

Leader Board

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OPINION | 4A

Thanks offered by survivor of lung cancer.



Mrs. Claus gives last-minute tips for shoppers, 8B.

Courthouse access rules changed by Covid cases

Because there are several cases of Covid-19 among courthouse staff members, Howard County Judge Kevin Smith has changed access rules to courthouse offices.

Beginning last Thursday doors are still open at the courthouse, but persons wishing to visit any of the offices must call ahead to be admitted.

The courthouse phone number is 845-7500 and the caller may select which office is to be visited. The staff there will open the door for admission.

Cross Point live Nativity to be held Dec. 18-19

Cross Point Cowboy Church will present a Live Nativity Friday, Dec. 18, and Saturday, Dec. 19.

The event will be held from 6-8 p.m. both days.

The church is located at 2740 Highway 371 West, seven miles west of Nashville.

The public is invited to attend.

Holiday schedule planned at St. Martin's

The holiday mass schedule for St. Martin's Catholic Church in Nashville includes the following:

Christmas Eve -- 5:30 p.m., bi-lingual.

Christmas Day -- noon, bi-lingual.

New Years Day -- noon, bi-lingual.

Rev. Salvador Vega is pastor of St. Martin's.

Inside the News-Leader

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Event at courtroom honors retiring judge

By Louie Graves
News-Leader staff

With portraits of two of his predecessors looking on, Wednesday, Dec. 9, Judge Charles Yeargan was saluted here in one of his four "farewell tour" retirement events in the judicial district's courtrooms.

After a morning of regular courtroom duties, the veteran judge shared cookies with other lawyers in his chambers, then joined a small but appreciative crowd of about 20 in the courtroom for the farewell.

Serving as a master of ceremonies for the event was Judge Tom Cooper

who acknowledged that he was originally called the "junior judge" to Judge Yeargan's seniority. "Now I'll be senior judge, and Bryan [incoming-Judge Bryan Chesshir] will be junior," Judge Cooper said humorously.

A video of congratulatory testimonies from courthouse personnel, fellow judges, and the lawyers who labored before his "bench" was presented. Included in the video were some still photos of the travels of the judge and his wife, Nashville

See **Judge** • Page 6B



News-Leader photo/LOUIE GRAVES

RETIRING JUDGE HONORED. Judge Charles Yeargan and his wife, Nashville native Donna Kay Steel Yeargan, stand with the judge's portrait, which was unveiled during a retirement event Dec. 9 at the Howard County Courthouse.



News-Leader photo/LOUIE GRAVES

AWARD 'FLOAT' IN CHRISTMAS PARADE. Annette Brown and Kids Dental Center gave away 500 children's toothbrushes and also won the second place award in Nashville's reverse Christmas parade Saturday night.

City holds reverse parade

A long, line of cars circled the Nashville City Park in a reverse Christmas parade, Saturday, Dec. 12. The route through the park was lighted and decorated.

Local floats vied for votes which were cast by the motorists, and at the end of the loop, Santa Claus and Nashville Chamber of Commerce directors handed out goody bags to the cars.

Parks and Recreation Director Mark Dale estimated that a thousand cars drove thru.

One of the floats, Kids Dental Center, gave away 500 tooth-

brushes.

Static 'float' entries were from Southwest Arkansas Landfill, Special Moments on Main, Nashville Junior Auxiliary, Poblano's Mexican Restaurant and Kids Dental Center.

Float winners were Poblano's, first place; Kids Dental Center, second; and Special Moments, third.

The floats decided that the best decorated passing vehicle was Mark McCammack.

On hand for the parade were fire departments from Nashville and Dierks.

Fireman of the Year named at Nashville

Covid-19 prevented the Nashville Fire Department from having its annual Christmas party for firemen, families and retired firefighters. However, firemen were acknowledged with awards in a gathering Dec. 8.

Chosen by his peers as Fireman of the Year was Zachary Miller who joined the department in May of 2019. The recipient is selected by one, spontaneous ballot in which the firemen vote for the fireman who has done an excep-

tional job throughout the year.

"Firefighter of the Year is the highest award given at our ceremony," Fire Marshal Justin Thornton said. "Zachary takes his job as firefighter very seriously and continues to train to make himself better. He is an asset to this department and the citizens of Nashville."

Other awards included the following:

See **Award** • Page 5A



FIREFIGHTER HONORED. Zachary Miller (right) accepts the Fireman of the Year Award from Fire Marshal Justin Thornton.

Covid-19 vaccine expected to arrive shortly at HMH

Howard Memorial Hospital's first shipment of Covid-19 vaccine should arrive this week, according to Chief Executive Officer Debra Wright.

Arkansas began receiving the two-dose vaccine Monday, and it is being distributed around the state.

HMH is "anticipating shipment for phase one this week, which is designated for healthcare workers who are at a high risk of exposure to Covid-19," Wright said Monday afternoon.

See **Vaccine** • Page 5A

School cases of coronavirus go up this week

By John R. Schirmer
News-Leader staff

After going for weeks with low Covid-19 cases, the Nashville School District has seen a big jump in the numbers since Dec. 7, according to Superintendent Doug Graham.

There were 16 positive cases among students as of Monday afternoon, Dec. 14, Graham said. One week earlier, there were none.

Sixty-six students are quarantined for close contacts, Graham said. One week ago, there were 51

See **School** • Page 5A



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

FIRST DAY OF SUMMER ACTIVITIES. Coach Mike Volarich watches his team June 1, the first day of "limited summer activities" authorized by the Arkansas Department of Health and the Arkansas Activities Association in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

Playing during a pandemic

Scrapppers cope with challenges in unique season

Note: The recently completed Scrapper football season presented a number of challenges for coaches, players and fans as games were played in the midst of a pandemic. From the cancellation of off-season through lengthy open dates, the team found ways to overcome adversity, win the District 7-4A championship and advance to the state quarterfinals for the third time in three years. Today, the News-Leader begins a two-part look at the season, starting in March and continuing until the first game. Next week will feature a week-by-week review of the Scrapppers' 12 games.

By John R. Schirmer
News-Leader staff

It truly was a season like no other.

From March through most of the summer, no one even knew if the Nashville Scrapppers and other teams around the state would play because of the coronavirus pandemic. When the first game came and went, there was uncertainty each week about whether the

See **Season** • Page 10A



Obituaries

Rev. John Wendell Gilbert

Rev. John Wendell Gilbert, 78, of Dierks, died Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2020, in Little Rock.

He was born Oct. 27, 1942, in Dierks, the son of the late Robert Wendell and Marie Louis Eudy Gilbert.

He was a logger and minister for more than 40 years. He was a lifelong member of the Mt. Carmel Baptist Church near Dierks where he was a pastor for more than 25 years. He was a U.S. Army veteran.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Lee Von Gilbert.

He is survived by: his wife of 59 years, Jenice Pulliam Gilbert; three sons, Ronald Gilert and wife, Kim, Jimmy Gilbert and wife, Lana, and Johnny Dean Gilbert and wife, Betty, all of Dierks; four brothers, Larry Gilbert and Richard Gilbert of Lockesburg, and Ronnie Gilbert and Dwayne Gilbert of Dierks; a sister, Mary "Missy" Shepherd of Dierks; also grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, 2020, at Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church with Gary Welch and Archie Phillips officiating. Burial followed at Sunshine Cemetery in Dierks, under the direction of Wilkerson Funeral Home.

Online at wilkersonfuneralhomes.com.



Mary Frances Holt

Mary Frances was born in Nashville, Ark., Sept. 12, 1939, and died Dec. 6, 2020.

She was the daughter of Granville and Laura Tolle-son Sharp.

Mary became a Christian in 1955 when Milton Peebles, minister, baptized her in Briar Creek during a gospel meeting at the Nathan Church of Christ.

After graduating from Nashville High School in 1957, Mary moved to Dallas, Texas, where she was employed by Sears Roebuck & Company.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by her husband Edward "Bill" Murry Holt; two brothers, James R. Sharp and Ralph Brewer; two sisters, Marie Fryer, and Mary Jo Reed.

Mary married Edward Murry Holt on Aug. 3rd, 1963, in Dallas, Texas. She is the mother of two sons, James Edward Holt and

wife Kristi of Kaufman, Texas; and John Alan Holt of Grand Prairie, Texas. She has a granddaughter, Evelyn Loren Holt, and three sisters Martha Rose Taylor and husband Bill of Nashville, Ark., Carolyn Green of Henderson, Texas, and Inez Sanders of El Reno, Okla.

Visitation will be 10 a.m. until service time Saturday, Dec. 12, at Latimer Funeral Home in Nashville.

Funeral services will be 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, with burial to follow in Corinth Cemetery, under the direction of Latimer Funeral Home in Nashville.



Rebecca 'Becky' Lay

Rebecca Lay (Becky), age 73, of Little Rock, went to be with her Lord Dec. 11, 2020. Becky was born Dec. 10, 1947, in Nashville, Ark., where she grew up surrounded by loving parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. She is preceded in death by her parents, Bill and Hazel Lay of Nashville. The granddaughter of C.A. and Beulah Reeves and Augustus and Essie Lay.

Becky graduated from Nashville High School in 1965 as an honor graduate. She attended St. Vincent Infirmary School of Nursing, where she graduated in January 1969 as a RN. After she worked at St. Vincent for several years, Becky attended school to become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. She practiced anesthesia at Baptist Medical Center in Little Rock for 31 years, until she retired in October 2006.

She was very active in her church (Faith United Methodist Church) for years, having served on Finance, Trustees, Catering, Memorial and the Administrative Board.

Becky was preceded in death by her companion, Lynn Hammack.

She is survived by her family: niece, Diana (Lorraine) Smith of Montgomery Texas, nephew, Mark (Toni) Warr of San Antonio Texas, niece, Melinda (John) Purcell of Alvin, Texas, several cousins, many friends and great nieces and nephew.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Faith United Methodist Church, 9820 W. Markham, Little Rock, Arkansas 72205.

"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us." Romans 8:18.

Funeral service will be

held 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, 2020, at Roller-Chenal Funeral Home Chapel, 13801 Chenal Parkway, Little Rock, AR 72211. Burial to follow at Forrest Hills Memorial Park, Alexander, AR. Family will receive friends at the service.

We are complying with the Arkansas Department of Health guidelines and limiting indoor funeral and visitation attendance to 50 people at one time. All attendees must provide and wear their own masks before entering.

To sign the online guest book, please visit www.rollerfuneralhomes.com/chenal.



Robert Theodore Runge

Robert Theodore Runge of Hurst, Texas, passed away peacefully in his sleep at his family's home of 43 years on December 10th, 2020. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Vivian Jean Young, and his four beloved children Tina Governale, Tonya Runge, Terry Rhoads and Tony Bodine. He was a grandfather to Tyler, Cody, Jimmy and Laney and a great-grandfather to Cason.

Robert was born April 12, 1928, the first of three sons of Rose and Theodore Runge, in Mankato, Minn., where he attended Mankato High School. He joined the United States Navy in 1946 and served 10 years with Honorable Discharge after serving as an Aviation Electronic Technician in the Korean War. Thereafter, he attended Christian Brothers College in Memphis, Tenn., where he received a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, graduating with high honors in 1960. He immediately accepted a job offer with Baldwin Electronics (BEI Electronics) bringing him to Little Rock, Ark. He held numerous positions of prestige in his 35-year tenure, including Research & Development Engineer, Defense Products Division Manager, finally serving as Director of Quality Assurance. He also, during that time, entered Graduate studies and taught Physics at University of Arkansas, Little Rock. Robert would make Arkansas home for 17 years where he met the love of his life, marrying March 11 of 1967. "Jean" and "Bob" then started the beautiful family that, today and always, celebrate him. In 1977 BEI asked him to head up a

new Defense Systems Division and the family moved to Hurst, Texas, the same house that they enjoyed a life rich in memories and happiness for the rest of his life. The home he provided for, over 40 years, would be a place where he enjoyed a great pride in fatherhood as his children built their character, found absolute comfort and grew into adults that will eternally carry and evolve his great legacy. Robert was highly active in community, serving as a member of the Hurst-Eules-Bedford Chamber of Commerce and formerly as a member of the City of Jacksonville, AR Planning Commission. He was deeply committed and involved with the Lutheran Church, having served as Chairman of the Board of Education for Immanuel Lutheran, North Richland Hills. He was amazingly intelligent, both handsome and cute, had a profound love for both chocolate and cherry pie, loved to talk, travel, read and problem solve. Robert was deeply loving - a sweet and gentle friend, father and husband that possessed such a brilliant heart and jovial spirit, making life with him special and joyful for all. He surely rests in peace and deservedly so, as soon shall those in grieving, that were so fortunate to have been blessed in knowing him.

A private family memorial will be planned in the coming year. In lieu of flowers, please donate to St. Jude's Children's Hospital. http://giftfunds.stjude.org/Robert_Runge.



Edwin Dale Carlyle, Jr.

Edwin Dale Carlyle, Jr. of Nashville went to be with the Lord on Sunday, Dec. 13, 2020, at home with his family by his side. He was 66 years of age.

"Mr. Ed" was born on March 27, 1954 in San Antonio, Texas, the son of Edwin Dale Carlyle, Sr., and Veronica (Roni) Carlyle.

He loved to hunt and fish, watch cooking shows, shop at flea markets, and take numerous trips to Wal-Mart. He thoroughly enjoyed playing card games and participating in joker night at his church. His favorite hobby was building birdhouses like his dad. Being Papa to his grandsons was one of his greatest gifts.

He is survived by his loving wife of 38 years, Judy Carlyle of Nashville, daughter Allison Reckman (husband Jeff) of Rogers Ark., son Jarred Carlyle of Dal-

las, Texas, two grandsons, Hayes and Tate Reckman; his mother, Veronica (Roni) Carlyle of Bossier City, La.; two brothers, John Carlyle of Tyler, Texas, Joe Carlyle of Bossier City, La.; two sisters, Cathy Lape of Bossier City, La., Karen Matthews of Plain Dealing, La., and a host of in-laws, nieces, nephews and a very close friend/brother, Lyle Cooley. Mr. Carlyle is preceded in death by his father, Edwin Dale Carlyle Sr.

A celebration of his life is planned for the summer. Memorials may be made to the American Kidney Fund, 11921 Rockville Pike Suite 300, Rockville, MD 20852.



Tom Jones

Tom Jones, age 72 of Murfreesboro, Ark., passed away on Dec. 2, 2020, in Hot Springs. He was born Aug. 27, 1948, to the late Harold Jones, Sr. and Harvie Sue Darby Jones.

Mr. Jones was a member of First Baptist Church in Murfreesboro. He was a coach and worked as a title abstractor and insurance salesman.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Billy Jones.

Survivors include: his wife, Mary Jones; a son,

Davey Jones and wife Melissa; a daughter, Catherine McKnight and husband Tracy; five grandchildren, Hannah and Cole McKnight and Grady, Josey and Rhett Jones; his sister, Debbie Jones Goolsby as well as a host of other family and friends.

A memorial service will be 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2020, at First Baptist Church in Murfreesboro. Graveside will follow in the Murfreesboro Cemetery under the direction of Latimer Funeral Home in Murfreesboro.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Brick House Youth Group at First Baptist Church in Murfreesboro or The Brotherhood at First Baptist Church in Murfreesboro.

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

Blanche Crow

Blanche Crow, 96, of Daisy, died Saturday, Dec. 12, 2020.

She was born Jan. 23, 1924, in Daisy, the daughter of the late Charlie A. Tedder and Annie Florence Shannon Tedder.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Astor Crow; her sister, Erma Jones; and her brothers, Herbert Tedder and Edgar Tedder.

Survivors include: two sons, Kenneth Crow of Daisy and John Crow of Benton; also grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, 2020, in the Mount Joy Free Will Baptist Church with Bro. Raymond Dees officiating.

Visitation will be Saturday, 4-6 p.m. at Davis-Smith Funeral Home, Glenwood.

Burial will be in the Mount Joy Cemetery.



FIREFIGHTER RECOGNITION. Nashville Fire Marshal Justin Thornton presented a 25-year service pin and retirement recognition plaque to Hayden Worthington, left, during the recent awards event of the Nashville Fire Department.

CARD OF THANKS

No words could ever express our appreciation for the love and support you have extended to us after the passing of our loved one, Almar Dwayne Stone.

The loving sympathy you have shown to us during this most difficult period of sadness is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to Latimer Funeral Home for assisting us with the arrangements during this most difficult time. The professionalism shown to us by your staff was amazing. Thank you to Brother David Blase. The eulogy you delivered was beautiful. Thank you to our church ladies for the abundance of food that was prepared and served to us after the service. What a Blessing! You went way above and beyond on the generous meal. Thank you to the ones who sent flowers and plants to the service. Each one was beautiful and we appreciate your thoughtfulness. Thank you to those who attended the funeral service. Your presence meant a lot to us. Thank you for each and every card, phone call, text message and e-mail. Most of all, thank you for the many prayers that were sent up for us and our loved one. They were definitely felt and they blessed us with peace and comfort.

Sincere Thanks and God Bless You All,
The Family of Dwayne Stone
Gloria Stone
Susan and David Goss and Family
Steven and Christie Stone and Family
Shannan and Jimmy Friend and Family

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The Nashville News-Leader

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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



Blake and Drew Keaster, sons of former Nashville residents Billy and Lyn Keaster, wait for Santa Dec. 22, 1988.

123 years ago: October 1897

Lovers of good music in Nashville enjoyed the Herrmann concert last Friday and Saturday nights. Prof. Herrmann is certainly an artist with the bow and can get more different sounds out of a violin than any man ever heard. The entertainment was most enjoyable. The proceeds were \$52.25 of which the Shaver Rifles got half.

(Adv.) The Howard County Nurseries, two miles west of Nashville, has a large stock of selected fruit trees which will be sold at prices 25 percent less than the usual agent's prices. Address; Howard County Nurseries, Nashville Arkansas and mention the *News*.

117 years ago: Dec. 1903

The new Masonic Hall located over the post office at the corner of Main and Clark Streets was dedicated last evening.

(Adv.) We want 50,000 mole skins. Will pay from 5 to 10 cents each. Davis and Thomas

88 years ago: December, 1932

Parent-Teacher Association at Mt. Carmel, 9 miles south of Dierks, will have its first meeting Friday at which time a talk will be given by T. C. Crisp, a reading by Austen Lipscomb and a song by Earnestine Evans and Austen Lipscomb.

Tom Dyer of Pump

Springs Community died last Monday morning at the home of Lee Halbrook, a neighbor where he was helping to kill hogs. His death was result of a stroke of apoplexy. Funeral services were held at Mt. Pleasant Tuesday afternoon conducted by Rev. Grady Bean. Mr. Dyer was one of the best-known farmers of this section and a man who always took a leading part in things for the betterment of the community and country.

66 years ago: November, 1954

Dierks Lumber and Coal Company, prominent manufacturer of Southern pine and hard wood, has changed its corporate name to Dierks Forestry Inc. The new name was adopted to more accurately describe the company's current operations.

King Ranklin, who has done lots of exploration work and map making on

his own, says there will be considerable drilling around Nashville and that there is definitely a field. Buffalo Kesterson at Dierks is helping to ramp up development of barite deposits in his vicinity.

37 years ago: December 1983

The EHC Christmas Tour of Homes is scheduled from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Advance tickets are \$2 and are on sale at the EH office, Nashville Drug and Town and Country. Tickets will be \$2.50 at the door. Five homes and the EH House will be featured.

The Tour of Homes will include homes of Sherry and Karon Baxley, Jackie and J.C. Dyer, Bobbie and Charles Fatheree, Wilma Pearson and Willy Alice Castleberry.

Notice: Christmas Open House at Rita's Flower Land. Saturday from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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Public Record of Howard County

Items issued, filed or recorded in the Howard County, Ark., courthouse during the period of Dec. 2-9, 2020 include the following:

Marriage Licenses
Dec. 3. Miguel Michael Sykes, 38, Nashville, and Renetta Dianne Crisp, 36, Nashville.

Dec. 9. Kevin Donald Rodgers, 27, Nashville, and Destiny Ky Taylor, 24, Nashville.

Civil Court
CV20-87, Dec. 4. Westlake Services, LLC, vs. Shamara L. Benson. Civil.

Domestic Relations Court
DR20-173, Dec. 4. Daniel Jackson vs. Cynthia Jackson. Divorce.

DR20-174, Dec. 4. Tonya Hamilton vs. William Hamilton. Order of protection.

Criminal Court
CR20-95, Dec. 8. State of Arkansas vs. Natori Murray, 25, black male, 1444 Hempstead 27S., Ozan; felon in possession of firearm, class

D felony.
CR20-96, Dec. 8. State of Arkansas vs. Londell Trotter, 57, black male, 30 Yukon, Nashville; possession of controlled substance, class D felony.

Land Transactions
Quitclaim Deeds
Dec. 4. Jerry Moore, et al; to John Harold Moore, et al; Lots 45 thru 10, Block 25, Town of Dierks.

Dec. 7. Timmie Evelyn Jordan, et al; to Robin Cheatham, aka Robin Gale Jordan; Lots 5-6, Block 1. SRE&DC Addition, town of Nashville with life estate reserved.

Mortgagee's Deed
Dec. 4. Timothy D. Padgett, P.A.; to USA, Rural Housing Service; at foreclosure auction, Lots 30 thru 34, Block 5, R. L. Hayes Addition, Town of Nashville. \$51,500.

Trustee's Deed
Dec. 4. (Corrected) Lynn English, Successor Trustee of Boyce L. Cearley; to Lindsay

English; properties in S22 and S23 T10S R28W.

Warranty Deeds
Dec. 3. Maria Reyna Gallegos and Maria Celsa Padilla; to Luis A. Navarette and wife, Andrea Navarette; a lot in the town of Nashville, S26 T9S R27W. \$30,000.

Dec. 4. (Correcting legal description) Collette Y. Taylor; to Rickie McFadden; 1.68 ac. in S9 T11S R27W. \$9,000.

Dec. 8. Rhonda McCarley LaVail, fka Rhonda McCarley, Trustee of William Doyle McCarley and Joan Crume McCarley Revocable Living Trust; to Rhonda F. McCarley LaVail; properties in S17, S18 and S20 T7S R30W.

Dec. 9. Wildbur D. Jones and wife, Hollie M. Jones; to Michael Bradley Lowrey; 2.14 ac in S7 T8S R28W. \$170,000.

Dec. 9. (Correction) William M. Langston and wife, B. Carolyn Langston; to L O Ranch, LLC; aggregate 101.95 ac. in S12 and S21 T11S R27W. \$52,282.

Six defendants receive sentences or trial dates

Trial dates were set, or sentences given, to six defendants last Wednesday, Dec. 9, the regular day for criminal court in Howard County.

On the bench was Judge Charles Yeagan in possibly his last appearance as one of the district's regular criminal court judges.

He is retiring in January (see article in this issue of the newspaper).

By order of the Arkansas Supreme Court, there are to be no new jury trials until after mid-January 2021 due to COVID precautions.

After many continuances, a date for pretrial motions was set for John Krieger, 77, white male, Nashville, charged with second degree sexual assault. The motions will be heard Jan. 13, and a date of Jan. 25 was set for the trial.

A defendant who had gotten a trial delay so she could undergo drug screening was found unqualified for drug court. Melissa Dawn Carroll, 44, white female, Ozan, is charged with two drug felonies. Now she faces trial on the charges. Pretrial motions are set for Feb. 3.

Juliann Boone, 40, white female, Nashville, pleaded guilty to two counts of possession of controlled substances. She was fined \$1,000 and her five-year sentence to the Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC) is deferred upon successful completion of drug court.

Lloyd Tyler Smith, 20, white male, Mineral Springs, pleaded no contest to felony charges of breaking or entering, and firearm theft. He was sentenced to six years in the ADC to run concurrently with a sentence from Little

River County.

A five-year term in the ADC was pronounced for Gyasi Lutalo Benson, 22, black male, Little Rock who faced five felony charges here. He was given a five-year sentence on each count, to be served concurrently. His charges included aggravated assault; simultaneous possession of drugs and firearms; possession of controlled substance with purpose of delivery; and felon in possession of firearm.

A guilty plea was also given by Christopher Tyrone Edwards, 31, black male, Mineral Springs who was charged with fleeing and possession of controlled substance. He was sentenced to four years in the ADC plus two years suspended. He was also sentenced to a year in the ADC on a probation revocation.

Sweeden Inc. Retirement Auction
527 West Main Street
Murfreesboro, AR 71958
Saturday, December 19th at 10:00 a.m.

After 43 years in business, Glen and Susie Sweeden are retiring and selling all remaining inventory. Todd Morris Auction Co. has been commissioned to sell at public auction the following items:

New Equipment: Modern 60" rear blade, Modern 72" Blade, 2-New Holland 110TL Workmaster Loaders w/ buckets, New Holland 260TLA Loader w/ bucket, Durabilt HC12 8 wheel v-rake, New Canopy
Used Equipment: 2005 New Holland BR740 Rd. Baler, 2003 New Holland BR750 Rd. Baler, 2007 New Holland BR7060 Rd. Baler-completely gone through, 2009 New Holland BR 7070 Rd. Baler-completely gone through, 2008 Vicon 835T mower-conditioner(Nice), 1988 Ford 3910 Tractor, 2009 New Holland Boomer 8N Tractor w/250TL loader and bucket, used canopy, 2-bottom breaking plows, Priefert squeeze chute on wheels, Creep feeder on wheels, Collection of Adult & Youth Hesston 1976-2003 belt Buckles, Ford Battery sign, Vicon sign, Bush Hog sign, toys, Hesston hat pins, lapel pins, key chains & money clips from various years, 22 Ft. Cargo Trailer, 6 Ft Bushhog, Kawasaki Mule, Case 985 Tractor, Kyoto LK 3054 Tractor, International 584 Tractor
Parts: Vicon hay mower parts, Tedder parts & tines, Misc. sprayer parts, Misc. hydraulic pipe fittings, pillow block bearings, disc harrow bearings, Misc. engine parts for Ford & Massey Ferguson, Bio Diesel treatment, safety glasses, rain caps, block heaters & hose heaters, Misc. seal kits, New alternators & starters for Ford & New Holland tractors, New water pumps, New blade for Bush hog & other brands, Field cultivator springs/tiller springs, rake teeth, tractor wheels, new boxes of Hesston baler belts, bearing & housings, New Holland Paint, new draw bars, new drive shafts, New Holland hydraulic lines, sidewinder & wood cutter parts, belts, hydraulic hoses, roll of 1.5" square suction line, New Holland belts, New Holland & John Deere mufflers, New Holland fuel tanks, hay baler bars, New Holland driveline baler covers, Hopper for grinder/mixer, 24" rear wheel for Ford tractor, New Holland windshields, door & side glass, Filson headgate, Vicon wheels, Vicon DMP2500 frame only, new mower tarps, gear lubriguard, trailer hubs and many more items (For pictures and more information visit www.toddmorrisauction.com or Like Todd Morris Auction Co. on Facebook)

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ANDREA LEA

Point of view

Throw a shoe

Students need to find a way to celebrate success

YES, I AM STILL HERE looking out my window on Main Street, and I want to share with you a great education idea I had while watching college football on tv.

These days if a player catches a 5-yard pass or falls forward just enough for a first down, he immediately runs to open space (so everyone in the stadium and on tv can get a good look) and then he does some kind of shimmy dance to say, "Hey, look at me!"

In fact, last Saturday a player at Florida ripped off his opponent's shoe and hurled it downfield 20 yards after making a tackle which denied the other team a first down. That showboating cost his team a 15-yard unsportsmanlike conduct penalty and instead of giving up the ball, the other team got into field goal range which it promptly hit, winning the game.

Ooooooo, that hurts! Boy, I bet that player was reluctant to face his coach and teammates in the locker room after the game. His attention-getting act might have cost his team an appearance in the national championship tournament, too. It sure did make the team's fans mad and that player will forever be remembered for his stupid, selfish act.

But, back to my education idea, and I offer it to all area public schools at no charge whatsoever.

•What if students celebrated wildly after scoring an A on a pop quiz, or answering a difficult history question in class, or getting a gold star for writing a swell essay? •What if someone threw a shoe because she aced the biology test? •What if some second-grader did a backflip because he remembered the words to 'O, Come All Ye Faithful' for the online Christmas performance? Wouldn't it be great?

There are many things more important than making a tackle or catching a ball and there may be a silver lining to this lowlife craziness.

Maybe the tv networks will stop showing the North Texas walk-off punt return for a touchdown from two Hog seasons ago. We can hope.

It also occurs to me that IF Nashville should somehow get a duly appointed Downtown J-Turn Enforcement Officer he or she might need to figure out some fancy way to celebrate after handing a ticket to a motorist who had brazenly turned across the center line to illegally sneak into a parking spot on the other side.

If the un-deputized J-Turn Enforcement Officer wasn't thinking clearly he might do a cartwheel in front of the city police officer who gave out the J-Turn ticket. But I digress and endanger myself at the same time.



CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW? My 'News-Leader' colleagues have been giving me a hard time about my hearing loss. It's true, and it gets a little worse every day.

After our friendly banter about hearing loss (I must assume it was friendly because I might have missed a comment or two), I went to a place called Facebook.

As soon as I got there, hearing aid ads began popping up on the screen.

That's gone on for three days and I wonder when it will stop. I believe my phone was listening and it forwarded the information to Facebook who blabbed to all the advertisers.



IN A NAME. Sometime next year the Cleveland Indians pro baseball team will drop its nickname. The owner doesn't yet know what the new name will be.

I can suggest something and it shouldn't offend anyone. Call the team the Plump Anglo Geezers. Named after me. I won't take offense.

Seriously, I 'get' how the name and the old team logo offended some folks. "Can't we all just get along?"



HOPE FOR SENIOR ATHLETES. Like myself.

The International Olympic Committee has announced that Breakdancing will be an Olympic competition beginning in 2024. Thank goodness I've got a few years to get into shape and sharpen my routine.

Will they deduct points if I play Country Music with my routine instead of that awful hip-hop noise?

My main worry is what kind of costume a breakdancer needs. I am wondering if my collection of Army-Navy Surplus camo outfits would be alright. They look pretty good although they are getting a bit tight across the tummy. I don't want breakdance athletes from foreign countries laughing at me because of my choice in outfit or music.

I first became interested in this competition because I thought it was BROKE DANCING, and I sure was qualified.



DROOL. My deepest and most sincere (burp) thanks to Jo N. Howard and Jenny Chandler, both of whom brought splendid Christmas season candies to our newspaper office after reading a recent column.

The best way I have to thank them is to reserve a warning ticket in case they ever get caught making a J-Turn downtown.



WORD GAMES. The twins: Peace and Quiet. Ssssssh, please.



HE SAID: "There are some people who want to throw their arms round you simply because it is Christmas; there are other people who want to strangle you simply because it is Christmas." American professor and sociologist Robert Staughton Lynd



SHE SAID: "I stopped believing in Santa Claus when I was six. Mother took me to see him in a department store and he asked for my autograph." Child actress Shirley Temple



SWEET DREAMS, Baby

Mine Creek Revelations



By Louie Graves

Thankful survivor is cancer free

LETTER

Dear Editor,
On Feb. 14, 2020, I was told I have lung cancer. That meant chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

I was driving 640 miles a week for the treatments. One thing I can say with no doubts is that the Lord was right beside me all the way through it. When I had severe thunderstorms to face, He took them away from me, giving me dry roads there and back each day.

He gave me the peace and strength to make it through it all.

At the end of June, the Lord took the cancer out of my body and I thank God I have no cancer in my body to deal with. All I have to deal with now is the after-effects of those treatments which are dizziness, shortness of breath, weakness and coughing.

The two hardest to deal with are the coughing and shortness of breath. My specialist in Hot Springs at St. Vincent's Hospital told me that it will take maybe over a year to get over them, but I am not worried about it because

I know the Lord took away the cancer and He is with me every day giving me the strength and the patience to make through it all. I am writing this letter to let everyone know their blessings the Lord gives us each day and to give Him the praise and glory for doing all this for me.

All I can say is "Thank you Lord for being here for me. Thank you again, God."

Sincerely,
Calvin Mass
Nashville

Legislators set spending levels

By Sen. Larry Teague

One of the most important duties for legislators is to set spending levels for state agencies.

The level of state government spending determines how much of a surplus is left at the end of the fiscal year.

One of the legislature's most important decisions is how much of a surplus to accumulate, and what to do with it. One option is to lower taxes, which lowers the available surplus because it decreases revenue for government. Another option is to spend the surplus on one-time capital projects. It can also be transferred to programs that have been affected by spending cuts.

Another option is to place the surplus in a "rainy day" fund, to be available in periods of financial crisis. That option will be seriously considered by legislators during the 2021 regular session that begins in January.

The legislature has the constitutional authority to appropriate tax revenue and set government spending levels. That authority is often called "the power of the purse strings." By designating where tax dollars are spent, the legislature officially determines

the state's priorities on education, transportation, health care, tax rates and many other areas of public policy.

As the head of the executive branch, the governor presents a balanced budget plan to the legislature as a starting point. Legislators modify that budget plan to reflect their priorities. When the regular session is finished next spring the state will have an official budget for Fiscal Year 2022, which begins on July 1, 2021.

In a letter accompanying his presentation of a balanced budget, the governor proposed increasing the amount in the state's long-term reserve fund from about \$185 million now to about \$420 million after the next two fiscal years.

General revenue from state taxes will amount to an estimated \$5.68 billion this year. It is forecast to increase to \$5.8 billion next fiscal and \$6 billion the following fiscal year.

Larger reserve funds improve the state's bond ratings, which saves agencies money on building projects.

It is well known in state government that Arkansas does not deficit spend, which means that unlike Washington we don't used

borrowed money to pay for ongoing operational costs.

However, universities and state agencies issue bonds for buildings and capital improvements. Issuing bonds is a way of borrowing money for one-time expenses. For example, last week the Arkansas Highway Commission voted to refinance a series of bonds in order to take advantage of low interest rates.

Over the past five years, tax cuts enacted by the legislature have slowed the growth of state revenue by several hundred million dollars a year.

The state is on pace to accumulate a healthy budget surplus, even after taking into account the loss of revenue from those tax reductions, and the drop in tax collections due to the economic effect of the pandemic.

Surpluses are created because Arkansas legislators consistently adopt very conservative budgets for state government. Also, Arkansas operates under a balanced budget law called the Revenue Stabilization Act, which requires state agencies to reduce spending if an economic downturn results in reduced revenue from sales and income taxes.

Electoral College confirms vote

By Brenda Blagg
Between the Lines

The Electoral College on Monday did what a strong majority of Americans did weeks ago. The electors chose Democrat Joe Biden as this nation's next president.

That formal act is supposed to be the end of the argument. It won't be.

The vote came as the sitting president, Republican Donald Trump, said he will continue to challenge the 2020 election's outcome.

Never mind the Electoral College vote.

Never mind that the U.S. Supreme Court last week refused to hear that ridiculous lawsuit brought by the state of Texas seeking to overturn the elections in four battleground states (Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin).

That failed Texas lawsuit, just one of dozens brought by Trump or his backers in state and federal courts, was what Trump had called "the big one" that would put him back in the presidency next year.

It won't. Texas and its supporters wanted the court to set aside 62 Electoral College votes from those four borderline states that were cast for Biden, thus giving Trump more electoral votes.

Seven of nine Supreme Court justices, including the three justices Trump himself put on the nation's high court, threw the case out without hearing arguments.

The other two justices would have heard arguments but indicated they would not have agreed to set aside those state's electoral votes.

Texas did not demonstrate "a judicially cognizable interest in the manner in which another state conducts its elections," the court said in a brief order.

More simply put, the state famous for its "don't mess with Texas" attitude was way out of bounds when it tried to mess with other states' elections.

Out of bounds, too, were all those attorneys general and U.S. representatives who decided to back Texas' play on Trump's behalf.

Count Arkansas Attorney General Leslie Rutledge and two of this state's four U.S. representatives among them.

Rutledge was one of 17 Republican state attorneys general to join the lawsuit. U.S. Reps. Rick Crawford of Jonesboro and Bruce Westerman of Hot Springs, from Arkansas' 1st and 4th Districts, respectively, joined more than 120 other House Republicans in submitting amicus briefs in the case.

To their credit, the other two Arkansas congressmen — the 2nd District's French Hill of Little Rock and 3rd District's Steve Womack of Rogers — stayed out of the Texas lawsuit. Both are Republicans.

Hill cited states' rights and called participation a "dangerous precedent" to allow one state to ask federal courts to overturn the results of another state.

Womack similarly cited states' rights and separation of powers as his reasons for not signing onto the lawsuit. Intervention of one state in the elections of another, he maintained, is unconstitutional.

Gov. Asa Hutchinson, the state's Republican governor, played no role in promoting the Texas lawsuit, he said.

He, in fact, was among the early Republicans to congratulate President-elect Biden after the election.

Noting that he was not consulted by Rutledge before she joined the Texas lawsuit on Arkansas' behalf, the governor said he had not been asked to sign onto any brief and would not have.

Hutchinson, Hill and Womack were all on the right side of the argument.

The other three Republicans — Rutledge, Crawford and Westerman — each opted to stand up for Trump rather than respect the outcome of the 2020 election, an act that the four defendant states in the Texas lawsuit called seditious.

The only point in their defense is that a majority of Arkansas voters supported Trump's re-election.

Indeed, all six of Arkansas' winner-take-all electoral votes were appropriately cast on Monday for Trump, who soundly won the popular vote here.

But voting for Trump's re-election doesn't mean all those Arkansas voters also support Trump's vain and undemocratic quest to overturn the outcome of other states' elections or alter the Electoral College vote.

Arkansas wouldn't want Texas or any other state coming after the way Arkansas conducts its elections. Why should any of our officials support trying to disenfranchise other states' voters?

President Trump has yet to provide any evidence of widespread fraud or abuse in any state's elections.

He's been chasing a dangerous fantasy through the courts, all the while disrupting our democracy and making the transfer of power to the Biden administration more difficult.

Common sense — and that clear Electoral College vote — argue that the election is really over.

While some Arkansans may buy in to Trump's continuing fantasies, not all will.

Not Democrats.
Not most Independents.
Not even all Republicans.

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

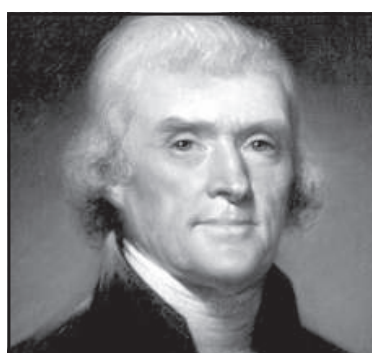
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"Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."
Thomas Jefferson, 1787
Free press, free people

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News-Leader photo/LOUIE GRAVES

THREE JUDGES. “Junior Judge” Bryan Chesshir, retiring judge Charles Yeargan and “Senior Judge” Tom Cooper gather around Yeargan’s portrait Dec. 9 at the Howard County Courthouse in Nashville. The portrait will be displayed in the courtroom.

Judge

Continued from page 1A

native Donna Kay Steel Yeargan, who accompanied him last Wednesday.

Many of the video comments reflected on his judicial compassion and fairness.

Judge Cooper told the audience that the retiree was “outstanding,” and was one of the least reversed judges in the state.

At the end of the video, Judge Cooper whisked off the black cloth which had been draped over a large portrait of Judge Yeargan. The portrait

will be hung in the courtroom which is unique in the district for having portraits of the retired judges.

In his brief remarks after the video, Judge Yeargan said he was proud that the district was the first to have both digital courtroom and drug court, which is a way for non-violent offenders to avoid imprisonment if they can adhere to strict standards of behavior.

He called his retirement from the bench “bittersweet,” but said it was time. He said he looks forward to resuming world travels with Donna Kay when Covid restrictions are lifted.

Before becoming the district’s “junior judge” to now-retired Judge Ted Capeheart, Judge Yeargan served as a town

lawyer in Glenwood, deputy prosecutor, Pike municipal judge and for 24 years was the judge for civil, criminal, domestic relations and probate court cases in the four counties of the judicial district.

He will continue to hear occasional cases in the district when there are conflicts or time constraints for the two sitting judges.

Before joining the event in the courtroom, Judge Yeargan told the newspaper that he had never banged his gavel in 24 years as a sitting judge. “I might have raised my voice a few times, but I never used the gavel.”

The portraits looking down in the courtroom last Wednesday are of Judge Capeheart and the late Judge Bobby Steel.

Vaccine

Continued from page 1A

“The Pfizer vaccines [the only one available right now] earmarked for HMH will be delivered from Hot Springs Village Pharmacy. They have not received them yet,” according to Wright. “They will call us as soon as they do and let us know when ours will be delivered.”

Because of the possible side effects, staff members requesting the vaccine “will not all receive the first dose on the same day,” according

to Wright.

“Half will receive them on day one, and the other half two days later. The second dose is to be administered 21 days from the first dose.

“They will only bring the number of doses in increments of five to match the number of employees and physicians scheduled to receive the first dose for the Day One group, which more than likely will be around 20, and another 20 scheduled for a first dose on Day Two,” Wright said, “since we have been advised to stagger the administration due to the side effects that might require staff to be absent from

work for about one to two days after receiving it.”

State and federal officials say healthcare workers and nursing home residents will receive the vaccine first. The general public likely will wait until sometime around mid-March or later.

Wright said Howard Memorial’s average daily census for Covid-19 has been “one to three patients, and these admissions are on the east wing of the hospital. We do not admit non-Covid patients to this wing whenever there is a positive patient on the wing.”

HMH is doing “a lot of outpatient testing,” Wright said.

School

Continued from page 1A

quarantines among students.

One teacher at ABC Pre-School tested positive.

There were no positives for faculty and staff in grades K-12, according to Graham. A teacher and a secretary are quarantined.

“Teacher-wise, we’re in

pretty good shape,” Graham said. “It’s kind of flipped” from earlier when more teachers were positive and more were quarantined.

Some teachers are staying home to take care of their children, according to Graham.

“Our student numbers could go up this week. We’re hanging on to get closed out” before the two-week Christmas break, Graham said.

“We hit our peak this

week” for the fall semester to date.

“Contact tracing shows it all goes back to Thanksgiving when students came in contact with people who were infected,” Graham said.

“We can’t stress this enough. Don’t send students to school with [Covid-19] symptoms. If they have fever, cough, can’t taste or smell, do not send them and expose other kids,” Graham said.

Arrival of Covid-19 vaccine gives hope, but vigilance still required to defeat virus, governor says

By Gov. Asa Hutchinson

Last Thursday, the Advisory Committee of the Federal Drug Administration said “yes” to the emergency use authorization of the first Coronavirus vaccine in the United States, and today I’d like to talk about what that means for Arkansas.

This is a historic development in this pandemic. Now we can move forward with confidence and hope that we will win this fight.

The Pfizer vaccine has arrived in Arkansas. I have authorized the first dosages to be distributed to our health care workers. The next round of vaccine will be distributed to our nursing homes.

Although in the first delivery there will not be enough vaccine to cover every health care worker, the hospitals will prioritize the distribution.

There will be second and continuing deliveries until everyone is covered.

It is essential that we provide the vaccine to our most vulnerable citizens in

our long-term care facilities. In Arkansas, 79.5 percent of our Covid deaths occur in those 65 years or older.

I expect the FDA to approve additional vaccines this month, which will accelerate our immunization program and increase the number we can vaccinate.

We will continue to prioritize the vaccine distribution until it is widely available and everyone is covered. It may be late spring before everyone in Arkansas has access to a vaccine, but we will get to that point, and if we all do our part, we will beat this silent killer together. There is hope and a bright day ahead.

The experts say that in order for the vaccine to defeat the virus, 70 percent of our population must take it.

I have confidence in the vaccine. In fact, Susan and I will be taking the vaccine when it is our turn. There will be no government directives to be vaccinated, but that should not be necessary when it is so important to our nation and state.

In the meantime, we must remain vigilant with the 3 Ws: Wash your hands. Wear your mask. Watch your social distance.

We are just two weeks out from Thanksgiving, and we are seeing the predicted surge in the number of Covid-19 cases. Christmas is only a week away, and we must do everything we can to avoid a third surge.

I hope that everyone will find a safe way to celebrate Christmas and that this year will be better and brighter than ever.

That means we need to think about out-of-state travel and what is necessary and limit the size of our gatherings. I loved the idea of a family from Little Rock who said they are going to celebrate Christmas outside around a firepit. Be innovative. Figure out what we can do to have a meaningful holiday without spreading the virus.

Let’s team up as fellow Arkansans and slow the spread of Covid during Christmas.

Award

Continued from page 1A

Royce Miller, five-year service pin; Officers Choice Award.

Jimmy Mixon, 25-year service pin.

Hayden Worthington, 25-year service pin and retirement plaque.

Kelly Hostetler, Attendance Award.

Since the Fireman of the Year Award was started, winners have included the following:

- 1988 James Daniel
- 1989 Terry Ray
- 1990 James Dyer
- 1991 Cliff Petty
- 1992 Ronny Woods
- 1993 Jerry Harwell
- 1994 Cliff Petty
- 1995 Roy Blakely
- 1996 Jimmy Mixon
- 1997 Bobby Chambers
- 1998 Jimmy Mixon
- 1999 Joe Dallas
- 2000 Gary Funderburk
- 2001 Alfred Neeley
- 2002 Matt Smith
- 2003 Mike Kinkade
- 2004 Terry Ray

- 2005 Matt Smith
- 2006 Jeff Westfall
- 2007 Jeff Westfall
- 2008 Jimmy Mixon
- 2009 Jeff Westfall
- 2010 Jeff Westfall
- 2011 Jeff Westfall
- 2012 Josh Worley
- 2013 Josh Worley
- 2014 Russell Sparks
- 2015 Andrew Westfall
- 2016 Michael Staten
- 2017 Kenton Miller
- 2018 Michael Staten
- 2019 Kenton Miller
- 2020 Zachary Miller

‘Christmas Wishes’ Candy Hood’s second-graders at NPS

Kaisen Allen – OMG doll, Barbie car, a tablet, a new phone case.

Kamai Allen – Nintendo Switch, iPad, TV, iPhone.

Joshua Bustamante – Camaro toy car, PS5, Xbox Series X, Corvette toy car.

Miguel Garate – a tablet, bike, Legos, Beyblades.

Chyna Gilliam – a phone, a playhouse, a laptop, Xbox.

Lilliana Gonzalez – hover board, friendship necklace, doll.

Lenyx Green – gift card

to Target, hover board, Hot Wheels, Elite Nerf guns. Adeyani Hernandez – pastel socks, two reindeer plushes, an iPad.

Raiden Moore – Spiderman trampoline, Ironman Lego set, real car, credit card.

Ayden Najera – a Playstation, socks, Pokemon cards.

Mollie Revels – skate-board.

David Santamaria – Pokemon cards, Pokemon game for Nintendo Switch.

Aubrie Seavers – a tablet, sweater.

Wyatt Spoo – Pokemon card.

Gavin Stayton – Hot Wheels, trampoline, real race car, toy truck.

Ja’zayen Thompson – Hot Wheels, hover board, Playstation 5, gift card to Wal-Mart.

Russell Vallee – reindeer, Nerf gun, Pokemon cards, roller blades.

Jagger White – Xbox 1, iPhone 1, Nerf guns, Pokemon cards.

Merry Christmas to our Good Friends
How do we know you've been good? Just by the way you've treated us.
Happy Holidays and sincere thanks from all of us!

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Donny Woods, PA; Bill Moorero and Jeanice Neel, CPA

In This Season Of Joy...

It is with deepest gratitude that we extend our holiday greetings to our loyal customers, neighbors, associates and friends. Knowing people like you makes doing business a genuine joy for us all year long.

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Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
SEVIER COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER in De Queen, Arkansas

Sevier County Medical Center is in the early stages of constructing a new hospital and the Sevier County Medical Center Board of Governors seeks a CEO to begin January 2021. This unique opportunity will allow the new CEO to be involved in the construction phase of a 14-bed hospital and creating the processes that will lead to a fully operational hospital.

De Queen (population 6,000+) and Sevier County (population 17,000+) are located in Southwest Arkansas where citizens care about the health of their community. That is why they overwhelmingly passed a one-cent sales tax to support the construction and operation of a new hospital.

Not only is Sevier County a sportsman’s paradise, with abundant opportunities for fishing, boating, hiking, and other outdoor recreation, but it is also home to a community that is serious about the economic development, evidenced by the newly created FRIENDS non-profit economic development organization. Sevier County is home to a Class 3A (Horatio) and a Class 5A (DeQueen) high school, a thriving private K12 school (Legacy Academy) and a 1500 student college (UA Cossatot), so education is vitally important to the area.

Qualifications: Education: Graduate of an accredited college or university, with graduate work in an accredited program in hospital administration. Experience: Competent, experienced administrator with excellent organizational ability. Min. 3-5 years of experience in a senior executive or operational role in a hospital or hospital organization.

The CEO will be responsible to the Board of Governors for the efficient, economical and effective administration, direction and coordination of all activities of the hospital. Acts as the duly authorized representative to the governing board in all matters concerning the operation of the hospital in which the governing board has not formally designated some other person for the specific purpose. Salary will be commensurate with experience and talent and be highly competitive with similar facilities in the region.

To apply please send your cover letter and resume to:
Sevier County Medical Center C/O Dr. Steve Cole
115 North 3rd Street, DeQueen, AR 71832
Or email to: myhospitalcomments@gmail.com

This position will be open until filled. For more details, Call 870-582-2192

Sports

Nashville News-Leader



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

DISTRICT WIN. Kyris Ware (right) goes up for a basket against Malvern in Nashville's 52-34 win over the Leopards in the first conference game of the season Friday, Dec. 11, at Scrapper Arena.

Scrappers defeat Leopards in first 7-4A game of season

The Nashville Scrappers defeated Malvern 52-34 in the first District 7-4A game of the season Friday night, Dec. 11 at Scrapper Arena.

De'Vay Ragland led Nashville with 13 points, followed by Kyris Ware and Eric Grigsby with 10 each. Dylan Finley added nine.

The Scrappers (1-1, 1-0) led through most of the contest.

Nashville opened the season with a 51-49 loss at Centerpoint Dec. 8. Most of the Scrappers played the Knights after only two prac-

tices. They transitioned to basketball after the football season ended Dec. 4.

Ware was Nashville's leading scorer with 18 points, followed by Ragland with 13 and Dalton Brown with eight.

Former NJHS coach Aaron Worthen is in his first season as head coach of the senior high Scrappers after being an assistant with Damon Williams, who retired at the end of last season.

"This is a good group," Worthen said. "I'm excited about them. We have a good

group of seniors. I had these guys when they were ninth graders."

The team must "get in basketball shape. We'll hit our stride in mid-January," Worthen said.

"Our shooting is decent for being two games in. We should get better."

The Scrappers will visit Fountain Lake Thursday, Dec. 17.

The Cobras are among the conference favorites, according to Worthen, who also lists Arkadelphia, Mena, Nashville and Hope.

Scrappettes win district opener, remain undefeated during season

By John R. Schirmer
News-Leader staff

The Nashville Scrappettes opened the District 7-4A race with a 52-11 win over Malvern Friday night, Dec. 11, at Scrapper Arena.

The Scrappettes (7-0, 1-0) held Malvern to five points in the first quarter and only two additional points from the second quarter until the fourth, when free throws added four.

Kyleigh Scoggins led the Scrappettes with 19 points, including three three-point shots in the first quarter. Sidney Townsend and Honesty Taylor added seven points each, with six from Olivia Dean.

The win followed a 54-39 non-conference win at Centerpoint Dec. 8.

Townsend led the Scrappettes with 14 points, followed by Macy Morris with

13.

Nashville will travel to Fountain Lake Thursday, Dec. 17, for a conference game with the Lady Cobras. The junior girls are scheduled to play at 4:30 p.m., followed by junior boys, senior girls and senior boys.

Fountain Lake will be the final game before Christmas. All four teams will visit Lake Hamilton Monday, Dec. 28, with games starting at 2 p.m.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

FOCUSED ON THE BASKET. Olivia Dean scores two of her six points Friday night in the Scrappettes' 52-11 home win over Malvern in the first District 7-4A game of the season.

Junior Scrappers, Scrappettes win at Centerpoint

By Mike Wallace
Glenwood Herald

There was no answer in the Rosboro gymnasium Tuesday night, Dec. 8, when junior Scrappette Caroline Dean touched the round ball. She poured in 26 points with shots falling through the strings on the run, standing still and even one shot which fell through which looked like a pass to a teammate.

Nashville's junior girls

led Centerpoint 12-9 after one period, 34-9 at the half, 44-18 after three periods and won 46-18.

Adding to Dean's 26 points were Jessie Lyle 4, Shalyn Lyle 6, Jordan Scoggins 4, A. Meeks 2.

The Centerpoint Junior Lady Knights were led by Jayda DuVall with 8, Brooklyn Cook 2, Bethany Massey 1, Bailey Gilbert 2, Chloe Archer 3 and Maddi Pate 2.

JUNIOR BOYS - This

game was a hard fought defensive battle. Nashville led 9-4 after one period, 15-12 at the intermission, 25-18 heading into the final period and stopped at 29-18.

Scoring for Centerpoint were Tate Spray with 7, Bryce Harless 6, Drew Diggs 4 and Nathan Rogers 1.

Scoring for Nashville were Kyle Whitman 7, Tayshan Davis 9, Malik Matthews 3, Vaster Cooper 14, Kolby Clay 2, Tre Hopkins 4.

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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.



SPORTS LEADERS

Players of the Week as selected by The Leader sports department

Kyleigh Scoggins, Nashville



Kyleigh, a Scrappette junior, scored 19 points in Nashville's 52-11 win over Malvern Dec. 11 in the first District 7-4A game of the season. She hit three three-point shots in the first quarter to help pace the Scrappettes' victory.



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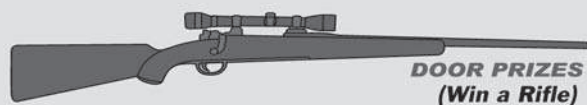
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ALL DISTRICT, ALL STATE

Scrappers earn district, state honors after 7-4A title, reaching quarterfinals

Twenty Nashville Scrappers have received honors for their achievements during the football season.

They include the following:
 AAA All State - Ty Gordon
 7-4A All State - Dontrelle

Robinson, LD Hendrix, Michael Hendrix, Dalton Brown, Keyshawn Stewart, Hayden Clay and Will Pope.

First team All Conference - Desmond Bailey, Ty Gordon, De'Vay Ragland, Turner Futrell and Deandre Benson.

Second team All Conference - Isiah Jones.

Honorable Mention - Caiden Erwin, Riley Dodd, Slade Furr, Austin Combs, Dexter Draper, Mac Green and Landon Tollett.

The Scrappers (9-3 overall) were the champions of

District 7-4A and earned the top seed from the conference in the state Class 4A playoffs.

Nashville advanced to the quarterfinals of the playoffs for the third straight year, one of only three Class 4A teams to do so.



AAA All State
Ty Gordon



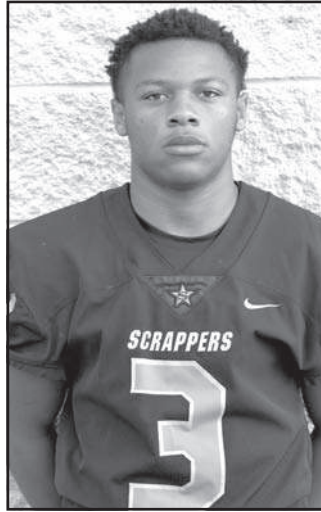
AAA All State
Dalton Brown



7-4A All State
LD Hendrix



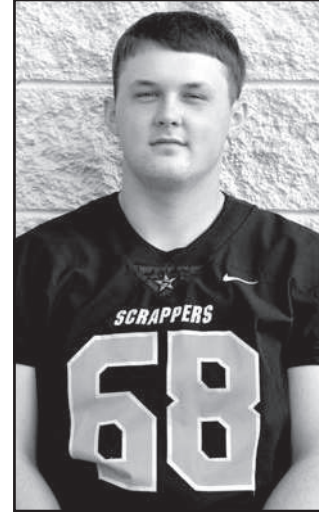
7-4A All State
Keyshawn Stewart



7-4A All State
Dontrelle Robinson



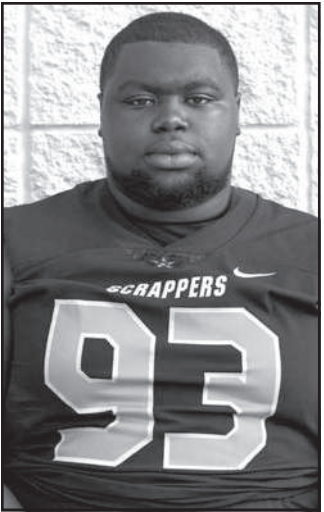
7-4A All State
Will Pope



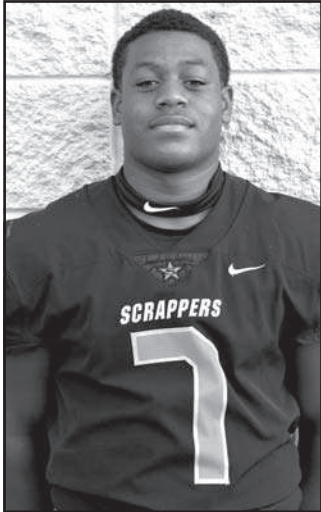
7-4A All State
Hayden Clay



7-4A All State
Dalton Brown



7-4A All State
Michael Hendrix



First team All Conference
Deandre Benson



First team All Conference
De'Vay Ragland



First team All Conference
Ty Gordon



First team All Conference
Desmond Bailey



First team All Conference
Turner Futrell



Second team All Conf.
Isiah Jones



Honorable Mention
Caiden Erwin



Honorable Mention
Riley Dodd



Honorable Mention
Mac Green



Honorable Mention
Landon Tollett



Honorable Mention
Dexter Draper



Honorable Mention
Slade Furr



Honorable Mention
Austin Combs

Nashville
News-Leader



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Gratitude
2020**

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Murfreesboro Rattlers

Class 7-2A Post-Season Awards



All-Conference
Jase Kuykendall



All-Conference
Sloan Perrin



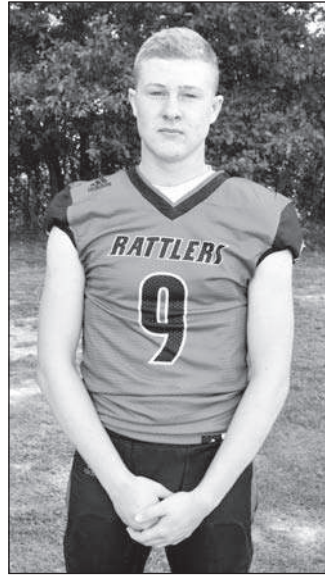
All-Conference
Ketrick Dennis



All-Conference
Grady Jones



All-Conference
Jay Stuard



All-Conference
Jared Taylor



All-Conference
Landon Silva



All-Conference
Brayden Oakley



All-Conference Honorable Mention
Tyler Nichols



All-Conference Honorable Mention
Adam Lott

Not Pictured: Haydan Pickett,
All-Conference Honorable Mention



Arkansas Game & Fish Commission photo

Christmas, antlerless-only deer hunts to wrap up state's modern gun deer season

Arkansans looking for one last chance to bag a deer at the end of the season this year will have three additional days to take a doe after the Modern Gun Christmas Holiday Hunt to fill their tag. The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission unanimously voted in May to move the Private Land Antlerless Only Deer Hunt from the middle of October to the last days of December in hopes to increase participation in the hunt.

Established in 2012, the hunt has seen limited participation throughout the state. The move to the cool weather of the late season is an effort to increase doe harvest — the initial reason for the hunt's creation.

"The Private Land Antlerless Only Hunt was established to help balance buck-to-doe ratios by encouraging the harvest of does before the regular season began," Meeker said. "The hope was also to increase the opportunity for hunters to see a more intense rutting period and have a better opportunity to harvest mature bucks."

Meeker explained that in an area where female deer greatly outnumber male deer, there is much less competition among the bucks for breeding. In such cases, bucks have a greater time frame to breed. When the number of bucks is more balanced with the number of does, rutting activity level increases.

The early season also was an attempt to protect more button bucks, as many of these yearlings would still be with the does and hunters would easily be able to differentiate the smaller button buck from the older doe and choose the latter.

Camera Trap 172178.JPG Unfortunately, deer hunters in Arkansas have shown a definite preference for harvesting does later in the season. Based on several comments received, Meeker also noted that hunters would prefer less disturbance and pressure on deer prior to the October muzzleloader hunt and the statewide opening of modern gun deer season.

"From analyzing the harvest and biological data we collect, we saw no positive trends in either the reduction of button bucks harvested or a larger percentage of older age-classed bucks in the harvest," Meeker said. "When you take into account that the average hunter only harvests one deer per year and approximately 70 percent of the does harvested are still taken on or after the peak of the rut, you ultimately have to realize that the most important aspects of the hunt are to balance the sex ratio and to balance deer populations with the available habitat. We are hoping the move to the later season will accomplish both of these more efficiently."

Meeker says the move to the end of the calendar year also enables more families to enjoy the hunt at a time when youth and college-aged students are out of classes and many people are already visiting family for the holiday season.

"The Christmas gun hunt will still take place Dec. 26-28, but this will add a few additional doe-only days to fill a tag," Meeker said. "This gives nearly a full week of hunting for families and friends to enjoy with each other."

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POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- R0001486 ALIGN Educational Resource Center (ERC) Tutor (Nashville Campus/Full-Time)
- R0001474 ALIGN Career Service Administrative Assistant (De Queen Campus/Part-Time)
- R0001471 ALIGN Soft Skills Tutor (Nashville Campus/Part-Time)
- R0001472 ALIGN Medical Professional Skills Coach (Ashdown Campus/Part-Time)
- R0001476 ALIGN Tutors/Resource Assistants (5 positions/De Queen, Nashville, & Ashdown Campuses/Part-Time)
- R0000199 Welding Instructor (Secondary Career Center/Nashville Campus/Part-Time)

Go to UA Cossatot's website at <https://www.cccua.edu/jobs> for full job postings and instructions for applying. The application deadlines vary, see specific ad. EEO/ADA/AA Employer.



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Nashville wins 2 over Malvern

News-Leader photos/JOHN R. SCHIRMER



Macy Morris (30) takes a shot against Malvern in the Scrapperettes' 52-11 win over the Lady Leopards Friday night at Scrapper Arena.



Eric Grigsby (11) advances the ball in Nashville's 52-34 win over Malvern in the District 7-4A opener Friday, Dec. 11, at Scrapper Arena.



De'Vay Ragland (left) keeps the ball away from the Malvern defender Friday night.



Sidney Townsend puts up a shot against Malvern.



Kyleigh Scoggins (right) makes two of her 19 points Dec. 11 in the Scrapperettes' home win over Malvern.



Keyshawn Stewart (right) looks for a shot while under duress from the Malvern defender Dec. 11.



Coach Aaron Worthen follows the action.



Ellen Spigner (13) goes up to deflect an errant pass toward teammates Sidney Townsend (15) and Olivia Dean (12) in Nashville's home victory over Malvern Friday night in the District 7-4A opener. The Scrapperettes (7-0, 1-0) will travel to Fountain Lake for their second conference game Thursday, Dec. 17.



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Season

Continued from page 1A

season would continue.

For some schools, it didn't, at least not on a weekly basis.

Teams canceled games because of the virus. There were more open dates than anyone had ever seen.

For the Scrapers, however, the only cancellations came because of Covid-19 issues with other schools. Nashville was prepared to take the field each week.

Coach Mike Volarvich said it is necessary to "go back to March" to understand what happened.

"In the middle of off-season, school was canceled" in Nashville and throughout the United States, Volarvich said. "There was a lot of uncertainty," first about the chances of school resuming in the spring and then about what would happen during the summer.

"In our football program, spring is when you get a lot of off-season work done, strength, speed, learning systems. We weren't able to get that done. Neither was anybody else in the state," Volarvich said.

"Obviously, this put us a little behind. We saw it the most when we came back

in the summer" after the Arkansas Department of Health and the Arkansas Activities Association allowed limited summer activities to begin June 1.

"Our baseline level of conditioning was so much lower," Volarvich said. "When we were able to report in June, we really had to take a close look at our summer conditioning program from the past. We had kids badly out of shape. A handful were able to work on their own, but a good portion did not."

During summer workouts, "There are times when we run 16 110's," Volarvich said. "We had kids on the ground after doing three."

There was the issue of summer attendance, according to Volarvich. "Some kids and their families may still have been afraid to come because of Covid, or they had high-risk family members or people around them."

Attendance during the three conditioning days each week varied, with numerous players showing up one day and a dropoff the next. Some days saw as many as 60, with others in the mid-40s.

There was also the uncertainty about actually having a season.

"When kids showed up and worked on the field or when they were in the weight room, they didn't

know if they'd have a season or not," Volarvich said, but they continued to report.

The state issued guidelines for social distancing, sanitizing, taking temperatures and all other aspects of summer workouts.

"We spread our guys out across the field and kept them spaced. We did push-ups, sit-ups and ran" in the early going, Volarvich said. "From there, we transitioned to the weight room and moved the equipment" to the practice field in the Scrapper Dome.

"We spread out as best we could. Every rack was five yards from the next one. It seemed to work well," Volarvich said.

The workouts continued through July.

The state allowed fall camp to open in August. Teams were allowed to have their media days, intra-squad scrimmages and AAA benefit scrimmages with other schools. The Scrapers hosted Hot Springs Lakeside.

"Finally, right before the season was to start, the AAA and governor gave the go-ahead to play. From March until a week or two before, we didn't know," Volarvich said.

"We got to have our season."

Next week: A look at each game.



Coach Jimi Easterling masks up for the first day of summer workouts. Face coverings were required for coaches and players who weren't on the field during the activities.



Scrapers hit The Hill after a summer workout. Running The Hill has been a tradition for countless Scrapers the past four decades.



Coach Brian "Boomer" Brown gives Scrapper defenders a demonstration of the drill during Nashville's summer program.



After more than two months of summer workouts, the Scrapers hosted Hot Springs Lakeside in a benefit scrimmage authorized by the Arkansas Activities Association. In the picture, Dalton Brown (69) and Turner Futrell (74) open a hole for a big ground gain by quarterback Ty Gordon.

News-Leader photos/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

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Jeremiah 29:11

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Sweat Family of Hempstead Co. 2020 Arkansas Farm Family

"The shock still hasn't worn off," said Chris Sweat about his Hempstead County family being named the 2020 Arkansas Farm Family of the Year.

The Sweats - Chris, Denise, Sara and Anna - were informed of the honor on Dec. 10 on the day of a virtual event honoring the state's county and district farm families of the year. They were informed some officials would be visiting their farm that day to deliver their district plaque, which they did; except the officials also unexpectedly brought along the family's state title plaque.

"Everyone's super excited, especially our daughters," Chris said.

Denise and Chris watched all the videos submitted by families vying for the state honor and saw many deserving "awesome families" that all brought "something different to the table" to the competition. Chris thinks what set them apart from the other families are his daughters' commitment to agriculture, and the Sheep and Goat Buying Station in Hope, which Chris co-owns.

Sara, 17, and Anna, 13,

are very self-motivated and they do all the things other kids do such as sports, FFA, showing animals, etc., but Chris said for his daughters "it really goes deeper than that." Both girls are already building their resumes to carry on the farm way of living and excel in the agriculture field.

The buying station in Hope was established in 2009 and has helped grow the sheep and goat industry in southwest Arkansas, marketing approximately 3,000 sheep and goats annually. Their registered feedstock are marketed and promoted by livestock shows and the majority of the Sweat's registered cattle are sold to Texas 4-H and FFA members as show projects.

"Sheep and goats used to be a hobby," Chris said, but now many ranchers, including some from Howard County, depend on the station to market their animals.

"We congratulate Chris and Denise Sweat on being named the 2020 Arkansas Farm Family of the Year," said Ashley Wallace, state coordinator for the Farm Family of the Year program. "This has been one of the



News-Leader photo/COURTESY OF KAYLIE STONE

STATE'S TOP FARM FAMILY. The Sweat family of Hempstead County - Sara, Anna, Denise and Chris.

most challenging years for Arkansas farmers and ranchers because they've had to deal with disruptions caused by the pandemic. The Sweats have demonstrated resiliency by persevering through these challenges, while continuing to build their business and serve the farming and ranching community of

southwest Arkansas."

"It's a great honor," Chris said about the state honor.

"It makes me think of all the farm families of the year before us - some of them were great mentors for us. It was great just to be selected as the Hempstead County Farm Family, then to go on and be our district winner

was even more overwhelming to us. To learn we were chosen as the state Farm Family winner is just very humbling."

The Sweats will continue to compete with nine other southeastern state winners in the Swisher Sweet/Sunbelt Expo Southeastern Farm of the Year program in Geor-

gia in the spring of 2022.

Chris is a fourth-generation farmer and he and Denise have been farming together for 23 years. Their 505-acre farm consists of natural mixed timber, along with hay, cattle, registered feedstock, hair sheep and Californian and Jersey Woolly rabbits.

Public comment period extended regarding future of Albert Pike Recreation Area

Ouachita National Forest officials are extending the public comment period to Jan. 14 regarding the future of the Albert Pike Recreation Area.

The 30-day extended period will enable the public to review the Ouachita National Forest's proposed long-term management and

use of the recreation area.

"We want to ensure the public has ample time to provide input into the proposed actions for the Albert Pike Recreation Area," said Troy Heithecker, Ouachita National Forest supervisor. "The comment period was extended to ensure the public had sufficient oppor-

tunity to provide input."

The Ouachita National Forest proposes to improve day use opportunities which includes general maintenance, adding more parking, providing alternative bathroom facilities, increasing signage and improving the swim beach.

Overnight use below the

100-year flood elevation would not be permitted anywhere in the Albert Pike Recreation Area.

The proposed action can be found on the project's webpage at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=58793>

All comments must be in writing and submitted

through formal channels.

To comment on the proposed action, email is the preferred method at comments-southern-ouachita-caddo-womble@fs.fed.us. Comments may also be submitted through the mail to Troy Heithecker, Forest Supervisor, c/o Chip Stokes 1523 Hwy 270 E, Mt. Ida AR

71957 or fax to 870-867-3338. The office hours for those submitting hand delivered comments are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

Please state "Albert Pike Recreation Area" in the subject line when providing electronic comments or on the envelope when replying by mail.

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Howard County District Court

Dec. 10, 2020

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Howard County

Bermeo, Noberto Ivan, 40, De Queen, \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license

Craven, Bobbi, 38, Nashville, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445

Green, Stefan Arkell, 24, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$910 owed

Johnson, Taniah R., 19, Star City, \$245 BF, speeding

Kelly, Tarazzo L., 63, De Queen, \$245 BF, speeding

Mentzer, Curtis Jay, 40, Early, Iowa, \$270 BNF, over width; \$245 BF, failure to appear

Ward, Jerry L., 33, De Queen, \$225 BF, driving on restricted license; \$145 BF, no motorcycle helmet/eyewear; \$345 BF, no proof of liability insurance

City of Nashville
Armstrong, Sylvester, 30, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$520

owed; guilty of possession of marijuana, fined \$1,050 and license suspended for six months; guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445; guilty of speeding, fined \$240

Bumpers, Tyler D., 27, Murfreesboro, guilty of no driver's license/expired license, fined \$195; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$75 cost only

Calderon, Lone Luis, 39, North Little Rock, \$225 NF, speeding

Hernandez, Angel, 21, Nashville, \$445 BF, driving on suspended or revoked license

Jackson, George, 34, Mineral Springs, guilty of no seat belt, fined \$70

James, Otis, 70, Nashville, \$245 BF, speeding

Killip, William W. Jr., 37, Nashville, guilty of no vehicle license, fined \$185; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$345; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245

Shuffi, Brendon, 17, Nash-

ville, \$225 BF, speeding

Snell, Steven L., 49, Nashville, \$445 BF, driving on suspended or revoked license

City of Dierks
Brinson, Lindsey J., 37, Percy, \$210 BF, failure to pay registration

Glass, Marilyn Lillian, 38, Texarkana, Texas, \$185 BF, expired vehicle tags/no vehicle tags

Placido Ramirez, Luis A., 30, De Queen, \$185 BF, expired vehicle tags/no vehicle tags

Ward, Jerry L., 33, De Queen, \$345 BF, no proof of liability insurance; \$245 BF, failure to appear

Bench Trials
City of Nashville
Markcum, Allen Lee, 45, Nashville, guilty of harassment, fined \$370; guilty of criminal mischief-second degree, fined \$410

Review Hearing
City of Nashville
Wilkerson, Paris, 24, Nashville, guilty of fleeing, fined \$260



TOP FIREMAN. Josh Hoover (above) was named the Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department's Fireman of the Year for 2020, as presented by Assistant Fire Chief Ricky Branch and Fire Chief Randy Lamb. Murfreesboro police officer Micah S. Brown (at left), who is also a member of the fire department, received a special plaque from Lamb for graduating from the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy on Nov. 23. News-Leader photos/COURTESY OF PENNY LAMB

South Pike County School District Report to public

The South Pike County School Board met in a short session, last week, with the district's annual report to the public as the main focus of the meeting.

The following is the complete text of the report:

"The South Pike County School District is currently operating three campuses, Murfreesboro High School, Murfreesboro Elementary School, and Delight Elementary School.

"The district voted to close the Delight Elementary campus at the end of the 2020-2021 school year. This was a difficult decision that was needed in order to meet the expectations of legislation that was passed that will impact our district's long term financial stability. The district will house K-12 at the Murfreesboro campus beginning next year. Plans are being made on how to structure grade levels and the assignment of teachers on the Murfreesboro campus.

"The district has already absorbed certified and classified positions and anticipates absorbing additional positions. All campuses are operating under the model policies produced by the Arkansas School Board Association and modified by the local District.

"All campuses of the South Pike County School District are fully accredited by the Arkansas Department of Education. We are meeting the requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act, which is in place as a technology and internet safety measures.

"This includes blocking or filtering internet access for all users, helping to prevent users from accessing material that is harmful to mi-

nors. All users are required to sign usage agreements which give the guidelines for usage, and are instructed in the safe and ethical use of the internet, including but not limited to social networking. Students are advised that they enjoy no expectation of privacy in any aspect of their school computer use. Each student in grades K-12 now has an iPad for educational use. The district's commitment to technology has enabled us to better serve our students during the COVID pandemic.

"We currently have 714 students enrolled. Of these, 83 are at Delight Elementary, 313 are at Murfreesboro Elementary, and 318 are at Murfreesboro High School. We have a total of 41 classified employees, and 72 Licensed employees. All employees are working under a unified salary schedule and personnel policies.

The district's faculty and staff continues to have the commitment to focus on student success for all students. This year has been different as we have been tasked with the expectation to keep our students safe and educate them during a pandemic. This has not been a normal year as faculty and staff have changed the way they interact with students. We have had to put safety guidelines in place that have changed every aspect of the school day that includes after school activities. The district's faculty and staff have embraced the needs of the students and have done an outstanding job. They have gone above and beyond expectations to do whatever it takes for the good of our students.

"The district has the ser-

VICES of a School Resource Officer (SRO). Obie Laurent, a Pike County deputy, is on a SPCSD campus each day. He assists with training, drills, and any other aspect of school pertaining to safety. We also have controlled access in place at key entrances to all three campuses.

"Title I and II funds are being used to provide services above and beyond those required for all students on both elementary campuses, as well as technology supplies and software. ESA funds are being used to fund after school tutoring/remediation, Dyslexia identifications, Response to Intervention, and to purchase much needed technology upgrades to advance learning.

"We also pay for our SRO out of ESA funds. Title V(REAP) is used to purchase technology and school safety needs.

"South Pike County School District is an equal educational Title VI and Title IX school district. No student in the district shall, on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability be excluded from participation in, or activity sponsored by the district. Our Equity Coordinator and Homeless Liaison is Tanya Wilcher. Each of our board members have met or exceeded the 6 hours of required training for the 2020-2021 school year."

UA Cossatot's YouthBuild begins Jan. 19 for Spring 2021 semester

After an exciting first semester, UA Cossatot will continue to offer classes for its YouthBuild program beginning on Tuesday, January 19, 2021. The deadline to enroll in the YouthBuild program for the spring semester is Friday, January 15, 2021.

YouthBuild programs provide educational training and occupational skill development to student's ages 16 to 24. In the program, students can choose two skill pathways to obtain employment in construction/carpentry or industrial maintenance/welding. UA Cossatot became the second college in Arkansas to offer a YouthBuild program this year.

Depending upon class size, the construction/carpentry pathway will be offered in the morning, while the industrial maintenance/welding pathway will be available in the afternoon.

The program gives students the opportunity to learn hands-on experience while learning skills that

can lead to future employment. The program is also free to everyone enrolled and YouthBuild students will benefit from supportive services at UA Cossatot.

UA Cossatot's YouthBuild program gives students the opportunity to give back to their communities while volunteering and achieving experience they can use throughout their lifetime.

The college even provides job placement services to help YouthBuild students find an exciting career.

To enroll in UA Cossatot's YouthBuild program or for more information, please contact UA Cossatot's YouthBuild Case Manager, Leslie Daniels at 870-584-1153 or HYPERLINK "mailto:ldaniels@ccua.edu" ldaniels@ccua.edu.

ASP enforcement plan starts Friday

Law enforcement agencies across Arkansas and the nation are prepared to launch a two-week long intensified enforcement plan aimed at drivers who choose to drive impaired. In advance of the holiday travel period state troopers, local police, and sheriff's deputies want to remind drivers of their stepped-up patrols along U.S. and state highways, as well as local streets and county roads.

Beginning this Friday (Dec. 18) and continuing through Jan. 1, motorists will witness an increased presence of state and local law enforcement whether they're traveling across the state or across the country.

The national Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over operation incorporates public service advertising and messaging coupled with assurances from law enforcement officers of zero tolerance for drunk driving. Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over is intended to drastically reduce drunk driving on the nation's roadways.

Celebrate The Season!

At this festive time of year, we'd like to extend our warmest wishes to all our friends for the very merriest season ever.


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We wish you and your family a season full of fun, celebration and great times!


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Glory To the Newborn King!
"And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger; for there was no room at the inn." -Luke 2:7

May you and your loved ones draw strength and inspiration from the miracle that is Christmas, and its message of faith, goodwill and peace on earth. Noel.



and Howard County Assessor
Debbie Teague



God bless your home

Wherever it is you call home, may His good graces reside with you and your loved ones this holiday season. We thank you ever so much for your kind patronage.

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NASHVILLE'S 'REVERSE' CHRISTMAS PARADE. There weren't many entry floats for the city's first try at a "reverse" Christmas Parade, Saturday. One of the entries was from the Nashville Junior Auxiliary whose members set up the "float" before it got dark. About 1,000 cars drove through the Nashville City Park route, according to parks and recreation director Mark Dale.

Holiday Season Plants Colorful alternative to gift-giving

By Samantha Horn

Howard County Extension Agent-Agriculture

The holidays are upon us, and thoughts of sugar plums are replacing gardening ones. While our focus may be more indoors, it is also the season for giving and receiving. Holiday plants are a welcome gift to give and receive and can add color and interest to your holiday decorations. With a little TLC they can also linger, long after the season has passed.

The red poinsettia still reigns supreme among flowering holiday plants. Yet, poinsettias are more than the traditional red, flat-bracted blooms. Today poinsettias come in a range of colors including shades of red, pink, white, yellow, and purple. There are speckled ones and curly flowered ones called Christmas Rose. They come in the standard four-inch pot, or in miniature or large tree forms. There truly is a poinsettia for every home.

If you want to branch out, there are other plants besides poinsettia that can add cheer to the inner landscape. Other choices include amaryllis, anthurium, azaleas, cyclamen, Gerber daisies, Kalanchoe, orchids and paper white narcissus.

When receiving a holiday plant, you need to know something about plant care, to keep it attractive the longest. With poinsettias, give them fairly bright light and even moisture. Avoid dark areas with drafts. The new varieties have been bred to hold their color for months and can add color long after the holiday season. While they can re-bloom for another season, it is best to start with a new plant each year. Enjoy them while the color lasts, and then add them to the compost pile.

Amaryllis are sold from the dry bulb stage to the bloom stage. For the longest enjoyment, start your own bulb or choose one just beginning to show color. If they are in full bloom when you get them, they may not last too long. The bulb can linger for years and re-bloom each season, much easier than with most other blooming seasonal plants.

Anthurium is a rather new addition to our indoor plant repertoire. The Hawaiian flowers have the right colors to choose from—red, white or pink spathes of color, which can last for months. Some people use them as a green house-plant after bloom, since it is difficult to re-bloom them. Let them dry out slightly in between watering.

The florist azalea is different than those we plant outdoors. Keep it cool and in indirect bright light and it too can last for four to six weeks. While many gardeners attempt planting these outdoors, many don't survive the winter.

Cyclamen plants come in a range of reds, pinks and whites. These plants grow from small bulbs called corms. They prefer cool temperatures, and will decline quickly if kept warm day and night. They prefer bright light and even moisture—too much water can cause the bulbs to rot. While many toss the plants after bloom, they can re-bloom with proper care. As the foliage begins to die back, withhold water for a few months. After a rest period, gradually begin to add water.

When you see signs of new growth, increase water and sunlight.

Gerber daisies are a semi-hardy perennial in our outside garden, but can last several weeks indoors as a potted plant. Coming in a wide range of colors, they prefer to be kept on the cool side with plenty of sunlight.

Kalanchoe is a succulent plant with a long blooming cluster of flowers. Flower color ranges from reds and oranges to yellows and whites. They like short days and long nights and warm, dry conditions. Don't over water this plant.

You may not think of orchids during the holidays, but what showier blossom can you think of that will last for six to eight weeks with very little care. They can also live to see another day if you so choose.

And last but not least, paper white narcissus. These lovely forced clusters of white blossoms often come artfully arranged with greenery and berries. Like the amaryllis, they are available in all stages, from dried bulbs to blooming plants. Enjoy them while they last, and then move on to something else. Re-blooming is not advised.

The holidays are upon us, and who wouldn't welcome a blooming plant? While the care of these plants isn't difficult, re-blooming may be, and in most cases is not worth the effort. To ensure the flowers last the longest, in general, keep holiday blooming plants in a cool room, with bright, indirect light. Make sure you have an even supply of water but avoid over watering, which is most common. Extremely warm rooms can cause flowers to fade quickly. Try to have at least a slight differential from day to night temperatures. With so many choices to choose from, why not select several. With just minimal care, these seasonal favorites are sure to add a boost to any holiday decor.

'Letters to Santa'

Janet Copeland's second-graders at Nashville Primary School

Christmas letters from Janet Copeland's second grade students at Nashville Elementary School:

Nora Bauer -- I want for Christmas like a tent for my room, some toys, and I don't really know... I also moved so hopefully you find it! I want my Mom to get something good for Christmas! I can't wait! All the presents! My Dad also cooks pancakes for breakfast. I'm so excited for the presents you bring me! I hope your trip around the world is good and safe.

Hayden Harrison -- I hope you are having a great time at the North Pole! I live in Arkansas. I want a pair of hunting gloves, a go-cart, clay machine, cloth, 308 sniper rifle, mini gun safe, stuffed snake, Hoover board, tent swing, desk, rolling chair, and ipod. I love you so much!

Aunna Romine -- Can you send me an Elf for Christmas? I want Play-doh, Hatchimals, make-up, and a Jojo poster. I hope you have a good Christmas! I want a LOL doll, cat toys for my two cats, a hamster toy, a baby doll, and a Barbie doll.

Jake Adams -- How are you? I know I have been mean to my brother, but I promise I will not be mean to my brother. I want a Hoover board, go-cart, glow in the dark Nunchucks, and a basketball Nintendo Switch game.

Gage Maxey -- I have been wondering how Frosty and Roger have been? I was hoping that Roger and Frosty could come and see me on Christmas. If you can, tell Roger that I love him and miss him! I want some new Legos, some new Nerf darts and new Nerf guns.

DaMiyah Piggee -- Hi Santa! I hope you are having an awesome day. How are the elves, reindeer, and Mrs. Claus? So Santa, can I have a magic wand, a restaurant when I grow up, The Barbie Extra Doll, LOL doll, and a diamond necklace? I hope you have a safe trip.

Kameron Willard -- Merry Christmas! How are the elves and the reindeer? Now what I want for Christmas! I want some Heeleys, a watch, and please a bow and arrow Nerf gun. I hope you have a good trip back!

Jimena Escalante -- Please can I have some LOL sister dolls, nail polish, a tiny dog, LOL paint doll, Pjs, and a Barbie Dream house? I hope you have a great day. I am good Santa.

Owen Ren -- I hope your life is good at the North Pole. I want a Nerf gun, computer, Legos, and a toy bed. Merry Christmas! I hope you have a wonderful time in the North Pole. You will love the cookies I got for you!

Georgia Pinegar -- How are you and Rudolph doing? Make sure you tell Zipper after Christmas that she is the best Elf I've ever had! This is what I want for Christmas please Little Live Per, new fake

fingerails, lip balm, big and little Hatchimals and a Barbie doll cart for Dixie. I just thought of something else! It is a Hoover board and a big monster truck for Behr and a Nintendo switch. One more thing for Dixie and Behr, baby doll, baby crates and Jojo clothes

Gavin Applegate -- Are the elves and reindeer doing okay? I hope you're okay too. What I want for Christmas is a Hoover board, new left hand glove, football pads, and a football and that is it. I hope you have a good flight and say HI to Sparky and all the reindeer. Thank you for what I got last year, Merry Christmas and HO, HO, HO! Say Hi to Mrs. Claus. I hope ya'll have a merry, merry Christmas. Safe travels. I hope you are not sick.

Raeley Clements -- Hoe have you been doing? I'm so excited to see you at my MOM's office. This year, of you have enough time maybe, can I tell you what I want for Christmas? I want a Gotta-go Flamingo, little fake sloth and fish, they are little life pets, a little motorcycle, and iphone12, I want my dog back, and a Hatchimal that grows to be 50 feet tall.

Maecee Myrick -- I wish for a bike, a football, pjs, water bottle with dinosaurs on it and a deer clock. Have a merry Christmas! How are the elves and reindeer?

Lawson Dallas -- I love your elves. I love Mrs. Claus. All I want for Christmas are three things. I want a Hoover board, Xbox game Mortal Combat, and Greedy Granny. I want one of your elves to come to my house.

Isabel Crowe -- I want an American Doll, sweater, and a Jacket. I will try my best to be good! I hope you have a good night, Merry Christmas! Hope you have a good day, and I wish my mom and dad could come back home.

Mia Portillo -- How are you and Mrs. Claus? I hope you are both very good! How are Rudolph and the Elves? I hope they are ok! I wanted to tell you what I want for Christmas! All I want is a new fluffy jacket, winter boots, winter hat, and LOL doll winter gloves, and new clothes. I hope you have enough time. I wanted to say thank you so much for the presents that you gave me last year.

Zaylon Lofton -- I want a dirt bike and a PS5 for Christmas!

Manuel Hernandez -- Can I please have a soccer ball? How are you doing? I will be good. Can I get an Elf on the Shelf? I hope I get to see Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer!

Brandon Nava -- Merry Christmas to you Santa! I want a car I can drive, a soccer ball, and a yo-yo.

Keshawn Stewart -- I love Santa Claus! Merry Christmas! I want a soccer ball, a new green bike, a basketball, and Legos!

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M'boro receives sidewalk grant; continues work on drainage issues

By John Balch
News-Leader staff

After years of applying, the City of Murfreesboro has finally received a matching sidewalk grant from the Arkansas Department of Transportation.



TAKING OATH Monday night is new council member Cody Bachman

The grant is an 80-20 match in the amount of \$334,000 and will help fund initial stages of a sidewalk project on North Washington. The plan is to have a sidewalk from the courthouse down to the area of the big curve on North Washington.

"We'll have to do it in sections," Mayor Rodney Fagan said Monday night, noting the city cannot afford to complete the project outright.

In other grant news, Mayor Fagan announced he was "0 for four" in securing a "Fun Grant" from the Arkansas State Parks' outdoor recreation grants program to improve playground equipment at the city park.

The city also decided Monday night to make another attempt at solving drainage issues around the city, particularly from Maple Street to Highway 27 and the area known as the "super ditch." The city has hired a retired engineer from Hope to formulate a plan and pay him \$5,500 for his efforts. Mayor Fagan noted the funds would pay for a plan only and does not include

funds needed to carry out the plan.

The council also passed the city's 2021 budget "as presented" by Treasurer Penny Lamb. The budget includes a four percent pay raise for city employees and adjusts the city's retirement plan from a three percent employee matching to five percent. The budget was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Council member Jack Bonds, who is also a member of the Murfreesboro Advertising and Tourism Association, told the council the association wants to streamline the tax collection process by directing collections to a post office box, instead of having the taxes sent directly to the city for deposit. Bonds said the method would be "faster,

cleaner and more direct." The council did not vote on the matter but gave the association approval to make the change.

Prior to the start of the business agenda Monday, new council member Cody Bachman was sworn in to fill out the last month of the term vacated by Jim O'Neal. Bachman will take over the seat Jan. 1 as an elected official.

The council also heard from council member Jeff Walls, who did not run for re-election but agreed to stay on after no one filed for his council seat. Walls said he will resign from the seat, effective Dec. 31. At that time, the council will appoint someone to fill the seat.

The council also voted Monday night to purchase a new camera system for the Murfreesboro Police Department in the amount of \$6,779.85.

The council also approved Treasurer Lamb's financial report, which included the following beginning and ending balances for November:

- General Fund** \$317,089/\$317,111
- Street Fund** \$232,385/\$240,006
- Park Fund** \$35,160/\$38,501
- Advertising & Tourism** \$92,909/\$105,755
- Water & Sewer Fund** \$310,469/\$273,334



SERVING MEALS AT TOLLETTE. Members of the Tollette First Church of God and the Christian Women's Connection prepared and served pre-Thanksgiving meals to the community, and plan to serve more during December. The group will serve meals to the working staff at nursing homes in Nashville. Among the volunteers were, from left, Allie Coulter, Marla Williams and Linda Dickerson.

Tollette church provides help in community

The Pre-Thanksgiving drive-thru meal was prepared and handed out by Tollette First Church of God family and the Christian Women's Connection, who have prepared hundreds of carryout meals to those who may or may not have close family members.

With Covid-19 we still have to find a way to serve

and remain safe while doing so.

In the month of December we will provide lunch for both nursing home staffs.

When God puts something in spirit it's important to move immediately because we are His hand and feet.

Please mask up and let's do what we need to do in

this season of life we are currently in.

Creating good memories that make people smile is a form of medicine that we all need in a time such as this.

From Christian Women Connection
Tollette First Church of God, Tollette
Pastor is Charles Green, Sr.

ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY!

DIERKS CHURCH OF CHRIST

meets at 308 Main St., Dierks
Meeting times:
Sunday: 9:30 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday: 6:00 p.m.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!
"If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Christ cleanses us from all sin" 1 John 1:7
email - churchofchrist308@windstream.net

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Pastor: Jaron Tipton
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 5:00 p.m.

-- Non-Denomination --

New Life in Jesus Christ Church

913 South Main St. • Nashville, AR
Sunday Morning Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Evening Worship 5:30 p.m.
Pastors: Lankford & Mary Alice Moore

EBENEZER UMC

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EVIL HAMAN
HAMAN HAS BEEN TOLD THAT MORDECAI, THE JEW, REFUSES TO BOW TO HIM ALTHOUGH IT IS THE KING'S LAW THAT ALL MEN DO SO! NOW, HAMAN DECIDES TO TEST HIM.

WE SHALL SEE IF MORDECAI REFUSES TO BOW DOWN AFTER THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.

YOU! WHY DO YOU NOT BOW DOWN? IT IS THE LAW!

I AM A JEW! AND THE JEWS DO NOT BOW NOR GIVE REVERENCE TO ANY MAN—ONLY TO GOD!

FILLED WITH WRATH AND FURY, HAMAN GOES BACK TO HIS LUXURIOUS APARTMENTS WHERE, SEETHING WITH THE FIRE OF HIS ANGER, HE SPENDS THE NIGHT PLANNING A DIABOLICAL REVENGE UPON MORDECAI!

SO! IF MORDECAI AND ALL THE OTHER JEWS IN THIS GREAT PERSIAN KINGDOM REFUSE TO OBEY THE KING'S LAW, THEN EVERYONE OF THEM SHALL DIE -- AND MORDECAI WILL BE THE FIRST!

Next Week
HAMAN'S HATEFUL PLOT!

SAVE THIS FOR YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRAPBOOK

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Morning Services - 11:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting - Wed. 6:30 p.m.
Jim Henderson, Pastor

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

First Christian Church

500 N. Main • Nashville
(Corner of Main & Bishop)
845-3241
Sunday Bible School - 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
Minister: Jim Pinson

Immanuel Baptist Church

Immanuel St. • Nashville • 845-3414
Brent Thompson, Pastor
www.myimmanuel.com
Sunday: Sunday School - 9:55 a.m.
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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Rev. Charles Green, Pastor

To advertise your church or business in this spot, call Tracy at 870-845-0600.



BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

The Cowman's Christmas List

1. New baler twine to tie up last year's five-buckle overshoes.
2. Something that will kill Canadian thistle.
3. A hot shot that works for more than a morning.
4. A dog that does more good out of the pickup than in it.
5. A cattle buyer who admits that he likes your calves.
6. A feedlot customer with a bottomless wallet.
7. A molasses salesman who thinks your hay will be adequate without his \$200 –a-ton supplement.
8. A vet who suggest that you buy your vaccine at the co-op.
9. A teenage daughter who thinks her allowance is too high.
10. A son-in-law with a steady job.
11. A Christmas day freak snowfall that blankets the mountains and your front yard but leaves the cow lot dry as a bone.
12. An implement dealer who insists on being paid in bales of hay.
13. A banker who inadvertently has gotten your financial statement mixed up with Jeff Bezos'.
14. A son who can rope and ride, loves to work and doesn't plan on going to vet school.
15. A wife who rubs your back.
16. The time, occasionally, to enjoy what you do for a livin'.
17. And a loving God who doesn't look down at you every time and say, "Oh, well, I can't win 'em all!"

www.baxterblack.com

Cattle care when it's cold

As it is want to do, winter weather rolled into Arkansas last week with little concern for holiday pleasantries. On the first day of December, Arkansans throughout the state awoke to temperatures in the 20s. While things did warm briefly throughout the week, the rains that followed only sharpened the misery.

While most of the state's major commodities finished harvest by November's end, livestock producers continue to manage herds throughout the winter. And while the cold temperatures can certainly make things uncomfortable for the humans involved, livestock experts with the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture say that as long as they're well-fed and dry, cattle, horses and other livestock should be just fine.

Naturally protected for winter

"When it feels really cold to us outside, that cow with the extra hair coat may actually be fairly comfortable," Shane Gadberry, professor of ruminant nutrition for the Division of Agriculture, said.

"If you take a cow with a winter hair coat, and it's 32 degrees outside, as long as that coat is dry, she's still on the more comfortable side, and probably eating a little more hay to take care of the extra energy she is burning."

Gadberry said that cattle generally have two compensating mechanisms that kick into gear when the temperature drops: Adding on a heavier hair coat and stored body fat.

"That's an extra layer of insulation," he said. "On the cold days, we see cows increase their forage intake. Producers may notice their cows just eat a whole lot more hay over a cold wet winter, one year over another."

Gadberry said that much of the managed cattle in Arkansas are derived in part from English breeds, such as Angus and Hereford, which are naturally well-adapted to colder climates. Breeds that are tropically adapted tend not to grow a heavy winter hair coat, he said, and herd managers should be mindful of the vulnerability.

Calories to keep warm

Similar to cows, horses will also produce a heavier hair coat in the winter and do their best to keep the cold at bay through caloric intake. Mark Russell, an associate professor of equine science for the Division of Agriculture, said the best thing horse owners can do is make sure the animals have access to lots of high-nutrient hay.

"As long as they have hay in front of them all the time when it gets below freezing, that's the best thing you can do for them — keep their stomachs full," Russell said.

"That offers more warmth than almost anything, really, whether that's a round bale outside or a small bale in a stall."

Russell said that some horse owners place blankets on their horses with the mistaken notion that it aids the animal's natural coat.

"A lot of people put blan-

kets on their horses with the best of intentions," he said. "And that's fine, if you're trying to keep their coats short and slick for a show. But if they've grown a winter hair coat, that is their blanket. They don't need another one."

"A blanket actually pushes down a winter hair coat and won't allow the hair to do its intended job," Russell said.

Additionally, a blanket can be a liability for the animal if there's rain in the forecast.

"If the blanket gets wet, they're worse off," he said. "They're colder and may get sick."

Whichever way the wind blows

Similarly, rain, snow or mud can stymie the insulating properties of cattle coats. While moving entire herds of cattle indoors isn't an option for most ranchers, Gadberry said their best approach is to relocate feeding sites to minimize wind exposure.

Finally, livestock managers should make sure their animals have access to plenty of water.

Hay testing

A fundamental strategy for successfully caring for livestock through the winter is ensuring they have access to high-quality, nutritionally dense hay, Gadberry said.

Stop. Take Moment to Reflect Holiday Peace

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

This year will certainly be a different holiday season. Let's face it, 2020 has been a challenging year for all of us and the typical stress of the holidays can add to feelings of being overwhelmed. Your traditional family and friends holiday parties may look a little different this year, but chances are you are still trying to figure out how to shop, bake, wrap gifts and provide some sense of normalcy during the year of Covid-19. Overscheduling, overeating, hurrying here and there, jangled nerves, family tensions, trying to social distance, major credit card debts for gifts we often do not even need or appreciate...it's enough to cause the "Scrooge" in all of us to come out! How can you bring the spirit of peace into your holiday season?

Stop. Take a moment to reflect. Peace can still be found within us and around us. For many of us, though, it may be buried beneath our restless minds, hurried lifestyles, and exaggerated desires.

To find that peace again, begin by drawing upon your own personal experience and jotting down brief answers to these three items.

- Looking back over past holidays, what is your favorite memory? Why? What causes it to stick in your mind?

- Is it possible to rethink how you could put that memory into action this year? For example, this will be the first year I will not be spending the holidays face-to-face with some of my immediate family members and the new grandbaby we were blessed to welcome into our lives. I could choose to focus on the negative feelings this might bring. Does that help?

- Is there one thing you can change to make your holiday more enjoyable? There are always options. The world of technology will allow us to spend time with others. There are several apps available, that allow you to visit face-to-face with others. I plan to use this option often during the holidays.

One of the best ways to combat holiday stress is to take your attention away from it and focus on its opposite – peace. Peace is an inner state of alert calmness and vibrant tranquility. It is harmony with people and one's environment. True peace is not dependent on outward circumstances, the behavior of others, or the absence of illness. It is the ability to accept with composure whatever challenges come our way. Inner peace carries with it a quiet feeling of power and energy. It is not passive or lazy.

To feel even a touch of this kind of peace is a healing and renewing experience. And sharing its fruit with others is a two-way blessing. Here are some suggestions for cultivating a spirit of peace during the holidays:

- Examine what helps you feel peaceful. Maybe it's having fun with a good friend, listening to uplifting music, praying, meditating, enjoying a good massage, or gazing at the stars. Whatever works for you, build more of those experiences into your daily life.
- If you find yourself rushing all the

time, you'll have to break that habit if you're serious about living in abiding peace. Build more free space into your life. Kindly say no. Keep life simple. Let go of non-essentials. Do less and enjoy it more.

- Reach out to ease the way for others. Scattering kindness, lending a helping hand, and spreading cheerfulness are good medicine for all concerned.

- Cultivate the companionship of calm, happy, peaceful people. Gradually, and in subtle ways, you'll find it easier to bring that sense of peace into all your relationships.

- Spend time in nature with your eyes and ears and heart wide open. Even brief moments here and there can make a big difference.

- Say no to worrying about the past, fretting about the future, and focusing on things you have no control over. Live fully in the here and now. Look with awe into the beautiful eyes of the person in front of you. Take time to hear the song of the wind in the pine trees. Embrace the wonder of each moment.

- Avoid dividing your attention. With peace as your companion, do one thing at a time. Give full concentration to the task at hand, striving to perform all actions with even-mindedness.

- Finally, count your blessings. Experts recommend making a list of your blessings and posting it where you can see it often.

Yes, 2020 has changed and impacted our lives. Find time to schedule some relaxed periods for just you!

ourthouse.

Recipe of the Week

Enjoy a cup of coffee and these delicious treats. They are quick to fix and are a holiday favorite. Perfect for holiday morning brunches!

Zesty Orange Mini Muffins

- ½ cup butter, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ¾ cup buttermilk
- 1 cup golden raisins
- 1 cup chopped pecans

Blend butter and sugar together. Add eggs; beat for about 2 minutes. Sift flour and baking soda together. Add flour mixture alternately with buttermilk to butter mixture; stir in raisins and pecans.

Fill greased mini muffin cups ¾ full. Bake at 375 degrees for 15 minutes. Dip tops of warm muffins quickly into Citrus Glaze. Makes 3 dozen.

- Citrus Glaze
- ½ cup sugar
- ¼ cup orange juice
- 2 Tablespoons orange zest
- 1 ½ Tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 ½ teaspoons lemon zest

Combine all ingredients; mix to a glaze consistency.

Notes: For healthier muffins try making half the flour whole wheat. Substitute walnuts for the pecans. Don't have buttermilk? Make your own buttermilk by adding 1 Tablespoon white vinegar to a liquid measuring cup. Add enough regular milk to make 1 cup. Let stand 5 minutes.

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'Christmas Wish Lists'

Cynthia Bailey's kindergarten at Nashville Primary School

Kynlie Boone -- Could you please bring me a Barbie farm set? I would also like some new nail polish. I will try to leave you some cookies and chocolate milk.
 Shaniah Draper -- A bike and a scooter to ride.
 Maddie Ewing -- A dog blanket and some make-up for my cheeks and eyes?
 Miguel Hernandez -- A Nerf gun to play with and a bike to ride.
 Remington Howard -- Some big trucks and digging machines to play with in the dirt beside our shop?
 Connor Jackson -- A Nerf gun and a rocket launcher to play with. I will leave you some milk and spaghetti.
 Noe Leon -- A dump truck and a piggy bank to keep my money in.
 Leah Linhoff -- A scooter and a Nerf gun.
 Abbie Perez -- A new bike and a Nerf gun to play with.

Rydan Scott -- A fake pistol to shoot and a gun with rubber bullets I promise not to shoot at my brother.
 Dallas Pack -- A racecar that I can sit in and drive, also a scooter and maybe a fake pistol.
 Colt Thornton -- A Nerf machine gun and a pair of red skates.
 Rex Spray -- A bicycle and a Nerf gun.
 Harmoni Vanderziel -- 2 new stuffed leopards and a Barbie.
 Gracelyn Webb -- A new doll to play with and a big rocking horse.
 Clark Westfall -- I have been just a little bit naughty and a little bit nice this year. Could you please bring me a grey truck that I can drive and a farm set to play with?
 Tre'sea Coulter -- A hoverboard, some mermaid makeup, and a blanket that looks like a mermaid tail?

Kiddie Korner in Nashville

Students at Mrs. Michale's Kiddie Korner in Nashville have sent Santa letters:
 LilyCate Witherspoon - Lol Doll, Ballerina Barbie & Rainbow Toys.
 Lola Dean - Big Barbie House w/ pool, 2 bed, Lightup Refrigerator & Oven with Sound, Car & Unicorn Table.
 Tripp Turner - Blue Dino LEGO house, Dino people & Cages.
 Mylie Winton - American Girl Doll, Blue Washing Machine.
 Madeline Britt - Toy Washing Machine, Clothes for Babies.
 Julianne Mishler - New Barbies.
 Behr Pinegar - LEGO Man T-Rex, Baby Egg & Helicopter.

Baylor Brasel - Barbie Dolls.
 Corbyn Jordan - Lots & Lots of toys.
 Presley Bennett - Magical Baby that eats food.
 Emma Joy Jaques - Chew toys for Miller, A Boat House.
 Malachi Goff - Monster Truck w/ remote control, Fire Blaster that shoots Fire Bullets.
 McKenna Lacie - Minnie Mouse Car, Minnie Mouse Doctor set & Minnie Mouse Backpack.
 Drake McAdams - Toy Dragon, Dino that follows you around.
 Kiptin Horn - Toy Robot & Spin Chair .

Murfreesboro ABC Preschool

Kassidy Campbell - I would like a real unicorn so that my horse Lightning won't be lonely, a toy kitten, roller skates, a skateboard, a stuffed unicorn, a snowman, a snowflake, and a barbie house.
 Beatrice Fugitt - I want a barbie camper, a barbie pool, a snowflake, and legos.
 Destiny Combs - I would like a pink barbie doll and a Paw Patrol Skye.
 Alexandria Lane - I want a nail polish box, an Elsa Doll, kid dolls, Santa doll, and an Elsa Snow queen styling head.
 Gemma Riley - for Christmas I would like a big barbie barn, unicorn shoes, paw patrol table, a new horse ornament, and a horse book.
 Lincoln Lamb - For Christmas I would like playdoh, cookie sock, a Woody that really talks, a small monkey to go with my big monkey, and a nerf gun.
 Jax Summers - I would like a motorcycle, black playdoh, a Spiderman with his vehicle, a bull riding toy, and a horse.
 Kaden Jones - For Christmas I want 2 snakes, a water gun, and a train.
 Amiley Jones - For christmas I would really like a bow maker. I really, really want a Poopsie Slime surprise. I really want a toy race car and a toy train. Also, I really want a Santa toy.
 Payton Cox - I want a robot, train, car, flying reindeer, house, and legos.
 Dude Fultz - For Christmas I would like a stuffed penguin, scooby doo, a red penguin, a bear, a bicycle with no training wheels, a truck, and candy sock.
 Serenity Combs - For christmas I would like a horse that really walks, a bicycle, and coloring books and crayons.
 Cutter Bailey - I would like a skateboard, cars, legos, dinosaurs, and a Paw Patrol Chase toy.
 Ledger Scott - For Christmas, I would like a reindeer, a Batman watch, a Batman Monster truck, and a Batman TV for my room.
 Ms. Amanda - I would just like to wish everyone a safe and merry Christmas!!!
 Mrs. Amy - For Christmas, I would love for my family to have safe travels coming to see us and for everyone to remember the true reason for this season, the birth of our Savior, Jesus!



Christmas is Coming!

Color in everything.

Christmas is coming! Every day there is something to do to get ready for the holidays. I just finished making Christmas cards with photos on them for my family and friends. Right now I am hanging this wreath I made on the barn door. Symbols of the holidays are all around us - candles show light and warmth, and bells joyously peal.

Holiday Symbols!

Read the clues below to fill in the crossword with symbols of Christmas!

- gift bringer
- heavenly messengers
- large burning chunk of wood
- town where Christ was born
- ring in Christmas with these
- kind of tree decorated at Christmas
- carried the Kings
- people kiss under this
- three of them brought gifts
- tree decorations
- lighted to show warmth and joy
- ring of greens
- marked the place in the sky
- birthday of Jesus Christ
- songs of the season
- written holiday greetings
- plant that brightens holidays

What Plant is This?
 Use these letters to spell the name.
 t a n o e p i s s e t t i

This plant used to brighten the holidays is native to Mexico. The "flowers" are actually leaves!

Stuffing the Stocking!

Can you help Starlight, the elf, stuff the cookie into the stocking?

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing...

Many voices and musical instruments are used to create all the beautiful carols that we hear everywhere.

Can you fill in the names of the instruments that are missing from the lines of these Christmas songs?

- I played my _____ for Him
 pa rum pum pum pum -
 I played my best for Him
 pa rum pum pum pum -
- With little tin _____
 and little toy _____,
 Rooty-toot-toots and rummy-tum-tums,
 Santa Claus is coming to town.
- It came upon a midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
 From angels bending near the earth, to touch their _____ of gold;
- Jingle _____, jingle _____, jingle all the way!

Second 'Christmas Buck\$' winner announced

The second of three "Christmas Buck\$" drawings was held Friday and the \$100 winner was Sheila Toliver of Nashville.
 She was registered at Satellite Service.
 The annual Chamber of Commerce promotion will end Friday with a final drawing for \$100 in the Buck\$. The drawing will be at 9:30 a.m. at a member business to be announced later.
 The first week's winner was Lois Henson of Mineral Springs who was registered at Nashville Vision Center.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BONNIE COGBURN HUTTO, DECEASED
NO. 31PR-20-84

NOTICE

Last known address of decedent: 121 South Pine, Lot 12, Nashville, Arkansas Date of death: July 6, 2019

On November 30, 2020, an Affidavit for Collection of Small Estate by a distributee was filed with respect to the Estate of Bonnie Cogburn Hutto, deceased, with the Clerk of the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Howard County, Arkansas, under Ark. Code Ann. §28-41-101. The legal descriptions of the real property listed in the Affidavit is as follows:

Parcel 1: Part of the SE-1/4 of the SE-1/4 of Section 25, Township 5 South, Range 29 West, Howard County, Arkansas, described as follows:

Beginning at a point 80 yards South of the Northeast corner of the said NE-1/4 of NE-1/4, thence South 30 yards, thence West 220 yards to the East line of Hwy. No. 84, thence Northeasterly along said Hwy. to a Woodland Road and the South line of the Ruth Ellis Tract, thence Easterly 210 yards along said Woodland Road to the Point of Beginning, containing 2.38 acres, more or less.

Parcel 2: The West 1/2 of the following described parcel of land: Part of the NE-1/4 NE-1/4, Section 17, T5S, R24W, described as follows: Commence at a point 140 yards South of NE corner of said 40 acre tract; thence West 140 yards; thence North 70 yards to NW corner of cemetery; thence West 80 yards; thence South to Rock Creek and Salem Road a distance of about 185 yards and 2 feet; thence East with said road to East line of said 40 acre tract; thence North to POINT OF BEGINNING, a distance of about 140 yards, containing 7 acres, more or less;

LESS AND EXCEPTING the following two parcels: Commence at a point that is 140 yards South of the NE corner of said 40 acre tract, and run thence West 440 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence West 220 feet; thence South 420 feet to the North right of way boundary of the Salem-Rock Creek Public Road; thence Southeasterly along and with North right of way line of said road, 220 feet; thence North 470 feet, more or less, to the POINT OF BEGINNING, containing 2 acres;

AND EXCEPTING, Commencing at a point that is 70 yards South and 140 yards West of the NE corner of said 40 acre tract; thence West 70 yards; thence South 70 yards; thence East 70 yards; thence North 70 yards to POINT OF BEGINNING, containing 1 acre, more or less, and containing in the aggregate 2 acres, more or less.

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

This notice first published this 9th day of December, 2020. This name and address of the distributee or attorney is:

Jerry Cogburn, Distributee
BY: Victor Martin, ABN 2018116 Attorney at Law
420 N. Main, Suite One
P. O. Box 922
Nashville, AR 71852 (870)
845-5256 phone
(870) 845-5899 fax
(VM: 24, 25)

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: JERRY DEWON HENRY, DECEASED
CASE NO. 31 PR 20-74-2

NOTICE OF PROBATE-TESTATE

Last known address of decedent: 617 Park Street, Mineral Springs, AR

Date of death: June 21, 2020
An instrument dated June 12, 2018, was on November 20, 2020, admitted to probate as the last Will of the above named decedent, and the undersigned has been appointed Executrix thereunder. A contest of the probate of the Will can be effected only by filing a petition within the time provided by law.

All persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, duly verified, to the undersigned within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in the estate.

This notice first published the 16th day of December, 2020.

Andrea Henry, Executrix, by
Aaron R. Brasel, ABN 2009138
Post Office Box 813
Nashville AR 71852
(870) 845-4100 – Telephone
(AB: 25, 26)

To Advertise in the Nashville News-Leader, call 845-0600

Mrs. Claus Gets Serious About Christmas Shopping

She could shop anywhere -- Paris, San Francisco or Broken Bow --- but she prefers to browse these friendly stores in Nashville where selection, service and quality are as abundant as snowflakes in her front yard. It's time to get serious about Christmas shopping.



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York Gary

845-1536
Toll Free 1-800-235-6855



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Nashville

Santa left a note for his beloved Mrs. Claus -- it said:

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