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SERVING DREW COUNTY SINCE 1870

Monticello Rotary Club to celebrate 100 years with banquet

By: ASHLEY HOGG
editor@monticellonews.net

Monticello Rotary Club was founded in 1923 and in its 100 Years has been a beacon for service and community involvement. The club serves Monticello through reading projects at the local schools, scholarships at UAM, and fund raisers for organizations such as Feed the Kids. On a global scale, Rotary International does water projects and has helped with the eradication of Polio.

On Tuesday, June 13, 2023, the Monticello Rotary Club will celebrate its 100 year anniversary with a special Banquet. The Club will have former Razorback head football coach and current CBS national football analyst, Houston Nutt as its guest speaker.



NUTT

Houston Nutt was born in Little Rock. His father played basketball for Adolph Rupp at the University of Kentucky as well as Oklahoma State University. Coach Nutt began his athletic career at Little Rock Central, becoming one of the most highly touted basketball and football prospects in the country in the mid 70's. He is one of only a few players in Razorback history to play basketball and football in the same seasons. He was on the 1976-77 Southwest Conference Championship Razorback Basketball Team that went 26-2 under Eddie Sutton, and was the last football recruit of legendary coach Frank Broyles.

After his playing days, Coach Nutt began his coaching career as the running backs coach for Oklahoma State University. There he coached the likes of NFL great, Thurmon Thomas and 1988 Heisman Trophy Winner, Barry Sanders.

From OSU, Nutt went to Arkansas as an assistant coach under Head Coach Jack Crowe. Following his stint in Arkansas, he became the Head Coach at Murray State University where he was a two time Ohio Valley Conference Coach of the Year and the Eddie Robinson Division II National Coach of the year. His success at Murray State allowed him to become the Head Coach of Boise State University where he took a first time Division One school to the brink of bowl eligibility. In 1998, Coach Nutt became the Head Coach of his beloved Arkansas Razorbacks. During his time as head hog, Coach Nutt became the second winningest coach in school history, behind Frank Broyles, won National Coach of the Year, won two SEC West Titles, and took the Hogs to eight bowl games.

Coach Nutt has an 11-2 record in overtime games, including a five, six, and seven (twice) over time game victories.

He is one of four coaches to win SEC Coach of the Year with multiple teams, Bear Bryant, Steve Spurrier, and Nick Saban are the other coaches with this honor.

Coach Nutt is married to Diana Nutt and they have four children.

The Monticello Rotary Club is proud of its 100 Years of "Service about Self" in Monticello is excited to have Coach Nutt as its special guest for this momentous occasion.

The public is invited to attend the 100 year celebration banquet on Tuesday, June 13 in the UAM Green Room. Sponsor Tables are available for purchase as well as a limited number of individual tickets. Please contact Brandon Hogg at (870) 723-5338 or brandon.hogg@unionbnk.com for ticket information. Banquet information will be provided on the club's Facebook Page, Rotary Club of Monticello.

Quorum Court votes to raise trash rates; impose late fees

By: MELISSA ORRELL

Trash woes continue in the county as Drew County Judge Jessie Griffin addressed issues in his opening statement to the Drew County Quorum Court Monday, March 13. The court members passed an ordinance to raise trash rates and impose late fees in the county.

Griffin informed the court the trash generated in the city of Monticello and Drew County was too much for the transfer station contractors to handle. Drew County made the decision to split costs with the City of Monticello by using the transfer station when the cost to dump trash in Ashley County raised in 2022. Griffin announced while Monticello

Mayor Jason Akers works with contractors to get more drivers and containers to handle the amount of trash or, a solution is found, the county will once again be using the Ashley County landfill twice a week.

Later in the meeting, the court voted to increase trash collection fees in the county. An increase in fees was discussed throughout the tenure of the previous County Judge Robert Akin. The county has tried to keep costs down but continued to lose money year after year with the continued increase associated with trash collection and disposal. Ordinance 2023-06 raises the collection fees for residential units to \$20.50 per month, plus

applicable sales tax effective Saturday, July 1, 2023. The ordinance also added a 10 percent late fee if the quarterly billing for services is not paid in full by the 20th day of the month following the quarter in which billing was made. Landfill usage fees were also increased to \$30 per ton of solid waste delivered to the landfill, plus applicable sales taxes with a 10 percent late fee added to any use charges that are not paid when due. An emergency clause was also passed by the court allowing the increase in fees to take effect on July 1.

Trash volume and fees were not the only solid waste and sanitation issues brought up in the meeting.

Griffin also informed the court he made a mistake when hiring a part-time employee for the land fill, inadvertently breaking the county's nepotism policy. The employee hired is the mother of another employee of the sanitation department, who works at the landfill at times. While the county currently has the landfill separate from sanitation on the books, the two are essentially one department. After discussion between Griffin and County Attorney Cliff Gibson, Griffin asked for 30 days to find a replacement and to allow the employee to find another job. The decision was made to let the two-week notice stand in order to avoid any future conflicts

with the policy.

During his opening remarks, Griffin also announced a meeting he had with the State to bring broadband in to Drew County, asking anyone in the county who is interested in being involved in broadband installation in Drew County to contact the County Judge's Office. Griffin announced the State was interested in ensuring access to broadband in all houses in the county but still needed to work out how to get access to some harder to reach areas.

Griffin's remarks were followed by the County Treasurer report with Treasurer Charlie Searcy announcing the County General Fund

See QC Page 6A

DMHS board hears sustainability plan from leadership team

By: ADVANCE STAFF

In a special called meeting Friday afternoon, the Drew Memorial Health Systems board of directors and the Senior Leadership team at the hospital presented a detailed sustainability plan to the board.

Chief Financial Officer, Melodie Colwell presented most of the plan to the board. The plan included eliminating some non-clinical positions and a hold on rehiring non-clinical positions, converting travel nurses to in-house contracts, and renegotiating several vendor and provider

contracts. Those changes would save the hospital 1.4 million dollars in 2023 according to Colwell.

The plan recommended staff reductions of \$766,000, which included "15 specific positions" Colwell said. Also included are contract reductions of \$309,000, reduced employee benefits expense of \$60,000 and printing reductions of \$60,000. These items would save the hospital an additional \$1.42 million in the year.

Revenue enhancement opportunities in 2023 included converting part of

the underutilized current hospital to a Chemical Dependency Unit. The plan estimates annual revenue from the new unit to be more than \$1.3 million. Expanding a Federal program that allows qualifying hospitals and clinics that treat low-income and uninsured patients to buy outpatient prescription drugs at a discount of 25 to 50 percent, called the 304B program, would increase revenue by another million dollars according to the plan's authors. Revenue enhancements in 2023 are \$3.5 million in the plan. The total

cost savings and additional revenue proposed was \$4.7 million.

The plan also depends heavily on obtaining \$5.6 million from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds that the state of Arkansas received from the U.S. Treasury to mitigate the effects of the COVID pandemic.

Arkansas received funding requests under former Governor Asa Hutchinson but an executive order from newly elected Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders halted the funding process. Hospital Chief Executive Officer

Scott Barrilleaux told the board that they had been in discussions last week with the Arkansas Department of Finance and the Department of Health on how to obtain funds from the ARPA.

The hospital has been losing money since the pandemic and is currently collecting 30 cents on every dollar in revenue. In the last few months, the hospital has been in discussions with Baptist Health Systems in Little Rock about leasing the facility and

See HOSPITAL Page 6A

Planning Commission approves MSD arena permit; Arby's construction to begin soon

By: HALEN MURPHY
Advance Correspondent

At the Monticello Planning Commission meeting held Tuesday, March 14, the permit for a basketball arena for Monticello School

District was approved. The permit was proposed by fire marshal Dale Jones after the plans had been sent to him by Little Rock engineering firm, Odom Architecture. The arena is planned to be partially

underground and needs a few more adjustments to the original plan. Fire marshal Jones also mentioned that the construction of an Arby's restaurant location will soon begin between Ray's and

Commercial Bank on Highway 425.

Also discussed in the meeting was the addition of streetlights along areas such as Highway 425, the town square, and downtown area.

The purpose of adding these streetlights is to make the areas of town that are darker during the night more visible. Among the considered streetlights was also LED stop signs to serve the same purpose.

Mayor celebrates Social Work Month, UAM to host annual Social Work Fair

SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

On March 7, Monticello Mayor Jason Akers visited the University of Arkansas at Monticello to present a proclamation declaring the month of March in Monticello to be National Social Work Month in recognition of the numerous contributions made by social workers in America.

The UAM Department of Social Work will host its 4th Annual Social Work Fair in honor of the nationally recognized Social Work Month. The fair will be held on March 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the UAM Gibson University Center Green Room and is free and open to the public.

The inaugural event was created and organized in 2018 by Marie Jenkins, associate professor and director of Social Work at UAM. Due to restrictions during

the pandemic, this will be the first time that the fair has been held since 2020.

Jenkins explained the history of the event, stating, "The Social Work Fair is an event to educate the public on real-world applications of social work and thank social workers in our community for their dedication to the profession and the services they provide."

Agencies from many fields will be present at UAM's fair to share information on their specific area of expertise as well as prospective job opportunities for graduates with a Bachelor of Social Work degree.

Jenkins noted, "It is also a wonderful opportunity for social workers to take a break from their busy day, engage in some self-care and receive a well-deserved 'thank you' while networking with



Photo courtesy of Kelsey Englert

From left to right: Marie Jenkins, associate professor and director of Social Work at UAM; Monticello Mayor Jason Akers; Dr. Clinton Young, dean of the UAM School of Social and Behavioral Sciences; and Dr. Peggy Doss, chancellor of UAM.

colleagues from the surrounding area."

The fair will include door prizes, light refreshments and a self-care station.

For more information, contact Marie Jenkins at walker@uamont.edu or 870-460-1747.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

UPCOMING

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

Walking, Information, Fellowship, Interns

South Arkansas Rehab, in conjunction with senior Exercise Science students at UAM, have planned a series of free community events promoting health and wellness for seniors. The first event will be a “talk-and-walk” event on the Monticello campus of UAM at 10 a.m. Friday, March 17. Meet at the Bell on the west side of the pond for a five minute talk about physical activity and healthy aging, followed by a group walk on the sidewalk surrounding Weevil Pond. You can walk as little or as long as you like. If the weather is bad, we will cancel the event. You can call 870-367-1548 for more information.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

Bell Choir concert

Ringers of Hope Bell Choir will present a free concert at 11 a.m., Saturday, March 18 at Monticello SDA Church, 2656 Highway 278 E. A light fellowship meal will follow. For more information, call 870-723-8238.

Chicken spaghetti fundraiser

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, located at 312 E. Oakland, will hold a chicken spaghetti dinner fundraiser from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Saturday, March 18. Walk-ins are welcome. To place an advance order, call Shelia Jacob at 870-723-6979.

MONDAY, MARCH 20

Seark Miracle League registration

Registration is now open for the Spring 2023 season of Seark Miracle League baseball. You can register online at www.searkmiracleleague.com. The deadline to guarantee a jersey is Monday, March 20. This season is free to athletes.

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

Union Cemetery Association

The annual meeting of the Union Cemetery Association will be held at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, March 26 at the United Methodist Church in Rye. All interested parties are invited to attend.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

Master Singers performance

Seark Concert Association will present The Master Singers at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 13 at the University of Arkansas at Monticello Fine Arts Center. For more information, call 870-460-1888 or visit www.searkconcert.org.

SATURDAY, MAY 6

All School Reunion

The Drew Central All School Reunion will be held Saturday, May 6. Times will be announced at a later date.

ONGOING

Head Start sign up

Save the Children is offering Head Start and Early Head Start services to low income families with children getting ready to start Kindergarten. To apply in Monticello, call 870-224-8045 or visit 175 Henley Dr.

Free community yoga class

Every third Thursday, from November to March, a free community yoga class will be offered from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Monticello Coffee Company. Props and mats are available for use. Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy yoga, hot tea and coffee sponsored by Woodside Medical, hosted by MoCoCo and led by Maci Edwards.

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 City Hall. 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, 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.

AA meetings

The Monticello Winner's Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, located at 836 N. Hyatt St. in Monticello at 12 noon on Tuesdays and Fridays and at 7 p.m. on Thursdays and Saturdays. The meetings are open. There are no dues or fees.

Andrews Chapel Cemetery

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

VFW Auxiliary

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

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

DREW CENTRAL RAISES MONEY FOR HEIFER INTERNATIONAL



Photo courtesy of Cindy Flemister, DCE Librarian

Each year, Drew Central Elementary and Middle School students help SEARK Reading Council collect money for the Heifer Project. Heifer International is an Arkansas foundation that provides animals for families in other countries. They train the families to use the animals for the benefit of their families and communities. Each animal purchased helps families have food and income to help provide for their needs. This year Drew Central students collected \$1,500. Mrs. Eddy's kindergarten class collected the most money for Drew Central Elementary, and Mrs. Ferrell's second period class raised the most money for Middle School.

Senior Center lunch menu: March 15-March 22

Wednesday: Herb baked chicken, garden blend rice, Italian green beans, banana pudding, roll

Thursday: Beef stroganoff, buttered carrots, cookie bar, biscuit

Friday: Tenders, mac & cheese, broccoli, garlic toast, cookie

Monday: Hamburger gravy, w/ biscuit, cabbage , fruit cocktail

Tuesday: Chicken spaghetti, green beans, peach

cobbler, garlic toast

Wednesday: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, country gravy, cream corn, strawberry fluff, roll

Menu is subject to change. All lunches have a choice of sweet tea and milk. The Senior Center serves lunch for citizens 60 and older for \$4; under 60, \$5, Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., first come, first served. If you need any information on our senior center, please call 367-2434.



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Local students win top places at recent math competition

SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

Top mathematics high school students from throughout the region competed at the annual Arkansas Council for Teachers of Mathematics' Southeast Arkansas Mathematics Contest hosted at the University of Arkansas at Monticello on March 4.

Pictured on the steps of the Science Center are the first, second, third place and Honorable Mention winners in each category.

Algebra I winners were (bottom row, from left) Dr. Elis of Lakeside HS (teacher), Jeremiah Freeman of Lakeside HS (Algebra I, first place), Jaiden Wash-

ington of Lakeside HS (Algebra I, second place), Corrie Kinney of Hamburg HS (Algebra I, third place) and Kimberly Pearson of Hamburg HS (teacher).

Algebra II and Geometry winners were (second row, from left) Piper Forrest of Drew Central (Geometry, first place), Natalie Spadoni of White Hall (Algebra II, first place), J'maya Kincade of Lakeside (Geometry, second place), Yuki Lin of White Hall (Algebra II, second place), Jo'laycia Mays of Lakeside (Geometry, third place), Blake Wilson of Drew Central (Algebra II, third place), Thomas Moore of Lakeside (Geometry, Honorable Mention) and Rebecca Domin-

guez of Drew Central (teacher).

Trig/Precalculus and Statistics winners were (top row, from left) Kaylie Jester of Monticello (Trig/Precalculus, first place), Jacob Pham of White Hall (Statistics, first place), Kai Lin of White Hall (Trig/Precalculus, second place), Cameron Teague of Monticello (Trig/Precalculus, third place), Isaac Woolley of White Hall (Trig/Precalculus, Honorable Mention) and Holly Robinson of White Hall (teacher).

For more information, contact Laura Barton, instructor of mathematics at (870) 460-1516 or BartonL@uamont.edu.



Courtesy photo

UAM sets attendance record during college preview day

SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

Nearly 600 high school students, teachers and parents visited the University of Arkansas at Monticello on February 24 for UAM's Weevil Welcome: College Preview Day.

Junior and senior high school students from Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Texas attended, making this year's crowd the largest in

the history of the annual event, which was first held in 2005.

The UAM Office of Admissions hosted the event, which offered high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to learn about programs of study at UAM, financial aid and new scholarship opportunities, residence life and more, while meeting with UAM faculty, staff and current student.

Mary Whiting, director of Admissions and Recruiting at UAM, reflected on the event's success, stating, "This is the first time that we have been able to hold Weevil Welcome since the pandemic. The turnout was incredible, and it was outstanding to have students on campus to learn about all of the opportunities that UAM has to offer to them."

Dr. Peggy Doss, chancellor of UAM, stated, "We are pleased to have welcomed so many exceptional young people to UAM's campus today to see what a lively, diverse and warm community we have here. UAM has a rich array of opportunities for students to learn, grow and discover while gaining the knowledge and skills that will allow them to thrive in their

professional, personal and civic lives. The entire UAM community is here to support and encourage our students. Today, it was a privilege to see our campus filled with so many prospective students, full of fresh ideas and energy."

For additional information about the event or to learn more about applying to UAM, contact the UAM Office of Ad-

missions at admissionsoffice@uamont.edu or 870-460-1026.

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Don't rely on luck; drive sober or get pulled over

SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

For many, celebratory drinks and St. Patrick's Day go together like corn beef and cabbage. To help keep roadways safe throughout the State this St. Patrick's Day, Arkansas law enforcement officers are teaming up with the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to raise awareness about the dangers of drunk driving. If your plans for the holiday include alcohol, make sure you plan for a sober driver – Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.

"Arkansans will join people from across the globe in celebrating St. Patrick's Day on Friday, March 17. While St. Patrick's Day has cultural and religious significance to many, it is also associated with widespread binge drinking," said Arkansas Public Safety Secretary Colonel Mike Hagar. "If you've been drinking, make the smart choice to plan for a sober driver or ride-shar app to get you and your friends home safely. Before you put your keys in the ignition, remind yourself: Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over."

According to NHTSA, 11,654 people were killed in drunk-driving crashes in 2020. On average, more than 10,000 people were killed each year from 2016 to 2020 – one person was killed in a drunk-driving crash every 45 minutes in 2020. This is why Arkansas law enforcement is working with NHTSA to remind drivers that drunk driving is not only illegal, but also a matter of life and death. As you head out to the festivities, help us spread the word: Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.

St. Patrick's Day is one of the deadliest times on our nation's roads. During the 2016-2020 St. Patrick's Day holiday period (6 p.m. March 16 to 5:59 a.m.

March 18), 287 lives were lost in drunk-driving crashes. In 2020 alone, 37 people were killed in drunk-driving crashes over the St. Patrick's Day holiday period (6 p.m. March 16 to 5:59 a.m. March 18). Drivers should also keep an eye out for pedestrians who have been drinking. Walking while intoxicated can also be deadly; lack of attention to surroundings could put pedestrians at risk of injury or worse.

If you're the designated driver, make sure you keep that promise of safety to yourself and your passengers. It can be a long night, but your passengers are counting on you, not to mention the other drivers, passengers, and pedestrians on the streets that are entitled to a safe roadway. Take the role of designated driver seriously – you are making a difference.

Celebrate with a Plan

- Before heading out, it's vital to plan ahead. Be honest with yourself: You know whether you'll be drinking or not. Arkansas law enforcement recommends these safe alternatives to drinking and driving:

- It's never okay to drink and drive. Even if you've had one alcoholic beverage, designate a sober driver or plan to use public transportation to get to your destination safely. Plan a safe way home

before you leave.

- If you've been drinking, call a taxi, ride-share service or a designated driver to drive you home.
- If you see an impaired driver on the road, call 9-1-1.
- If you know someone who is about to drive or operate a motorcycle or any other vehicle while impaired, take their keys and help them make other arrangements to get to their destination safely.
- Always buckle up. Your seat belt is your best defense against a drunk driver.

Always remember: Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.

For more information on impaired driving, visit <https://www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drunk-driving> or call the Arkansas Highway Safety Office at (501) 618-8136, and go to <https://www.tzdarkansas.org/> to learn about Arkansas' Toward Zero Deaths campaign to eliminate preventable traffic fatalities.

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OPINION

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Where would we be if the world was without greed?

At the risk of sounding like John Lennon, I ask you to use your imagination for a moment.

What would our world look like if greed were not a factor?

It is my belief that humans are born with a sense of survival and great admiration for themselves. This is not necessarily always a bad thing. But when does that survival instinct cross the line over into a lack of compassion for others? At what stage does it become less about self admiration and desire to survive and more about the only thing that matters is that I, myself make it to the top?

With the current climate in the state, country and world for that matter, I feel like greed is the root cause behind a majority of our problems.

Take the Russian invasion of Ukraine for example. While we are on the other side of the planet and we may not know every single detail, it is pretty easy to speculate that a driving force behind this conflict is Russian greed. They want the Ukrainian land and control of the Ukrainian people for various reasons.

I think the biggest reason can be traced back to pure greed.

Global news will tell us that a year after the initial invasion, Ukraine has not been over taken and that many aspects of the Russian military are crumbling. So why continue to fight to overtake a country that is obviously not going down without a fight and risk countless lives of your own country's people? I believe the leadership is blinded by greed. They see nothing but what they want and they don't care what or who it costs in the process.

As far as this country is concerned, we don't have enough space to talk about corporate greed all the way down to the local level.

Please don't misunderstand me, I think everyone should be able to make as much money as they want and are willing to work for. However, there does come a point when one can acquire several generations of wealth and I believe those people should be generous and put some of their money towards the betterment of humanity. With great power comes great responsibility.

On a local level, greed is a little more complicated.

I wouldn't say that money is the main culprit here, I think it is opportunities, particularly for children.

I have seen some seemingly good people, pillars in the community even, become ill-intended and willingly to stab a close friend in the back when it comes down to which child gets a certain opportunity. It doesn't matter if their child is the best for the opportunity or if their child would bring the most to the organization. Some people will stop at nothing to make sure that their kid is the star of the team and will be the first ones to publicly gripe when something doesn't go the way they thought it should. Obviously, I want Fred to have ever opportunity she wants to take but she will have to learn that if there is a better dancer or ball player, then she may not always be the star of the show, and that needs to be alright.

I want to be personally successful but I have an understanding that success rarely comes from working alone. Teamwork makes the dream work and if my team is successful, then I am successful. Why wouldn't I want the people around me to be successful too?

I think people can let their insecurities turn sour and rotten inside of them and it comes out as greed. They can't see the forest for the trees and while they may not intentionally be out to get someone, they are intentionally looking out for their own best interests.

I learned this lesson the hard way a few years ago and it really stuck with me.

I frequently remind myself and those around me that typically, people aren't out to "get" you. People are out for themselves. The truth is, you don't even cross their mind much.

I know I am asking a lot here but you know me, I'll always say what is on my mind. Don't be greedy. It isn't flattering or charming. Honestly, it is disgusting and it is one of the worst things a human can do.

Stepping up bipartisan opposition to bad policies

The 118th Congress has already provided multiple opportunities to roll back proposed or recently enacted rules, regulations and legislation that is bad for Arkansas and our country.

Republicans in Congress have been leading Congressional Review Act (CRA) joint resolutions of disapproval to challenge several ill-advised and potentially damaging orders from taking effect. These initiatives provide Congress an expedited mechanism to overturn certain federal agency actions. A joint resolution of disapproval under the CRA is also afforded special privileges that bypass normal Senate rules and allow for a vote on the Senate floor.

When a CRA resolution is approved by a simple majority in both chambers of Congress and signed by the president—or if Congress successfully overrides a presidential veto—the rule is invalidated.

I'm pleased we've already been able to draw bipartisan support for some CRA joint disapproval resolutions in the last month that are headed to

the president's desk.

When the Biden administration issued a rule last November allowing ERISA retirement plan fiduciaries to politicize millions of Americans' retirement investments by favoring liberal ideological preferences like environmental, social and corporate governance factors, I joined my colleagues on a CRA to halt it.

Hard-working Arkansans want their money working for them, and focusing on anything else is a distraction. Fortunately, a few Democrats in the House and Senate voted with Republicans to protect millions of Americans' financial security and send this measure to President Biden's desk.

His administration has also put forward a burdensome Clean Water Act regulation discarding a commonsense rule that would protect our water systems and sources without eroding the rights of landowners. The Waters of the United States (WOTUS) decree will expand federal regulatory authority over virtually every pond, puddle and ditch nationwide.

A similar framework was advanced during the Obama administration only to be reformed by the Trump White House. Now President Biden wants to revert back to the misguided, far-reaching rule

that fails to provide farmers, ranchers and private landowners certainty and predictability.

There is also bipartisan support to strike that down. Republicans and Democrats in the House of Representatives voted this month on a CRA resolution objecting to it and a similar result is likely in the Senate where a vote is expected soon.

Finally, just a few days ago Congress sent another CRA joint resolution of disapproval to the president, this time dealing with a disastrous crime bill the D.C. City Council passed over objections from the city's mayor and others. I was proud to sponsor this rebuke of a radical attempt to weaken penalties for certain crimes as the nation's capital experiences a surge in violence, criminal conduct and public safety concerns — and I wasn't alone.

Over 30 Democrats each in the House and Senate joined my Republican colleagues and me to stand up and say no to this very bad idea.

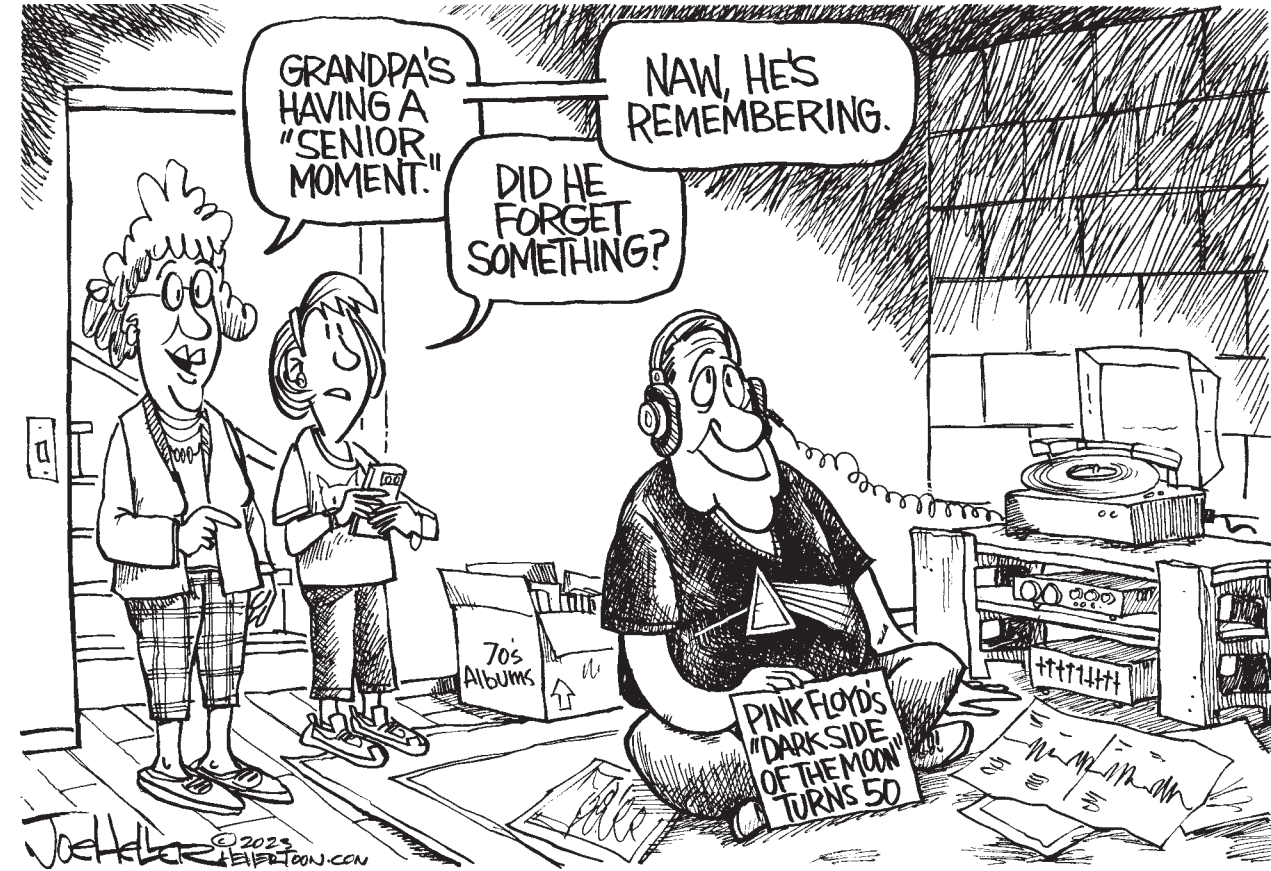
This string of bipartisan agreement and cooperation can continue, even beyond just CRA joint disapproval resolutions. For the good of Arkansas and our country, I'm committed to working in that spirit for the rest of this Congress.



ASHLEY HOGG
EDITOR



JOHN BOOZMAN
U.S. SENATE REPORT



U.S. budget is a problem that needs fixing

Our country has a spending problem. I feel like a broken record when I say that, but I'll keep saying it until we can fix it. We need to get our country back on the right fiscal track, and that starts with reining in on our government's relentless habit of irresponsible spending.



BRUCE WESTERMAN
U.S. HOUSE REPORT

That means making tough choices about where we spend our tax dollars. Sadly, President Biden's Fiscal Year 2024 budget proposal is a bloated, over-spending mess that makes no serious attempt at lowering our spending. Rather than proposing changes that would correct our country's current economic trajectory, the President proposed trillions of dollars in new taxes for hard working American families and businesses

and more spending on unsuccessful initiatives.

In the next ten years, President Biden plans to increase government spending by \$2.2 trillion. We are already in an economic crisis with inflation at a record high rate; increasing spending would just add fuel to the inflation fire and cause interest rates to skyrocket. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates that the U.S. will be paying over \$10.5 trillion in the next decade on interest alone. That's more interest to be paid in the next ten years than has been paid in the history of our country. That's how deep we are in debt and how much increased interest rates are spiraling out of control. Americans are already struggling to pay their bills, the last thing they need is to continue paying higher and higher interest rates to fund wasteful government spending.

The proposed budget also practically hands American jobs and companies to foreign nations, even the Chinese Communist Party. The President is propos-

ing an increased tax hike on corporations, from 21 percent to 28 percent. The tax hike on American businesses risks over 145,000 jobs. And what incentive do businesses have to stay in America if we're making it less profitable for them? The answer is none. It makes more sense for them to leave. China, for example, taxes their companies at 25 percent. Ireland only levies a 12.5 percent tax on corporate income. In the UK, the normal corporate rate is 19 percent. This is a lose-lose situation.

This is bad policy, and it's the American people who will pay the price, not President Biden. This out of touch budget does nothing to get our country back on track to fiscal responsibility. It does nothing to lower gas prices, increase national security, lower inflation, or make the lives of the American people better. It's more of the same big government, big spending, big taxing plan that has failed us time and time

See **WESTERMAN** Page 5A

Activity in high gear as legislative session enters final weeks

The highlight of the week was the final passage of the governor's historic reform of Arkansas education.

Dozens of other important measures were advanced out of committee and approved by the Senate and House of Representatives.

Both chambers approved HB 1419 to change the rules for citizens' groups trying to place an issue on statewide ballots.

Currently, supporters of an initiative or proposed amendment must submit signatures from at least 15 counties. HB 1419 would require a minimum number of

signatures from 50 counties. Arkansas has 75 counties.

The bill's sponsors say it is too easy for wealthy special interests to get an issue on the ballot. Opponents question whether the bill is constitutional.

Senate Bill 199 was sent to the governor for signing. It would extend the period in which a person can sue a physician for malpractice for performing gender transformation procedures on a minor. Those procedures include surgery and hormone therapy.

People who have had the procedures could file a malpractice suit up to 15 years after they turn 18.

The Senate passed SB 270 to expand the definition of sexual indecency with a child to include adults who knowingly enter and remain in a bathroom assigned to the opposite sex, if a

minor is present.

It does not apply to parents with their own children who are under the age of seven.

The House passed HB 1156 to require schools to designate all bathrooms and changing areas as exclusively for boys or girls. If a student is unwilling or unable to use the boys or girls bathrooms, the school must provide a reasonable accommodation, such as a single-use room.

The Senate approved SB 262 to remove the power of the state Board of Education to require consolidation or annexation of a school districts whose student population falls below 350.

Act 195 repeals a state law that required teenagers under the age of 16

See **GILMORE** Page 5A

Education, elections and healthcare take priority

In the ninth week of the 2023 Regular Session, the House passed several bills addressing education, elections, and healthcare. The House also passed a bill to increase the



JEFF WARDLAW
ARKANSAS HOUSE REPORT

property tax credit for Arkansas families. With a vote of 99-0, the House voted in favor of increasing the homestead property tax credit from \$375 a year to \$425 a year. HB1032 now heads to the Senate.

Education bills passing the House this week include the Seizure Safe Schools Act. HB1315 requires all schools to have at least 2 employees trained to recognize the signs and symptoms of seizures and know how to respond.

The House also voted in favor of HB1535 and HB1462.

HB1535 states that at each regular monthly meeting of a school board, a report of student academic performance should be provided to the board.

HB1462 clarifies the definition of "unaccompanied homeless youth" to mean an individual between the ages of 16 and 22 who is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. The definition will allow a school's liaison for homeless children and youth to provide additional support. HB1462 also waives fees for identification, driver's license, and birth certificates for unaccompanied homeless youth.

The House passed several bills regarding elections including HB1487 and HB1510.

HB1487 creates the Ballot Security Act of 2023. The bill allows for the tracking of ballots and proper delivery and creates a process to preserve spoiled ballots.

HB1510 would require special elections to be held on the same dates as primary and general elections. It states special elections shall be held on the second Tuesday of March or November in a year when a presidential election is held or the second Tuesday of May and November of all other years. The bill outlines specific criteria for exceptions to hold an emergency special election.

See **WARDLAW** Page 5A

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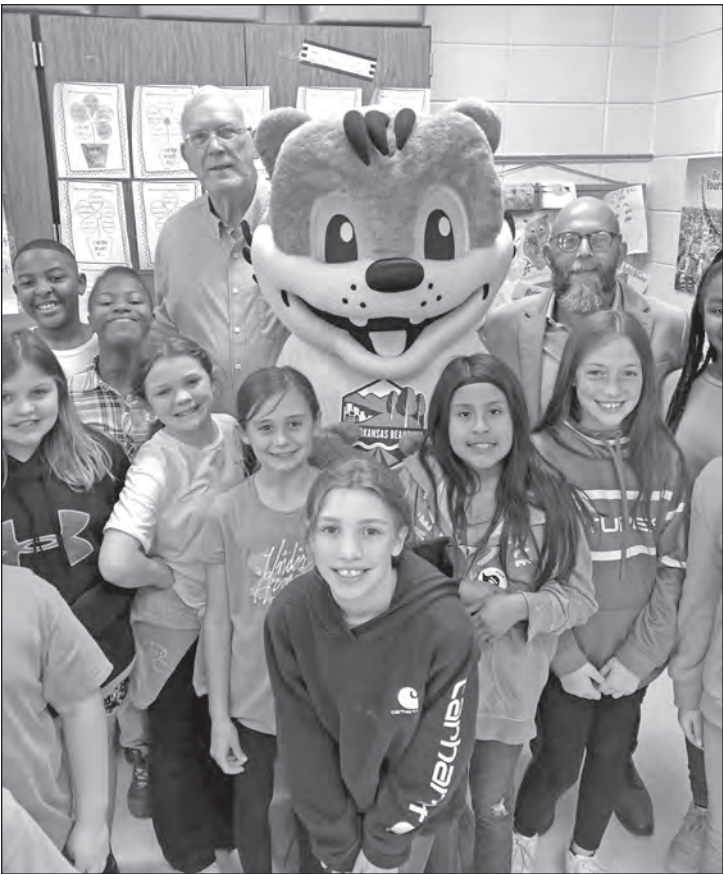
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KEEP IT CLEAN IN DREW COUNTY



Courtesy photo

Keep Arkansas Beautiful visited Monticello and Drew Central Elementary Schools last week and brought Otto the Otter to visit with kids, hand out coloring books and talk to them about keeping Monticello clean. Mayor Akers is encouraging a city wide clean up on Friday, March 24 and Saturday, March 25. On Friday, city employees will pick up litter and trash in town and any institution wanting to help on Saturday can contact City Hall to arrange a time to obtain clean up materials furnished by Keep Arkansas Beautiful. Several churches have already volunteered to help on the Saturday, including Morning Star Missionary Baptist, Church of Christ, The Revival Center and Emmanuel Baptist. Also, in an effort to beautify Monticello, Akers has acquired the help of inmates with the Arkansas Department of Corrections to clean sidewalks and gutters. The crews worked in various locations, including Gabbert Street on Tuesday, March 14.

Should investors ‘go it alone’?

If you’re going to enjoy a comfortable retirement, you should know, among other things, how much money you’ll need. And you may have a much better chance of knowing this if you get some professional help.

Consider these findings from a 2021 study by Dalbar, a financial services market research firm:

- Investors who worked with a financial advisor were three times more likely to estimate what they would have saved at retirement than “do-it-yourself” investors.
- More than two-thirds of investors with a financial advisor were satisfied with the amount they would have saved at retirement, compared to about 27% of the do-it-yourselfers.

How do financial professionals help their clients in these ways?

First, consider the issue of determining how much money will be needed for retirement. It’s not always easy for individuals to estimate this amount. But financial professionals can help clients like you arrive at this figure by exploring your hopes and goals. How long do you plan to work? What kind of lifestyle do you anticipate enjoying in retirement? Where would you like to live? How much would you like to travel? Are you open to pursuing earned income opportunities, such as consulting or working part time?

Next comes the other key question: How much money will be available for retirement? This big question leads to many others: How much do you need to save and invest each year until you retire? About what sort of investment return will you need to reach your retirement income goals? What level of risk are you willing to take to achieve that return? What is the role of other income sources such as Social Security or any pensions you might have?

Having a financial professional help you gain a clear idea of your retirement income picture can certainly be reassuring. But there may be other reasons why “going it alone” as an investor might not be desirable.

For example, when the financial markets are down, as

was the case for much of 2022, some investors make decisions based on short-term volatility, such as selling investments to “cut their losses,” even if these same investments still have solid business fundamentals and good prospects for growth. But if you work with a financial professional, you might decide to stick with these investments, especially if they’re still appropriate for your long-term strategy. Other times, of course, the advice may be different — but it will always be advice based on your goals, needs and time horizon.

Furthermore, if you’re investing on your own, you may always be measuring your results against the major market indexes, such as the S&P 500 or the Dow Jones Industrial Average. But in reality, your portfolio should contain a wide range of investments, some of which aren’t contained in these indexes, so you might not be assessing your performance appropriately. A financial professional can help you develop your own, more meaningful benchmarks that can show the progress you’re actually making toward your goals.

In some areas of life, going it alone can be exciting — but when it comes to investing for your future, you may benefit from some company on the journey.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

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Boozman introduces bills to combat physician shortage

SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

U.S. Senator John Boozman (R-AR) is continuing his leadership to address the growing health care provider shortage with the introduction of a pair of legislative initiatives aimed at attracting medical professionals to practice in communities across Arkansas. The senator is advancing bills to increase access to medical residency slots in underserved areas and incentivize students to join the medical field.

More than 500,000 Arkansans live in an area defined by the federal government as lacking the adequate number of health professionals to serve the population. Nationwide, the U.S. faces a projected shortage between 37,800 and 124,000 physicians by 2034 according to the Association of American Medical Colleges.

“We have an urgent need to ensure well-qualified medical providers are available to care for and treat Arkansans no matter where

they live. The Natural State ranks among the lowest in the number of available physicians per capita. Reducing the physician shortfall and supporting the health care needs of our communities continue to be priorities for which I’m working to deliver bipartisan solutions,” Boozman said.

Boozman and Senator Jacky Rosen (D-NV) have teamed up again this Congress to help address the growing physician shortage crisis.

The senators introduced the Physicians for Underserved Areas Act, legislation that would update the Graduate Medical Education (GME) distribution process to allow medical residency programs in areas with physician shortages a greater chance of gaining available residency slots following a hospital closure elsewhere in the country.

They also introduced the Resident Education Deferred Interest (REDI) Act that would allow

medical and dental students to pause student loan interest accrual and principal loan repayment while serving in their residencies or internships.

“Senator Boozman understands the important role residency programs play as a pipeline for physicians for underserved states like Arkansas,” said Cam Patterson, M.D., MBA, chancellor of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. “Data shows us that physicians are more likely to

practice in areas where they complete their residencies. However, it also shows us that the majority of medical students graduate with about \$200,000 in student loan debt. The Physicians for Underserved Areas Act and the REDI Act will help retain physicians in areas where they are needed most. We are very grateful to Senator Boozman for his leadership in these efforts.”

GILMORE

Continued from Page 4A

to get an employment certificate from the state Department of Labor as a condition for getting a job.

The House Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs advanced HB 1513 to create an election integrity unit within the office of the state Attorney General.

The unit will work with the

state Board of Election Commissioners and the Secretary of State. Its staff will track all violations of election and voter registration laws, and will oversee the hotline for reporting violations that is maintained by the Attorney General.

The House approved and a Senate committee advanced HB 1401 to cut from two years to one year the cumulative period that an able-bodied adult is eligible for welfare.

According to the bill’s spon-

sor, more than half of the recipients of cash welfare in Arkansas have received it for longer than 18 months. Technically, the cash assistance program is under the Department of Workforce Services and is called the Transitional Employment Assistance Program.

HB 1401 would not affect children, people who cannot find work due to circumstances beyond their control, parents or caregivers over 60 and parents or caregivers with disabilities.

WARDLAW

Continued from Page 4A

The House also passed HB1035. This bill requires a healthcare insurer to provide coverage for screening for depression of the birth mother by a healthcare professional within the first 6 weeks of the birth mother’s having given birth on or after January 1, 2024.

The House voted in favor

of SB199. This bill states that a healthcare professional who performs a gender transition procedure on a minor is liable if the minor is injured in any way. It also states that a civil action can be filed for up to 15 years after the minor turns 18 years of age.

And the House passed SB295. This bill seeks to create the Cost-Shifting Prevention Act of 2023 by addressing the rates paid for customer-owned net-metering facili-

ties. It would require utilities to compensate solar users at wholesale rates as they do other power providers.

The House will reconvene on Monday at 1:30 p.m. You can watch all committee meetings and House floor proceedings at arkansashouse.org.

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WESTERMAN

Continued from Page 4A

again.

Although the proposed budget is disappointing, I will not lose sight of what’s important. I will not lose sight of the crises that the American people are

facing. Luckily, House Republicans stand between President Biden’s proposed budget and the American people picking up the check. House Republicans will do everything we can to block the Biden Administration from enacting policies that will diminish our chances of digging ourselves out from this

hole. I’ve said it before, and I’ll say it again: it’s time we came together on a bipartisan basis to

deliver real solutions to Americans and restore our country’s economic sanity.

Maxie E. Self, Jr.

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4-H members represent Drew County at 4-H Day at the Capitol



By: LYNN LANTHRIP

Six 4-H members of Drew County 4-H attended the daylong festivities on Feb. 28 to learn about state government,

meet legislators and share their 4-H experience. For some, it was their first visit to the Arkansas Capitol. Participating members include:

Chloe Russell, Ada Ratliff, Adrian Ratliff, Sy Lanthrip, Stephen Bragg, and Beth Bragg all 4-H members. Volunteer leader, Alicia Ratliff also attended the event along with Hazelene McCray and Lynn Lanthrip from the Drew County Extension Office.

Drew County 4-H members were among the more than 400 Arkansas 4-H members, agents, leaders, and volunteers from 52 of the state's 75 counties who participated. The gathering is usually held every other year when the Legislature is in session. The 2021 event was canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On Tuesday, 4-H members learned about the roles of the state's constitutional officers and heard from many of them, including Lt. Gov. Leslie Rutledge, Attorney General Tim Griffin, Treasurer

Mark Lowery, Secretary of State John Thurston, and Commissioner of State Lands Tommy Land.

Attorney General Tim Griffin urged the 4-H members to get to know their elected officials.

"A lot of people get to know their elected officials only when they need something. That's the wrong way to do it," Griffin told the group. "Get to know your elected officials early in life. Learn the process. Develop meaningful relationships now, so that when you become a community leader — and you will be — you will know people. When leaders know other leaders, they can't be stopped."

Throughout the day, 4-H members watched sessions taking place in the House, Senate, and Arkansas Supreme Court. They also heard resolutions

read aloud in the House and Senate, recognizing the positive impact of the Arkansas 4-H program on youth and proclaiming Feb. 28 as 4-H Day. The group also visited the Treasurer's Office, where they got to stand inside the vault and hold \$600,000 in cash.

The event gives 4-H members an opportunity to see government in action and encourages them to think about citizenship and civic responsibility — tenets of the 4-H program, along with leadership, healthy living and science and technology.

4-H is the youth development program of the Cooperative Extension Service, part of the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. The program serves more than 144,000 youth statewide and is open to youth ages

5-19.

In Drew County, more than 120 youth are a part of the six 4-H clubs in the county.

To learn more about 4-H, contact Lynn Lanthrip, 4-H Program Assistant at office 870-460-6270 or cell 870-377-7709 or visit 4h.uaada.edu.

To learn about extension programs in Arkansas, contact your local Cooperative Extension Service agent or visit www.uaex.uaada.edu. Follow us on Twitter and Instagram at @AR_Extension. To learn more about the Division of Agriculture research, visit the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station website: https://aaes.uaada.edu. Follow us on Twitter at @ArkAgResearch. To learn more about the Division of Agriculture, visit https://uaada.edu/. Follow us on Twitter at @AgInArk.

QC

Continued from Page 1A

at the end of February had a \$107,000 balance compared to a deficit of \$41,000 at the end of February 2022. The quarter cent sales tax sits at \$4.9 million compared to \$4 million in 2022 and the general excess at \$1.23 million compared to \$1.27 million in 2022. The AARPA fund which are being used for the Sheriff's Department and Jail is at \$888,000 compared to \$1.3 million last year stating we are in much better shape this year compared to last year.

After wrapping up the treasurer's report, Griffin addressed rumors about the hospital. While no hospital report was given, Griffin assured the court and those in attendance that the hospital will remain in Drew County. He stated that while talks were ongoing in solving the problems at the hospital, many options were still on the table and that although he is not

a voting member of the hospital board, he still is able to ask questions, give input, and will keep the County updated as they are available. He reiterated that nothing is being hidden and that Drew County would continue to have a hospital. This was followed with an update from the Southeast Arkansas Regional Library Monticello Branch by Judy Calhoun, regional director, who reported over 103,000 visitors to the Southeast Regional libraries with 29,000 of those visiting the Monticello branch with over 900 new library card holders in the last year.

Calhoun was followed by Hazelene McCray with the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture. McCray announced the beginning of the "Walk Across Arkansas" program which began on Monday, March 13. She also announced the availability for scholarships for families, youth and single parents available through varying program throughout the State. Many of the programs will

pay milage, \$15 an hour for part time working students, and laptops. McCray stated no one in the county should have to miss out on a college education unless they didn't want to go to school. The division is also working on an obesity grant to have walking paths by the courthouse for a safe place to walk.

The extension office is currently running five 4-H clubs in the county. Current clubs cover everything from livestock, horse riding and shooting clubs. McCray encouraged members of the court and the community to recruit kids to be involved in the clubs.

Following McCray, LaToya Williams of the Drew County Health Department approached the Court for permission to move forward on acquiring a grant for the Drew County Health Department to make improvements to the current building including a drive through. The county would be required to match 10 percent of the funds with Griffin stating the road department could do

work to help with construction for the county to meet their match. While there are no estimates of the cost at this time, the court gave Williams permission to apply for the grant and to continue exploring the plans and cost for improvements.

Finishing up with old business, Griffin announced the county had made an offer to the City of Monticello to purchase the building currently housing the County's 911 system for \$85,000 and in-kind ground work for Monticello when they begin work on a smokehouse. The building appraised at \$120,000. The item did not make it on to last City Council agenda but should make it on to the upcoming agenda.

Griffin also announced the county could have the employee handbook rewritten for \$2,500 and announced county officials needed to review the handbook with employees and make suggestions to the court for any changes that need to be made stressing the importance of

hearing from employees about improvements that can be made to existing policies.

Moving into new business, the court passed Ordinance 2023-04 unanimously to further clarify the definition of "domestic animal" to include, "without limitation, domesticated dogs, cats, birds, poultry, horses and cattle," for use in Emergency Ordinance 2022-16 which addressed vicious dogs in the county.

Ordinance 2023-05 was introduced and approved unanimously. The ordinance cleans up accounts in the 2022 budget. Following the unanimous passing of Ordinance 2023-06 to raise rates for solid waste and the landfill, the court then moved to pass Ordinance 2023-07, introduced by Justice Joe Williams. The ordinance prohibits the use of Rose Hill Cut-Off Road from being used by log trucks and other commercial trucks. Residents on the road have reported being run off the road by fifth wheel trailers hauling hay and other big trucks, even though sig-

nage is already present at both entrances to the road. Former Drew County Judge Robert Akin addressed the court and stressed the construction of the road was originally gravel before it was paved and is not built with the foundation necessary to support heavy trucks and machinery also stating the paving process narrowed the road and it is not wide enough to safely handle big truck traffic. While the need for a cut-off road leading to U.S. Highway 425 for commercial business is understood by the county, Rose Hill Cut-Off Road is not sufficient and illegal use of the road by log trucks and large commercial trucks will be punished by fines ranging from \$100 to \$1,000. Griffin stated the County would begin to look for solutions to access issues for commercial trucks.

The court also approved the reappointment of David Funderburg to the Public Facility Board and agreed to allow Gabby Owens to serve full time as a custodian for the county.

HOSPITAL

Continued from Page 1A

operations. Baptist currently operates hospitals in Arkadelphia, Stuttgart, Malvern and others. This sustainability plan was presented to the board as an option to keep the hospital

independently operated.

After the presentation, Board Chairman Mike Akin commented, "Based on your calculations here, we have an annual cash deficit of \$8.7 million, we get the ARPA money, that props things up. Then, while we are kind of propped up, we enact some of the revenue and ex-

pense enhancements proposed. So, the way I look at it, we are still \$4,700,000 upside down. I don't see it" Akin stated.

Akin ended the meeting saying that it was for informational purposes only. No action was taken by the board on the presentation.

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OBITUARIES

Ardell Allen, Jr.

Ardell Allen, Jr., 59, of Monticello, passed away Sunday, March 12, 2023, at Jefferson Regional Medical Center in Pine Bluff.

He was born March 21, 1963, in Drew County, to Irene Miller Wimbley and the late Ardell Allen, Sr.

He was a member of Longview Baptist Church where he loved attending and also enjoyed listening to music and sitting outside.

He is survived by his mother, Irene Miller Wimbley of Hamburg; and four sisters, Betty Miller of Norphork, Va., Callie Phillips of Little Rock, Carolyn King of Monticello and Deborah Page of Hamburg.

Funeral Services will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, March 18, 2023 in the Stephenson-Dearman Funeral Chapel. Visitation will be Friday, March 17, 2023 from 5-7 p.m. at Stephenson-Dearman. Burial will be in Longview Cemetery, Ashley County. You can sign Ardell's guestbook page at www.stephensondearman.com.
(Paid obituary)

Barton Alan Bynum

Barton Alan Bynum was born in Dermott, on June 7, 1945, the son of Woodrow Wilson and Janie Richardson Bynum. He died on January 21, 2023, at the Southern Hills Cottages in Rison. Funeral Services will be Saturday, March 18, 2023, at 11 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Monticello.

A reception will follow the funeral service in the First United Methodist Family Life Center. Burial will take place in Oakland Cemetery after the reception.
(Paid obituary)

Ida Marvalene Cosby

Ida Marvalene Cosby, 95, of Arlington, Tenn., formerly of Monticello, passed away Monday, March 13, 2023. She was born August 8, 1927, in Kennett, Mo. to the late Thomas Henry Trotter and Ethel Antoinette Carter Trotter. Ida was the widow of John Otis Cosby. Before her retirement, she was a rip saw operator for Potlach Corporation and a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Warren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she is preceded in death by siblings, Frankie Trotter, Russell Trotter, Cleo Cash,

May Knight, Clay Trotter, and Earnest Trotter.

Survivors include her daughter, Virginia K. Ulrich of Cordova, Tenn., formerly of Monticello; three grandchildren Stephanie S. Burgess of Licking, Mo., Casey L. Humphries of Jonesboro, and Melissa K. Humphries of Arlington, Tenn.; six great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Graveside services will be held Friday, March 17, 2023, at 10 a.m. in Campground Cemetery in Monticello.

Ms. Ida's online guestbook can be signed at www.stephensondearman.com
(Paid obituary)

James Bartley Holder III

James Bartley Holder III was born in Monticello, in 1936, in the Mack Wilson Hospital which was the northern section of this very church. The operating room was above the driveway. For most of his later youth, he lived in the house north of this church.

He was the son and grandson of practicing country doctors in Drew County and followed them on country house calls and the hospital and quickly decided he wished to be a physician as well. He started early as an occasional surgical assistant and observer, early enough he sometimes needed a stool.

His grandfather became his father during WW2 while his father served in the Army. Both their influence was great. From his mother, he learned compassion and poise under pressure, appreciation for the arts, and beauty in life. In childhood he began his love of photography and music.

He was also a merry prankster which earned him a night in jail after setting off fireworks on the town square. The police called his father who told them he was occupied and would pick him up in the morning. He carried this into college where putting cows into the administration buildings was just one of his pranks.

Jim was very social and loved to be with other people. He was a great storyteller and didn't mind repeating his favorite stories.

After medical school at Tulane, he joined the Navy where he served as an intern in San Diego. Later, he joined an elite crew selected for service in the nuclear submarine fleet on the USS James Madison, the lead of

that submarine ballistic missile class during the cold war, accepted after a personal interview with Admiral Hyman Rickover, the "father of the nuclear Navy." Jim served his submarine time six months under water and six months leave which he spent touring Europe on his Triumph motorbike as their headquarters was Rhoda, Spain. He spent considerable time playing cards and was always proud of his wins over the submarine commander and other officers.

He served on the USS Enterprise in the war zone in the Viet Nam war and is a Viet Nam veteran.

He loved to give his opinion. Toward the end of his Navy career, he received a six month assignment to Guam which is part of Japan. He was thrilled and studied samurai and Japanese culture and the Japanese language for months. Two weeks before leaving he gave an opinion to a superior officer and that is how Jim ended up not in Japan, but six months on an icebreaker in the frozen Bering Sea north of Alaska.

Jim worked for the Veterans Administration over 15 years and for the Public Health Service on the Navajo reservation for the last three years of his professional life. He always had time for his patients stories and was much appreciated.

He had an obsessive side and during his life spent considerable energy on golf, fishing, short wave radio, trains, and traveling the USA while maintaining contact with his network of buddies in the train and radio world. Jim loved and enjoyed life and it was reciprocated.

But above all Jim was a family man. He loved his family and had deep reverence for our ancestors and loved to study and teach the family history. Space does not allow naming all his family members, but each was special and dear.

If they are playing cards in heaven, there is a new sheriff in town. But, either way, Jim will be a most welcome addition.

Jim is predeceased by his sister, Jane Cross, and survived by his wife, Charleen Savoie Holder of Taos, N.M., son John Roddy Holder of Rock Hill, S.C., brother John Holder of Bellevue, Wash., sister Julia Holder of Lafayette, La., nephew Clay Cross of Franklin, Tenn., and niece Samantha Cross of Little Rock, and other family members.
(Paid obituary)

Billie Harold Jeffers

Billie Harold Jeffers, 81, of Hampton, passed away Monday, March 13, 2023, at The Springs of Camden. He was born March 24, 1941, in Ashley County, to the late Jesse Harold Jeffers and

Lena Ferguson Jeffers.

He was retired and a member of the Assembly of God Church. Bill enjoyed woodworking and carpentry and also restoration of old trucks. He graduated from Coleman High School in Coleman, Texas in 1960 and attended Arkansas A&M University.



JEFFERS

In addition to his parents, he was also preceded in death by a brother, J.W. Jeffers; and a sister, Sue Jeffers Stokes.

Survivors include his former wife, Evelyn Byrd Jeffers; a son, Jason Allen Jeffers; brother-in-law, Don Byrd (Linda); sister-in-law, Linda Jeffers; along with three nieces and seven nephews.

A private interment will take place at Oakland Cemetery in Monticello, at a later date.

You can sign Mr. Jeffers' guestbook page at www.stephensondearman.com.
(Paid obituary)

James Elmo Judkins

James Elmo Judkins, 92, of Monticello, passed away Friday, March 10, 2023, at Belle View Nursing and Rehab. He was born December 26, 1930, in Drew County, to the late Norris Owen Judkins and Nettie Lee Crass Judkins.



JUDKINS

In addition to his parents, he was also preceded in death by his wife, Stella Bullock Judkins; and one son, James Robert Judkins.

He was the retired owner of Judkins Machine and Welding Shop. Prior to opening the machine shop, he worked for MonArk Boat Company. He enjoyed hunting and fishing. After he retired, he took up woodworking and created many nice pieces for his family. Elmo was a member of Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church.

Survivors include one son, Tommy Judkins (Bettye) of Monticello; one daughter, Brenda Chisom (Raymond) of Monticello; five grandchildren, Pam Barnett (Billy), Eric Chisom (Stephanie), James Judkins (Leslie), Daniel Judkins (Heidi) and Thomas Judkins (Madelyn); nineteen great-grandchildren, Corey, Kailey Raye, Brodey, Kaitlyn, Ethan, Lindsay, Whitney, Luke, Hezekiah, Moriah, Josiah, Judah, Micah, Boaz, Isaac, Ester, Eden, Jude, and Samuel; and four great-great-grandchildren, Hudson, Owen, Emmett, Davis and expecting one more in August.

Funeral Services were at 11

a.m. Monday, March 13, 2023, at Stephenson-Dearman Funeral Chapel with Rev. Dwayne Roper and Rev. James Judkins officiating. Burial followed in Oakland Cemetery. Visitation was from 6-8 p.m. Sunday evening at the funeral home. Online guestbook at www.stephensondearman.com.

(Paid obituary)

Dennis Alfred Sawyer

Dennis Alfred Sawyer was born June 22, 1950, in Drew County, to the late Garland and Audrey Sawyer. He departed his earthly body to be with the Lord, March 9, 2023, after months of battling cancer.

He was a member of Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church, a devoted husband, father, and Papa.



SAWYER

Dennis left a legacy in the welding industry. He traveled the world and had the opportunity to meet many strangers who are now considered his family away from home. He took opportunities to speak about his heavenly father often. Dennis loved hunting, fishing, working in his shop, and spending time with his family.

He is preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include wife of 47 years, Carol Sawyer; one son, Daniel Sawyer, (Terri); two daughters, Denise Morgan (Brad), and Nichole Sawyer; six grandchildren, Layne Sawyer, Gracie Morgan, Kaleb Hewitt, Ava and Kyra Hargis, and Stevie Christoph; two sisters, Annette Pennington and Lynette Streeter; one niece, Stephanie Kibideaux (Steven); four nephews, Stephen Pennington, Kevin Streeter, Tony Streeter, and Timothy Streeter; one great niece, Sidney Sizemore; one great nephew, Seth Sizemore; one sister-in-law, Beth Langdon (Doug); and mother-in-law, Mignon Causey.

A Celebration of Life was held Monday, March 13, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. at the Sawyer Farm, 2512 Hwy 35 West, Monticello.

Memorials may be made to Rose Hill Freewill Baptist Church, 2130 Hwy 35 W., Monticello, 71655, and the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 6704, Hagerstown, MD 21741.

Please sign Dennis' guestbook at www.stephensondearman.com
(Paid obituary)

Patricia Ann Selman

Patricia Ann Selman passed away on March 11, 2023. She was born on July 27, 1935 to her parents Edgar and Flora Burke. She was raised in the Florence community and was a graduate

of Selma school.

She married George Selman on March 22, 1959. They had one son Paul Andrew Selman (Andy). They lived in Pine Bluff where she was an avid member and church worker at Forrest Park Assembly. She moved to Monticello in 1997 where she was also active in First Assembly. She then moved to Fayetteville in February of 2020 to be close to her son. She loved the Lord and he was always first. She loved

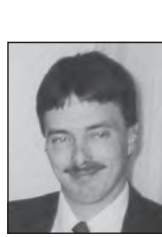
her church, family, and her yard. A wonderful homemaker, a flower guru, and a friend to everybody.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Edgar and Flora Burke; her husband, George Selman; and her older brother, Ira Gene Burke.

She is survived by her son, Andy Selman (Nancy); three grandchildren, Danielle Curry, Daniel Craig, and Sydney Smith (Ryan); five great-grandchildren, Alina Curry, Brodie Curry, Stella Smith, Mason Smith, and Beauman Smith; three brothers, Keith Burke (Peggy), Lamar Burke (Bea), Leonard Burke (Pat); as well as countless nieces and nephews.
(Paid obituary)

Christopher Wiggam

Christopher Wiggam, 58, of Monticello, passed away Monday, March 13, 2023, at his home. He was born January 15, 1965, in Marrero, La. to Janice Gladden Wiggam and the late Gary Wiggam.



WIGGAM

He was a retired mechanic who loved his work and enjoyed hunting and fishing. In addition to his father, he was also preceded in death by grandmothers, Claudia Gladden and Irene Wiggam; and uncles, Shorty Fort and Don Wiggam.

He is survived by his wife, Teresa Jackson Wiggam of Warren; two daughters, Whitney Ballard and Samantha Wiggam both of Monticello; his mother, Janice Wiggam of Hot Springs; one brother, Mac Wiggam of Dover, Del.; one sister, Contessa Wiggam of Monticello; and a cousin, Mary Clampit of Monticello.

Burial will take place at a later date and will be announced by Stephenson-Dearman Funeral Home. You can sign Chris' guestbook page at www.stephensondearman.com.
(Paid obituary)

UAM social work program reaffirms accreditation through 2029

SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

The Department of Social Work at the University of Arkansas at Monticello reaffirmed its baccalaureate social work program's accreditation from the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) in November 2022. UAM's Bachelor of Social Work program accreditation is reaffirmed through October 2029, when the department will begin the renewal process again.

Marie Jenkins, associate professor and director of the Department of Social Work at UAM, led a team in the accreditation efforts, which took several years of preparation and culminated in a self-study report in December 2021, a site visit in April 2022 and a review meeting in October 2022.

Jenkins emphasized the importance of reaffirming accreditation, stating, "CSWE Accreditation benefits our students by allowing them to sit for the licensing exam; without a license, an individual cannot use the title 'social worker,' apply for a position with this title or present themselves as a social worker. Graduating from an accredited program also provides students access to apply for Advanced Standing in any accredited graduate social work program, which allows them to obtain their MSW in one year instead of two. Some employers require proof of degree from an accredited program and will also offer a higher starting salary to individuals who are licensed. By maintaining our

program's accreditation, we graduate students who meet the highest academic standards set forth by CSWE and have the knowledge, values and skills to be ethical, competent and professional practitioners of social work."

Dr. Clinton Young, dean of the UAM School of Social and

Behavioral Sciences, said, "I'm very proud of our Social Work faculty and staff, who worked extremely hard to make sure that the accreditation process ran as smoothly as it could have. Given the increasing demand for licensed social workers, the UAM Social Work program plays a vital role in

helping the people of Southeast Arkansas lead better, healthier and happier lives—and accredi-

tation means our graduates will be able to continue helping their community."

NOW IS THE TIME
To replace that old stove
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annswood@ccc-cable.net

570 W. Conrad
Monticello, AR 71655

Phone: 870-367-5967

Arkansas Relay Service TTY
1-800-285-1131

GREAT AMERICAN
CLEANUP
WEEKEND

MARCH 24-26, 2023
8:00 AM to 8:00 PM
Volunteers needed! Meeting at the Drew County
Courthouse. Help to make our County and City
a clean place we can all be proud of!

Monticello Monument Company

- All colors of granite available
- Can duplicate existing memorials
- Financing Available
- Can design your own memorial
- Located in Stephenson-Dearman Funeral Home

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CLASSIFIED

CONTACT US
Classified Manager
870-367-5325
classified@monticellonews.net

CLASSIFIED RATES

BUSINESS ADS

1 Week - \$8⁵⁰
(25 Words Or Less; 34¢ Per Additional Word)
Includes one insertion in the Shoppers' Guide and one insertion in the Advance.

4 Weeks - \$20
(25 Words Or Less; 34¢ 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, 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. Free ads will run for two weeks.

PAID CLASSIFIEDS: 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. For Rent, Hay for Sale, etc. are classified as **BUSINESS ADS**.

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 \$20 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

RUMMAGE SALE RATES

Rummage Sale ads are now

FREE

to individuals!

Includes date, time and location of sale, plus a short list of items.
Limit 25 words.

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

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, Laura Whitaker, 870-460-5690. 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

BUYING JUNK CARS NEW YEAR - NEW PRICES
\$200 And up on complete vehicles. Please call 8970-224-1750 8pd 4/29

Mr. Johnny's Salvage
421 Ambrose Street
8am to 4:30pm
870-308-1025

Now Buying Junk cars running or not and scrap metal. We also have good used parts for sale too. Call 870-308-1025 4pd 3/25

The Advance classifieds are online! 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

CARPET CLEANING

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Steam Cleaning Carpet,
Upholstery & Tile Back to Life
Since 1993

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www.carpetmedicsrestoration.com
TFN

Legals

NOTICE OF SALE

On Saturday, March 25th at 9:00 a.m., University Self Storage will offer at Public Sale for cash the contents of the following units for the collection of storage charges to wit:
Location: 103 Bowser Rd., Monticello, AR 71655
Units: E9 (10x5); F3 (10x10); D2, C12 (10x15)
Sale will be held in front of the units on the premises at the designated time.
*Attention: Renters have until March 22nd to pay bill in full and claim belongings.
#107927 3/8

NOTICE

The following vehicle(s) will be sold, dismantled or destroyed in fifteen (15) days unless claimed at Reggie's Lock & Key LLC, 1065 Highway 278 West, Monticello AR 71655, PH: (870) 723-6898.
2000 GMC Jimmy VIN 1GKCS18W9YK231330
2004 Cadillac CTS VIN 1G6DM577840179354
#107929 3/15 3/22

HELP WANTED

LPN/RN - charge nurse
CNA - (all 3 shifts)
Dietary - full time cook evening shift & part time dietary aide

Chapel Woods
HEALTH AND REHABILITATION

1440 E. Church St., Warren
870-226-6766

NOW ACCEPTING BIDS

Advantages of Southeast Arkansas, Inc. is accepting sealed bids for lawn maintenance at 168 W. College St. in Monticello. The following services will be covered under each contract: mowing, edging, weed eating, trimming of all sidewalk areas, buildings, trees, fences, etc.; blowing off all sidewalks, porches, drives, trimming any shrubs as needed; weeding beds, as needed; hauling off fallen debris and trimming. Services will include up to 3 mowings per month, as needed. The contract is anticipated to cover April through October 2023. However, contract may be canceled at any time. Each bidder should include a separate bid for additional mowings. Current liability insurance coverage must be submitted.

Bids will be accepted by mail at:
Advantages, P O Box 359, Monticello, AR 71657
Questions may be directed to
Angie Burton at (870) 367-4383.
Bids will be accepted through March 17th, 2023.

Nurses & CNA's

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

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We Are Hiring!

Center Director -Lake Village
\$10,000 Sign-on Bonus

Arkansas licensure in Social Work or Counseling is required and current experience in providing mental health services is a must.

Responsibilities include providing an array of services, including substance abuse, if applicable, to a variety of ages and population in Chicot County, and administering the daily operations and staff assigned to the Lake Village Center

Benefits include: Paid time off, health, dental life insurance, and company contributions to retirement plan.

email resumes to: t.lindsey@deltacounseling.org

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE IN THE DUMAS AREA - \$16 up DOE. Clerical duties, shipping & receiving experience a plus, ar/ap-established company.

CLERICAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE
in the Monticello, Dumas, McGehee area - apply online at expresspros.com/pinebluff

BRAN OPERATOR Solid work history. Above average pay.
QA TECHS Solid work history. Ability to learn quickly.
MILL TECHS Solid work history. Quick learner.
Send resume to patsy.reynolds@expresspros.com

SEWING MACHINE OPERATORS NEEDED
Experience a plus but will train. \$12/hour.

WELDERS needed in Dumas area
Night shift. 20.25/hour with 1.00 shift differential. Must pass visual welding test. Call Patsy.

FORKLIFT DRIVERS/LABORERS NEEDED

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

LOOKING FOR experienced applicants in the Monticello/McGehee area for jobs in the McGehee/Dumas/Dermott area. Must be able to work shift positions. Verification of past employment will be completed for employment. Call Patsy.

Mark Your Calendars!

MARCH

MARCH 22ND - Express
Employment will be taking applications in **McGehee at UAM from 1 P.M. to 3 P.M.**

MARCH 29TH - Express
Employment will be taking applications in **Monticello at the Workforce Center 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.

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ADVANCE - MONTICELLONIAN

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Legals

NOTICE

Dermott City Nursing Home will be having a Silent Bid on three (3) vans. Bidding will start on 3/6/23 and end on 3/20/23. To place a bid, pick up a form at Dermott City Nursing Home or print a copy from Dermott City Nursing Home’s facebook page. Please seal all bids and mail them to P.O. Box 710, Dermott, AR or drop them off at 702 W Gaines St., Dermott, AR 71638.

Van descriptions are:
Year: 2005 Make: Eldo Model: Inc Color: White
Cyl: 6 Mileage: 197768
Year: 2010 Make: Dodge Model: Cvn Color: White
Cyl: 6 Mileage: 301989
Year: 2002 Make: Dodge Model: TR Color: White
Cyl: 8 Mileage: 136933

#107928 3/15

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF DREW COUNTY,
ARKANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KATHY JEAN
O’BRIANT, DECEASED

NO. 22PR-23-21

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT AS
ADMINISTRATOR**

Last known address:
139 Wilson Lane, Monticello, Arkansas 71655
Date of Death: October 7, 2022

The undersigned was appointed Administrator of the Estate of Kathy Jean O’Briant, deceased, on March 3, 2023.

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. Claims for injury or death caused by the negligence of the decedent shall be filed 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 March 8, 2023.

Darcy Melder, Administrator of the Estate
139 Wilson Lane
Monticello, AR 71655

Attorney for Estate:
John A. Singleton, Jr.
HASHEM LAW FIRM, PLC
437 W. Conrad
P.O. Box 739
Monticello, AR 71657
(870) 367-4223

#107615 3/8 3/15

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF DREW COUNTY,
ARKANSAS

PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF GENE L. VEAZEY,
SR., DECEASED

NO. 22PR-23-23

NOTICE

Name of Decedent: Gene L. Veazey, Sr.
Last known address of decedent:
659 Midway Route, Monticello, AR 71655
Date of Death: 11/10/2022

On March 3, 2023, an affidavit for collection of small estate by distributee was filed in respect to the estate of Gene L. Veazey, Sr., deceased, with the Clerk of the probate division of the Court of Drew County, Arkansas, under Ark. Code Ann. § 28-41-101.

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

The name, mailing address, and telephone number of the distributee or distributee’s attorney is:

Paul W. Keith
AR Bar No. 94008
GIBSON & KEITH, PLLC
P.O. Drawer 447
Monticello, AR 71657
870-367-2438

This Notice first published on the 8th day of March, 2023.

#107613 3/8 3/15

**TIMBERLAND FOR SALE BY
SEALED BID**

The offering consists of two parcels of timberland, 336.24 +/- and 860 +/- acres each. Excellent timber stocking located in Cleveland County, near the community of Rowell. Recreational opportunities on both tracts include deer, turkey, and small game hunting. Bids are due on Thursday, March 23rd by 3 p.m. For more information contact **Lile Real Estate** at 501-374-3411 or [www.lilerealestate.com](#).

#107869 2/8 3/8 3/15

CHILD CARE

Good Shepherd 203 E. Trotter Avenue, Monticello (870)460-0503 Educational child care, after school care and summer programs. Open Saturdays from 7 am to 5 pm. Come in for a free trial day and see what makes us different. 50% off first week. We are bilingual and accept vouchers. #81546 TFN mt-bw

FARM FRESH FOOD

Farm Fresh Chicken and Quail eggs for sale \$5.00/dozen. Baby Chicks and Quail available soon. Call 225-301-0664 4pd 3/29

GARAGE SALE

Neighborhood Yard Sale
Saturday, April 29th. 7AM until.... Western Pines Subdivision 6f 4/29

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

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

LOST & FOUND

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Legals

DREW COUNTY, ARKANSAS
COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2022-DECEMBER 31, 2022

Fund	Balance	Cash Receipts Issued	Void Checks	Transfer In	Tax Transfer In	TR Commis- sion Earned	Misc Credit	Void Receipts	Warrants or Checks Paid	Transfer Out	Tax Transfer Out	TR Commis- sion Charged	Other Checks Paid	Misc Debit	Balance
1000-County General	200,299.77	1,497,910.85	81,561.04	1,641,337.50	1,405,227.89	0	4,946.88	-171,741.79	-3,799,389.91	-300,000.00	-276,310.28	-25,462.62	-26,513.48	0	231,865.85
1006-ARP Fund	0	0	185,049.48	2,250,000.00	0	0	6,861.31	0	-2,260,040.76	0	0	0	0	0	181,870.03
1801-1/4 SPECIAL SALES TAXES	3,887,074.35	936,255.44	0	0	8,646.82	0	0	0	0	0	0	-18,315.12	0	0	4,813,661.49
1803-Drew County One-Cent Sales Tax	182,392.73	1,744,773.80	0	0	15,487.35	0	0	0	0	-1,600,000.00	0	-34,799.18	0	0	307,854.70
1804-General-Excess Sales Tax Fund	1,227,811.85	5,766.97	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,233,578.82
1809-Emergency Mgt. Preparedness Grant	4,931.41	36,408.41	2,041.82	0	0.65	0	0	0	-29,996.32	0	0	0	0	0	13,385.97
2000-County Road Fund	6,226,327.09	1,801,973.58	68,198.64	0	227,861.74	0	6,848.78	-2,718.42	-2,534,611.23	0	0	-39,465.28	0	0	5,754,414.90
2001-County Road Investment- UBT	250,802.95	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	250,802.95
2003-County Road Investment- CB&T	251,231.92	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	251,231.92
2004-Motor Fuel Tax Fund	35,105.63	149,181.63	0	0	1,403.30	0	0	-12,038.57	-89,325.25	0	0	-2,738.68	0	0	81,588.06
2800-One-Cent Special Road Sales Tax	2,643,111.62	2,808,785.36	6,391.01	0	25,940.47	0	3,359.33	0	-2,662,203.30	0	0	-54,945.36	-2,436.00	0	2,768,003.13
3000-Treasurer's Automation Fund	129,813.33	682.57	0	0	23,992.18	0	0	0	-4,740.00	0	0	0	0	0	149,748.08
3001-Collector's Automation Fund	85,716.47	868.8	819.8	0	46,274.79	0	0	0	-33,130.83	0	0	0	0	0	100,549.03
3002-Circuit Court Automation Fund	23,945.54	2,282.99	0	0	10.75	0	0	0	0	0	0	-43.3	0	0	26,195.98
3004-Assessor's 79 Amendment	32,858.12	5,412.17	0	0	54.53	0	0	0	-1,092.90	0	0	-104.75	0	0	37,127.17
3005-County Clerk's Cost Fund	13,305.70	2,603.50	0	0	28.35	0	0	0	-592.65	0	0	-50.7	0	0	15,294.20
3006-County Recorder's Cost Fund	14,367.36	247,005.42	8,322.05	0	1,106.19	0	0	0	-255,297.95	0	0	-2,140.00	0	0	13,363.07
3008-Southeast Regional Library	364,432.96	31,622.44	0	0	244,985.63	0	0	-3,144.02	-215,000.00	0	0	-5,281.09	0	0	417,615.92
3009-County Sanitation Fund	12,336.58	837,423.41	26,553.42	300,000.00	7,273.65	0	3,262.13	0	-1,155,148.96	0	0	-15,532.35	-995.07	0	15,172.81
3011-Countywide Reappraisal	4,387.14	145,000.88	0	0	0	0	0	-9,230.08	-126,600.00	0	0	0	0	0	13,557.94
3012-Child Support Collection	13,979.33	571.62	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14,550.95
3014-Sheriff's Communication Fund	65,087.52	17,671.75	0	0	124.09	0	0	0	0	0	0	-346.44	0	0	82,536.92
3015-Drug Forfeiture Fund	17,114.16	73.74	130.46	0	11.76	0	0	0	-3,447.61	0	0	0	0	0	13,882.51
3017-Act 1188 \$5.00 Fee(Jail)	3,013.44	92,175.04	0	0	1,055.06	0	0	0	-9,564.32	0	0	-1,839.66	0	0	84,839.56
3019-Boating Safety Fund	20,479.24	1,496.49	0	0	19.72	0	0	0	-17.5	0	0	-27.94	0	0	21,950.01
3020-Countywide 911	379,812.89	351,600.14	8,738.36	0	3,662.05	0	98.76	-28,000.00	-389,378.36	0	0	-6,275.17	0	0	320,258.67
3024-Public Defender	82,391.62	100,314.87	1,539.51	1,949.28	1,086.11	0	40.99	0	-116,599.51	0	0	-1,998.66	0	0	68,724.21
3028-10TH JUDICAL DIST DRUG COURT	10,710.97	1,216.05	0	150.03	0	0	0	0	-1,000.00	0	0	0	0	0	11,077.05
3031-Juvenile Probation Fees	24,949.46	2,825.92	0	0	12.11	0	0	0	-1,834.66	0	0	-54.16	0	0	25,898.67
3042-Assessor's Late Assessment Penalty Fee Fund	2,452.23	12.97	0	0	624.55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,089.75
3046-American Rescue Plan Fund	1,356,758.96	10,437.78	0	0	0	0	1,769,413.50	0	0	-2,250,000.00	0	0	0	0	886,610.24
3401-10th Judicial District Drug Court	150	0.03	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-150.03	0	0	0	0	0
3409-Monticello District Court	83,347.88	12,441.36	0	0	120.03	0	0	0	0	0	0	-240.42	0	0	95,668.85
3411-Hospital Maintenance Fund	0	1.1	0	0	777.86	0	0	0	0	0	0	-15.39	-763.4	0	0.17
3414-Veterans Memorial Maint. Fund	1,859.22	8.74	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,867.96
3415-Voluntary Animal Care Fund	17,885.12	98.49	0	0	7,067.67	0	0	0	0	0	0	-139.68	0	0	24,911.60
3501-Court House Security Grant- Act 576	0	20,000.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	-20,000.00	0	0	0	0	0	0
3512-LLEBG GRANT	3,566.78	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,566.78
3515-County Fair Building Grant	2,478.87	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,478.87
4800-Hospital Construction Funds	5,495.00	142,277.63	0	0	0	0	0	0	-142,277.63	0	0	0	0	0	5,495.00
4801-Farmers Market Pavilion	15,000.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15,000.00
5800-Hospital Bond, General Obligation	-19,405.40	53,781.87	0	0	440,972.35	0	0	-5,658.56	0	0	0	-9,505.81	-460,184.45	0	0
6000-Treasurer's Commission	239,921.79	0	0	0	0	252,846.11	0	0	0	0	-239,921.79	0	0	0	252,846.11
6001-Collector's Commission Fund	0	58,899.04	0	0	1,113,584.70	0	0	-6,102.43	0	-34.22	-1,166,347.09	0	0	0	0
6002-COLLECTOR'S UNAPPORTIONED FUNDS	0	11,135,845.79	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-11,135,845.79	0	0	0	0
6003-Property Tax Relief Fund (79)	0	-152,560.74	0	0	0	0	0	152,560.74	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6004-Delinquent Personal Tax Fund	0	410,736.20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-410,736.20	0	0	0	0
6005-Delinquent Real Estate Tax Fund	0	347,408.97	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-347,408.97	0	0	0	0
6006-Timber Tax Fund	0	67.26	0	0	73,660.64	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1,441.87	-72,286.03	0	0
6008-State Land Sales Fund	0	88,368.75	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-88,368.75	0	0	0	0
6009-County Law Library	61,687.82	6,213.07	0	868.32	61.29	0	0	0	0	0	0	-118.32	-2,358.40	0	66,353.78
6010-ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE FUND	0	70,140.00	0	0	699.46	0	0	0	0	-44,120.88	0	-1,263.60	-25,454.98	0	0
6011-Interest Clearing Fund	5,211.16	-4,979.16	0	0	0	0	0	-232	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6012-GAME & FISH COMMIS- SION	0	5,755.01	0	0	43.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	-115.1	-5,683.11	0	0
6400-Electronic Transfer (EFTPS)	27,737.92	1,693,703.66	101,069.14	0	0	0	0	-54,078.21	0	0	0	0	-1,755,862.80	0	12,569.71
6401-SHERIFF'S OFFICE FUND	242.5	845.51	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,088.01
6402-Prosecuting Attorney 10th Jud Dist	61,404.47	243,53													

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Lady Billies improve to 6-0, comeback to defeat Star City 18-8



Jeff Young/Advance Monticellonian
ADDI FRAZER (top) discusses strategy with catcher Skylar Burns. **AUDREY HOWARD (bottom)** connects for a double against Star City.

By: **JEFF YOUNG**
Advance Correspondent

The Monticello Lady Billies fell behind early against the Star City Lady Bulldogs on Friday, March 10, in a 8-4A Conference contest that was moved from Star City to Monticello.

After throwing a no-hitter against Warren in the Lady Billies first conference game, Alaina Lyle's start against Star City would not be as successful in the circle against Star City.

Lyle would begin the game by allowing a single base runner on an error while striking out three batters in the top of the first inning.

The Lady Billies would get on the board first in the bottom of the inning on a lead off single by Kate Morgan and Lyle reaching on an error.

Aubrey Howard would hit a double to score Kate Morgan and Lyle to give the Lady Billies a 2-0 lead.

Star City would take the lead in the top of the second inning after three walks, an error, and two singles gave the Lady Bulldogs a 4-2 advantage.

Monticello would have two baserunners in the bottom of the inning on a single by Anna Morgan and Kate Morgan reaching on an error, but both runners would be stranded on the bases.

Star City increased their lead in the top of the third inning.

A lead off walk followed by a single and a hit batter would load the bases with the next Lady Bulldog batter connecting for a grand slam that gave Star City a 8-2 lead.

Lyle would move to first base from the pitcher circle with Addi Frazer taking over the pitching duties for the Lady Billies after the homerun.

Monticello battled back in the bottom half of the inning.

Lyle got things started with a lead off single followed by a double by Howard to score Lyle. Kiley Lane would single and Frazer would reach base to score Howard.

After Monticello's courtesy runner was thrown out at second on an attempted steal, Lane would steal home for another Lady Billie run.

Anna Morgan topped off the Lady Billie runs in the inning with a solo homerun to cut the Lady Bulldog lead to 8-6.

After a three up, three down inning for the Lady Bulldogs, the

Lady Billies would reclaim the lead in the bottom of the fourth inning.

Kate Morgan singled to start the inning followed by a ground out and a double by Lyle to score Kate Morgan.

Howard would single to score Lyle followed by a single by Lane.

Frazer singled to score Lane to give the Lady Billies a 9-8 lead.

Monticello would go on to score a run in the bottom of the fifth and eight runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to complete the come from behind, run-rule, win.

Alaina Lyle had two innings of work from the circle, allowing eight runs on four hits, striking out three and walking four. Four of the eight runs were earned. At the plate, Lyle would go 3 for 5 with 3 RBI and four runs scored with a double.

Addi Frazer got the win in the contest with four innings pitched allowing no runs on two hits, walking one and striking out three. At the plate, Frazer was 3 for 4 with 2 RBI.

Anna Morgan was 3 for 4 with an RBI and two runs scored with a homerun. Aubrey Howard was 4 for 5 with two doubles, one run and 6 RBI. Kate Morgan was 4 for 5 with three runs and an RBI. Kiley Lane was 3 for 4 with a run. Madeline Stanley was 1 for 4 with a run and an RBI. Skylar Burns scored two runs, and Meygan Bivens scored a run and had an RBI.

Monticello would travel to Smackover over the weekend for a pair of games against Junction City, a 9-1 win, and Camden Harmony Grove, an 8-0 win, to improve to 6-0 on the season.

In the last three contests, the Lady Billies have recorded 41 hits and 32 RBI.

The Lady Billies currently lead the conference with a 2-0 record followed by Stuttgart and Hamburg and according to Scorebook Live, the Lady Billies have moved into the top 10 in the 4A standings, ranking in seventh position.

The Lady Billies will continue conference play this week, hosting Watson Chapel on Friday, March 17, at 5 pm.

It will be the final contest before the Spring Break period begins next week.

The Lady Billies will return from Spring Break traveling to Crossett, to take on the Lady Eagles on March 28 at 5 pm.



Jeff Young/Advance Monticellonian
KILEY LANE (top) connects for a hit against Star City. Lane recorded three hits in the game. **ANNA MORGAN (bottom)** connects for a homerun.

Star City Bulldogs hand Monticello first loss of the season, 6-3

By: **JEFF YOUNG**
Advance Correspondent

The Star City Bulldogs travelled to Monticello on Friday, March 10, in a contest that was rescheduled for a home game for the Billies instead of an away contest.

In the second conference contest of the season, Monticello would send sophomore pitcher, Jagger Hines, to the mound for

his first start of the season.

Star City would get a lead off single with Hines walking the next batter to put runners on first and second.

Star City would get on the board first in the next at bat after Christian Carnal connected for a three-run homerun to right field for a 3-0 lead.

The Bulldogs would add another run in the top of the third

inning to extend the lead to 4-0.

Monticello would get one baserunner in the bottom of the third on a walk to Trystan White.

Star City added two runs in the top of the fourth inning to extend their lead to 6-0.

Monticello would get on the board in the bottom of the fifth inning.

After a lead off strikeout, Brooks Harvey would reach base

first on a single.

The next batter would fly out for the second out but Harvey would advance to second on an error. White would draw a walk followed by a single by Brenden Brown that produced errors on the field that allowed Harvey and White to score to cut the lead to 6-2.

Monticello would score the final run of the contest in the

bottom of the sixth inning after Brooks Bowman reached base being hit by a pitch on a single by Tye Guthrie scored Bowman to set up the final score of 6-3.

With the loss, Monticello falls to 5-1 on the season and 1-1 in 8-4A Conference play.

Three Billies would record hits in the contest with Brenden Brown going 1 for 3, Brooks Harvey going 1 for 2, and going 1 for

1 and recorded the only RBI for the Billies in the contest.

Jagger Hines took the loss, allowing six runs on seven hits, striking out one and walking 5.

Easton Byrd struck out six batters in relief.

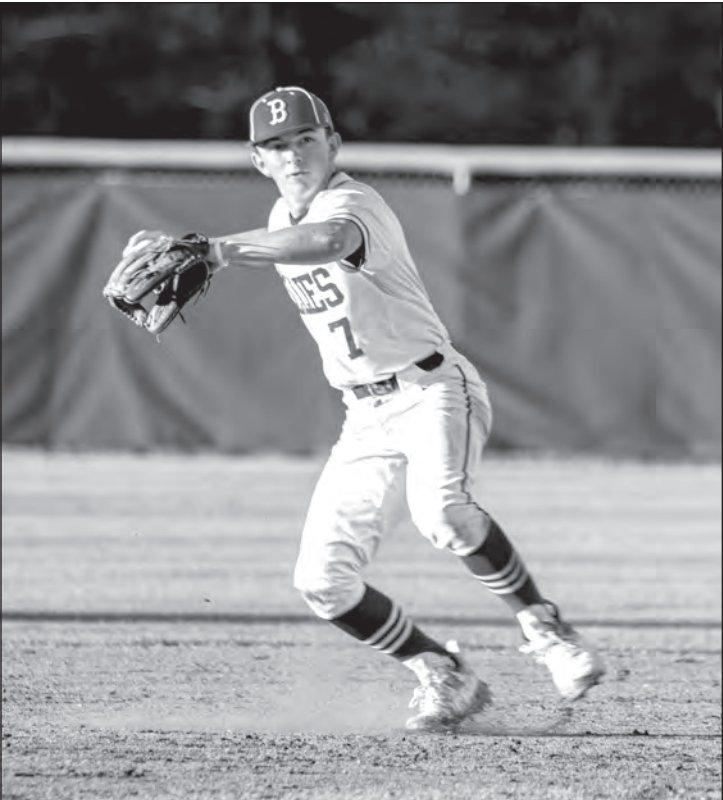
Monticello will host Watson Chapel on Thursday, March 16, with the varsity game scheduled for 5 pm.



JAGGER HINES (left) first start of the season did not start the way the sophomore intended allowing six runs on seven hits, walking five, and striking out one.



BROOKS HARVEY (right) attempts to throw a Star City runner out at first. Harvey was one of three Billie batters to record a hit in the contest.



Jeff Young/Advance Monticellonian

SCOTT JOHNSON (center), head coach for the Billies, gives instructions to his batter, Jon Luke Brothertonn, during a called time by Star City.

UAM Blossoms get series win over #13 Harding University

By: JEFF YOUNG
Advance Correspondent

The University of Arkansas at Monticello Blossoms got their second consecutive series win in Great American Conference play taking two of three games over #13 ranked Harding University over the weekend.

The Blossoms would send Maguire Estill to the circle for game one of the series and would get five innings from the sophomore from Haven, Kansas.

The Blossoms would go up 2-0 in the bottom of the first inning on a two-run homer by Grace Neal.

Harding tied the contest with solo shots in the top of the second and third innings, but UAM regained the lead in the bottom of the fifth after scoring

two runs to take game one 4-2.

Estill improves to 3-3 on the season with Kyann Woods picking up the save.

Returning to Alvy Early Softball Field on Saturday for a double-header, the Blossoms would use three pitchers in the contest with Woods getting the start on throwing for three innings followed by a partial inning by Sam Stephens and Estill picking up the win to improve to 4-3 with 3.2 innings pitched.

The Blossoms would fall behind 1-0 in the top of the first inning but would take the lead in the bottom of the inning after scoring three runs to take a 3-1 lead.

Harding added a run in the top of the fourth but UAM would come back in the bottom of the inning to score five runs

highlighted by a grand slam by Kennedy Cox.

UAM added their final run in the bottom of the fifth inning to take the 9-2 win.

Harding would take the third game of the series.

Tied at 1-1 after one inning of play, Harding would score two runs in the top of the fifth inning to take the 3-1 victory.

The Blossoms will return to Alvy Early Softball Field on Friday, March 17, hosting Oklahoma Baptist at 1 pm in the first game of the Friday double-header with game two to follow.

The Blossoms and Oklahoma Baptist will return on Saturday for the final game of the series with first pitch set for 12 pm.



THE BLOSSOMS have currently kept a winning record this season with an overall record of 13-7 a Great American Conference record of 6-3 as of Monday, March 13.

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Irish holiday becomes American tradition

SPECIAL TO THE ADVANCE

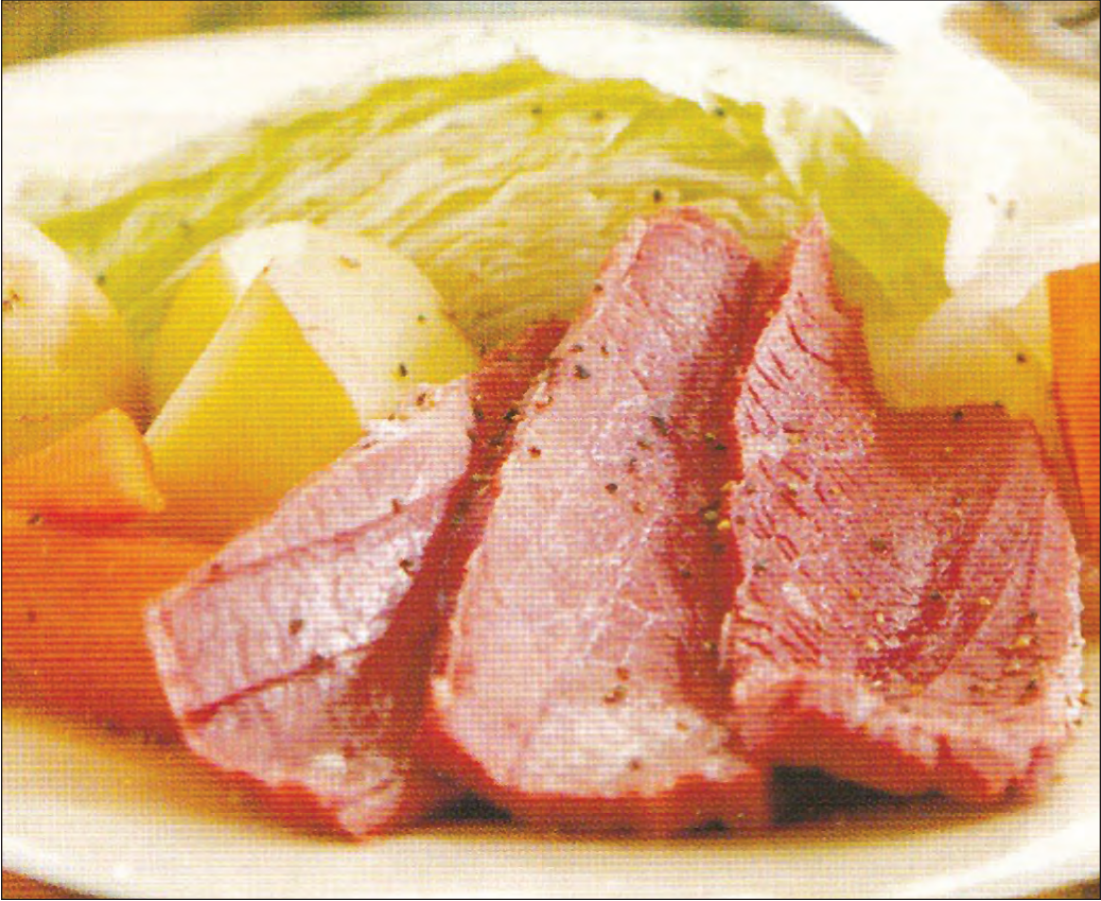
St. Patrick's Day or feast day, is celebrated each year on March 17. Born in Roman Britain in the late 4th century, the patron Saint of Ireland was kidnapped at the age of 16 and taken to Ireland as a slave. He escaped but returned around 432 CE to convert the Irish to Christianity. By the time of his death on March 17, 461, he had established monasteries, churches, and schools. Many legends grew up around him—for example, that he drove the snakes out of Ireland and used the shamrock to explain the Trinity. Ireland came to celebrate his day with religious services and feasts.

It was emigrants, particularly to the United States, who transformed St. Patrick's Day into a largely secular holiday of revelry and celebration of things Irish. Cities with large numbers of Irish immigrants, who often wielded political power, staged the most extensive celebrations, which included elaborate parades. Boston held its first St. Patrick's Day parade in 1737, followed by New York City in 1762. Since 1962, Chicago has colored its river green to mark the holiday. Although blue was the color traditionally associated with St. Patrick, green is now commonly connected with the day.

Irish and non-Irish alike commonly participate in the “wearing of the green”—sporting an item of green clothing or a shamrock, the Irish national plant, in the lapel. Corned beef and cabbage are associated with the holiday, and even beer is sometimes dyed green to celebrate the day. Although some of these practices eventually were adopted by the Irish themselves, they did so largely for the benefit of tourists.



St. Patrick's Day recipes to please every palate



Get into the Irish spirit

St. Patrick's Day began as an opportunity to honor St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, who was credited with bringing Christianity to this island nation. Through the years, St. Patrick's Day has transformed into a celebration of Irish culture as well as a day for fun and fanfare. Of course, no celebration would be complete without delicious food. Although corned beef may not be the most authentic representation of Irish cuisine, it certainly has become synonymous with St. Patrick's Day. During the early influx of Irish immigrants to North America, corned beef was more readily available than some other cuts of meat from the Emerald Isle. When cooking St. Patrick's Day dinner this year, the process can be made even easier with the use of a slow cooker. Try this recipe for “Corned Beef and Cabbage” from “Crock-Pot® 365 Year-Round Recipes” (Publications International) from the Crock-Pot kitchens.

Corned Beef and Cabbage

Ingredients (Makes 6 to 8 servings)

- 12 new red potatoes, quartered
- 4 carrots, sliced
- 1 corned beef brisket (about 4 pounds)
- 2 onions, sliced
- 3 whole bay leaves
- 8 whole black peppercorns
- 1 head cabbage, cut into wedges

Directions:

- Place potatoes and carrots in bottom of slow cooker. Add brisket, onions, bay leaves, and peppercorns. Add enough water to cover brisket. Cover; cook on low 4 to 5 hours or on high 2 to 2½ hours.
- Add cabbage. Continue cooking on low 4 to 5 hours longer or on high 2 to 2½ hours longer. Slice brisket against the grain, and serve with vegetables.

Dish up a classic comfort food this St. Patrick's Day

Everyone has “corned beef and cabbage” on the brain come St. Patrick's Day. But another flavorful dish might appeal to a greater number of people with Irish roots. Shepherd's Pie is a savory dish made of minced lamb that originated in England but also made the jump to Ireland, where it became a popular comfort food. While Shepherd's Pie can be made with freshly cooked ground meat, it also is a fine way to use leftovers from a previous meal. Shepherd's Pie is commonly mistaken for Cottage Pie, which is very similar, yet tends to use beef as the meat of choice. Many families have their own ancestral recipes for Shepherd's Pie, but for those looking to cook the dish for the first time, try “Shepherd's Pie,” courtesy of Alton Brown, which appeared in Season 12 of his hit show “Good Eats.”

Shepherd's Pie Ingredients (Yield: 8 servings)

- 1½ pounds russet potatoes
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 2 carrots, peeled and finely diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1½ pounds ground lamb
- 1¾ teaspoons kosher salt
- ¾ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 2 teaspoons tomato paste
- 1 cup chicken broth
- 2 teaspoons chopped fresh rosemary
- 1 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- ¼ cup half-and-half
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 large egg yolk
- ½ cup corn kernels, fresh or frozen
- ½ cup English peas, fresh or frozen



Directions:

- Heat oven to 400 F.
- Peel the potatoes and cut them into 1½-inch dice. Put them in a medium saucepan and cover with cold water. Set said pan over high heat, cover and bring to a boil. Uncover, drop the heat to maintain a simmer, and cook until tender, 10 to 15 minutes.
- Heat the oil in an 11-inch saute pan over medium-high heat until shimmering. Add the onion and carrots and saute just until they begin to take on color, 3 to 4 minutes. Add the garlic and stir to combine. Add the meat, salt and pepper, and cook until browned and cooked through, approximately 3 minutes.
- Sprinkle the meat with the flour, toss to coat, and continue to cook for another minute. Add the tomato paste, broth, Worcestershire sauce, rosemary, and thyme and stir to combine. Bring to a boil, then decrease the heat to low, cover, and simmer slowly until the sauce is thickened slightly, 10 to 12 minutes.
- Meanwhile, combine the half-and-half and butter in a microwave-safe container and nuke until warmed through, about 35 seconds.
- Drain the potatoes and return them to the saucepan. Mash the potatoes (a masher is an excellent tool for this, though a hand mixer will do), then add the hot half-and-half mixture, as well as the salt and pepper. Mash to smoothness, then stir in the egg yolk.
- Add the corn and peas to the meat mixture and spread evenly in a 7-by-11-inch glass baking dish. Top with the mashed potatoes, starting around the edges to create a seal to prevent the mixture from bubbling over, and smooth the top with a rubber spatula. Place on a half sheet pan lined with parchment pa-



per on the middle rack of the oven and bake for 25 minutes, or just until the potatoes begin to brown. Remove to a cooking rack and let rest for at least 15 minutes before serving.

A taste of traditional Irish cooking

St. Patrick's Day is an opportunity for the world to celebrate Ireland's patron saint and Irish culture with family, friends, food, and fun. Many St. Patrick's Day traditions have been passed down through generations. This includes various foods and recipes that are native to Ireland that have spread around the globe thanks to the vast Irish diaspora. When dishing up new traditions at home, try this recipe for “Traditional Irish Colcannon” courtesy of Kerrygold, producers of Irish butters and cheeses. Colcannon is a mashed potato recipe made even more savory with the inclusion of cabbage and other ingredients. Serve with corned beef, Irish bacon or Irish stew.

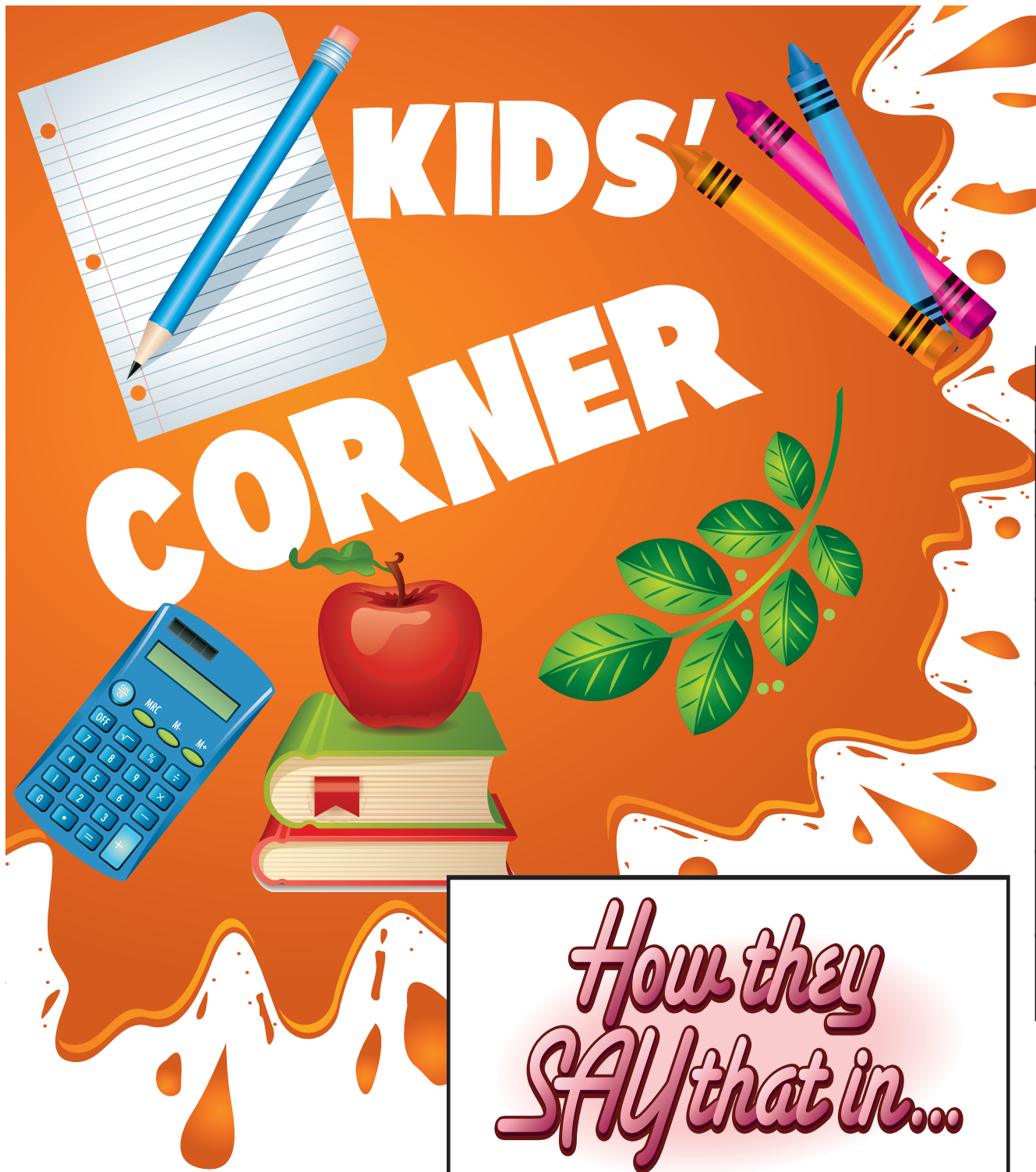
Traditional Irish Colcannon

Ingredients (Serves 8)

- 2 pounds red potatoes, cut into large chunks
- ¾ cup milk
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- 6 tablespoons Kerrygold Salted Butter, plus additional melted butter, if desired
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 6 cups finely shredded green cabbage (or one 10-ounce package)
- 1 cup (about 4 ounces) shredded Kerrygold Dubliner® Cheese or Blarney Castle Dubliner® Cheese
- Freshly ground pepper to taste

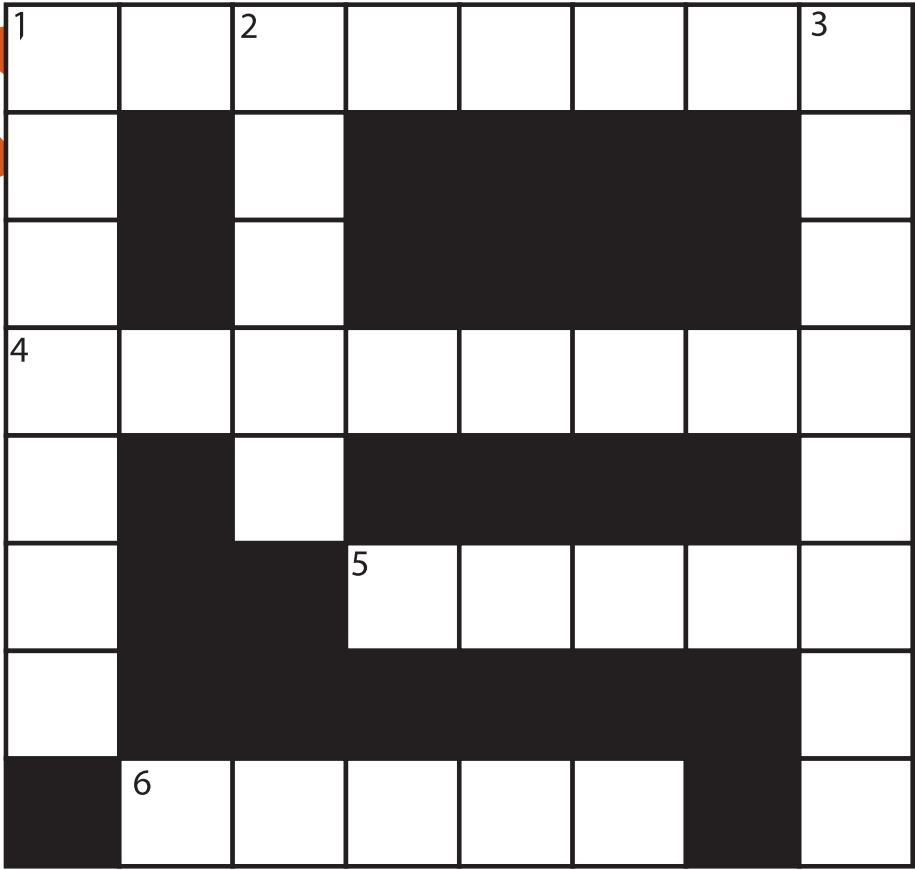
Directions:

- Cook potatoes in boiling water about 20 minutes or until very tender; drain well and mash with skins on, adding milk and salt. While potatoes are cooking, melt butter in a large skillet. Add onion; cook 10 minutes, stirring occasionally, until very soft. Add cabbage; cook and stir for 5 minutes more or until very soft. Stir cabbage mixture and Kerrygold cheese into hot potatoes and season with pepper. Mound onto serving plates and make a well in the center of each. Pour a little melted butter into each well, if desired. Garnish to taste.



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

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1. Wrapped items
4. State again as fact
5. Brief appearance
6. Having good fortune

DOWN

1. Irish patron saint
2. Inexpensive
3. Clover

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Clover

SPANISH: Trébol

ITALIAN: Trifoglio

FRENCH: Trèfle

GERMAN: Klee



ACCORDING TO FOLKLORE,
LEPRECHAUNS ARE A TYPE OF IRISH
FAIRY. THEIR NAME MEANS



“SMALL-BODIED FELLOW.”
LEPRECHAUNS ARE
AS TALL AS A THREE-
YEAR-OLD CHILD.



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

ANSWER: ST. PATRICK'S DAY

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **45 B.C.:** CAESAR WINS HIS LAST VICTORY OVER POMPEY'S ARMIES.
- **1917:** TSAR NICHOLAS II ABDICATES THE RUSSIAN THRONE, ENDING THE ROMANOV DYNASTY AFTER MORE THAN 300 YEARS.
- **2019:** ROUGHLY 1.4 MILLION YOUNG PEOPLE ACROSS THE GLOBE GO ON STRIKE TO PROTEST CLIMATE CHANGE.



CHILDREN’S DEVOTIONAL

Don’t be afraid of the book of Revelation

By Amy Becker

“He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; grief, crying, and pain will be no more, because the previous things have passed away.”

Revelation 21:4

Have you ever spent time reading the book of Revelation, or do you avoid it like the plague? Whether you are 8 or 88 I think the majority of people reading this (if they were to answer honestly) would say the book they dig into least, is the book of Revelation. There’s a lot of different reasons people might give for this, but the one I hear the most is that it’s too scary. If that’s you, then you’re in good company! I once thought the last book of the Bible was really scary too! Let me tell you about what changed my mind.

My last year of college I decided to really buckle down. Until then, I had lived on my own and was working a lot of hours. Balancing both work and school got difficult the harder my classes became, so I made the decision to move in with my grandparents just a 30 minute commute from where I went to college. My grandpa (a retired pastor and carpenter) spent almost every

waking moment in his study, and if he wasn’t in his study, he was talking to my grandma and me about his research that he was doing in his study. Up until this point I had been an avoider of all things Revelation and honestly wanted to close my ears in fear of being scared by the details. However, this was my grandparent’s house, and this was his life’s work, so I respected my grandfather and listened. I told him the things that made me afraid and all the bad things I had heard over the years about why this chapter of the Bible was scary to be in the first place. He was patient and answered my questions. He offered me hope and insight that helped me not be so afraid anymore.

I’ll be brief, because the ins and outs of what goes on throughout the book is not really the point of telling you all this. I also cannot tell you that I understand every word, nor do I often quote the book of Revelation. However, just like on Home Alone when Kevin comes down to the basement and starts yelling, “Hey! I’m not afraid anymore!” I am not afraid anymore, because the book of Revelation offers us hope. You see, ever since the beginning when Adam and Eve made the decision to sin

the whole thing!

“Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among

the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these

words are trustworthy and true.”

He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.”

Revelation 21:1-7

Puzzle answers

Page 6B Sudoku

ANSWER:

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

Page 5B Crossword

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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



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

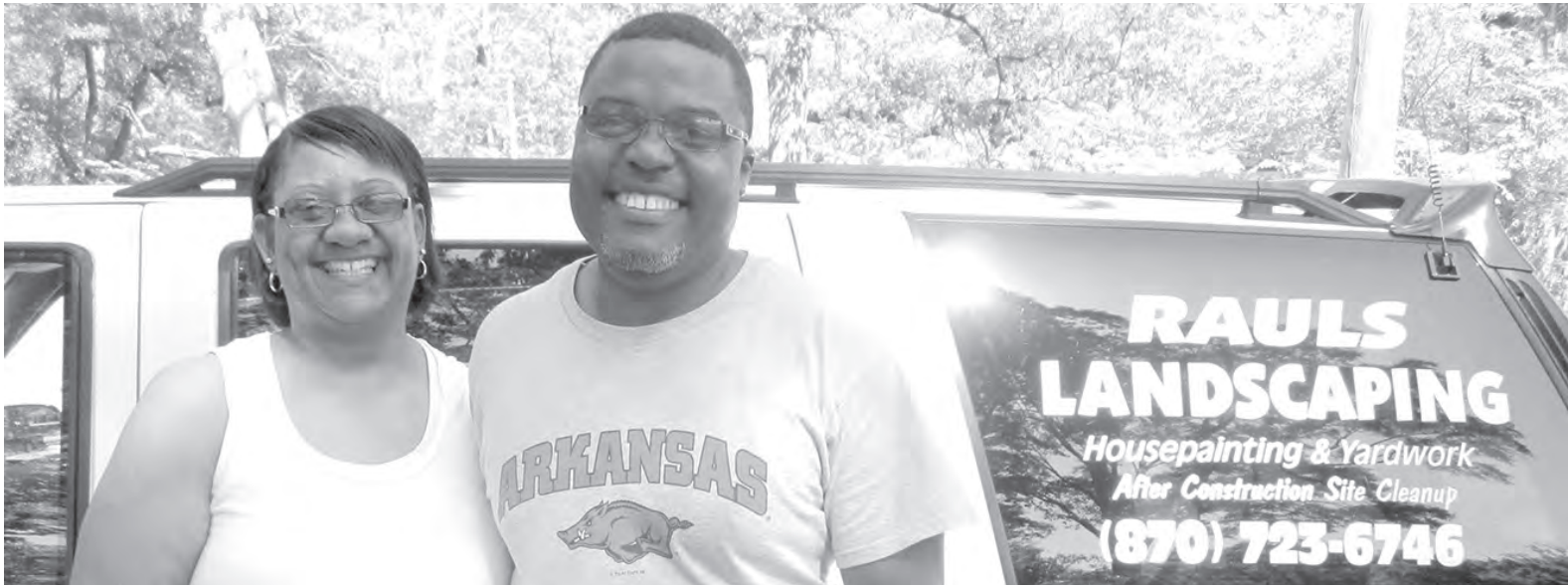


Photo by Annette Buzzell/Advance

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,

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BARKADA

JANA WRIGHT

It was nice to wake up to sunshine this morning. Hopefully my yard will dry out before it starts raining again on Thursday. I am enjoying the longer days but not getting up an hour earlier.

Thank you to Pat Leggett for the flowers and conversation on Sunday. I cannot wait to get them in the ground!

I finally got to attend a Daytimers event at the Wilmar Baptist Church. The theme was make a joyful noise. We had fun, food, and fellowship. Cleo Young, Aunt Vivian Brewster, Linda Ferguson, Pat Leggett, Lou Reaves, Wanda Reaves, Jerry Davis and Pat Davis, Joe and Micky Chambers, Jean Owen, Betty Fuqua, Eddie Brown, Tommy Davis and Theresa Davis, Danny Brown, Doyleene (formerly Sturgis) Marvin Terry, Aggie Grant, Ricky Grant, and Holly Shelton was the presenter, and her sister Ashley Hill helped her. Charles Lanehart provided the steak and gravy. Aggie and Linda provided the sides. It was delicious! I hope I did not forget anyone on my list.

Robert and Martha Ryburn were treated to a 60th anniversary dinner at Hoots by their kids. Those attending were Kenny, Debbie, Julie, Robbie, and Lee Pace and Aly, Pax, Cleo, and Wren Rabb. They all had a great time!

I stopped by to visit my Aunt Margaret Tucker last Friday. Her daughter, Lesa Winslow, is in for a visit. I did not get to see

Lesa. Aunt Margaret and I had a nice time.

The 124th anniversary of the Wilmar Baptist Church will be April 2 starting at 11 a.m. We would love for you to come and celebrate with us!

We had a belated birthday celebration for me at Heath and Taylor's house. Those attending were David and Kay Ozment, Heath, Taylor, and Beaux Swain, and me and Shawn. Earlier in the day, we met at Avocado's with David and Kay Ozment, Stacy and Shana Wilson, Jane Harrison, and Judy Jenkins. We had a wonderful time both times!

Congratulations to Addi Stafford on becoming a Monticello Billie cheerleader. All that hard work paid off!

Lisa Schmidt's children and grandchildren were in for Johnathan Adams's birthday. Those attending were Heather Adams, Leada Arthur, and Amelia Richardson, David Roark, and Dylan and Lennon Ludwig. Everyone had fun!

We had an afternoon gathering of some former and present co-workers from Monticello School. Those attending were Lisa Smith, Linda Griffin, Cindy Hudgens, Michelle Lay, Stephanie Brown, Monica Sims, Tammy Stafford, Leann James, and Patricia Jackson. I hope I did not forget anyone. It was nice seeing everyone!

Please send some prayers up for Herbert Bradley. He is having some health issues right now and could really use them!

Happy birthday to my beautiful sister-in-law, Shana Wright,

Do you have any community tidbits?

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

my cousin Brandon Nicholson, my Aunt Margaret Tucker, Aunt Linda Barnett, Kevin Ferrell, Ron Echols, Michelle Carter, Laci Bratton, Shaun Payne, and Jamie Berryman. I hope you all have or had happy birthdays!

My thoughts and prayers are with the family of Mr. Dennis Sawyer. He and Shawn worked together quite a bit in the past, and Shawn was really fond of him. May the Lord lift you up and give you strength during this time.

Please call 870.224.3383 with news or email wrightwom-an_66@yahoo.com. No news is too small! We love to hear about weddings, engagements, babies coming, whatever you want to share. Let's keep these country articles going!

All of the people who write for the news do so without pay. We do it for the communities, but we need news!

GREEN HILL

WANDA PACE

Greenhill Community Baptist Church has a wonderful Sunday

morning service. Brother Caleb's message titled "He's Always Right On Time" from John 11:1-44. There was a baby dedication for Tynslee Rayne Ellis, Woodson Roy Berryman, & Sutton McClain Hawkins. The youth will leave for their trip to Missouri next Sunday after church and potluck. The Easter program is scheduled for April 2, 2023.

Happy Birthday wishes for Cindy McKinstry! I hope you have a blessed day!

Aunt May called me one day last week. She is doing well and I enjoyed our telephone visit.

Cindy McKinstry of Little Rock came Saturday, March 4, to attend the Gospel Singing at Greenhill Community Baptist Church. Also, she attended the services at First United Methodist Church in Warren on Sunday with her stepmom, Liz McKinstry & stepsister Colleen Watkins. She ate lunch with them & Phyllis Barnes after the services. She visited with her Uncle Jimmy Cockrell while she was in Greenhill.

The time change usually takes a little getting used to but on the plus side spring is on the way! I wish you all a great week!

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

If you have any news to share please call me or message me on facebook.

Have a safe and blessed week.

LACEY

IVANELL HANDLEY

Hello readers! I hope everyone remembered to move their clocks forward and that you were able to make it to church on time as well as the other events on your Sunday schedule.

Sunday services were blessed at Mt. Olive AME Church, Lacey. The Sunday school lesson subject was "A Child is the Greatest In the Kingdom"; the lesson scripture Matthew 18:1-9 and Mark 10:15; the focus scripture was Matthew 18:1-9. The key verse Matthew 18:4 NSRV "Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

A blessed word from Pastor Jessie Washington, his thought

was from Genesis 2:1-7 and the subject was "A Man Called Adam".

The choir did a great job as well. Visiting Sunday was Bro. Fredrick Hardin. The Quarter Conference will be held at Mt. Olive AME, Lacey at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 19, 2023.

I chatted with Mary Junior on Friday and with Shealie Wilson on Saturday.

Prayers to Sandra Cherry and her family in the loss of her mother; also prayers for her husband who is sick. Continued prayers for those that are sick and shut-in to include: Joyce and Sam Brown.

Thought for the week: "Every storm is part of your journey. Yes, you will make it through this one, too. You will come out stronger than you were before. Author Heather Stillufen.

POSSUM VALLEY

KAY CRAIG SPURLOCK

Hello and welcome back, y'all! This has been a week of wonderful weather and not so wonderful

See COUNTRY Page 5B

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Be still

He says, “Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”-Psalm 46:10
My wife and I have two kids still at home. A daughter graduating high school and a son who will be starting high school next year. Our other two boys are now young married men. We recognized long ago that life operates in seasons. Sometimes those seasons are cyclical and sometimes we have stepped into a season that we have never experienced before.
Our daughter’s senior year of high school is full of “lasts”. Last time to cheer, last prom, etc. Our son is playing all the sports. Well not “all” but it feels like it. School ball, league ball, travel ball. So the season that we’re in is busy to say the least. There are weekends my wife is going in one direction with one kid and I’m in another direction with the other one. It feels like we’re moving 90 miles an hour. Slowing down just long enough for the Wendy’s drive-thru.

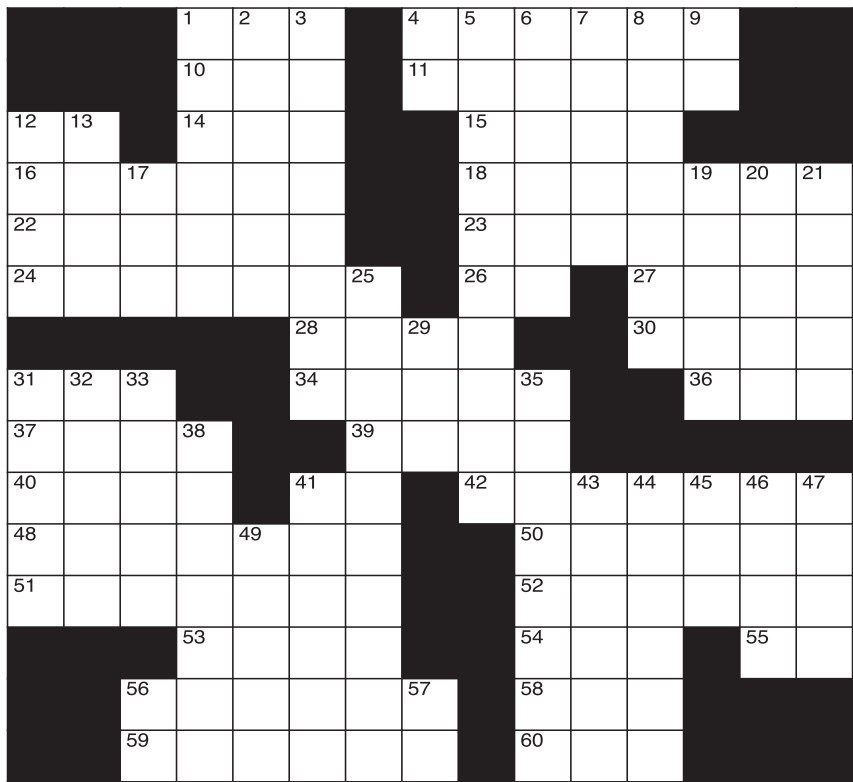
Although I’m thankful for this season, I wouldn’t miss these times with these people for anything. And busy seasons are also unavoidable. It may not be young kids and sports, it could be a heavy work schedule with travel. Or it could be caring for an elderly parent which requires more time that you imagined. But I want to encourage you. Even though you are in a busy season you can still find a healthy rhythm and pace. We can still create the time for rest. Not a vacation spa treatment but moments everyday where we can, as the Psalmist writes, “Be still”.
When you and I take the moment to be still, to breathe and pray. God will remind us that He’s still here. He’s still giving strength during this season. God is still God and He’s on His throne. So in between appointments and school drop offs, between work and ball games, take a moment. Stop, be still know God is right beside you. Praise Him for who He is and what He’s done and carry on.
*By: Timothy Parke, Lead Pastor
New Life Assembly of God*

COUNTRY

Continued from Page 4B
ful weather. I’ve lived in Arkansas for long enough that I shouldn’t be surprised at how crazy and fluctuating the weather can be. On Monday, the weather was sunny and warm, which is perfect for butterflies. On those days I spend as much time as I can searching among the newly emerged wildflower weeds in the yard. I’ve become one of the nature nerds who chooses not to mow until the dandelions, Bluets, Spring Beauties and Johnny Jump-ups stop blooming. I’ve had a few Black Swallowtails,

Pearl Crescents, Orange and Yellow Sulphurs fluttering about the yard on the sunny days. I actually saw a new butterfly one day. It was white which I assumed was a simple Cabbage White. There was something different about it though. I submitted the picture to a butterfly identification site on Facebook and found out this new flutterby was a female Fulcate Orangetip. One of my nature loving friends in Warren had just seen a male Fulcate Orangetip the week before. There’s also been a Tiger Swallowtail teasing me for a few weeks now. It just flutters through the yard, never stopping to sample any of

the nice blooming flowers available for it.
I’m still checking my hummingbird feeder everyday for the first hummer of the year. Nothing yet, but they’ll be here soon. I’m exciting for this year because I’ll be able to watch them more since I’m retired.
I’ve noticed the wisteria vines are blooming down at the old house place. Wisteria is not a native plant. In fact they’re considered an invasive. They sure are purty though, aren’t they? I did see my FOS, first of season, Black and White Warbler during one of my excursions to the creek. I had pointed my binoculars
See **COUNTRY** Page 6B



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Belonging to a thing
- 4. Pass or go by
- 10. Partner to cheese
- 11. Subjects
- 12. U.S. State (abbr.)
- 14. Bits per inch
- 15. Forest-dwelling deer
- 16. Illinois city
- 18. A salt or ester of acetic acid
- 22. Wholly unharmed
- 23. Cuddled
- 24. Bane
- 26. Global investment bank (abbr.)
- 27. Oh my gosh!
- 28. Arrive
- 30. Famed Spanish artist
- 31. Home of “Frontline”
- 34. Group of quill feathers

- 36. Keyboard key
- 37. Army training group
- 39. Detail
- 40. Pole with flat blade
- 41. Football play
- 42. Makes unhappy
- 48. Island in Hawaii
- 50. Back in business
- 51. Of an individual
- 52. Painful chest condition
- 53. Tropical American monkey
- 54. Matchstick game
- 55. For instance
- 56. Even again
- 58. Popular beverage
- 59. Evaluate
- 60. Time units (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Stain one’s hands
- 2. Nocturnal hooved animals
- 3. Back condition
- 4. Popular movie alien
- 5. City of Angels
- 6. Peaks
- 7. Infantry weapons
- 8. Left
- 9. Atomic #99
- 12. Told a good yarn
- 13. Vale
- 17. Resistance unit
- 19. Aquatic plant
- 20. Bluish greens
- 21. About some Norse poems
- 25. Reinforces

- 29. Egyptian mythological goddess
- 31. Supportive material
- 32. Subatomic particle
- 33. Expired bread
- 35. Cereal grain
- 38. Goes against
- 41. Walkie __
- 43. One who does not accept
- 44. Beliefs
- 45. Indicates near
- 46. Brazilian NBA star
- 47. Grab quickly
- 49. Romantic poet
- 56. College dorm worker
- 57. Set of data

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COUNTRY

Continued from Page 5B

up into a Sweet Gum tree and saw it foraging up, down and around the trunk. I was so excited to see it. There was another little nondescript, olive drab bird, too, which I was unable to identify.

Friday we had a local construction crew, South Ark Improvements, at the house for some long awaited, much needed home repairs on the back of the house. They made pretty good progress until some breakers blew because our power is just not strong enough to support all the tools and air compressors running at the same time. They managed to figure a way to continue with help from Kellum Electric. We talked to them about upgrading our electrical, too. We had another little issue arise when door I ordered didn't fit meaning they had to call Barton's and order another. Hoping it will come in in a few days. There are several other little jobs that need doing and we'll get those done as we can. But, improvements are being made. Slowly but surely.

Saturday evening, Rick and I went with some friends to Sardis Missionary Baptist Church in Grapevine, AR for a good ol' southern gospel singing by the Holcomb Family. Afterward, we stopped in Watson Chapel for a late supper. It was a late night and we barely made it home before the storm hit. That plus the time change made for a short night for us old folks. Sunday afternoon was spent trying to recoup some of that lost sleep.

Sunday morning we were blessed with a message from Bro. Steve Jacks. Bro. Jacks has become a regular on our schedule of fill-in preachers and we always enjoy his messages. Bro. Steve started on a message on faith from Hebrews chapter 11, which he as unable to finish. We've already scheduled him to come next month to hear the rest. Eddie and Leona's daughter, Tammy and family, were visiting over the weekend. It is always good to see them again.

Corny joke time! What do you call a sad strawberry? A blue berry!

I'm going to end with a portion out of my study bible in Hebrews chapter 11, the faith hall of fame, that I noticed during Bro. Steve's message on faith. "Faith means we cannot see the outcome, we are not sure what lies ahead. But we are convinced of the reality of God. In other words, "We're not sure what the future holds, but we know who holds the future." Faith means clinging to the hope that God will eventually triumph; He will come back to earth in judgment, to reward those who have sought after Him. And so we obey. We do God's bidding, even when submission is hard. Faith is never easy. But the more convinced we are of the reality of an all-good, all-powerful God, the more our trust will grow, and the less we will be overwhelmed by doubts and temptations." Come join us on Easter Sunday when Bro. Steve will conclude his message on faith.

That's about it for this week's column. Until next time, please, try to enjoy being outside even when everything is covered in pollen creating all kinds of nasal havoc. We are currently keeping the Kleenex company solvent. Although there's been enough rain to keep the pollen down to a bearable level and it's always worth it to get out and enjoy God's gift of nature. See y'all next week. And as always, thanks for reading me!

WILMAR
TERRY HOPSON

Hello everyone! It's another day's journey and we blessed to be here. How did waking up this past Sunday to the "Spring Forward Time," suite your fancy? Beside running a little late, thank the Lord, we woke up!

Greater Shady Grove AME church had a wonderful lesson "A Child Is The Greatest In The Kingdom", Matthew 18:4. This lesson proved true to me. My smallest student Justin Hart, stood and told the church school what he learned from his lesson. He is usually shy and does not say anything. God is trying to tell us something, y'all. The sermon by

Rev. Marvin Mosby was on point, John 19: 22-27, his subject was "At The Cross".

Easter is just around the corner. If you are like me, start getting those speeches out and get organized for the Easter program. This year, I will have my sister Mayor TAP helping to get it together. Thank God for the help. If you are participating in the giving portion in Lent, by March 12 you should have 16 coins or whatever you will be turning in to your Church School or Sunday School on Easter Day.

Remember last week we stopped on Tuesday with the Lent activity, so now we are ready to start on Wednesday, March 15 - no TV.

Thursday, March 16 - call someone and tell them you love them.

Friday, March 17 - Matthew 28:19-20.

Saturday, March 18 - no juice.

Monday, March 20 - take Gus for a walk.

Tuesday, March 21 - Psalm 46:10.

Wednesday, March 22 will be in next week's article.

Congratulations to Gregory Jones, he is the son on Elmarie and the Late Lamar Jones, on receiving his State of Arkansas Educator License. I believe male teachers are needed in this area. You may feel this is late in your life to be achieving your goals but I believe it's just right. Follow your heart. May God bless you on your journey.

The Love Program honoring Sis. Carol Jones Hooper at St. James AME Church in Warren, on Saturday March 11 was very nice and well presented. What a wonderful gesture, receiving your flowers while you yet live. They told us the program was live to you, "Whoopi", as we loving call her. I hope it put a smile on your face and joy in your heart. Love you girlie and get well soon is our prayer. Thank you Jesus, amen.

Pray for Dennis Riley, Chris Riley's son. He had a stroke on Thursday, March 2. Once he was transported to St. Vincent Hospital in Little Rock, he had to another stroke. Even though it is hard what he and his family are dealing with, remember we have a Father

who can make the impossible, possible. When prayers go up blessings comes down.

Chris informed me that Marilyn Reed, Marcell Davis, Chevonne Riley, Mark Shelby, and Waldell Wright came by to visit Dennis.

Ms. Riley, sends condolences to Joedean and Evelynne Gardner in Los Angeles, they lost their son, Joe Gardner.

Prayers for our cousin, Patrick Jones who is scheduled for surgery soon. May God be with the surgeon and his team. In Jesus name, amen.

Happy Birthday to Erma Jean Jones, Barry Woodard, James "Yit" Riley, March 12.

Chris Riley wants to express her excitement being serenaded by her children on her birthday.

Keep your mind stayed on Jesus, and the world would be a better place. For the Lenten Season, remember to fast, pray, give.

SUDOKU

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

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Fun By The Numbers

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Answers can be found on Page 2B



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