

JA hosts
masquerade
fundraiser
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DC announces post-season basketball awards Page 11a



ADVANCE-MONTICELLONIAN

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A LITTLE BIT OF WINTER FUN IN SPRING



Photo courtesy of Kohl Jones
Carter and Davis Jones took advantage of the brief winter precipitation and built a snowman south of Monticello.

COVID pay discussed in QC meeting

By: MELISSA ORRELL

Premium COVID pay for former County employees was a hot topic at the March regularly scheduled Drew County Quorum Court meeting Monday, March 14, as former County employees, Jamie Rawls and Steven Stain, asked the court to bring back the topic as they promised to do in November. During the November meeting an ordinance was passed that allowed the County to pay current Drew County employees premium pay for time spent working during the first year of the pandemic.

At the time of the November meeting guidance on how the premium pay would affect retirees was a concern for the Court. According to Charlie Searcy, County treasurer, and Robert Akin, County judge, at the time, the Arkansas Association of Counties had advised Arkansas counties not to include retirees in the pay or to give them the option to turn down the funds. A discussion ensued with the court saying they would come back at a later date when more was known on the topic to discuss paying the former and retired employees. Justices Joe Williams and Orlando Jones voted no on the original ordinance. Williams expressed concern at the time that if the ordinance for current employees was passed that the issue would not be brought back up for retired or former employees.

"I voted no," said Williams on Monday to the court and the crowd. "The reason I voted no was not because I

was against premium pay but because it didn't include everyone. I think of the two that just addressed us, Mr. AC Simpson, really dedicated his life to being a deputy and work in this county. To see him get COVID and lose his life and then we aren't going to include him. Joe wasn't voting no against premium pay but because he wanted to include everyone. I am just one person but I agree that everyone who worked during those time should have gotten paid. That's my take."

It wasn't revisited or reviewed at any of the following meetings until Monday when Rawls and Stain, former employees pressed the issue with the court.

"I'm asking why," Rawls told the Court. "We worked during that time just like everyone else. I specifically asked do I need to stay on. Someone else quit before me but were told they needed to stay on payroll. I was not told that, I was told, 'you worked during that time, you will get your check.'"

According to Rawls, FOIA requests made by Stain for emails pertaining to the subject, and shown to the Advance Monticellonian, show the issue was not followed up on past the November meeting, when the question was posed to the Court by Rawls in the Monday night meeting, she was told by members of the court that it was not followed up on. According to the guidance received in the final ruling on the issue, the premium pay will not affect retirees or their benefits. The court decided Monday not to take any action

on the issue until more information on the cost of paying the past employees can be brought to the court, as well as stating concerns about the absence of Justices Steve Pigott and Frank Appleberry, with Akin stating that the court would not make a decision until all Justices were present and the total cost of paying the former employees was known. When asked, the court stated the issue would be brought back before the court in the April regularly scheduled meeting.

Another issue touched on an not discussed was when the final guidance on the premium pay and using the federal funds for it came out, elected official could not be paid out of the funds. While the Court turned down their premium pay, County elected officials were eligible for the money in the ordinance passed by the Court in November.

Also during the meeting the Court heard the monthly hospital report and was told of a new OBGYN who will be relocating to Monticello soon. The new doctor will be employed by Mainline voted on an ordinance that will donate premium pay that was due to County Attorney Cliff Gibson to the Drew County Museum voted on the end of the year "clean up" of the 2020 financials. The clean up corrects mistakes such as an expense inadvertently charged to the wrong line item when entered into the system voted to allow the Sheriff's Department and the Jail

See QC Page 6A

MEDC seeking nominations for Large Business of the Year

Monticello Economic Development Commission is seeking nominations for Large Business of the Year.

Large Business includes any business or industry (manufacturing, service, distribution, medical, etc.) which employs 50 or more people.

Please submit your nomination along with a short explanation why you are nominating the business. What makes the business great? What have you seen them do that you would like them recognized for? Is there something the business does that is unique?

Nominations can be emailed to success@monticelloedc.org by no later than noon Monday, March 21.

Drew County COVID update

Wednesday, March. 9: 1
Thursday, March. 10: 0
Friday, March. 11: 0
Saturday, March. 12: 1
Sunday, March. 13: 0
Monday, March. 14: 1
Tuesday, March 15: 1
Active cases as of Tuesday, March. 15: 9
7-day average of new cases as of Tuesday, March. 15: 0.57

By: MELISSA ORRELL

New infections of COVID-19 continue to decrease across the County, as Drew County added 4 new cases to the tally bringing the total number of cases in the County since the beginning of the pandemic to 4,651, on Tuesday, March 15. The total number for the State of Arkansas is 827,336 with 1,806 active cases. The County has logged a total of 67 deaths as of Tuesday, March 15.

Due to new advances in treatments and the plunging case numbers around the Country the CDC has offered new guidance on recommendations to prevent community spread, moving away from across-the-board mask mandates and restrictions and taking a more measured approach to the disease.

The CDC now has three categories to put counties in that will then determine the recommendations made by the agency for that area. The categories are low, medium and high. Drew County remains in the low category with the following guidance:

- Stay up to date with COVID vaccines
- Get tested if you have symptoms
- Have a plan for rapid testing if needed (have home tests or access to testing)
- Talk to healthcare provider about whether you are a candidate for treatments like oral antivirals, PrEP and monoclonal antibodies
- Follow CDC recommendations for isolation and quarantine.

UAM student among 11 chosen for Cooperative Extension Service internship

By LON TEGELS
College of Forestry, Agriculture and Natural Resources - UAM

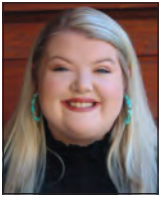
After nearly a 20-year absence, the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service is bringing back its college internship program. One of the 11 students chosen to participate in the 2022 program is Rayvin Callaway, a University of Arkansas at Monticello student.

Callaway, from Star City, will be a junior this fall. She is a double major in Ag Business and Animal Sciences.

"I applied for the CES internship program because

I wanted to learn more about the role extension agents play in their community, county and state," Callaway said. She said she expects to work for the 4-H members, preparing them to be leaders and teaching them to believe in themselves and dream big.

A two-pronged approach Jerry Clemons, Delta District Director for the Cooperative Extension Service, said he hopes the internship program will both prepare those who are interested in extension for the real work of a county agent and recruit



CALLAWAY

those who haven't yet considered extension as a future employer.

"It's an opportunity for us to let college students know a little bit about us and what we do,"

Clemons said. "We hope to get them familiar with what we do so when they get out of college, they'll look at us for employment, and if not, will be an advocate in whatever career field they choose."

"In our mind, we picked 11 good ones," he said, noting that funding limited the number of applicants the program could accept.

Because the internships

are paid but do not provide housing, Clemons and other program administrators asked each intern to choose three preferred counties for his or her internship, so that they might be placed where they were able to live with family or in their own apartment or dormitory.

Callaway will shadow longtime Cleveland County extension agent and staff chair, Les Walz.

"Because Walz has been there for so long, it was felt Rayvin might get to experience the overall big picture of what an agent does," Clemons said.

See UAM Page 6A

STUDENTS FROM MULTIPLE SCHOOLS ATTEND PRODUCTION



Photo Courtesy of Stephanie Hollis

Junior and Senior students from Drew Central, McGehee, and Monticello school districts attended a TheatreSquared production of, The History Show, on March 7 at the Drew Central auditorium. The four actors had one goal: cover the entire timeline of U.S. history in just 45 minutes. They had to get through all the important dates, names and places from the year 1000 through the most recent events in politics. Following the performance, the actors held a talk-back where students could ask questions and learn more about careers in drama as well as programs and services provided to students through TheatreSquared. This production was brought to Monticello by the Gifted and Talented department of the Southeast Arkansas Education Service Cooperative.

Reminder: Chamber Banquet is March 29

The Drew County Chamber of Commerce will host its annual awards banquet at 6 p.m., Tuesday, March 29 at the Gibson University Center. Max Braswell, Executive Vice-President of the Arkansas Forestry Association will be the keynote speaker. Tickets are now available at the Monticello-Drew County Chamber of Commerce for \$30 each, or, \$300 for a reserved table seating eight. Contact the chamber at (870)367-6741 or monticellochamber@sbcglobal.net.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

UPCOMING

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

Drew county GOP meeting

The Drew County Republican Committee (DCRC) will hold its monthly meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 17 at the Monticello Country Club. Individuals interested are welcome to attend. For additional information please contact Diana Harton at 870-723-5701.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

Black History Parade

The Drew County NAACP You Chapter will hold a parade beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 19. The line up will take place at First Baptist Church, located at 413 N. Main St., 10:00-11:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

Annual Cemetery Association Meeting

The annual meeting of the Union Cemetery Association will be held on March 20, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. at the Union Methodist Church at Rye. All interested persons are encouraged to attend.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29

Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet

The Drew County Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual banquet at 6 p.m., Tuesday, March 29 at the Gibson University Center. Tickets are now available at the Monticello-Drew County Chamber of Commerce for \$30 each, or, \$300 for a reserved table seating eight. Contact the chamber at (870)367-6741 or monticellochamber@sbcglobal.net.

MARCH 1-APRIL 5

Shepherd Center –Spring 2022

Who: Adults

What: Classes in bridge, hand, knee and foot, dominoes, knitting, crocheting, crafts and carpentry. Other possible classes include crafts, technology and jewelry making.

When: Register on March 1 at 8:45. Classes will continue each Tuesday in March and April 5. Activities begin at 9:00 except carpentry which begins at 8:00.

Where: First Methodist Family Life Center (east door)

Cost: \$10 (one time)

This is sponsored by several churches in Monticello and provides a time of fellowship and learning. Each session begins with a devotional. News to Know segments will include useful information.

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

Military Mobile Museum

The local DAR chapter will host a veteran’s mobile museum beginning at noon Sunday, April 10, at the VFW building. Opening ceremony will be at 1 p.m.. followed by “Welcome Home Ceremony” for Vietnam Veterans at 2 p.m. A flag retirement ceremony will be performed by area Boy Scouts at 3 p.m. We will also have a “thank you cards for veterans” station, DAR information table, and an opportunity to purchase wreaths for December 2022. Exhibit tours are free and open to the public.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

PEO Fundraiser

Enjoy fellowship and delicious food and refreshments for \$10 per person. Sign up for fun & games - Bridge, Dominos, Hand & Foot (Bridge players can get their own foursome). April 12, 2022 at the 1st Methodist Church, 317 S. Main, Monticello, starting at 1:00 p.m. Call Kay Keon, 870-367-3744, Sheere Scogin, 870-723-7560, or Marilyn Mhoon, 870-866-0929.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

UAM Rodeo

Weevil Stampede Collegiate Rodeo - Thursday, April 21st at 6:00 p.m. at the Drew County Fairgrounds.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

UAM Aggie Comeback Farm Tour

April 22- Friday 4 p.m. — UAM Farm Tour.

Drew/Desha Cattleman’s meetings - 5:30 p.m (after Farm Tour).

SATURDAY, MAY 7

Drew Co. Master Gardeners plant sale

The Drew County Master Gardeners will hold a Plant Sale at the Market in the Park next to the Drew County Courthouse on Saturday, May 7, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Plant types include – Bedding plants such as Daffodils and Lily mix along with pollinator attracting plants such as Coneflowers. A selection of vegetable plants such as tomatoes and peppers will be available along with some herb plants. Various shrubs and trees will also be on hand.

ONGOING

City recycling guidelines

Each Wednesday, barring a catastrophe, the city of Monticello is accepting recyclable items at the Transfer Station within the following guidelines: 1) Cardboard—must be flattened. Not accepted are cereal boxes, drink can boxes or egg cartons; 2) Plastic bottles—lids must be removed and the bottles must be bagged. Only No. 1 and No. 2 bottles are accepted (the number is located on the bottom of the bottle). No wide-mouthed bottles can be accepted; 3) Newspapers—bagged or boxed; 4) Aluminum cans—must be bagged. No tin cans or pet food cans can be accepted; and 5) Shredded office paper—must be bagged. To have recycled items picked up, contact City Hall at 870-367-4400. Note: Electronics (E-Waste) are accepted at the city transfer station, 1466 Old Warren Road, but are not eligible for pick up. The city reminds all citizens to not mix household trash with recyclable items. The city does not accept glass or any item not listed above at this time.

Drew County Quorum Court Meeting

The Drew County Quorum Court meets the second Monday of every month at 6 p.m. in the Monticello District Court, 107 East Jackson Avenue in Monticello. The public is encouraged to attend.

Monticello City Council Meeting

The Monticello City Council meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. in the Sadie T. Johnson Community Building, 707 U.S. Highway 278 East in Monticello. The public is encouraged to attend.

Support for local schools

Show support for local schools by purchasing a school mascot yard sign for only \$20. All three (University of Arkansas at Monticello Boll Weevils, Drew Central Pirates and Monticello Billies) may be purchased for \$50. For more information, contact the Monticello-Drew County Chamber of Commerce at 870-367-6741 or stop by the chamber office at 335 East Gaines Street.

Borrow a book and hours

The Southeast Arkansas Regional Library, Monticello Branch, 114 West Jefferson Avenue, is open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

Masks are required while entering, exiting or walking around the library. Masks may be removed while seated. Social distancing of 6 feet between individuals. Hand sanitizer is available upon entering the building and at the front desk. Call the library at 870-367-8583. Fax, copying and printing services are available.

Public WiFi is available inside and from the parking lot. The password is books2015.

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Senior Center LUNCH



March 16 - 23

Wednesday: *Baked ham, sweet potatoes, spinach, pineapple chunks, cornbread*

Thursday: *Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy,*

Friday: *Chicken tenders, mac & cheese, green beans, banana pudding, biscuit*

Monday: *Spaghetti w/meat sauce, Italian veggie, pears, garlic toast*

Tuesday: *Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, peach cobbler, roll*

Wednesday: *Pork w/ gravy over rice, mixed greens, cake, cornbread*

All lunches have a choice of sweet tea and milk.

The Senior Center is now open and serves curbside and sit down lunch for citizens 60 and older for \$4; under 60, \$5, Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., first come, first served. Rates for lunches were changed in January 2022 to those currently listed.



Hello Spring!



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Arkansas 4-H teams win top spots at Mid-South 4-H Food Pantry Competition

By REBEKAH HALL
U of A System Division of Agriculture

In communities with limited access to food or grocery stores, it can be difficult to create a nutritious meal on a tight budget. Four Arkansas teams tested this skill — and emerged victorious — at the Mid-South 4-H Food Pantry Competition on Saturday, Feb. 26 as part of the 2022 Mid-South Farm and Gin Show. Held at the Renaissance Convention Center in Memphis, Tennessee, the competition challenged teams to cook a healthy meal using three mystery ingredients commonly found in food pantries. The recipes they created were then given to food banks and pantries to help clients prepare their own meals.

Arkansas 4-H teams from Howard County, Grant County, and Drew County won the top three spots.

Amanda Welch, 4-H youth devel-

opment specialist for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture and the competition's coordinator, said the contest helped participants practice cooking skills and benefitted people in need.

"We're really trying to use foods that are given out to food banks," Welch said. "We've found that even though we're giving out food to people in need, they're often not able to actually utilize the food and don't know how to cook it, or what to prepare with it. This competition also helps the kids come together, make a recipe, go over the food nutrition, the MyPlate food groups, food safety procedures, and work as a team."

MyPlate is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's nutrition guide. It breaks down the serving sizes and requirements for each food group.

Welch said the competition combined the Tennessee 4-H Chopped

Challenge and the Arkansas 4-H Food Challenge, bringing four teams from each state together. Teams had 45 minutes to prepare their respective dishes and five minutes to present the dishes to a panel of judges. The judges included Jennifer Biggs, food and dining editor for The Daily Memphian; Cathy Pope, president and CEO of Mid-South Food Bank; and Bert Smythe, owner of McEwen's restaurant in Memphis.

Each team was required to use tortillas, canned chicken and a cup of Greek yogurt in their dishes, which they could supplement with additional ingredients from the competition pantry. Welch said all leftover pantry ingredients were brought back to Arkansas and donated to The Shack, a Little Rock organization that provides meals to people experiencing homelessness.

"Especially because in our state competition, the parents and



Courtesy photo

Third place winners, Drew County: Sy Lanthrip, Chloe Russell, Niah Russell.

coaches don't really get to watch the youth compete when they do their preparation and their presentation," Welch said. "At Mid-South, they were able to stay in the room the whole time, so they're better able to help coach over the summer to get them prepared for the state competition."

Welch said she would also like to see the 4-H Food Pantry Competition grow to include all the states represented at the Mid-South Farm and Gin Show, which includes Louisiana, Mississippi and Missouri in addition to Arkansas and Tennessee.

Teach Arkansas Initiative Addresses Teacher Shortage

SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

Many Arkansas schools are facing severe teacher shortages that impact their ability to provide a high-quality education to every student. To encourage more Arkansans to enter the teaching profession and highlight various pathways and financial incentives to become a teacher, the Arkansas Department of Education's Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and Forward Arkansas, a statewide education nonprofit, have rebranded and launched the Teach Arkansas campaign.

"All Arkansans agree that our students deserve a quality education," ADE Secretary Johnny Key said. "For this to become a reality, schools across the state must be fully staffed with highly-qualified teachers. Teach Arkansas aims to encourage existing teachers to continue their careers while inspiring high school and college students and professionals in other fields to join them in shaping the lives of our state's future leaders. Together we can grow tomorrow, today."

As part of the rebrand, a new website — TeachArkansas.org — was developed, which provides current and future teachers an easily-accessible hub for career resources. At the site current teachers can find professional development opportunities to increase their existing skills and income, high school and college students can learn how to enter the teaching profession, and potential career changers can learn about affordable pathways to the classroom. In many cases, teacher candidates can obtain a four-year degree plus teaching license at no cost to them!

In addition to a new website, one-on-one coaching with professionals trained in guiding current and future teachers through paths to licensure or career advancement also are available. Career advisors' contact information can be accessed through TeachArkansas.org.

"Teach Arkansas makes it easier than ever before for current teachers to pinpoint opportunities for career advancement and for those interested in becoming teachers to identify paths to the classroom that work for them and financial incentives and career coaching to help them get there," said Ben Kutyllo, executive director of Forward Arkansas.

Additional resources, including a debt-free tuition calculator and a "choose your path to teacher licensure" tool, are available at TeachArkansas.org.

IF YOU'RE GOING TO DRINK TO ST. PADDY; PLAN A SAFE RIDE HOME

The boisterous celebrations of St. Patrick's Day are expected to return this year. Regardless to what extent the celebrations may trend toward in local communities, drivers who may participate are encouraged to make plans for a safe return home.

The Arkansas State Police Highway Safety Office is offering advice to the celebratory crowd, Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.

A sober driver is one who hasn't consumed any alcohol, and to help keep local communities safe, Arkansas law enforcement officers are teaming up with the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to spread the message about the dangers of drunk driving. Even one drink can be one too many.

According to NHTSA officials, 10,142 people were killed in drunk driving related crashes during 2019, accounting for nearly one-third of traffic crash fatalities. On average, more than 10,000 people died annually between 2015 through 2019 in motor vehicle crashes involving a driver who was drunk. That's one person killed in drunk driving crashes every 52 minutes.

"Everyone has their own particular reason to celebrate at one time or another, but when they do, we want Arkansans to realize the importance of safe driving," said Colonel Bill Bryant, Director of the Arkansas State Police, and the Governor's Highway Safety Representative. "If you've been drinking, make the right choice to find a sober driver to get you and your friends home safely. Before you put your keys in the ignition, remind yourself: Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over."

During the 2019 St. Patrick's Day period almost half of crash fatalities involved a drunk driver. Additionally, from 2015 to 2019, a total of 280 lives were lost in drunk driving crashes during the St. Patrick's Day period. Drivers should also keep an eye out for pedestrians who have had too much to drink. Walking while intoxicated can also be deadly, as lack of attention to their surroundings could put pedestrians at risk of getting hit by a vehicle.

If you're the designated driver, make sure you don't drink so you can keep that promise of safety to yourself and your passengers. It can be a long night, but people are counting on you, not to mention the other drivers, passengers, and pedestrians on the streets. Take the role of designated driver seriously — people are relying on you.

Before heading out for a celebration, it's vital to plan before anyone drives. Be honest with yourself; acknowledge whether you'll be drinking or not. Don't depend on the luck of the Irish, follow these ideas to ensure you and your fellow partygoers live another day.

- It's never okay to drink and drive. Even if you've had one alcoholic beverage, designate a sober driver or plan to use public transportation to get to your destination safely. Plan a safe way home before you leave.
- If you see a drunk driver on the road, call 9-1-1.
- Do you have a friend who has been drinking and is about to drive? Take away their keys, then make arrangements to get your friend home safely.
- Buckle up, always. Your seat belt is your best defense against the drunk driver.

For more information on impaired driving, visit <https://www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drunk-driving> or call the Arkansas Highway Safety Office at (501) 618-8136.

REGISTER TO VOTE

DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE FOR THE UPCOMING PRIMARY AND ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION IS APRIL 25, 2022.

REGISTER NOW AT THE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, 210 SOUTH MAIN STREET MONTICELLO, AR 71655 870-460-6260

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HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

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OPINION

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Why can't we have pockets too?

I like to think of myself as a somewhat logical human being. Yes, there is no question that I have a flair for the dramatic scene every now and again but in general, and particularly as I have aged, I appreciate logic. I have never entertained nonsense and that trait has held strong through my many birthdays. So I pose this question, why are women's pants still being made without pockets? Seriously, why is this a thing?

Purses are great and cute and another fun thing to shop for, but pockets are practical. Purses and bags can get heavy. Lord knows we buy the jumbo sized ones so we can cram all of our stuff in there that we may or may not need throughout the day. Pockets force you to make choices. Am I going to need that chapstick today?

If the answer is yes, and for me it always is yes, the chapstick goes in the pocket. If the answer is no, congratulations on your perfect lips.

The first time I bought a shirt that had a pocket on the top left side, I was hooked. It isn't fair men get pocketed T-shirts, no problem. Make that shirt in a nice, feminine lavender color, sew that pocket on there and let us stash our things in the shirt pocket. Need a piece of gum after an aromatic lunch, no problem. Gum can be easily stored in the shirt pocket.

I feel like a Southern person should have already cashed in on this idea and made some serious money while solving a huge problem. I see signs every summer that say, "This establishment will not accept cash that comes from undergarments." Want to know why some women do that in the first place? It's because we don't have pockets to place the cash in! It has to go somewhere! Y'all know it gets hotter than Satan's toenails down here. No one wants sweaty cash. Get us some pockets and I guarantee this problem decreases greatly.

Before you start on me about sewing my own pocket on a shirt, please understand that I am an absolute menace with a sewing machine. God bless my Home Ec teacher, she really tried. I cannot sew to save my life. Need a button put on, I am not your person. We all have our strengths, needle and thread is not mine.

Besides, I make no bones about it, I am a consumer. If your product is good quality and brings convenience to my life, I will shell out my hard earned dollars for it. If a T-shirt has a pocket, you better believe it is worth five more dollars to me.

Don't get me wrong, I love a good accessory. A nice purse or wallet has been my guilty pleasure for many years now. Purses definitely took a back seat though when whatever genius came up with the idea of the "wristlet" wallet. I don't even consider buying a wallet now days if it doesn't have the strap hanging from it that I can slip my hand in and go.

If I am so lucky as to be wearing a pair of pants that actually has two functioning pockets, I will put my phone in one, my key fob in the other and, unless my debit card is in my phone case for extra convenience, my wristlet wallet is hanging from my hand as I enter a store.

Maybe that is it. It's convenience that I want, not so much logic. I am all about making things more convenient for myself and running on extreme efficiency. That relates to the no nonsense policy I live by.

So, here is my call to action and a potential solution to world wide woman frustration.

Designers, seamstresses and everyone involved in the clothing industry, please, for the love of Fred and my limited sanity, cease and desist with the pant making without pockets. We are tired of being disappointed.

Fighting for energy, food supply independence

The United States of America is a leader in both energy and food production. We are blessed with tremendous resources that have helped our country thrive and enabled Americans to enjoy the benefits of ample access to necessities and staples for everyday living.

When war breaks out in the world, it brings into focus the importance of not having to rely on foreign countries for the products and goods we need. That is the case today amid Russia's premeditated and unprovoked invasion into Ukraine. Russian President Vladimir Putin's ruthless campaign against our ally has had devastating consequences for the people of Ukraine in addition to the global economy.

We have rallied to the cause of Ukrainians in a variety of ways as they withstand this assault, and will continue to stand in solidarity with them.

This conflict, much like the COVID-19 pandemic, has reminded Americans we simply cannot put ourselves at the mercy of other nations for essential commodities. That is obvious

as we face rising prices at the gas pump and grocery store.

After Russia's attack on Ukraine, Americans are now paying even more for fuel at a time when we continue confronting soaring inflation.

In 2021, about eight percent of total U.S. crude oil and petroleum imports came from Putin's regime. That can't continue, which is why I joined my colleagues in calling on the Biden administration to restore American energy independence. Opening up American oil and gas deposits, and in particular approving the Keystone XL Pipeline, would benefit our allies suffering under Russian tyranny and American consumers.

Recall the president issued Executive Orders in January 2021 to block Keystone XL and pause new oil and natural gas leases on public lands and offshore waters. He should rescind both and work with U.S. energy producers to increase production at home.

I've also joined several of my colleagues to introduce the American Energy Independence from Russia Act that would authorize the construction of Keystone XL, increase liquefied natural gas exports by removing regulatory hurdles, prohibit bans or pauses on new energy

leases and spur other action to support U.S. energy production.

Just as energy independence is important for our national security, so is our food chain. The war on Ukraine has significantly disrupted U.S. agricultural markets. Interruptions in the supply of wheat, feed grains, and oilseeds will affect food security and further exacerbate ballooning global inflation.

When input costs go up, it's a bad day for rural America and a bad day for everyone who works so hard to purchase the food they need to put on the table. In essence, everybody loses.

Farmers and ranchers should have every flexibility to ensure food security and affordability for the U.S. and beyond. One way to increase the domestic production of food is to delay the Conservation Reserve Program sign-up deadline to ensure farmers have access to millions of acres of cropland and pasture that would have otherwise remained idle in order to address both inflation and food security concerns.

This should be a top priority. Now is the time for the U.S. to rise to the occasion and ensure our food supply remains stable and within Americans' budgets.

If we can grow an abundance of food and

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ASHLEY HOGG
EDITOR



Showing appreciation to our law enforcement officers

The 93rd General Assembly wrapped up its fiscal session this week, and today I'd like to commend legislators for their support of law enforcement in Arkansas.

The 93rd General Assembly was one of the most law enforcement friendly sessions ever. Legislators voted to fund stipends, pay raises, new positions, and equipment. They increased the reimbursement to county jails for the care of state prisoners and allocated money for the expansion of a prison in Calico Rock.

Legislators and leaders of law enforcement joined me at a table in the rotunda as I signed three bills that the General Assembly passed with unanimous bipartisan

support. The new laws were recommendations from a task force which I created during the national unrest that swept the nation after the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis in the summer of 2020.

At the time, protesters around the country were burning buildings in cities. Many demanded that cities slash spending on police departments or disband them altogether.

When I introduced the task force, I stated clearly that there would be no discussions of diminishing our support of law enforcement. The task force's mission was to find ways that the state and cities could support law enforcement. I wanted to ensure that officers were as safe on the job as humanly possible. I wanted to improve the relationship between police officers and their communities.

This is why I signed into law

3 bills that support our police officers across the state. Senate Bill 103 grants a one-time stipend of \$5,000 to full-time certified city and county law enforcement officers and full-time certified state Department of Corrections probation and parole officers.

The bill gives a one-time stipend of \$2,000 to full-time certified state troopers and other certified law enforcement officers of the Department of Public Safety.

Officers who are employed by July 1 of this year, or who are hired by January 3 of next year, are eligible for the stipend. The bonus is a show of appreciation for our current officers, and it's also a recruiting tool as we seek to hire great officers.

House Bill 1026, which became Act 223, increases the average annual starting salary for state troop-

See **HUTCHINSON** Page 5A



ASA HUTCHINSON
GOVERNOR'S REPORT

Law enforcement becomes top priority

From one-time bonuses to increased funding for safety equipment, the 93rd General Assembly made support for law enforcement a top priority in this fiscal session.

Act 224 provides a one-time stipend of \$5,000 to full-time certified city and

county law enforcement officers as well as probation and parole officers.

It also provides for a \$2,000 one-time stipend for

state troopers.

Act 223 increases the average starting salary for state troopers from \$42,357 to \$54,000.

This act also allows for an increase of positions at the Arkansas Crime Lab.

Act 225 which outlines the budget for Fiscal Year 2023 funds an increase for county jail reimbursement from \$32 per day to \$40 per day and provides \$10 million for body cameras, bullet-proof vests, and other law-enforcement safety equipment.

The General Assembly passed Act 219 which will provide funding to hire an additional 45 deputy prosecutors this fiscal year.

Act 222 will provide funding for an additional 45 public defenders.

This will help to alleviate a backlog of cases in our court system.

Speaker Shepherd and Senator Hickey have issued a proclamation that calls for the Fiscal Session of the 93rd General Assembly to automatically adjourn sine die at noon on Tuesday, March 15, 2022.

In accordance with House Rules, a caucus of the entire House of Representatives will be held 15 minutes following adjournment to elect the Speaker-designate for the 94th General Assembly. The House caucus will convene at 12:15 p.m. this Tuesday, March 15, 2022, for this purpose.

You can watch all House proceedings at www.arkansasashouse.org.



HOWARD BEATY
ARKANSAS HOUSE REPORT

State Capitol week in review

The legislature completed the 2022 fiscal session in 23 days, approving a budget for state government that calls for spending about \$6 billion in general revenue next year.

A highlight of the fiscal session was approval of crime prevention measures, such as funding \$5,000 salary supplements for local law enforcement officers. Certified parole and probation offi-

cers will get the stipend too.

State troopers will get stipends of \$2,000. The legislature also raised starting salaries for state troopers, so Arkansas can better compete with neighboring states. It will go up from \$42,357 to \$54,000. The pay raise will boost Arkansas from seventh in the region to second.

Salaries of troopers first class will increase from \$53,035 to \$65,000. For corporals it will go up from \$63,612 to \$71,237 and for sergeants from \$74,319 to \$84,439. Lieutenants' annual salaries will increase from \$84,229 to \$94,076. Captains' salaries will go up from

\$94,277 to \$105,166 and majors from \$107,541 to \$116,772.

County jails will receive higher reimbursements for housing state inmates when there isn't enough space in state prison units. Now the state pays counties \$32 a day per inmate. That will increase to \$40 a day.

Also, legislators approved an appropriation for a 498-bed expansion of the North Central Unit at Calico Rock. The goal is to build additional prison space for serious offenders. Some county sheriffs have said they now have to hold

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HOW TO WRITE US

The Advance-Monticellonian welcomes letters to the editor. When submitting a letter, please include the writer's name, address and phone number. The phone number is for verification purposes only. We reserve the right to edit letters or to not publish certain letters.

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Letter to the Editor: Preparing for safe learning

By: BRANDIE EVERETT

As an elementary student in the mid 1990’s, I had never heard of an “active shooter/intruder drill.” In 1998, when the Westside Middle School shooting happened in Jonesboro, the possibility of a school shooting hit closer to home. A year later, the Columbine shooting took place, and the fear began. Were schools prepared then for an active shooter? Are they prepared today?

According to the 2021 State of School Safety Report, less than 75 percent of school administrators, approximately 50 percent of parents, and less than 50 percent of students believe their school is prepared in the event of an active shooter (Safe and Sound Schools, 2021). What can schools do to improve their preparedness for an active shooter?

Schools should begin by establishing a positive culture and climate. They should invest in additional mental health resources and utilize Social and Emotional Learning Activities. Arkansas currently has the G.U.I.D.E. for Life Curriculum that helps develop skills students need to be successful in life.

Schools should budget for a full-time school resource officer. Many schools now have at least one resource officer, but larger districts may require more than one. The resource officer should be seen throughout the school day fostering positive relationships with the students, staff, and families. Another recommendation is for schools to create an anonymous report line where anyone can report suspicious behavior. These reports should be taken seriously and investigated. There should be clear expectations and training for stakeholders before the report line is implemented.

Schools also need to listen to their parents and students. Too often these stakeholders feel that their input is ignored. There should be open discussion regarding difficult topics such as active shooters to prepare and alleviate anyone’s fears. Parents and students should be made aware of the school’s plan if an active shooting takes place. Where will students go? Where do parents go?

There is no training that can prepare you for a catastrophe when it actually happens, but in the case of an active shooter, be sure to follow the “Run, Hide, Fight” strategy. Run if you hear gunshots. If you can’t run, lock and blockade doors while hiding behind filing cabinets or something that can conceal you. As a last resort, fight. Stephen King stated it perfectly when he said, “there’s no harm in hoping for the best as long as you’re prepared for the worst.”

Brandie Everett, Ed.S., is a lifelong resident of Monticello. She is a fourth grade teacher at Drew Central Elementary where she serves as the Family and Community Engagement Facilitator and Positive Behavior Interventions and Support Coach. She is a 2021-2022 Arkansas State Teachers Association (ASTA) Advocacy Fellow and has served in education for ten years.

Let the sunshine in

By SONNY ALBARADO
Vice President, Arkansas Pro Chapter SPJ

Welcome to Sunshine Week! Those who cherish openness and transparency in government use this week to highlight why citizens of a democracy should care when public officials block their access to information and meetings.

It should be obvious that you should be allowed to attend or listen in when your elected officials gather to discuss where to use road and drainage equipment, how to spend tax dollars, or who to hire for a top administrative post.

It should be routine for you to request and receive records of who is on your local or state government’s payroll, copies of the contract for local garbage pickup or IT services, and documents that can show whether a city or county agency is performing its responsibilities under the law.

But determining what’s routine or obvious in today’s information-saturated environment is not always routine or obvious.

Arkansas’s 55-year-old Freedom of Information Act once stood as a national example of openness for all levels of government. The law’s statement of legislative intent, while stilted in legalese, is straightforward: “It is vital in a democratic society that public business be performed in an open and public manner so that the electors [voters] shall be advised of the performance of public officials and of the decisions that are reached in public activity and in making public policy.” But in recent years, legislators have repeatedly amended the FOIA, so much so that information once routinely and obviously within the public’s right to know is now hidden from view.

Not only has the FOIA been weakened by these changes, but lawyers for various government agencies also often take a very narrow view of the law’s mandate for openness.

One of the more recent and outrageous examples of this lawyerly tendency can be seen in a Feb. 28 column in Arkansas Business by Gwen Moritz, former editor of that publication. In the piece, Moritz recounts her frustrating efforts to update a map showing which areas of the state had higher percentages of residents with

medical marijuana cards.

Medical marijuana is a highly regulated business, and the state gathers all sorts of data about the suppliers and the recipients of cards that allow them to purchase the medication. It stands to reason then that a citizen ought to be able to obtain information about how well the state is performing its duties regarding medical cannabis.

One of the ways to monitor that performance is to determine how many medical marijuana cards have been issued by county.

That’s what Moritz sought to do when she asked the Arkansas Department of Health for data on the cards broken down by county. Six weeks after making her request, she received a copy of a report to legislators that gave countywide totals in ranges rather than specific totals. When Moritz renewed her request for totals, she got pushback from a Health Department lawyer.

“In a phone conference,” Moritz wrote, “ADH attorney Craig Smith cited the Medical Marijuana Amendment to the state Constitution, which protects the list of people who have received cards. He said ADH had interpreted that exemption [to the FOIA] ‘narrowly’ to include any data derived from that list.”

The lawyer also made some arguments involving the federal Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act, but that was just more smokescreen. HIPAA applies only to medical professionals and doesn’t prevent disclosure of information that doesn’t identify individuals.

In the end – 10 weeks after her initial request – Moritz got the data. Even then, her troubles with the numbers didn’t end: the Health Department’s numbers for some counties were obviously inaccurate. Read her column for all the details.

The lesson: Although watered down, our state’s public records and meetings law remains a citizen’s strongest lever for prying information out of reluctant or recalcitrant officials.

It behooves public officials to adopt a culture that broadly construes the FOIA in favor of disclosure, not look for ways to restrict the free flow of information to the citizenry.

Between the lines

By: BRENDA BLAGG

Sunshine Week, America’s celebration of the public’s right to know what its governments do, comes this year at a particularly sobering time.

The annual event began Sunday and continues through the week, with media outlets throughout the country using the occasion to call attention to the laws that preserve public access to information and seek to keep federal, state and local governments transparent to the people they serve.

What makes the time so sobering, of course, is that Sunshine Week comes as the Russian invasion of Ukraine continues.

Thanks to the open access to information that citizens in the U.S. enjoy — and the technology that can bring images of a war on the other side of the world into our living rooms — Americans know about the atrocity of Russia’s war on Ukraine.

We know, too, that our own country is impacted and how the U.S. government is helping the besieged people of Ukraine escape the violence and/or defend their homeland.

Indeed, the U.S. government in the weeks leading up to Russian President Vladimir Putin’s decision to strike Ukraine supplied the world with the intelligence that telegraphed much of the movement of the Russian forces into the neighboring country.

American media have been on the ground reporting from Ukraine and Russia as well as Poland and the other European countries into which displaced Ukrainians are flooding as their own country is being ripped to pieces by Putin’s forces.

Meanwhile, the Russian population whose leader wreaked all this destruction know little about their country’s role in all of this. Not even the troops dispatched to carry out the invasion were fully aware of why they’ve been sent there.

At Putin’s bidding, Russian lawmakers have even made it a crime, punishable by 15 years in prison, for journalists to report the truth to the people in Russia or even for anyone else to spread the word to others. No one can call the war a war or mention invasion under the new law that criminalizes such “fake” news.

What has followed has been the shutdown of independent news sites in Russia as well as the pullout of some foreign press. The Russian people are largely shut off from alternatives to government-controlled media coverage while the Russian state media puts out a continuous stream of misinformation, or actual fake news, about why their troops are killing their Ukrainian neighbors and Russian soldiers are coming home in body bags.

Meanwhile, the streets of one Ukrainian city after another are being reduced to rubble, their citizens continuously terrorized, many women and children and elderly forced into exodus.

All of this stands in great contrast to what happens in the U.S., where the press is free to report what it sees and where laws protect public access to the meetings and records of government at all levels.

The system isn’t perfect, which is really why Sunshine Week was established back in 2005.

It provides a welcome opportunity to remind Americans of the critical role of a free press in this society and of the equally important role of informed citizen participation in government — especially this year.

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

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GILMORE

Continued from Page 4A

more violent offenders in their jails, endangering staff and other prisoners who are in jail for minor offenses.

The legislature funded five additional forensic analysts at the state Crime Lab, so that sexual assault evidence kits can be completely tested within 60 days.

The legislature approved a Senate bill that provides \$10 million for body cameras, bullet proof vests and other equipment that protects officers and improves the public’s confidence in their integrity.

Every year the legislature passes a Revenue Stabilization Act, which is the Arkansas balanced budget law. It prioritizes spending requests by placing them in categories A or B.

If the economy slows and tax revenue falls below esti-

mates, state agencies reduce spending accordingly, starting with spending requests in the B category.

The public school fund in the current fiscal year is about \$2.257 billion. The legislature increased it to about \$2.327 billion for next fiscal year, which begins July 1. About \$101 million of the public school fund is in category B.

State spending by the Department of Human Services will increase from about \$1.78 billion to about \$1.82 billion, with about \$106 million in category B.

Much of the state revenue spent by DHS is matched by the federal government at roughly a 3-to-1 rate, so the department’s actual budget will exceed \$8 billion.

DHS administers Medicaid, long-term care, treatment of drug and alcohol abuse, adoption, foster care, food stamps and welfare.

Legislators approved using

BOOZMAN

Continued from Page 4A

produce enough energy to meet our domestic needs, we do not have to suffer at the whims of dictators or the uncertainty that accompanies volatile international crises. I will continue leading efforts in the Senate to secure our independence in these two incredibly important areas.

HUTCHINSON

Continued from Page 4A

ers from around \$42,000 to \$54,000. That raises the salary by more than \$11,000. The raise moves us up in the rankings in surrounding states from seventh for starting salaries to second.

Act 223 also funds sala-

ries for five more forensic employees for the Arkansas Crime Lab to accelerate the testing of sexual assault kits, which must be completed within 60 days of submission.

Act 225 includes money to fund a prison construction project at Calico Rock. This is important to assure space for those who are currently

backed up in our county jails.

It also provides \$10 million for body cameras, bullet-proof vests, and other equipment that will improve safety for officers and build community confidence in their professionalism.

Government has no greater responsibility than to assure public safety. We also owe it to our police officers, who

risk their lives every day to keep us safe and to provide cutting-edge training and the best equipment to keep them on the job and safe from their work.

Our support of law enforcement did not begin with the 93rd General Assembly, but we certainly put an exclamation point on our support this year.

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UAM campus adds variety of trees

By LON TEGELS
College of Forestry, Agriculture and Natural Resources - UAM

UAM continues to grow. As in, “Grow more trees.” The Arkansas Forestry Division and UAM- College of Forestry, Agriculture and Natural Resources added ten trees to campus Monday, March 15.

Trees don’t last forever. Sometimes drought, wind, or disease can take a tree from us. This month, UAM emeritus and campus volunteer Lynne Thompson initiated a sapling-planting project.

“UAM desires to increase the diversity of woody plant species on its campus to enhance a variety of plants available to students so UAM can use them as an educational tool in our plant identification classes,” he said.

“To increase plant variety, the campus needs to introduce more new species and more plants where we have few individuals,” said Thompson. “This can be done by identifying badly needed species and getting them growing on campus.”

“Finding forest run saplings is how this project got started. I asked Arkansas Forestry Division staff forester, Chandler Barton if they could get the word out to County Foresters that we were looking for certain species and could identify potential plants. Then I or their

foresters could dig them up and transplant them to campus.”

Thompson said, “some of the plants are physically available on campus, some are not.” He added, “for those plants not on campus, UAM has to haul our students to them off campus, on field trips, which is an expensive and time-consuming venture.”

“To increase plant variety, the campus needs to introduce more new species and more plants where we have few individuals,” said Thompson. “This can be done by identifying badly needed species and getting them growing on campus.”

Barton and Urban Forestry Coordinator Krissy Kimbro located a nursery with five trees on our “species needed” list. The Forestry Division offered to purchase and donate them to UAM. Thompson said since UAM would need more of these species, UAM purchased a second set of trees.

Two saplings were planted by the Museum (basswood and red mulberry), two medium-sized swamp privet plants were planted by a “wet drainage” in the arboretum, and five saplings were planted in the Forestry Park (2 witch-hazel, one basswood and two black locusts). One red mulberry was planted on the west side of the apartments, where we had much better soil.

Thompson will be placing a

flag on the stakes next to the plants to make them more visible to mowers.

The species planted on the UAM Campus include:

- American Basswood
- Red Mulberry
- Swamp Privet
- Witch-Hazel
- Black Locust

Thompson (UAM Campus Volunteer) will continue this spring and summer to ensure that the plants are protected from fire ants and deer and add water as needed. Thompson started at the UAM Campus 41 years ago with the School of Forestry in 1980 and retired in 2010. He volunteers on many projects, including UAM Campus Arbor Day and city tree-planting projects.

“UAM needs to thank the Arkansas Forestry Division for donating five species, especially Chandler Barton, for doing the legwork to get the saplings ordered. Chandler and the Monticello Forestry Division staff hauled the trees from the nursery near London, Arkansas to UAM,” said Thompson. Thompson and campus crew member Wade Barnard spent Friday and Monday planting the saplings in locations with suitable habitats and soils.

CONTINUING EFFORTS TO KEEP SENIORS SAFE



Ashley Hogg/Advance Monticellonian

Members of the Barbara Abston Senior Center in Monticello were welcome to attend classes on keeping your financial and personal information safe taught by the Monticello Police Department. Chief Jason Akers met with the seniors to discuss ways to keep their private information from falling into the wrong hands.

COSL announces Drew County tax auction

SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

Commissioner of State Lands Tommy Land announced that his office will auction tax-delinquent land in Drew County on Wednesday, March 30, at 10 a.m. The auction will be held at the University of Arkansas Monticello Fine Arts Center, with registration beginning at 9:30 a.m.

This year, the COSL office will auction two years’ worth of properties to catch up with the year of auctions missed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. “This will catch us up so that we’re current on all sales,” Land said.

Prospective bidders can find an online Public Auction Catalog, including a buyer’s guide; statutes governing sales; auction date, time and location; and a complete listing of parcels offered.

This resource is on the Commissioner’s website, www.cosl.org, and is regularly updated.

The website also includes an instructional video demonstrating how to research information about each parcel available for sale.

“We open the bidding at the amount of taxes, penalties and interest due,” Land said. “Anyone who has delinquent property going up for auction should be aware they only have 10 business days after the auction to redeem property sold there.”

Bidders must register for the auction, but the registration is free. The first \$100 of any parcel’s purchase price must be paid in cash, while the remainder may be paid by cash, check or credit

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QC

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to use American Rescue Plan funds for funding until the funds are used up. Because the County received less than a set amount of funding, they are allowed to use ARPA funds for operating expenses but must maintain a separate account to show how the funds were used.

Passed an ordinance to correct a mistake that had the Sheriff’s Office salaries coming out of the wrong fund.

Nancy White, County Clerk, also reported that with the recent redistricting voters will receive new voter ID cards in the mail within the next three weeks. If a voter does not receive a new card, White advised voters to contact the Clerks office to make sure they are still registered to vote, if a voter does not in two back to back federal elections, they are changed to an inactive status. She also announced April 25 is the last day to sign up for primaries, unless a voter moved from another Arkansas County and is transferring their registration within the State, under that scenario, voters have until the Friday before election to transfer their registration.

UAM

Continued from Page 1A

Gaining broad experience

Each intern will spend time working with agents of every stripe — agriculture, family consumer sciences and 4-H youth development — to get a well-rounded experience, Clemons said. He said he hoped the first crop of summer interns will return to college in the fall and encourage their classmates to apply, growing the program through word-of-mouth.

During the selection process, Callaway told her interviewers that among her academic studies, livestock reproduction and soil science were two of her favorite subjects.

“Although they are on opposite sides of the spectrum, I think they both piqued my interest and made me want to learn more,” she said. “Soils were very interesting because of the complexity and requirements to grow the crops we use to feed our livestock.”

“Growing up, I was around row crops, specifically soybeans, but when my sister decided to show livestock, we both decided to,” Callaway said. “From there, my passion for agriculture grew, and I was able to become a member of some amazing organizations that have shaped me into the leader I am today. My goal for my degree is to spread facts about agricul-



Courtesy photo

ture and instill a passion for it into the younger generation.”

A perfect fit

Callaway is active in UAM Collegiate Farm Bureau and Collegiate Cattleman Association and has also worked with 4-H and Future Farmers of America. Additionally, Callaway spent a summer working in the UAM beef barn for farm manager Greg Montgomery.

“What makes her special, she can have an infectious smile, she’s a sweet kid, and she can talk to anybody,” Montgomery said. “She also has the grit to go with it. She is a hard worker and very determined in what she wants to do. When she says she’s going to do something, she does it. She’s not scared to get in the middle of anything.”

Clemons says the internship will begin with a three-day leadership conference at the Arkansas 4-H Center in Ferndale, Arkansas

following the conclusion of the spring semester. At the conference, interns will meet the extension agents with whom they’ll be working for the summer. The following week, the interns will report to their assigned counties.

“Whatever the agent is doing, they’ll be going along and shadowing,” Clemons said. “That could be walking pastures, getting sprayers set up, or helping with education programs.”

The internship will conclude in July with participation in the 4-H State O-Rama, the annual culmination of various 4-H competitions.

“Rayvin is one of those people I don’t worry about ever being successful,” Montgomery said. “She will do well wherever she’s at. She’s a young lady who is going to make UAM proud for many years to come.”

Republican Party makes donation to local police department

SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

According to Monticello Police Department Chief Jason Akers, the Drew County Republican Party recently made a \$1,500 donation to the Monticello Police Department on the heels of its “DeFEND the Police” themed annual fundraiser.

“On behalf of local law enforcement, we thank the Republican Party of Drew County for their recognition of the efforts of law enforcement personnel who protect and serve our community,” Akers said.

Chief Akers was a speaker at the event, where the topics included community interaction and input with law enforcement as well as post traumatic stress disorder and health conditions that effect law enforcement officers.

The donated funds were given to the police department to use as deemed appropriate, but tentative plans are to use the funds to obtain a memorial for first responders.

Drew Central Middle School March Students of the Month:

Fifth Grade McKenzie Goudy Landon Parks	Seventh Grade Abby Strickland Colton Reed
Sixth Grade Lamiah Wigfall Nathan Forrest	Eighth Grade Kennedi Lambert Levi Strickland

CALENDAR

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Information and referral outreach office now open

Southeast Arkansas Delta Solutions Community Development Organization announces the opening of its Information and Referral Outreach Office, beginning Tuesday, Sept. 1, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The office will be open Tuesdays only. Services will include but are not limited to, COVID-19 relief information, pharmacy assistance referrals for free and reduced prescription medications, help

with disability applications and other health and human services needs.

Delta Solutions is a non-profit organization, serving residents in Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Desha and Drew counties. It’s primary focus is Education, Housing, Health and Wellness, Economic Development, Community Development, Housing, Food Insecurity, and Financial Literacy.

The office is located at Revival Center Church’s Business office complex. For service, please use the front entrance at 311 South Pine in Monticello. For questions or to schedule an

appointment, one may call Mrs. Linda Austin at (870) 740-1093.

Arkansas Bikers Aiming Toward Education Meeting

The Arkansas Bikers Aiming Toward Education holds a meeting monthly at Western Sizzlin’, 436 U.S. Highway 425 North, on the first Thursday of every month. Social hour starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is called to order at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend who cares about motorcycles and motorcycle safety, you do not have to own or ride a bike to be a member or to attend meetings.

Andrews Chapel Cemetery

To all concerned that have

family or cemetery plots in the Andrews Chapel Cemetery, please send any updated contact information to: Andrews Chapel Cemetery Association, C/O Cindy Ferrell, Secretary/Treasurer, 2968 Barkada Road, Wilmar, AR 71675.

VFW Auxiliary

Anyone interested in joining the VFW Auxiliary is asked to contact Wanda or Melvin Veasey, VFW Commander, at mlvinj.veasey@yahoo.com or 870-723-4993.

Any relative of a veteran who

served overseas in a foreign war is eligible for membership. Any past members who are still interested in the Auxiliary are also asked to contact Wanda or Melvin if they are still interested in being a member.

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OBITUARIES

CONTACT US
Ashley Hogg, Editor
870-367-5325
editor@monticellonews.net

Timothy Kaine Foster

Timothy Kaine Foster, 50, of Monticello, passed away Sunday, March 6, 2022. He was born September 7, 1971, in Camden, to Danny K. Foster and Judy McDonald Foster.

He was a United Postal Service employee, a Baptist and a United States Army National Guard Veteran where



FOSTER



VETERAN

he served in three free-dom tours in Iraq, Bosnia and Saudi Arabia. Tim was an avid outdoors-man loving to hunt and fish. He also enjoyed playing horseshoes, playing darts and riding on the levee. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Joe and Decai McDonald and Corley and Beatrice Foster.

Timothy is survived by his wife, Kelli Fletcher Foster; his parents, Danny K. and Judy McDonald Foster of Camden; a sister, Angy Stiles (Dory) of Wichita, Kan.; his children, Allison Summey (Dustin), Cortlyn Foster, Lyndon Foster (Lexi) and Baylea Foster; grandchildren, Taylynn Ashmore, Kara Summey, Harry and David Summey and Delilah Foster; an aunt, Genna Hargis (Leigh); an uncle, Patrick Foster (Bevery); along with nieces and nephews, Cassidy and Cade Stiles, Alex Hargis (Natalie), Kyle Hargis (Maddie), Jessica Hargis, Braden Foster, Patton Foster and Jim Foster.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Thursday, March 10, at Stephenson-Dearman

Funeral Chapel. There was a visitation preceding the funeral service from 12:00-2:00 p.m. in the chapel. Burial with military honors will be in Campground Cemetery. You can sign Timothy's guest-book page at www.stephensondearman.com (Paid obituary)

James Roger Parker

James Roger Parker "Blessed", 72, of Collins, went to be with his Lord and Savior Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at the Drew Memorial Hospital in Monticello. He was born July 8, 1949, in Jefferson County, to the late James Nixon Parker and Gladys Middleton Parker.

He was a Baptist preacher and was a member of Collins Baptist Church before being called to preach in Eudora. He has made an impact on



VETERAN

children in Southeast Arkansas when he was working as a youth counselor and probation officer. Parker was also a United States Air Force Veteran. He loved working with children, fishing, and spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ as well as spending time with his family, doing yard work, going on cruises and, last but not least, ironing his wife's clothes. He also enjoyed teaching karate in his younger years.

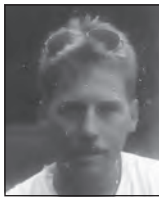
He is survived by his wife, Ann Sivils of Collins; his children, Steve Brooks of Star City, Keith Brooks of White Hall and Tammy Parker of Houston; a sister, Linda Kay Thompson of Star City with nieces Gabrielle Thompson and Danyelle Mangiamele; ten grandchildren; a host of great grandchildren; sisters-

in-law, Martha Kirkham of McGehee, Patricia Compton of Texas and Linda Sivils of Monticello; and a host of nieces and nephews in Arkansas and Texas including Mr. Tyler, Mr. James, Mr. Luke, Mr. Ryder, Mr. Ethan, Miss Libby and Miss Skylar who visited him often.

There will be a private memorial service at First Baptist Church of Star City at a later date. You can sign Mr. Parker's guestbook page at www.stephensondearman.com. (Paid obituary)

Larry Theodore Piper

Larry Theodore Piper, 58, of Little Rock, passed away Monday, February 7, 2022, in Little Rock. He was born November 13, 1963, in Stephen-



PIPER



VETERAN

ville, Newfoundland to the late William Edgar "Bill" Piper and Mary Prindle Cook Piper. He was a heavy equipment operator for highway road construction jobs, a United States Army Veteran, a member of the United States Army Reserves, and a Southern Baptist. He last worked as a maintenance technician sub-contracted to social services and welfare organization in Little Rock that provided a range of services working for homeless individuals and families. Larry loved his family first and foremost, was a fisherman and country boy at heart, an avid outdoorsman that loved the woods and waters, an avid traveler, and a proud and protective father. He loved his Dallas Cowboys

and he himself was a heck of a basketball player in his day, he was difficult to beat and usually owned the rim. He was kind to all and loved to laugh! He was very proud to be from Arkansas and he let everybody know that!

He is survived by his daughter, Kami Piper; two granddaughters, Isabella Rose Piper and a second due March 31, 2022; three brothers, Bill Piper (Sharon), Tom Piper (Kris) and Dennis Piper; a sister, Cathy Leslie (Jim); and fifteen nieces and nephews.

Graveside service were at 11 a.m. Sunday, March 13, 2022, at Green Hill Cemetery. You can sign Larry's guestbook page at www.stephensondearman.com. (Paid obituary)

Lydia (Linda) Geraldine Woodall

Lydia (Linda) Geraldine Woodall, 79, died March 3rd at UAMS in Little Rock with her family by her side.

Linda was a firecracker of a woman, strong willed her whole life and fiercely protective of her family. She burned brightly and lived her life as though she would be here forever. There wasn't a soul in the world that could change



WOODALL

her mind once it was made up.

She enjoyed spending her time reading mystery novels, caring for her plants and hanging out with her Chihuahua, Bella. Linda always had something to chat about and would often follow her visitors to the door to continue a conversation. She would sit outside with her coffee, watch

the hummingbirds, and talk for hours. She was an animal lover with an open door for strays and even the occasional wild animal. She loved to play card games and, to hear her tell it, she never lost at spades. She was a mother, friend, and confidant to anyone that needed her. She was baptized at the Monticello Church of Christ.

Linda was preceded in death by her parents, Dorothy Brown and Romey Floyd; a brother, Romey Floyd, Jr.; her darling cat companion, Keanu and her beloved husband, Henry.

She is survived by her children, Henry Woodall and Rena Barnett; her grandchildren, Brandy Woodall and Adrienne Woodall; and her great-grandson, Kai King.

She has been reunited with her loved ones and will meet her dear friend, Jesus. While we know it will be a blessed reunion for her, she will be sorely missed by all whose heart she had touched. (Paid obituary)

Thomas Wayne Wooten

Thomas Wayne Wooten, 55, of Monticello entered the Pearly Gates of Heaven on March 13, 2022 at Baxter County Medical Center in Mountain Home. He was the son of the late Thomas Dale Wooten and Margaret Eads Wooten. He was a Signal Maintainer for Union Pacific Railroad for 29 years and a member of Rosehill Freewill Baptist Church who loved serving the Lord and sharing his word with anyone who would listen. Tom was a wonderful husband, father, brother, Uncle, Great Uncle and just someone who you could call a true friend.

Tom loved watching the Razorbacks whether it be from home or going to one of

their games. He loved playing with his grand pup Rhett Wooten in the afternoons and waking up to his growls and whimpering in the mornings. He said he never knew he could love an animal as much as he did Rhett. He loved the history channel, deer hunting, fishing, socializing, and collecting books and pens that he never intended to read or use. Nor, would he ever let me throw anything away. I would get so upset with myself because I forgot how OCD he was. He also was a jack of all trades and a master of none.

Tom was proceeded in death by his beloved son Dil-



WOOTEN

lon Wooten and brother Jimmy Wooten. Survivors include his loving wife of 31 years, Shelly Beard

Wooten of Monticello; one daughter Kelsey Wooten of Monticello; a brother Jerry Dale Wooten of Louisville, Ky.; three sisters, Teresa McCullough Hogue (Rickie) of McGehee, Marilyn Rothwell (Lynn) of Fordyce, Kimberly East of Monticello and along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 16, 2022, at Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church with Rev. Dwayne Roper officiating. There was a visitation from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday evening at Stephenson-Dearman Funeral Home. Burial was in Andrews Chapel Cemetery in Wilmar. You can sign Tom's guestbook page at www.stephensondearman.com. (Paid obituary)

AUCTION

Continued from Page 6A

card.
"Property taxes help fund

schools, roads, libraries and public services including ambulances," Land said. "Everyone benefits from paying those taxes — and the property owner benefits from paying on

time, by avoiding interest and penalties on delinquent taxes."

Properties that do not sell at auction will appear on the COSL's post-auction sales list 30 days after the auction

date. From there, they can be purchased through an online auction system. Another instructional video on the COSL website demonstrates that process to bidders.

Owners of delinquent parcels may redeem those delinquent taxes online at www.cosl.org using a credit or debit card. Those who prefer to pay by check or money order can

print a Petition to Redeem from the website or call the office at 501-324-9422 to request the petition, which must accompany their payment.

David Watkins - Owner

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Card of Thanks

The Family of Jason B. Fisher would like to thank y'all for your prayers and many acts of kindness. We would like to give special thanks to: Stephenson-Dearman Funeral Home, Pastor George Toney and Sister Sherry Toney, Deacon Melvin Veasey Sr.; the entire New Light Community, and to the many family and friends who have comforted us during our time of grief. May God bless you all.

The Fisher Family

ATTENTION: ANNUAL MEETING UPCOMING

The annual meeting of the Union Cemetery Association will be held on March 20, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. at the Union Methodist Church at Rye. All interested persons are encouraged to attend.

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classified@monticellonews.net

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1 Week - \$7¹⁰
(25 Words Or Less; 28¢ Per Additional Word)
Includes one insertion in the Shoppers' Guide and one insertion in the Advance.

4 Weeks - \$16
(25 Words Or Less; 28¢ Per Additional Word)
Includes four insertions in the Shoppers' Guide and four insertions in the Advance.

FREE CLASSIFIEDS: To individuals for all ads with items priced at \$50 and under. All free ads must be for a single item, contain the price of the item and be of a noncommercial nature. Lost and Found ads and Give away ads will also qualify as free ads. All other classified ads will be charged at the rates listed above. Each household is limited to two free ads per week and will run only one week.

PAID CLASSIFIEDS: All ads with items valued over \$50 and any ads of a commercial nature will be charged at the rates listed above. Classifieds to individuals must be pre-paid – you may use a credit or debit card or stop by our office at 314 N. Main St.

ADJUSTMENTS AND CREDITS

Check your ad for errors the first day. In the event an ad is accidentally omitted from publication or contains printer's error, the publisher's liability for such omission or error shall not exceed the charge made by the publisher for the ad which is omitted or which contains an error. Notice of the typographic or other errors must be given before the second insertion. No refunds on items sold before the last run date of the ad. No refunds are available with the \$16 classified special.

WE MAKE IT EASY TO PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS. CALL THE ADVANCE AT **870-367-5325** OR
SUBMIT YOUR AD ONLINE 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK AT **WWW.MYMONTICELLONEWS.NET**.

DEADLINES: Newspaper - Monday 5 PM, Shoppers' Guide - Thursday Noon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Drew County Historical Museum is back. Opened each Saturday from 10am till 4pm. Come on by and visit with us and see some of Monticello's treasures. We're located at 404 South Main Street. See you soon

Church Sale: Pentecostal Church of God in Christ 111 East Briarcliff Street in Monticello. Pastor Robert Marshall Sr. has for sale: 4 good tires for a car 17inch, Two sets of camo sheets, 1 gallon of transmission fluid, small love seat (older but very clean), small two drawer night stand (black), One set of new crutches, one right leg boot (for injured leg), Tucker wear trays, Cups & Saucers and plates, One exercise bike. One queen size bed, One large 12 x 12 rug, One cash register., Baseball pants for boys (size 8 to 12). School pencils. Two pair of boots , mens or boys (size 8). For the ones that are truly interested in any of these items please call Pastor Robert Marshall Sr. at 870-281-4863. Located in the Market Place parking lot every Saturday. 4tf 10/25

Hope Place

Hope Place in Monticello is in need of newborn and size 6 diapers. We are open to receive donations Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday from 9:30 am - 4:30 pm. TFN f

Fight Hunger

Hope Place of Monticello invites our community to drop off non-perishable food donations. We are open to receive donations Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday from 9:30am-4:30pm. Suggested items: Pasta, Peanut Butter, Rice, Beans, Soup, Canned Meats, Canned Fruits & Vegetables, Mac&Cheese, Cereal, Juice and Boxed Meals. 224 South Main, Monticello. TFN

Historical Preservation Funds Needed For Enon School

Funds are needed for the maintenance of Enon's 2-room schoolhouse located at 2474 Highway 35E outside of Monticello. Any donation amount will be greatly appreciated to keep the legacy alive and well. For more information on how to help preserve Enon's schoolhouse or to make a donation contact, James Jarrett at 870-367-3765. TFN

CASA of the 10th Judicial District is seeking volunteer advocates and board members. To find out how you can help a child in need, please contact (870) 367-9449. TFN

Monticello 2nd Chancefurdogs is in need of supplies: Dog pens, kennels and crates, dog houses, 20x20 plastic tarps, dog feeders, dog and puppy food ALWAYS needed. If you would like to donate, please contact: Monticello2ndChancefurdogs@yahoo.com or find us on facebook. TFN

AUTO

For Sale: 2008 Nissan 350Z Coupe 2 door, automatic transmission, 156K miles, Cherry Red, good condition. \$7,500 call 870-723-5338

AUTO SALVAGE

Mr. Johnny's Auto Salvage at 421 Ambrose Street has good used tires starting at \$10 and up. Come on by 421 Ambrose Street or call 870-308-1025 4pd 4/2

Mr. Johnny Will buy junk cars running or not. 421 Ambrose Street Open M-F 8am to 4:30 pm call 870-308-1025 4pd 4/2

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COMMERCIAL TRUCK

'94 Ford Truck, price reduced \$6500. Good for loader truck, logging, and farm to market truck. Call 870-692-1152. TFN mtbw

FREE

Advance Classifieds are free to individuals if the item is valued at \$50

RUMMAGE SALE RATES

Option #1 Includes date, time and location of sale **\$10 ONLY!**

Option #2 Includes date, time, location and brief description of items. Also includes a bold heading. **\$15**

We'll even list your sale on **myMonticellonews.net!**

FURNITURE

We buy estates and household furnishings. 870-308-5827 or 870-308-0663. Selling used furniture and varieties at 1320 N. Hyatt St. #102391 TFN BM-M

HELP WANTED

The Calvary Baptist Church of Monticello is requesting resumes from those interested in serving as Part-Time Worship Leader. Please send resumes to:calvarymonticello@att.net or P.O. Box 419 Monticello, AR 71657 4pd 4/9

Monticello Senior Center is in need of an elder kitchen worker. Per Area on Aging Senior Worker Program, you must be 60 or older, and be able to work 4 days a week, 5 hours a day. If interested, please apply at Monticello Senior Center or call 367-2434 and ask for Cindy. 3/19 4pd

MISCELLANEOUS

For Sale 2 hospital beds, walker, wheelchair, potty chair and a nebulizer call 870-226-2191 or 870-723-7432 4pd 4/2

For Sale log truck tires call 870-723-8093 4pd 4/2

Mr. Johnny is buying precious metals. Gold, Silver, Copper etc. 421 Ambrose Street M-F 8am to 4:30 pm call 870-308-1025 4pd 4/2

Barn kept 4x5 Round bales of hay. \$30 per bale, Square bales of hay fertilized. \$.50 per bale. 870-723-3788 16pd 3/19

Call the Federal Trade Commission to find out how to avoid scams. 1-877-FTC-HELP. Never give any personal or financial information to unfamiliar websites

HELP NEEDED: PRAISE BAND AND CONTEMPORARY MUSIC DIRECTOR

Position is responsible for the Praise Band and the Contemporary Music Ministry for First United Methodist Church of Monticello. Person should be a skilled musician who is energetic, creative, and most importantly, is a committed disciple of Jesus Christ.

JOB RELATED SKILLS

- Knowledge of Choral and Instrumental conducting techniques
- Expert proficiency in keyboard and/or guitar, as well as vocal performance
- Familiarity with elements of liturgical worship

This is a 12-month part time position requiring Wednesday evening rehearsals and a Sunday Morning service.

Salary is based upon qualifications and experience.

Application should include a resume, a letter expressing interest and a listing of at least three references. Send material to:

Contemporary Music Director Search
First United Methodist Church, 317 South Main, Monticello, AR 71655 (870) 367-2471

This position is available immediately and will remain open until filled.

ADVANTAGES OF SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS, INC.

Job Opening (safety-sensitive position)

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All applicants must pass background checks and drug tests required by the agency . Applications will be accepted through March 18, 2022. Applications may be picked up at 168 West College in Monticello, or by accessing our website at www.advantageseark.org.

Advantages does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, national origin, religion, disability, Limited English proficiency (LEP), sexual orientation, transgender status or low-income status.

Legals

22PR-21-71

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF DREW COUNTY,
ARKANSAS PROBATE

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARY DIXON
WARE, DECEASED, JOHNNY WARE, ADMINISTRATOR

NOTICE

Last known address of decedent:
486 Meadowview Dr., Monticello AR, 71655.
Date of Death: August 12, 2019.

Johnny Ware was appointed administrator of the estate of the above decedent on July 19, 2021.

All persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, duly verified, to the undersigned within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in the estate. However, claims for injury or death caused by the negligence of the decedent shall be filed within six (6) months from the date of first publication of the notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in the estate.

This notice was first published on the 16th of March, 2022.

Johnny Ware, Administrator
Gibson Law Office
P.O. Box 510
Dermott, AR 71638
#103997 3/16 3/23

NOTICE

The following vehicle(s) will be sold, dismantled or destroyed in fifteen (15) days unless claimed at Reggie's Lock & Key LLC, 1065 Highway 278 West, Monticello AR 71655, PH: (870) 723-6898.

2003 Yamaha Classic Star
2007 Jeep Liberty

VIN JYAVP11E23A044920
VIN 1J4GK58K67W517543

#103982 3/9 3/16

NOTICE

The City of Monticello is taking bids for work on the Old Historic Post Office aka MEDC Building at 211 W Gaines Street Monticello, Arkansas 71655. Please contact City Hall at (870) 367-4400 or MEDC Office at (870) 367-4410 for an opportunity to view the project. The following are specifications for this project.

Large Room

Fix sheetrock as needed
Paint 2 coats on walls
East Exterior brick wall, repair plaster and paint
Remove counters
Back Office
Fix window
Fix sheetrock and plaster walls as needed
Install Rubber Base Boards
Paint all walls, bricks stay as is, door and trim stay as is

Halls

Fix sheetrock and paint wall
Fix base boards

Large Back Office

Fix sheetrock
Repair plaster on walls and ceilings
Paint walls and ceilings

The above numbers will be available for questions. Bids will be due Thursday March 31st at 2:00 p.m. Send bids to 203 W Gaines Monticello, AR 71655 ATTN: Vickie Norris. The city has the right to reject any and all bids.

Paid for by the City of Monticello in the amount of \$50.40.

#103870 3/16 3/23

NOTICE

The City of Monticello is taking bids for work on the one 10 ton, preferably two 5 ton HVAC units to service the Old Historic Post Office. Ventilation should be included. This unit(s) will service the occupied office spaces on the ground level of the structure.

The project can be viewed by calling (870) 3673076 or (870) 367-4400. Speak with MEDC or mayor's office. 203 E Gaines St., Monticello, AR 71655.

The City of Monticello will be opening sealed bids at 2:00 p.m. on March 31st at 205 E Gaines St. Monticello, AR and reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Paid for by the City of Monticello in the amount of \$32.48.

#103870 3/16 3/23

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HELP WANTED

Director of Nursing
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LPN/RN Charge Nurse
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Deadline to apply is 3/14/22.



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Legals

NOTICE

The following vehicle(s) will be sold, dismantled or destroyed in fifteen (15) days unless claimed at Rod’s Towing and Recovery, 1010 Hwy 425 South, Monticello, AR 71655, 870-367-1700.
2019 Dodge Ram 1500 Gray Vin # 1C6RR6FG3KS628489
#103986 3/9 3/16

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF DREW COUNTY,
ARKANSAS, PROBATE DIVISION – 5TH DIVISION.
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BRENETTA J.**

**HUDSPETH, DECEASED, NO. 22PR-22-17.
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT AS
EXECUTRIX**

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 925 E. Oakland Avenue, Monticello, AR 71655;
DATE OF DEATH: January 24, 2022.
An instrument dated July 15, 2021 was admitted to probate on March 1, 2022 as the Last Will and Testament of Brenetta J. Hudspeth and the undersigned has been appointed Executrix thereunder. 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 on the 9th day of March, 2022.
TRESHAI HUDSPETH, Executrix.
By: Allison J. Cornwell,
FRIDAY, ELDREDGE & CLARK, LLP,
400 W. Capitol Ave., Suite 2000
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-3522,
Direct Phone: (501) 370-1452,
Direct Fax: (501) 244-5365,
cornwell@fridayfirm.com,
Attorneys for the Estate

#103981 3/9 3/16

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NOW ACCEPTING BIDS

Advantages of Southeast Arkansas, Inc. is accepting sealed bids for lawn maintenance at 168 W. College St. in Monticello. The following services will be covered under each contract: mowing, edging, weed eating, trimming of all sidewalk areas, buildings, trees, fences, etc.; blowing off all sidewalks, porches, drives, trimming any shrubs as needed; weeding beds, as needed; hauling off fallen debris and trimming. Services will include up to 3 mowings per month, as needed. The contract is anticipated to cover April through October 2022. However, contract may be cancelled at any time. Each bidder should include a separate bid for additional mowings. Current liability insurance coverage must be submitted.
Bids will be accepted by mail at:
Advantages, P O Box 359, Monticello, AR 71657
Questions may be directed to
Angie Burton at (870) 367-4383.
Bids will be accepted through March 18th, 2022.

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Chancefurdogs**
P.O.Box 322 • Monticello, AR 71657

For more information about adopting a pet, fostering a pet or donating, please email Monticello2ndChancefurdogs@yahoo.com or go to our facebook page [Monticello 2nd Chancefurdogs](https://www.facebook.com/Monticello2ndChancefurdogs).

without researching those sites. Even those sites listed in classified ads here. A message from The Advance Monticellonian and the FTC.

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Lady Billies shut out Lady Bulldogs 10-0 to begin conference play

By: JEFF YOUNG
Advance Correspondent

The Monticello Lady Billies got off to a good start to begin the 8-4A Conference with a 10-0 victory over the Star City Lady Bulldogs on Thursday, March 10.

McLauren McGregor opened the contest by striking out the side for the Lady Billies.

Skylar Burns led things off for the Lady Billies with a single to third followed by the next two batters drawing outs.

Audrey Howard reaches first on an error and advances to second allowing the courtesy runner, Annika Nichols, to advance to third.

Mia Reginelli doubled to left field to score Nichols and Howard to give the Lady Billies a 2-0 lead.

McGregor got the Lady Bulldogs out in order in the top of

the second inning, and in the bottom half of the inning, Madeline Stanley led off with a walk followed by a pop up to the shortstop for the first out of the inning.

Alaina Lyle homered to right field, scoring Stanley to increase the Lady Billie lead to 4-0.

Star City got their first hit of the game in the top of the third on a leadoff single, but the Lady Billie would get the next three batters out to end the inning.

Monticello's next runs came in the bottom of the fourth inning after singles by Howard and Reginelli followed by a walk to Meygan Bivens to load the bases.

Anna Morgan would clear the bases on the next at bat with a Grand Slam to increase the Lady Billie lead to 8-0.

After a fly out for the first out, Kynslee Baker would single to center followed by a single to left by Burns.

After the second out of the inning, McGregor would single to left to score Baker to make the score 9-0 before the final out was recorded on a fly ball to left.

McGregor would allow to Lady Bulldogs on the base paths in the top of the fifth, but the Lady Billie defense held Star City scoreless in the inning and in the bottom of the fifth, Anna Morgan would close the contest with a solo walk-off homerun to give the Lady Billies their first conference win of the season 10-0.

McLauren McGregor pitched the complete game, allowing two hits with zero runs, no walks and striking out nine. McGregor was 1 for 4 from the plate with an RBI.

Skylar Burns was 3 for 4, Alaina Lyle 1 for 3 with a homerun and two RBI, Audrey Howard was 2 for 4 with two runs scored, Mia Reginelli 2 for 3 with one run and two RBI, Meygan Bivens with a run scored, Anna Morgan was 2 for 4 with two home runs and five RBI, Kynslee Baker was 1 for 1 with one run scored, Madeline Stanley 0 for 1 with a run scored, and Erin Claire West going 0 for 2 with a walk.

As a team, the Lady Billies were 12 for 28, scoring 10 runs, walking six times and striking out three times.

Defensively the Lady Billies held Star City to no runs allowing two hits in 18 at bats.

The Lady Billies returned to the field on Friday, March 11, hosting the Drew Central Lady Pirates.

Alaina Lyle got the starting nod in the circle for the Lady Billies, striking out the first two Lady Pirate batters and getting Gracie Connard to ground out to end the inning.

Skylar Burns led off the bottom of the inning with a single followed by a double by Lyle that scored Burns. McGregor would

ground out to advance Lyle, who would score on Audrey Howard's ground out to increase the Lady Billie lead to 2-0.

Lyle would sit the Lady Pirates down in order in the top of the second inning and would add three runs in the bottom half of the inning on a single by Bivens and Anna Morgan.

Burns would reach first on an error allowing Bivens to score and Morgan to advance to third. Lyle would single to score Morgan and Burns would score on an error to give the Lady Billies a 5-0 lead.

Another three-batter inning for the Lady Pirates in the top of the third.

The Lady Billies would add another three runs in the bottom of the third on a Howard single followed by a Reginelli single, and a single to Bivens.

Howard would score on a wild pitch, followed by a walk to Anna Morgan to reload the bases.

Erin Claire West singled on a fly ball to Ali Jo Cruce that scored Reginelli to increase the lead to 7-0. The Lady Pirates would get the next three Lady Billie batters out to end the inning.

Zoe Johnson led off the top of the fourth inning with a single for the Drew Central and advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt by Bailey Chapman.

Gracie Connard drew a walk to put runners on first and second. Mallory Jackson would strikeout for the second out of the inning but Johnson and Connard would advance bases on steals.

Caden Lane would double to center fielder Mia Reginelli to score Johnson and Connard to cut the lead to 7-2.

McGregor would ground out to begin the bottom half of the inning followed by a single by Howard and after an error, Howard would find herself on third base.



Jeff Young/Advance Monticellonian

MIA REGINELLI scored two runs on a double against Star City. Reginelli completed the week going 4 for 6 with two runs scored and three RBI against Star City and Drew Central.

Reginelli grounded out but scored Howard.

Bivens would reach first on an error followed by a triple by Anna Morgan that scored Bivens. Erin Claire West would reach on an error that scored Morgan and advanced to third. West would score on a wild pitch.

Kate Morgan is hit by a pitch to advance to first. Burns hits a single to left, scoring Kate Morgan and advancing to second. Lyle would single to score Burns for the final score of the game.

With Drew Central recording three outs in the top of the fifth inning without a score, the Lady Billies would claim the game by a score of 13-2 under the 10 after five rule.

Alaina Lyle would get the complete game allowing two runs on two hits, one walk, and recording

eight strikeouts. Lyle was 3 for 4 at the plate with one run scored and three RBI.

Skylar Burns finished 2 for 4 with three runs and an RBI, Howard 2 for 3 with two runs and an RBI, Reginelli 1 for 3 with a run and an RBI, Bivens was 2 for 3 with two runs, Anna Morgan finished 2 for 2 with two runs, a walk, and an RBI. Erin West was 1 for 3 with a run and an RBI and Kate Morgan finished going 0 for 1 with a run scored.

For the Lady Pirates, Zoe Johnson was 1 for 3 with a run scored and Cade Lane recorded the other Lady Pirate hit going 1 for 2 with two RBI.

The Lady Billies will return to the field on Thursday, March 17, hosting the Camden Fairview Lady Cardinals at 5pm.

Billies dominate in 14-3 victory over Star City, fall to Magnolia 4-1

By: JEFF YOUNG
Advance Correspondent

The Monticello Billies opened the 2022 8-4A Conference schedule with a dominant 14-3 win over the Star City Bulldogs on Thursday night.

Taking the mound for the Billies was Tucker Breedlove, who was able to sit the Bulldogs down in order to begin the game with a fly out to center followed by two strikeouts.

The Billies began the contest with four consecutive singles in the bottom half of the first.

Doerian Allen singled to right followed by a steal to second, Brenden Brown singled on a bunt to the pitcher, Cade Pigott single to the pitcher scoring Allen, and a Breedlove single to center would score Brown.

Two sacrifice bunts would advance the runners and score Pigott followed by a line drive to left

by John Frost that would score Evan Bealer to give the Billies a 4-0 lead.

Breedlove would face five Bulldog batters in the top of the second but would not allow a run.

After a lead off out, Doerian Allen reached first on an error. Brenden Brown would single to right advancing Allen to third. Allen would score on the play due to an error by the right fielder that also allowed Brown to advance to third.

Monticello would not be able to get Brown across the plate ending the inning with a 5-0 lead.

After shutting down the Bulldogs at the plate, Brooks Harvey would lead things off advancing to first after being hit by a pitch.

Frost would reach first on a sacrifice and an error which allowed Harvey to score.

Brooks Bowman would single on a bunt advancing pinch

runner Blaine Hayden. Kaleb Romero would be thrown out on a sacrifice bunt that advanced the runners. After a strikeout by Allen, Brenden Brown and Pigott would draw walks to score Hayden to extend the Billie lead to 8-0.

Breedlove would sit the Bulldogs down in order in the top of the fourth inning.

In the bottom half of the inning, Wade Pennington would lead off the inning with a single followed by two walks to Harvey and Frost.

RJ Blackman would single to center, scoring Harvey and Pennington.

John Michael Efrid was hit by a pitch and Frost would score on a wild pitch. Allen would single to score Brooks Bowman.

Breedlove singled to right to score Allen and Kaleb Romero to increase the Billie lead to 14-0.

Star City would score three

runs in the top of the fifth inning, but it was not enough to advance the ballgame as Monticello recorded the 14-3, 10 run rule after five, victory.

Breedlove would be credited with the win, allowing three runs on four hits, striking out six and walking two in the complete game outing. Breedlove would also go 2 for 3 at the plate recording three RBI.

As a team, the Billies scored 14 runs on 11 hits going 11 for 20 from the plate.

Travelling to Magnolia to face the Panthers in their second conference contest of the season, the Billies saw their first three batters return to the dugout after a ground out and two strikeouts.

Easton Byrd took to the mound for Monticello, giving up a leadoff single, but was able to get out of the inning without allowing a runner to cross home.

John Frost recorded the lone

Billie hit in the top of the second inning, a line drive to left, but would be left stranded at first base.

Magnolia would have the same outcome in the bottom half of the inning after having one baserunner stranded on the bases.

The top of the third would follow the same pattern as the previous inning for the Billies with the only hit of the inning coming off a Doerian Allen single to center.

Magnolia would break the scoring drought in the bottom of the third inning to take a 1-0 lead after a solo homerun off Byrd to left field.

Monticello would tie the contest at one in the top of the sixth inning.

After a lead off strikeout, Allen would reach base on an error by the second baseman. Allen would steal second and advance to third on an error by the catch-

er. Brooks Bowman singled to score Allen to make the score 1-1.

Magnolia would reclaim the lead in the bottom half of the inning, scoring three runs to set up the final score of 4-1 after getting Monticello out in the top of the seventh in four batters.

Easton Byrd was credited with the loss, throwing the complete game allowing four runs on three hits, walking five and striking out four.

Monticello was 4 for 26 at the plate with 17 of those at bats resulting in strikeouts.

John Frost was 2 for 3, Brooks Bowman 1 for 3, and Doerian Allen 1 for 3 with a run scored.

With the loss the Billies fall to 4-2 overall and 1-1 in conference play and will return to Monticello on Friday, March 18, to host the Camden Fairview Cardinals in conference play.

First pitch is set for 5pm.



Jeff Young/Advance Monticellonian

TUCKER BREEDLOVE (left) pitched five innings in Thursday's 14-3 victory over Star City. Breedlove allowed three runs on four hits with six strikeouts. **RJ BLACKMAN (center)** made the most of his only at bat against Star City. Blackman recorded a single, advancing to second on an error, driving in two runs. **WARREN PENNINGTON (9)** and **DOERIAN ALLEN** celebrate after Allen scores on the Blackman single.

Drew Central announces post-season basketball awards



Jeff Young/Advance Monticellonian
MICHAEL GOAD was selected as the 8-3A Girls Head Coach of the Year after leading the Lady Pirates to a 3A State Tournament bid.



Jeff Young/Advance Monticellonian
GRACIE CONNARD (top) and **KADE BODIFORD (bottom)** earned 1st Team All-Conference selections as well as being selected as All-State for their play during this years basketball season.

By: JEFF YOUNG
Advance Correspondent

The Drew Central Pirates and Lady Pirates have announced the All-State and All-Conference post-season awards for the 2021-22 basketball season.

For the Lady Pirates, the team earned several accolades during the season including being the runner-up in the Commercial Bank Holiday Tournament, the 8-3A Conference Champions for the regular season, 8-3A District runner-up, and qualifying for the 3A State Tournament as the fourth seed from the 3A Region Four. Their first trip to the 3A State Tournament in several seasons.

The Lady Pirates finished the season with an overall record of 23-10 and an 11-1 record in 8-3A Conference play.

For their accomplishments, head coach Michael Goad has been selected as the 8-3A Girl's Coach of the Year.

Senior's Gracie Connard and



BUTLER



MILLER

Jaila Bunn were selected as All-Conference selections along with Juniors Edriana Hunter, Hannah Meeks, and Kaisa Orr. All were 1st Team selections.

Connard was also selected as a 1st Team All-State selection and Sophomore Sayveiona Durden was selected to the 3A State All-Tournament team.

For the Drew Central Pirates, the team finished with an overall record 20-10 with an 8-3 conference of record. The Pirates would enter the Regional Tournament as the fourth seed and would finish as the Regional Runner-up, entering the 3A State Tournament as the second seed from Region Four.

For the Pirates, Senior Tristian Butler was selected as a 1st Team All-Conference selection alongside Junior Kade Bodiford. Bodiford was also selected as an All-State selection.

All-Conference Second Team selections were Senior KJ Smith, Junior Tralon Miller, and Sophomore Drew Burton.



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Lady Pirates defeat Dumas Lady Bobcats 10-2 for first conference win



Jeff Young/Advance Monticellonian
AALANAH JONES gets back to first safely during Monday's conference game against Dumas.

By: JEFF YOUNG
Advance Correspondent

The Drew Central Lady Pirates picked up their first 8-3A Conference victory on Monday, March 14, with a 10-2 win over the Dumas Lady Bobcats.

Gracie Connard got the start for the Lady Pirates and started the giving up a walk to the leadoff batter before striking out the next two Dumas batters.

Dumas would score on an error on a ground ball hit to the short-stop, but the Lady Pirates would get out of the inning only allowing the single run to trail 1-0.

Zoe Johnson led off the Lady Pirate batters, grounding out for the first out of the inning. Bailey Chapman would single to right followed by a double by Connard that scored Chapman.

Mallory Jackson would draw a walk followed by a ground out by Caden Lane that advanced the runners to third and second.

Emma McCrae singled to cen-

ter to score Connard and Jackson to give the Lady Pirates a 3-1 lead.

Connard would sit the Lady Bobcats down in order in the top of the second inning.

Ali Jo Cruce would lead off with a walk to start the bottom half of the inning followed by a single by Kennedee Love and a single by Johnson. Johnson would advance to second on an error, Cruce would score, and Love advanced to third.

Chapman singles to score Love and Johnson followed by a fielder's choice by Connard that allowed Chapman to advance to third and Connard to second.

Jackson recorded the first out with a sacrifice fly that scored Chapman.

After the second out of the inning, McCrae singled to score Connard to increase the Lady Pirate lead to 8-1.

Dumas would score a single run in the top of the third to cut the lead to 8-2.

Dumas got the Lady Pirates out

in three batters in the bottom of the third inning, with Drew Central sitting Dumas down with three consecutive strikeouts in the top of the fourth.

Chapman grounded out to begin the bottom of the fourth. Connard recorded a single. Jackson added a single and Lane's single scored Connard to make the score 9-2.

Dumas led off with a strike out followed by a single, but the Lady Pirates turned a double play to end the inning.

Drew Central would score the final run of the contest in the bottom of the sixth inning after Chapman reached base on a dropped third strike. Connard would pop up for the first out of the inning. Jackson would reach first on an error by the Dumas pitcher advancing Chapman to third and allowing Jackson to reach second.

Caden Lane grounded out to second but scored Chapman. McCrae got the final out for the Lady Pirates on a ground out to end the

inning.

After leading off with a walk, Connard would record two consecutive strikeouts with the third out coming on a strikeout that was dropped but Chapman would throw the runner out at first to end the game with the Lady Pirates taking the 10-2 win.

Connard pitched the complete seven innings allowing two runs on three hits, walking three and striking out 13. Connard would go 2 for 4 from the plate with three runs scored and an RBI.

Bailey Chapman was also 2 for 4 with three runs scored and two RBI.

Emma McCrae was 2 for 4 with three RBI. Zoe Johnson and Caden Lane each went 1 for 4, Aalannah Jones and Kennedee Love went 1 for 3, and Jackson completed the day going 1 for 2.

The Lady Pirates will return to action on Thursday, March 17, hosting the Rison Lady Wildcats with a 4:30pm first pitch set.

Pirates open 2022 8-3A Conference with 6-1 win over Smackover Buckaroos



Jeff Young/Advance Monticellonian
JASE WATT runs toward first base during Monday's conference contest against Smackover. Watt finished the contest going 2 for 3 with a run scored.

By: JEFF YOUNG
Advance Correspondent

The Drew Central opened the 2022 conference season with a 6-1 win over the Smackover Buckaroos on Monday, March 14.

Drew Burton got the call to start for the Pirates and was able to get the first three batters out on two pop ups and a strikeout.

Drew Central would also go down in three consecutive batters in the bottom half of the inning.

The Pirates got on the board first in the bottom of the fourth inning. Aiden Jones reached first on a dropped third strike, Drew Burton would double to center, advancing Jones to third.

Taylor Barnard singled to left to score Jones, advancing Burton to third. Will Watson singled to the pitcher, scoring Burton and advancing Barnard to third. Jase Watt reached first on an error to load the bases and a walk to Matt Barnard scored Taylor Barnard. Jacob Jones struck out to record the first out of the inning.

Wyatt Wood singled on a bunt to the pitcher scoring Watson and a Nate Cooper single scored Jase Watt.

Smackover got the last two outs of the inning on a strikeout and a groundout to shortstop.

Burton would get the first two Buckaroo batters to fly out before surrendering a walk. Drew Central would record the third out on a dropped third strike on a put out to first.

Drew Central's only hit in the bottom of the fifth inning was a double by Jase Watt.

Smackover would get three baserunners in the top of the sixth on two walks and a single, but the Pirates were able to get out of the inning without surrendering a run.

Jacob Jones led off the bottom of the sixth with a single and advanced to second on an error.

Wyatt Wood would ground out advancing Jones to third. Nate Cooper would single to left to score Jones to give Drew Central a 6-0 lead.

Smackover got on the board in the top of the seventh scoring one run after an error and a single off of new pitcher Aiden Jones.

Jones got the next two batters to ground out to close the contest

with the Pirates taking the 6-1 victory.

Drew Burton pitched six innings allowing no runs on three hits with three walks while striking out seven.

Aiden Jones pitched one inning for the save.

The Pirates will return to action on Thursday, March 17, hosting Rison Wildcats with first pitch at 4:30pm.

Drew Central will host the Dumas Bobcats on Friday, March 18, for a 4:30pm first pitch before the beginning of Spring Break.



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As we observe Sunshine Week, we celebrate why freedom of information through an open government is a bedrock of democracy. Information belongs in the hands of the people, and officials of government should never shield the public from this constitutional right. You deserve no less.

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LIVING

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Local JA hosts masquerade fundraiser



By Ashley Hogg
editor@monticellonews.net

Saturday night at the Monticello Country Club, the local Junior Auxiliary Chapter held a Crown Gala Masquerade Ball fundraiser. Proceeds from the event help fund yearly activities that the JA sponsors for area youth.

A silent auction and raffle were available for patrons to participate in before food was served. Items donated to the silent auction included locally made products, local business gift certificates and much more.

After eating and a welcome from JA members, a live auction was held with Jimmy Orrell as the auctioneer. Guests bid on items such as weekend getaways, hunting trips and concert tickets.

Topping off the night was entertainment. Local business owner, Terrell Leonard also known as DJ Bigg City, made sure the music was alive and fun for everyone to dance to.

For information on donating to the local JA, check out their facebook page, JA Monticello.





Here are some fun activities for our youngest readers to enjoy!

Crossword Puzzle

1			2						3
4									
			5						
	6								

- ACROSS
1. Wrapped items
4. State again as fact
5. Brief appearance
6. Having good fortune
- DOWN
1. Irish patron saint
2. Inexpensive
3. Clover

Answers:
Across
1. Packages 4. Reaffirm 5. Cameo 6. Lucky
Down
1. Patrick 2. Cheap 3. Shamrock

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Clover

SPANISH: Trébol

ITALIAN: Trifoglio

FRENCH: Trèfle

GERMAN: Klee

Did You Know?

ACCORDING TO FOLKLORE, LEPRECHAUNS ARE A TYPE OF IRISH FAIRY. THEIR NAME MEANS "SMALL-BODIED FELLOW."

LEPRECHAUNS ARE AS TALL AS A THREE-YEAR-OLD CHILD.



THIS CELEBRATION ORIGINATED IN IRELAND, BUT PARTIES NOW OCCUR ALL AROUND THE WORLD.

ANSWER: ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Puzzle answers

Page 6B Sudoku

ANSWER:

6	7	5	4	9	8	2	3	1
9	8	4	3	2	1	7	6	5
2	3	1	5	6	7	9	4	8
5	6	9	8	1	2	3	7	4
3	1	8	6	7	4	5	9	2
7	4	2	9	5	3	8	1	6
1	2	6	7	3	5	4	8	9
8	9	3	2	4	6	1	5	7
4	5	7	1	8	9	6	2	3

Page 6B Word Search

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

Page 6B Crossword

Puzzle Solution

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

FAITH

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editor@monticellonews.net

CHILDREN’S DEVOTIONAL

Jesus is the light of the world

By Amy Becker

“When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

John 8:12
Are you afraid of the dark? If I’m being honest, I don’t like it myself. There’s no light, you can’t see things, you might bump your shins if you’re up walking around in it, and the fact that there’s no light to guide you can really get into your head.

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.” In Exodus 13:21 we see the Lord leading the Israelites away from Egypt by night in a pillar of fire to give them light. Psalm 119:105 says, “Your word is a lamp

unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

So it turns out there’s a pretty good Biblical reason we should be looking to the light. Jesus is The Light, God leads us with the light, His Word is the light, and when we follow him we are the light for others to see.

Last week we got a beautiful snow! It honestly fell much harder and much faster than I thought it would. When it snows, I like to go to the house where I grew up. It’s a small house beside Pauline Baptist Church, and quite possibly my favorite house that I have lived in. It was small and cozy. Just the right size for us. The upside to it being in a church parking lot was that there were street lights in nearly every window, so I always had a night

light.
When it started snowing last Friday, I knew exactly where I wanted to go. My girls and I loaded up in the car and went to pick up my dad. I had to get him because the first 14 years of my life, we spent any night with the chance of snow in front of the window at that little house by the church. We would wait for any sign of something falling, and he was always just as excited as us, so I knew he had to come too! I’ll never forget how he would point to the street lights when the snow finally began to fall. He explained that looking in the light was the best way to see just how hard and fast everything was falling. The light is absolutely the very best view of what’s falling from the sky. Especially when everything surrounding

it is dark.
Sometimes the dark seems scary, and sometimes the world does too. There is sin in this world that causes darkness, that’s true. Yet, the light will never be overcome by darkness, so we have to focus on the light. What I mean is, don’t spend your energy worrying about what’s wrong in the world and all the bad things that could possibly happen in life. Focus on the light. Don’t miss the blessings that are falling each and every day. God is our Light, and He leads us through his Word. Jesus is the Light, and we shine that light through following him. Sometimes it may seem like things are dark around you, but do not be fooled. Look at The Light.



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Caleb Kiefhaber, the owner of Kiefhaber’s Heating and Air and Mobile Home Parts, knows a thing or two about owning a business. Kiefhaber’s was established over 32 years ago by his father, Pete Kiefhaber. Throughout the years he taught his children how to operate the business, and took pride in doing so. He was proud of the business he built, and would be proud of his son’s work. Kiefhaber’s provides HVAC and mobile home parts to all of South East Arkansas, and are focused on quality. The business philosophy is to provide a quality product and quality service. They also attribute their company’s success to quality work, as well as honesty and prompt service. Caleb Kiefhaber emphasizes quality once again by giving advice to those interested in

starting a business. His advice is to work for a high quality, professional company and learn the business. When asked why customers should do business with Kiefhaber’s, he said, “We have high quality technicians and large truck inventory. We are constantly sending our technicians to continuing education. We are working to make you comfortable in your home.” Kiefhaber’s Heating and Air is located at 6236 State Highway 114 West in Star City, and Kiefhaber’s Mobile Home Parts is located at 117 Greenfield Drive in Monticello. The office phone number is (870)-628-4900.

(Service Spotlight is a weekly advertisement highlighting local services. For information on how to advertise, call our advertising representatives at 367-5325.)

FOCUSED ON QUALITY. Pictured above is the Kiefhaber’s sign. Kiefhaber’s Heating and Air is located at 6236 State Highway 114 West in Star City, and Kiefhaber’s Mobile Home Parts is located at 117 Greenfield Drive in Monticello.

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COUNTRY

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BARKADA

JANA WRIGHT

What a beautiful, short snow we had this past weekend. It is hard to believe that earlier in the day it was almost 60 degrees! I am glad it did not stay on the roads or knock out electricity.

I start the news this week with a heavy heart. As most of you probably know, Tom Wooten passed away this past weekend. I have known Tom since I was a teenager and had the pleasure of having him as a neighbor for many years. My heart is heavy for Shelly and Kelsey and the rest of Tom's family. He really was a really great guy. I can only find solace that he is with the Lord and with Dillon. I lift up the whole family in prayer. May God give you strength when you need it.

Jamie Martin came home from Hope to attend our great-nephew, Sawyer Sears's birthday party. My grandson, Beaux Swain, went with me. Afterwards, Jamie, Kelly, Ethan, and Brandi Gilliam, Koby and Jakob Bayliss, and me and Beaux met to eat at Avocados. We all had a great time!

I talked to Annette and Ricky West the other day. They have a 50th anniversary coming up! I also had a chat with Chris Barnett while we waited for our to-go orders.

Mrs. Mary Lasiter's daughter Nancy visited with her

this weekend. She brought her some KFC potatoes and gravy and biscuits. Her nephew Tim Doss was taking her to get the stitches out of her mouth Monday.

Jeff and Sheena Tucker did a little remodeling around their house. The kitchen looked great!

Amanda Calhoun had her first baby chick hatch from her incubator. I think she is really going to enjoy adding to her chickie family.

My Aunt Margaret Martin's daughter, Lesa Winslow, came in for the week to see her mom for her birthday. They are going to celebrate Aunt Margaret's birthday all week.

Happy birthday to my beautiful sister-in-law Shana Wilson, Melanie Adair, Kacie Wallace, Melissa Forrest, Ashleigh Temple, Joann Williams, Johnathan Adams, Brandon Nicholson, Aunt Linda Barnett, Ron Echols, Michelle Carter, Laci Barnett, Shaun Payne, Jamie Berryman, and Autum Walls.

I hope you all have or had wonderful birthdays.

Please call 870.224.3383 or email wrightwoman_66@yahoo.com. No news is too small!

GREEN HILL

WANDA PACE

Greenhill Community Baptist Church had a wonderful

Do you have any community tidbits?

The Advance-Monticellonian is actively seeking other community reports to join the seven you read on a weekly basis. If you live in a community not represented on this page (and we know there are several around Monticello)—and you want to write about your particular area of the world, contact us at 870-367-5325, via email at editor@monticellonews.net, by U.S. mail at P.O. Box 486, Monticello 71657 or just drop by the office during business hours on either Thursdays or Fridays. Let's discuss your participation in our newspaper.

Sunday morning service. Bro Caleb's message was titled "Consider Thy Ways", Haggai 1:1-11. There were 18 young ones in the Children's Church.

There are a couple of baby showers to be held in the upcoming week. On March 19, 2022 there will be a baby shower for Jared & Lauren Pace. On March 20, 2022 there will be a baby shower for Tom & Skylar Ellis.

Aunt May went to the doctor in Crossett last week and received a good report.

Gay, Joy, Grant, Gary, David & Sherry Walker of Crossett visited with Aunt May and Aunt Pepe.

Aunt Pepe went to the second Sunday singing at Greenhill Baptist Church. She said there was a good crowd and she enjoyed the singing and fellowship.

Happy Anniversary Grant & Gay Pace. I wish y'all many more years of happiness and good health.

Happy Birthday wishes go out to Janet Lane and Cindy

Mckinstry. I hope you ladies enjoyed a blessed day.

I would like to thank Aunt May, Aunt Pepe, and Sandy Smith for sharing their news with me every week. You three ladies are the best!

Verse of the week: "This is my comfort in my distress, that Your promise gives me life." Psalm 119:50.

Have a safe and blessed week.

JORDAN PARK

TRILISA MARSHALL

So glad the cold weather is about gone. These bones of mine have really been hurting from this cold weather, but I thank God for my health and strength, and for letting me endure this pain and for taking it away when it gets too bad. My Aunt Myrtle Burks said Arthur (arthritis) has been paying a visit to a lot of us, even her, during this cold weather. I was glad to get a call from Gracie Stewart, Bennie Walton, Aunt

Myrtle Burks, Gwen White, Missionary Lou Lambert and my sisters Katie Jacobs and Trina Clifton, and my brother Tony Clifton. They all were calling checking on me. It's a joy to know someone is thinking about me and praying for me. What a blessing it truly is. Also I enjoyed my oldest daughter coming over and spending time with us and playing with Preston. He didn't want his Auntie DeBorah to leave.

Happy birthday shout out this week goes to: Tonya Binns and Myeshia Graham, March 15; Shacora Harris, Joann Frye and Marsie Walker, March 16; Ruby Ashford, March 17; Candice Michelle, March 18; LaHopper Crawford, March 19; Louis Miller and Latoyia Orr, March 20. Happy birthday everyone, enjoy you special day.

Sorry to hear of the passing of Jason Fisher. His funeral service was held Saturday, March 12, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at Stephenson Dearman Chapel. Interment was at Union Ridge Cemetery in Monticello. My prayers and

condolences to the family and may God comfort and strengthen you all.

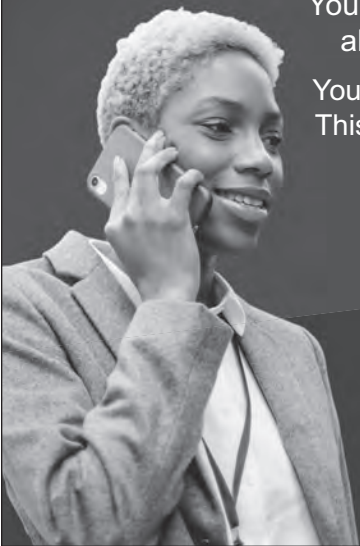
Our Sunday School lesson was on: "The Word Became Flesh" coming from John 1:1-14 (KJV). Jesus has always been in existence. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth (1 John 1:14 KJV). And Pastor Robert Marshall Sr's message was on: "God's Wisdom" coming from Proverbs 4:1-7 (KJV). Get wisdom, get understanding, do not forget God's words. And our Tuesday Bible Study lesson was on: "Spiritual Renewal" coming from Ephesians 4:22-24; Psalm 51:10; Isaiah 1:18-20; Ezekiel 11:19; 18:31; 36:26; and Zechariah 10:1. By the grace of God when the outward man is perishing, the inward man is renewed only.

Scripture for the week is: Proverbs 4:7 (KJV), "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore, get wisdom and with all



See COUNTRY Page 5B

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DEVOTIONAL

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Ashley Hogg, Editor
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Trust and Obey

Music was a big part of my home growing up. My mother used to sit at our piano and play and sing this old hymn. “Trust and obey, for there’s no other way. To be happy in Jesus but to trust and obey”. It’s a simple idea. I read that the author had overheard a conversation after one of the famed evangelist D.L. Moody’s services where a man who had recently encountered some difficulty was asked what he was going to do. The man replied, “I suppose I will just trust and obey.”

We struggle with both of these words. We live in a highly skeptical world. Some of which is for good reason. I was really looking forward to eating the chocolate chip cookie I had been spying in the break room only to take a bite and discover the raisins! What a betrayal! That of course is on the milder end of the spectrum of mistrust. We’ve been disappointed by friends or family. You gave 25 years of your life to that company only to be repaid by being laid off. Your 401K disappeared during the 2008 recession. Politicians have broken so many promises and have let us down more times than we can count. And the list goes on and on.

Since trust is such a valuable possession and we know there are few people and institutions that it can be invested in, then where on earth can we place our trust? Proverbs 3:5-6 gives us directions. And it’s not anywhere on earth.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths”.

Trust in the Lord. Economies fall, people fail and culture changes. God hasn’t, doesn’t and won’t. The writer understands that our own idea of what trust is and where we can put it is of our own making and that will never satisfy or sustain. But God’s love never fails, His mercies are always new and He will provide all our needs according to His riches in glory. The writer then issues this directive. In all your ways acknowledge Him. This is not only my thoughts and feelings but actions. Here’s the next we all struggle with. This means obedience. I will do what He says. And if that takes place He’ll lead me where He wants me to go. The peace and joy that all of us are looking for can only be found one way. When we trust and obey.

*By: Timothy Parke, Lead Pastor
New Life Assembly of God*

COUNTRY

Continued from Page 4B

thy getting get understanding”.

Everyone have a blessed, safe and warm rest of the week and in all you do, keep God first. Someone asked me why do I always say put that in my news column? That’s because it is written in the Bible to always put God first. Proverbs 3:6 (KJV) says, “In all thy ways acknowledge Hime, and He shall direct thy paths”. Matthew 6:33 (KJV) says, “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you”. John 15:5 (KJV) Christ tells us, “I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing”.

Much love and blessings to all and have a blessed rest of the week. Blessings!

LACEY IVANELL HANDLEY

Hello readers! I am sure you were happy and maybe a little shocked to see the snow. It made everything so pretty; I am sure the children were a little disappointed because it melted so quickly.

A blessed Sunday service was held at Mt. Olive AME Church. Sunday School was taught by Bro. Darron Spencer, the subject was “Freedom To Worship”; Lesson Focus Scripture Ezra 6:1-12; Key verse, Ezra 6:12 “May the God who has established his name there overthrow any king or people that shall put forth a hand to alter this, or to destroy this house of God in Jerusalem” (NSRV).

Pastor Robertson’s message was from John 15:12-13, her thought was “There is no greater Love”.

Happy belated birthday wishes to: Mary Junior, March 12; Vernon Smith, March 13; and Debbie Nimmer, March 13. Happy Birthday wishes to: Torian Struggs, March 17; Helen Franklin, March 18; Ardell Allen, March 21; Floyd Handley, March 21; Pat Glennion, March 21; Michonda Jordan, March 21; Frances Wells, March 21; Dorothy Jordan, March 22; and Robert Arrington, March 22. I hope you all have a wonderful birthday!

Prayers for those that are sick and shut-in. Ben and Rowena we miss you at the pool and we hope you will be back real soon. To Virgie Mae Haynes, Debbie Nimmer, Charles Jacob, Dorothy Davis, Sadie Handley, Margaret Grays and others who aren’t feeling well, it is my prayer that you are better soon. Sympathy and prayers for those families that lossed a loved one. Continue to pray for those in Ukraine and all who have been displaced due to this war.

Thought for the week: “Breaking someone’s trust is like crumbling up a perfect piece of paper...you can smooth it over but it’s never going to be the same”. (Author Unknown). Be Blessed!!

POSSUM VALLEY KAY CRAIG SPURLOCK

How about that snow Friday evening, crazy! About an hour after we got home it started snowing hard and that wind... Lordy mercy, it was almost blizzard conditions. Thankfully, the snow ended, and the wind

subsidized making things much more bearable.

Friday after work, when I was in the grocery store, I received a call from my son-in-law, Tim. Meghann had been involved in an accident while coming home from work. Bless him, he really didn’t know what was going on right then. He only knew his Meghann had been hurt and was in quite a bit of pain. After some time, she was x-rayed, and CT scanned. Thankfully, nothing was broken or damaged. Around midnight, they sent her home. When I talked to her Saturday morning, she felt as if she’d been hit by a Mack truck, but otherwise okay. It could have been so much worse.

I went to our women’s Bible study later that morning. We had another good turnout and enjoyed time with uplifting sistership and encouragement to make God a priority in our lives.

Because of the weather, Bo’s ballgames in Cabot were canceled. Leigha and I were so glad, too. Leigha wasn’t feeling well anyway. Addie came over and stayed with us for most of the day on Saturday. Since we didn’t see them at all last weekend it was a real treat to spend the day with her. Bo was at his Dad’s.

Sunday morning, Bethel enjoyed a wonderful service this week. Bro. Steve Jacks brought our message again this week from Matthew 11:28-30. Bro. Justin Hewitt will fill the pulpit the next two weeks.

Turns out that Leigha has the flu. I took Addie to church with me Sunday night to give Leigha some time to rest and recuperate. She loves going to church, which does this Memaw’s heart good.

It seems that last Sunday when Rick and I went out to Lake Monticello is to be our last time for a while. That smoke I saw turns out to have been from a grass fire ignited by the exhaust from that vehicle I heard. I guess we left in just the nick of time. But I sure hate that the actions of a few have cut off a source of enjoyment for so many others. I’m going to assume that once the lakebed is covered in water that maybe the accesses to the lake will be reopened. I can only hope.

I hope the time change hasn’t messed with your circadian rhythm too much. It certainly has mine. I’m sitting here at 3:20 a.m. writing this column. I woke up about an hour prior and just could not go back to sleep. And since I had gone to bed without finishing the column, I figured I might as well stay up and finish it. It will get better and the kids at church really enjoyed being able to play outside for awhile after class.

That’s my news for this week. Until next time, please, keep Bethel in your prayers that God will send us the man we need to lead our church.

Corny joke: What is the number one cause of death in hamsters? Falling asleep at the wheel!

WILMAR CHRIS RILEY

I’m back “because of the people”. Please someone write the Wilmar News. After 46 years I have writer’s cramp among other things. I hate to vacate but all things must come to an end.

Sunday was a blessed and glorious time at 1st Baptist East Side where Elder James Simpson is pastor and

See **COUNTRY** Page 6B

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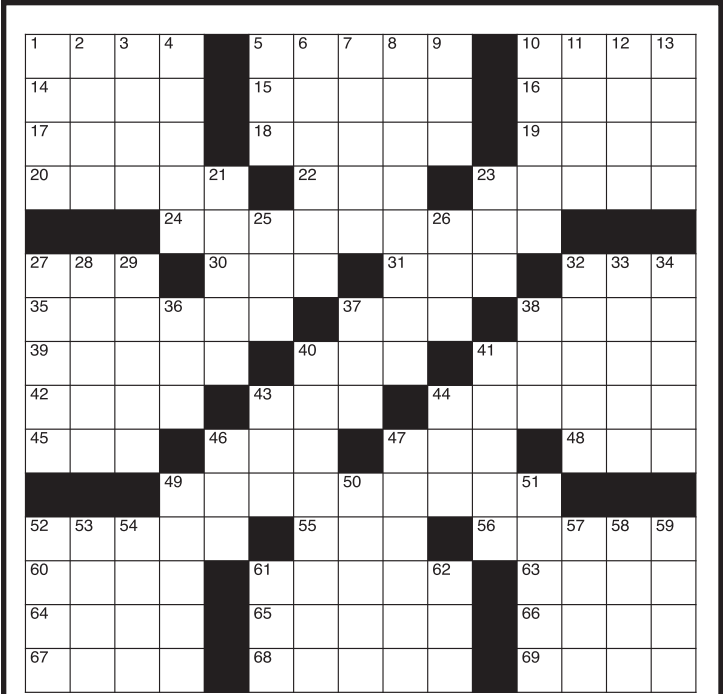
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Type of footwear

5. Studies a lot all at once

10. Adventure story

14. Hundred thousand

15. Former U.S. Vice President

16. Ruler

17. Indian city

18. Similar

19. Ship as cargo

20. Volcanic craters

22. Boxing’s “GOAT”

23. Bullfighting maneuvers

24. London soccer team

27. Score perfectly

30. No (Scottish)

31. SoCal hoops team (abbr.)

32. Woman (French)

35. Unwanted attic “decor”

37. Peter Griffin’s daughter

38. Broad, shallow crater

39. Large instruments

40. Low bank or reef
41. ___ and Venzetti

42. Oil group

43. Father

44. Aggressive men

45. Pairs well with green

46. Travelers need it

47. Digital audiotape

48. Midway between northeast and east

49. Chemistry descriptor

52. S. China seaport

55. Sound unit

56. Heavy cavalry sword

60. Thick piece of something

61. Spa town in Austria

63. Boyfriend

64. Norse personification of old age

65. Type of box

66. Tie together

67. Fiber from the coconut

68. Chicago mayor

69. Old English letters

CLUES DOWN

1. Type of sauce

2. Pattern of notes

3. Plant with long seedpods

4. Map out

5. Numbers cruncher

6. Make a mental connection

7. Italian tenor

8. N. America’s highest mountain peak

9. Witness

10. Arabic given name

11. Music awards

12. “The Immoralist” author

13. Area units

21. Units of loudness

23. Political action committee

25. Bar bill

26. Witch

27. A theatrical performer

28. 2-door car

29. ___ and flowed

32. Papier-___, art medium
33. City in Georgia

34. Irregular

36. College sports conference

37. Angry

38. Partner to cheese

40. S. American mammal

41. Self-immolation by fire rituals

43. Split pulses

44. Disfigure

46. Cow noise

47. Erase

49. Chadic language

50. Reward for doing well

51. Paid TV

52. Millisecond

53. Other

54. Colombian city

57. Necklace part

58. Every one of two or more people

59. Regrets

61. They come after “A”

62. Horse noise

HELPING HAND WORD SEARCH

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

Answers can be found on Page 2B

SUDOKU

6		5						
		4	3		1			
		1	5			9		8
	6							
3					4			
7						8		6
				3		4		
8			2					7
	5			8			2	

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you’ll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here’s How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

1/2 cup English peas, fresh or frozen

Directions:

- Heat oven to 400 F.
- Peel the potatoes and cut them into 1/2-inch dice. Put them in a medium saucepan and cover with cold water. Set said pan over high heat, cover and bring to a boil. Uncover, drop the heat to maintain a simmer, and cook until tender, 10 to 15 minutes.
- Heat the oil in an 11-inch sauté pan over medium-high heat until shimmering. Add the onion and carrots and saute just until they begin to take on color, 3 to 4 minutes. Add the garlic and stir to combine. Add the meat, salt and pepper, and cook until browned and cooked through, approximately 3 minutes.
- Sprinkle the meat with the flour, toss to coat, and continue to cook for another minute. Add the tomato paste, broth, Worcestershire sauce, rosemary, and thyme and stir to combine. Bring to a boil, then decrease the heat to low, cover, and simmer slowly until the sauce is thickened slightly, 10 to 12 minutes.
- Meanwhile, combine the half-and-half and butter in a microwave-safe container and nuke until warmed through, about 35 seconds.
- Drain the potatoes and return them to the saucepan. Mash the potatoes (a masher is an excellent tool for this, though a hand mixer will do), then add the hot half-and-half mixture, as well as the salt and pepper. Mash to smoothness, then stir in the egg yolk.
- Add the corn and peas to the meat mixture and spread evenly in a 7-by-11-inch glass baking dish. Top with the mashed potatoes, starting around the edges to create a seal to prevent the mixture from bubbling over, and smooth the top with a rubber spatula. Place on a half sheet pan lined with parchment paper on the middle rack of the oven and bake for 25 minutes, or just until the potatoes begin to brown. Remove to a cooking rack and let rest for at least 15 minutes before serving.



Everyone has “corned beef and cabbage” on the brain come St. Patrick’s Day. But another flavorful dish might appeal to a greater number of people with Irish roots.

Shepherd’s Pie is a savory dish made of minced lamb that originated in England but also made the jump to Ireland, where it became a popular comfort food. While Shepherd’s Pie can be made with freshly cooked ground meat, it also is a fine way to use leftovers from a previous meal. Shepherd’s Pie is commonly mistaken for Cottage Pie, which is very similar, yet tends to use beef as the meat of choice. Many families have their own ancestral recipes for Shepherd’s Pie, but for those looking to cook the dish for the first time, try “Shepherd’s Pie,” courtesy of Alton Brown, which appeared in Season 12 of his hit show “Good Eats.”

Shepherd’s Pie
Ingredients (Yield: 8 servings)

- 1 1/2 pounds russet potatoes
2 tablespoons canola oil
1 cup chopped onion
2 carrots, peeled and finely diced
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 1/2 pounds ground lamb
13/4 teaspoons kosher salt
3/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
2 teaspoons tomato paste
2 teaspoons chopped fresh rosemary
1 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
1/4 cup half-and-half
4 tablespoons unsalted butter
1 large egg yolk
1/2 cup corn kernels, fresh or frozen

COUNTRY

Continued from Page 5B

Minister Graylin Wilson brought the word. His text was from Mark 5:14, 20 and his subject was “Stop Begging and Start Bragging”. God is good and worthy to be praised.

I thank Him for allowing me to see another birthday March 1. It was celebrated on March 2 in Little Rock, Bryant and Hot Springs with children, grands and in-laws. All was well. Also friends from In His Presence Worship Ministries. I received so many gifts after returning home. I received a gift from a friend, Almarie “A” Anderson, and one of my bonus daughters, Pam Jones. Love never ends.

I received a call from a former co-worker who now resides in Texas, Helen Franklin. She asked about

the Southeast and her friends and co-workers.

Clifford Davis and wife, and his sister Nora came down recently to see his dad, Joe Jones and family. They dropped in and visited with me and gave me an early birthday gift. Then on to see his cousin Marcella Davis.

Sorry to hear of the transition of William Lewis of California and Rosie L. Stephenson Fugerson of California, formerly of Wilmar and Pine Bluff. Also Trina. All of these quit the walk of life since my last news.

Belated birthday wishes to Carrie Alexander, March 8th and Harlan Colbert, March 1st, also Shaun Grid-dine, March 2nd and Helen Franklin, March 18th. Happy birthday to Marilyn Shaw, March 23.

I enjoyed conversing with Mary Junior and Pat Frazier of St. Louis, Mo.

James “Yit” Riley enjoyed

his birthday, March 12 at The Woods with family and friends. Donald came down from Little Rock.

Sorry to hear of Olen McCoy’s transition. He resided in Little Rock, formerly of Warren, and the son of the late James “Jim” and Mayola McCoy. His last rites were held the past week in Little Rock.

Our prayers for the sick and shut in and sympathy to the bereaved.

Now until we meet again by paper and pen, “if the Lord’s will”, God bless you and keep you.

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CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to the Red Cross. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 18 = E)

- A. 15 14 14 26 14 8

Clue: Help
- B. 7 18 2 26 4 15 20

Clue: Having to do with medicine/health
- C. 4 15 1 18

Clue: Look after
- D. 18 7 18 1 24 18 25 4 6

Clue: Urgent matter

Answers: A. assist B. medical C. care D. emergency

Guess Who?

I am a comedian born in New York on March 14, 1976. I am a native of Staten Island and my dad was in the Air Force. I joined a comedy troupe with a few other school friends. I star on a wildly popular show on TruTV.

Answer: Brian Quinn

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to the Red Cross.

L R F I E E

--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Relief

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