



Newton County Times

Wednesday, April 21, 2021 Vol. 102 Number 16

Public hearing set to create CATPC

By JEFF DEZORT
Newton County Times

The Jasper City Council will hold a public hearing at 6 p.m., Tuesday, May 4, at City Hall, to hear comments on a proposal to form a City Advertising and Tourism Promotion Commission (CATPC) which would require the council to pass an ordinance establishing a sales tax on prepared food sold inside the city limits.

A meeting was held last March 24 with city officials and restaurant operators to discuss the possible formation of a CATPC and passage of a hamburger tax.

Also attending the meeting was Matt Bell, executive director of the Harrison Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB). He explained how the CVB is funded through a voter-approved sales taxes on hotel/motel rooms and prepared food in Harrison. Most of that revenue is used to promote the city, to recruit more conventions to the city and fund festivals to draw visitors.

The CATPC sets forth guidelines for any expenditure of the funds collected, Bell explained. Payment of the tax is made directly to his office and any expenditure must be approved by the commission that functions autonomously.

Funds could be expended on whatever the commission deems tourism-worthy, Bell said.

How Jasper sets up its commission would be established in an ordinance.

Jasper Mayor Jan Larson said tourism is the heart of Jasper's economy. However, the municipal government does not have funds to legally promote or fund special events that would bring more visitors to the town and the surrounding area. A hamburger tax would make that possible.

There are limitations for what the tax can be spent on. Larson said though there is a need for public restrooms in town, these funds cannot be used to build them.

Larson said the state already collects a 2% tax on nightly bed rentals for tourism promotion, and city officials do not want to add on another tax on those businesses.

City council has the authority to impose by ordinance a hamburger tax up to 3% without holding an election. City council members Todd Parker and Lindsey Graham said 1% would be all that the council would consider, if the businesses support it.

At the April 15 city council meeting, Parker and Graham said that while the restaurant operators were not ecstatic about the idea of another tax, they did see the overall advantages of it.

It was related that the operators are currently concerned with rising

See CATPC, 2A



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Jasper FFA Agronomy team competed in the State Career Development Event Contest in Hot Springs. This is their 4th time they competing in this contest. After placing 3rd in both 2018 and 2019 the team, consisting of Bailey Kilgore, Sydney Roberts, Rebekaha Murphy and Jonay Morgan, have won the State Championship. They will go on to compete in the National Agronomy Competition in Indianapolis next fall.

Jobs available. Apply at Bradley Park, Friday

Staff Report

The city of Jasper is holding a spring information and job fair at Bradley Park Friday, April 23, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mayor Jan Larson said during Thursday night's city council meeting there will be several businesses conducting job interviews at

this event, so anyone needing work might find a job to their liking. She said about 40 area businesses and agencies have either reserved space at the fair, or have indicated they would.

Info/Job Fair 2021 is designed to provide education and job opportunity information to the

public. Larson said she was surprised when she learned there will be job interviews conducted on the spot.

Among the concerns participating with job opportunities awaiting are: Ozark Cafe, Blue Mountain Bakery, WorkForce,

See JOB FAIR, 2A

DEATHS

Thomas W. (Tommy) Bunting Sr., 71
Stephen David Clanton Jr., 62
Thomas Reece, Sr., 86
Mary Romero, 81

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FILE PHOTO

The Jasper Volunteer Fire Department is one of several emergency response agencies serving Jasper and Newton County. The Newton County Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meets regularly to update members on issues that can make them better prepared to meet any emergency.

LEPC discusses 911 status

Staff Report

The Newton County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met for the first time in over a year, Tuesday morning, April 13, at the courthouse. The monthly meetings were suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Jasper Volunteer Fire Department Chief Pam Emerson led the meeting as a leadership vacancy developed during the hiatus. David Faught, who had been serving as the committee chairman since taking over for Marc Lowery in April 2019, resigned, Emerson said.

Attending Tuesday's meeting were Newton County Office of Emergency Management Coordinator Ashley

Campbell, Jasper Mayor Jan Larson, Byron Mann of the Jasper United Methodist Church, Mitch Brasel of Ritter Communications, EMS operations manager at North Arkansas Regional Medical Center Scottie Trammel, Jasper Postmaster Mike Black, Linsey Hughes of the National Park Service, Jeff Dezort of the Newton County Times and others including Newton County Medical Officer Dr. Jacky Dunn and Ron Lemley.

Taking up where the committee left off in June 2019, items for discussion Tuesday included 911 addressing, Jasper's emergency alert siren, emergency operations training, the need for an emergency shelter with

See LEPC, 2A

Jasper passes residential building code

By JEFF DEZORT
Newton County Times

The Jasper City Council met Thursday night, April 15, and passed an ordinance regulating the residential building code for the city.

The ordinance defines multi-family and single family dwellings and permitted uses of residential structures.

These do not include travel trailers or single-wide mobile homes, but may include double-wide mobile homes or modular homes that have tongues, wheels and axles permanently removed after the unit is placed on a permanent concrete slab foundation or other approved foundation.

The exterior shall be situated and maintained to give the appearance of a site-built home.

A residential structure replacing a structure in place at the time of this ordinance must meet requirements as approved by this ordinance.

Lot area and setbacks include a minimum lot area of 5,000 square feet for a single family dwelling. An additional 1,500 square feet is required for each additional family unit per lot.

The ordinance also addresses lot widths, the size of front, side and rear yards.

Dwelling size requires a minimum of 750 square feet for a single family and an additional 750 square feet for each additional family unit per lot.

The maximum height allowed by the ordinance is 2 stories.

Permit seekers must apply for a permit with the city clerk at city hall. Permit requests will be approved in a timely manner. If the city takes no action on a permit request within 45 days, the permit is assumed to be approved.

See CODE, 2A



SENIOR CENTER PROVIDING MEALS

The Newton County Senior Activity and Wellness Center in Jasper continues its curbside pickup from 11:30 to noon, Monday through Friday, announced center director Nickie Henderson. She asks payment be made by check org exact change. Seniors 60 and older eat free though a \$3 donation is appreciated. All others pay \$6.60 which includes tax. All Meals include 8 ounces of 2% milk.

Upcoming events:

- Wheels for Meals Parade, Saturday April 24.
- Fish fry, Friday, April 30, 3-6 p.m

April 22-28 Menu

- Thursday** - Beef and cheese nachos, refried beans, fruit of the day and angel food cake.
- Friday** - Chicken tenders, homestyle fries, steamed broccoli, biscuit and lemon bar.
- Monday** - Chili macaroni, Mexican corn, wheat bread and mixed fruit cup.
- Tuesday** - Cream of potato soup, crackers, dressed turkey sandwich, potato saad and gelatin.
- Wednesday** - Crumb baked fi h, macaroni and cheese, seasoned spinach, dinner roll and peaches.

FOL plant sale ready to bloom, again

JASPER — The Newton County Friends of the Library will hold their annual Spring Plant Sale on Thursday and Friday, April 29 and 30, and on Saturday, May 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day, or as long as plants last, announced Kenya Wendel, director of the Newton County Library.

Plants will be divided into 3 lots for the 3 days so that shoppers have access to the same types, quality, and quantity of plants each day. If anyone would like to donate plants to the sale, plants can be dropped off t the library. If anyone needs help digging plants or cannot bring plants to the library, please call the library at 870-446-2983, and staff ill contact a volunteer.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the FOL have planned the 2021 Spring Plant Sale with adaptations to encourage neighborly commitment to each other's well-being. By holding the event for three days instead of one



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

day, the FOL hopes that shoppers will stagger their visits and avoid crowding. The FOL and the Newton County Library strongly encourage attendees to wear masks or face coverings and to maintain a 6-foot distance from others, including plant sale workers, when possible.

Regarding parking during the plant sale, please be respectful and careful when parking or driving through the library parking lot. The north or right side of the library parking lot

(closest to the car wash) will be reserved for those using the library and the library's wi-fi. The south or left ide (the side with the round building) will be for those shopping at the Spring Plant Sale. Ad-ditional overflow parking will be available at the former laundromat next door to the library.

The plant sale is typically the FOL's largest fundraiser of the year. Due to Covid-19, the FOL was unable to hold its annual plant sale in 2020. The FOL supports the Newton County Li-

brary through fundrais-ing and volunteer eff rts. The FOL raises money for needs that exceed the library's budget, such as the digital library sub-scription which provides ebooks, audiobooks, and some streaming video to library patrons, including all students in Newton County school districts.

“The FOL and the Newton County Library are grateful to support our community and appreciate the support of our community in return,” Wendel said.

Crossroads Wheelers hosting Poker Chip Ride

The Crossroads Wheelers will be hosting a Poker Chip Ride Saturday, May 1 to benefit Informed Choices Women's Center. Registration will be from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. at Mack's Pines in Dover, located at 22816

SR 7 North.

Cost is \$25 per driver—addi-tional hands are \$20.

Each OHV is responsible for \$3 National Forest day use fee. Envelopes will be at the sign-up table.

Instead of choosing a card and a poker hand, draw chips! Chip values will be posted at the end of the ride.

More information and pre-registration available at Cross-roads Wheelers Facebook page.

What's going on

Due to the coronavirus pandemic regular monthly meeting schedules may be suspended.

Jasper Kiwanis Club meets 11:30 a.m. on Wednesdays at the Ozark Cafe.

Al-Anon Meeting, a support group for family and friends of alcoholics. We have resumed our meetings every Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Methodist Fellowship Hall, 400 Clark St. in Jasper. Please wear a mask. You can also join us via Zoom. For more information, call 479-857-8281 or 712-898-8390.

The monthly board meeting for Newton County Healthcare Association, Inc., meets the last Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 27, at 5 p.m., in the Conference Room of Newton County Nursing Home.

Newton County Historical Society meets the last Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Bradley House Museum in Jasper. Public is invited. The next meeting is April 27.

Newton County Single Parent Scholarship Board meets the first Monday of each month, at 3 p.m., at the Jasper Christian Church. Next meeting is May 3.

Jasper Community Garden members meet on the first Monday of each month at the Jasper United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall at 5:30 p.m. The next meeting will be May 3.

The Newton County Quorum Court meets the first Monday of each month at the courthouse beginning at 7 p.m., unless the first Monday is a holiday, then the quorum court meets on Tuesday night. The next meeting is May 3.

Public hearing and special Jasper City Council meeting Tuesday, May 4, at 6 p.m., at City Hall to hear comments on a proposal to form a City Advertising and Tourism Promotion Commission (CATPC) which would require the council to pass an ordinance establishing a sales tax on prepared food sold inside the city limits.

The Western Grove City Council meets the first Tuesday of the month. The council meets at 7 p.m., at the Western Grove City Hall. The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 4.

The Newton County Cancer Support Group meets at 12:30 p.m., the first Wednesday of the month, at the Senior Center in Jasper. Next meeting is May 5.

Friends of the Newton County Library meets at noon on the second Monday of every month, at the library on state Highway 7 South. The next meeting is May 10.

The Deer/Mt. Judea Board of Education meets at 6:30 p.m., on the second Monday of each month. Meetings will alternate between campuses. The next regular meeting of the Deer/Mt. Judea Board of Education will be at 6:30 p.m., Monday, May 10.

Newton County Hometown Health Coalition meets the second Thursday of each month at the Newton County Special Services Learning Center on West Clark Street, at 10 a.m. The next meeting is May 13.

The Newton County Resource Council meets the second Thursday of each month, at 5 p.m., at Jasper City Hall. The next meeting is May 13.

Jasper Board of Education meets the third Monday of each month, at 6:30 p.m. at the Jasper School Library. The next meeting will be Monday, May 17.



LEE H. DUNLAP/STAFF

An 85-year-old Harrison man was killed Friday morning, April 16, when the vehicle he was driving ran under the trailer of an 18-wheeler backing into Pace Industries on the Bypass.

Man killed in crash with big rig

Staff Report

Harrison Police say a Harrison man was killed early Friday morning, April 16, when his vehicle ran under the trailer of an 18-wheeler backing into the loading dock at Pace Industries on the Bypass.

A police log shows the crash was reported just before 6:30 a.m.

Harrison Police Assistant Chief J.R. Cagle said Rex Savage, 85, of Harrison was northbound on U.S. Highway 65 in a 2005 Nissan Altima.

Tucker Chagnon, 41, of St. Joe was backing a 2009 Freightliner with a trailer into the loading dock from the center turn lane.

Cagle said the initial investigation indicates Savage didn't see the big rig and ran under the trailer.

Cagle also said the investigation was still underway Friday morning.

Harrison Fire and Rescue and North Arkansas Regional Medical Center EMS were also on scene.

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Happy Retirement to
Glenna Ragan & Family!

The Holt/Ragan Family turned the keys over to the Conner and Collie Families on December 18th, 2020. Pictured L-R, Kerry Ragan Wantuck, Kent Patrick Ragan, great-grandchildren of L. C. Holt, and Jackie Conner, Conner and Carson Collie, John Conner, Phillip and Rachel Collie, the new owners of Holt Memorial Chapel.

PARDON OUR PROGRESS AS WE BEGIN RENOVATION

Thomas Reece, Sr., 86

Thomas E. Reece, Sr., 86, died in Fayetteville, Monday, April 12, (2021). Private graveside services were held at Sand Hill Cemetery in Yardelle, with Derwin Martin officiating. Arrangements under the direction of Coffman Funeral Home of Harrison. Memorials may be made to Sand Hill Cemetery Fund, HC 32 Box 167, Hasty, AR, 72640.



the Mississippi Department of Transportation a"er over 20 years employment as a mechanic.

He attended Yardelle Chapel. He and his wife moved to Newton County in 2006 a"er Hurricane Katrina.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Everett "Doot" Reece and Rosella "Buck" Hill; his wife of 64 years, Leler "Rita" Reece and a son, Thomas E. "Rusty" Reece, Jr.

Thomas is survived by his daughters, Wanda Graham, of Western Grove and Colleen Rawlings, of Biloxi, Mississippi and his sister, Barbara Banks, of Biloxi, Mississippi.

Restaurant revitalization funding available

WASHINGTON — SBA Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman has announced key details on application requirements, eligibility, and a program guide for the Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF). The restaurant industry has been among the hardest-hit sectors during the economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. To help bring jobs back and revive the industry, the American Rescue Plan, signed into law by President Joe Biden, established the \$28.6 billion Restaurant Revitalization Fund at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The SBA will administer the funds to the hardest-hit small restaurants.

"Today, we are starting the process to help restaurants and bars across the country devastated by the pandemic, and this is our message: Help is here. With the launch of the Restaurant Revitalization Fund, we're prioritizing funding to the hardest-hit small businesses – irreplaceable gathering places in our neighborhoods and communities that need a lifeline now to get back on their feet," said SBA Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman. "And, thanks to clear directives from Congress, we're rolling out this program to make sure that these businesses can meet payroll, purchase supplies, and get what they need in place to transition to today's COVID-restricted marketplace."

Administrator Guzman emphasized, "We're also focused on ensuring that the RRF program's application process is streamlined and free of burdensome, bureaucratic hurdles – while still maintaining robust oversight. Under my leadership, the SBA aims to be as entrepreneurial as the entrepreneurs we serve – and that means meeting every small business where they are, and giving them the support they need to recover, rebuild and thrive."

Under this announcement, details on application requirements, eligibility, and a program guide are now available in English at www.sba.gov/restaurants or in Spanish at www.sba.gov/restaurantes.

Ahead of the application launch and over the next two weeks, the SBA will establish a seven-day pilot period for the RRF application portal and conduct extensive outreach and training. The pilot period will be used to address technical issues ahead of the public launch. Participants in this pilot will be randomly selected from existing PPP borrowers in priority groups for RRF and will not receive funds until the application portal is open to the public.

Following the pilot, the application portal will be opened to the public. The official application launch date will be announced at a later date. For the first 21 days that the program is open, the SBA will prioritize reviewing applications from small businesses owned by women, veterans, and socially and economically disadvantaged individuals. Following the 21-day period, all eligible applicants are encouraged to submit applications.

The groundwork for this announcement is the result of a comprehensive effort to reach out to diverse stakeholders in order to understand the needs and barriers restaurants face in accessing emergency relief aid.

"Local restaurants and bars are being served very good news today," said Erika Polmar, Executive Director of the Independent Restaurant Coalition. "These guidelines were crafted by the SBA after conversations with independent restaurant and bar operators across the country. We are grateful to the SBA for their hard work to make this process as accessible as possible in a short period of time. It is clear the SBA and the Biden Administration care deeply about ensuring businesses struggling the most can quickly and effectively use this relief program, and we look forward to continued conversations and collaboration to ensure this fund works as intended for the independent restaurant and bar community."

Stephen David Clanton Jr.

Stephen David Clanton Jr., 62, of St. Joe, died April 9 (2021). Born May 9, 1958, in Many, Louisiana, the son of Stephen and Carol Price Clanton Sr. Stephen

leaves his sister and many dear friends and family. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Condolences may be left at www.DiamondStateCremation.com

Mary Romero, 81, of Hasty

Mary Ruth Romero, 81, of Hasty, died Saturday, April 10 (2021). A memorial service will be held at a later date. Condolences may be left at www.DiamondStateCremation.com

Born July 1, 1939, in Canyon, Texas, the daughter of Guy and Winnie Garnett Lane. Mary leaves her daughter, Mary Lawrence.

Thomas W. (Tommy) Bunting Sr.

Thomas W. (Tommy) Bunting Sr. of Harrison, died April 17 (2021). Born April 12th 1950 in Dumas, the son of Thomas W. and Bea (Draper) Bunting. Tommy leaves his wife Brenda Bunting and many loving family and friends. A celebration of life is planned April 23. Details and condolences can be seen at: www.DiamondStateCremation.com

Flu season ends with 18 deaths

The 2020-21 flu season could be considered to be a mild one comparing this season's total number of attributed deaths to influenza compared to last season's. The Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) concluded that the total of flu-related deaths totaled 18, compared to 125 reported all of last season.

During flu season, ADH produces a Weekly Influenza Report for clinicians. The report provides information on flu activity in the state. The report also compares influenza-like-illness (ILI) in Arkansas to activity in the U.S. ADH receives reports of only a fraction of flu cases since it only requires reports of hospitalizations, deaths, and outbreaks. Therefore, it is important to understand that the information in the weekly update is representative of the timing and location of activity, but it does not reflect the overall burden of disease. It is presumed that there are many more people actually affected than the report shows. Clinicians and policy makers may find the report helpful in terms of communicating to colleagues and patients about the current status of the flu season.

Report Key Points:

- For Week 14, Arkansas reported "Minimal" or 1 out of 13 for Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI) activity level indicator determined by data reported to ILINet.
- Since Sept. 27, 2020, 2,050 positive influenza tests have been reported to the ADH online database by health care providers. Please note that reported cases reflect only a portion of the actual numbers of flu cases in the state.
- Among flu antigen tests this season that can distinguish between influenza A and B virus types, 38 percent were in influenza A, and 62 percent were in influenza B.



Church Directory

Your Guide to Local Houses of Worship

- BOXLEY -
BOXLEY BAPTIST CHURCH
Sun. School 9:30 a.m. • Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m. • Wed. Adult & Children Bible Study 6 p.m.
Claude Villines, Pastor

- COMPTON -
COMPTON COUNTY LINE BAPTIST CHURCH
Sun. School 9:30 a.m. • Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m. • Wed. 7 p.m.
Steve Emerson, Pastor • 688-2415

- COWELL -
FIRST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF COWELL -
Sun. School 10 a.m. • Worship 11 a.m. & 5 p.m.

- DEER -
DEER BAPTIST CHURCH
Sun. School 10 a.m. • Worship 11 a.m. & 5 p.m. • Bible Study, Wed. 6:30 p.m.
Bill Counts, Pastor • 428-5005

DEER CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sun. Bible Study 10 a.m. • Worship 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. • Kelly Woods, Preacher

- EVERTON -
LIGHTHOUSE FULL GOSPEL CHURCH
154 Hwy 206/Everton Rd. • Sunday School 10:30 a.m. • Worship 11:15 a.m. • Rev. Jerry Marshall, Pastor

- HASTY -
HASTY HOLINESS CHURCH
Sun. School 10 a.m. • worship 11 a.m. & 6 p.m., Angie & Richard Bower, Pastors • 870-429-6122

- JASPER -
THE CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sun. Bible Study 10 a.m. • Worship 11 a.m. & 2 p.m. • Wed. Bible Study 6 p.m.
Anthony McCutcheon, Preacher • 446-2978

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Sat. Prayer 7 p.m. • Sun. School 9:45 a.m. • Worship 10:45 a.m. • Sun. Worship 6 p.m. • Wed., Royal Rangers, Missionettes, Forgiveness Youth Group, Worship 7 p.m.
Brother Steve Holt, Appointed Pastor • 446-2921

FIRST BAPTIST
Sun. School 9:45 a.m. • Worship 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. • Wed. 6 p.m. • Jimmy Dale Huskey, Pastor • 446-5442.

UNITED METHODIST
Sun. School 10 a.m. • Children's Sermon 11 a.m. • Worship 11 a.m.
Byron Mann, Pastor • 870-446-2089

NEWTON CO. COWBOY CHURCH
Sunday 5 p.m. • Newton Co. Fair Grounds • 870-291-9417

TROY WALKER GRACE FOR LIFE MINISTRY -
Sun. Worship 10 a.m. • American Legion Hall, Jasper

JASPER CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Sun. School 9:45-10:45 a.m. • Worship 10:45-11:15 a.m. • For information: 391-1595

LOW GAP FULL GOSPEL CHURCH
Services: Sunday 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wednesday 7 p.m. • Phone 870-861-5855
Pastor Kelvin House

- LURTON -
ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Sun. School 10 a.m. • Worship 11 a.m. • Evening service 5 p.m. • Youth & Children's Wed. 7 p.m.
Stan Taylor, Pastor

- MT. JUDEA -
BETHLEHEM CHURCH
Services 7:30 p.m. Wed. & Sun.
Kenneth Campbell, Pastor • Troy Royce & Paul Martin, Assistant Pastors

MT. JUDEA CHRISTIAN CENTER
Next to the Mt. Judea School • Sun. 10 a.m. • Thurs. 7 p.m. Bible Study
Gary & Nina Johnson, Pastors • 434-5574

- MT. SHERMAN -
MT. SHERMAN ASSEMBLY
Sun. 10 a.m. • Worship 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. • Wed. meal 5:45 p.m. • Services 6:30 p.m.
Raymond White, Pastor • 861-5560

- PARTHENON -
CHURCH OF GOD SEVENTH DAY
Sat. Services 11 a.m. • Wed. 6 p.m. • 1.5 miles • Diamond Cave Rd. • Jason Overman, Pastor 446-5736 or 446-2352

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Charlie Jamison, Pastor • 446-6661

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Sun. School 10 a.m. • Worship 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. • Wed. 6:30 p.m. • 446-5627

For a free listing, call 870-446-2645
- PIERCETOWN -
NEWTON COUNTY BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School: 10 a.m. • Worship 11 a.m. • Wednesday Evening 6:30 Children and Youth ministries • Andrew Campbell, Pastor 434-5988

- SHILOH -
SHILOH UNITED BAPTIST
Sun. School 10 a.m. • Worship 11 a.m. • Every 4th Saturday 7:30 p.m., Jerry Liggett, Pastor

- VENDOR -
BIG CREEK ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m., Worship 10:50 a.m. and 6 p.m. • Wed. 7:00 p.m. Bible study, youth & children's ministries
Phil Pittman, Pastor 434-5517

LOG HALL COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sun. School 10 a.m. • Worship 11 a.m. & 6 p.m., Jim Bohannon, Pastor • 434-6217

- WAYTON -
WAYTON UNITED BAPTIST
Sun. School 10 a.m. • Worship 11 a.m., David Edgmon, Pastor

WAYTON FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday school, 10 a.m. • Worship 11 a.m., Pastor Tony Taylor

- WESTERN GROVE -
ABUNDANT LIFE UPC
Wed. service 7 p.m. • Sun. Worship 10 a.m. & 6 p.m., J.W. Daniels, Pastor

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Extension Corner: *It’s Time to Spring Clean*

By MARSHA HORTON
Newton County Agent, FCS

Mother Nature may be making us wonder this week if it really is Spring, but according to the calendar it is! So with that being stated, sometimes do you really wonder why it is that we do spring cleaning instead of summer cleaning or winter cleaning? After all, once spring is here don't we all want to be outdoors and enjoying the fresh air? I know that I do.

But, the common thing to do is to clean things out in the spring. I suppose that's because spring is all about starting fresh. So, if you haven't done your spring cleaning yet and you're itching to get it done so you can get outside, then you may want to think about getting yourself

all ready for that fresh start that's finally 'about to be upon us:

Make a list of everything you'd like to have done around the house. Organize this list in two different ways. First, organize your list by priorities – what do you really want done this year and what do you not care so much about. You should have three sets based on priority – must be done, would like to be done and doesn't really need to get done. Next organize the tasks in each section by difficulty, creating “hard”, “easy” and “moderate” sets. You'll work on the easiest tasks in the “must be done” column, then the moderate, then the hard and then you can move on to doing the same

thing with what you would like to have done. This system assures that you get the most important things done quickly.

Set aside twenty minutes per day for spring cleaning. Commit to doing a little bit of cleaning every day for the entire season and you'll find that you barely feel like you're working at it at all but your home will be completely clean and organized before summer is here.

Pick one room or closet to start with. This way you accomplish at least one task even if you don't end up getting around to a full spring cleaning this year. Choose the room or closet that you most wish was organized and plan to do that if nothing else. Most likely, you'll find that getting started

with this puts you on track to doing more spring cleaning.

Use the “love it”, “hate it”, “like it” system for getting rid of things. With this system, you go through whatever room or closet you're cleaning and separate everything into the above three piles. Anything in the “hate it” pile gets put in the donation bin without a second thought. Anything that you love gets put back in an organized fashion. The rest can then be sorted through more carefully as to what you want to keep and what should be tossed out.

During this transition from winter to spring let us get to the task of cleaning. By doing the cleaning now, it will allow us to be ready to enjoy

the summer months. Spring cleaning makes us do those chores that we have been putting off, such as, cleaning the oven after it has worked so hard for us during the holidays, or replacing air filters to get ready for an air conditioned summer. It's also a great time to sort through magazines and donate anything you no longer need. Cleaning and de-cluttering at the same time can make you feel lighter, calmer and happier.

For more information about this topic and others please contact the Newton County Extension Office at 446-2240. The Arkansas Cooperative Division of Agriculture is an equal opportunity, equal access and affirmative action institution.

As life goes by

By ELAINE LAUNDERVILLE

Last week: My granddaughter, Mary Margaret, went to her senior prom this weekend. She sent me her picture with her boyfriend, and she was so beautiful, and he was so handsome. Mary Margaret wrote that she was really excited to get to go to prom this year since Covid hit at prom time last year! The COVID-19 is beginning to become a memory. I know

we have much time left, but we are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. If you are getting to go to your prom or have a child or grandchild going to the senior prom, I am sure you are enjoying this year since so many didn't get to enjoy their prom last year!

Not everyone has gotten vaccinated, but many have, and it feels good. I know we must wear our mask for more time, but it will

be worth saving lives and getting back to work.

Have you been out for a drive through the hills? The trees are beginning to bloom. The flowers are out and are beautiful! The trees are becoming different shades of green. It is a lovely time to be alive!

This is the time when everyone wants to get out and plant. It seems like the weather is ready for tender plants to be put out and then, Wham! More cold weather and you are back buying more plants for the second round! It seems like we are ready for a garden and we find we must wait a little longer.

Please go get your COVID-19 shots and be safe. Wear your mask, wash carefully, and watch who you are getting together with.

Sorry I didn't get this emailed last week. If you have grandchildren who use your computer, you will understand when I say they have to be home to help when things don't seem to be right to use the email. You will understand more if you live out in the country where the internet doesn't connect right.

This week: Remember we live in Arkansas! The weather changes on a dime. One day it is garden planting time and the next day it is freezing and a chance of snow. People who live somewhere else are always surprised at the changes we have. We jokingly say, if you don't like the weather now just wait an hour or two. It is never a dull moment!

You may be involved in the end of the school

events. The seniors are finishing up with a prom, finals and anything else they have to do to leave school. Mary Margaret is graduating and also celebrating her 18th birthday. She and her mother, Amanda, are trying to figure out how to have a birthday celebration this week and not finding a day available. Next week is just as bad. Who knows? It may be a surprise when it does happen. We are running into Mother's Day on May 9. That may cause another situation. Oh, fun, fun, fun!

I visited with a friend at church today and she said school is almost over. I remember those days. So much to do to finalize everything to close out the year. Where I worked, we finished all paper work and then we had to pack all the

books, teaching materials and the furniture was stacked and cleaned and everything counted.

We had Unity Sunday at church which means both services pulled together for worship. Bible study before service and then at church we had communion. I could have cried just seeing all the friends go up to receive communion. Then we had a voter's meeting where the youth group prepared the meal. We met and voted on the changes we had to the Constitution after our meeting.

Be sure to wear your mask, social distance and wash carefully. Be considerate of all your friends and family. We can beat this COVID-19, but we must take it seriously. Have a great week!

Gone, but not forgotten:

Columbus and Delia Hudson Farm

1921-1955 Farm complex. Listed in Arkansas Register of Historic Places on 08/03/05

Excerpts from Arkansasheritage.com Part 3

Although he worked in various capacities throughout his life, Lum was primarily a farmer and a timber laborer, owning and operating his own sawmill, which was located on the 300-acre property. He served one term as the Newton County Judge from 1939-1940. Though Lum's term as county judge was short, his one term was a historic one for Newton County, as he oversaw the construction of the present day Newton County Courthouse.

Adath (Greenhaw) Hudson recalls that Lum was one of the only people around who had a truck during the 1930s. She said that he was a kind man who never refused to help anyone. Many times he would transport people across Big Creek (which had to be forded if one was to go to Harrison for supplies) in one of his log trucks if the creek was too high for walking or riding a horse across.

She also recalls that he would drive down to Mt. Judea (½ mile from his home) and pick up many people to take to singing conventions and revivals around the county. Adath recalls:. “We would get all fixed up and Lum would pick us all up down at Judy. We would all pile on the back of his log truck and ride to Deer or Jasper or wherever the singing convention was. By the time we got there, our hair was blown all over the place and we were covered in dust. We just sat on the back of that ole truck and let our legs dangle over the side all the way up the mountain.”

More next week

Alvard killing suspects’ case files unsealed

By JAMES L. WHITE
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The case files on three men suspected in the Feb. 8, 2018, stabbing death of Christopher Alvard and his dog near Eureka Springs were unsealed Wednesday and show details of the 3-year-old killing.

Joshua Loyd Anderson, Charles Ky Hanna and Jason Hartley Helm are all charged with first-degree murder and cruelty to animals in the case that was under investigation for almost three years before they were arrested Feb. 8, the anniversary of the discovery of Alvard's body.

Prosecuting Attorney Robert T. Rogers recused from the case because he had represented “the principal suspect” in the case in several criminal matters in the past, records show.

Little Rock lawyer John “Jack” McQuary was appointed as special prosecutor. The case files were sealed on Jan. 28.

Online court records show that Helm was a suspect in Alvard's murder at least as of Feb. 26, 2018, when Circuit Judge Scott Jackson signed an order to require Helm submit a DNA sample to be tested against evidence collected at the scene.

Arkansas State Police Special Agent Dale Bailey

filed an affidavit requesting the DNA sample from Helm on Feb. 23, 2018.

According to the affidavit, Alvard's family members were unable to make contact with him at his residence on County Road 116 near Eureka Springs. Alvard's mother went to the residence, finding the door had been kicked in and there was a large amount of blood on the porch.

Carroll County Sheriff's Office was notified and responded to the scene, where they discovered the body of Alvard and his dog. An autopsy revealed Alvard had been hit in the head at least twice and had multiple stab wounds. The dog also showed multiple stab wounds, the affidavit said. State Police were asked to help with the investigation.

“During the course of this murder investigation, Jason Helm has emerged as the main suspect,” Bailey wrote in 2018.

Information from sources and interviews indicated Helm had been communicating with people during the timeframe of the murder and was trying to get a ride from the area of Helm's residence.

“Information received stated that Helm has made the statement to an un-

known person that Helm had gotten into an altercation with a guy and his dog and that it went bad and that he thought he left is DNA at the crime scene,” the affidavit said.

Helm was arrested Feb. 16, 2018, on a warrant for parole violation. While held in the Carroll County Jail, Helm allegedly made a phone call, which was recorded, in which he said he thought police had been following him through Facebook because he was using the social media platform through WiFi.

Hanna told investigators that he picked up Helm behind the Eureka Springs School during the time of the killing, the affidavit said. He said Helm didn't seem like himself and was very talkative. He said he took Helm to Anderson's residence. Other witnesses said Helm and Anderson were very close.

Anderson's wife, Mary, told investigators that Hanna had been at her residence and had what appeared to be a serious dog bite he later claimed to be a gunshot wound.

Mary Anderson told investigators that she and her husband had borrowed Hanna's vehicle and there was a plastic bag containing bloody paper towels, toilet paper and a piece of a shirt, the affidavit said.

“She stated Josh made Ky take it out in case Ky had Staph Infection, because Mary had cancer,” the affidavit said. “She agreed to try and find the bloody items, which were in a plastic bag, but she later stated she couldn't find it and that her child

told her Ky had burned a plastic bag.”

That affidavit was sealed in February 2018 as the investigation ensued.

An arrest affidavit filed Jan. 28 of this year said the names of all three suspects kept coming up during the course of the investigation. Attempts were made to interview all three suspects and “one of the three” told investigators that all three were involved in Alvard's death. He said they initially went to Alvard's residence to “rough up” Alvard.

“He said Alvard fought back to the point where at least two of the potential defendants used deadly force armed with knives,” the affidavit said.

Records show Anderson and Helm were being held in the Carroll County Jail, while Hanna was being held for Carroll County in the Boone County Jail. All three have pleaded not guilty and are awaiting further court proceedings.

Helm also faces a single charge of terroristic threatening for allegedly threatening to shoot a woman at a residence at Holiday Island on Dec. 20, 2020.

When asked about the length of the investigation, Bill Sadler, Arkansas State Police public information officer, said the investigative timeline and processes that lead to any arrest are not subjects of discussion pending adjudication.

But Sadler also said investigators never set the case aside and continued gathering evidence and facts essential for a prosecuting attorney to have before filing a criminal charge.

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Sports

Lady Tigers romp Jasper on Senior Night



By **RODNEY BEAVER**

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GREEN FOREST — After a strong start on the softball diamond by both Green Forest and Jasper on Thursday, the offense got hot for one team and cold for another as the game progressed.

Green Forest finished with an 18-6 win on their home field



against the Lady Pirates.

Both squads scored three runs in the first inning.

After Jasper went three up and three down in the top of the second inning, the Lady Tigers went to work.

With one out, Green Forest scored seven-straight batters and added another four runs with two outs.

See LADY TIGERS, 8A

RODNEY BEAVER/STAFF

Jasper's Kaylee Reynolds looks to home plate on Thursday at Green Forest. The Lady Tigers defeated Jasper in the contest.

Branson boys pick up 13 wins at HHS

Staff Report

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HARRISON — Even though the official totals have not been released, there might have been a clear indication that Branson, Mo. won the Rosson Invitational held at Harrison High School on Thursday.

The Pirates won 13 of the 18 events. Clinton High School won three events and Yellville-Summit won the last two events.

Tyler Barrett of Yellville-Summit collected both wins for the Panthers. He was victorious in the shot put and the discus.

Kingston placed in several events. Darian Alexander was seventh in the High Jump with a leap of 5-06.00.

The Yellow Jackets placed in all four relay events.

Placing third in the 4X800 was the team of Zac Root; Xander Stokes; Chism Floyd and Josh Cooper. The squad finished in 10:09.06.

In the 4X200, the Yellow Jackets were fourth in 1:45.93. The relay was run by Root, Stokes, Alexander and Floyd.

A fifth place finish in the 4X100 in 49.83 was Kingston's. The team was Root, Stokes, Alexander and Floyd.

In the 4X400 relay the Yellow Jackets were sixth. The team finished in 4:15.74. The team was Cooper, Root, Alexander and Floyd.

Jasper had three individuals place in the event.

Warren Clark was eight in the High Jump. He finished with a 5-06.00 jump.

Sam Parker picked up a seventh place medal with a Shot Put throw of 36-08.00.

Nate Watts was seventh in the 800 Meter run. He finished in 2:26.18.

Ozark Mountain had Evann Dean place fifth in the Triple Jump with a leap of 38.02.25.



JEFF BRASEL/STAFF

Jasper's Warren Clark leaps in the Long Jump in the track meet held at Harrison High School on Thursday.

Branson walks away with girls' trophy

Staff Report

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HARRISON — Yellville-Summit and Harrison each won three events on the girls side of the Rosson Invitational Track Meet held on Thursday at F.S. Garrison Stadium.

Those wins resulted in a second place finish for Yellville-Summit and a third place finish for Harrison.

Branson, Mo. won the event with 172 points which included six first-place finishes.

Class 1A Kingston finished fourth in the meet with 92 points.

Alex Hill claimed two of Harrison's wins. She won the Triple Jump and the 300 Meter Hurdles.

Clare Barger won the high jump for Harrison.

Three different athletes won individual events for Yellville-Summit.

Girls Results

1. Branson, Mo.	172
2. Yellville-Summit	119
3. Harrison	109
4. Kingston	92
5. Pottsville	42
6. Clinton	31
7. Lamar	29
8. Bergman	15
9. Flippin	13
10. Jasper	11
11. Valley Springs	7
12. Omaha	3
13. Alpena	2

Kambree Gibson won the 100 Meter Hurdles. Janet Ridley claimed the Discus title and Jacey Davenport won the 400 Meter.

Kingston won two relay events. The Lady Yellow Jackets won the 4X800 and the 4x400.

The 4X800 team included: Hope Copper, Libbie Johnson, Jaiden Head and Ashlyn Floyd with a time of

11:44.89.

In the 4X400, Grace Cooper, Johnson, Mellia Johnson and Hope Cooper finished the race in 4:46.76.

A second place finish in the 4X100 Relay in 57.59. Team members included Renee Pittman; Hope Cooper; Libbie Johnson; and Grace Cooper.

Kingston finished second in the 4X200 Relay in 2:02.29. The team consisted of Pittman, Johnson, Hope Cooper and Grace Cooper.

Placing for Kingston in the High Jump was Floyd in fourth with a jump of 4-04.00. Grace Cooper finished sixth in the High Jump was a 4-04.00.

Johnson was seventh in the Long Jump with a leap of 13-11.00.

Lila Hartness was seven in the Triple Jump with a leap of 28-00.00.

See BRANSON, 8A

Track is not an individual sport

One of my favorite things to cover is high school track and field.

Unless it is May and the Class 3A State Track Meet is being held in Green Forest in sleet and snow. I spent more time in my wife's break room boiling water to make hot chocolate for the coaches and volunteers that were out on the field and not able to leave.

There are a lot of individual events, but they all form together to create a team total.

On Thursday at F.S. Garrison Stadium, I watched some kids give it their all outside of their area of expertise for the good of the team.

I am not a runner even though in the last eight months I have completed two half marathons, but I could have competed in some of the relay events on Thursday.

Watching the events, it was obvious that a couple of the 4X800 teams were there for the good of the team.

Those relay groups gathered a few points for their team. Those poor guys were huffing around the track in slow motion, but each step brought the team closer to the team championship.

There are a lot of track athletes that can not hit a baseball. There are a lot of track athletes that can not put a basketball in a hoop.

However, they are athletic and have the skill set to represent their school in the events that track offer.

It is great to see small schools compete with the big ones. I love it that Kingston, who may graduate 20 students this year, competed with the likes of Branson, Mo. and winning some of the events.

If you plan on attending a track event, a bag will have to

be packed. the afternoon portion should include sunscreen and short sleeves. As the event continues. Make sure to have money for the concession stand and long sleeves and two good blankets. One to keep the bottom warm and one to drape over the shoulders.

Track is a great sport. There is a little time to get out and watch an event before they are finished.

Jeff rasel is the sports editor of the Newton County Times. E-mail him at sports@newtoncountytimes.com or follow him at twitter.com/jeffbrasel.



Jeff Brasel

sports@newtoncountytimes.com

LADY TIGERS:

From 7A

Jasper’s response in the top of the third frame found one run crossing the plate.

Green Forest sent another four runners home in the third and then both teams went scoreless in the fourth inning.

Jasper scored two late runs in the top of the fifth inning but Green Forest controlled the double-digit lead to end the game.

Whitney Andreski led the Lady Tigers with four runs. Emma Taylor and Maddie Youngblood each scored three times, Leah Evans and Gracie Youngblood two apiece and Katie Underdown, Chesney Weeks, Allie Snow and Sara DiVall one each.

Jasper was led by two runs each from Caycie Hatfield and Brielle Brasel. Kenzi Stokes and Aubrey Henderson scored one apiece.

BRANSON:

From 7A

Two athletes placed in the 100 Hurdles. Mellia Johnson was sixth in 19.22 and Hartness was seventh in 20.93.

In the 300 Hurdles, Grace Cooper was fifth in 58.40 and Hartness was sixth in 58.93.

Three Lady Yellow Jackets placed in the 400 Meter. Mellia Johnson was second in 1:08.45. Hartness finished fifth in 1:12.83 and Rilee Pittman was sixth in 1:16.28.

Two runners placed in the 800 Meter. Head was sixth in 2:57.11 and Floyd was eighth in 3:03.73.

Floyd and Head finished in the points in the 1600 Meter run as well. Floyd was fifth in 6:33.47 and Head was seventh in 6:43.72.

Kingston had two athletes place in the 3200 Meter. Floyd was fourth in 16:20.29 and Layla Rothwell was seventh in 19:20.41.

Jasper’s Haley Sexton finished in the top eight in three events.

She was fifth in the long jump with a leap of 14:02.5. She was fifth in the 100 Meter in 14.13.

Sexton had a sixth place finish in the 200 Meter. She finished the race in 30.21.

Attendance, touchdowns highlight Red-White game

By NATE ALLEN
nallensports@att.net

FAYETTEVILLE — Presumably most of the announced 18,874 attending Arkansas’ Red-White spring football game came to Reynolds Razorback Stadium hoping to see new starting quarterback KJ Jefferson pick up with big plays to old hand big play receivers Treylon Burks and Michael Woods.

Given that presumption, presume them instantly rewarded.

Jefferson, not new to Arkansas as a third-year sophomore but the first time approaching a Razorbacks season as the starting quarterback, set the tone for Saturday’s spring finale.

Against the first defense opening against the first offense, Jefferson on third and four threw 36 yards to Burks immediately followed by a 33-yard touchdown to Woods.

Just what Coach Sam Pittman and offensive coordinator Kendal Briles ordered and what Jefferson gladly delivered.

“The connection on the deep ball with Treylon and Mike is pretty good,” Jefferson said. “We’ve been working all spring about it. Coach Briles is a huge believer in giving guys a chance on the outside and going up and making plays. We’ve got play-makers. So why not give them a chance? As far as me I put my trust in those guys. They trust me to put the ball in good spots and they are going to make plays.”

And they did.

Working entirely first (White) offense vs. first (Red) defense Jefferson, 6 of 11 for 153 yards without a turnover, also threw a 31-yard touchdown pass to Burks and a 42-yard pass to wideout Trey Knox.

“I thought KJ couldn’t have had a better start,” Pittman said. “He did some really nice things. I think he’s certainly maturing. He’s got command of this team. His teammates believe in him. You have to earn that at quarterback and he certainly has.”

Of course as a head coach also concerned with defense was it discouraging that Burks and Woods were so wide open on their first series catches?

“Well, I mean, you’re always concerned about guys wide open,” Pittman said. “But we have one of the best secondary coaches (defensive coordinator Barry Odom and secondary coach Sam Carter) in the country and they’ll get it fixed. Hopefully it was just a throw and a catch. Barry and Sam will get that fixed. I’m not concerned about it at all.”

Pittman has bragged on the secondary throughout the spring and said the receivers and quarterbacks have had to improve to meet the challenge.

“They (receivers) had had a good spring,” Pittman said. “They have to because the secondary forces you to. I’ve said it multiple times that I’m so proud of the way our secondary plays and the way

that they’re a unit back there.

All-SEC safety Jalen Catalon said he defense can ill afford to start as it did but did but did improve as the scrimmage continued.

The first half, featuring either the White first offense vs. the Red first defense or the Red second offense against the White second defense closed in a 20-20 tie.

The final score, with mostly reserves playing for both the Red and White in the second half, finished with Red ahead, 30-20.

While Pittman acknowledged the offense had more of the best of it in the first half, he noted the defense consistently stopped the offense on third and short and fourth and short.

Jefferson also wasn’t satisfied.

“The running game I feel like we could have done a lot better than we did,” Jefferson said. “We still had some great runs on both sides of the field, but I feel we could have done a lot better just as far as correcting stuff p front. The O-line recognizing who to block. Just some of that stuff, but I feel overall both teams did a great job.”

Pittman said the running game will improve when running quarterbacks Jefferson and second-year freshman backup Malik Hornsby can run fill tilt in games rather than be whistled down in caution jerseys as this the case as tacklers approach in spring and preseason scrimmages to avoid injuries.

Hogs falls short of sweep over Aggies

By NATE ALLEN
nallensports@att.net

FAYETTEVILLE — After first pulverizing then in 10 innings miscue-aided eking by the Texas A&M Aggies in Saturday’s doubleheader sweep, the Arkansas Razorbacks’ comeback in Sunday’s finale fell short of a 3-game SEC West series sweep at Baum Stadium.

Variouly down 10-4 and 11-7, Coach Dave Van Horn’s nationally No. 1 30-6 overall SEC West first place 11-4 Razorbacks fell 11-10 Sunday following Saturday’s 13-0 and 2-1 doubleheader sweep of the Aggies.

Coach Rob Childress’ Aggies, 21-17 overall, and snapping a 7-game SEC losing streak, left Fayetteville, 4-11 in the SEC.

Greenbrier’s Cayden Wallace, and Magnolia’s Matt Goodheart, Arkansas hitting heroes throughout the series, were struck out by Aggies lefty reliever Chandler Jozwiak with the bases loaded ending Sunday’s game.

“Just a tough loss because of the way it finished,” Van Horn said Sunday. “We had a chance to tie it or win it late and we just couldn’t get the bat on the ball. The pitcher they brought in is really good. Give him credit.”

Saturday’s second game hard-luck loser pitching the final 3 1-3 innings, Jozwiak had appeared to pitch out of a 10th inning jam getting Wallace to rap into a likely doubleplay with runners at first and second. However with speedster Wallace busting it down the first base line, Coleman rushed throw went errantly awry scoring the winning run.

“They knew how fast Wallace was,” Van Horn said after Saturday’s game. “When he gets underway out of the box he can go.”

Van Horn was all smiles Saturday after Arkansas’ second

consecutive SEC Saturday doubleheader because of Friday night rainouts.

On Saturday his pitchers gave him two stellar starts and two games of stellar relief.

In the 13-0 opener, Patrick Wicklander pitched 4 2-3 shutout innings before running out of gas loading the bases up 5-0.

Lefty reliever Caden Monke, Saturday’s first game official winner, retired the last batter leaving them loaded in the fifth and pitched scoreless through the eighth.

Heston Tole threw the scoreless ninth up 13-0.

Arkansas’ 13-hit in Saturdays first game included home runs by Goodheart, 2 for 4 with a RBI, Robert Moore, 2 for 4 and two RBI, and Brady Slavens, 3 for 4 with four RBI and a double.

Wallace went 3 for 4 with a double and two RBI.

Van Horn warned his Hogs between games to expect a low-scoring nail-biter for Game Two.

Arkansas starter Peyton Pallette and reliever Kevin Kopps and A&M starter Bryce Miller and Jozwiak proved Van Horn a prophet.

Miller through six innings struck out 10, paid no scoring price for fi e walks and allowed but two hits.

One hit, Goodheart’s first-inning home run, staked Arkansas to a 1-0 lead.

Benton’s Pallette preserved it throwing a 3-hit shutout through six complete with seven strikeouts against no walks.

“Pallette’s start was really good,” Van Horn said. “It was an efficient six innings.”

Kopps, the incomparable 6-0, 1.12 earned run average reliever, took over in the seventh, seeking his fifth save.

He didn’t get it. Kopps hung an 0-2 pitch to Brett Minnich

homering to tie it 1-1 leading off he seventh.

Kopps would yield but one more hit while striking out fi e against two walks through four complete innings.

He was the pitcher of record when Coleman’s errant throw trying to get Wallace scored Moore from second with the game-winner.

“Just a big win for our team and a really good job by our pitching staff all day,” Van Horn said Saturday.

Other than reliever Jaxon Wiggins throwing a scoreless eighth and ninth, Van Horn couldn’t Sunday ditto Saturday’s summation.

Sunday starter Lael Lockhart was lifted without registering a fourth inning out and charged for three runs and fi e hits.

Relievers Ryan Costeiu, charged with the loss, Zack Morris, Monke and Caleb Bolden couldn’t stop the Aggies from scoring.

Variouly they were charged with two, three, two and one runs.

Aggies Will Frizzell and Hunter Coleman each hit two home runs

Two Arkansas errors helped A&M’s cause as did two fifth-inning runs without a hit on two walks and a hit batsman setting the table for a sacrifice fly and RBI infield out.

“The game got away really early from us,” Van Horn said. “We had to go to the bullpen again way too early (the Hogs didn’t any good starts the previous SEC weekend even while winning 2 of 3 at Ole Miss). Didn’t play good defense. Pitched behind in the count all day long,. I think we walked them six times and hit them twice and it seemed like more. But they were just ahead in the count 2-0 and 3-1 a lot and took some really good swings and we didn’t play good. It wasn’t a good day for us.”

Yet they still came back breathing down the Aggies’ necks.

No. 10 Arkansas catapults to series sweep over Georgia

By UA COMMUNICATIONS

ATHENS, Ga. – Behind a four-run first inning, the No. 10 Arkansas softball team recorded its fifth SEC series sweep of the season, defeating No. 20 Georgia, 5-2 at Jack Turner Stadium on Sunday afternoon. The Razorbacks (36-5, 16-2 SEC) are in first place of the SEC standings with six league games remaining.

For the second straight game, Arkansas gave its starting pitcher, Jenna Bloom, a lead before she took the circle as the offense exploded for four first inning runs all via the long ball. Infielder Braxton Burnside slugged her 22nd blast of the year, moving into a tie for the eighth-most homers in a single-season in SEC history, to left iving the Hogs a 1-0 lead. Outfielder Hannah McEwen singled through the left ide and infielder Danielle Gibson walked, setting up catcher Kayla Green’s three-run bomb that she snuck down the left eld line. Green homered for the second time this series and sixth time in her last seven games.

Georgia (27-11, 6-9 SEC) immediately got a run back in the home first on Savana Sikes’ leadoff omer to left, making the score 4-1. After a scoreless second, the teams traded solo shots in the third, with McEwen’s fourth tater of the year going deep into the trees beyond the right field wall, and Sydney Kuma’s shot to right center, bringing the score to 5-2.

Relief pitcher Autumn Storms entered to start the bottom of the fifth and allowed two runners to reach with only one out but induced a 6-4-3 double play to escape the jam. The Bulldogs threatened in the bottom of the seventh, singling with one out. Pitcher Mary Haff ntered after the knock and recorded a strikeout and a flyout, ending the game.

Bloom allowed two runs on four hits and two walks with four strikeouts over 4.0 innings. Both runs she allowed came on solo homers. Storms tossed 2.1 innings of scoreless relief with a strikeout, and Haff otched her team-leading fifth save of the season. Georgia starter Alley Cutting could not escape the first inning and allowed four runs on three hits and a walk. Mary Wilson Avant worked the final 6.1 innings and allowed one run on fi e hits and three walks with eight strikeouts.

The Razorbacks hit three home runs, totaling three or more long balls in a game for the 11th time this season and the second time this weekend. McEwen logged three of the team’s eight hits and is one hit away from reaching 200 for her career. Outfielder Aly Manzo also reached base three times, going 2 for 3 with a single, a double and a walk.

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ANSWER: LAUGHTER

Crossword Puzzle

1		2			3		4
					5		
6							
7							

ACROSS

1. People who work
5. “Laughing out loud”
6. Covers head
7. Emit light or heat in the form of rays

DOWN

1. Action of laughing
2. Inhaled and exhaled
3. First to arrive
4. Showing teeth in a happy way

THIS DAY IN... APR 21 HISTORY

• **1910:** AUTHOR SAMUEL CLEMENS, ALIAS MARK TWAIN, DIES AT AGE 74.

• **1960:** BRAZIL INAUGURATES ITS NEW CAPITAL, BRASILIA.

• **1982:** BASEBALL'S ROLLIE FINGERS BECOMES THE FIRST PITCHER TO RECORD 300 SAVES.

Fishing derbies at Compton

Three children’s fishing derbies are coming up in May at the Compton Fire Department pond on state Highway 43 at Compton.

The American Legion post in Jasper is sponsoring the first event on Saturday, May 1, from 9-11 a.m. COVID-19 protocols will be observed at each event.

The derbies are free for children up to the age of 16.

Busy Beavers 4-H Club will sponsor the second derby on Saturday, May 8, from 9-11 a.m.

The Compton Fire Department will sponsor its 14th annual fishing derby on Saturday, May 15, from 9-11 a.m. Prizes will be awarded. Adults with fishing licenses can fish the pond following the derby.

New word

GIGGLE

laugh lightly in a nervous or silly way

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Joke
SPANISH: Chiste
ITALIAN: Battuta
FRENCH: Blague
GERMAN: Scherz

Did you know?

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GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CLOWNS

Hasty VFD sets bass tournament

The sixth annual Hasty Volunteer Fire Department Buddy Bass Tournament will be held at the the Diamond City boat ramp on Bull Shoals Lake Saturday, May 1, from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Registration begins at 5:30 a.m. the day of the tournament or anglers can pre-register.

The entry fee is \$60 plus an additional \$5 for biggest largemouth bass and \$5 for biggest smallmouth bass. There is a 50% payback of the entry fee. There is a 100% pay back on the largemouth and smallmouth pot.

After the tournament the fire department will serve refreshments for everyone attending the weigh-in.

For more information about rules and pre-registration, contact Josh Campbell, 870-688-3242.

Kindergarten registration at Mt. Judea

Mt. Judea Kindergarten Registration is Thursday, April 22, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Please bring your child’s birth certificate, social security card, immunization record, and proof of a recent physical.

By JAMES L. WHITE

jamesw@harrisonsdaily.com

Judge Fred Kirkpatrick retired from the 4th Judicial District Court on Jan. 1, but last week he returned to the bench in Harrison for a day. The legal world is one he knows well.

He was a 14th Judicial Circuit deputy prosecuting attorney for the lion’s share of 24 years.

Kirkpatrick was elected Boone County District Court judge in 2004 and took the bench Jan. 1, 2005. At that time, the position was actually part-time and he continued in his private law practice as well.

“It did not become full-time for another two years,” he said.

He was in the first group of district judges that became full-time judges employed by the state as the district court system was revised based on the size of the court docket.

In the beginning, he was still Boone County district judge. Eventually the revision continued and he became the 4th Judicial District judge with the addition of Newton and Searcy counties. Alpena District Court is a part of the 4th Judicial because the city had developed a city court prior to the revisions and it was grandfathered in.

After spending 16 years on the bench, he retired and Gail Inman



JAMES L. WHITE/STAFF

Retired 4th Judicial District Judge Fred Kirkpatrick robes up for a session of Boone County District Court last week.

Campbell was elected to succeed him. Ironically, she had been appointed to fill out the remainder of a term that expired when he was first elected in 2004.

Since his retirement, he has still done some district court hearings in Mountain Home. Inman-Campbell was called away last week and Kirkpatrick conducted court in Harrison in her place.

He said there are many things he misses about being on the bench on a daily basis, especially the clerks who run the office.

“Some of us were together for the whole time I was here,” he

said. “It becomes like family.”

Kirkpatrick praised that staff for the modifications they initiated to handle the court system through the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. They often held court from the loading dock of the courthouse for some routine proceedings to

avoid people having to go into the building.

He also misses the actual courtroom and dealing with attorneys. “I am one,” he said with a laugh. “I like attorneys, as a general rule.”

The part he doesn’t miss is the administrative portion of the position, mainly

always having to be concerned with budgets and coordinating an office with four departments.

Kirkpatrick talked about the positive changes Inman-Campbell has brought to the office. It never hurts to have a fresh pair of eyes to a job where one could fall into a rut.

“I always believed in treating people as people, individually, try to be as fair as possible,” he said, although he acknowledged that he often saw some of the same people over and again.

As for the future, he said he will still most likely enter back into the world of law as the years go on.

“I don’t know how to do anything else,” he joked. “But I’m not in a big hurry this very minute.”

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ARKANSAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Northark president Dr. Randy Esters going home

Staff Report

After five years as president of North Arkansas College, Dr. Randy Esters has announced he is returning to his home state of Louisiana where many of his family still reside. Esters has accepted a position as chancellor of Louisiana Delta Community College in Monroe, Louisiana, beginning in June.

“It is said that every season must end and a new one begins,” Esters told employees in an email. “I have been so very blessed to be your president for the past five years and it has been the biggest honor of my career. Together, we have weathered several major storms and emerged stronger after each one. We have fought together and won together. I can never express my gratitude to all of



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

you for taking a chance on me and believing in our shared vision, but I am saddened to announce that my season at this great college has come to an end.”

As Northark’s fourth president, he led the college with distinction, building strong relationships within the community, employees, business and industry, trustees, media and elected officials. Esters is known by many for his monthly appearances on local radio stations and frequent speaking engagements at local special events and festivals. He has maintained an unwavering commitment to seeking input on decisions with a collective team approach while keeping Northark’s brand of being a high-quality, affordable, and accessible education for students at the forefront of the college mission, a press release said.

“The entire college community is saddened by the news that Dr. Esters will be leaving us,” Scott Miller, chair of the Board of Trustees commented. “The Board has been appreciative of the leadership he has given to the college and community. He has been the catalyst that has brought everyone together as a team to improve education and lead students into pathways that provide a skilled workforce for the future.”

A special board meeting will be called in near future to discuss the college’s plans regarding leadership and the search for a new president.

Median teacher pay raised by \$2,000

Staff Report

LITTLE ROCK — Gov. Asa Hutchinson on Monday signed two pieces of legislation that raised the median salary for a teacher by \$2,000 a year.

The bills, one from the Senate, the other from the House, had virtually unanimous support in both chambers.

Hutchinson said the state had earlier raised the minimum teacher salary by \$2,000, but the two bills he signed into law take on the median teacher salary.

The governor said the bills “will make a big difference for the teachers, particularly in the more rural school districts that have not been able to raise consistently the teachers’ salaries in recent years.”

He called it an endeavor to raise teacher salaries to a competitive level with other states. He said the bills also reduce the disparity between the highest and lowest median teacher salaries in the state and provides an additional \$25 million in state funding for school districts. That funding includes \$185

per student for districts that are behind in salaries.

Hutchinson touted other bills regarding education that the Legislature passed, including:

- An increase in school transportation funding.
- A measure giving school resource officers a memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement agencies.
- Creation of the School Safety Board within the Criminal Justice Institute.
- Granting teaching licenses to DACA students and educators.
- A requirement for computer science credit to be required for graduation.
- A bill requiring Holocaust education in public schools.

“These are significant education bills and I think the top of it all is this increase in teacher pay, which is fundamental to our future,” Hutchinson said.

He said \$15 million of the increase will come from the adequacy funding the Legislature passed with another \$10 million from the Educational Adequacy Trust Fund.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sen. Missy Irvin (left, R-Mountain View), chair of the Senate Education Committee, looks on as Gov. Asa Hutchinson signs into law companion bills that increase the median salary of teachers by \$2,000.

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