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# ADVANCE-MONTICELLONIAN

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2022



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## Fresh face to lead local banks

By **ASHLEY HOGG**  
editor@monticellonews.net

For more than 100 years, Southeast Arkansas has been home to the thriving financial institutions of Commercial Bank and Trust Company in Monticello and First State Bank in Warren.

Todd Smith, a native Arkansan with more than 30 years of banking experience, has been named the new president of both institutions.

"Banking is about relationships, not just transactions," Smith said. "I look forward to building relationships with all of our customers."

A graduate of Magnolia High School and Southern Arkansas University, Smith got his start in banking with a part time job in college at First National Bank of Magnolia.

After receiving his Bachelor's Degree in Finance at SAU, Smith moved to central Arkansas for a job opportunity with the State Bank Department as an Examiner. While in Little Rock, he met his wife of 20 years, Joanna. The couple has two children, Olivia and Leighton Smith.

"I worked for the State for about nine years and when Joanna and I got married, I knew I didn't want to have a family and only raise my kids on the weekends," Smith noted. "A great opportunity came open for us in Magnolia and



we had been there since 2001. At the age of 31, I took my first bank president job and I was fortunate to have a lot of educational opportunities during that time including learning the "Trust" side of banking."

For the past 14 years, Smith has served as Executive Vice President of Farmers Bank and Trust in Magnolia.

"My job then and my job now is to maintain a loyalty to customers and I really enjoy that," Smith added. "We have to consider employees, customers and share holders. One cannot win without the other."

A family man with a community minded attitude, Smith intends to hit the ground running and immerse himself in the SEARK area.

"As soon as I get settled, I want to join civic groups and

assist with economic development," Smith noted. "I am really looking forward to being a part of the Pink Tomato Festival in Bradley County."

As President of Commercial Bank, Smith will serve on the Board of Directors for the Monticello Economic Development Commission.

"I am happy to welcome Todd Smith as the new President of Commercial Bank and Trust Company and First State Bank," Bennie Ryburn III, Chairman of the Board stated. "Todd comes to us from Magnolia and understands small town, south Arkansas banking. Todd and George Harris are in a transition period with George handing over the leadership role to Todd after serving Commercial Bank for 40 years. George will still be around and will continue to serve on the Board of Directors."

"I have been blessed to be a part of Commercial Bank for 40 years," Outgoing President George Harris said. "We took a lot of time to find the right person to fit this job. Todd comes from a service oriented bank and I am confident he is going to do a great job. I want all of our customers to know that they will not incur any noticeable changes in the services that Commercial Bank offers and I will happily con-

See **SMITH** Page 6A

## SEN. BOOZMAN MAKES AN APPEARANCE IN MONTICELLO



Ashley Hogg/Advance Monticellonian

Senator Boozman visited Monticello last Thursday and sat in on a round table discussion at the MEDC building. Community leaders discussed specific challenges that face Drew County and all of Southeast Arkansas.

## ANOTHER WEEVIL STAMPEDE IN THE BOOKS



Photo courtesy of Lon Tegels/UAM

The annual UAM rodeo drew visitors from across the region last week. Rodeo events were held at the Drew County fairgrounds in conjunction with the Aggie Comeback at the UAM campus.

## City Council receives award from Entergy Arkansas



Ashley Hogg/Advance Monticellonian

By **ASHLEY HOGG**  
editor@monticellonews.net

In the regularly scheduled monthly meeting, the City Council was presented with the Arkansas Community Development Society's Innovative Community award from Entergy Arkansas.

Entergy representative Tandee White and University of Central Arkansas CDI representative Michael Hudson presented the award to Mayor Chase and thanked her for her efforts during Covid and beyond.

Cindy Villarreal updated the council members on the meal program happening at the Barbara Abston Senior Center. She stated that more meals are being delivered than before and the center just held a successful Easter egg hunt for the seniors.

Charlie Hammock stated that the Public

Works department has had a busy few weeks with repairs to old sewer lines. He added that upon cleaning some of the parts, he noticed that manufacture dates on some of the parts dated back to as far as the 1800's.

Monticello Economic Development Commission Director Nita McDaniel gave her monthly report stating that one ongoing project had gone dormant and one project has a meeting scheduled with the Arkansas Economic Development Commission. She also stated that the MEDC has recently closed on the purchase of ten acres of land in the Industrial Park with Stroker's Diesel. They plan to start building the new diesel and machine shop as soon as possible.

Councilman Mike Wigley asked McDaniel

See **COUNCIL** Page 6A

## UAM To Host Tree Dedication and Educational Program for Arbor Day

SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

The University of Arkansas at Monticello will host a tree dedication and educational program on Thursday, April 28, in observance of Arbor Day.

The hour-long program will begin at 1:30 p.m. at the Centennial Clock Tower on the Monticello campus. A host of experts from the UAM College of Forestry, Agriculture and Natural Resources (CFANR) and the Forestry Division of the Arkansas Department of Agriculture will speak during the program.

Dr. Peggy Doss, chancellor of UAM, will address UAM's commitment to Tree Campus USA. Dr. Pradip Saud, assistant professor in the UAM CFANR, will present on the value of urban trees for communities, and Kristine Kimbro of the Forestry Division will speak about

the urban tree grant program available through the Forestry Division of the Arkansas Department of Agriculture. Dr. Mohammad Bataineh, associate professor in the UAM CFANR, will discuss common tree health issues in urban versus natural environments.

During the tree planting, Dr. Lynne Thompson, a retired professor from the UAM CFANR, Dr. Michael Blazer, dean of the UAM CFANR, Harold Fisher of the Forestry Division and students enrolled in the UAM silviculture class will demonstrate how to select a tree species and site, how to score tree roots and how to plant, mulch and stake a tree. They will also cover post-planting tree care, such as watering, pruning and fertilization.

Food will be served during the program, and interested parties are invited to join the

UAM silviculture class after the ceremony to plant two additional trees on campus.

UAM has achieved recognition as a Tree Campus Higher Education institution since 2012. The Arbor Day Foundation recognizes colleges and universities that promote healthy trees and engage students and staff in the spirit of conservation. There are five core standards for effective campus forest management which include the establishment of a campus tree advisory committee, evidence of a campus tree care plan, dedicated annual expenditures for the campus tree program, an Arbor Day observance and the sponsorship of student service-learning projects.

For more information, contact the UAM College of Forestry, Agriculture and Natural Resources at (870) 460-1052.

# DREW COUNTY JUDGE DEBATE

WHEN: Tuesday, May 3rd TIME: 7:00 P.M. PLACE: UAM Forestry Building (on UAM Campus)

MODERATOR: Dr. Carol Strong, UAM Political Science Professor

Political ad paid for by Drew County Republican Party

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

UPCOMING

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

Western Pines neighborhood rummage sale

The Western Pines subdivision will host a neighborhood wide rummage sale beginning at daylight on Saturday, April 30. Stations will be set up throughout the neighborhood.

Drug Take Back

The annual drug take back event will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 30 in the WalMart parking lot. This event is hosted by the Drew County Sheriff's Department and the Monticello Police Department. Unused medication returned to this event will be submitted for destruction.

SUNDAY, MAY 1

New Hope Homecoming

Homecoming services will be held at New Hope Independent Assembly at 11 a.m. Sunday, May 1. Rev. Gerald Lewis will be the speaker. A pot luck will be served. Everyone is invited to attend.

TUESDAY, MAY 3

Political Debate

County Judge political debate Tuesday, May 3 at 7 p.m. in the UAM Forestry Building.

THURSDAY, MAY 5 AND FRIDAY, MAY 6

Assessor's Office closed

The Assessor's Office will be closed for Continuing Education on Thursday, May 5 and Friday, May 6. We will be back in the office Monday, May 9 at 8:00. Sorry for the inconvenience.

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.

FRIDAY, MAY 13

Senior Center Cake Walk

The Senior Center will be doing a cake walk May 13. Get your tickets at the Senior Center. \$.50 per ticket for a chance to win some of grandma's cakes, cookies, or pies. (870) 367-2434 for more information.

Miracles and Music Fundraiser

Seark Miracle League will host a live and silent auction beginning at 6 p.m. Friday, May 13 at The Ridge on Wilson Mill. There will be live music and crawfish. Tickets are \$50. Contact Gay Pace at 870-723-6466 or Amanda Killingsworth at 870-224-6162 for tickets.

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.

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](mailto: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.

LOCAL SENIOR PARTICIPATES IN CULINARY CONNECTION STUDENT CHEF SHOWDOWN



Photo courtesy of Penny Vance

Jatiyah Johnson, a senior at Drew Central High School, recently participated in Culinary Connection Student Chef Showdown. The competition is open to all 9th -12th grade students in a Culinary Connection partnered district. Jatiyah was required to use five specific ingredients and then she was able to add five additional ingredients of her own choosing. Jatiyah developed her dish and perfected it in her foods class at DCHS, under the direction of Penny Vance, FCS Teacher. Jatiyah was chosen as a finalist along with four other students. The students traveled to Pulaski Tech Culinary Arts Institute and prepared the dish for a panel of judges. For the second year in a row, Jatiyah earned a first place finish.

Hunnicutt honored at Kansas State

SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

Seven Kansas State University students are the newest honorees of the annual Dean of Student Life Outstanding Graduating Senior Award including Mackenzie Hunnicutt, communication studies from Monticello.

Thomas Lane, vice president for student life and dean of students, will pres-

ent the awards at 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 28, at the Tallgrass Ballroom in the Kramer Dining Center. Email the student life office at [vpstl@k-state.edu](mailto:vpstl@k-state.edu) to RSVP to attend in person or request a Zoom link to join virtually.

For more than 20 years, the awards are the acknowledgment of the significant contributions of graduating

seniors to student life during their K-State career. Directors and staff members in the Division of Student Life on the Manhattan and Salina campuses nominate candidates and the winners are selected by a committee.

"Each of our Outstanding Graduating Senior awardees has made a unique contribution to improving student

life at K-State," Lane said. "It is an honor to recognize and thank them for the impactful leadership they have consistently shown throughout their time as a student. I am confident they will continue to do K-State proud as they transition to alumni and I am excited to see what their future holds for them."



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AREA SCHOOLS PARTICIPATE IN QUIZ BOWL TOURNAMENT



Photo courtesy of Stephanie Hollis

Southeast Arkansas Education Service Cooperative held an Elementary Quiz Bowl tournament on April 12, at Pauline Baptist Church. Seven schools from Southeast Arkansas participated. Cleveland County won first place, Monticello was second place and Warren third place.

DC SURVEY OF BUSINESS STUDENTS EARN CERTIFICATIONS

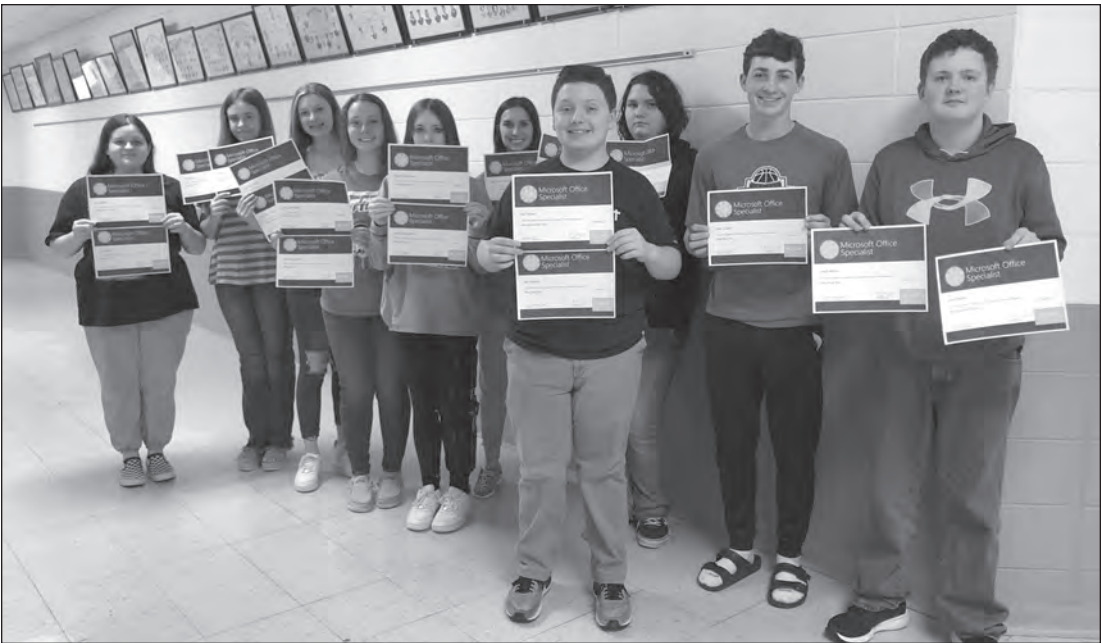


Photo courtesy of Nelwyn Birch

Drew Central High School congratulates Survey of Business students for earning their Microsoft Office Certifications in Word and PowerPoint. This is a great achievement for these ninth graders. Their hard work in study and application in these software programs will certainly lead them to a good future in the workforce and/or further education. Pictured above from left to right are: Eva Wright, Kacie Marlar, Courtlyn Harrison, Emma McRae, Gracie Disen, Bailey Chapman, Ben Hackett, Addien Milholland, Nate Cooper, and Jakob Bayless. Not pictured: Mariah Jenkins, Landon Peacock and Morgan Ratliff.

Great American Cleanup is a chance to give back to Arkansas

By: MARK SIMPSON  
Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission Chairman

Even in Arkansas’ biggest cities, drive in any direction for a while and there’s a good chance you’ll soon find yourself immersed in nature.

Thirty minutes from the dome of the State Capitol near bustling downtown Little Rock, roads wind through deep woods and past cypress swamps, curve around the base of mountains, and cross bridges spanning unfettered creeks that ran for centuries before there was a place called Arkansas.

It’s not like that in every state, and we are blessed that it is that way all over the state we call home.

But Arkansas’ natural splendor is more than just postcard-ready scenery. It’s a living investment in future generations and our economy, bringing in billions of tourist dollars each year while attracting new residents and helping young Arkansans make the choice to stay and raise families here instead of taking their talents and ideas elsewhere. It is also the economic engine that drives Arkansas tourism, which is the second-largest industry in our state, employing almost 70,000 Arkansans.

Like every irreplaceable asset, the natural beauty of

our state must be protected. Litter prevention and recycling are vital to our state’s economy and ecosystem, and practicing these habits isn’t just good for the environment and our communities. Littering is illegal; violators can receive anywhere between \$100 to \$1,000 fines because littering damages the natural resources that make Arkansas a great place to reside and visit. That’s why I’m so proud to help lead Keep Arkansas Beautiful and our state’s efforts in the Great American Cleanup. We created the Otto the Otter Youth Education program to educate kids at a young age about litter prevention and recycling, and cleanups like these help us better connect with adults.

The largest annual community-improvement event in the nation, the Great American Cleanup runs from March 1 to May 31 every year. During the event, thousands of Arkansas volunteers invest their time, energy and skills toward a shared goal of keeping our roadways, rivers, parks and public lands pure, clean and beautiful.

The passion and energy Arkansas volunteers bring to the Great American Cleanup is nothing short of breathtaking. During the 2021 event, more than 8,400 Arkansans worked 50,000 combined hours picking up

litter across the state, helping beautify and protect 742 miles of roadways, 139 miles of waterways, and 226 acres of public areas.

Together, these volunteers collected an incredible 121 tons of trash, and recycled more than 3,800 discarded tires! Purely in terms of labor, last year’s effort was worth over \$1.3 million to our state.

These volunteers are willing to put in the time and sweat required because they know we’re not just residents of this state. We are also its guardians, safekeeping a land that has been entrusted to us both for future generations and our nation.

If you believe in the goal of a more unspoiled and beautiful Arkansas, the Great American Cleanup is in full swing right now, and you can get involved. Visit our website at [keeparkansasbeautiful.com](#) to learn how you can help, or text “Volunteer” to 484848 to receive messages about upcoming opportunities.

Be part of the solution: stop littering, promote recycling and join Arkansans from all walks of life as we prove once again that by

working together, we can solve big problems and enrich our state. Not for personal gain, but for the benefit of the communities to which we belong.

Mark Simpson is the Keep

Arkansas Beautiful (KAB) Commission chairman. KAB is a division of the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism and is a certified state affiliate of Keep America Beautiful Inc.

KAB inspires and educates individuals to reduce litter, recycle and keep Arkansas beautiful. Learn more at [KeepArkansasBeautiful.com](#).

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# OPINION

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## Not all women are in need of saving

Let me set a scene for you. Professional young woman pulls into a gas station to fuel up her car. Her car, that she owns and drives, has a Diesel engine. She lifts the green diesel nozzle from the pump and what does she hear? Almost every time, a well intended gentleman shouting something along the lines of “Honey, don’t do that. You’re at the diesel pump. That will mess up your pretty car.”

Y’all, I realize that these guys have good intentions and genuinely think they are helping the blonde headed lady who must be confused about which fuel pump she is parked at. Please rest assured, gentlemen of Drew County, I am aware that my car is a diesel. I am aware of what type of fuel I need to put in my car. I appreciate the thought but I am not in distress, I can handle the fuel pump.

Once I managed to get my tank full, Superman and I headed to Fayetteville. We really have to concentrate some efforts of his flying abilities. Fuel is pricy. We were fortunate enough to attend what is being called the highest attended event in Arkansas history. 80,000 people gathered in the Razorback Football Stadium to sing along with country music legend, Garth Brooks.

After a mile walk from our parking spot to the stadium, we joined a line that wrapped around the exterior of the building for as far as we could see. People of all ages were smiling with anticipation and wearing their finest cowboy hats. We finally entered the stadium around 7:30 p.m. and the first opening act was playing. We searched around looking for a sign that pointed in the direction of our section. I imagine if someone was looking at us from the sky, we looked like little ants busily marching around.

In true Ashley luck, the elevator was not working so we began the hike up five flights of stairs. By the time we got to the top, my legs were screaming. Needless to say, once we were at our seats, there was no leaving. One of my favorite Arkansans opened for Garth. Bobby Bones is hilarious and if you are not familiar with his story, take the time to Google him or read one of his books. You won’t regret it.

We laughed and sang along with Bobby and his band of goofy guys and around 9:15 p.m., it was finally time. We were in the nose bleed seats of the nose bleed section. It was really beautiful. We could see miles of Fayetteville from up there and we could see all four sides of the open stage.

Garth Brooks is absolutely one of the best shows I have ever seen. He is energetic the entire time and is incredibly humble. He thanked God many times for his life and he has really perfected connecting with fans over his career. 10/10 recommend seeing Garth in concert if you are ever able.

There was a surreal moment for me as I heard the voices of so many people singing along to “Friends in Low Places”. It wasn’t a roar like I expected. It was melodious and light. People were swaying back and forth and for that three plus minute song, there were no divisions between us.

No one was Republican or Democrat. No one was a Hog fan or an OSU fan. Everyone was just a lover of music and a good time. Concerts are one of the many things that make life worth living. Music has always been such a huge part of my life but as I have more trips around the sun, I have realized the deep impact a song can have on a person. Keep singing and playing.

## Ensuring federal agencies are accessible, accountable to Arkansans

As a member of the Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee, I’ve delivered improvements to benefits and services for Arkansas veterans. Crafting policies and approving legislation is one way to fulfill the promise made to the men and women who served in our nation’s uniform. Just as importantly is cutting through red tape and breaking down hurdles blocking access to the critical care and services Congress authorized the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide.

The importance of this role was clear during a recent visit to Malvern-based Covenant Health Urgent Care. The clinic aimed to expand urgent care services to eligible veterans, but the staff ran into some barriers to achieving this goal. Delays in the approval process forced the medical center staff to send veterans further away from home to seek care for minor injuries and illnesses. When my team and I heard about the challenges the clinic was experiencing, we stepped in to help speed up the process so it could provide veterans care through the VA’s Community Care Network.

I’m pleased my staff and I were able to help resolve this issue and so many other problems Arkansans experience with federal agencies. Many U.S. government offices and departments are still struggling with backlogs and policy changes resulting from modifications made in the early days and weeks of the pandemic. Since January, my office has received more than 100 requests for help with veteran’s disability claims, fueled by substantial delays at all levels of that process. We are starting to see improvements with agency employees returning to in-person work, but there’s still a long way to go to ensure veterans receive timely decisions. My office has also been inundated with requests from Arkansans who are frustrated with significant lags and poor customer service from the IRS. While the agency has pressed for more funding to support additional staff, the solution is to prioritize the needs of taxpayers over other activities like representational work. As a result of feedback from Arkansas taxpayers, I helped introduce the IRS Service Improvement Act, legislation requiring IRS employees to focus on meeting their obligations to customers instead of using their time on the clock for union work. Other federal agencies have made major

improvements. There is finally good news for people hoping to travel internationally this summer. The U.S. Passport Service has overcome the backlog that plagued the agency in 2020 and 2021. Although applications still take longer to process than before the pandemic, Arkansans are getting their passports for vacations, education exchanges and business travel with a little extra lead time. Constituent service is an important oversight function of Congress. By assisting Arkansans with these federal agencies, I truly understand what is and is not working at the federal level so I can pursue changes to broken systems and help people work through very large bureaucracies. I appreciate knowing what challenges you face and providing information and assistance to help make these complicated processes less cumbersome. My office has been recognized for our commitment to serving Arkansans. As the Congressional Management Foundation’s inaugural Democracy Award for Constituent Service winner, we were thrilled to claim the title of “the best public servant” for our constituents. I look forward to continuing to serve Arkansans and helping overcome the roadblocks to federal services. Let my staff and I help you.



JOHN BOOZMAN  
U.S. SENATE REPORT



ASHLEY HOGG  
EDITOR



## Standing against hate

Thirty-seven years ago this week, I put on a bulletproof vest and entered a white-supremacist compound to try to convince the group they were outmanned and outgunned and should surrender. As I have reflected on that moment as well as the racial tension and civil unrest that have roiled our nation over the past two years, I have thought about the lessons we learn from our history. The people I confronted on April 21, 1985, were members of the Covenant, the Sword, and the

Arm of the Lord, known as the CSA, and one of their missions was to take down the United States government. Members of the CSA had sent out teams to assassinate several government officials, including me. On April 21, 1985, I was the United States Attorney for the Western District of Arkansas, appointed three years earlier by President Ronald Reagan. For two years, my office had monitored the CSA in cooperation with the U.S. Attorney’s Office in the Western District of Missouri, as well as the FBI and the ATF. As we developed our strategy to flush out the CSA, we were well aware that the white supremacists had stockpiled high-powered weapons and weren’t afraid to

shoot law enforcement officers. Just a year earlier, CSA member Richard Snell shot and killed a black Arkansas State Trooper who had stopped him for a traffic violation. His name was Louis Bryant, and he was a true hero. We anticipated fierce resistance, so we brought over 200 law enforcement officers to the small town of Elijah, Missouri, many of them disguised as anglers in town to fish. I joined several other agents on the negotiating team. We persuaded Jim Ellison, the CSA founder who had purchased the land for the compound, that his best hope was to surrender. After three days of negotiations, all the men laid down their weapons, and the standoff ended with-

See HUTCHINSON Page 5A

## Internet access survey in Arkansas complete

A six-month survey of Internet access in Arkansas has been completed, and state officials now have a more accurate roadmap of which regions need more investment in broadband technologies. They also have a clearer idea of how much that investment will cost. With up to \$350 million, broadband can be provided to about 100,000 households. Then it gets even more

expensive. To provide Internet capability to the last 10,000 isolated homes in Arkansas will cost about \$200 million. There are 1.7 million households in Arkansas, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. A total of about 210,000 households lack adequate broadband access, according to the statewide broadband study that was released recently. Of those 210,000 households lacking broadband, about 100,000 are eligible for existing state and federal programs and the remaining 110,000 households are in areas where no government program exists. Those are the households

for which it will cost about \$550 million to connect them to high-speed Internet. The standard of high speed broadband capacity steadily goes up. The statewide study set it at 100/20 megabits per second. The first number refers to download speed and the second number to upload speed. In the early days of the Internet, still images and text made up the majority of content on web sites, and the data that consumers uploaded and downloaded. Now, consumers expect to listen

See GILMORE Page 5A

## Internet is essential in our world today

From online homework assignments to scheduling telehealth visits, we live in a digital world where high-speed access is no longer a luxury. Unfortunately, too many households across Arkansas are still unable to access high-quality broadband internet.



HOWARD BEATY  
ARKANSAS HOUSE REPORT

According to a report released this week, Arkansas currently has 110,000 households that are underserved when it comes to broadband access.

Underserved households are those with less than 100+ Mbps access. In October of last year, the Arkansas Legislative Council approved a contract with the Broadband Development Group to create a master plan for broadband development. The group released its report this week. The group hosted or attended more than 300 community meetings in all 75 counties and received more than 18,000 surveys from residents in every county across the state. Several Arkansas legislators participated in these meetings to ensure a variety of voices were heard during the community fact-finding portion of our research. They also consulted with nearly 30 broadband providers to learn more about their perspectives. The report not only assesses current broadband availability, but also maps out where the broadband gap exists in the state, calculates the budget needed to bridge the gap, and makes recommendations for improvements to the Arkansas Rural Connect grant program. The report found that significant progress has already been made by utilizing state and federal programs in recent years to create coverage for about 100,000 households. The remaining 110,000 households are not currently addressed by any identified programs at any level. It estimates the cost of covering these households at about \$500 million. The report recommends using funds through American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs

See BEATY Page 5A

### ADVANCE-MONTICELLONIAN

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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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# Shine your light for firefighter heroes on May 4

**SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE**

On May 4, 2022, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) will be joining in the observance of International Firefighters' Day, which began on May 4, 1999, after the deaths of five Australian firefighters in a wildland fire. Since that time, International Firefighters' Day is held every May 4th to recognize the work and sacrifice of firefighters across the globe in keeping their communities safe. We have all been moved by the images of children, families, and the elderly impacted by the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. There have also been images reminding us of

the strength and bravery of firefighters and emergency service workers responding to the needs of their communities under the worst of circumstances. On May 4, 2022, the world celebrates International Firefighters Day. This is a way to say thank you to our firefighters for all that they do and to remember those firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty. "Join us in thanking firefighters for their service as they work the front lines protecting our communities," said Chief Ron Siarnicki, Executive Director of the NFFF. "Our communities have been made stronger by the dedica-

tion of firefighters and this is a great way to thank them." Here are some ways you can help us celebrate on May 4th: **Shine Your Light for Firefighters:** The NFFF is asking the public to light their homes in "red" on May 4th to celebrate International Firefighters' Day. We ask that families share their story with us on social media using #Shine4Firefighters. If you need "red" light bulbs, please support the NFFF and buy online using our Amazon Associates link at <https://amzn.to/2XWm5oE> or visit the Home Depot website at <https://thd.co/3LkOb2I>.

Buildings, bridges and landmarks across the country will also be participating in Shine Your Light for Firefighters, including the Philadelphia International Airport, the Navy Pier in Chicago and the Helmsley Building in New York City, to show their thanks. **Share a Firefighter Thank You:** A simple act of kindness is sometimes all it takes to brighten someone's day and let them know that they matter. For creative and compassionate kids (and adults) who want to let our firefighters know that we are grateful for everything they do, we invite you to draw,

color, and share your thank you with the NFFF by emailing a photo of your artwork to [photos@firehero.org](mailto:photos@firehero.org) and using on social media with the hashtag #WeThankFFs. We will share your works of art on our website and social media on May 4, 2021, International Firefighters' Day, to raise spirits and celebrate firefighters everywhere. For additional information about International Firefighters' Day and Shine Your Light for Firefighters, please visit our website at <https://www.firehero.org/firefighters-day/>. Media interviews are available. Contact Donna Clark at [dclark@firehero.org](mailto:dclark@firehero.org)

or Sheila Jaskot at [sheila@lauraevansmedia.com](mailto:sheila@lauraevansmedia.com). About the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Congress created the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation to lead a nationwide effort to honor America's fallen firefighters. Since 1992, the non-profit Foundation has developed and expanded programs that fulfill that mandate. Our mission is to honor and remember America's fallen fire heroes, provide resources to assist their families in rebuilding their lives, and work within the fire service community to reduce firefighter deaths and injuries. <https://www.firehero.org>.

## Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield encourages Arkansans to make good use of their lunch breaks

**SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE**

Researchers at the Cleveland Clinic say you should take about 30 minutes to eat your lunch each day, but that doesn't mean you have to cut your lunch hour short. "We are all very busy, and that extra 30 minutes is a perfect opportunity to do something that could improve your life," said Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield Wellness Program Manager Kristen Lippencott. "Exercise is good for your physical, mental and

emotional health. It's the perfect way to clear your mind and hit refresh for a more productive afternoon." And a half hour of moderate physical activity, five days a week, is exactly the amount of exercise the Centers for Disease Control recommends – even if it's just a walk outside your office. Wednesday, April 27, is National Walk at Lunch Day. Arkansas Blue Cross encourages you to make good use of your extra 30 minutes and go for a stroll. "It's a great opportunity



to get out and enjoy the fresh air, get some exercise with coworkers and friends, and if you are participating in the Blue & You Fitness Challenge, participating in National Walk at Lunch Day will earn you 500 extra

points," Lippencott said. National Walk at Lunch Day (#NWLD) is celebrated each year on the last Wednesday in April to help improve the health of Americans in communities nationwide.

### MPD receives \$27,490 grant for drug and fingerprint scanners

**SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE**

According to Monticello Police Chief Jason Akers, MPD recently received notice that it's application for grant funding through a Project Safe Neighborhood Grant was approved. That funding will go to the purchase of a ThermoFisher Tru-Narc Laser on-scene drug testing device as well as two portable fingerprint scanners. The Tru-Narc system is capable of scanning directly through plastic or glass for most drug test samples to minimize contamination, reduce exposure and preserve evidence. On-scene rapid drug identification may also be useful in the cases of accidental

overdose, as information can be relayed to medical staff providing knowledge of what all the patient was exposed to. The Tru-Narc can rapidly identify 300 of the most common illegal narcotics while officers are on scene. Fingerprint scanners may be used to accurately identify wanted persons using false names and identities or identify unknown deceased individuals. These technological advancements compliment the progress MPD has made to modernize and provide the best service to our community. The funding comes from a grant administered by the Department of Finance and Administration.

## HUTCHINSON

Continued from Page 4A

out gunfire or bloodshed. That day also marked the end of the CSA. But it wasn't the death of the dangerously misguided belief that one race is superior to another. On the anniversary of

that tense standoff with the white supremacists of the CSA, I understand there remains much work to be done to close the gaps among Americans of different races, religions, and beliefs. Ultimately, I am hopeful. Throughout history, people have often expressed their disagreement with violent

language, and sometimes it goes further into actual violence, so this is nothing new. But I am optimistic because in America we learn from the mistakes of the past. Nearly forty years ago, I joined a band of hundreds of good people who linked arms to confront those who believed violence and racial

hatred were the answer to their anger. Sometimes I fear we are not moving fast enough toward an America that is truly equal. But we are making progress as long as we listen to each other and care about each other. There will be more times when we must stand shoulder to shoulder against

hate just as those federal and state agents did nearly forty years ago in western Arkansas. But Americans' bedrock belief that all men are created equal echoes in our founding documents and rises from our hearts as we continually travel toward that more perfect union.

## BEATY

Continued from Page 4A

Act (IILJA) grants to close the current gaps. The General Assembly is currently reviewing the recommendations. You can find the full report at [www.arkansas-house.org](http://www.arkansas-house.org).

## GILMORE

Continued from Page 4A

to audio, such as podcasts that can last more than 10 minutes. They expect to watch videos, and send them to friends, family and business associates. Consumer expectations have helped drive a remarkable growth in broadband

capacity. For the past 30 years it has averaged growth of more than 50 percent a year. The exponential growth in capacity is expected to continue, so the state study recommends that providers be required to "future proof" all new networks they install. That means they should be required to install technology that is proven to be able to handle demands of tomor-

row. Fiber optic cable is an example. The study recognizes that the monthly price paid by consumers is a factor that can cause an area to be lacking in service. In other words, if the government pays a provider to install a system that nobody can afford, that provider has not served the area with high speed Internet. The study recommends

\$50 a month per household, or less, as the standard for describing broadband as affordable. The consulting firm that did the study, Broadband Development Group, held more than 300 community meetings and surveyed more than 18,000 Arkansas residents. The firm worked with 29 broadband providers and electric co-ops, and with the Farm Bureau, the Municipal

League, the state Chamber of Commerce, the Association of Arkansas Counties, the Arkansas State Library Association and the Arkansas Sheriffs Association. The state Education Department, Transportation Department, State Police, UAMS, the Economic Development Commission, Arkansas PBS and the Division of Agriculture helped. The Covid-19 pandemic

provided a huge impetus for the project, because so many students and employees had to work from home. Federal covid relief funds have been essential for much of investment in broadband that the state has made over the past three years. Since July of 2019 the state Broadband Office has distributed \$386 million in grants to local communities.

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## National Day of Prayer set for May 5

SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

For generations, Americans have turned to almighty God to be our hope through trials and our joy in celebrations. It has been over 70 years since leaders established a public law to reflect our continual dependence on God through prayer, and each passing year brings another opportunity to praise our creator and pray for our country.

The annual National Day of Prayer is an occasion for all Americans to gather and call out to God on behalf of our country.

The 2022 theme stands as an invitation and call to worship: "Exalt the Lord who has established us" having been inspired from scripture found in Colossians 2:6-7. "Therefore, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk

in him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude."

"Our praise of His unchanging attributes and remembrance of his blessings has helped Americans remain steadfast in faith even through the most challenging of times." Kathy Branzell, Task Force President stated. "Therefore, it is of the utmost importance that we do not waver today in this practice of praise and expression of faith, love and thanks as we unite in prayer across America."

The annual national broadcast will air on television and radio and will be streamed through social media. For links to the service, visit [www.nationaldayofprayer.org](http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org).

## COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

where the proceeds from the sale of the land went. McDaniel explained that the \$50,000 that was paid to MEDC for the purchase of the ten acres went into a "non-sales tax" account and is intended to be used for reinvestment in the community such as finding land to purchase.

Police Chief Jason Akers gave a quick report on the grant funding the department has received and is applying for. He noted the importance of body cameras for the officers as they help in prosecuting cases.

Water Operator Wayne Morphis and John Daves gave an update on the testing of employees in the water

department. Several city employees are training and taking state tests to become certified in water treatment and distribution.

Vyve representatives Lloyd Walker and Jeff Beck were present to inform the council that major upgrades are coming to the local cable and internet service. They approximate the project will take about six months to complete and they wanted to make everyone aware that during the process, there will be some interruptions in service but the local office is here and ready to address any issues as they arise. The upgrade is expected to increase internet capacity and reliability.

Bubba Groves with Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and the Monticello Planning Commission, addressed

the crowd with members of the Quail Forever group about a youth shooting event.

The idea was discussed at the recent focus group in Monticello. AGFC, Quail Forever and local sportsman coaches have teamed up and are working to schedule a youth trap shoot at Lake Monticello for August. Fundraisers will be held before the event and prizes will be given away to the winners of the shoot.

Jay Jones of the Monticello Planning Commission made the recommendation to the council that a permit be extended for Yvonne Washington. The council approved.

222 East Allen Street and 447 Bolling Avenue were declared as nuisance properties and a lien previously placed on 509 E Gaines Street was revoked.

## SMITH

Continued from Page 1A

tinue to serve on the board as long as I am able."

In 1890, Merchants and Planters Bank, later known as First National Bank and then as First State Bank in Warren, opened their doors to the Bradley County Community. In 1974, Bennie Ryburn Sr. purchased controlling interest in First National Bank. During the year, Ryburn picked businessmen in the area and instituted a Community Development Board for the Bank designed to look at ways and means to

improve Community Development in Bradley County and surrounding areas. Also, in 1974 The Bank received approval from the Comptroller of the Currency to establish a branch bank on the corner of Martin

and Pine Streets in Warren and the Hermitage Branch Bank was granted full-service banking powers. In 1978, the stockholders decided that it would be in the bank's best interest to convert back to a state charter

and Hermitage became known as First State Bank of Warren and Hermitage.

"My role is to make sure everything is in place and equip our employees with the tools to

## Students honored at Drew County Scholars Luncheon



Ashley Hogg/Advance Monticellonian

48 seniors from Drew Central and Monticello High Schools were honored Tuesday as Arkansas Scholars at the First United Methodist Church. These students have gone above and beyond and will graduate with special markings on their diplomas.

## UAM unveils new marketing and student communication campaign during board of visitors meeting

SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

The University of Arkansas at Monticello Board of Visitors convened for their annual meeting on April 14. During the meeting, Jeff Weaver, vice chancellor for advancement and chief of staff at UAM, unveiled several components of the university's current marketing and student communication campaign.

In March, Dr. Peggy Doss, chancellor of UAM, mailed a welcome letter to all recently admitted Fall 2022 students. The letter highlighted the university's efforts to connect prospective students with every financial resource available. UAM supersedes the ACT and will now accept ACCUPLACER scores, as well. In 2021, UAM distributed

over \$17 million in need-based aid and 96 percent of first-year students received some form of financial aid. The university offers institutional scholarships up to \$12,000 per year and annually awards an average of 1400 private scholarships.

Throughout the meeting, Weaver outlined several additional efforts included in the campaign.

UAM is offering all Fall 2022 new first-time freshmen and new transfer students a \$500 scholarship if they pre-register for classes on April 18, 19 or 20 and attend UAM during the Fall 2022 semester. Weaver noted that terms and conditions may apply. Students can click here to reserve a time to pre-register.

During the meeting, Weaver debuted a new commercial for UAM, which is part of a four-part commercial series that is available on UAM's YouTube channel, UAMonticello.

The UAM Board of Visitors includes the following members: Linda Armour, Lake Village; Jim Daniels, McGehee; Roger George, Warren; J. Michael Jones, Dumas; Mellie Jo Owen, Monticello; Gregg Reep, Warren; Scott Saffold, Monticello; Jeremy Sparks, Alexander; and Michael Walker, Star City.

The board is recommended by the chancellor and approved by the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees. These members serve as advisors to the chancellor.

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Alex Borchardt Bride-elect of Max Hughes  
July 23, 2022



# OBITUARIES

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## Roosevelt “Teddy” Hellum, Jr.

Roosevelt “Teddy” Hellum, Jr., 61, of Monticello, passed away Saturday, April 23, at his home. He was born June 6, 1960, in Little Rock, to Roosevelt Hellum, Sr. and Clementine Fisher Russ. He was a member of Pilgrim Rest African Methodist Episcopal Church of Monticello. His hobbies included watching sports, DJ’ing, fishing, and eating.



HELLUM

He is survived by his mother, Clementine Fisher Russ of Monticello; sisters, Tanya (Charles) Franklin of Monticello,

Sylvia Russ of Monticello, Joyce Harris of Little Rock and Fashunda Clemons of Maumelle; his brothers, Curtis Fisher (Crystal) of Mayflower, Anthony McCraney of Conway, Trance (Ebony) Russ of Little Rock, Myronn (Stephanie) Briggs of Monticello and Detrick Briggs of Monticello; along with a host nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and other relatives and friends.

Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 30, at Pilgrim Rest AME Church. Burial will be in Oakland Cemetery. There will be a visitation from 5-7 p.m. Friday evening at the funeral home. You can sign Teddy’s guestbook page at [www.stephensondearman.com](http://www.stephensondearman.com).

(Paid obituary)

## Retta Ann Kellum Higgins

Retta Ann Kellum Higgins, 87, of Monticello, went to be with her Lord and Savior Friday, April 22, at Drew Memorial Hospital in Monticello. She was born September 28, 1934, in Monticello, to the late James M. and Mattie E. Gillam Kellum.

She was the widow of James Higgins, a housewife and a very active member of Friendship Pentecostal Church of

God. Mrs. Retta’s passion was her church and studying the Bible. Her hobbies included playing Yahtzee and Skip-Bo, making and selling her peanut brittle as a fundraiser for her church, sewing all of her kids’ clothes and making quilts. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by two brothers, James and Edward Kellum; and a sister, Joyce McGlaughlin. Mrs. Retta once said, “If I could live my life over, I wouldn’t change anything. I don’t know what I could have done to make it better.”

She is survived by her four children, Elizabeth King, Brenda Young, James Higgins and Steven Higgins all of Monticello; and her grandchildren, Andrea King of Dumas, Rachel Holland of Huntsville, Steven Higgins of Fort Smith, Jason Higgins of Blacksburg,



HIGGINS

VA, Angie Anderson of Bristol, VA, Ryan Young of Arkadelphia, and Christy Anderson of Forney, TX. Funeral services were at 2 p.m. Monday, April 25, at Friendship Pentecostal Church of God with burial in Lone Sassafras Cemetery. There was a visitation from 5-7 p.m. Sunday evening at the funeral home. You can sign Mrs. Retta’s guestbook page at [www.stephensondearman.com](http://www.stephensondearman.com).

## Michael Andrae McCoy

Michael Andrae McCoy, 46, of Monticello, passed away Saturday, April 16. Michael was born April 20, 1975, to Sim McCoy, Jr. (Tran) and Nettie McCoy Gardner of Monticello. Preceding Michael in death: one son, Cameron McCoy; two brothers: Marvin McCoy and Kenneth McCoy; grandparents: Otis and Leona Goodman of Monticello and Sim McCoy Sr. and Margaret McCoy of Wilmar.

Michael was a member of the Class of 1994 of Monticello High School. During his ad-

olescent years, Mike enjoyed playing baseball at Jordan Park. He enjoyed the game so much that he would put his complete baseball uniform on very early. Mike would literally get ready for the game around 10 a.m. and the game wasn’t until 6 p.m. Moving on up as a Junior High Student, Mike enjoyed playing a little football. The coach wanted to play Michael as a running back but Mike had his own agenda and considered himself as “Mr. Toughman” and put himself in the position of “Linebacker”.



MCROY

At that time, Michael really wanted to be a linebacker because it was a guy on the team that he really

didn’t like so he used that position to practice tackling him. But within a short time, that particular guy, named Tony Shephard became a very close, lifelong friend of Michael.

Michael was a member of The Word Church in Monticello where he served as an usher. Michael took this position very seriously. As Psalms 84:10 (NIV) reads, Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked. Michael loved being a “door keeper” of the church. Mike looked forward to being “suited” and “booted” as he held his position with pride and respect.

Michael also enjoyed hanging out with friends. His typical weekend consisted of playing dominoes at his house and relaxing in his sister’s yard while listening to music with his buddies. He also would make his rounds checking on all his friends after getting off work to see what was up for the weekend. “Legendary Ice Mike” as he was widely known as literally the life of the party and everyone knew that. Mike enjoyed stepping out in his heavy-

starched clothes straight from the cleaners with some new shoes and a cap to match while maintaining a perfect smile.

Michael’s passion was bodybuilding and fitness training. Michael trained his clients with patience, care, discipline, and understanding. His motto was “No Days Off-No Excuses”. Michael pushed all his clients to their potential and helped them reach their goals. Michael was a trainer for many years. He even branched out and created his own logo of “Pushing Weight Legal” PWL. After several career shifts, Michael found a new passion for painting vehicles. He had big plans and was prepping to paint his Mercedes Benz “Wine Berry Red” for his Birthday.

Michael was a very lovable guy who cherished spending time with his family. Mike loved everyone and had a special bond with his children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. Michael would move mountains for his grandchildren. Mike loved hearing the grandkids holler out “Papa Mike”. Mike would pick the kids up and keep them the whole weekend. He might be a little worn out by the time it was Sunday but he wouldn’t have it any other way. Mike enjoyed reminiscing on old times, working out, grilling, looking good, dancing, joking, clowning around, and just being the “Life of the Party.” Everywhere Mike went he left a lasting impression.

From attending classes at UAM, to detailing vehicles, he left a lasting impression; from working at Tyson to working at the County Department in Warren, from working at Kohl’s in Dallas to Gold’s Gym, from working at All-Time Fitness Club to Patrick’s Auto Wash, from working at L & J Kustom Body to leaving this Earthly Realm, he left a lasting impression.

Michael is survived by his children: Treyvon Daniels, DeVantre Daniels (Ellatrice)

of Pine Bluff; Braylon McCoy of Little Rock, and Ya’Niah McCoy of Monticello, his siblings: Marshall McCoy (Pamela), Valerie Deshazer (Josh Roston) of Monticello; Kimberlee Johnson of Whitehall, and Mario McCoy (Marquita) of Houston. Michael is further survived by three grandchildren: Ellaiya Lee Daniels, Ivyanna Lee Daniels, and Major J’Ceon Daniels all of Pine Bluff; three nephews: Stacy Harris, Jr. and Dennard Shaw of Monticello, and Windell Johnson Jr. of Whitehall, six nieces: Tommyah Deshazer, Jaize Roston, Kamisha Washington, Sharece Thomas of Monticello, Brooklyn Johnson of Whitehall, and Breshonna Ware of Milwaukee, Wis., and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, neighbors, classmates, church members, and a close friend until the end: Jennifer-Tucker McCoy.

(Paid obituary)

## Deborah Kay Rogers

Deborah Kay Rogers, 67, of Monticello, went to be with her Lord and Savior Wednesday, April 20, at Drew Memorial Hospital in Monticello. She was born August 6, 1954, in St. Paul, Minn. to the late John and Betty Basta Estes. She was also preceded in death by her grandmother who raised her, Ruth Ione Rogers.

There’s no better way to sum up the life of Debbie than to use the words written in 1 John 3:18, “Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.” Debbie exemplified this type of love on a daily basis. As a mother and a MeMe, as a sister and an aunt, as a niece and a church member, and as a friend, Debbie loved with all she had. There are no adequate words to describe the love that she had for her family. She called her grown children every morning to make sure they were up and

getting ready for the day. She scheduled her life around the endless extracurricular activities of her precious grandchildren. She was the perfect example of Southern elegance and tradition; never leaving the house without her jewelry while keeping the entire family in line at the same time. To paraphrase the words of Jesus in Matthew 22, “Love God, Love people.” Debbie lived out these words. She poured her energy into her church, made sure that food was handled in all situations, and cared for others with a servant’s heart. It is this servant’s heart that has made Debbie a role model for countless lives. While she has left a void that will never be fully filled, Debbie also leaves a legacy and a lasting reminder to us all to Love God, Love



ROGERS

people. She is survived by a son, Rusty Arrington of Monticello; a daughter, Melissa Reid of Wilmar;

two sisters, Johnnie Ruth Ferrington of Wilmar and Jeanne Campbell of Hot Springs; and seven grandchildren, Preston, Kayla and Cooper Arrington, John Parker Reid, MaryJane Rogers, Jay Dylan Reid and Saylor Bliss Doykin.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Friday, April 22, at Second Baptist Church of Monticello with Rev. Ray Hearn officiating. Burial was in McCoy Cemetery in New Edinburg. There was a visitation preceding the funeral service from 1-2 p.m. at the church. Memorials may be made to the Second Baptist Church or the Second Baptist Church Building Fund. You can sign Deborah’s guestbook page at [www.stephensondearman.com](http://www.stephensondearman.com).

(Paid obituary)

# Arkansas Youth Shooting Sports Program



Photo courtesy of Nick Cater

Arkansas Youth Shooting Sports Program (AYSSP) is a shotgun program that was started by the Arkansas Game and Fish to teach youth to shoot trap. It is for youth 6-12 grade. The AYSSP is designed for schools and other groups such as 4-H and other youth groups. There are approximately 6,000 kids from across the state that participate in the program. The Drew County Teams are a mix of Monticello AYSSP and 4-H. Some shooters travel from Rison as there is not a team in Cleveland Co. The group also works with some 4-H youth that are below 6th grade in preparation for when they are old enough to join the group. Under the AYSSP, the program is divided into a Jr division 6-8 grades and Sr division 9-12 grades. Scholarships are awarded to the top three teams in each division. The local AYSSP group consists of Adrian Ratliff; Emelia Montgomery; John Montgomery; William Leslie; Drew Tadel; Landon Moorlane; Gage Cater; Ayden Cochran; Piper Forrest; Ada Ratliff; Zainly Witcher and Ava Hargis.



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[MSSjrtaylor@gmail.com](mailto:MSSjrtaylor@gmail.com)

Lic # ADH13529859





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**Pilgrim Rest Apartments**  
1032 North Cooper St. • Monticello, AR 71655  
Pilgrim Rest Apartments is currently accepting applications for 1, 2, 3, and 4 bedroom apartments with immediate availability for newly renovated 3 bedrooms.

**Give us a call today 870-367-6781 TTY: 711  
to schedule your appointment!**

**OFFICE HOURS | Mon-Fri 8 am to 5 pm**

This property does not discriminate on the basis of disability status in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its federally assisted programs and activities. Per section 504 requirements, this property will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. Section 504 Compliance: ATTN: Compliance Officer-8101 Interstate 30-Suite A Little Rock, AR 72209 501.280.0037 TTY:711.





# CLASSIFIED

**CONTACT US**  
Classified Manager  
870-367-5325  
[classified@monticellonews.net](mailto:classified@monticellonews.net)

## CLASSIFIED RATES

**1 Week - \$7<sup>10</sup>**  
(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.ADVANCEMONTICELLONIAN.COM**.

**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: Ashley sofa in excellent condition, 4 good tires for a car 17inch, Two sets of camo sheets, 1 gallon of transmission fluid, 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 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 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 4/30

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 4/30

### BUYING JUNK CARS

#### New Year .. New Prices

\$200 and up on complete vehicles Please call 870-224-1750 8pd 6/14

### WE BUY JUNK CARS



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### CAMPER

2020 16' Coleman camper, used once, \$18,000. 870-692-5274. 4tpd 4/23

The Advance classifieds are online! [www.advancemonticellonian.com](http://www.advancemonticellonian.com). Log on now and click on the E-Edition. You can also place your classified ads online or by calling 870.367.5325.

## RUMMAGE SALE RATES

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

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

# Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF DREW COUNTY, ARKANSAS  
PROBATE DIVISION  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHRISTINE MARY ROBERTS, DECEASED  
NO. 22PR-2022-38-2

Last known address: 104 Kays Lane, Monticello, AR 71655  
Date of death: December 25, 2021  
An instrument dated February 6, 2020, was on the 14th day of April, 2022, admitted to probate as the last will of the above named decedent and the undersigned has been appointed executor 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 April 20, 2022.

/s/William Deeb  
WILLIAM DEEB, Executor  
c/o R. Victor Harper  
Attorney for the Estate  
717 South Lincoln Ave.  
Star City, AR 71667

#103904 4/20 4/27

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF DREW COUNTY, ARKANSAS  
CIVIL DIVISION  
CEDRIC LEONARD, PLAINTIFF VS. LARRY WAYNE BURNETT AND ALL PERSONS CLAIMING INTEREST  
IN: All lot No 2 in Block No 3 of Unit No 1 of Sherwood Forest Subdivision; as shown on the plat of said subdivision, now appearing of record at page 56 of Plat Book No 1 in the office of the Circuit Clerk and Ex-office Recorder of Drew County, Arkansas, DEFENDANTS  
NO. 22CV-22-41

### NOTICE OF QUIET TITLE ACTION

Notice is hereby given that a Petition has been filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Drew County, Arkansas, to quiet and confirm title in and to the above described real property in the heading of this case.  
Any persons claiming any title or interest of any kind to said property is hereby notified to appear herein on or before the 15th day of May, 2022, to assert their interest in said property and to demonstrate which title to this property should not be quieted and confirmed in and to Cedric Leonard.

/s/Beverly Burks  
Beverly Burks, Circuit Clerk

#104023 4/20 4/27 5/4 5/11



## HARVEST RICE IN MCGEHEE AR IS NEEDING WORKERS!

Mill techs, sanitation, packers/small pack/big pack, quality manager, scale room tech, bran operator, rough rice dump pit operator. \$50 sign on bonus. Call Patsy.



2600 S Olive  
Pine Bluff, AR 71601

870-535-3330  
or 1-888-477-7846  
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## HELP WANTED

TREATMENT/INFECTION  
CONTROL NURSE  
(PREFERRABLE RN)  
FULL TIME 12 HOUR  
SHIFT LPN/RN NURSE  
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1440 E. Church St., Warren  
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## WE ARE HIRING!


**Maxwell Hardwood** in Monticello is looking to add a few **positive** and **hardworking** individuals for full-time employment for night shift. We are a strong, **safety-driven** Flooring Mill that has been here for over 25 years and take pride in the work we do.

**Here are some of the great benefits we offer!**

- Night Shift Premium Pay
- \$1/hr Attendance Bonus
- Insurance (health, dental, vision, and life)
- Profit Sharing Program
- 401 K Plan to save for your future!
- Vacation and Six Paid Holidays a Year
- \$500 sign on bonus

**Apply in person or send applications to:**  
**Maxwell Hardwood Flooring, Attn:**  
**Human Resource Manager**  
**190 Wilson Mill Rd, Monticello AR 71655**

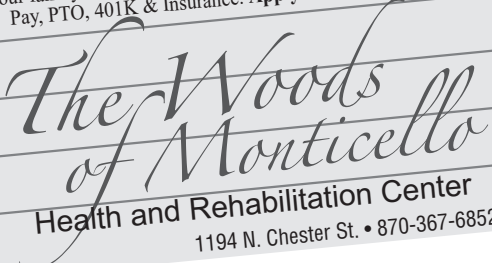




## Now Hiring CNA's (All Shifts)

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Come join our family at The Woods of Monticello. We offer Competitive Pay, PTO, 401K & Insurance. **Apply in Person.**



Health and Rehabilitation Center  
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## JOB OPPORTUNITY



**Drew County Road Department Competitive Salary and Excellent Benefits! Heavy Equipment and County Vehicle Mechanic Needed**

**Must have CDLs and ability to work on diesel engines, trash trucks as well as large and small county equipment Must be able to pass a drug test.**  
**Applications may be picked up at 295 Airport Road Monticello, AR 71655**



# Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF DREW COUNTY, ARKANSAS

GENE L. VEAZEY, SR., PLAINTIFF VS. JOHN FISHER AND WILLIE FISHER AND THEIR SPOUSES, IF ANY; JOYCE LAMBERT-EUBANKS AND HER SPOUSE, IF ANY; AND THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS AND ANY UNKNOWN JUDGMENT AND OTHER LIEN HOLDERS AGAINST ANY OF THE DEFENDANTS HERETO AND/OR THEIR INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT LANDS; AND ANY OTHER PERSON, FIRM, PARTNERSHIP, CORPORATION OR COMPANY CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT LANDS, DEFENDANTS

NO. 22CV-22-38

NOTICE OF QUIET TITLE ACTION

Notice is hereby given that a Petition has been filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Drew County, Arkansas, to quiet and confirm title in and to the following described property in Section 13, Township 13 South, Range 7 West in Drew County, Arkansas:

COMMENCING at the Northwest corner of the SW 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 13, Township 13 South, Range 7 West, run South 00° 12' 18" West along the West boundary of said SW 1/4 of NW 1/4 for a distance of 299.64 feet to the Northwest corner of that parcel of land conveyed to Joyce Eubanks by Quitclaim Deed filed as Record No. 52586 of 2004 of the Deed Records of Drew County, Arkansas; thence run South 84°55'51" East along the North boundary of said Eubanks parcel for a distance of 30.89 feet to a point intersecting a 3' chain link fence running Southerly, said point being the beginning point for the parcel of land hereby described; Thence, from said POINT OF BEGINNING, leave the North boundary of said Eubanks parcel and run South 03°35'21" West along said existing fence line for a distance of 4.04 feet to a fence corner therefound; thence run South 74°11'31" East along the Easterly running fence line for a distance of 182.85 feet to a point intersecting the East boundary of said Eubanks Parcel; thence run North 00°12'18" East along the East boundary of said Eubanks parcel for a distance of 38.75 feet to the Northeast corner of said Eubanks Parcel; thence run North 84°55'51" West along the North boundary of said Eubanks parcel for a distance of 179.11 feet to the existing fence running North and South and the point of beginning, containing 0.09 acres of land, more or less.

Any person claiming any title or interest of any kind to such property is hereby notified to appear herein on or before thirty days after publication of this Notice to assert hist title or interest in such property and to demonstrate why title to this property should not be quieted and confirmed in Gene Veazey, Plaintiff herein.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Court this 29th day of March, 2022.

/s/Beverly Burks/LA  
Beverly Burks, Circuit Clerk  
210 South Main Street  
Monticello, AR 71655

#104013 4/6 4/13 4/20 4/27

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF DREW COUNTY, ARKANSAS

PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA E. FORREST, DECEASED

NO.22PR-22-33

NOTICE

Last known address of decedent:  
2399 Hwy 425 N Monticello, AR 71655  
Date of Death: September 28, 2020  
The undersigned was appointed as Personal Representative of this estate on 15th day of April, 2022. 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 27th day of April, 2022.

Michael Shawn Forrest, Administrator  
c/o Barton & Roper, PLLC  
P.O. Box 507Monticello, AR 71657  
(870) 367-6288

#103905 4/27 5/4

THE CITY OF MONTICELLO

REQUESTS FOR QUALIFICATIONS

FOR AUDIT SERVICES

AUDIT PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS: this is a Request for Qualifications to provide a 2021 Federal Funds Audit for the City of Monticello, AR for the year ending December 31, 2021.

Proposals must be received by 2:00 pm, Thursday, May 12, 2022 to the City of Monticello City Hall - Attention: Vickie Norris.  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 505, Monticello, AR 71657  
Physical Address: 203 West Gaines, Monticello, AR 71655  
SCOPE OF WORK: The audit must be completed according to Single Audit Act (OMB Circular 2 CFR Subpart 200 E & F); Standards for Audits of Governmental Organizations, Programs, Activities and Functions ("Yellow Book"); and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, "Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and Generally Accepting Auditing Standards". Please indicate if your company has had training on the CARES Act audit requirements.

PROPOSAL CONTENTS: The proposal must include information sufficient for the grantee to evaluate the competence of the firm, i.e., experience with prior Federal audits, qualifications, etc. A fixed price must also be included with the proposal.

For more information contact Vickie Norris at City Hall 870-367-4400 extension 223.

The City of Monticello reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

Paid for by the City of Monticello in the amount of \$60.20.

#103907 4/27 5/4

**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.

2008 Hyundai Santa Fe Blue      Vin # 5NMSG13DX8H216524  
1999 Toyota Corolla Gray      Vin # 1NXBR12E1XZ279230  
2012 Buick Lacrosse White      Vin # 1G4GB5ER6CF193099

#103908 4/27 5/4



**POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

**CDL DRIVERS NEEDED:** Openings available for CDL Class A and B drivers in Pine Bluff, McGehee and Warren. Local runs, good driving record - Great Pay!! Call Patsy - 870-535-3330

**EXPRESS IS LOOKING FOR QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:**

- Material/Production Planner • Sales Director

Great pay. Temp to hire. Interested/qualified candidates can contact Patsy at Express (870) 535-3330 or email a resume to: [patsy.reynolds@expresspros.com](mailto:patsy.reynolds@expresspros.com)

**FORKLIFT DRIVERS/LABORERS NEEDED**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION AVAILABLE** – Must have good computer skills, be able to file, answer phones, take messages, set up appointments, schedule interviews, all office type duties. \$\$\$ DOQ.

**WELDERS, FORKLIFT DRIVERS, UTILITY WORKERS** Needed in the Dumas/McGehee area. Great \$\$\$.

**LOOKING FOR experienced applicants in the Warren/Monticello/Fordyce area for jobs in the Warren area. Must be able to work shift positions. Verification of past employment will be completed for employment.**

Call Patsy.

Mark Your Calendars!

**MAY**

**MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>** - Express Employment will be taking applications in **Monticello at the Workforce Center from 9 A.M. to 12 Noon.**

**MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>** - Express Employment will be taking applications in **Dumas at the Workforce Center and in McGehee at UAM from 1 P.M. to 3 P.M.**

**MAY 11<sup>TH</sup>** - Express Employment will be taking applications in **Warren at AHF from 9 A.M. to 12 Noon and in McGehee at UAM from 1 P.M. to 3 P.M.**

**MAY 16<sup>TH</sup>** - Express Employment will be taking applications in **Monticello at the Workforce Center from 9 A.M. to 12 Noon.**

**MAY 18<sup>TH</sup>** - Express Employment will be taking applications in **Dumas at the Workforce Center and in McGehee at UAM from 1 P.M. to 3 P.M.**

**MAY 25<sup>TH</sup>** - Express Employment will be taking applications in **Warren at AHF from 9 A.M. to 12 Noon and in McGehee at UAM from 1 P.M. to 3 P.M.**

\*Applicants must have I-9 documentation that proves your identity and eligibility to work, and able to pass a drug screen.

Come see us and get ready to go to work!!!

**2600 S Olive • Pine Bluff, AR 71601**  
**870-535-3330 or 1-888-477-7846**  
**EOE –Equal Opportunity Employer**  
**I-9 documentation that proves your identity and eligibility to work in the U.S. is needed.**

**FREE**

Advance Classifieds are free to individuals if the item is valued at \$50 or less and the ad states the price. All free ads must be of a non commercial nature and be for one item. An example would be a sofa for \$49 would be free but bales of hay for \$5 each would be a paid ad.

**MISCELLANEOUS**



For sale: Ampeg SVT-450 bass amplifier and 4-10 cabinet. Really good shape. \$550. Call 870-224-

**NOW HIRING**

**SOUTH REGION OPERATIONS MAP**



Scan here to view careers!

**\$1,500 Sign-on Bonus!**



interfor is an equal opportunity employer

5646. 5/21 4tc

For Sale tires for a log truck. Please call 870-723-8093 4pd 5/11

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 4/30

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

**PETS**

If you have deer meat you aren't going to use, please donate it to my cat Purrcy, who is allergic to all other meats. Call 367-5852 after noon. 4/23 1tf

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

Post on our Facebook page designed to reunite missing pets in the Monticello/Drew County area with their owners! Monticello Lost Pet Network. TFN

**REAL ESTATE**

**APARTMENTS**

For Lease: Now taking applications for a 2 bedroom 1 bath apartment Central heat and air, fridge and stove are furnished, washer and dryer hookkups. 1 year lease required .Call 870-367-2846 4pd 4/23

**Cedar Hill Apartments**

Newly renovated. Veteran units available. New appliances and interior. Income restrictions apply. Washer/dryer in each unit. 839 S. Gabbert St. 870-367-3394. TFN cc-1128

**PARKHILL APARTMENTS**

See **CLASSIFIEDS** Page 11A



**WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR**

- Production Team
- Millwrights

Hiring Event Scheduled for Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00AM

**INTERFOR**  
Start here. Go far.

## STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

Call Neil McConnell at 1-800-569-8762 to place your ad here!

**EDUCATION/TRAINING**

**Medical Billing & Coding Training.** New Students Only. Call & Press 1. 100% online courses. Financial Aid Available for those who qualify. Call 877-581-8649

**Ultimate Medical Academy Online | Medical Billing and Coding.** Prepare for a Career in Medical Billing & Coding w/ an Online Degree at Ultimate Medical Academy! Students Come First. Flexible Online Learning. Student support services. Call 877-328-0342

**ONLINE PHARMACY TECHNICIAN TRAINING.** New Students Only. Call & Press 1. Financial Aid Available for those who qualify. 100% Online Courses. Call 877-648-6341

**FARM EQUIPMENT**

**EARN \$15,000 - \$40,000 OVER 5 YEARS.** #1 Hunting Lease Company in America Customize your contract. Call Base Camp Leasing (888) 871-1982.

**FINANCIAL**

**SAVE BIG on HOME INSURANCE!** Compare 20 A-rated insurances companies. Let us do the shopping & save you time & money. Get a quote within minutes. Average savings of \$444/year! Call 888-912-0111. (M-F 8am-8pm Central)

**Struggling with Your Private Student Loan Payment?** New relief programs can reduce your payments. Learn your options. Good credit not necessary. Call the Helpline 877-248-8044 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm Eastern).

**Do you owe more than \$5000 in tax debt?** Call Wells & Associates INC. We solve ALL Tax Problems! Personal, Business, IRS, State and Local. "Decades of experience"! Our clients have saved over \$150 Million Dollars! Call NOW for a free consultations. 1-855-815-0405

**Over \$10K in debt?** Be debt free in 24-48 months. Pay a fraction of what you owe. A+ BBB rated. Call National Debt Relief 866-916-4956.

**Need Help with Family Law?** Can't Afford a \$5000 Retainer? Low Cost Legal Services- Pay As You Go-As low as \$750-\$1500- Get Legal Help Now! Call 1-888-989-6063 Mon-Fri 7am to 4pm PCT

**HEALTH & MEDICAL**

**WE SHOP, YOU SAVE on your Medicare Supplement Insurance!** Call 833-924-0438 today to compare Medicare benefits and costs from up to 20 top-rated carriers. Receive the best option for you

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Johnson’s Grand-Slam seals Regional Tournament bid for Lady Pirates

By: JEFF YOUNG  
Advance Correspondent

The Drew Central Lady Pirates have secured their place in the 3A Region 4 Regional Tournament after winning three consecutive contests including a 14-1 victory of the McGehee Lady Owls capped off by a walk-off Grand-Slam by Zoe Johnson.

Travelling to Rison on Friday, April 15, the Lady Pirates opened the contest with a single by Gracie Connard followed by a sacrifice bunt by Kynnlee Graves to move Connard to second base.

Bailey Chapman tripled to score Connard with Mallory Jackson hitting a single to score Chapman.

Rison would come back in the bottom of the inning to tie the contest 2-2.

Rison took the lead in the bottom of the fifth inning after scoring a run on a double to give the Lady Wildcats a 3-2 advantage.

Drew Central would retake the lead in the top of the sixth inning.

Emma McRae led things off with a single and was advanced to third on a double by Connard. Graves singled to score McRae and tie the game 3-3. Rison chose to put Chapman on

base with an intentional walk and Jackson would follow with a single that scored Graves and Connard. Macy Lloyd would single to score Chapman and Jackson would score the final run of the contest on a ground ball by Kennedee Love to give the Lady Pirates a 7-3 win.

Connard was 2 for 4 with two runs and pitched seven innings allowing three runs while striking out 14.

Mallory Jackson and Emma McRae each went 2 for 4, Graves finished 1 for 3, Chapman was 1 for 3, Ali Jo Cruce was 1 for 2, Lloyd was 1 for 2, and Aalanah Jones finished going 1 for 2.

The Lady Pirates travelled to Dumas on Tuesday, April 19, to face the Dumas Lady Bobcats.

Connard led off the game with a single followed by a double by Graves.

After the first out of the inning, Jackson would single to score Graves and Connard. Zoe Johnson reached on a single and Cruce would single to score Jackson. for a 3-0 lead.

Dumas got a run in the bottom half of the first inning after scoring on an error to cur the lead to 3-1.

Dumas made the score tighter



JEFF YOUNG/ADVANCE MONTICELLONIAN  
ZOE JOHNSON connected for a walk-off Grand-Slam Thursday against McGehee to give the Lady Pirates a 14-1 victory and sealed the teams appearance in the 3A Region 4 Regional Tournament.

in the bottom of the third inning after scoring one run to cut the lead to 3-2.

Drew Central retook the lead in the top of the fifth after a single by Chapman, Jackson, and Johnson. Johnson's single scored Chapman.

Cruce hit a sacrifice fly to center that scored Jackson to give the Lady Pirates a 5-2 lead.

Drew Central scored five more runs in the contest with two runs coming in the top of sixth after singles by McRae and Love and a double by Connard to score McRae. Graves would hit a fly ball that scored Love.

The final runs would come in the top of the seventh inning with Johnson scoring on a ground ball by McRae and a single by Connard that scored McRae and Cruce for the 10-2 final.

As a team, the Lady Pirates were 18 for 36 with 10 runs and 10 RBI. Connard pitched the complete game striking out 14 batters for the second consecutive contest.

Returning home to face the McGehee Lady Owls, the Lady Pirates took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning after Bailey Chapman scored on a passed ball.

Drew Central added a run in the bottom of the second inning after Jones scored on a wild pitch for a 2-0 lead.

Drew Central added two runs in the bottom of the third with Chapman scoring on a Jackson single and Jackson scoring on a walk to McRae.

The Lady Pirates increased the lead to 5-0 after Jackson scored on a passed ball in the bottom of the fourth.

McGehee would get on the board in the top of the sixth with a run to cut the lead to 5-1 but the Lady Pirates would score three runs in the bottom half of the inning to increase the lead to 8-1 and would close the contest in the bottom of the sixth inning after score six runs including a Grand-Slam by Zoe Johnson that initiated the sportsmanship rule with a 14-1 victory.

With the win, the Lady Pirates have secured the fourth seed out of the 8-3A in the 3A Region 4 Regional Tournament to be held in Ashdown beginning on Thursday, May 5.

The Lady Pirates will face the number one seed from the 7-3A Conference.

Ashdown is currently projected as the number one seed.



MALLORY JACKSON (left) went 1 for 3 with three runs, two RBI, and two walks against McGehee. She was also 3 for 4 against Dumas and 2 for 4 against Rison as the Lady Pirates extended their win streak to three games. GRACIE CONNARD (center) pitched a total of 20 innings against Rison, Dumas, and McGehee. Connard recorded 39 strikeouts in the three games. KYNNLEE GRAVES (right) recorded an RBI in all three games against Rison, Dumas, and McGehee. Graves was 3 for 10 in the three contests, scoring two runs.



JEFF YOUNG/ADVANCE MONTICELLONIAN

UAM Weevils take three-game series against Oklahoma Baptist University

By: JEFF YOUNG  
Advance Correspondent

The UAM Weevils were able to improve their overall Great American Conference record to 15-15 after taking a three-game series against Oklahoma Baptist University over two days.

Opening the series on Friday, April 22, the Weevils would get out to an early lead after scoring seven runs in the bottom of the

first inning.

Chase Cripps led off with a single to center field. Cade Thompson reached first after being hit by a pitch and Jordan Johnson loaded the bases after drawing a walk.

Cripps would be thrown out at home on a fielder's choice with Reece Reading reaching first. Grant Shepherd doubled to left field to score Johnson

and Thompson. Nick Fakouri reached on an error, scoring Reading. David Reyna singled to first base, scoring Shepherd followed by a single by DeShaun Cordova that scored Fakouri. Grant Jeffers would single to score Reyna and Cripps would fly out to score Cordova to give the Weevils a 7-0 lead.

UAM added a run in the bottom half of the second inning after Johnson scored on a Fakouri fly out.

Oklahoma Baptist would get a run in the top of the third inning to cut the lead to 8-1.

UAM pitcher Derek Potts got the Bison out in order in the top of the fourth inning and came back in the bottom half of the inning to add a run after Johnson scored on a fly out by Shepherd for a 9-1 lead.

The Weevils would add the final runs of the contest in the bottom half of the eighth inning after a walk by Thompson who scored on a double by Johnson. Johnson scored after Fakouri drew a walk to set up the final score of 11-1.

Derek Potts was awarded the win in the contest to improve his record to 5-5.

Jordan Johnson led the Weevils at the plate going 4 for 4 with four runs scored with an RBI.

Returning to Weevil Field on Saturday, April 23, for a scheduled double-header, UAM found themselves down after Oklahoma Baptist scored five runs in the top of the second inning.

The Weevils would get a run back in the bottom half of the

inning after a triple by Grant Jeffers scored David Reyna.

Oklahoma Baptist added two runs in the top of the fourth inning to extend the lead to 7-1.

UAM got a run back in the bottom of the fifth after Thompson scored on an error, but Oklahoma Baptist would get the run back in the top of the seventh inning.

The Weevils cut the lead to 8-6 after a four-run inning in the bottom of the seventh.

Johnson got things going with a single and advanced to second on a passed ball.

Reading and Shepherd each drew walks with Nick Fakouri hitting into a double-play that allowed Johnson to score.

Reyna doubled to score Reading, followed by a single by Cordova to score Reyna and a single by Jeffers to score Cordova.

The Weevils would take the lead in the bottom of the eighth inning after scoring three runs to take a 9-8 advantage with Oklahoma tying the contest 9-9 in the top of the ninth inning.

UAM broke the tie in the bottom of the 13th inning on a walk-off single by Reyna to score Cordova for a 10-9 victory.

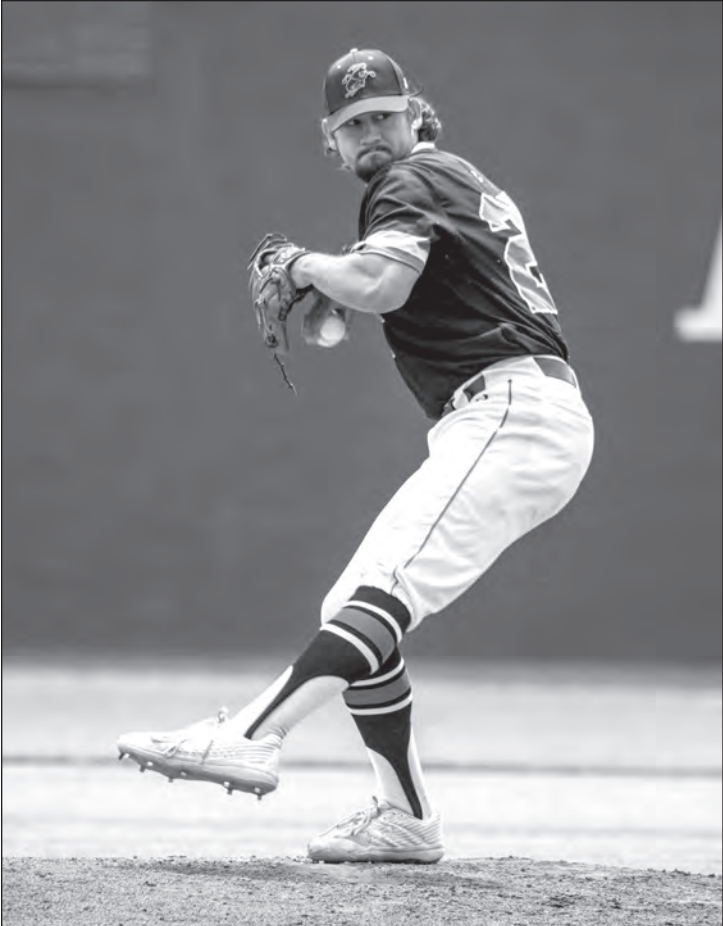
Trent Bunting struck out 10 batters in middle relief for the Weevils with Rigell Robinson earning the win.

In the final game of the series, the Bison would score two runs in the top of the second inning and three runs in the top of the fourth to take a 5-0 victory.

With the series win, the Weevils are now 20-21 overall and



JEFF YOUNG/ADVANCE MONTICELLONIAN  
GRANT JEFFERS went 4 for 12 with four RBI and a triple in the series with Oklahoma Baptist.



JEFF YOUNG/ADVANCE MONTICELLONIAN

TRENT BUNTING allowed two runs on six hits, striking out 10 batters in his seven innings of work against Oklahoma Baptist.

15-15 in GAC play and are currently eighth position in the GAC standings. The Weevils will close the season hosting the Southern Arkansas University Muleriders with the series scheduled to begin on Friday, April 29, with a first pitch set for 2pm.

The final games of the regular season will be on Saturday, April 30, with the first game of the

scheduled double-header beginning at 12pm with the final contest scheduled for 2pm.

The Weevils need to maintain their standing in the conference rankings to earn a spot in the GAC Championship Tournament to be held in Hot Springs. The top eight positions will qualify for postseason tournament play beginning on May 7.





Jeff Young/Advance Monticellonian  
**TREY ALLEN BRITT** competes in the Steer Wrestling event on Saturday.

## CLASSIFIEDS

Continued from Page 9A

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# UAM hosts 16th Annual Weevil Stampede

By: **JEFF YOUNG**  
Advance Correspondent

The University of Arkansas at Monticello Rodeo Team hosted the 16th Annual Weevil Stampede this past week, concluding on Saturday, April 23.

The rodeo consisted of college teams throughout the Ozark Region of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association and is the second to last rodeo for the college athletes trying to qualify for the National College Rodeo Finals held in Casper, Wyoming.

The NIRA spreads across the United States and is made up of 11 regions that include the Big

Sky, Central Plains, Central Rocky Mountain, Grand Canyon, Great Plains, Northwest, Ozark, Rocky Mountain, Southern, Southwest, and West Coast with UAM participating in the Ozark Region. There are a total of 110 participating schools in the NIRA.

In the Weevil Stampede, UAM placed seventh overall in the men's team with 145 points and the women placing in ninth with 20 points.

UAM's Trey Allen Britt placed sixth in the Men's All-Around. Britt would place fifth in Steer Wrestling and fifth as a Team Roping Heeler.

Morgan Marie Harrington would place seventh for UAM in Barrel Racing.

Overall, the UAM Men are ranked ninth with 630 points with the women being ranked sixth with 710 points.

Britt currently ranks fourth in Steer Wrestling with 480 points.

Katelyn Anne Danzy is fourth in Barrel Racing with 260 points and Brittney Renee Miller is currently ranked 12th with 150 points.

Aubrey Glynn Lee is ranked sixth, along with Grace Kinlee Bryant of the University of Tennessee-Martin, with 260 points in Breakaway Roping.

The 10th and final event of the regular rodeo season will take place on April 28 through April 30 being hosted by Northwest Mississippi Community College in Senatobia, Mississippi.

The Weevil Stampede is hosted by the University of Arkansas at Monticello and is held at the rodeo arena located at the Drew County Fairgrounds.

UAM Rodeo is led by head coach Rusty Jones and the rodeo team has been a part of UAM for 30 years.

The National College Finals Rodeo will take place on June 12 through June 18.

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# Pirates defeat Dumas on the road, fall to McGehee at home



Jeff Young/Advance Monticellonian  
**NATE COOPER** slides safely into second base under a throw to the McGehee second baseman on a steal. Cooper drew three walks in the contest.

**By: JEFF YOUNG**  
Advance Correspondent

The Drew Central Pirates split a pair of conference contests this past week with a road victory over the Dumas Bobcats and falling to the McGehee Owls at home.

Traveling to Dumas on Tuesday, April 19, Aiden Jones and Jase Watt would combine to throw a no-hitter against the Bobcats.

Watt would strike out seven batters in four innings walking one with Jones striking out one and walking one in two innings of work.

Offensively, the Pirates scored three runs in the first inning with runs by Nate Cooper, Drew Burton, and Jase Watt.

The Pirates extended the lead in the top of the second inning after scoring seven runs in the inning to take a 10-0 lead and added another run on the top of the third inning to push the lead to 11-0.

Drew Central would close out the contest in the top of the fifth inning after scoring nine runs in the top of the inning to take the 20-0 win.

For the Pirates, Matt Barnard led at the plate going 2 for 4 with two runs scored.

Jacob Jones, Nate Cooper, Aid-

en Jones, Drew Burton, Jase Watt, Will Watson, and Taylor Barnard each recorded a hit in the game.

Returning home on Friday, April 22, the Pirates were able to get the Owls out in order to begin the contest.

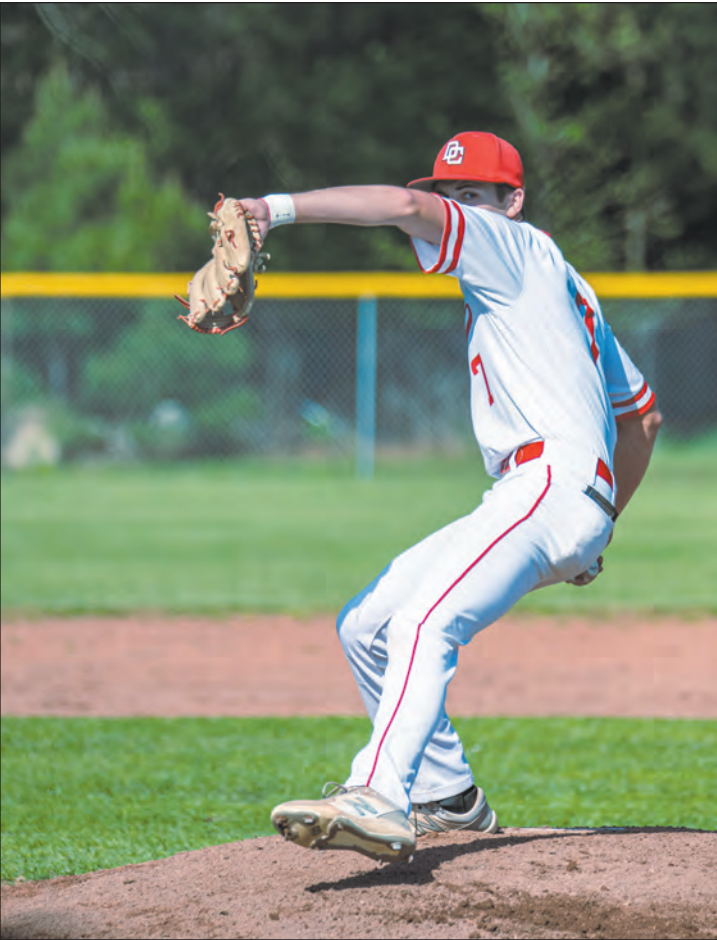
Drew Central recorded two consecutive walks to begin the bottom followed by a single by Drew Burton to score Cooper and Jones for a 2-0 lead.

McGehee would take the lead in the top of the second inning, scoring four runs and would add a fifth run in the top of the third inning for a 5-2 lead.

The Owls added their final run of the contest in the top of the seventh inning to extend the lead to 6-2.

The Pirates attempted to come back in the bottom of the seventh inning, scoring two runs but the Owls would be able to get out of the inning to take the 6-4 win.

The Pirates are currently listed in second position in the 3A-8 Conference standings according to the Arkansas Activities Association and have qualified for the 3A Region 4 Regional Tournament to be held in Ashdown starting on May 5.



Jeff Young/Advance Monticellonian  
**DREW BURTON** delivers a pitch against McGehee on Friday night. Burton allowed five runs on nine hits, striking out four with three walks.

# Billies move up in conference rankings entering into the final week of the season

**By: JEFF YOUNG**  
Advance Correspondent

The Monticello Billies have rebounded after two conference losses to run off four consecutive conference wins, including a 9-0 win on the road over Camden Fairview who is ranked at the top of the 8-4A.

After defeating Magnolia on April 15, the Billies would travel to Camden Fairview to face the Cardinals for the second time this season, having defeated the Cardinals earlier in the season.

The Billies would score one run in the top of the first inning.

Doerian Allen led off by being hit by a pitch and advanced to third base on a sacrifice bunt by Warren Pennington. After the second out of the inning, Tucker Breedlove reached on an error allowing Allen to score for the

1-0 lead.

Breedlove would get the Cardinals out in order in the bottom half of the inning.

The Billies would extend their lead in the top of the third inning. John Frost would single to right field with Brooks Bowman and John Michael Efrd drawing walks.

Frost would score on a wild pitch and Allen would single to score Efrd and Bowman. Allen would score on a wild pitch to give the Billies a 5-0 lead.

Monticello added three more runs in the top of the sixth inning on scores by Brooks Harvey, Brooks Bowman, and Allen and would add their final run in the top of the seventh inning after Bowman scored on a wild pitch to set up the final score of 9-0.

Breedlove would pitch the

complete seven innings, shutting the Cardinals out and only allowing four hits and recording eight strikeouts.

The Billies travelled to Hamburg on Thursday, April 21. Jagger Hines would take the mound for the Billies, pitching five complete innings, allowing two runs on two hits, walking five, and striking out four in the 17-2 victory for the Billies.

After a ground out, the Billies would get singles from Pennington and Cade Pigott. Breedlove would hit into a fielder's choice for the second out of the inning that allowed Pennington to score. Brenden Brown and Frost connected for singles to score Breedlove.

The Billies would finish the inning scoring 10 runs to take a 10-0 lead.

The Billies added three runs

in the top of the second to go up 13-0 after scores by RJ Blackmon, Bowman, and Harvey.

Hamburg would score their only runs of the contest in the bottom of the third inning to cut the Billie lead to 13-2 but the Billies would score four runs in the top of the fourth inning.

Samuel Napier led off the inning reaching on an error. Allen would walk and Pennington was hit by a pitch. Pigott would draw a walk scoring Blaine Hayden. Efrd would walk to score Allen, and a single by Brenden Brown scored Pigott and Pennington to set up the final score of 17-2.

The Billies fourth consecutive victory came on the road on Tuesday, April 26, as the Billies

traveled to Warren to face the Lumberjacks.

Doerian Allen would lead off the contest with a solo homerun.

The Lumberjacks would take the lead in the bottom of the fourth inning, scoring two runs for a 2-1 lead.

Allen would lead off the top of the sixth inning with a walk and steal second base followed by advancing to third on an error. Warren Pennington would hit a sacrifice fly that scored Allen.

Pigott singled but was picked off on a throw to first base. Breedlove singled and a double by Brenden Brown would score Blaine Hayden to give the Billies a 3-2 lead, the score would be the final of the contest with the Bil-

lies taking the victory.

As a team, the Billies went 5 for 23 at the plate scoring three runs on, walking three times, and striking out four.

Tucker Breedlove started the game for the Billies, pitching 6.2 innings allowing seven hits and giving up two runs, walking one and striking out six. Jagger Hines pitched .1 of an inning striking out one batter.

The Billies will return to Monticello to face Watson Chapel on Thursday, April 28, at 5pm and will play their final regular season conference contest on Saturday, April 30, hosting the Crossett Eagles with a 1pm start time.

The Billies have qualified for post-season play.

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## Beautification coming to Gaines St.

By **ASHLEY HOGG**  
[editor@monticellonews.net](mailto:editor@monticellonews.net)

If you have driven East lately in Monticello, you have likely noticed activity on the shipping containers on Gaines Street.

Union Bank, the University of Arkansas at Monticello Art Department, and property owner James Gathings, have partnered to begin a beautification project creating original murals downtown.

Union Bank gave Richard’s Art Practicum Class a list of quotes earlier in the semester. Students were to choose a positive quote from the list and design an original mural. Each student chose multiple quotes and did multiple sketches of each. The class then voted on the best designs for each quote.

Employees of the bank judged the final project and selected Alexis Rodriguez, a Junior Art Major from Monticello, as the winner. He chose the quote, “Reach for the Stars.”

“This was a fun project that the entire

class got to work on together,” Rodriguez stated.

As weather permits, Richard and the students of the upper level art class can be seen on the sidewalk making the art come to life.

“As a hometown bank, Union Bank and Trust Co. searches for opportunities to invest in our community,” Vice President and Trust Officer Gail Hooker said. “We have partnered with Tom Richard with UAM’s Art Department, James Gathings and Mitch Gathings to promote our mural competition this year. This contest was put together to provide a space for artists to share their talents, show how positive collaboration can work and use them to beautify a piece of our beloved downtown Monticello. Our goals are to promote engagement activities that are interactive and uplifting, to produce new murals that re-engage our community, and to enhance the streetscape in the downtown area.”

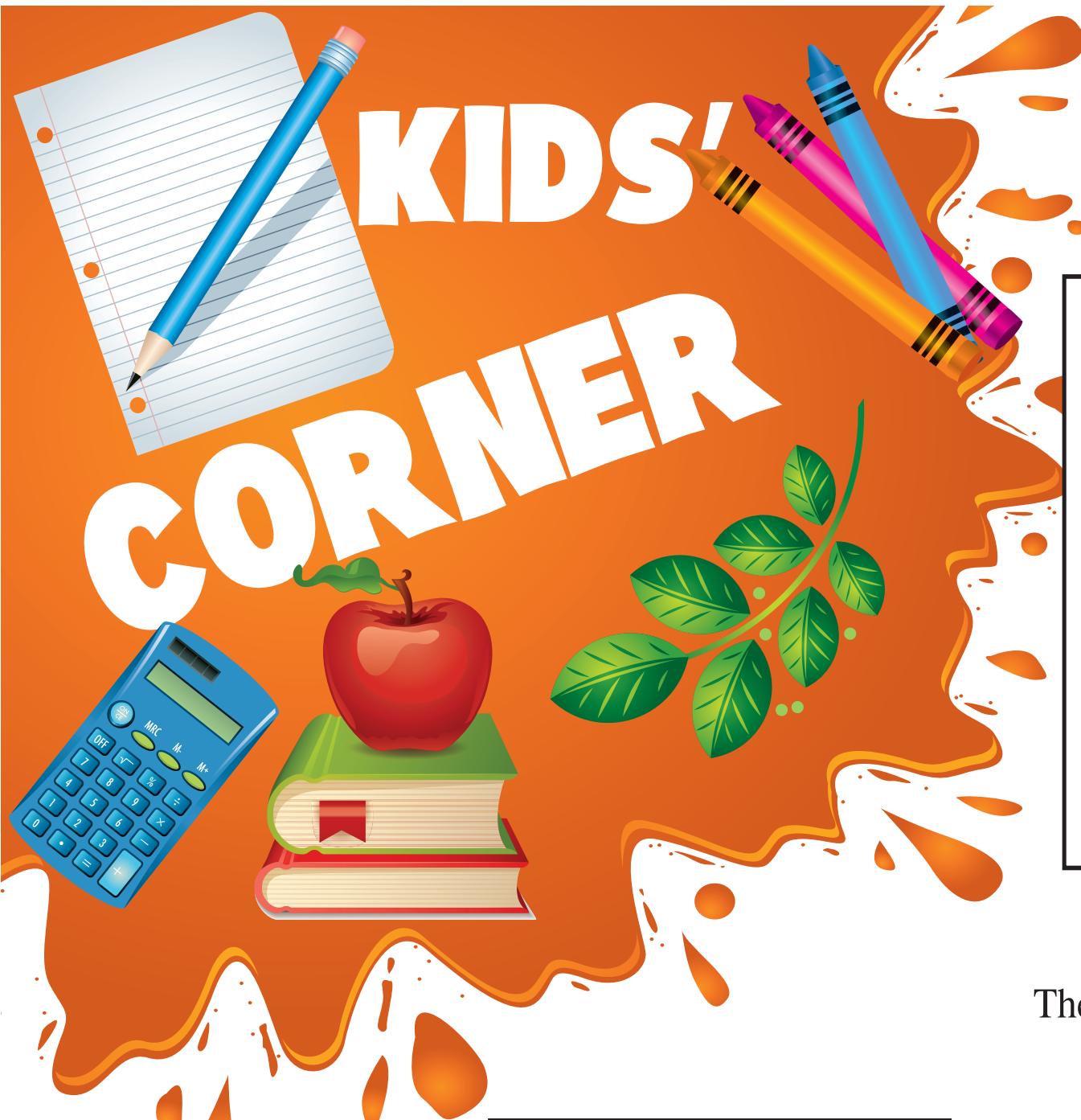
“The UAM Art students were given guidelines and a list of inspirational quotes from

Union Bank, to design a mural. The murals were then judged based on the creativity and originality of the mural, quality of artistic composition and design, and overall impression of the art. Union Bank provided the paint and other supplies and will pay the student artists for their time and efforts on this project. All UAM Art students will have the opportunity to participate in the painting of the chosen mural, which will be located on James Gathings’ property east of the downtown square. The mural is scheduled for completion at the end of April. Union Bank and Trust Co. would like to thank Tom Richard, James Gathings and Mitch Gathings for their cooperation and assistance in making this event a success.”

Once the project is completed, the Advance-Monticellonian will run a photo of the final product.







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

**New Word**

**HUMOR**

the quality of being amusing

**PEOPLE FACT:**

THIS BEHAVIOR RELAXES THE WHOLE BODY, LEAVING THE MUSCLES RELAXED FOR UP TO 45 MINUTES.

ANSWER: LAUGHING

What’s the Difference?

There are four differences between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

*How they SAY that in...*

**ENGLISH:** Laugh

**SPANISH:** Reírse

**ITALIAN:** Ridere

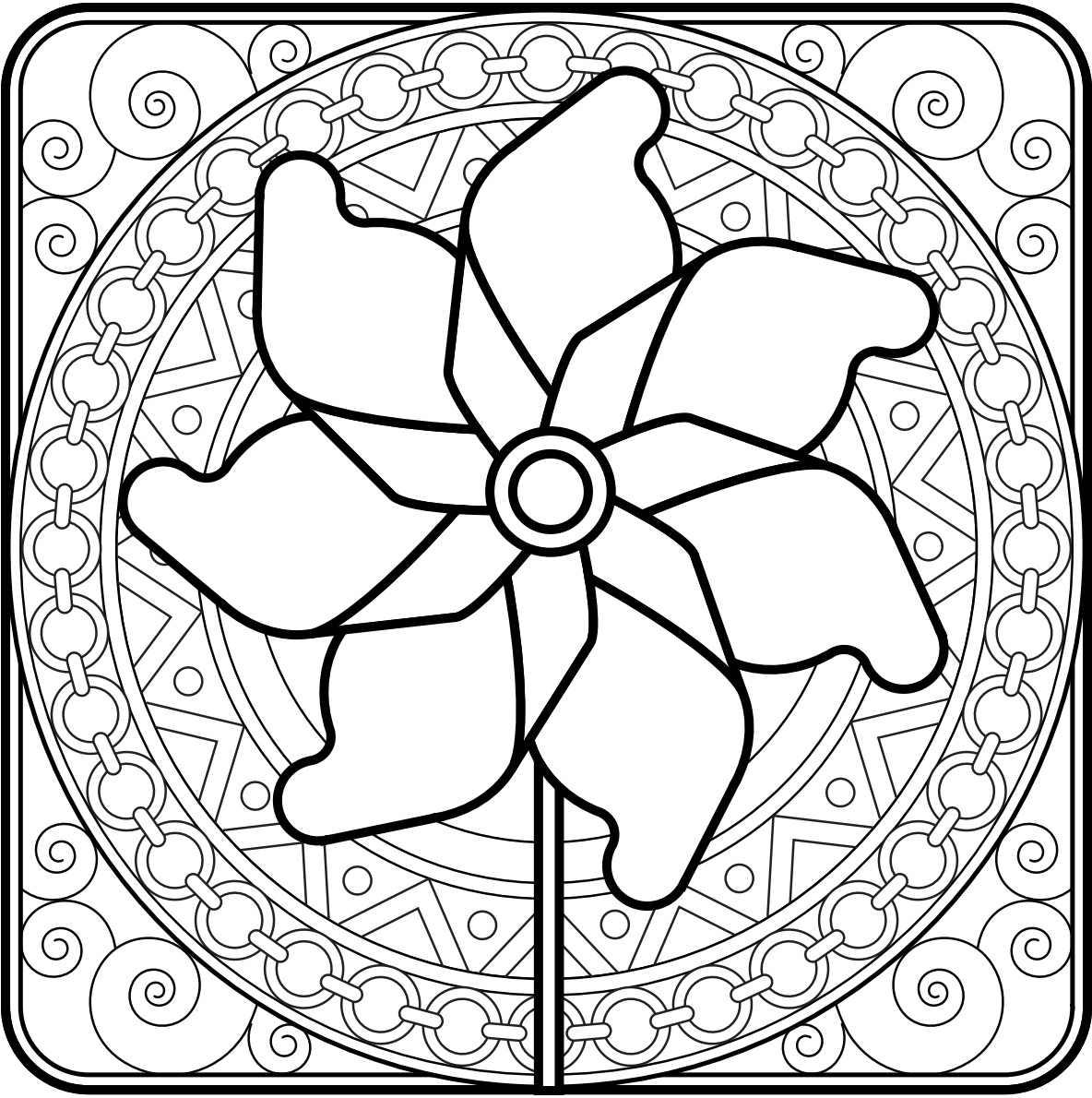
**FRENCH:** Rire

**GERMAN:** Lachen

**Did You Know?**

LAUGHTER CAN DO WONDERS FOR THE BODY. RESEARCH HAS SUGGESTED THAT LAUGHTER MAY BOOST THE IMMUNE SYSTEM, MAKING A PERSON LESS LIKELY TO GET SICK.

**LOL**



Answers: 1. Extra piece of toast 2. Two sets of keys 3. More orange juice in glass 4. Missing milk cap

**Puzzle answers**

Page 8B Sudoku

ANSWER:

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

Page 8B Word Search

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

Page 8B Crossword

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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



FAITH

CONTACT US  
Ashley Hogg, Editor  
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editor@monticellonews.net

# CHILDREN’S DEVOTIONAL

## Love keeps no record of wrongs

By Amy Becker

*Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7*

When I was growing up, there were two words in our house that were understood to be big no no’s. Now before you get yourself into trouble by guessing those words, I’ll go on and tell you. The words always and never were often corrected by our parents, and almost always followed by a long speech. One that as an adult I’ve come to appreciate. My dad had a degree in English and a career in the ministry, so slapping words like always and never to people’s actions was something he really set out to teach us not to do. You see, we use these phrases, “She always,” “He never,” “they never,” “it always,” and those words start to hold a lot of value in our hearts and minds and

truth be told, always and never are rarely true. This really hit me the other day. I was taking my girls and my nephew, Cash through McDonald’s (this happens rarely by the way), when Cash said, “Mamy, you member how we always used to eat our breakfast together at the church? That was fun!”

The truth is, we had gone and eaten one time on a weekday during homeschool and it was lunch. The kid had it all mixed up and he had already attached always to the story. While this memory is a sweet one, how many things do we get wrong and we go on and add always and never to them?

This was the reasoning for me getting a pep talk nearly every time I breathed those words. Always and never are just not true as often as we think they are and they are good at keeping us offended. 1 Corinthians 13:5 says love keeps no record of wrongs, and there’s a reason for that. If we keep a record of the offensive things people have done to us, it will be very hard to love them. Keeping a list will start to feel like, “My brother is always mean,”

when the truth is probably closer to, “Sometimes my brother and I get in a disagreement.”

Instead, try these things: If you’re offended by someone try to remember that there are often things going on in people’s lives that we have no clue about. Pray that the Lord will help our offender if they are hurting. Remember too that this person is probably not always like this. Think about some of the good things they’ve done! It might help your heart to forgive. Here’s a big one. Is it even true? Many times we get upset over things that we aren’t sure are even true or have no idea who to truly place blame to. If it’s not true, forget it. These things cannot take up storage in our

mind and hearts because it’s going to keep us from loving others like we were commanded.

*“Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.” Philippians 4:8*

When I was little, I really thought this rule was silly, now I know it’s essential to guarding my heart and mind so I can love others the way I’m supposed to.

Write this down in big, bold, and colorful letters remembering that in order for us to love others, we have to stop keeping up with what we see as those always and nevers.

**Love keeps no record of wrongs**

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## Melvin Rauls focuses on honesty, integrity

By: Kristie Nail  
graphics3@monticellonews.net

Melvin Rauls, owner of Rauls Landscaping, Housepainting and Yardwork, has been around awhile. His business started out in 1996 in the Pine Bluff area, but he’s since moved to the Monticello area (around 2000). The business has two employees, Melvin and Aaron Rauls. Mr. Rauls’ business philosophy is short but sweet: “A job done is a job well done.” He attributes his company’s success to ‘staying with it.’ When life is sour or when life gives Mr. Rauls lemons he ‘makes lemonade.’ Melvin says that the greatest obstacle he’s had to overcome to make his business a success is not giving up and staying focused when money is low or business is slow. Mr. Rauls hopes to see his business grow in the future. In the next year, five years or ten years, he wants to go from a small



Photo by Annette Buzzell/Advance

**HERE TO SERVE YOU** Melvin Rauls and wife Tracy are pictured above. business to a large business covering the whole state. Melvin has a bit of advice for someone interested in starting their own business. He says, “Don’t give up. Keep the business dream alive.” We asked why customers should do business with Rauls Landscaping, Housepainting and Yardwork, to which he said, “Honesty, integrity, compatible business rates and customer satisfaction.” Rauls Landscaping, Housepainting and Yardwork is located at 314 West Oakland in Monticello and is here to help you with all your lawn,

house/room and yard manicuring, flower beds, etc. Give them a call at 367-7709 today! (Service Spotlight is a weekly advertisement highlighting local services. For information on how to advertise, call our advertising representatives at 367-5325.)

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# COUNTRY

# BARKADA

**JANA WRIGHT**

There is no Barkada news this week. Jana Wright had other commitments.

Her column will resume in next week's edition.

hospital last week. She is still weak and recovering at home. Please keep Leighanne, Miss Ann, and their family in your prayers. If you have any news to share please call me at 367-9635 or message me on Facebook.

Verse of the week: "Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor." Proverbs 22:9

Help someone in need this week and be blessed. Have a safe and blessed week.

There is no Jordan Park news this week. Trilisa Marshall had other commitments.

Her column will resume in next week's edition.

Hello readers everyone!  
I hope you all are having a  
blessed week.

We were blessed with a  
wonderful Sunday Service  
at Mt. Olive, Lacey. A great

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](mailto: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 School was taught by Brother Darren Spencer. The subject was "Freedom in Christ Jesus"; lesson scripture John 8:31-38. Key verse, John 8:36 NRSV "So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed". Minister Edgar Spencer gave an inspiring message from 1 Kings 17:1-4, subject "Continue on in the Lord". Our visitor was Cheryl Wilson, of Detroit.

Happy Birthday to: Cheryl Wilson, April 26; Fredrick Handley, April 29; and Jodie Grays, April 30. I hope each of you has a fantastic day!

TJ Cotton and I chatted a few minutes on Saturday. Matilda Jordan, Don Franklin and Yolanda attended a cousins birthday party in Texas last weekend. Kimberly Randolph and Tatiana were home for the

weekend, they took flowers to their grandparents and dads graveside. Patricia and I visited with our brother Johnnie and Mary on Tuesday. I called to check on Julia Lambert, she had been to the doctor but is feeling a little better now. I also received a phone call from my dear friend Olivia Brown, of Tacoma Washington, it was so good to hear from her! Our granddaughter, Angelika is home visiting her mother post surgery.

Prayers for John Franklin, James Franklin, Margaret Grays, Mary Minor, Jeanie Ray Douglas and others that are sick and shut-in. Prayers to Brother Denver and Cindy Robinson in the loss of your family member as well others who have loss loved ones.

Thought for the week:

“God is not asking you to figure it out...God is asking you to trust that He **ALREADY** has”! (Author Unknown).

Have a blessed week!

Hello, and welcome to this week's edition of the Possum Valley news. After coming off a very wet weekend, the week following presented with at least a few days of sunshine, which we needed to help temper the sadness of losing our beloved pet, Bear. For many years, Bear brought joy and laughter to our families. He might not have been the smartest dog, but he definitely was one of

See **COUNTRY** Page 7B

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# DEVOTIONAL

**CONTACT US**  
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### What are you looking for?

When I was young, very young, I was at my grandparents house and my cousin Lori, who was older than me, brought over a vinyl LP record of the soundtrack for a movie that had just come out called “Urban Cowboy”. Maybe you’re old enough to remember this movie. I’m not endorsing the movie. But I remember this song being really popular. Here’s just a few lines from this classic.

“I was lookin’ for love in all the wrong places, Lookin’ for love in too many faces, Searchin’ their eyes, Lookin’ for traces of what I’m dreaming of hoping to find a friend and a lover, I’ll bless the day I discover another heart Lookin’ for love”.

These song lyrics and a thousand more just like them tell the story of the human condition. We are all born missing Jesus and we will spend a significant part of our life searching for Him. We will call the journey things like, rites of passage, sowing wild oats, trying to find ourselves, and so on.

We can call it what we want but under all the pretense, we are a people des-

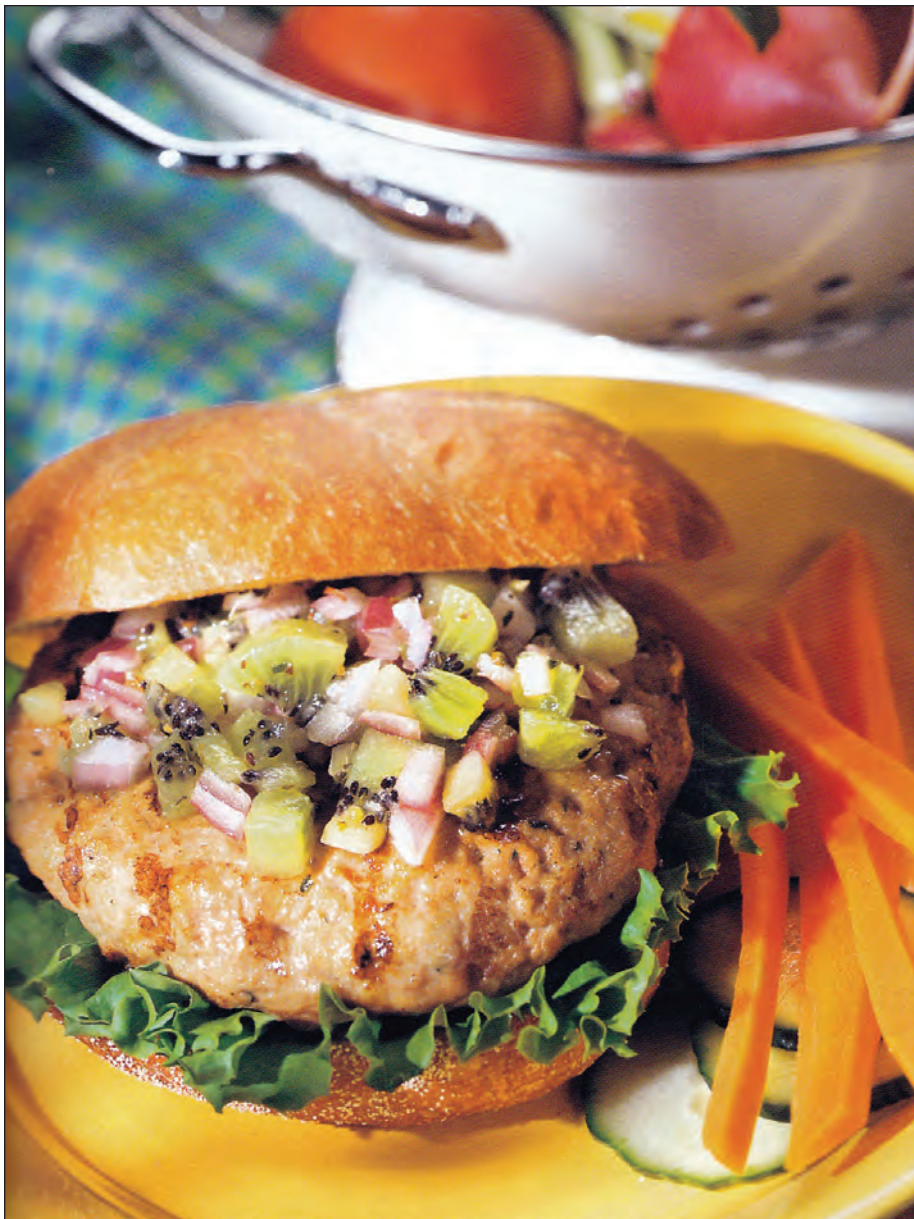
perately in need of Jesus and He’s who we’re looking for. In contrast to this, look at the words of the angel at the empty tomb of Jesus on Resurrection Sunday in Luke 24:5 Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead”? 6 He is not here, but is risen!

We will attempt to look for satisfaction and contentment in people and places that frankly are not life giving. In fact these areas of life are the opposite, life draining. While we are looking for peace and stability, constantly in search for fulfillment, we are ultimately left with drama, heartache, discontent and unfortunately empty.

Thankfully, Jesus Himself said, “bless-ed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they will be filled.” If we search for anything other than Jesus we will never find what we’re looking for. Yet, if our search is for Jesus and He alone He assures us we’ll find Him.

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

## This week’s recipe: Celebrate burger season



Grills are firing up all across the country and the savory aroma of smoky foods are wafting through neighborhoods far and wide. Burgers a staple of grilling season, and grillmasters have a lot of leeway when it comes to what goes into their creations.

Even though beef is often the meat of choice when making burgers, any ground meat can be used in its place. In fact, leaner meats, such as lamb, pork or chicken, may help people stay the course as they try to eat healthy.

This recipe for “Chicken Burg-

ers with Kiwi Salsa” from “125 Best Chicken Recipes” (Robert Rose), by Rose Murray is sure to please. To add even more variety in recipes, choose kaiser rolls, focaccia bread or pretzel rolls instead of

See **RECIPE** Page 7B

⊙ \* ✎ ☼ ~ ⓪ ☾ ✧ ✨ ✕ ✨ + ✨ ✨ ▲ ☾ ✨ Ⓜ ✨ ✨ ✨ ☾ ✨ ✨ ✨

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

**CRYPTO FUN**

☼ ☾ ☾ ✨ Ⓜ ✨ ✨ ✨ ✨ ✨ ✨ ✨ ✨

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to animal welfare.  
Each number corresponds to a letter.  
(Hint: 22 = E)

**A.** 20 17 22 12 14 22 8

Clue: Provides temporary protection

**B.** 5 24 9 23 5 12 20

Clue: Pets

**C.** 15 11 23 18 11 8 14

Clue: Feeling at ease

**D.** 5 10 11 19 14

Clue: Take in as one's own

Answers: A. shelter B. animals C. comfort D. adopt

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# Administrative Professionals Day

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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4



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# Recipe: Get the Cinco de Mayo party started

Cinco de Mayo marks the Mexican army's victory over the French army at the Battle of Puebla, on May 5, 1862. While that victory was a relatively minor one, modern celebrations of Cinco de Mayo have become incredibly popular across North America.

Cinco de Mayo provides an opportunity to celebrate Mexican culture and enjoy some tasty food along the way.

No Cinco de Mayo celebration would be complete without a spicy, tangy salsa dip. In fact, May is also National Salsa Month, making it an ideal time to whip up some homemade salsa. When planning Cinco de Mayo parties, consider this recipe for "Salsa" from "Vegan Cooking for Beginners" (Publications International) from the PI Kitchens. Why not pair it with the equally delicious "Guacamole" for plenty of menu options?

**Salsa**

**Ingredients (Makes 4 1/2 cups)**

1 can (28 ounces) whole Italian plum tomatoes, undrained  
2 fresh plum tomatoes, seeded and coarsely chopped  
2 tablespoons canned diced green chiles  
1 tablespoon canned diced jalapeño peppers (optional)  
1 tablespoon white vinegar  
1 clove garlic, minced  
1 teaspoon onion powder  
1 teaspoon sugar  
1 teaspoon ground cumin  
1/2 teaspoon garlic powder  
1/4 teaspoon salt

**Directions:**

Combine tomatoes with juice, fresh tomatoes, green chiles, jalapeños, if desired, vinegar, garlic, onion powder, sugar, cumin, garlic powder and salt in food processor; process until finely chopped.

**Guacamole**

**Ingredients (Makes 2 cups)**

2 large ripe avocados  
2 teaspoons fresh lime juice  
1/4 cup finely chopped red onion  
2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro  
1/2 jalapeño, finely chopped  
1/2 teaspoon salt

**Directions:**

Cut avocados in half lengthwise around pits. Remove pits. Scoop avocados into large bowl; sprinkle with lime juice and toss to coat. Mash to desired consistency with fork or potato masher.

Add onion, cilantro, jalapeño and salt; stir gently until well blended. Taste and add additional salt, if desired.



## RECIPE

Continued from Page 5B

plain hamburger buns.

**Chicken Burgers with Kiwi Salsa**

**Ingredients (Serves 6)**

1 egg  
1 1/4 pounds ground chicken  
1/3 cup dry bread crumbs  
3 tablespoons milk or cream  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/4 pepper  
6 toasted hamburger buns

**Directions:**

1. In a bowl, beat the egg; mix in the chicken, bread crumbs, milk, salt and pepper. Form into six patties, about 3/4-inch thick.

2. Place on grill and cook, turning once,

for 10 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink inside. Place in buns; spoon on kiwi salsa (recipe follows).

**Kiwi Salsa**

**Ingredients (Makes 1 1/2 cups)**

2 kiwi fruit, peeled and diced  
1/2 cup diced red onions  
2 tablespoons fresh lime juice  
2 teaspoons packed brown sugar  
1/2 teaspoon dried oregano

**Directions:**

In a small bowl, stir together the kiwi fruit, onions, lime juice, sugar and oregano.

## COUNTRY

Continued from Page 4B

the sweetest. Jason, Leigha and the grandbabies came over Monday evening to tell Bear goodbye and to give him some love to help ease his final moments. So long, buddy Bear dog.

While Rick and I were coming home from work Tuesday we saw my FOS Scissor-tailed Flycatcher perched on a barbed wire fence near Clint Eubanks' home. Then, once we got home and I was at the kitchen sink preparing supper, I saw my FOS Indigo Bunting at the feeder out back. Later, while I was standing out on the porch talking with my sister-in law, Diana, I saw my FOS Blue Grosbeak. Finally! I am still waiting for the Rose-breasted Grosbeak to appear, too.

I received a call from Mr. Jimmy Potter Tuesday evening. He was calling to check on how many hum-

mingbirds I had and to tell me how many he had along with other bird related news. He has eleven birds now and I still have only two or three. But, as I told Mr. Potter, until I retire, two or three birds is all I have time for. Early Wednesday morning I went out to put up a couple of one-port feeders that I hang from hooks on windows under the covered porch. This was right at daybreak and the birds were already singing to greet the day. Suddenly I heard my FOS Chuck-wills-widow calling out, too. I just love April.

Thursday, after Rick and I got back home from Little Rock, I had a surprise... three male and one female Indigo Bunting in one of my backyard feeders. I love those tiny blue birds. I've also noticed that the cow pastures are now dotted with Cattle Egrets.

Rick had to go into work early Saturday morning. My original travel plans had

to be changed but that's okay. I needed to get some yard work done anyway. I really appreciated the nice breeze that accompanied me while I was whacking weeds making my work a bit more pleasant. Later, during a break, the pups and I took a short walk down the road to my brother's place. I heard Geese nearby and finally saw them through the trees. Ozzie promptly chased them away. As I continued my walk, I could hear goslings calling to their parents who had just been chased off. Sadly, before I could turn and draw the dogs away, Scarlett grabbed one and quickly dispatched it. Fortunately, I was able to stop her before she could get another. But while I was pulling Scarlett off, Ozzie found one, which I was able to rescue and place it in a brush pile. I'm not sure where the other goslings went, I just knew I had to get the dogs away from there. I guess this was a day

for rescues, because later I could hear a lot of excited bird noises over near the Chickadee's nesting box. I grabbed a hoe and walked cautiously to the tree where the nest was. Sure enough, there was a Black Rat snake, aka chicken snake, at the base of the tree. It was interesting that several Wrens, Titmice and Gnatcatchers banded together in an attempt to distract the snake from the Chickadee's nest. I'd never seen that behavior before. I did manage to redirect the snake. Although I figure it will be back in spite of my efforts.

Saturday evening, after supper, I took another walk. I had to make it quick, too, because those skeeters were trying to get a taste of my thin, old blood. But the walk wasn't a total loss. I stood for several minutes listening to and watching a Summer Tanager in the tall pine tree near the old house place, saw my FOS (First of season) Chimney Swifts

twittering overhead, and heard my FOS Wood Thrush in the thicket near the pond.

Sunday morning dawned bright and warm. Rick had to work so Jason was gracious enough to let his old momma borrow one of his vehicles so I could get to church. Bro. Brandon Rice filled the pulpit and presented a message from Ephesians 2:1-9, "The Need for The Grace of God." Mrs. Leona surprised me with some photos of Daddy and Momma from several years ago. Some were taken at Fun Day and others at church, and they brought back some happy and maybe a few tearful memories.

The Bat Attack were playing in Hot Springs over the weekend making for a very quiet two days without the grandbabies. So far, they've won three out of four games. I figure they'll be playing in the championship again. P.S. Bat Attack did play in the championship but came up short after a hard-fought

game. You'll get 'em next time, guys.

Corny joke time. What happens when a cat swallows coins? You get money in the kitty!

That's my news for this week. Until next time, please, be happy, stay safe, pray for one another and always be thankful for every gift God has provided you with.

**WILMAR**

**CHRIS RILEY**

News time again. My, how time flies.

Since my last report, another young man quit the walk of life. Deedrie Lewis' only son Ray of Little Rock, formerly of Monticello. A nice youngster who owned a food business. His homegoing will be at the Monticello Auditorium Saturday with Paradise Funeral Auspices. Family, you have my utmost

See **COUNTRY** Page 8B

# Administrative Professionals Day

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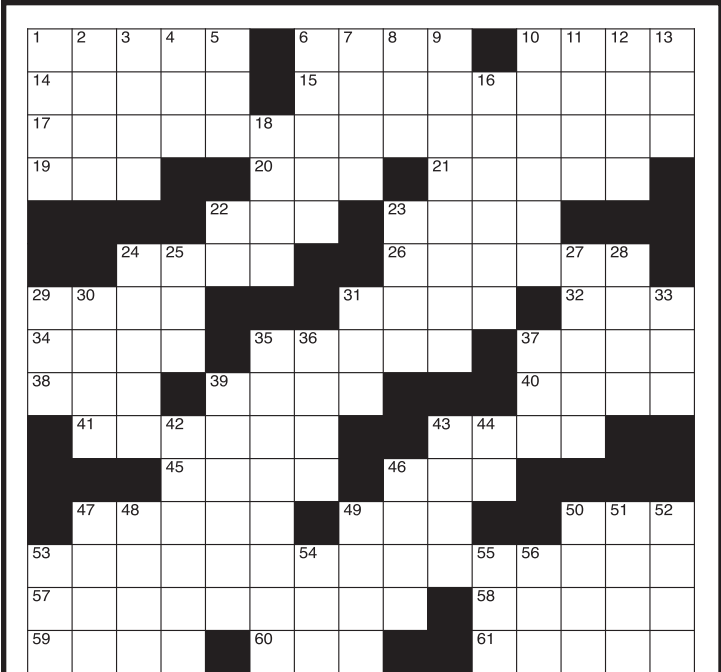
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CLUES ACROSS

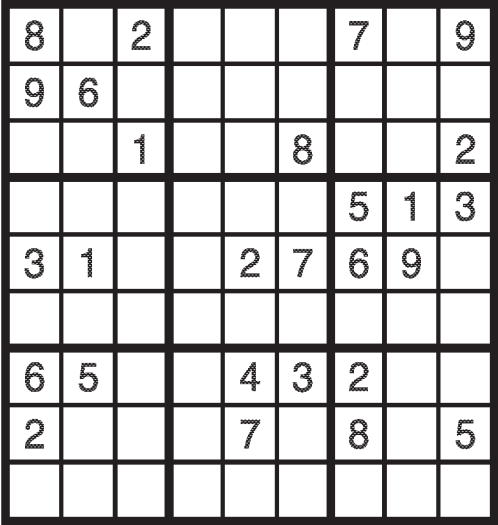
1. North American people
6. Chinese surname
10. Fit in at the last minute
14. “Very” in musical terminology
15. Underwater displays
17. Crosby’s bandmates
19. Belong to he
20. Informed about the latest trends
21. Sequences of alternating turns
22. Genus of grasses
23. Satisfy
24. Petty quarrel
26. Made level
29. Ruler of Iran
31. Historical region of Syria
32. Food suitable for babies
34. Something to lend
35. Zone of oceanic trenches
37. Philippine island
38. Domesticated animal
39. Plant of the lily family
40. Bluish green
41. \_\_\_ Tomei, actress
43. Without (French)
45. Lilly and Manning are two
46. Apply pressure to
47. Divide in half
49. Bad deed
50. Don’t know when yet
53. Hollywood’s greatest honor
57. Aiming to exhort
58. Faked
59. A way to pierce
60. Midway between northeast and east
61. Points

CLUES DOWN

1. Chop up
2. \_\_\_ Spumante (Italian wine)
3. Egyptian goddess
4. Split pulses
5. Afflict
6. Type of area rug
7. Tide
8. Affirmative
9. Sudden change
10. One picked
11. Debauched man
12. Stiff bristles
13. Famous arena
16. Established rules and methods
18. Injection
22. Father
23. Protein-rich liquids
24. He delivers gifts
25. Advanced degree
27. Fencing swords
28. Chinese mountain range
29. Shaft horsepower (abbr.)
30. Precursor to hemoglobin
31. Much \_\_\_ about nothing
33. Compound fabric (abbr.)
35. A way to act slowly on
36. Ottoman military commanders
37. Popular kids’ network
39. Hard compound
42. Sympathize with
43. Northeast college
44. Blood group
46. Frosted
47. Turn away
48. Benefit
49. Dry or withered
50. Bangladeshi monetary unit
51. Reproduced
52. Contributes
53. Thrust horse power (abbr.)
54. Wear
55. Promotes retention of water (abbr.)
56. Very small

Answers can be found on Page 2B

SUDOKU



Level: intermediate

**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!

Guess Who?

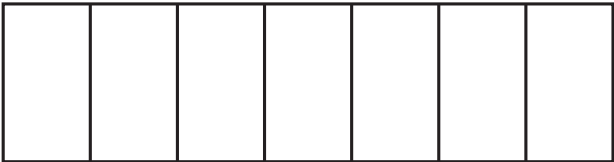
I am a singer born in Michigan on April 27, 1988. I started performing in groups in 2011 and am known as an innovator in the hip hop genre. My third solo release garnered me significant fame.

Answer: Lil220

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to animal welfare.

E D A D T P O



Answer: Adopted

ANIMAL WELFARE WORD SEARCH



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

WORDS

- ABNORMAL
- AGGRESSION
- ANIMALS
- BIOMEDICAL
- CAGES
- CARE
- DECLAWING
- ETHICS
- FARM
- FERAL
- FREE RANGE
- GENETICS
- LIBERATION
- MALNOURISHED
- NEEDS
- OVERBREED
- PETS
- PHARMING
- RESEARCH
- RESTRAINT
- SHELTER
- TESTING
- VETERINARIAN
- WELFARE

COUNTRY

Continued from Page 7B

sympathy and prayers. I visited with the mother and aunt. There is so much grief and sorrow but God said He will wipe all tears away.

Funeral service for Terry Binns, Sr. was held Saturday at Kennedy Church of Christ. Service for Michael “Mike” McCoy was Saturday at Stephenson Dearman Chapel, final resting place Wilmar Cemetery.

I was glad to see Bruce Jones of Washington, who was my oldest son’s bestie (the late Jimmy R. Riley). He is here to see his mom Erma J. Jones and other family members. I was surprised.

Joyce Shepherd Daniel of Monticello was blessed with a beautiful black and gold 60th birthday celebration by her daughter Shay and others. This might be redundant. Peggy Bradley was surprised with a birthday celebration held at her daughter Keshia’s house Saturday evening with many attending. Sherry Green gave me the news as she was in attendance.

Sunday school and worship service was well attended and Pastor Simpson

brought the word taken from Joshua 2:18, 19, subject: “Stay in the House”. We had two guest deacons and Pastor and Sis. Simpson’s oldest daughter Latoya and hubby were present. The children were active in Sunday school with point on

the lesson with their teacher Sis. Colbert. A fellowship luncheon was in the Fellowship Hall as it is every 4th Sunday after service. Justis and I visited at The Woods with Yit Sunday.

It was good to see Evangelist Flossie E. Hutson car-

rying God’s word over social media. My heart rejoiced.

Prayers go up for the sick and shut in and for those who are bereaved.

Now until we meet again by paper and pen, be of good courage for He’ll strengthen your heart. Psalm 31:24.

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