

Newton County Times

Wednesday, April 7, 2021

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Concern aired over four-day week proposal

By JEFF DEZORT
Newton County Times

DEER — Added time on the school bus and a shrinking safety net for at risk children were the main concerns aired by parents at a special school board meeting held related to a proposal for the Deer/Mt. Judea School District going to a four-day school week.

The meeting was held at the Deer gym Tuesday night, March 30. A second meeting was set for 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 6, at the Mt. Judea school cafeteria.

Superintendent Brenda Napier said the four-day week was a subject mentioned about a year ago. It was put aside until interest was renewed recently. "I feel that at the end of the day we will need to choose one way or the other for next year, because we can move forward with calendars and schedules."

The school board called the community meetings after it received the results of a recent survey of teachers and staff of the school district at the March 16 board meeting. Of the 79 responses 27.8% were "strongly in favor" of the proposal and 27.8% were just "in favor" of



JEFF DEZORT/STAFF

Deer/Mt. Judea faculty members listen to a public presentation on a proposal for the district to go to a four-day school week. Projected on the screen are the results of a student survey on the proposal.

it. Another 16.5% were undecided with the remainder being "strongly opposed" or had "no preference."

Of those staff members surveyed, 69.6% favored removing Friday from the school week. The main concern voiced by staff was for those students who would need day care that one day a week.

Deer School Principal Bill Mizaur narrated the same Powerpoint presentation made

to the board. Research included findings of school districts in Arkansas and other states that had transitioned to a four-day school week. The investigation looked into savings of school funds and other impacts to those schools, initial concerns as well as results.

Little is known about the effects on student outcomes. Results are mixed, Mizaur said. One school study showed statistically significant improvement

in math scores while another shows no significant improvements. There have also been studies that indicate temporary declines in standardized test scores, but they recovered over an adjustment period.

Going from a five-day to a four-day school week is not seen as a big cost savings. Rather it does enhance recruitment and retention of teachers, the findings show. Schools reported fewer student and teacher absences and fewer days of having to pay substitute teachers.

Under the proposal, the ex-

tended school day would begin at 7:35 a.m. and end at 3:55 p.m. Instruction time for core subjects will increase and there would be an additional snack provided in the afternoon. There would not be a reduction in staff salaries.

Arkansas's education department does not require a waiver for schools to go to a four-day week. According to the department, "four-day school week" means an educational program in which all students attend school for
See BOARD, 2A



Patrons of the Deer/Mt. Judea School District attended a special board meeting Tuesday, March 30, to air concerns about a proposed four-day school week. A second meeting will be held at the Mt. Judea school cafeteria at 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 6.

Jasper School District dropping masks

Staff Report

Governor Asa Hutchinson announced during Tuesday's news conference, March 30, he lifted the statewide mask mandate. He also announced that all Arkansas 16 and older are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

After the announcement, Todd Parker, director of curriculum and professional development for the Jasper School District, sent an email to parents stating that the governor and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) are allowing local districts to decide how to proceed with masking for the remainder of the year.

During the March meeting of the Jasper School District Board

of Education, board members voted to no longer require students and staff to wear masks at school once the mask mandate was lifted. Therefore, beginning Wednesday, April 1, masking will no longer be required on any of the school district's campuses, Parker stated. "However, anyone who wants to continue wearing a mask certainly has that option," he added.

State officials said Tuesday that if both people are wearing masks, they will not be required to quarantine if identified as probable close contacts. "This is an incentive for our students and staff who aren't vaccinated and wish to avoid quarantine by continuing to wear their masks while in close proximity with another

person," Parker noted.

He said this is the only thing that has changed in the district's Ready for Learning Plan. "We will continue with staff temperature screenings, sanitizing, hand washing, disinfecting, limiting visitor access to campuses, and social distancing. Our Ready for Learning Committee, which consists of students, staff, parents, and community partners, will be meeting in the very near future, as districts are required to modify their plan and must have it posted for public comment by April 15. You will have the opportunity to provide any input into the revised plan during the public comment period," Parker concluded.

See MASK POLICY, 2A



TIMES PHOTO/JEFF DEZORT

Jasper government officials met at City Hall Wednesday, March 31, with experts in the area of community economic development planning from the University of Arkansas Little Rock/Arkansas Economic Development Institute to begin the process of updating existing city zoning regulations in order to meet goals the city has set out in its Future Strategic Community Plan. The planners said they would come up with an outline of some ordinances and regulations regarding mixed use of property, residential zones and commercial zones, sidewalks, signage and even parking. The city council can review them and see which should be prioritized and help in meeting target goals.

Jasper begins land use regulation study

By JEFF DEZORT
Newton County Times

Jasper government officials met Wednesday, March 31, with experts in the area of community economic development planning from the University of Arkansas Little Rock/Arkansas Economic Development Institute (AEDI) to begin the process of updating existing city zoning regulations in order to meet goals the city has set out in its Future Strategic Community Plan (FSCP).

AEDI worked with the city to develop the plan over a year-long process that included community meetings, surveys and studies. The FSCP was published in July 2020 and has become the basis of choosing projects that benefit business, government or the community and to improve the area's overall quality of life.

Attending the meet-

ing were Mayor Jan Larson, City Administrator Janet Clark, city council member and Planning and Land Use Committee chair Lindsey Graham, public works director and water operator Jacob Collins and the city's attorney R. Dawn Allen from Berryville. From Little Rock were, AEDI director Jim Youngquist, emergency management specialist Miles McDonnell, community economic development planners A. Lamar Hoy, Amber Berg and Logan Benson.

As the FSCP notes, the population of Jasper and Newton County has been on the decline. The city wants to enhance the community and quality of life to attract new businesses and residents.

The plan recommends development should occur in areas

See LAND, 2A

Jasper spring cleanup under way

Starting last Monday, April 5, Jasper Public Works employees are picking up appliances, electronics, tires and other large items during the remaining Mondays of the month. Items will be picked up from 7:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. This pick up will not include yellow trash bags or recyclable items (paper, plastic).

Newton County Recycle Center will pick up their items on its regular schedule.

If you need help moving items to curb, please call 446-2633.

Remaining pickup dates are: Monday, April 12; Monday, April 19 and Monday, April 26. Brush will not be picked up.

Legislature votes to extend session

LITTLE ROCK – The legislature voted to extend the 2021 session until April 30, and then to recess for an extended period rather than to adjourn.

There are several reasons the legislature chose to go into extended recess, rather than adjourn sine die.

The legislature has a duty to redraw the boundaries of the state's four Congressional districts. That will require new population data compiled by the U.S. Census Bureau.

However, the Covid-19 pandemic caused delays in counting and canvassing. Those delays pushed back until September 30 the expected date when census information becomes available.

Another reason the legislature extended its recess is that Arkansas is going to receive federal relief funds under the new American Rescue Plan Act passed by Congress. Initial estimates are that \$2.8 billion will be allocated to Arkansas schools, cities, counties

and state agencies.

The U.S. Treasury Department will set rules on how those funds may be spent, and those rules are not expected to be finalized before April 30.

When the legislature is in recess, the Senate and House can re-convene at the call of their leadership. If the legislature adjourns sine die it cannot. After adjournment the legislature could only re-convene if the governor called a special session, and in

See SESSION, 2A



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Weather

THUR Sunny with a high near 70°	FRI Partly cloudy with a high near 77°
SAT Partly cloudy with a high near 69°	SUN Sunny with a high near 76°

Missouri suspect wounded by police in Mt. Home incident

Arkansas State Police

A man wanted by Missouri law enforcement officers was shot and wounded by a Mountain Home police officer late Tuesday, March 30, after the suspect is said to have pointed a gun and fired at a bail bondsman. The incident occurred outside two Mountain Home businesses in the 800 block of U.S. Highway 62.

Kevin Lee Donovan, 41, of Adrian, Missouri, remains hospitalized in Springfield, Missouri, and is reported to be in critical condition. Neither the Mountain Home police officer nor the bail bondsman were injured.

Mountain Home police authorities have requested the Arkansas State Police to investigate the incident.

Donovan was wanted in Missouri on charges of possession of controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and unlawful use of a weapon. A bail bondsman had located Donovan in Mountain Home and called local police to assist him in taking Donovan into custody.

When the bondsman and police officer confronted Donovan about 7:30 p.m. outside a convenience store, Donovan brandished a gun and began to back away. As the standoff moved off the store parking

lot, Donovan raised the gun and fired at the bondsman. The Mountain Home officer then fired, wounding Donovan.

Special Agents of the Arkansas State Police Criminal Investigation Division continued their work Wednesday questioning witnesses and submitting evidence to the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory.

An investigative case file will be prepared by state police special agents and turned over to the Baxter County prosecuting attorney who will consider the findings to determine whether the officer's use of deadly force was consistent with Arkansas laws.

MASK POLICY:

From 1A

The decision to lift the mask mandate came after the governor, in consultation with Secretary Jose Romero, of the Arkansas Department of Health, determined that Arkansas has met the guidelines set on February 26. Businesses still have the right to require customers to wear masks, and the governor asked that citizens respect these requirements.

"I've talked to a number of restaurant owners who will continue requiring masks within their restaurant for the safety of their employees and patrons," Governor Hutchinson said during his weekly COVID-19 update. "Please be respectful and mindful that, while the mask mandate has been lifted, many businesses will continue to require it."

The Governor also announced that vaccine eligibility is open to all Arkansans 16 and older. "We want Arkansans to get vaccinated because it is our path out of the pandemic. It is the way to get there quicker, and we want to ensure we give every Arkansan that opportunity," Governor Hutchinson said.

BOARD:

From 1A

four days a week but no fewer than the total number of hours required by the Arkansas Standards for Accreditation in a five-day school week."

Mizaur said the state requires 178 student instructional days having 360 minutes of instructional time per day. This does not include lunch time, break time or time between classes. That equals 1,800 minutes per week. Under a four day week, there are 450 minutes of instructional time per day.

The proposed school day would include: First bell at 7:35 a.m., 65-minute-long classes, a 30 minute lunch and a 10 minute break before last hour. The school day would end at 4:07 p.m.

The staff survey showed most teachers would prefer to take Friday's off. If a holiday falls on a Monday, then classes would be held on Friday.

Students in grades 7-12 were also surveyed and those results were shared at Tuesday night's meeting. The results of the survey showed 30.9% of students had no preference while 29.6% were opposed to the change to a four-day week. Another 25.9% of students surveyed were in favor of the proposal and 13.6% said they were undecided.

Parents questioned if the students

understood the proposal. One mother said her child thought the four-day week meant that students would report for class at school four days during the week and one day would be a virtual day where they would work on their lessons at home via the internet.

Napier said students could be resurveyed, but she did not know how young of students would be included.

The parents were also encouraged to fill out a short survey available at the meeting or they could fill out a long form of the survey on-line. Parents who did not know about the meeting or could not attend Tuesday will have the opportunity to attend the April 6 meeting. Announcements were sent home with students and was posted on the school district social media websites, Napier said.

The state funded ABC pre-school at Deer would follow the four-day schedule. Napier responded to one of the first questions posed. The 45-47 minute longer day is a concern for those students. "If there's not breaks and snacks that would make a lengthy day for the little guys and gals."

Napier said the morning arrival time won't change. The afternoon bus ride home will be later.

Parents talked about transportation concerns and time students spend on the bus. More buses and bus drivers will be needed to adjust or add bus routes. Vernie Heydenrich, district transporta-

tion supervisor, said way back when it was decided to pick up students at their home. He advocates bus stops where students would gather to be picked up and dropped off. Besides saving time it would save wear and tear on the bus fleet.

Meeting students' economic needs was a voiced concern. Many parents expressed the need for their children to be in school five days a week due to lack of child care, study times, meals, social interaction with other children and other needs.

A man who said he is a parole and probation officer working in the county said when he heard the school district is considering going to a four day week "scared me to death."

He said he could attest that he has seen kids at home in situations "that would make some of you vomit, make some of you cry, make some of you vow to never let the kid out of your sight. If you've seen what I've seen you would be on board staying on five days."

Board member Andrew Campbell, a pastor, said he and his wife have opened their home as foster parents to many children from around the state, but have not been able to get the opportunity to help children from Newton County. He said there are agencies that are supposed to help those children, not the school. "Hearing your report makes me wonder where they are at."

SESSION:

From 1A

that event the governor also would have the power to limit the issues that could be considered.

During the extended recess, the President Pro Tem of the Senate and the House Speaker may call the legislature back into session for the purpose of completing Congressional redistricting and for distribution of federal Covid relief funds. Another allowed purpose is to consider legislation related to the Covid-19 public health emergency.

Typically, new laws take effect on the 91st day after sine die. This year is far from typical, and under a resolution passed by the legislature new laws will take effect on the 91st day after the April 30 recess.

Some bills have emergency clauses and as always they will take effect as soon as they are signed by the governor.

Fairness in Sports

Both chambers have approved Senate Bill 354, which prevents transgender students from participating in women's sports. Specifically, it allows students to seek injunctive relief and monetary damages if they are deprived of the opportunity to participate in activities because their school allowed transgender students to compete on the female team.

Postponed tax deadlines

The governor announced that May 17 will be the new deadline for filing individual state income tax returns. The IRS has also made the deadline for filing federal returns May 17.

Traditionally the tax filing deadline is April 15. This year the date was postponed to help people whose medical and financial situations got worse during the pandemic.

Universities Go Back to Classroom

The Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas passed a resolution directing its campuses to prepare for in-person classes and activities in the fall. The system oversees five universities, seven colleges and the state's major medical school in Little Rock, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

Arkansas State University at Jonesboro has also decided to return to normal classes in the fall, as has Arkansas Tech University in Russellville.

LAND:

From 1A

where infrastructure and public services already exist, updating city zoning regulations, and reusing and redeveloping existing parcels and structures versus development of vacant parcels.

Larson said in recent months, the city has been faced with several requests for rezoning property within the city for a change of use. She said she doesn't know how to answer these queries when people bring them to her at city hall. Some examples she gave:

- The popularity of turning private residences into commercial use such as bed and breakfasts and nightly rentals.
- Placing tiny houses that are more in line with being mobile homes or trailers on zoned residential lots.
- Developers wanting water and sewer lines relocated to suit their needs.

As the city attorney, Allen said she tries to research ordinances from other cities the size of Jasper to see if they can be adjusted to meet Jasper's needs. She said she often references ordinance templates from the Arkansas Municipal League. The AEDI can be of help, said Youngquist, introducing the group of community planners that have recently been added to the staff. They appeared anxious

and asked a lot of questions about Jasper.

It was pointed out that tourism is the community's economic engine. The city has few if any filing or permit fees. The city has a surplus of water that it purchases under an agreement with the Ozark Mountain Regional Water Authority. The city is currently updating its waste water treatment capacity and is in the process of correcting drainage issues. Expanding broadband into more rural areas is needed, the planners were told.

Collins noted that the topography of the town creates problems for the laying of water and sewer lines. Pumps have to be utilized to push water up hill or pipes are left exposed crossing ravines. "I'd hang pipes off of telephone poles if I could," he said.

The city needs to update its maps of water lines and sewer lines. Youngquist said the AEDI geographic information system mapping specialists could be of assistance. A conference call is being scheduled for later this month with Collins.

The city officials said the businesses they want to attract are in the area of small retail as there isn't room for large industry. Also, homes will be needed for workers.

The problem is there isn't enough housing available either in Jasper or the county. Especially

needed is housing that lower earning families can afford. It was noted many people who work in the city such as the school have to commute from other neighboring towns or communities.

Retaining and attracting families would increase enrollment at area schools. New business opportunities would give young adults a reason to stay in Jasper or move back.

Health and transportation services are needed by the more senior population which is currently on the rise.

In the area of density population, Hoy asked if the city had a goal as to the population number it would like to see on its city limits sign. The city's population was reported to be just under 500, but results of the last census haven't been released.

That's a good question, said Collins, as he looked at the other city officials. Lindsey said residents don't want Jasper's small town atmosphere to radically change.

Berg focused her questions on entertainment opportunities noting the availability of government grants for parks. Larson acknowledged that the city has utilized the Fun Parks grant and that the city park is about full. There isn't enough space left for a soccer field.

The subject of annexation was brought up and planners said they could provide the city with dif-

ferent models.

McDonnell said the city should plan for expanding its emergency services particularly fire protection. Delivery of water to fight fires is an important part of the city receiving an improved ISO rating on which insurance premiums are based. It was also noted that the county recently had approved a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan and that the Jasper School District recently was approved a FEMA grant to build a safe room on the Jasper campus.

Benson reviewed a long list of recommendations prepared for the city to encourage and prepare for future development. These include zoning and design guidelines, prioritizing infrastructure improvements, new developments and emergency access and other areas of economic development such as infrastructure agreements, tax investment financing, tax abatement, establishing special assessment districts and special service districts.

In closing the meeting the planners said they would come up with an outline of some ordinances and regulations regarding mixed use of property, residential zones and commercial zones, sidewalks, signage and even parking. The city council can review them and see which should be prioritized and help in meeting target goals.

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Distracted driving is a killer: U Drive. U Text. U Pay

Arkansas State Police

Distracted driving is on the rise and leaving a deadly wake across the nation's roads and highways. Beginning next week Arkansas law enforcement officers will join other police and sheriff's authorities across the nation to stop drivers who exhibit the telltale signs of driving while distracted.

A nationwide stepped-up enforcement operation begins April 5th and continues through the following Monday (April 12th). The U Drive. U Text. U Pay is an annual high visibility effort led by the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Using a phone or other device to send text messages or post social media comments are among the leading causes of distracted driving and a viola-

tion of Arkansas law. However, anything that might cause a driver to take their eyes off the road and veer into another traffic lane or off the roadway could result in a traffic stop by a law enforcement officer.

During an eight year span between 2012 – 2019, NHTSA officials reported 26,004 people died in motor vehicle crashes that involved distracted drivers. While motor vehicle crash fatalities nationally decreased slightly during 2019, there was a 10 percent increase in crashes involving drivers who had been distracted. Nine percent of all traffic fatalities were linked to distracted driving. The figures represent a 10% increase, 284 deaths, over the previous year and accounts for the largest increase among contributing factors in traffic crash deaths reported.

"Typing a text message or reading one while driving and all the other distractions occurring inside a moving vehicle have become lifestyle practices leading to life threatening consequences," said Colonel Bill Bryant, Director of the Arkansas State Police and the Governor's Highway Safety Representative. "A driver taking their eyes off the road for five seconds while traveling at 55 miles per hour covers the length of a football field," Colonel Bryant stated. "The time and distance factors create a deadly formula, leaving a driver with little if any time to safely avoid a collision."

Colonel Bryant has pledged the concerted effort of every Arkansas State Trooper patrolling the highways to take enforcement action when they witness distracted driving violations.

Millennials and Gen Z drivers are statistically more prone to talk, text and scroll through social media posts on their phones while operating a motor vehicle. According to a NHTSA study, drivers 16 to 24 years old, were observed using handheld electronic devices more frequently than older drivers. During 2019, drivers 15 – 19 years old comprised 9% of those killed in vehicle crashes while driving distracted.

The Arkansas Highway Safety Office and NHTSA urge drivers to put their phones away when behind the steering wheel. Whether traveling across town or cross country, drivers are encouraged to practice these tips when it comes to electronic messaging:

- If you're expecting a text message or need to send one, get off the road or highway.

Pull into a safe location away from traffic, then handle your messaging.

- Ask a passenger to be your "designated texter." Allow the passenger to access to your phone for calls or messages.
- Do not engage in social media scrolling or messaging while driving.

• Cell phone use is habit forming. If you struggle with the practice of avoiding text messaging while driving, activate the device "Do Not Disturb" feature, or place the phone in the trunk, glove box, or back seat of the vehicle until arriving at your destination.

Texting while driving is not only dangerous, it's illegal. No text or social media post is worth ruining someone's day — or taking a life. Always remember, U Drive. U Text. U Pay.

Phony surveys rip-offs

Staff Report

news@harrisdaily.com

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Justice has received reports that fraudsters are creating phony COVID-19 vaccine surveys for consumers to fill out with the promise of a prize or cash at the conclusion of the survey. In reality, the surveys are used to steal money from consumers and unlawfully capture consumers' personal information.

Consumers receive the surveys via email and text message, and are told that, as a gift for filling out the survey, they can choose from various free prizes, such as an iPad Pro. The messages claim that the consumers need only pay shipping and handling fees to receive their prize. Victims provide their credit card information and are charged for shipping and handling fees, but never receive the promised prize. Victims also are exposing their

personally identifiable information (PII) to scammers, thereby increasing the probability of identity theft.

Unless from a known and verified source, consumers should never click on links in text messages or emails claiming to be a vaccine survey.

Schemes that use links embedded in unsolicited text messages and emails in attempts to obtain personally identifiable information are commonly referred to as phishing schemes. Phishing messages may look like they come from government agencies, financial institutions, shipping companies and social media companies, among many others. Carefully examine any message purporting to be from a company and do not click on a link in an unsolicited email or text message. Remember that companies generally do not contact you to ask for your username or password. When in doubt, contact

the entity purportedly sending you the message, but do not rely on any contact information in the potentially fraudulent message.

If you receive a text message or email claiming to be a COVID-19 vaccine survey and containing a link or other contact information, please report the communication to the National Center for Disaster Fraud (NCFD) via the NCFD Web Complaint Form at www.justice.gov/disaster-fraud or by calling 1-866-720-5721.

Intellectual property crimes such as these also may be reported to federal law enforcement at the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center (IPR Center) at <http://www.IPRCenter.gov>.

Visit www.identitytheft.gov if you believe you may have entered information into a fraudulent website to find resources on how to protect your information.

Nursing Home

By WINNIE JAMES

Hello family and friends! We're starting out our week with some warming up outdoor time. Along with our regular activities: Tuesday, making caramel popcorn, Bible study and making egg salad; Thursday, Friday, crafts making spring lilies.

Thanks to 3 Wishes for gifts; Adopt a Resident, gifts and Tommy Flud your time. We appreciate each and every one of you!

Have a good and safe week.

As life goes by

By ELAINE LAUNDERVILLE

Hopefully, you have spent quality time with your family for Easter. Using caution families can get together to celebrate the church holiday. On Good Friday, I took Patty and Bob for their second vaccine at the Springdale Methodist Church. It is amazing how much that church has grown since I moved to Garfield in 2011.

Sunday started early with sunrise service at 7 a.m., which means I had to get up at 5 a.m. to get ready to leave at 6 a.m. from my house. We worshiped from 7-8 and then the youth fed everyone their annual Easter breakfast. An overwhelming number showed up to eat! A great thing to have happen since so many haven't seen each other for a year! After that the kids had an Easter egg hunt. Later a second service happened. A full day and I suspect many churches had similar events. Jane, from Mountain View, John and Wanda from Jasper and many of the family from Fayetteville showed up at Jackie's house for lunch and visiting. Patty and Bob were able to attend, and Kara from Springdale all arrived for a wonderful get-together. It was such a beautiful day for being outside. A couple of Jackie's grandsons worked on the garden and swept pine needles from roof of house. She lives in a pine grove! Four of the kids are below the age of six. The three little boys did not stop except to eat dinner and then back out to do as much running and exploring as they could. Elisa and Samantha spent much of their weekend at Devil's Den Park bicycling. They came home sunburned, very tired, and happy from their trip. Samantha rides with a biking club. She is 12 and has become quite the rider!

Got up this morning to the birds chirping out the good news that Spring has arrived! They are so loud and sound so cheerful!

Looking forward to the final NCAA men's basketball game with Gonzaga and Baylor playing Monday night. I expect it to be a great game.

Have a wonderful week. Continue to wear masks, wash frequently, and practice social distancing when in groups you don't normally share space with. Get your shots and get excited about things getting back to "normal."

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 or 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.

Menu April 7-14

Wednesday - Herbed pork roast, pork gravy, sweet potato, green beans, dinner roll

and pound cake.

Thursday - Baked chicken, mushroom gravy, parmesan noodles, glazed carrots, dinner roll and spiced apples.

Friday - Fried fish fillet, brown beans, seasoned cabbage, cornbread and fruit of the day.

Monday - Chicken fried chicken, mashed potatoes, garden peas, dinner roll and mixed fruit.

Tuesday - Tuna plate (tuna salad, potato salad and fruit salad) breadstick and angel food cake.

Wednesday - Open faced turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes, green beans, wheat bread and cherry pie.

Senior center announces April events

The Newton County Senior Activity and Wellness Center announced it will hold three special events in April.

On the 23rd from 10-2 at Bradley Park there will have a table in the Jasper information fair with information about the center and services the center provides.

On the 24th (time will

be announced later) will be the meals on wheels parade.

Everyone is encouraged to come join in the fun. Sponsor sheets available now. Any amount you can raise goes to the meals on wheels program. There are different categories you can enter. If you would like a sponsor sheet or to know the categories just give the center a call. A sack

lunch will be provided after the parade.

On the 30th, 3-6 p.m. will be a fish fry. Hand breaded catfish or chicken strips, pinto beans, coleslaw, jalapeno cornbread, pickled green tomatoes, and carrot cake with cream cheese frosting are on the menu. Cost is \$10 per meal. Curbside pickup only.

Bella Rustina
Modern Vintage Market

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April Friday 9:00A - 5:00P Early Buying \$8 Admission	April Saturday 9:00A - 5:00P Regular Admission \$5 Adults/Kids free	April Sunday 11:00A - 4:00P Regular Admission \$5 Adults/Kids free
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Newton County TIMES

P.O. Box 453, Jasper, AR 72641
(870) 446-2645

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Newton County and adjoining counties (Boone, Carroll, Searcy, Madison, Pope and Johnson): six months for \$20.63 or 12 months for \$30.94

Mail out of County (elsewhere in Arkansas): six months for \$25.65 or 12 months for \$38.61;

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Letters to the editor are encouraged. They must have a full name, address and daytime phone number in order to be considered. Letters longer than 350 words may not be printed, and all may be edited for clarity. E-mail letters to Jeff Dezort at jeffd@newtoncountytimes.com. Letters may also be delivered to the Harrison Daily Times office on the Harrison Square, or mailed to Newton County Times, P.O. Box 453, Jasper, AR 72641. Questions? Call (870) 446-2645.

We will keep our promises to Vietnam War-era veterans

By **CONG. BRUCE WESTERMAN**
Arkansas's Fourth District

I recently introduced two bipartisan bills to ensure veterans exposed to Agent Orange while serving their country during the Vietnam War-era receive the benefits they were promised and have earned. Upon retirement, many Vietnam War-era veterans stationed in Vietnam and Thailand were denied certain health benefits despite a clear connection between their time in service, the herbicides used during their service, and their subsequent poor health status.

This is an unacceptable way to treat the men and women who sacrificed to keep us safe. It is our responsibility to make good on our word and ensure these veterans receive the care they have earned.

These bills – H.R. 2268 and H.R. 2269 -- also set a precedent for all future service members. We must instill confidence in our current and future servicemembers that their country has their backs and will keep its promises. Last Congress, I was grateful that our hard work resulted in three of the nine presumptive service-connected diseases being signed into law, but our work is not done.

Veteran issues are very close to my heart, especially with two veterans serving on my staff in Arkansas. I am grateful that 56 members from both sides of the political aisle have joined me to champion this important issue. Hope for bipartisanship lives on when we can agree upon the issues that make life better for more Americans.

Newton County Times

State Capitol Week in Review

From **Senator Breanne Davis**

April 2, 2021

LITTLE ROCK – The legislature has approved a broad reform of the laws governing water providers, a measure that sponsors have been working on for the past four years.

Many of the provisions in Senate Bill 386 are the result of a task force that looked into the financial status of water systems in Arkansas, as well as the condition of their infrastructure.

The task force's findings were surprising. For example, a majority of the systems are "upside down" financially. In 2017 a national organization of civil engineers rated the system of Arkansas water providers with a D plus, in part because of the deteriorating state of pipes and distribution lines.

In addition to the safety factor, lack of reliable water service is a potential barrier to economic development.

The need to upgrade our water systems was highlighted recently when hundreds of thousands of Texas residents went without water due to freezing temperatures.

SB 386 designates the state Natural Resources Commission and the Health Departments as

the leading state agencies with oversight over the entire state's water distribution.

Local control is important, but in many cases water systems are too small to act effectively, because they have relatively few ratepayers and the cost of a major project would be unaffordable.

SB 386 defines when a local system is in fiscal distress. It requires all systems to conduct a fiscal audit every five years to accurately determine the true cost of operating the system, including the cost of long-term maintenance and debt service. Systems must set rates high enough to meet those costs.

Local providers in fiscal distress shall submit improvement plans to the Natural Resources Commission, which can modify the plan if necessary.

The bill sets out the procedures for a city to provide water outside its current boundaries, and takes into account the fact that some cities do not wish to do so without annexation.

SB 386 requires a majority of the board members of a water provider to take at least eight hours of training. If they don't do so the system would face

penalties.

Lottery Scholarships

The Senate approved a major reform of the lottery scholarship system, in SB 584. Its goal is to ensure the long-term financial stability of lottery scholarships, so that families can budget for higher education with greater certainty.

It prioritizes which scholarship programs will be funded. It also sets a deadline for the introduction of any future legislation that would add scholarship programs.

They would have to be filed during the first month of the legislative session, in order to give lawmakers sufficient time to gauge their fiscal impact.

Bills that would change eligibility requirements also would have to be filed by the deadline, because they would change the number of students who qualify for a scholarship and thus those bills have a fiscal impact on the lottery scholarship program.

For the first six months of the current fiscal year, the state lottery has generated about \$46.7 million for college scholarships. In a typical year, about 30,000 students receive a scholarship.

Delivering a lifeline to small businesses

By **US SEN. JOHN BOOZMAN**

Congress took aggressive action last year to respond to the public health and economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. In a matter of days, Republicans and Democrats came together to unanimously pass the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. This historic bill delivered immediate assistance to employees and families and created the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) to support small businesses. The innovative response helped tackle the economic challenges facing small businesses by keeping employees on payroll and covering the cost of rent and utilities. The PPP lifeline saved millions of jobs across the country.

It's now been one year since the Small Business Administration (SBA) implemented the PPP. The efforts to help this program succeed and the support it continues to provide are a bright spot in an otherwise challenging year. The PPP has delivered more than 8.7 million loans to small businesses totaling approximately \$734 billion in relief nationwide. In Arkansas, it has enabled more than 64,000 small businesses to maintain operations.

Given the number of businesses it has helped, it should be no surprise Congress has continued bipartisan cooperation to improve its longevity, simplify the loan forgiveness paperwork and amend eligibility requirements to save more businesses. Participation continues to grow as a result of changes Congress has approved, including the recent extension of the program and the expanded eligibility authorized in the COVID-19 relief bill passed last December.

The legislation extended PPP eligibility to local news outlets — an improvement I advocated for

due to the crucial need for local news, especially during the public health crisis. Ensuring our hometown newspapers, television affiliates and radio stations have access to these loans helps keep Arkansans informed and writers and reporters employed. The addition of this provision was a great relief for thousands of newspapers and television and radio stations. Officials with the Arkansas Broadcasters Association said enabling local broadcasters to access PPP funds will allow news organizations to continue to "be there to record and encourage the revival of civic life."

As we commemorate the one-year anniversary of the PPP, I will be meeting with small business owners who received funding through this program to hear how it has impacted their operations. I'll also be sharing its influence on Arkansas businesses on my social media channels, where you'll hear from small business owners and managers about how vital the funds were to maintaining operations. For example, one Arkansas radio station promotions director explained how she wanted to ensure job security for her employees. "We have families that live right here that depend on us." The PPP helped keep the radio station's staff on payroll and keep the team together.

Small businesses are the backbone of our economy. They are as diverse as the customers they serve and are the heartbeat and lifeline to towns large and small across our state. COVID-19 may have interrupted their operations, but small business owners responded with resilience. I am proud of the PPP's creation and its role in providing help for many Arkansans struggling to survive and recover during these difficult times.

Rounding the bend with COVID

By **GOV. ASA HUTCHINSON**

This time last year, I knew COVID-19 was a serious threat, but I was confident if we pulled together as a state and nation, then we could over time defeat the virus.

Now we seem to have rounded the bend with the development of three effective vaccines. I am thankful to see the dramatic decline in the number of deaths, the number of new and active COVID-19 cases, and the number of those in a hospital. I'm also grateful that more than 250,000 Arkansans have recovered.

The pandemic isn't over, but I am hopeful that the worst of it has passed. To be cautious, we have extended the emergency declaration for Arkansas for sixty more days. I have lifted the mask

mandate, but businesses still may require employees and customers to mask up, and I encourage you to respect others. Arkansans have responded well to our vaccination program, but we need even more of you to get a vaccination. That is our path out of the pandemic.

Today, I'd like to share the story of 23-year-old Maleek Caton, one of the many Arkansans who has survived COVID-19.

Maleek had just started his senior year at Williams Baptist University in Walnut Ridge when he tested positive for COVID on Labor Day weekend. He was a member of Williams' wrestling team and was ranked 7th nationally in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. He had spent the summer of 2019 working

construction and was in the best condition of his life. He went home to North Little Rock on Tuesday after Labor Day, and by Wednesday, he was in intensive care on one-hundred-percent oxygen. He felt as if had glue in his lungs when he breathed. He refused the doctors' recommendation to go on a ventilator. He was in the hospital for a week and a half and went home with oxygen. In that short time, he had lost the bulk and strength he had added over the summer. Doctors told his mother, Glenda, that Maleek came as close to dying as possible without actually dying.

Maleek returned to school in November to finish the semester and resume training. In January and February, he won most of his

matches and tournaments on his way to the national tournament in Park City, Kansas, where he won three matches and lost three to finish in eighth place.

Although he didn't win the tournament, Maleek did enjoy a sweet moment on the mat in Kansas.

His opponent was Ethan Bunch, a wrestler who had beaten him in each of their three previous college matches. But in their fourth meeting, which was his last match of the tournament as well as the last match of his career, Maleek beat Ethan seventeen-to-nothing.

Maleek's story is miraculous, and so is the story of every person who recovered. And as spring arrives, I ask everyone over 16 to get their vaccination. This is how we turn spring into a wonderful summer and fall.

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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

Katherine Marie Kingsley

Katherine Kingsley, 62, of Cozahoma, died March 25, 2021. Born Jan. 8, 1959, in Detroit, Michigan, the daughter of George and Dorothy Gruenwald Kingsley. Katherine leaves a husband and her daughters. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Condolences may be left at www.DiamondStateCremation.com

Gerald Epley, 77, of Green Forest

Gerald Leon Epley, 77, of Green Forest, Arkansas, passed away March 26, 2021. Born September 8, 1943, in Green Forest, Arkansas, the son of Myrl and Audrey Anderson Epley. Gerald leaves two daughters and many family and friends. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Condolences may be left at www.DiamondStateCremation.com

Carissa Marie Allen

Carissa Marie Allen, 60, of Yellville, Arkansas, passed away March 25, 2021. Born May 16, 1960, in Watertown, New York, the daughter of Gordon and Joyce Cooley Fawdrey. Carissa leaves her children and many family members and friends. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Condolences may be left at www.DiamondStateCremation.com

Binam Jack Martin, 57, of Harrison

Binam Jack Martin, 57, of Harrison, died at Landmark Hospital in Joplin, Missouri, Saturday, April 3 (2021). Visitation will be Tuesday, from 5-7 p.m., at Coffman Funeral Home, Harrison. Funeral is 2 p.m., Wednesday, April 7, at Coffman Funeral Home Chapel in Harrison with Pastor Ricky Stone officiating. Burial will follow at Smith Cemetery. The son of the late Binam and Velma (Flud) Martin was born in Harrison, March 4, 1964. He had lived in Newton and Boone counties most of his life and a member of My Father's House Church. He was preceded in death by a brother, Rex Martin. Jack is survived by his brothers Buck Martin and Mike Martin, both of Western Grove; his sisters, Ramona Gay, Morna Stone, Lisa O'Neal and Stella Jane Maberry all of Harrison and other relatives. Pallbearers are Eddie Gay, Jamin Martin, Heath O'Neal, Tommy Maberry, Brandon Martin and Timmy Campbell. Honorary pallbearers are Michael Martin, Abe Maberry, Nathan Martin and Alex Maberry.



Ronnie Casey, 64, of Marble Falls

Ronnie Aaron Casey, 64, of Marble Falls, died at Cox Medical Center in Branson, Missouri, on Friday, April 2 (2021). Visitation will be Thursday, April 8, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., at Coffman Funeral Home in Harrison. Funeral service is at 1 p.m. with Billy Paul Matlock officiating. The son of the late Reuben and Daisy (Scott) Casey was born Aug. 13, 1956 in Deer. He attended Sunset Fellowship Church. He was preceded in death by a brother, Ricky Casey. Ronnie is survived by his children, Michael Casey and Jennifer Dawkins; his soulmate, Renee Hester; five stepchildren, Frank Handley, Summer Sinor, Nick Handley, Amanda Tucker and Shambra Harmon; six brothers, Elwood, Ben, Eddie, Jerry, Sandy and Donnie Casey; a sister, Beverly West; 12 grandchildren, several stepgrandchildren and other relatives.



Robyn Francis Lee

Robyn Francis Lee, 61, of Mountain Home, Arkansas, passed away March 30, 2021. Born October 19, 1959, in Duluth, Minnesota, to George and Claire Rasmussen Lee. Robyn leaves two children and many family members and friends. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Condolences may be left at www.DiamondStateCremation.com

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Recent Deaths

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Flu-related deaths hold at 18

Staff Report
The Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) reports no new flu-related deaths in last week's report. No school absenteeism was reported due to public schools being on spring break. 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 12, Arkansas reported "Minimal" or 1 out of 13 for Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI) activity level indicator determined by data reported to ILINet.
 - Since September 27, 2020, 1,973 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 influenza A, and 62 percent were influenza B.
 - About 0.5 percent of patients visiting emergency rooms this week were there for ILI (Syndromic Surveillance). About 0.5 percent of outpatient visits were for ILI (ILINet sentinel providers).

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.

Interior Department announces National Park Week

WASHINGTON - The Department of the Interior today announced that National Park Week - an annual weeklong celebration of America's national parks - will run from April 17 to April 25. National Park Week encourages the public to explore the vast network of our national parks, sacred sites, and historical landmarks, as well as our shared heritage contained within them. "Every national park has its own unique story to tell, yet so much of our nation's shared heritage can be found in the towering forests and vast desert expanses that make up our National Park System," said Interior Secretary Deb Haaland. "The outdoors has also proven to be a welcome refuge during the past year of the pandemic. I encourage everyone to enjoy the beauty and wonder of our national parks safely and responsibly." To kick off National Park Week, every national park will have a free admission day on Saturday, April 17. The public is asked to recreate responsibly when visiting parks, including following rules requiring masks when physical distancing cannot be maintained, or to explore parks virtually through a variety of engaging online



activities. Visit nps.gov/npweek or nationalparkweek.org for more virtual programming. The National Park Service invites everyone to participate in a Twitter chat preview of National Park Week on April 16 at 1 p.m. Join the conversation and share favorite memories, tips and stories about national parks using the hashtag #NationalParkWeek. "National Park Week is always a great reminder of the wide variety of sites, parks and programs available for the public to explore in-person or online," said National Park Service Deputy Director Shawn Bengé.

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Steve Emerson, Pastor • 688-2415
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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.
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 - MT. JUDEA-**
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 - WAYTON FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH
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National Register Training Workshop

LITTLE ROCK — The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program invites interested residents to get profession assistance regarding National Register of Historic Places paperwork at the AHPP's Saturday, April 24, workshop. The training will happen at the Division of Arkansas Heritage headquarters, 1100 North Street, in Little Rock, starting at 9 a.m.

Registration is limited to the first 20 participants. To register, please email ralph.wilcox@arkansas.gov or call (501) 324-9150. This workshop provides information on the National Register of Historic Places and gives instructions on how to prepare a National Register nomination.

The workshop is also designed to give those unfamiliar with the National Register an overview of this agency which falls under the United States Department of the Interior through the National Park Service.

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program is an agency of Arkansas Heritage. AHPP is responsible for identifying, evaluating, registering and preserving the state's cultural resources. Other divisions are the Arkansas Arts Council, the Delta Cultural Center in Helena, the Old State House Museum, the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center, the Historic Arkansas Museum and the Arkansas State Archives. Arkansas Heritage is a division of the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism.

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

The Columbus and Delia Hudson Farm, constructed circa 1921, is being nominated to the Arkansas Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, with local significance, for its association with agricultural history in Mt. Judea, Newton County. It is also being nominated under Criterion C as a good example of an early 20th century farm. The main house has been sheathed in aluminum siding, circa 1990, which precludes it from listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Established on Dec. 14, 1842, Newton County was the 47th county created in Arkansas, and was carved from a portion of neighboring Carroll County in the northwest corner of the state. Black, red and white oak forests cover the mountainsides, as do sweet and black gum. Named for Thomas Willoughby Newton, who was the United States Marshal for Arkansas at the time, land in the county was settled by pioneers as early as 1825, though the area had been occupied by Native Americans for hundreds of years prior to that date.

Jasper, the county seat, was established by 1840, and became the county seat in 1843. The first county seat was located on Shop Creek, near Parthenon in the central part of the county, in the home of John Bellah. By 1856, there were ten post offices in the county, with Mt. Judea, being the last of the ten to be established. The first white settlers in what is now known as Mt. Judea were Ephraim Greenhaw and John Nichols. Greenhaw and Nichols named the newly settled town after the biblical Mt. Judea.

More next week

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Extension Corner: Honey versus sugar - which is healthier?

By **MARSHA HORTON**

Newton County Agent, FCS

Honey is golden goodness harvested from hives of honeybees by beekeepers. It's natural, pure and just downright delicious. If I could rename it, I would call it liquid sunshine. I keep a quart jar of local honey in my pantry for cooking and eating.

What is honey?

Honey is made by bees collecting the nectar produced by flowers and storing it in their hives to consume during winter or periods of drought.

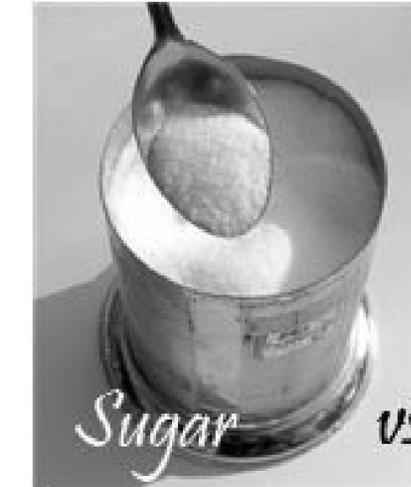
These industrious insects process the nectar by adding enzymes that chemically alter the sugar molecules, and removing most of the moisture from the solution. The resulting product - honey is thick and sweet.

How we use honey in food production?

When food companies want to entice consumers to buy their sweetened products, they use terms such "honey sweetened". Sometimes they do this even when sugar is the main sweetener, and honey is barely present, (remember the importance of label reading to get the real story.) Think breads, dry cereals, the list could go on. In fact, most people might consider it healthier than sugar.

Is there any scientific evidence to support that thought process and answer the question, is honey a healthier choice than sugar?

Honey is composed mostly of the mono-



VS

saccharide molecules glucose and fructose, just like table sugar. It has higher moisture content than table sugar, about 18% water. The exact makeup of each individual honey varies somewhat, but honey is generally composed of 80% sugar (fructose & glucose), 2% minerals, vitamins, pollen & protein.

One tablespoon of honey contains 64 Calories. By contrast, a tablespoon of sugar contains 45 Calories.

However, honey tastes sweeter than sugar, and people tend to use less, thereby saving calories. This seems counter-intuitive because a tablespoon of contains a lower percentage of sweeteners versus table sugar. The calorie difference can be explained by the higher density of honey in a tablespoon compared to table sugar. A tablespoon of honey weighs 28 grams almost twice the weight of a tablespoon of sugar, 16 grams.

The science of honey

In sugar, the fructose and glucose molecules are bound together chemically into a molecule called sucrose. Sugar is 100% sucrose. In honey, the fructose and glucose molecules float around separately. There is slightly more fructose than glucose. Since fructose is sweeter than glucose, honey is a bit sweeter than sugar. Therefore, people tend to use less. Honey has trace amounts minerals and vitamins. This may be viewed as an advantage, but the values are so low that honey can't really be considered a source of these nutrients. For example, you would need to consume 40 cups of honey a day to reach your daily iron requirements.

Downside of honey

If there is a negative side to honey it may be that honey may contain dormant bacteria called clostridium botulinum. Infant botulism is a

unique form of food poisoning. Children under twelve months of age may not have a strong enough immune system or sufficient stomach acids to fend off this form of bacterial spore. When a young child eats the tainted honey, the bacterial spores activate and produce botulism food poisoning. Although the risk is very low, children should not be fed honey until they have reached one year of age to avoid potential food poisoning.

Who's the winner?

So is there a definitive answer to which is healthier, honey or sugar? Both should be consumed in limited amounts. Honey may have a slight edge, but excess consumption of either is more dangerous to your health than the advantage of choosing one over the other.

For more information about this other topics contact the Newton County Extension Office, 870-446-2240.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Swain

By **KATHY MARTIN**

Happy April birthdays to: Lisa Adams, Johnathon Brown, Isabelle Serene Daniels, Miranda & Derek Davis, Virginia & Gina Hirayama, Tina James, crystal King, Lori Lager, Craig Martin, Linnie Smith, Brad Taylor, Kathy Young, Teresa Lewis Griffin, Edith Edgmon, Kelly and Wesley Davis, Earlene Davis. Detta Sams, Judy Hefley Turner, Kaitlynn and McKenzie Martin, Alice Williams, Joe Smith, Brandy Woods Jones and Alex McCutcheon.

Happy anniversary to: Mr and Mrs. Billy Paul Matlock, Rocky and Elana Martin celebrated theirs and also Kendra and Cory Stewart will celebrate theirs this month. I saw where Bobby Joe and Crystal Young celebrated their 26th anniversary last month and I wanted to congratulate them.

Our love and prayers with our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Rita Ramsey, especially her

husband and our dear friend and neighbor Bob. Our prayers for the Helen Riddell Family and many relatives on Big Creek. We don't get to visit those cousins like we used to.

We spent A couple of days with Jesse Martin and our beautiful grands. They spent a couple of nights with us and one with their uncle Craig during their spring break. Michael Gilmore and family joined them one day for a trip to Branson.

We at the Cassville Baptist Church are joining together again on Sunday mornings, but just having Bible study and singing. We're searching for a pastor or layman and preferably someone familiar with the area and living here.

We were so glad we got to visit with my Thomason family last Saturday at the Legion in Jasper. We had a great reunion and a special prayer time for our niece, Gina Hirayama and family. She's been diagnosed with brain

cancer and is pregnant. They've decided to wait until after their baby is born in September to start treatment. We would appreciate prayers for her healing.

We love having great neighbors around us. We don't see each other every day but we know they are here for us and we for them. Earlene Watson, Ron May, and Kenny King are so good to call and check on us. Scot Dahlstrom, our longtime neighbor, is home for Easter holiday and he, Buck and friend got some fishing in.

Congratulations to Kaylee Rackley being inducted into Russelville High School National Honor Society. She is the granddaughter of Doyle and Laura Carney.

Congratulations to Brent Martin and Alexis Carter who are set to be married in May. Alexis is from Western Grove.



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Sports

Razorbacks overcome two large deficits

By NATE ALLEN
nallensports@att.net

FAYETTEVILLE — Arkansas' resilient Razorbacks overcame 4-0 and 5-0 deficits to Auburn Friday and Saturday for 6-5 victories, Saturday's on Christian Franklin's 10th-inning RBI single past third, to win two of their 3-game SEC West baseball series at Baum-Walker Stadium.

"Just another great win by the team," Arkansas Coach Dave Van Horn said of Saturday's success not only overcoming a 5-0 deficit but overcoming hitting into four doubleplays and stranding 13 runners. "Very resilient. Very rarely do you leave 13 runners on and hit into four double plays and still win. Great job by our team hanging in there."

Franklin hit into three doubleplays for the series with two on Saturday.

Auburn Coach Butch Thompson set up another DP situation in the 10th inning ordering reliever Trace Bright intentionally walking Robert Moore to face Franklin after Zack Gregory's 1-out double.

Did it cross Franklin's mind they dared him to hit into yet another doubleplay?

"It didn't really cross my mind," Franklin, unable to keep a straight face, stated then recanted, "Well yeah it did cross my mind when they put him on. I knew exactly what they were doing. Honestly, I expected them to put him on in that situation because there was only one out. But once I got to the plate all those thoughts kind of cleared my mind. I was just trying to square the ball up and put a good swing on it. That third baseman almost snagged it. My heart stopped for a second but I saw it got by and that

was pure excitement and happiness for my team."

And himself. "I've never had a walk-off hit," Franklin said. "It was awesome!"

Van Horn wasn't surprised his junior Preseason All-American center fielder came through.

"I was excited about it," Van Horn said of seeing Moore walked preceding Franklin. "I felt like Christian Franklin had hit six balls right on the nose this weekend. The shortstop (Ryan Bliss) backhanded one of them and turned a double play. He hit a ball on Thursday night with a runner at

second, and the shortstop picked it. The ball was hit 107 miles an hour, something like that.

The center fielder (Kason Hall) robbed him last (Friday) night. Sometimes the law of averages catches up. I felt like if anybody deserved to get a hit, it was Christian."

Other than Braydon Webb's solo home run, the Razorbacks couldn't dent Auburn Tigers pitching in Thursday night's 2-1 loss squandering a superb combined pitching effort by Arkansas starter Patrick Wicklander, the hard-luck loser on an unearned run, for

six complete, and Kevin Kopps finishing with three scoreless, 1-hit innings while striking out eight.

Van Horn fretted opening the series spending Kopps three innings in a losing cause.

Kopps determined that finish was just the start to his weekend relief. The senior right-hander pitched a 1-2-3 ninth while striking out two saving Friday's 6-5 victory for reliever Jackson Wiggins after a sterling 4 1-3 innings long relief by Benton's Peyton Palette on behalf of struggling Friday night starter Zebulon Vermillion.

See RAZORBACKS, 8A

Lost sleep over Razorbacks, but grateful for ride

If I need to do something at 4 a.m., it is easier for me to stay awake and do it at 4 than to get up and do it at 4.

Monday night it looked like my plan for an early bedtime was going to workout very well for me.

The Arkansas Razorbacks played basketball at 9 p.m. in the Elite Eight of the NCAA National Basketball Tournament.

Facing Baylor, the Hogs were a heavy underdog.

Early in the game, the Hogs gave me every indication that I could turn in at halftime. My plan was to brag on how far I made it into the game I had watched before calling it a night.

Then the Razorbacks made a nice little comeback and the squad is definitely a second half team. This required more watching.

My family watched the entire game and even though we lost, I was proud that we did watch it.

The rollercoaster ride is over for this year. But just like any rollercoaster ride, you are glad that you took the ride.

I know that I don't make millions of dollars to coach, but I have a few questions that I have in the back of my mind. These are no means questioning the head coach, just things that I observed.

First, you have a 7-foot-3 player that we used during the regular season. He was even a "starter" and averaged 15 minutes a game.

Why did we not use him much? I know the level of competition is higher in the tournament, but we treated him like a COVID positive athlete.

What kind of message is that sending. Not necessarily to Vanover, but to future recruits? How would they take this.

I was proud of the sitting of J.D. Notae in the second game of the tournament. I don't know if there has been a player with a more short-term memory loss.

Yes, you just hit a 3-pointer from 35-foot. That in no way means that you are going to hit the next one from there or from 25-feet.

When Notae is on, he is instant offense.

When he is normal, you don't know what he will be putting up. He shot the second most field goal attempts on the team. For someone who had only one start, that is an interesting stat.

He also had the second worst shooting percentage on the team.

Against Baylor Notae was scoring well, but fouled out early. Who made the decision to leave him in the game?

Another thing that I noticed is that I can not see the things

that analyst see. There is no doubt that Moses Moody is good, but calling him a lottery pick is hard to believe. He may be in two or three more years. He led the Razorbacks in scoring this year. He also led them in shot attempts. He shot better from the field than Notae and Vance Jackson.

Moody may leave Arkansas this year, because a million dollars overseas is still more money than what you will make with any degree.

Indianapolis in the In D Anna is a great place to hold the NCAA tournament. It was here exactly 30 years ago on an Easter weekend that Becky and I got to watch our first Final Four.

As Dick Vitale (yes, he was really old then) said to me, "You have a great wife. Her being that pregnant and coming to this tournament with you is pretty special."

He was right, I had a great wife then. Fortunately, she is the same one that I have today. I have enjoyed doing life with you Becky Brasel.

Jeff Brasel 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

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Musselman announces transfer in latest presser

By NATE ALLEN
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FAYETTEVILLE — What was supposed to be Eric Musselman's season-wrapup press conference became the Arkansas basketball coach's introduction to the Razorbacks' latest added transfer.

Au'Diese Toney, a 6-6 3-year letterman wingman at the University of Pittsburgh recently putting his name in the transfer portal, has signed with Arkansas, Musselman confirmed during Thursday's press conference after on

Twitter posting: "Excited to welcome @thefutureoney to our Razorback family. Can't wait to get to work."

Musselman had to delay the start of Thursday's press conference to make sure Toney's transfer paperwork was completed.

With two seasons eligibility since because of the season's COVID-19 circumstances all 2020-2021 returning players retain their 2020-2021 eligibility for 2021-2022, Toney is described by Musselman as

See MUSSELMAN, 8A

Three Hogs highlight final day of Hayward Premiere

By UA COMMUNICATIONS

EUGENE, Ore. – Three Arkansas victories and three runner-up efforts highlighted the second day of the Hayward Premiere as the University of Oregon opened its reimagined Hayward Field this weekend.

One of the three wins for the Hogs on Saturday also included a historical note as James Milholen claimed the 400m from lane 9, becoming the first person to win a race at Hayward Field from that lane now that the new configuration of the track includes nine lanes.

Milholen clocked a career best of 46.75 to better the field and improve upon his previous best of 47.07. Finishing runner-up in 47.37 was Oregon's Jacoby McNamara.

Registering the first victory for the Razorbacks on the

second day of the Hayward Premiere was the 4x100 relay foursome of Roman Turner, Jeremy Farr, Tre' Bien Gilbert and Jalen Brown, who cruised to a winning time of 40.51 seconds while the only other challenger in the event, Washington State, did not finish.

Turner added a second victory celebration, which includes taking a lap of honor at Hayward Field, in winning the 100m in 10.49 (1.5 wind) over a 10.74 for Oregon's Maxwell Shannon and a 10.75 by BYU's Dallin Draper as well as Ja'Maun Charles of Washington State. Turner also placed third in the 200m with a windy 21.60 (2.8).

John Baker finished second in the first heat of the 100m with a 10.79 behind a 10.77 for

See TRACK, 8A

RAZORBACKS:

From 7A

Saturday inheriting Arkansas down 5-4 to pitch the ninth, Kopps survived a leadoff walk to keep the Tigers scoreless before Webb, running for Matt Goodheart who walked leading off Arkansas' ninth, was singled to third by freshman Cayden Wallace of Greenbrier then scored the 5-5 tying run on Brady Slavens' sacrifice fly.

Kopps, 65 pitches and five innings for his three games in three days, turned it over to Wiggins for Saturday's scoreless 10th.

"That was an incredible effort," Van Horn marveled of Kopps' series. "To me, he's worthy of an SEC Pitcher of the Week type award. He's our MVP of the weekend, I'll tell you that."

Palette on Friday night also praised Kopps.

"The craziest stuff I've ever seen going coming up with strikeouts," Palette said. "Everybody in the dugout whenever he comes in is he's going to get three outs really quick."

Van Horn praised Palette Friday night. "Give Peyton Palette for coming in and giving us three or four quality innings," Van Horn said after Auburn jumped on Vermillion. "I think they scored one run on him and he gave us a chance."

Gregory, a pinch-hit triple during Friday's 5-run seventh-inning which tied it before Arkansas won it 6-5 scoring on an eighth-inning wild pitch, and delivering the big ninth-inning double Saturday, and Wallace, 6 for 11 against Auburn, logged pivotal at bats.

"A great performance by Wallace," Van Horn said. "He was kind of fearless. I can't say enough for Zack Gregory this series."

Arkansas takes 22-4 overall and 7-2 SEC records into nonconference games Tuesday and Wednesday at Baum-Walker vs. the Arkansas-Little Rock Trojans at 6:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. then plays Ole Miss in a 3-game SEC West series Friday through Sunday in Oxford, Miss.

Arkansas football putting in work

By NATE ALLEN

nallensports@att.net

FAYETTEVILLE — Though the offense flashed some big plays, the defense, in Arkansas Coach Sam Pittman's view, again definitely played more on top of its game in Saturday's scrimmage at Reynold Razorbacks Stadium.

"The defense seemed to win most of the situations," Pittman said Saturday.

Arkansas' quarterbacks hung on to the ball too long in the previous scrimmage two Saturdays ago and did so again with Thursday's practice in shorts the lone prep for Saturday's scrimmage after the Hogs had been off since March 23 for spring break.

"We were basically off from the practice field for eight days," Pittman said. "And I felt like it showed on our offense, with the accuracy of throws and hanging onto the ball, jumping offside. We didn't play very smart football today on the offensive side of the ball. We certainly aren't happy that it happened. But there are some reasons behind some of the situations that happened today."

The Razorbacks miss the quarterbacking experience that turning pro grad transfer Feleipe Franks provided last year.

While KJ Jefferson excelled starting for an injured Franks in last season's 48-45 loss at Missouri, the third-year sophomore has logged only four career games with significant action.

The inexperience in part likely manifests in Jefferson and redshirt freshman Malik Hornsby holding the ball longer than Pittman and offensive coordinator Kendal Briles prefer but there could be other factors that Pittman said might be exposed on the scrimmage video.

"I don't know without watching the tape," Pittman said during the immediate scrimmage aftermath. "I don't know if our defense was doing a nice job of stopping the short routes or if our quar-

terbacks are looking for the deep ball. Are they going through the progressions correctly? Obviously something is wrong. Either we're not getting open, we're not reading the first progression and hitting him when he's open. Obviously our timing's off."

Jefferson finished an unofficial 12 of 20 passing with a touchdown to receiver Treyton Burks and what would have been a 75-yard touchdown to receiver Mike Woods voided by an ineligible receiver downfield penalty.

Hornsby completed 9 of 24 for 102 yards and threw one interception picked off by safety Simeon Blair of Pine Bluff.

Blair, a walk-on since rewarded with a scholarship, impressed Pittman last season and even moreso this spring.

"He's got a lot of confidence," Pittman said. "He's always been a guy that will hit you. I've been really pleased with him."

Lucas Coley, the true freshman January enrolled, completed 6 of 8 for 68 yards, including a 16-yard touchdown to receiver Jaquayln Crawford, rushed once for 19 yards and appears to be pressing Hornsby for No. 2 quarterback.

"I think he (Coley) improved from last week," Pittman said. "I think he's getting a little more confident. Overall, the accuracy of our quarterbacks isn't very good at all right now, but I thought he got better."

Senior reserve John Stephen Jones completed 5 of 6 for 58 yards while Kade Renfro, the transfer via Ole Miss, completed 1 of 5 for 13 yards.

In the running game, senior running back T.J. Hammonds broke a 75-yard touchdown.

Raheim "Rocket" Sanders, the 6-2, 210 January enrolled true freshman moved from receiver to running back, impressed scrimmaging two weeks ago and did so again Saturday with a touch-

down among 9 carries for 28 yards.

"I think he's getting a lot better as a running back," Pittman said. He's still learning the offense. You'll see him out there at times where he's on the wrong side or he might go the wrong way. But I love everything about the kid and his work ethic. He's going to be a really fine player for us."

Pittman said Hornsby needs a "better mesh" with the running backs citing too many balls on the ground handing off.

"We put two, maybe three balls on the ground just in a mesh," Pittman said. "We beat ourself."

Luke Jones, lettering last season as a reserve transfer via Notre Dame, operated at first-team offensive guard Saturday ahead of incumbent Brady Latham.

"I'm glad to see Luke getting an opportunity with the ones," Pittman said. "There's an ongoing battle there with Latham, him, and it's a good battle. I thought we protected a lot better than what we had last week."

Defensively, Pittman lauded defensive end Jashaud Stewart.

"I'm proud of Jashaud," Pittman said. "What he teaches is: If you work hard and you come to work every day with that lunch pail attitude that you can move up in your business. He plays extremely hard."

Lauding Matthew Phillips Saturday for kicking a 46-yard field goal into a stiff wind, Pittman was blunt on why the increased spring practice time devoted to special teams.

"Well, we weren't very good on it," Pittman said. "So, that's the reason we're working on it like crazy."

The Razorbacks won't scrimmage again until the April 17 Red-White game concludes spring practice but this week will practice Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

TRACK:

From 7A

Landon Maxfield of BYU. After winning the long jump on Friday, Baker placed second in the triple jump on Saturday to complete a busy weekend.

A tight finish in the 110m hurdles had a pair of Razorbacks both running 14.08w to place second and third behind a 13.88w (3.4 wind) for Washington State's Sam Brixey. Tre'Bien Gilbert was awarded runner-up with a 14.077 while Carl Elliott, III finished third at 14.078. Another Arkansas hurdler, Shaka Bogan, made his collegiate debut in the 110m hurdles, placing sixth in 14.65w.

Another runner-up performance had the Razorbacks running 3:13.01 in the 4x400 relay behind a 3:11.38 for BYU while Iowa State finished third in 3:13.16. The Arkansas quartet included Ethan Carney (49.7), Rhayko Schwartz (47.2), Jadon Bartholomew (48.77) and Milholen (47.11).

Nick Hilson ran his first race in the 400m hurdles since 2019 and posted a time of 51.43 as runner-up to a 50.96 by BYU's Colten Yardley.

Racing in an elite level Invitational 800m, Kieran Taylor placed fifth in 1:49.15. Oregon's Cole Hocker won the event in 1:46.60 over a

1:47.15 for Iowa State's Festus Lagat and 1:47.55 for Oregon's Luis Peralta.

Three other heats of the 800 featured Razorbacks as Andrew Kibet ran 1:52.60 while Bartholomew and Carney each set career best times of 1:53.17 and 1:54.00, respectively.

Friday Recap

A solid night of distance racing produced impressive marks for the Razorback on the first day of the Hayward Premiere hosted by the University of Oregon.

A stellar effort in the Invitational 5,000m produced a career best of 13:34.70 for Razorback Luke Meade, who had a previous best of 14:13.72, as he finished fifth. Now No. 10 on the UA all-time list, Meade moved ahead of Daniel Lincoln.

Six Razorbacks raced in the 10,000m as Matt Young led the pack with a seventh-place effort that resulted in a career best of 28:41.94. Emmanuel Chebason followed in eighth place at 28:43.91 while Gilbert Boit placed 10th in 28:46.31.

The next three Arkansas runners included Myles Richter (29:04.84, 16th), Ryan Murphy (29:07.23, 18th), and Jacob McLeod (29:16.38, 23rd).

In the Invitational 1,500m, Amon Kemboi

placed seventh with a time of 3:41.60.

Razorback freshman Ruben Banks, who broke the school record indoors in the weight throw, produced a mark of 211-2 (64.37) in his collegiate debut in the hammer to place second among a field of 11 throwers.

Wichita State's Michael Bryan won the event with a toss of 224-10 (68.54). Banks became just the second Razorback to surpass 200 feet. Oregon's Austin Tharp finished third with a mark of 195-0 (59.44).

Banks, who had a previous hammer best of 207-9 (63.33), opened with a 191-0 (58.22) and hit his best mark in round two. After a foul in round three, Banks came within an inch previous throw with a 211-1 (64.35). A mark of 194-10 (59.39) followed and he completed his series with a 203-5 (62.00).

Banks moved to No. 2 on the UA all-time list, and only trails the school record of 222-7 (67.84) set by Erich Sul-lins in 2019.

John Baker won the long jump with a leap of 23-6 ¼ (7.17) while Rhett Nelson placed second in the pole vault with a clearance of 16-0 ¾ (4.90). Braedon Maddox set a career best with his clearance of 15-7 (4.75) to finish fourth in the pole vault.

MUSSELMAN:

From 7A

having the similar guard any position ability exemplified by Justin Smith, the 6-7 departing graduate transfer via Indiana University instrumental in helping Musselman's surprising Hogs going 25-7 and all the way to the NCAA Elite Eight after finishing second in the SEC.

"He's what I would consider a position-less basketball player," Musselman, previously head coaching the University of Nevada before coaching Arkansas these past two seasons. "And if you look historically whether it was at Nevada or here, those position-less players that can play five positions are so, so valuable. You look at the success of (2018-2019 now in the NBA Razorbacks) Mason Jones and Isaiah Joe and I think this year Jalen Tate, Justin Smith, like, those guys that are in that 6-5 to 6-8 range that can play multiple positions. That's what we think we're getting with Au'Diese."

Offensively, Toney improved each season at Pittsburgh averaging 7.5 points as a freshman, 9.5 points as a sophomore and 14.4 points and always rebounding well, 5.6, 4.9 and 5.9 averages.

"He can do a lot of things," Musselman said. "Ability to make a three. Ability to beat people off the bounce. Ability to isolate."

A great transition player. It's hard to get a proven player in a Power 5 conference."

This season the Razorbacks added red-shirting transfer forward Kamani Johnson from the University of Arkansas-Little Rock who activates for the 2021-2022 season after practicing with the team since January, and in November signed incoming freshman shooting guard Chance Moore of Powder Springs, Ga.

Musselman reconfirmed Thursday that graduate transfers Tate, the 6-6 starting point guard, Smith and forward Vance Jackson are moving on to turn professional.

It is assumed that All-American guard Moses Moody, predicted by NBA draft experts to be a lottery pick or certainly

a first-round pick, will turn pro though Musselman said Thursday they haven't discussed it upon Tuesday's return from Monday's Elite Eight loss to Baylor in Indianapolis.

"I have not talked to Moses or his father," Musselman said. "I'm sure we'll sit down at the right time. Whatever Moses and his family feel is in their best interest, I'm 1,000% in support. Our whole coaching staff is. He had an incredible year. Awesome young man to coach. Again, I'm assuming at the right time those conversations will take place."

Musselman was asked to comment on Desi Sills, the guard from Jonesboro placing his name in the transfer portal after lettering first for former Arkansas Coach Mike Anderson's 2018-2019 Razorbacks and the last two seasons for Musselman including 24 starts in 2019-2020 and key off the bench performances during the NCAA Tournament victories over Colgate, Texas Tech and Oral Roberts.

"First of all, Desi had two great years while we've been here, and obviously with Coach Anderson," Musselman said. "We wish him nothing but the best. Big part of our culture and helped build it, and had a lot of different roles for us. We want nothing but the best for him."

Musselman was asked if any other Razorbacks might be considering the transfer portal.

"Regarding the portal, I mean, I'm not sure in any sport if anybody knows what is going to happen from day to day," Musselman said. "All you need to do is look at what has gone on in our own conference and look across the board in college basketball. I think it's just kind of the nature of where college hoops is right now."

Meanwhile he'll scan the portal for potential transfers adding to a core of returning freshman starters Davonte "Devo" Davis and Jaylin Williams and lettermen Connor Vanover, Ethan Henderson, and Khalen "KK" Robinson, the freshman guard whose season was a terminated by a broken foot.

"We're going to have to add to our roster now," Musselman said. "We have some spots open, and we're going to recruit really, really hard."

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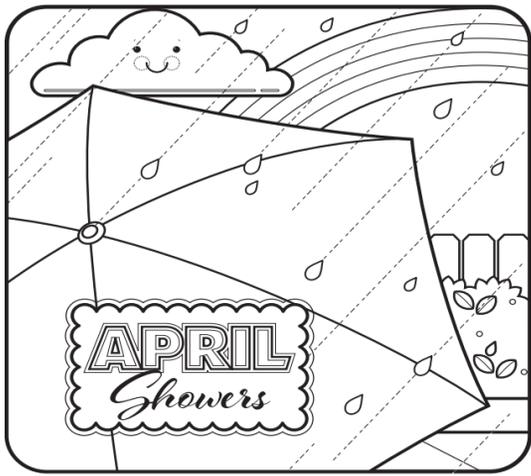
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Children's 'tail' told in Jasper

"Happy Tails" invites young readers inside an adventurous tale about an ambitious dappled, long-haired dachshund puppy named Jitterbug, the runt of the litter with a determined spirit.

Hopelessly at odds with the quiet life she lives in the Ozarks of Arkansas, she dreams of making a name for herself in the big city with the bright lights, and unlimited horizons. When opportunity knocks, she escapes her pet carrier and lands herself in show business.

This impromptu adventure takes her across the country, acting on stage, on TV, and in commercials.

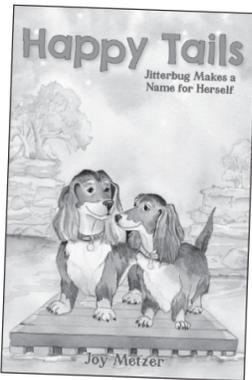
But how fabulous is a life of work, work, work? And how long before she starts to miss home, and realize that leaving home has its sacrifices?

Through an engaging and visual narrative, author Joy Metzger, describes Jitterbug's grand adventures to young readers while also providing an adult perspective on the story as well.

Happy Tails is really an allegory that incorporates a "lessons to be learned" angle in a parable of a puppy's tale. For the younger audience, it is an entertaining story about a "puppy who goes to Hollywood" kind of story, one about daring to dream big and then going for those dreams no matter the cost. However, with an underlying warning about the lure of "shiny objects." For the older reader, it is much more about the bigger picture, when we understand that our choices have consequences. In conclusion, readers of all ages will discover that the collective experiences we encounter throughout our lifetime, ultimately shapes who we become as people.

Key takeaway messages and talking points:

- The grass is not always greener; the need to establish personal identity
- Appearances are deceiving; why one should never judge a book by its cover
- Dealing with feelings of loneliness and separation
- How one's words and actions can impact others
- How hard work can help people overcome life's setbacks
- Facing adversity
- Keeping hope alive
- Always be kind, even to those who have wronged



you in the past

- Fame and celebrity are not all they're cracked up to be

• Gratitude

About the Author

Joy Metzger worked as a professional interior designer for more than twenty-five years, spearheading projects both nationally and abroad, while cultivating an audience for her writing through several book publications and a successful online blog under her former name, Joyce M. Stacks. Though no stranger to real



THIS OCCURS WHEN WATER DROPLETS CONDENSE ON ONE ANOTHER, CAUSING THEM TO GROW AND BECOME HEAVY.

ANSWER: RAIN

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Rain
SPANISH: Lluvia
ITALIAN: Pioggia
FRENCH: Pluie
GERMAN: Regen

life portrayals intended to enrich the lives of her readers, this is her first effort at writing a children's chapter book loosely based upon the private life she shares with her husband. She attended both the University of Utah and Texas Christian University. She lives with her husband Bill in both Hot Springs and Lead Hill, Arkansas, to be near her family.

Math Blocks
Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-8. The numbers in each row add up to the totals to the right. The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

	5		8
3	0		11
7		6	17
11	9	16	

6	4	7
8	0	3
2	5	1

Solution

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

PRLIA WSRHSEO

Answer: April Showers

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1865: GEN. ROBERT E. LEE SURRENDERS TO GEN. ULYSSES S. GRANT AT APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE.
- 1939: CONTRALTO MARIAN ANDERSON GIVES A CONCERT AT THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL.
- 1963: WINSTON CHURCHILL BECOMES THE FIRST HONORARY U.S. CITIZEN.



DOWNPOUR

heavy rainfall

Did you know?

MAWSYNRAM, INDIA IS ONE OF THE WETTEST PLACES ON EARTH. THIS REGION RECEIVES THE HIGHEST RAINFALL IN INDIA. THE MAJORITY OF ITS RAIN FALLS DURING THE MONSOON SEASON.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: RAIN BOOTS

PUBLIC AUCTION
ONLINE & ON-SITE
Thursday, April 15 • Starts @ 9:33 AM

Mayes County Fairgrounds
2200 NE 1st Street • Pryor, OK 74361
www.chuppsauction.com

Directions: From Jct Hwy 69 & Hwy 20 in Pryor, OK go E on Hwy 20 1/2 mile to Elliott St. Turn L onto Elliott St. and then immediately R onto NE 1st St. / Old Hwy 20. Go E 1 1/4 miles - Fair Grounds on R. Watch for auction signs.

SEMI/RV TRUCK, VINTAGE TRUCKS, RESTORED CARS, RACE CAR, TRAILERS, CAR HAULER, TRANSIT BUS, TIRE BALANCER, AUTOMOTIVE TOOLS OF ALL KINDS, AUTO REPAIR & BODY PARTS FOR 1950'S-1960'S CARS, BUILDING MATERIALS, LOTS OF VINTAGE AUTO PARTS
OWNER: RICHARD BERRY
ONLINE & ON-SITE BIDDING: LOTS 476-486
WILL BE OFFERED ON SIMULCAST AT 12:01 PM

CHUPPS AUCTION CO.
Dale & Maria Chupp, Coldwell Banker Neokla Select
(918) 630-0495

GUN SHOW THIS WEEKEND!
NEW LOCATION

North Little Rock Gun & Knife Show
hosted by Arkansas Gun & Cartridge Collectors Club

APRIL 10 - 11
SAT. 9-5 & SUN. 9-4

Windsong Event Center
(formerly Oasis Church)
7318 Windsong Dr. NLR, AR 72113

ADMISSION:
\$10 - age 12 & under are free • \$2 discount for Military and Police with current or retirement ID
501-580-3737

The Arkansas Gun & Cartridge Collectors Club is a non profit that helps youth shooting sports and gun education. NRA Affiliated
All Federal & State Firearm laws apply.

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or

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Items worth up to \$1,000 • 7 Days/20 Words \$10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wheel Deal: if it has wheels, sell it fast • 30 Days/25 Words \$30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Seller Pkg: 30 Days/40 Words with a free photo or graphic \$55	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Day/15 Words..... \$15.00 25¢ each additional word

Legal Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS PROBATE DIVISION In The Matter of The Estate of Lesa Caroline Massengale, Deceased

Case No.: 51PR-2020-52
HALEY JONES PETITIONER
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT AS ADMINISTRATOR
Last known address:
1 Hillside Dr.
Newton County, Arkansas.
Date of death:
December 24, 2020.

The undersigned was appointed Administrator of the estate of Lesa Caroline Massengale, deceased on December 24, 2020 and filed a final accounting as Guardian of Lesa Caroline Massengale on January 27th, 2021.

All persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, duly verified, to the undersigned within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in the estate. This notice first published on March 31st, 2021.
HALEY JONES, Administrator
c/o Jordan L. Snoderly
MATTHEWS, CAMPBELL, RHOADS,
McCLURE & THOMPSON,
P.A.
119 South Second Street
Rogers, Arkansas 72756-4525
1st. Pub. 3/31/21, 2t.

AGRI-BUSINESS

Equipment & Supplies



For Sale
John Deere 3010 gas tractor,
\$3800. 870-715-7495

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lost & Found

LOST ADULT FEMALE black lab. White on muzzle and white spot on her chest. Her name is Black Olive. Last seen in Murray. 870-446-2491

Notices

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Notices

HEARING AIDS!! BUY one/get one FREE! High-quality rechargeable Nano hearing aids priced 90% less than competitors. Nearly invisible! 45-day money back guarantee! 855-513-0596.

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The Newton County Times reserves the right to correctly classify and edit copy, or to reject or cancel any ad at any time. All ads placed by phone are read back to advertisers at the time of the placement. Twenty words minimum charge. Copy changes during schedule may constitute a new ad and new charges. Some classified categories require prepayment. Please check your ad for errors THE FIRST DAY it appears. We will not be responsible for incorrect ads after the FIRST DAY of publication. Errors (phone numbers, prices, addresses, dates) in ads will be corrected and run again at no charge. MINOR misspellings are not considered significant errors and refunds or extra runs will not apply. Absolutely no changes or cancellations can be made on day of publication. Changes and cancellations must be made before noon day prior to publication. The publisher assumes no financial responsibility for errors or for the omission of copy. Liability of errors shall not exceed the cost of that portion of space occupied by such error. Major claims for adjustments for errors must be made within 5 days of invoice, otherwise such claims will not be considered.

WERE YOU AN Industrial or Construction Tradesman? AND recently diagnosed with LUNG CANCER? You may be entitled to a SIGNIFICANT CASH REWARD 844-923-3380.

WITH MEDICARE, SHOPPING around is key. Compare FREE Quotes from A-Rated Carriers to save on a Medigap Plan Today! Get covered and Save!! Call 855-814-9619. Mon-Thur: 8:00 am to 7:00 pm, Fri: 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, Sat: 10:00 am to 1:00 pm (all times Central)

EMPLOYMENT

Miscellaneous

The ticket to a dream job might really be a scam. To protect you, call the Federal Trade Commission toll free 1-877-FTC HELP, or visit www.ftc.gov. A public service message from the NCT and the FTC.

Opportunities/Training

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

The best Garage Sales are advertised in the Times.

Opportunities/Training

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

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

FINANCIAL

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GENERAC STANDBY GENERATORS provide backup power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value!). Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions. 1-877-319-0598.

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

Services

NEED IRS RELIEF \$10K - \$125K+? Get Fresh Start or Forgiveness. Call 1-844-431-4716 Monday through Friday 7AM-5PM PST

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

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\$20⁰⁰

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DEADLINE: Wednesday at 1:00 PM

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KIT INCLUDES:

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- 1 Zip Lock plastic bag

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Email: classifieds@harrisondaily.com

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The Wheel Deal:

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Just \$30!

Details available at HarrisonDaily.com or by calling 741-SELL.



HELP WANTED

- Dietary Department
- Morning & Evening shift

APPLY IN PERSON

*Newton County Nursing Home
Jasper AR*

The HOME SELLER PACKAGE

Up to 40 words with a Free Photo! Ad runs 30 days at a time (up to 90 days total). Private party only.

Only \$55

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REAL ESTATE RENTALS

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2-4 BEDROOM APARTMENTS and houses. Harrison and Valley Springs area. Myers rentals. 870-743-1460 or 741-2945

1 BEDROOM APARTMENTS, through out Harrison, utilities paid, weekly rates available. \$150 weekly + deposit. 870-741-4131

Homes For Rent



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, family status or nationality origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination" Family status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodian, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

REAL ESTATE SALES

Homes For Sale By Owner



1260 SQUARE FT. 3 Bed, 2 Bath, 2 year old house, 2 Car Garage, additional carport. Beautiful setting on 1 acre. Neat Community. Circulating hot water sys, UV purifying air sys, stainless steel appliances, Open floor plan, Bergman schools, 6734 White Fence Drive (Off Zinc Road 1 mile). \$149,900. 870-577-5789 or 870-577-8424

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SERVICES

Accounting-Services

This is the place to advertise your business. **Service Directory** in the Classifieds

The Service Directory appears daily in the Harrison Daily Times, the Newton County Times on Wednesday and on website: HarrisonDaily.com Reach thousands of potential customers every month!

25 Day Rate
1 col x 1" ..\$70.00
1 col x 2" ..\$120.00
1 col x 3" ..\$190.00

To start your ad, call 870-741-2325 "ask about the Service Directory" or come by the office at 111 W. Rush, Harrison.

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CLAYBORN'S APPLIANCE REPAIR
All work fully guaranteed/Insured Repair/Service on all Residential Appliances Call 870-741-1445

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Free Estimates
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WE'RE EXCITED TO WORK WITH YOU!

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1990 FORD TRUCK 3500, 7.3 diesel engine, automatic transmission, \$1500 obo. 870-688-9361 leave message.



1993 ISUZU TROOPER, V6, Auto, 4WD, along with 5x10 Utility Trailer. Both units in good condition. Selling both units together for \$4000. Call 870-446-2838.

Trucks, 4x4's, SUV's



2014 KW T680, sleeper truck, 554,230 miles, new heavy Eaton clutch w/ Fly wheel pressure arm, fairly new rubber, complete code overhaul w/ after treatment system & fuel manifold replace. Runs & pulls very good, no trouble. Runs like a new truck. (Have all repair receipts). If interested call 870-426-4751 home leave message if not there. Cell #870-204-0123. Price \$40,000.

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MISCELLANEOUS

MORRIS ANTIQUES AUCTION EVENT
Saturday, April 10th, 2021
START TIME: 10 AM
50 Antique Way • Keo, AR 72083

Highlighted Items: a 14 ft farm table with benches, rare long paw foot Jewellers Showcase, rare 5 section round hotel lobby sofa, fine Hunzinger twist leg magh Library desk, unusual retro curio china on legs, French bronze mounts inlaid mt chest, 2 pc carved walnut vict. bed and m/t dresser, a very fine carved burf wal. Half tester bed, burf wal. Vict. lock side tall chest, rare model empire secretary bookcase, rare & hard to find vict. pool cue rack, vict gentleman's chest with desk, the best of the best heavily carved tiger oak sideboard, rare carved shaped front vict. china with oval beveled glass door, several nice vict. and empire m/t tables, oak roll top desk, unusual magh file cab, bookcases, sofa tables, dressers, chest, sideboards, dining tables, sets of chairs, glassware, oil paintings and lots more. All Sales are final and are in AS IS condition. All announcements made day of sale take precedence over all digital and printed advertisements. Check our website for terms of sale, photos & videos.

pondersauctions.com
For more info call JE Ponder Auctioneer AALB#787 at 870-672-1731

WORLD'S LARGEST GUN SHOW - April 10 & 11 - Tulsa, OK Fairgrounds. Saturday 8-6, Sunday 8-4. WANENMACHER'S TULSA ARMS SHOW. Free appraisals. Bring your guns! www.TulsaArmsShow.com

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GENERAC Standby Generators provide backup power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value!). Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions. 1-877-319-0598

Week of April 5, 2021

Hearing set for May in \$18 fee suit

Staff Report
 LITTLE ROCK — A hearing has been scheduled to reach a disposition on money collected from commercial and residential property owners for 2017 and 2018 through the \$18 fee to repay a debt from NABORS landfill. Pulaski County Circuit Court Judge Tim Fox issued an order Friday morning setting the

hearing for May 10 to determine who should get more than \$2 million deposited in the registry of the court. What is now the Ozark Mountain Solid Waste District board voted in 2005 to buy the landfill and trash hauling service. Bonds were sold to complete that transaction, but the board eventually voted in 2012 to default

on those bonds in what became a financial fiasco. Bank OZK, as trustee for bondholders, sued the district in Pulaski County Circuit Court to recover the debt incurred.

The \$18 fee was part of the receivership granted to devise a plan for repaying bondholders. A fraction of proceeds from the fee would also go to the solid waste district to help defray costs of maintaining the landfill in northern Baxter County.

The \$18 fee was collected on 2017 and 2018 property taxes in the six counties that comprised the solid waste district. Fayetteville lawyers Matt Bishop and Wendy How-

erton sued the solid waste district on behalf of taxpayers in all six counties.

Circuit judges in Baxter, Carroll, Marion, Newton and Searcy counties ruled the fee to be an illegal exaction or tax, thus unconstitutional.

But the original lawsuit filed before Judge Fox against the solid waste district by Bank OZK was still open. Fox originally approved the receivership and the \$18 fee.

Since that time, Fox has ruled that the fee would no longer be collected.

However, funds collected for the first two years were deposited into the registry of the court pending a decision on how they should



FILE PHOTO

This picture, taken in April 2009, shows the now closed and defunct NABORS landfill.

be distributed. Bondholders and the plaintiffs each say they deserve the money.

In November 2020, Bishop filed a letter with the court requesting a hearing to determine distribution.

In the order issued

Friday, Fox set the hearing for 9 a.m. Monday, May 10, in Little Rock. The courthouse is still closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the order said, so only one attorney per client will be allowed to appear in person.

NOW ACCEPTING School Choice Applications

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- On Site Mental Health Services ←

The Jasper School District will consider ALL applications for School Choice postmarked no later than May 1, 2021.

SCAN the QR for more info

APPLICATION SITES:
 Jasper, Oark or Kingston Campuses
jasper.k12.ar.us/school-choice
 Or call: **870-446-2001**

Newton County 4-H members district winners

Four members of Newton County 4-H have been selected as Ozark District Record Book Winners. These members had to submit a completed record book that compiled all their 4-H accomplishments and activities for two to five years depending on their age.

The first winner is Rylea Martin. She is the daughter of Cristan and Ryan Martin and she is a member of the Cowboys and Angels 4-H Club for Deer. Her record book was in the Beginner division for Animal Science-Cattle/Beef.

The second winner is Chloe Hodge. She is the daughter of Morgan and Todd Hodge and she is a member of the Junior



Rylea Martin



Tinleigh Adams



Chloe Hodge



Wapiti Mefford

Pirate Pride 4-H club for Jasper. Her record book was in the Beginner division for Encourage

Individual Development - Leadership.

The third winner is Tinleigh Adams. She

is the daughter of Kim and Zach Adams. She is a member of the Ridge Runner 4-H Club from Deer. Her record book was also in the Beginner Division for Healthy Living-Health and Fitness.

The fourth winner was Wapiti Mefford, son of Kim and Jamie Mefford. His recorded book was in the Intermediate Division for Encourage Individual Development - Citizenship.

This is a record for Newton County 4-H with four members winning. A record six total record books were entered.

Also representing Newton County were Cooper Graham and Abi Graham, son and daughter of Lindsey and J.D. Graham. They are members of the Mighty Buffalo 4-H Club of Jasper.

Erin Roberts, APRN

has recently joined the BMRHC team as a full time provider at the Jasper clinic. Erin graduated Magna Cum Laude from Arkansas Tech University in Russellville. She continued her education at Walden University in Minneapolis, Minnesota completing the Family Nurse Practitioner Program and receiving her Masters of Science in Nursing.



Erin Roberts, APRN
 To our Jasper Clinic!

Erin has gained years of medical experience at facilities such as Washington Regional Urgent Care in Fayetteville, Renal Specialists of Northwest Arkansas, Parkhill Clinic for Women and more.

Erin is accepting new patients at BMRHC-Jasper clinic.

Call 870-446-2225



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 ADA/EOE

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