Cotton Cothren, Shane Graham, Gary Golden and Keith Jones.

Holiday deer hunt Dec. 26-28

Deer hunters using modern guns have one more chance to collect on their scouting time and tag a trophy. The statewide modern gun holiday deer hunt is Dec. 26-28.

Established during the 1999-2000 deer season, the statewide holiday deer hunt was created to enable hunters another opportunity to get out and enjoy the outdoors and harvest deer while home for the holidays.

"A lot of hunters will receive hunting equipment for Christmas, and they want to put those items to use right away," said Ralph Meeker, Deer Program Coordinator for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. "There also are a lot of families and friends who only see each other during the holidays and this hunt enables them to continue their hunting traditions."

The holiday hunt is structured identically to the regular modern gun hunts with the exception that no dogs are allowed anywhere in the state. All deer taken during the hunt count toward a hunter's seasonal bag limit for the zone where they are hunting.

Some wildlife management areas and national wildlife refuges are closed to modern gun hunting during the hunt, but many will be open.

Also ahead is the second Youth Hunt, Jan. 4-5. This also is a statewide hunt with no dogs allowed.

"We don't see as much interest in the second youth hunt

as the first," Meeker said. "But there are still plenty of deer out there for young hunters to pursue and it gives them one last shot to use those new rifles they may have gotten at Christmas."

Hunters 6 to 15 years old can go after deer with modern guns, muzzleloaders or archery gear. Youths who have passed hunter education may hunt on their own. Youths who have not passed hunter education must be under the direct supervision of an adult who is 21 or older. The adult mentor may not carry a hunting weapon of their own during the hunt.

This year's extremely good mast crop has kept many deer deeper in the woods more than usual, which has not played in favor of hunters who have stayed on the stand in front of food plots or feeders.

"When the woods are full of acorns, the deer will absolutely focus on that food source as long as it is available," Meeker said. "However, some acorns have been on the ground for a while and have begun to rot, especially with all the wet weather we've had. This may cause deer to begin moving more during the late season and going back to food plots and feeders. You never know unless you're out there hunting."

Visit www.agfc.com/en/hunting/big-game/deer for more information on deer hunting in Arkansas.

AG&FC seeks public input on deer management plan revision

Biologists with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission are seeking public input on the current revision to Arkansas's White-tailed Deer Strategic Management Plan. This is the first review and revision of the plan since 2013.

The plan is reviewed every five to seven years to adapt to changing needs by developments in Arkansas's deer herd and available habitat.

2019 White-tailed Deer Strategic Management Plan "Obviously, the discovery of chronic wasting disease in Arkansas is a major factor that has changed Arkansas's deer management strategies since the last version of the plan," Ralph Meeker, AGFC Deer Program Coordinator, said during a presentation to the Commission about the revision. "We also have an upcoming review of our CWD management plan that focuses solely on that part of our deer management. However, this strategic plan takes a deep look at trends in harvest, biological, and observation data for each deer zone. From that we are able to draft regulation proposals intended to reach target deer densities."

The plan was drafted by the agency's deer program coordinator and assistant deer program coordinator with considerable input from the agency's Deer Management Team, a collection of biologists and enforcement personnel from every region of the state. Additional review was provided by Wildlife Management Division administra-

tion as well as representatives from the agency's Research, Evaluation, and Compliance Division and Communications Division before being submitted to the Commissioners for their review.

"A lot of work goes into the development of this plan. Once the nuts and bolts of the plan are in place, we try to get as much input from staff that work regularly with both deer and the public in order to ensure that we submit a quality document for public review. Once the public is able to submit their comments through the online survey, we will try and incorporate pertinent changes before the plan is presented to the Commission for final approval," Meeker said. "We try to be as transparent as possible about the plan, and we try to do what we can to adjust it to what the majority of our hunters want as long as it is something that makes sound biological sense. We do realize and appreciate that hunters are our biggest partner in the management of white-tailed deer in Arkansas."

The draft of the plan and a public comment survey are available at www.agfc.com/en/hunting/big-game/deer/2019-strategic-deer-management-plan/. Comments will be accepted until Jan. 20th. The Deer Management Team will then make needed revisions and submit the final draft to the Commission at its regularly scheduled February meeting.

Triple Trophy: Deer hunting's trifecta

With the annual white-tailed deer rut declining across most of the state, many hunters are beginning to trade in their deer rifles for duck guns, but there's still plenty of time left to claim a spot in Arkansas's deer hunting honor roll by completing the Triple Trophy Award.

Hunters who qualify for the Triple Trophy Award must, within a single annual deer season, take at least one deer by each of the three legal hunting methods: modern firearms, muzzleloader, and archery/crossbow tackle.

Qualifying hunters receive certificates suitable for fram-

ing and a patch to place on their hunting vest or jacket.

The program began in 1984 as primitive weapons seasons began to find popularity.

The goal was twofold — promote these new, expanded deer hunting opportunities available to Arkansas hunters, and begin to shift the AGFC's management and public perception of harvesting female deer.

Visit www.agfc.com/tripletrophy to learn more and apply.

Howard County District Court

Dec. 19, 2019

BF=Bond Forfeited

Howard County

Allmon, Michelle E., 29, Murfreesboro, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$715 owed

Carter, Charlie, 31, Nashville, guilty of speeding, fined \$250

Garner, Antonio L., 35, McCaskill, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,690 owed, committed to jail

Jones, Sharee Joeann, 30, Dierks, \$185 BF, expired vehicle tags/no vehicle tags

Martinez, David L., 23, Nashville, guilty of driving left of center, fined \$185; guilty of DWI32, fined \$1,660, sentenced to seven days in jail, license suspended and must complete outpatient program; guilty of driving on suspended license, fined \$410 and sentenced to 10 days in jail

Newton, Kenneth R., 53, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,045 owed; guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$345 and sentenced to 20 days in jail

O'Neal, Willie L., 75, Mineral Springs, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$680 owed

Trotter, Arlando J., 33, no address listed, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$2,185 owed

Whisenhunt, Aubri L., 18, Dierks, guilty of speeding, fined \$250

City of Nashville

Gastelum, Salvador, 34, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$505 owed, committed to jail; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245;

Hamilton, Odell, 51, Hope, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,685 owed

Hernandez, Noe, 18, Nashville, possession of marijuana, under advisement for six months, fined \$1,050

Jefferson, Justin, 30, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$360 owed; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245

Jones, Mary A., 40, Nashville, guilty of speeding, fined \$250; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245 and sentenced to community service

McBride, Robin, 20, Ashdown, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$345 and sentenced to two days in jail-community service; guilty of possession of marijuana, fined \$1,050 and license suspended for six months

Rivera, Cristian, 19, Mineral Springs, \$220 BF, careless or prohibited driving; \$195 BF, no driver's license

White, William, 54, Nashville, guilty of no vehicle license, fined \$185; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$345; guilty of fictitious vehicle license, fined \$245; guilty of failure to pay registration, fined \$210

Williams, Brandon J., 33, Nashville, guilty of driving

on suspended or revoked license, fined \$345 and sentenced to two days in jail-community service; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245

City of Dierks

Albaran Pedregal, Eduardo, 23, Alexander, \$225 BF, speeding

Ferguson, Mae D., 78, Dierks, \$220 BF, carless or prohibited driving; \$460 BF, endangering welfare of minor - second degree

Hall, Randy, 40, Wickes, \$345 BF, driving on suspended or revoked license

Whisenhunt, Aubri L., 18, Dierks, \$195 BF, running stop sign or light

City of Mineral Springs

Richard, Deangelo, 19, Ashdown, \$250 BF, speeding; \$245 BF, failure to appear

Trotter, Arlando J., 33, no address listed, guilty of reckless driving, fined \$345; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$265

Wesson, Adrian J., 34, Nashville, \$240 BF, speeding

Arkansas Game & Fish Commission

Athey, Bradley T., 42, De Queen, \$370 BF, hunting in WMA over bait

McCain, Andrew, 15, Nashville, \$370 BF, big game checking requirements

Miller, Gary L., 45, Mineral Springs, \$220 BF, hunter orange clothing requirements

Review Hearings

Howard County

Maxey, Wesley C., 29, West Monroe, La., guilty of non-payment of fines, \$2,190 owed, committed to jail

Sharp, James, 19, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$4,079 owed, committed to jail-suspended

City of Nashville

Martin, Leon, 53, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$205 owed

Okafor, Darlene, 55, Mineral Springs, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,255 owed

White, Xavier D., 19, Nashville, guilty of domestic battery in third degree, fined \$550

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New DNA testing denied in Sevier County murder case

The Arkansas Supreme Court recently that a death row inmate who was spared from execution two years ago is not entitled to new DNA testing of evidence that his attorneys say could exonerate him.

In a 5-2 ruling, justices upheld a lower court ruling denying convicted murderer Stacey Johnson's request for additional testing of evidence from the 1993 killing of Carol Heath of De Queen.

Johnson has been twice convicted of killing Carol Heath, including once when his trial was transferred to be heard by a Pike County jury.

Attorney General Leslie Rutledge said the ruling clears the way for Johnson's execution. A date has not been set and Arkansas currently doesn't have any lethal injection drugs.

"Carol's family has waited more than two decades to see justice, and it's time for Arkansas to hold Johnson accountable for his heinous crime," Rutledge said in a statement.

Johnson's attorneys argued that there were major limitations in DNA testing when Johnson was convicted of killing Heath. Among the 26 things they want tested are the rape kit and a towel that was found at the scene.

Justices, however, said the presence of another person's DNA on the evidence or Johnson's absence from it couldn't explain away other evidence linking him to the crime. That evidence included a cigarette butt with Johnson's saliva on it that was found in a bloody green shirt at the crime scene and Heath's daughter's testimony that she saw Johnson standing over her mother's

body with a knife in his hand.

"In sum, none of the evidence that might result from the proposed testing could advance Johnson's claim of actual innocence or raise a reasonable probability that he did not murder Carol Heath," Justice Shawn Womack wrote in the majority opinion.

One of the justices who disagreed said the testing would eliminate any doubt surrounding the case.

"The fact that we are instead rejecting that opportunity leaves me troubled. What are we so afraid of?" Justice Jo Hart wrote in a dissenting opinion.

Johnson was one of eight inmates Arkansas sought to execute over an 11-day period in 2017 before its supply of a lethal injection drug expired. Johnson and three other inmates were spared by the courts and Arkansas ultimately put the other four men to death.

Arkansas doesn't have any executions scheduled. The last of the state's lethal injection drugs expired in January and the state has not replaced them.

Officials with the Innocence Project, which has been representing Johnson, said they were disappointed by the ruling but would continue fighting in court for the additional testing.

"No one should be executed when DNA could prove innocence, especially in this case where potentially probative evidence from the crime scene has never even been submitted for DNA testing despite multiple requests," Innocence Project spokesman Juan Martinez said.



BUNDLED UP FOR PARADE. The Dierks High School Band participated in Monday's annual Christmas Parade and was the parade's top entry in the school division.



ON THE ROUTE. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' entry in the annual Dierks Christmas parade Monday was the top entry in the civic division.

2 felony cases filed against Glenwood man in Pike County

A Glenwood man had two separate felony cases opened against him last week in Pike County Circuit Court.

Cody Wayne Duggan, 23, was charged Dec. 19 with possession of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia in one case, and fleeing and two counts of first-degree battery in the other case.

The drug charges stem from an incident in November, 2019 when a special agent with the 9th West Judicial Drug Task Force was preparing to make a controlled purchase of methamphetamine through a confidential informant in the Glenwood area. When the agent went to search the informant's vehicle prior to the transaction, a passenger identified as Duggan, went

to the rear passenger side door and then walked away from the vehicle. The agent checked the area and found a glass smoking pipe that contained suspected drug residue.

The other charges against Duggan involve in an incident Dec. 8 when Duggan was driving a vehicle that the Glenwood Police Department was attempting to make contact with after it was observed by an abandoned building.

Duggan reportedly fled the area at a high rate of speed and lost control of the vehicle on North Clay Street. The vehicle left the roadway and struck a tree, critically injuring two of the vehicle's three passengers.

Arrest warrants for both cases against Duggan were issued Dec. 19.

A 19-year-old De Queen man has been arrested in Nashville and is expected to be charged with sexual assault, according to Police Chief Amy Marion.

Marion said on Dec. 2, a report was called in to the Child Abuse Hotline regarding an incident involving 17-year-old female victim. The complainant stated that the victim reported that she was in Nashville on Sept. 28, 2019 and was raped by 19-year-old Michael Sterling.

Investigator Tim Bowlin interviewed Sterling Dec. 18 at the Nashville Police Department. Sterling admitted to having sexual intercourse with the victim.

Sterling is being held at the Howard County Jail on second-degree sexual assault. There has been no bond set yet.

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News-Leader photo/JOHN BALCH

CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT MHS. The Murfreesboro High School Band and beginner band presented their annual Christmas concert last Wednesday night.

UA Cossatot announces fall graduates

The University of Arkansas Cossatot Office of the Registrar releases names of fall 2019 graduates and names of those graduating with honors.

Two hundred-fifty-seven students graduate with a certificate of proficiency, technical certificate, or associate degree. Some students earned multiple certificates and degrees allowing for 374 fall 2019 awards.

Twenty-four students graduate with Summa Cum Laude honors, meaning that they graduate with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.9 to 4.0. 14 students graduate with Magna Cum Laude honors meaning that they graduate with a cumulative GPA of 3.75 to 3.89. 16 students graduate with Cum Laude honors meaning that they graduate with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 to 3.74.

Students Graduating Fall 2019 with Summa Cum Laude Honors:

Victoria Alfaro Zapata of De Queen; Geovany Alvarez Cruz of Wickes; Sanjana Alvarez Hernandez of De Queen; Eduardo Benitez Jr. of De Queen; Jordan Boyer of Nashville; Rica Burns of Ashdown; Pablo Cardenas of Nashville; Bryan Carrillo of Horatio; Lizeth Chavelo of Nashville; Tessa Ewing of Glenwood; Kaydra Fox of Glenwood; Karen Fuller of Broken Bow; Anna Gatliif of Ashdown; Jill George of Hot Springs; Loren Gills of Nashville; Denby Jester of Ashdown; Gregory Linville of Idabel; Alicia McCord of Texarkana; Kianna McElroy of Nashville; Ethan Mitchell of Amity; Lindsey O'Donnell of Mineral Springs; Jammy Reese of Mineral Springs; Alberto Sandoval of Horatio; and Ali Whisenhunt of De Queen

Students Graduating Fall 2019 with Magna Cum Laude Honors:

Morgan Allen of Dierks; Alexandra Bartholomew of Idabel; Michael Bevill of Nashville; Brent Craver of Ganns; Hannah Davis of Amity; Kayle Helms of

Lockesburg; Martha Johnson of Foreman; Colby Markham of Amity; Mary McFadden of Doddridge; Jennifer Neal of Texarkana; Leslie Rios Gonzalez of De Queen; Amanda Saxby of Fouke; Jesus Wences of De Queen; and D.C. Young of Nashville

Students Graduating Fall 2019 with Cum Laude Honors:

Angela Calderon of De Queen; Katelyn Cowling of Foreman; Caleb Deer of Dierks; Brittany Fallecker of Winthrop; Jarrah Furr of De Queen; Alejandro Hernandez of De Queen; Aracely Hernandez of De Queen; Joshua Lingo of Murfreesboro; Perri Lowrey of Dierks; Loretta McClaughlin of Nashville; Sarah Millette of Glenwood; Casey Parker of Nashville; Tarnes Ramnarine of Ogden; Laura Rivera of Hope; Meshalia Ruth of De Queen; and John Simmons of Texarkana

UA Cossatot Students Graduating Fall 2019 Include (listed with highest degree(s) earned):

Amity: Hannah Davis, Technical Certificate: General Studies; Jordan Estrada, Certificate of Proficiency: MIG and SMAW Welding; John Hanney, Certificate of Proficiency: Diesel Engines and Diesel Brakes; Brianna Hill, Technical Certificate: General Studies; Colby Markham, Technical Certificate: General Studies; Ethan Mitchell, Technical Certificate: General Studies; and Sean Palavicini, Certificate of Proficiency: SMAW Welding

Ben Lomond: Jake Day, Certificate of Proficiency: Fluid Power

Blevins: Kristen Buck, Associate of Applied Science: Registered Nursing

Cove: Silas Barrett, Associate of Science: Psychology; and Dayton Ralls, Certificate of Proficiency: Fluid Power

Delight: Amy Campbell, Certificate of Proficiency: Child Development; and Linda Whisenhunt, Certificate of Proficiency: Child Development

Fouke: Amanda Saxby, Technical Certificate: Medi-

cal Assisting; and Debbie Teague, Associate of Applied Science: Registered Nursing

Gillham: Zachary Birmingham, Certificate of Proficiency: Fluid Power and Industrial Motors and Controllers; Casey Hill, Certificate of Proficiency: MIG Welding; Candice Hoagland, Associate of Applied Science: Business Management; Hadley Philamlee, Associate of Science: Agri Business; Jose Rios, Certificate of Proficiency: Industrial Motors and Controllers and Mechanical Devices; and Sydney Sneed, Technical Certificate: Health Professions

Glenwood: Tessa Ewing, Technical Certificate: Cosmetology; Kaydra Fox, Technical Certificate: General Studies, and Sarah Millette, Technical Certificate: General Studies

Grannis: Joslyn Frachisseur, Associate of General Studies; and Juan Trinidad, Technical Certificate: Business Management

Hope: Yudid Gallardo, Technical Certificate: Cosmetology; and Laura Rivera, Technical Certificate: Health Professions

Kirby: Payden Turner, Technical Certificate: General Studies

Lockesburg: Brittany Bennett, Associate of Applied Science: General Technology; Corazon Balderas, Associate of Applied Science: General Technology; Julie Blackwell, Technical Certificate: General Studies; Matthew Brewer, Certificate of Proficiency: MIG Welding and SMAW Welding; Blayne Buster, Certificate of Proficiency: Fluid Power

Murfreesboro: Austin Baker, Certificate of Proficiency: SMAW Welding; Richard Branch, Certificate of Proficiency: Emergency Medical Technician; Chad Cox, Certificate of Proficiency: SMAW Welding; and Joshua Lingo, Technical Certificate: Welding

Nashville: Rachel Barfield, Associate of General Studies; Michael Bevill, Associate of Applied Science: General Technology; Jordan Boyer, Associate of Applied Science: General Technology; Ernesto Bustamante, Certificate of Proficiency: Diesel Brakes and Diesel Engines; Pablo Cardenas, Technical Certificate: Welding; Lizeth Chavelo, Associate of Science: Teaching K-6; Caleb Clayton, Certificate of Proficiency: SMAW Weld-

ing; Kevin Conant, Associate of General Studies; Christian Davis, Technical Certificate: Pipe Welding; Haley Davis, Technical Certificate: General Studies; Armando Fraire, Certificate of Proficiency: MIG Welding; Loren Gills, Associate of Applied Science: Occupational Therapy Assistant; Zorayda Guerrero, Technical Certificate: Business Management; Emily Jamison, Technical Certificate: General Studies; Oscar Luna, Associate of Applied Science: General Technology; Samuel Maroon III, Certificate of Proficiency: Diesel Brakes and Diesel Engines; Kianna McElroy, Technical Certificate: Cosmetology; Loretta McLaughlin, Associate of Science: Teaching K-6; Fabian Mercado, Certificate of Proficiency: SMAW Welding; Juanisha Neal, Associate of Applied Science: General Technology; Casey Parker, Technical Certificate: General Studies; Alec Pettigrew, Certificate of Proficiency: Industrial Motors and Controllers; Laisa Ramirez, Associate of Arts: Jace Reid, Certificate of Proficiency: Fluid Power; Chloe Scoggins, Associate of General Studies; Trey Scott, Associate of Arts and Associate of General Studies; Cynthia Spoo, Associate of Applied Science: Accounting; Patricia Stevens, Associate of Applied Science: Registered Nursing; William Turley, Certificate of Proficiency: SMAW Welding; Brianna Upton, Certificate of Proficiency: SMAW Weld-

ing; Hadyn Whisenhunt, Certificate of Proficiency: Industrial Motors and Controllers; Ty Williams, Certificate of Proficiency: Fluid Power; and D.C. Young, Technical Certificate: Pipe Welding

Newhope: Karley Stapp, Certificate of Proficiency: Accounting; Marlee Stapp, Technical Certificate: Health Professions, and Grant Strasner, Certificate of Proficiency: Medical Devices

Umpire: Christopher Moore, Certificate of Proficiency: Industrial Motors and Controllers

Washington: Aaron McBride, Certificate of Proficiency: SMAW Welding

Wickes: Goevany Alvarez Cruz, Technical Certificate: Welding; Sebastian Medina, Certificate of Proficiency: SMAW Welding; and Elizabeth Richardson, Technical Certificate: Health Professions

UAH-T offering CPR certification

The University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana (UAHT) Cardiac Training Center will now offer CPR Certification classes throughout January. Courses will alternate between Basic Life Support classes for healthcare providers and Heartsaver First Aid CPR AED classes for the general public.

For more information or to register, contact Cassidy Wyrick-Collins at (870) 722-8162 or cassidy.wcollins@uaht.edu

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given by the City of Mineral Springs, Arkansas (the "City") that the City proposes to issue its Water and Sewer Refunding and Improvement Revenue Bonds (the "Bonds") in the maximum principal amount of \$900,000 for the purpose of financing all or a portion of the costs of refunding a Lease-Purchase Agreement (Bond No. 96B08) with the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (formerly the Arkansas Soil and Water Conservation Commission) ("ANRC") and a Lease-Purchase Agreement (Bond No. 97A06) with ANRC and acquiring, constructing and equipping betterments and improvements to the water facilities of the City's water and sewer system (the "System"). The Bonds will be secured by and payable from revenues of the System. A public hearing concerning the proposed issuance of the Bonds will be held by the Mayor and members of the City Council at 5:00 p.m. on the 13th day of January, 2020, at the regular meeting place of the Council, 310 E. Runnels Street, Mineral Springs, Arkansas. At the public hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed issuance of the Bonds.

This 25th day of December, 2019.

/s/ Steve Dixon

Mayor

(CMS: 26)

Murfreesboro Kindergarten

Letters to Santa

Mrs. Maag's
Kindergarten

Dear Santa Claus,
My name is Easton. I am 6 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year, I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a toy rocket launcher, a remote-control police helicopter with armour and a remote-control monster truck with an engine scoop like fast and furious. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Easton
Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Izzy. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year, I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me an Elsa baby doll, Elsa play makeup and Jo-Jo stuff. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Izzy

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Ally. I am 7 years old. I live in Pike City. This year, I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a new LOL, a hatchimal and an OMG doll. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Ally

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Jr. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year, I have been really good. I would like it if you could bring me a remote-control racing car, remote control helicopter, and a remote-control monster

truck. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Jr.

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Brenlie. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year, I have been really good. I would like it if you could bring me 3 hatchimals, a dog, and Barbie styling head. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Brenlie

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Gracie. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year, I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me white shirts with fabric markers, a camera and Mia and Me make up clothes. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Gracie

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Braylee. I am 6 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year, I have been really happy and good. I would really like it if you could bring me a big LOL, a huge Polly pocket and a blender for my shakes. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Braylee

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Connor. I am 5 years old. I live in Arkansas. This year, I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a hot wheel set, some hot wheels cars and hot wheels racer. Thank you and Merry

Christmas!

Love, Connor

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is J. I am 6 years old. I live in Pisgah. This year, I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a blue dirt bike that goes fast, a big red dump truck not a yellow one like Kizers and a treehouse to put in a real tree but not a girl one. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, J

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Tilden. I am 6 years old. I live between Murfreesboro and Nashville. This year, I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a real basketball, a red mouthpiece for football and black and white football gloves. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Tilden

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Sadie. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year, I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me an Elsa tower, new makeup and a pink and black camera. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Sadie

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Eli. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year, I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a big remote-control car, a tractor and some Legos. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Eli

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Jaxon. I am 6 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year, I have been really good. I would really

like it if you could bring me a Mario Kart rc, a couch for my room and Luigi's mansion3 for switch. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Jaxon

Dear Santa Claus,

My name Cayden. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year, I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a blaster, a Minecraft stuffy and a Lucky Duck game. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Cayden

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Cade. I am 6 years old. I live in Delight. This year, I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me an Xbox one, dojo battle and rc car. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Cade

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Khloee. I am 6 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year, I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a phone, littlest pet shop and Lion King characters. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Khloee

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Armando. I am 6 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year, I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me Five Nights of Freddy, some dinosaurs and some new transformers. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Armando

**Mrs. Cindy's
Kindergarten**

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Leigha. I am 5 years old. I live in

Billstown. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a Baby Alive, some cute clothes and shoes and a big girl Barbie bike. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Leigha

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Ares. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a Hermit Crab, the Jurassic World Snap Squad and a Buzz Lightyear band for Disney World. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Ares

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Jase. I am 6 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a Nintendo Switch, some hot wheel cars and Speed Thomas. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Jase

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Graham. I am 5 years old. I live in Antioche. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a Mickey Mouse clubhouse, a Peppa Pig house and a Buzzlight year. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Graham

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Tobias. I am 5 years old. I live in Arkansas. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a Toy T-rex, a stuffy Snowgreen (my made up Pokemon) and a really cute puppy stuffed ani-

mal. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Tobias

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Gage. I am 6 years old. I live in Arkansas. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me the Toy Union Pacific, a toy life guard helicopter and a nintendo. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Gage

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Jacey. I am 6 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me Ariel tennis shoes, a barbie doll and some books. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Jacey

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Parker. I am 6 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a big lol doll, a lol house and Barbie furniture. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Parker

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Adley. I am 6 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a Cozy Dozy, a boy doll and a Scruff-a-luv. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Adley

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Hope. I am 7 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a phone, LOL stuff, and a

Continued Next Page

ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY!

DIERKS CHURCH
OF CHRIST

meets at 308 Main St., Dierks

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Sunday: 9:30 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday: 6:00 p.m.

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email - churchofchrist308@windstream.net

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MT. CARMEL UMC

1st & 3rd Sunday each month -

2nd & 4th @ Hwy 371E.

SS 10 a.m., Worship 11:30 a.m.

Lockesburg

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Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Evening Worship 5:30 p.m.

Pastors: Lankford & Mary Alice Moore

You are invited to worship with us at...

Center Point

Missionary

Baptist Church

211 Church St. • Center Point

Pastor: Jaron Tipton

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Evening Service 5:00 p.m.

EBENEZER UMC

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Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

Wed. Bible Study 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

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Brent Thompson, Pastor

www.myimmanuel.com

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Worship (KMTB-fm) - 10:55 a.m.

Worship - 6:00 p.m.

Youth - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday: AWANA - 5:30 p.m.

Bible Study - 6:00 p.m.

Youth - 6:30 p.m.

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Pastor Don Jones

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Community Oriented & Christ Centered

Murfreesboro Kindergarten Continued

kitten. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Hope

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Miya. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a Princess Ariel lunchbox, an American doll and an articulating doll. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Miya

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Brooklynn. I am 6 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a Paw Patrol coloring book, a Barbie house with cars and Barbies and a new watch like Pawpaw gave me. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Brooklynn

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Camie. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me some Barbie dolls, a Barbie Dream house and some cute clothes. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Camie

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Alivia. I am 6 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a big walking doll, a bike and a cooking set. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Alivia

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is John. I am 6 years old. I live in Delight. This year I have been really good.

I would really like it if you could bring me a wrestling ring, 8 WWE super stars and a bicycle. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, John

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Sadie. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would like it if you could bring me a Buzz Lightyear, a Barbie fairy and a new pet dragon. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Sadie

Mrs. Pat's Kindergarten
Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Rylee. I am 6 years old. I live in Billstown. This year I have been really good. I would like it if you could bring me a baby stroller, a smart watch and surprise me! Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Rylee

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Layla. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a hatchimal, sloth stuffed animals and a baby puppy. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Layla

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Hunter. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a fire truck, a guitar and boots. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Hunter

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Austin. I am 6 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a train and track, a race car track and earbuds with MP3 player. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Austin

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Damion. I am 6 years old. I live in Delight. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me Woody from Toy Story, Jessie from Toy Story and a Barbie fairy. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Damion

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Austin. I am 6 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a train and track, a race car track and earbuds with MP3 player. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Austin

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Braylin. I am 6 years old. I live in Delight. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me some Paw Patrol toys, minecraft pajamas and an xbox one. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Braylin

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Charlotte. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a Barbie Dream house and some cute clothes. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Charlotte

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Ellie. I am 6 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a Barbie Dream house, a new kitten and something for my sisters. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Ellie

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Lily. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a taco pillow, a rainbow necklace and a little rainbow purse. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Lily

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Cassidy. I am 6 years old. I live in Bingen. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a scooter, a swimming pool and a doll house with some dolls. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Cassidy

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Tristen. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would like it if you could bring me a Power Bull Dozer, a Big New Holland Tractor and a Paw Pa-

trol Look out Tower. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Tristen

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Kora. I am 6 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a unicorn, a Barbie doll and a vampirina doll. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Kora

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Justine. I am 5 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me Woody from Toy Story, Jessie from Toy Story and a Barbie fairy. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Justine

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Stella. I am 6 years old. I live in Murfreesboro. This year I have been really good. I would like it if you could bring me a kitten, a robot servant and a turtle big enough to ride. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me some new ear rings, a Santa doll and a vampirina doll. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Stella

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Josiah. I am 5 years old. I live in Okolona. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a Buzz Light Year Potato Head, some Legos and a big Teddy Bear. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Josiah

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Addy. I am 6 years old. I live in Nathan. This year I have been really good. I would really like it if you could bring me a kitten, a robot servant and a turtle big enough to ride. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Addy

Pike County holiday closings, trash routes

The Pike County Courthouse and associated offices will be closed for the upcoming holidays on the following days:

Christmas -- Noon on Dec. 23 through Dec. 25

New Years -- Noon on Dec. 31 through Jan. 1

On the week of Christmas, sanitation collection will be normal on Monday, Dec. 23.

For the south end of Pike County, residents normally getting pickup on Tuesdays and Wednesdays will have collection on Thursday, Dec. 26. Thursday residents will be picked up on Friday, Dec. 27.

For the week of New Years Day, Monday and Tuesday will have normal schedule, while Wednesday and Thursday will be one day behind.

The City of Murfreesboro offices will be closed from noon on Monday, Dec. 23 through Wednesday, Dec. 25 for the Christmas Holiday.

The city sanitation department will be off on Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 24-25.

Tuesday and Wednesday normal sanitation schedule will be collected on Thursday, Dec. 26, and Thursday and Friday will be collected on Friday, Dec. 27.

The city office will then close on Wednesday, Jan. 1 in observance of New Year's Day.

That week Monday and Tuesday's routes will be run as normal, with Wednesday and Thursday's route run on Thursday, Jan. 2. Friday will resume the normal collection schedule.

Happy New Year, everyone!

Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com

It's a great time for new beginnings.

Happy New Year!

Let's Celebrate!

New Year's Day is a wonderful time. This first day of January and of the new year is a time to remember the past, to celebrate, and to hope for a happy, healthy future.

In the U.S., some people have parties or attend church services at midnight. Others go to Times Square in New York City to listen to music, enjoy the crowds and wait for the magical stroke of midnight.

In other countries people exchange gifts or open their homes to neighbors or visitors. Many people honor parents or relatives and try to pay all their debts so they will not owe anything at the start of the new year.

New Year's Day is a time to think back – and ahead!

Read the clues to fill in the crossword:

1. hollow, metal objects that ring when struck
2. beginning, for the first time
3. pleasing sounds made by voices or instruments
4. to call on or stay with someone
5. present, something given
6. chart of the months, weeks and days of the year
7. promise or decision
8. raise glasses to drink in honor of a person or thing
9. aged, time gone by
10. people getting together to have a good time
11. to honor or praise something
12. instrument, makes a loud noise
13. condition of your body and mind
14. twelve o'clock at night
15. first month of the year

Midnight Fun! It's New Year's Eve! Help Star find her way to the clock and then to the fireworks!

New Year's Search Everyone's having fun! Can you find and circle the "New Year" words below in the puzzle?

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

visits future parade memories Father Time Baby New Year

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We couldn't fit everyone's name on our list, but we hope you all know how very deeply we appreciate your goodwill and support.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas!

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Nashville News-Leader Classifieds

BUSINESS SERVICES

WINDSHIELDS! WINDSHIELDS! CALL WINDSHIELDS PLUS. REPAIRS OR REPLACEMENTS ON ALL AUTOMOBILES OR SEMI TRUCKS. 870-451-4349. (tf)

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

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Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 202 W. Howard St. Mon., Wed. & Fri. 8 a.m. Melissa 870-200-5437, Chad 430-200-7150.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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

WILLIE TRIMBLE

Plaintiff,

VS. 31DR-19-167

KENYA C. TRIMBLE (A/K/A JOHNSON)

Defendant,

WARNING ORDER

TO: KENYA C. TRIMBLE (A/K/A JOHNSON)

You are hereby notified that Willie Trimble, Plaintiff, whose Attorney is Aaron R. Brasel of Brasel Law Firm, PLLC, whose address is Post Office Box 813, Nashville, Arkansas, 71852, has filed a Complaint herein against you, a copy of which Complaint and Summons shall be delivered to you, or to your attorney upon request. You are also notified that you must appear and defend by filing your answer or other responsive pleading within thirty (30) days of the date of the first publication of this Warning Order; in the event of your failure to do so, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint as circumscribed by the laws of this State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal as Clerk of the Court on this 17th day of December 2019.

Howard County Circuit Clerk
Angie Lewis
(AB: 26, 27)

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winning
Nashville
News-Leader



*Wishing our Friends and Family
a Joyous Holiday filled with
Peace, Love, and Prosperity.
Best Wishes for a Healthy
New Year!*

Merry Christmas



from Dean, DeAnn, Debbie, Andy, Allan,
Christie and Carol

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Carol Murray, Principal Broker
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PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS
PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM K.
STRAWN, DECEASED
NO. 31PR-19-65

Last known address: 607 W Oak St Nashville, AR
71852-4423

Date of death: September 16, 2018

William K. Strawn died without a will, intestate. On 11/4/2019, an affidavit for collection of small estate by distributee was filed with respect to the estate of William K. Strawn, deceased, with the Clerk of the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Howard County, Arkansas.

Legal Description of Real Property: 2022 Highway 27 N, Nashville, AR 71852

All persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, properly verified, within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in the estate.

This notice first published the 12th day of December, 2019.

Jason Strawn
Son of deceased William K. Strawn
(936) 404-1050

211 Hummingbird Lane

Lufkin, TX 75904

(pd. 26, 27)

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Season's Greetings

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VIN: 5LMEU68H45ZJ33203

1994 CHEVROLET CAVALIER
VIN: 1G1JC1443R7332753

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Musicians present Christmas concert

News-Leader photos/JOHN R. SCHIRMER



The Nashville High School band directed by Daniel Dunn plays during its portion of the Christmas concert Tuesday, Dec. 17, at Scrapper Arena. The concert was presented by the music department at high school and junior high.



Nariah Jordan performs with the Nashville High School band Dec. 17.



Nashville Junior High School band members perform during the Christmas concert Dec. 17 at Scrapper Arena.



Daniel Dunn directs the NHS band.



Director Alex Goff accompanies the junior high and high school choir at last week's program of Christmas music in Scrapper Arena.

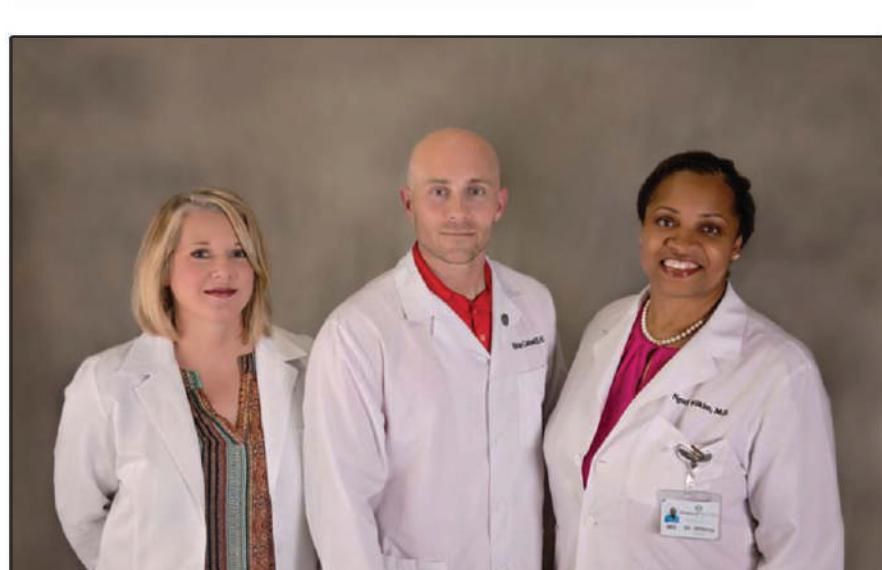


Junior high and high school choir members sing Tuesday, Dec. 17, during the band and choir holiday concert.



Beginning band members present their songs at the holiday concert held Dec. 17 in Scrapper Arena.

Nashville band and choir program Tuesday, Dec. 17, Scrapper Arena



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This **DOES NOT** mean you are losing your Primary Care Provider (PCP); this is so your urgent needs can be met same day.

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