

# The Eagle Democrat

SINCE 1885

YOUR HOMETOWN PAPER

139th Year

Warren, Arkansas, Wednesday, January 24, 2024

No. 30

## Bradley County Quorum Court discusses icy roads

By JOANNA POOLE  
reporter@theeagle democrat.com

The Bradley County Quorum Court met for its monthly meeting on Monday, January 22 to discuss different issues. The meeting was opened with a motion for approval for December's minutes. The motion was approved, and all were in favor. The court then heard and approved reports from the Treasurer and Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff's Department presented the financial totals for the year 2023.

- Virtual Justice Total Fines: \$81,968.06

- Circuit Court Total Fines: \$5,017.45

- Ordinance 609 (Jail Maintenance Fund): \$31,683.59

The Sheriff's Department also issued 331 citations and served 696 papers. They had 41 felony cases and 54 misdemeanor cases.

The court then moved on to talk about icy roads and preparations. Judge Clay McKinney reported that the road department had received over 45 calls on Friday, January 19 about road conditions. McKinney said that the county was doing all it could to remove ice from roads, but he did not want to put the safety of workers at risk. He also did not want to risk the county's road equipment being lost due to expensive damages and repairs caused by ice. McKinney let the court know in weather that is ten degrees and solid ice, a road grader is useless. One area McKinney wants the public to focus on is being better prepared for the next time and also the importance of looking out for your neighbors.

"We need to help the elderly that need help and prepare as far as getting medicine, boiled water, and everything you may need because it may be a few



Joanna Poole/Eagle Democrat

Members of the Bradley Co. Quorum Court at the January meeting.

days until you can get it," McKinney said.

Next, the court addressed the increase in landfill fees. The solid waste collection fee is \$50 per ton for commercial and nonresidents of Bradley County. Res-

idents of Bradley County will pay \$35 per ton. McKinney told the court that he would like to keep the landfill fees around the same amount as Drew County.

The court then talked about Ordinance 2024-2 which al-

lows Bradley County to establish a line of credit with First State Bank in order to help with any solid waste issues that may come up. The county would use 98 acres of land as collateral for a credit line in the amount of

\$100,000. A motion was made and approved to open a line of credit with First State Bank.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 20, at the Bradley County courthouse.

### FIRE DESTROYS LOCAL BUSINESS



By JOANNA POOLE  
reporter@theeagle democrat.com

The Warren Emergency Services Center received a call around 7:27 a.m. Sunday morning letting first responders know that local business,

C2 Floor and More was on fire. Fire Departments from the city of Warren and Bradley County arrived along with the Warren Police Department, and EASI ambulance service. After talking with fire chief, Chuck Moore, the Eagle has learned

that as of now, the fire department does not have enough information to determine what caused the fire.

"Right now, we have no idea because we don't have everything we need but it will be investigated," Moore said.

## O'Neal wins Bradley County Medical Center Employee of the Month for January

SPECIAL TO THE EAGLE

The first Bradley County Medical Center Employee of the Month award for 2024 goes to Kimberly O'Neal of the Senior Care Department.

"Kim is always friendly to patients and other employees. She goes out of her way to learn about each patient to create an amazing rapport. They all love and respect her. They sincerely trust her. She always has a smile on her face and is willing to step in and help at all times. She is most deserving!"



## Bradley Co. Medical Center advances care with MEDITECH's cloud-based expense HER

SPECIAL TO THE EAGLE

Bradley County Medical Center is proud to announce its adoption of MEDITECH Expense, a modern, cloud-based Electronic Health Record (EHR) for today's healthcare needs. Expense will provide BCMC with a single EHR that seamlessly connects patient records across all care facilities, including the BCMC Rural Health Clinic, starting on Tuesday, Jan. 23.

This shared electronic record will help to guide clinical decision-making by offering a comprehensive view of a patient's health history, regardless of when or where a patient may have received care. And since the solution is cloud-based, physicians, nurses, and other clinicians at BCMC can use mobile devices to view patient records, place orders, and document care at any time — whether they are in the office, rounding on the floor, or checking their schedule from home.

Expense includes intuitive, web-based navigation that presents each member of a patient's care team with real-time information, personalized to their unique workflows. Inherent clinical decision support ensures patient safety and helps clinicians react quickly to fluctuations in a patient's condition.

Additionally, patients can also easily see new test results, review discharge instructions, and connect with clinicians at Bradley County Medical Center through a secure patient portal. Virtual visit capabilities also provide convenient options for

appointments outside of traditional medical settings.

The new patient portal will be available January 23 and can be accessed by clicking on the Patient Portal tab in the dropdown menu under Patients and Visitors on [www.bradleycounty-medicalcenter.com](http://www.bradleycounty-medicalcenter.com). Patients will receive instructions how to enroll and information on how to download the mobile app.

This interactive web portal, accessible via any mobile device or desktop computer, gives patients and their families easy, secure access to their health information and providers. Patients can use the portal to:

- Book and pre-register for appointments; sign consent forms; complete questionnaires; and update insurance information, demographics, medications, and allergies — all before arriving for their visit.

- Upon arrival, they can complete self-check-in via smartphone, eliminating the need for kiosks and waiting in line to check-in for appointments.

- Easily access provider notes, radiology reports, and laboratory results; securely message their providers; and request prescription renewals between visits.

- Grant portal access to family members and caregivers, so they can help their loved ones manage appointments, bills, and conditions.

Clinicians at BCMC will also be able to use the portal to better track their patients' health progress, with the help of virtual visits and remote monitoring.

- MEDITECH's Virtual Care

solution enables physicians and patients to schedule online visits for routine appointments. Clinicians can also pre-screen patients with COVID-19 symptoms, and respond quickly to those in need of immediate guidance, while the healthcare organization continues to follow social distancing guidelines.

- With remote monitoring, patients can upload data from personal health devices and medical device kits into the health portal. By tracking and trending this data, providers can keep a close eye on those patients with chronic or preexisting conditions and adjust treatment accordingly, without always having them come in for an office visit.

Another feature that will be rolling out in the next few days will be patient visit reminders through text message for those who have appointments starting January 23. These are legitimate messages and not spam. They will come from phone numbers with an 870-area code. Patients who have prescriptions electronically prescribed will also get a confirmation text message letting them know it has been sent to their pharmacy.

For the latest news and updates regarding BCMC please like the Bradley County Medical Center Facebook page or follow us on Instagram (BCMWarren) or X, formerly Twitter (@BCMWarren). To keep up with the most recent news and updates for the BCMC Rural Health Clinic, please like the BCMC Rural Health Clinic page on Facebook.



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## Passin' the Faith Along

By REV. JIM BALES  
Pastor - First Assembly of God  
*Sponsored by Merchants & Planters Agency*

### A PLACE CALLED HELL

There was a time when the word Hell described an eternal location. Today the term is used primarily as a swear word. In point of fact, two of every five Americans do not believe there is a literal place called Hell. That should not come as any stunning surprise since so many clergy men are themselves convinced that somehow, sometime, some way, hell has disappeared. In face those are the very words of a knows religious educator in Chicago who has observed, "Hell has disappeared and no one has noticed." Further, says this learned one, "If people really believe in Hell, they wouldn't be watching basketball or even the TV preachers. They'd be out rescuing people." Another pastor responded, "my congregation would be stunned to hear a sermon on Hell. My parishioners are upper-middle-class thinkers who view God as compassionate and loving, not someone who's going to push them into eternal damnation." Let me quote you

one more advocate of the no-Hell school. Says this person: "once we discovered we could create Hell on earth, it became silly to talk about it in a literal sense."

In the words of NBC's 'church lady,' "Well, isn't that special!"

Here is the issue you have to deal with concerning Hell: If you believe the Bible is literally true, then you have no choice but to believe in a very real Hell; if you do not believe the Bible is literally true, then you can pretty well believe whatever you want since there is no absolute guide in eternal matters. I tell you frankly that if I believed that there was any part of the Bible that was questionable, I would not give a moment of my time to it propagation. And the primary reason I am convinced that the Bible is true at every point is due to both my theological and journalistic background. There is not even the slightest question in my mind that the Bible means precisely what it says. Therefore, I am

not given the option of "taking or leaving it." The apostle Paul reminded us that all scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine. That being the case, I believe in a very real and literal Hell. I want you to know that up front. This preacher is convinced that Hell exists! And for that reason, I am confronted with the enormous obligation of telling you about it, describing it, and representing you the most faithful warning I know how to give. I would be less than your friend if I failed you at any of these points.

Do you know, good friend, that the only proof you need of Hell's horror is the enormous price God paid to keep you out of it! "For God so loved the world that He gave HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON (Jesus Christ to die on Calvary's cross) that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish (should not languish in Hell for eternity) but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). The grace and love of God are beyond measure. Had there been some way to avoid Hell other than the cross, you can be assured that God would have found it. But there was no other way. Calvary's cross demonstrated only the love and mercy of God but also the depravity of sin. Anyone who wears a cross around his or her neck is giving

evidence to the reality of hell. Every church that displays the cross is witnessing to the world that there is a place called Hell. The fact that fully 40 percent of our citizenry does not believe in its existence means only that some clergymen are falling short of their duties of preaching the full gospel. It means that Christians are not giving the witness and warning they were commanded to do by Christ himself.

As a gospel preacher, I would do you a gross injustice by failing to warn you of the wrath of God to come upon those who live and die in sin. A faithful doctor would tell you the honest fact about any sickness you had. And a faithful minister will give you the entirety of scripture, not just a few sections that make you feel good.

And I have come with pen in hand today to simply declare to you what God says about hell and eternity to come. God never created the lake of fire for you. It was meant for Satan and his followers. God created Heaven for those who would live for Him. The decision is yours to make. And I can only pray that you will chose the right path.

### CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

#### Reception for new Bradley County Extension Agent

A reception will be held on Tuesday, January 30, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Bradley County Extension Office for our new Family and Consumer Sciences Agent, Penny Vance. Vance comes to Bradley County after serving 34 years as a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher, first at the Monticello School District and then at the Drew Central School District. We welcome Mrs. Vance to Bradley County and look forward to working with her. We invite everyone to stop by the Extension Office on January 30 to welcome Mrs. Vance to our community.

## LEGALS

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids will be received at the mayor's office, 104 North Myrtle Street, until 10:00 a.m. January 31, 2024, for the following:  
Mowing, edging and weed eating city properties per bid specifications. Bid sheets may be obtained at the mayor's office by calling (870) 226-6743 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday. Please mark envelope "BID FOR MOWING".  
This ad is paid for by the City of Warren Parks and Recreation Department in the amount of \$56.44.

R. Gregg Reep, Mayor  
Purchasing Agent

1/17, 1/24

### Notice of Public Hearing

A public hearing will be held by the Warren Planning Commission at 5:30 pm in the Municipal Courtroom on Jan 29, 2024 to consider a request for a special use permit for a mobile home at #7 Pope St. Being more fully described as:

A part of the Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 35, Township 12 South, Range 10 West, Bradley County, Arkansas, described as follows; Commencing at the Northwest Corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter and run thence South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, 307.92 feet to a Rebar And Cap; thence South 89 degrees 52 minutes 32 seconds East, 141.45 feet to a 2 inch pipe; thence North 00 degrees 03 minutes 17 seconds West, 105.17 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence continue North 00 degrees 03 minutes 17 seconds West, 203.11 feet to a 1/2 inch rebar; thence South 89 degrees 53 minutes 11 seconds East, 112.26 feet to a 1/2 inch rebar; thence South 00 degrees 01 minutes 03 seconds East, 203.10 feet; thence North 89 degrees 53 minutes 11 seconds West, 112.13 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 0.52 acres; more or less.

SUBJECT, however, to all rights-of-way and easements apparent and of record, and all prior leases, reservations, exceptions and conveyances of the oil, gas, coal, lignite and other minerals in, upon and under said lands.

That property belonging to Mark Baggett. Any persons having any interest in the above mobile home request are urged to attend this meeting.

1/17, 1/24

# Warren Water and Sewer, Bradley County Rural Water, South West Warren Rural Water and Corinth Valley Rural Water all under precautionary boil order

Special to the Eagle

Warren Water and Sewer, Bradley County Rural Water, South West Warren Rural Water & Corinth Valley Rural Water are all under a precautionary boil order until further notice. All customers on any of these water systems are advised the water may be unsafe for human consumption. Water used for drinking cooking, making ice, brushing teeth, or washing dishes should be boiled for one minute before use. All ice cubes should be discarded. As an al-

ternative, bottled water may be used. This precautionary boil order will remain in effect until further notice. Currently, Warren Water and Sewer has adequate water supply and water pressure to supply the city and subsequent water systems, however, due to the recent winter weather, the water demand has become too great for the system to properly treat the water. All water systems are asking residents to please check their properties for pipes that may have froze and are now

thawed and busted. Also, check properties that are not your primary residents, structures behind your residents that have water lines ran to them, farms, deer camps, etc. If you find a broken or busted pipe please call and have your water disconnected until it can be repaired. Until water consumption is at a treatable level all systems will remain under a boil order. If you have a question or need water disconnected to repair a water line please use the following numbers:

Warren Water & Sewer (870) 226-2321  
Bradley County Rural Water (870) 226-6757  
South West Warren Rural Water (870) 226-2321  
Corinth Valley Rural Water (870) 226-2321

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses).

## Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation Announces 2024 NASC Executive Council

SPECIAL TO THE EAGLE

The Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF), the nation's most effective outdoor advocacy organization, formally announced today the slate of members serving on the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC) Executive Council for 2024. Voted in by their peers representing NASC member states, the 12 elected members and 3 alternate members will ensure that NASC provides the best service possible to the individual state caucuses.

One of three caucuses under the CSF umbrella, NASC has grown since its inception in 2004 to now include nearly 2,300 pro-sportsmen legislators from sportsmen's caucuses representing all 50 states. NASC has become the most effective pro-conservation policy force in the nation, securing more than 1,000 policy victories since 2018 and monitoring more than 7,000 policy proposals each year.

"I am honored to once again serve as President for the NASC Executive Council and look forward to working with my fel-

low members on continuing to provide guidance to the 50 state sportsmen's caucuses within the NASC umbrella," said NASC Executive Council President, Rep. Jeff Goley (NH). "Having been a member of NASC for many years

as a Representative for the great state of New Hampshire, I have truly seen the invaluable benefit this collective of caucuses provides to all sportsmen and women and it is imperative we remain

See COUNCIL Page 3

## Warren School District Job Opening

The Warren School District is searching for a Bilingual Paraprofessional to work closely with assigned students. Qualifications for this position are as follows:

Associate Degree or 60 college credit hours, must pass the Paraprofessional Praxis, and if hired, complete a background check \$38.25 and Child Maltreatment Check \$11.00, Total Cost \$49.25.

**The Eagle Democrat**  
101 South Martin Street Warren, Arkansas 71671  
870-226-5831  
editor@theeagle democrat.com -  
bookkeeper@theeagle democrat.com  
(USPS) 163-720  
Subscription: In 716 zip, \$37 for 12 months - \$20 for 6 months  
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**JOB OPPORTUNITY IN SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS.**  
Delta Family Center, a psychiatric residential treatment center for adolescents, is looking for qualified individuals to work as a

- MENTAL HEALTH THERAPIST •
- RN OR LPN •
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Qualifications: Must be 21 years of age, pass state police and child maltreatment background checks, and possess a high school diploma or equivalent.

Applications may be obtained at:  
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# Wells Named to Fall 2023 Dean's List at UA Little Rock

SPECIAL TO THE EAGLE

Emily Wells of Warren has been named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2023 semester at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

The Dean's List recognized more than 1,175 students with superior academic performances at the end of the semester.

To be on the Dean's List, UA

Little Rock students must earn at least nine credit hours and maintain at least a 3.5 GPA.

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# COUNCIL

Continued from Page 2

connected to ensure our outdoor traditions can be passed to future generations.”

NASC is guided by the Executive Council which is comprised of state legislators elected by their peers to provide advice and counsel to the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation and NASC. The Council assists with the establishment and promotion of pro-sportsman ideas and facil-

itates the sharing of information between state caucuses, conservation partners, and allied industries. The Executive Council plays a critical role in the protection and advancement of our time-honored sporting traditions by establishing the activities of NASC, developing issue briefs, and setting guidelines for affiliated state caucuses.

“The vast majority of the policy decisions that impact fish and wildlife conservation, and hunting and fishing access and opportunities are decided at the state level. With the strength of the NASC

network of legislators representing all 50 states, we can effectively make a difference in moving state policy, across the nation, for the greater good of our outdoor traditions,” said CSF President and CEO Jeff Crane. “Partnering with three caucuses within the CSF umbrella, including NASC, CSF is able to successfully provide a voice for all of America's sportsmen and women in protecting and advancing our outdoor heritage.”

### 2024 NASC Executive Council Leadership

President: Representative Jeff Goley (NH)  
 Vice President: Representative Bill Rehm (NM)  
 Secretary: Representative Jeff Wardlaw (AR)  
**Members**  
 Senator Jack Bailey (MD)  
 Representative Scott Bounds (MS)  
 Representative Patrick Brennan (VT)  
 Representative Bobby Cox (SC)  
 Representative Kevin Wallace (OK)  
 Senator Robin Webb (KY)

Senator David Wilson (AK)  
 Representative Steve Wood (ME)  
 Representative Jerome Zerlingue (LA)  
**Alternate Members**  
 Representative Jesse Chism (TN)  
 Representative Amos O'Neal (MI)  
 Senator Lynda Wilson (WA)  
 Founded in 1989, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) is the informed authority across outdoor issues and serves as the primary conduit for influ-

encing public policy. Working with the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC), the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC), and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC), CSF gives a voice to hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and trappers on Capitol Hill and throughout state capitols advocating on vital outdoor issues that are the backbone of our nation's conservation legacy. For more information on CSF's policy work, visit [www.congressionalsportsmen.org](http://www.congressionalsportsmen.org).

# For AR Kids Ballot Question Committee sends second attempt to AG

### SPECIAL TO THE EAGLE

The For AR Kids Ballot Question Committee submitted a second attempt its education ballot measure today after the first attempt was denied approval, as expected, Jan 9.

“ForARKids welcomed the expected rejection that we received from the AG's office and our legal team of about a half dozen attorneys invested the last three days during this winter storm event to take that feedback given us to draft what we believe is an even better proposed ballot measure to enshrine into our constitution common sense best practices that will greatly improve our state's public education system, which will, in turn, improve Arkansas as a whole,” said Bill Kopsky Arkansas Public Policy Panel Executive Director.

“We have requested a meeting with the AG's Opinion Division next week as that we can make sure that we are all on the same page and continue moving forward in this direct democracy process,” Kopsky said.

Please see attached first attempt, Attorney General's Opinion, and the second attempt.

About For AR Kids Ballot Question Committee:

The For AR Kids Ballot Question Committee is a coalition comprising the Arkansas Public Policy Panel, the Arkansas Conference of the NAACP, the Arkansas Education Association,

the Citizens First Congress, and CAPES.

Our ballot initiative on the 2024 ballot that will still work to amend the education article

of the Arkansas Constitution to:

1. Require any school receiving any amount of public funds to follow the same standards that traditional public schools

are required to follow;

2. Establish the minimum quality standards ordered by the Arkansas Supreme Court in 2002 in its Lakeview decision;

and

3. Guarantee voluntary universal access to pre-K for 3-4 year olds, afterschool & summertime programming, quality

special education, and wrap-around services for children within 200% of the Federal Poverty Line.

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**Low-Income Home Energy Acceptance Program**  
**JANUARY 2024**

MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS
8AM - NOON <b>SEACAC OFFICE</b> 109 Lincoln St. Hamburg, AR 71646	8AM - NOON <b>CHAMBER OF COMMERCE</b> 185 S Main Street Eudora, AR 71640	8AM - NOON <b>SEACAC OFFICE</b> 200 North 1st St. McGehee, AR 71654	8AM - NOON <b>SEACAC OFFICE</b> 809 Hwy 278 Monticello, AR 71655
8AM - NOON <b>SEACAC OFFICE</b> 101 S. Martin Warren, AR 71671	8AM - NOON <b>SEACAC OFFICE</b> 101 S. Martin Warren, AR 71671	8AM - NOON <b>SEACAC OFFICE</b> 101 S. Martin Warren, AR 71671	8AM - NOON <b>SEACAC OFFICE</b> 101 S. Martin Warren, AR 71671
1PM - 4PM <b>CROSSETT LIBRARY</b> 1700 Main Street Crossett, AR 71635	1PM - 4PM <b>SEACAC OFFICE</b> 531 Hwy 65 & 82 Lake Village, AR 71653	1PM - 4PM <b>COMMUNITY CENTER</b> 18 Belmont Street Dumas, AR 71639	1PM - 4PM <b>COMMUNITY CENTER</b> Hwy 278 Wilmar, AR 71675

**The following documents are needed for assistance:**

- Social Security Card • Photo ID • Proof of Income
- A copy of the most recent electric and gas bill.

For additional assistance, please call (800) 679-4900.

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# The Eagle Democrat

# Editorial

## Arkansas House Report

Jeff Wardlaw  
Ark. State Representative



Public education stands as the primary expenditure within state government. This month, the House and Senate Education Committees began working on the Educational Adequacy Study. This study will serve as a recommendation to the legislature to determine funding for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years.

This in-depth process involves assessing the entirety of public education to ensure equal opportunities for students, covering aspects from teacher salaries to technological requirements. Arkansas employs a specific formula, the matrix, to calculate per-student funding, which is set to increase from \$7,618 to \$7,771 for the 2024-2025 school year.

The committees will later examine facilities funding and partnership programs in February, followed by a review of teacher-related aspects such as recruitment, retention, salaries, and professional development in June.

The culmination of this study results in a final report due on November 1, serving as a crucial guide for funding decisions in the subsequent year.

At the most recent meeting, committee members reviewed student achievement data. Reports revealed that in 2022, 30 percent of Arkansas 4th-grade students scored proficient or above in reading, slightly below the national average of 32 percent. Additionally, 28 percent of Arkansas 4th-grade students and 35 percent nationally scored proficient or above in math.

The House and Senate Education Committees approved an emergency rule to implement literacy tutoring grants and High Impact Learning Grants.

The literacy grant program is designed to help struggling readers in grades K-3. It will allow families to invoice up to \$500 per year for tutoring services.

The second program will provide a limited amount of funding for schools to spend on tutoring services during the school day.

The proposed rule now goes before the Arkansas Legislative Council Executive Committee, scheduled to meet on January 18.

The House and Senate Education Committees will convene again on February 5 and February 6, with live-streamed and recorded meetings accessible at [www.arkansashouse.org](http://www.arkansashouse.org).

## Editorial: Snow days

By JOANNA POOLE  
reporter@theeagledemocrat.com

Snow day! Those are two words that most kids love to hear. No school and lots of time spent playing outside are what come to mind when I think of snow days. Well, at least when I was a child. Anytime I would hear of even a rumor of snow, I would get very excited. I would constantly find myself looking out of any window that was near. But most of the time, that's all it would be, rumors. Being a lifelong Southerner, snow has never been a yearly ordeal, but from time to time, it does happen. I have memories of an inch or two of the cold white stuff and then there are a few rare times that I remember stepping outside and there being at least six inches. I've seen flakes that are tiny and then there have been the flakes that look like cotton falling from the sky. No matter how much or little there was, for me, it was a dream. Another thing I remember is sitting in front of the T.V. waiting for the name of my school as the names of closed schools rolled by at the bottom of the screen. If we didn't see our school's name, we grumbled a little and continued to get ready to go. But boy when we did, there was a small celebration. That's when the race was on to get dressed as quickly as possible. In my mind whatever snow that was falling was going to stop before I had a chance to get outside.

I think my mom was just as

happy when we were out. Out came the hot chocolate, cinnamon rolls, or the cheese toast. We would go find the random pair of gloves that we happened to have and load up on the layers of clothes. We would wear up to three pairs of socks sometimes and hope that the snow didn't soak through our shoes and leave our toes feeling like they had fallen off. If we couldn't find gloves, socks would go on our hands, not that they did much good.

I don't remember the cold ever bothering me much then. I would want to play outside all day long with a break here and there to warm up. But the dreaded bite to eat was Mom's way of getting us inside for a lot longer than I wanted to be inside. It was a conspiracy!

But snow wasn't always the result of the freezing temperatures and cloud coverage. Ice storms are probably more common than snow, at least in my mind anyway. One particular ice storm that sticks out in my mind is the ice storm of 1994. I had just turned 13 but I remember it like it was yesterday. At the time my dad was the pastor of a church in Desha County. The wind was blowing out of the north and on the north side of the light poles there were around 2 inches of ice and on the south side, the light poles were bare. That caused light poles and trees to snap like toothpicks. Ice hung from power lines like Christmas decorations.

See EDITORIAL Page 5



Senate Week in Review from Ben Gilmore Senator

The freezing weather may have prevented citizens from appearing in person at three public hearings held by the Arkansas Broadband Office to gather input about plans to expand and improve Internet access in the state.

However, there is still time to submit comments. Arkansans have until January 25 to submit their comments online at [broadband.arkansas.gov](http://broadband.arkansas.gov). That is the web address of ARConnect, the state Broadband Office.

It is called the Digital Skills and Opportunity Plan. It was written after state officials gathered data from over 12,000 survey responses, 32 focus groups and in-person visits to all 75 counties.

Extensive surveys proved invaluable. They revealed that many Arkansas communities are under-served, in spite of the fact that national maps developed from satellite imagery may indicate that they have access to high speed Internet.

According to the Broadband Office, the goal of the Digital Skills and Opportunity Plan is to form the most effective action plan for equipping all Arkansans with the digital skills necessary to succeed in the 21-century digital economy.

The Broadband Office will incorporate the public comments into the plan and submit it to federal officials. An effective plan will help Arkansas communities apply for the billions in grants that are becoming available for Internet expansion, particularly in rural areas.

The office is encouraging all stakeholders to visit [broadband.arkansas.gov](http://broadband.arkansas.gov) and review the plan. Then, they can provide feedback using the public comment form that is available at a link on the page.

ARConnect has joined with Heartland Forward, a Bentonville-based non-profit organization, to bring in representatives from Arkansas towns and counties.

Also helping to write the plan are members of the Arkansas Connectivity Coalition, which includes the University of Arkansas, University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service, Winrock International, Communities Unlimited and the Arkansas Black Mayors Association.

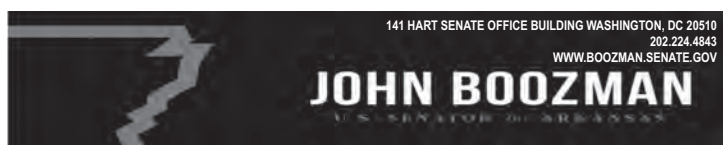
"It is important that as many Arkansans as possible provide feedback on this draft plan. Every voice matters to ensure the state's plan is effective and accounts for the unique challenges that different segments of the state population face," the director of the Broadband Office said.

The office scheduled three public hearings, in Batesville on January 18, in Prescott and Little Rock on January 19, but the snow and continued cold interfered with many people's

travel plans.

A new acronym is being used by local officials and telecommunications companies throughout the country that are working to expand broadband access. It is BEAD and it stands for the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment program that has already allocated more than \$1 billion to Arkansas for building and upgrading broadband networks. It also is being spent to improve the digital skills of Arkansas residents.

In August of last year the state Broadband Office submitted a five-year plan to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. It has details of the Arkansas strategy to eliminate its digital divide by 2028. It is a foundation for future efforts because it has a thorough analysis of existing broadband assets across the state, and identifies the areas where gaps in Internet access need to be eliminated.



I appreciate Arkansans sharing with me what issues are important to them and potential legislative solutions they support. Whether it's over the phone, in-person meetings, letters or emails, regularly hearing from folks in our state is necessary so I can be an effective voice for priorities of Natural State residents. Here are some policies our friends and neighbors are urging the Senate to advance.

I'm writing to ask you to strongly support and do anything in your power to pass the Fentanyl Eradication and Narcotics Deterrence (FEND) Off Fentanyl Act. Fentanyl overdose and deaths related to overdose are quickly becoming out of control here in Arkansas.

Fentanyl, a synthetic opioid commonly found in counterfeit pills, has become the leading cause of overdose deaths in Arkansas. It's heartbreaking to hear the stories of how this drug is devastating families in our state.

Federal, state and local leaders are implementing a wide range of strategies to combat

this destructive reality because it's a threat to our national security. We must target the illicit fentanyl supply chain from the chemical suppliers in China to the Mexican cartels that traffic the drugs across our southern border.

One of the solutions I'm championing is the FEND Off Fentanyl Act. This bipartisan legislation would strengthen current law so government agencies can more effectively disrupt the trafficking of fentanyl and impose sanctions on money laundering that makes this criminal activity profitable.

The good news is an overwhelming majority of my colleagues support this legislation, so I'm hopeful this bill will pass the Senate. I will be working to share the importance of this legislation with members of the House of Representatives so we can get it to the president's desk and signed into law.

Family caregivers are the backbone of our long-term care system. Please support commonsense solutions like

the Alleviating Barriers for Caregivers (ABC) Act to reduce the bureaucratic red tape that is making the already tough job of being a caregiver even more challenging.

I understand the vital role caregivers play in the lives of loved ones who are ill, elderly or have serious medical conditions. I also recognize the financial and personal sacrifice that comes with caring for an ill or elderly loved one. The support they provide to the family member or loved one who is in their care is irreplaceable. That's why I'm proud to support the ABC Act.

This bipartisan legislation would help streamline paperwork to relieve some of the administrative burden caregivers encounter to ensure their loved ones have access to the federal services and benefits they rely on. Investing in caregivers is important so they can continue to support those who need their help while also maintaining their livelihoods and health.

Thank you for cosponsoring the VA CAREERS Act of 2023. I appreciate your support of our nation's service-disabled veterans.

I'm proud to serve on the Senate Veterans' Affairs Com-

mittee (SVAC) and craft policies to improve services and benefits the men and women who have worn our nation's uniform have earned.

The VA Clinician Appreciation, Recruitment, Education, Expansion, and Retention Support (CAREERS) Act is bipartisan legislation to bolster recruitment and retention of the Department of Veterans Affairs workforce so it has the staff and leadership necessary to meet the needs of veterans no matter where they live. I'm leading this initiative to invest in VA personnel and support them with new tools and resources, including an enhanced pay structure to compete for highly qualified medical professionals and support training for current and future VA clinicians.

This legislation was approved by SVAC last year. I look forward to sharing with my colleagues why passage of this bill is necessary to fulfilling our commitment to veterans.

I'm honored to represent Arkansas and consider it a privilege to have the opportunity to answer letters from people all across the state. Don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions.



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## Arkansas History Minute

by Dr. Kenneth Bridges



"Don't let people put obstacles in front of you, but understand you also have to put in the work" were the words of engineer Raye Jean Montague as recalled by her son. Montague overcame the limitations of technology, the pressures of overwhelming hours, and the obstacles of prejudice to produce one of the major engineering breakthroughs of the time – the production of the first naval vessel designed entirely by computer. Her work brought computers to a new level of use and kept the U. S. Navy on the cutting edge of technology.

Born Raye Jean Jordan in Little Rock in 1935, she grew up in an Arkansas bogged down by the Great Depression and the ravages of segregation. Her father left when she was young, and her mother raised

See HISTORY Page 8

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An appropriate Arkansas teaching license is required. Positions open until filled. Qualified, interested licensed applicants should go to our website to apply, warrensd.org/24021\_1

## EDITORIAL

Continued from Page 4

We were without power for almost two weeks, but the house we lived in had gas-powered appliances, so we were able to stay warm, cook food, and take show-

ers. The only thing different for us was the lack of electricity. We didn't rely on devices to keep us entertained. I would read books, go outside, and call friends on my landline. We even somehow made our way to the levee, which wasn't too far, for a day of sledding. I remember those two

weeks being really fun and being disappointed when school started back.  
But as an adult winter weather has a different feel. Call it age or just lack of patience, but I'm not a fan of winter weather. It's not too bad for a day, but here

See **EDITORIAL** Page 6

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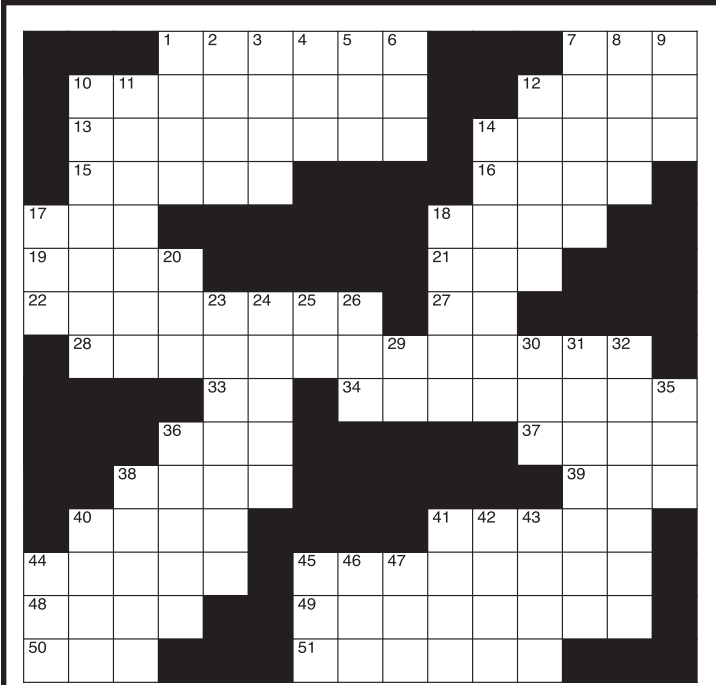
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# BLOOD CELLS WORD SEARCH



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Winged nut
- 7. \_\_\_ Humbug!
- 10. One who sets apart
- 12. Circle above a saint's head
- 13. Unpleasantly loud and harsh
- 14. Expressed pleasure
- 15. Feminine given name
- 16. Company of badgers
- 17. Popular Dodge pickup truck
- 18. Witty sayings
- 19. Leader
- 21. Autonomic nervous system
- 22. Premolar
- 27. Atomic #28
- 28. Holiday decorative item
- 33. Exclamation of surprise
- 34. Rusk or cracker
- 36. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- 37. Scottish or Irish Gaelic language
- 38. Eat
- 39. Marxist economics theory (abbr.)
- 40. Ceases to exist
- 41. Male Arabic name
- 44. Series of ridges on an organ wall
- 45. Places where bees are kept
- 48. One-time Yankees sensation Kevin
- 49. Church office
- 50. Single lens reflex
- 51. Pieces of fibrous tissue

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Classify
- 2. Dismounted
- 3. Produced
- 4. Consumed
- 5. Director Howard
- 6. The products of human creativity
- 7. Thai monetary units
- 8. Away from wind
- 9. Builder's trough
- 10. Relating to Islam
- 11. It can sometimes ache
- 12. Small quantities (Scot.)
- 14. Poisonous plant
- 17. Laugh at
- 18. Vogul
- 20. C. European river
- 23. Type of cat
- 24. Exclamation of disgust
- 25. Stephen King novel
- 26. Without armies
- 29. Expression of sympathy
- 30. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 31. Previously
- 32. Illegal drug
- 35. Kiloelectronvolt
- 36. Large, flightless birds
- 38. For smoking
- 40. Binary
- 41. Competition
- 42. Mark resembling an arrow
- 43. Containers
- 44. Root mean square (abbr.)
- 45. Commercials
- 46. I.M., architect
- 47. 007's creator

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

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

### WORDS

- ALLELE
- ANTIBODY
- ANTIGEN
- ASSURANCE
- BANK
- BLOOD
- CELLS
- CODOMINANT
- COMPATIBLE
- DONOR
- DOSE
- ENZYMES
- GENE
- GROUPING
- MANAGEMENT
- MATCH
- PHERESIS
- PLASMA
- RED
- TESTING
- THERAPY
- TRANSFUSION
- TYPE
- VIAL

## CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to bath safety. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 12 = A)

- A. 15 25 6 22 22 2 13 19  
Clue: Slick
- B. 14 13 12 11  
Clue: Hold onto
- C. 12 5 5 6 21 2 24 3  
Clue: Mishap
- D. 11 12 3 8 13 23 23 7  
Clue: Tiled room in house

## SUDOKU

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

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

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

## Puzzle answers

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

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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

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

## EDITORIAL

Continued from Page 5  
in South Arkansas, we're never affected for just one day. This time last year, we were under a blanket of snow. My family loved it and as I did when I was a kid, they stayed outside as much as they could. But they have the gloves and the boots and the waterproof jackets. They are always much more prepared than I ever thought about being. But as I'm sure everyone remembers, everything shut down for almost a week. Being impatient, my mind kept thinking that life had to get back to normal and that I was tired of sitting at my house. I think the term that everyone

kept using was "Snowpocalypse 2023."  
And now we have what I would call "Icepocalypse 2024." As soon as I heard that the temperature was going to be dropping and winter precipitation was expected, I made a grocery run. No, not for just the bread and milk. I have two teenagers and a pre-teen at home and I knew that school was probably going to be out for a few days and that snacks were going to be what I needed the most of. Was I right? That would be a resounding yes! They're basically vacuum cleaners, but anyone with a teenager can relate.  
But I have to remember as much as I'm not loving the weather right now, my kids are doing exactly what I did. They're making memories. They are being pulled behind 4-wheelers and side-by-sides on car hoods and skateboards with no wheels. They're running and seeing how far they can slide when they stop. They're being kids and I'm letting them. They only have so many years as kids and as we all know, it goes by fast.  
Are you loving this weather or are you ready for some warmer temperatures? Do you remember the ice storm of 1994 or any other particular winter weather that shut things down for a while? I'd love to read your stories and memories! Send me an email at reporter@theeagledemocrat.com.

## Southeast Arkansas Community Action Corporation 2024 LIHEAP UPDATES

APPLICATION	
2023	2024
Short-Form	No Short-Forms
Mailed to applicants	All applicants must complete a long-form application
DOCUMENTATION	
2023	2024
Photo Identification	Photo Identification
Applicant Social Security Card	Applicant SS Card
	Dependents in household under 18 years old Social Security Numbers
Proof of Income	Proof of Income
If no income: SEACAC Forms	If no income: SEACAC Forms
Contribution Statement	Contribution Statement
2 - Collateral Statements	1 - Collateral Statements
Zero Documentation Form	Zero Documentation Form
Unemployment Office Forms	Unemployment Office Forms
Earning Statement	Earning Statement

Households receiving utility subsidies (reimbursement, allowance, or stipend) are not eligible for LIHEAP benefits unless the household can demonstrate an energy burden.  
The examples below explain how to determine whether a household has an energy burden.  
**Example 1:** An elderly applicant who lives in subsidized housing and receives \$90 per month utility allowance the Housing Authority. Utilities are NOT included in the rent. The applicant receives an electric bill and a gas bill. In Example 1, although the applicant receives an allowance and is living in subsidized housing, the applicant is eligible for LIHEAP because the applicant receives an energy bill. The applicant must also meet all other eligibility criteria.  
**Example 2:** An elderly applicant who lives in subsidized housing and receives \$90 per month utility allowance the Housing Authority. Utilities are included in the rent. The applicant DOES NOT receive an energy bill. In Example 2, because the applicant lives in subsidized housing and does NOT receive an energy bill, the applicant is NOT eligible for LIHEAP. This applicant is not considered to be vulnerable to increases in energy costs and thus do not have an energy burden.  
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**FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE**  
 TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE  
**Gideon Called to Serve**  
 Judges 6

The children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord so He delivered them into the hands of the Midianites who invaded their land to destroy it.

When the children of Israel cried unto the Lord, He sent a prophet to remind them of His promises to them and their failure to obey His word.

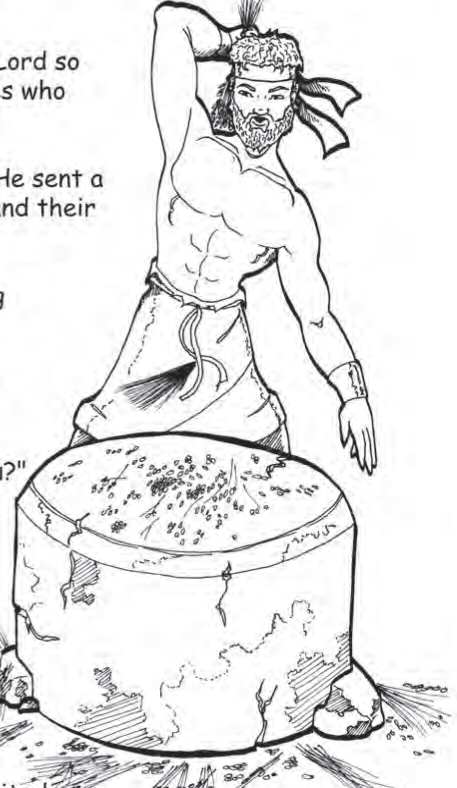
He also sent an angel to Gideon who was threshing wheat in a winepress to hide from the Midianites. The angel said to Gideon, "The Lord is with you, mighty warrior." Gideon asked why all the trouble if the Lord is with him. Then the Lord ordered Gideon to "go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hands. Am I not sending you?"

Gideon argued that he was the least in his family and from the least clan of Manasseh.

The Lord promised to be with Gideon and that he, Gideon, would strike down the Midianites.

Gideon asked the Lord for a sign that this really was the Lord speaking to him and asked the Lord to remain until the next morning when he would bring his offering unto the Lord. And the Lord waited.

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# Obituaries

## Clydine Carmical

Clydine Carmical, 96, of Warren, passed away on January 15, 2024, at Conway Regional Medical Center in Conway. She was born on November 30, 1927 in Warren to the late Freddie Williams and Hettie Dawkins Williams. She was a member of Calvary Baptist Church.

Other than her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, Cecil Avalon Carmical whom she married on July 1, 1944 and he passed away on August 3, 2006; daughter, Judy Hudspeth and brother, Billy Ray Williams.

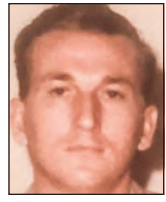
Survivors include her daughter, Lynda Kaye Yocum-Pipes (Dwight) of Newport; grandchildren, Alisha Cambell, Amy Carley (Trey), April Taylor (Chris), Angelia Dorses (RJ) and Desiree Timmons (Scott) and ten great-grandchildren.

Funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, January 20, 2024, at Calvary Baptist Church with Bro. Leon Carmical and

Bro. Rocky Goodwin officiating. Burial in Moseley Cemetery by Frazer's Funeral Home. Active pallbearers are Terry Gambill, Gary Gambill, Richard Gambill, Michael Reynolds, Danny Norris and Tadd Carley. Honorary pallbearers are Michael Ray Williams, Pat Hammons, Scott Grice, Deacons of Calvary Baptist Church and members of the Pauline Sunday School Class.

## James Wilson Edwards

James Wilson Edwards, 88, of Warren, passed away on Monday, January 15, 2024, at home. He was born on September 5, 1935 in Rye to the late Garfield Edwards and Oma Curry Edwards. He was a member of Centennial Fellowship in Pine Bluff, AR. He served his country in the



EDWARDS



VETERAN

United States Navy.

Other than his parents he is preceded in death by brothers, Joe Edwards and Leslie Edwards and sisters, Wilma Jean Bagwell and Jewel Adams.

Survivors include his loving wife, Barbara Jean Pearce Edwards of Warren, whom he married on March 20, 1959; sons, Dennis Edwards of Little Rock and Tom J. Edwards of Tulsa, Okla.; brother, Billy Mack Edwards (Bell) of Hermitage; grandchild, Madison Murchison (Black) and great-grandchild, Emmerson.

Arrangements by Frazer's Funeral Home.

## Mattie Lou Paul Walker

Mattie Lou Paul Walker, 92, of Benton, passed away Tuesday, July 16, 2024. She was born July 30, 1931 in Harrison, daughter of Leonard Denton and Cynthia Lily Monday Paul. She was in the last graduating class of Bellefonte High School before school consolidation. She met the love of her life, James A. Walker, a Ouachita Baptist College student, when he was pastor of Bellefonte Baptist Church. She was treasurer of the church. They were married July 27, 1952 in the new building of Bellefonte Baptist Church. They enrolled in Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas and graduated in January, 1956.

During their ministry in the pastorates of churches where they served in Oklahoma, Texas, and Arkansas. She was involved in the mission organizations as well as teaching in Sunday School. When moving to Little Rock, she was employed by Arkansas Baptist Foundation and then Arkansas Baptist Children's Home, from which she retired. During retirement, she enjoyed their many travels which included all fifty states plus one summer spent representing Arkansas Baptist State Convention in relation with the English speaking churches of Europe.

They have been blessed with two sons and their wives: Karl and Joan Walker; their children, Kyle, Kaiti and Abby Walker Crow and Caleb; Jim and Leigh Walker; their daughters, Sarah and Hannah; one sister-in-law, June Paul; and nieces and nephews, Dennis, Marie, Phillip, and Cindy. Her brother, Ray D. Paul predeceased her.

Memorials may be made to Arkansas Baptist Children's Home.

Family will hold service at 1p.m. Sunday, January 21, at Bellefonte Baptist Church in Harrison.

(Paid obituary)

## Larry Booker

Larry Booker of Carlisle died January 12, 2024. Born August 14, 1953 a son of the late Jarrett and Laverne Booker. Preceding him in death brother, Gary.

Survivors: son, Chris Booker; daughters, Brandie Maulden and Candie Booker; grandchildren, Hailey, Eric, Wyatt, and Fischer.

Memorial service 10:00AM January 20 at Frazer's.

Denise Pruitt Bowen, 51, of Rye died January 15. Born October 22, 1972 to the late Elvin and Edna Pruitt.

Survivors: husband, Nick; son, Tyler; daughter, Chasity Smith (Michael); brothers, Elvin and Rodney; grandchildren, Matthew and Connor; best friend, Susan Savage.

Funeral 2:00 p.m. January 19, at Frazer's Funeral Home.

## Daniel Hogue

Daniel Hogue, 42, of Strong, died January 17, 2024 in El Dorado. Born on March 10, 1981 to Randy Hogue and Marit Munford Hogue.

Daniel was a member of First Baptist Church of Strong.

## John Fields Wisener

John Fields Wisener, 69, of White Hall, died January 17, 2024.

Survivors: wife, Brenda Wisener; daughter, Monica Welch (David); grandchildren, Madison and McKenzie; sister, Judy Burns, along with many nieces and nephews.

Funeral service was 2:00 p.m. January 21, 2024 at Frazer's Funeral Home.

**OBITUARY POLICY** The Eagle Democrat publishes obituaries edited to The Eagle's format, up to 50 words, free of charge. All words over the 50 word limit will be charged at a rate of 34 cents per word. Obituaries that are requested to be published "exactly as the furnished copy" will be charged 30 cents per word for the entire obituary. No form of "thank you" will be published within the obituary. No exceptions. The cost to publish a picture with the obituary is \$10. The deadline to submit an obituary is noon on Monday.

## HISTORY

Continued from Page 4

her while working as a beautician. Eventually, the two moved to Pine Bluff.

In 1942, the navy had captured a German u-boat off the coast of South Carolina. The Nazi sub had threatened ports and ships during its patrols, and its capture was a great prize for a frightened nation. The navy took the sub on a nationwide tour to boost morale. According to Montague, her grandfather brought her to see the sub when it arrived in Little Rock. Immediately, she was fascinated with the design and construction of submarines and was amazed by the periscope and other equipment aboard. From that moment, she later said, she was determined to become an engineer and design ships herself.

She eventually attended Pine Bluff's Merrill High School, a segregated school. She graduated in 1952. She applied for entry into the University of Arkansas engineering program, but the university would not admit her at the time because of her race. Instead, she attended the Arkansas Agricultural, Mechanical, and Normal College in Pine Bluff (now the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff). Because the college did not have an engineering major, she earned a business degree. In 1956, she went to work for the navy as a typist.

She worked in a Washing-

ton, DC, office that had a UNIVAC computer, the most advanced available at the time. The 8-ton mainframe device measured 13 feet by 8 feet in size and performed just under two thousand calculations per second with a few thousand bytes of memory. By comparison, a modern iPhone8 has a memory capacity of 256 billion bytes and can perform millions of calculations per second. As slow and primitive as UNIVAC was by modern standards, it was a revolution in computer design. She began teaching herself how the computer worked and how to program it, eventually taking several courses on computers.

She soon asked for a promotion to work more directly with the UNIVAC. Her boss, unsure of the abilities of a minority or a woman to program a computer made her work night shifts to prove herself. She pressed ahead, working deep into the night and eventually earned the promotion.

Along the way, she married David Montague in 1965 and had a son. She was still determined to prove her engineering abilities. By the early 1970s, her superiors gave her what they believed was an impossible project: to completely design a new ship using only a computer. Other programmers had tried for years without success, and Montague was given six months and no staff to complete the assignment. She surprised everyone by developing a successful design program within a month.

The computer-generated design was a major breakthrough. It allowed designs to be developed much more quickly, allowed rough drafts to be distributed at greater rates, and allowed designers to identify and correct mistakes with a with an accelerated speed and efficiency. This would potentially save millions of dollars and perhaps months of work. What could take designers up to two years to complete by hand, Montague's program could complete in 18 hours. She was awarded the Meritorious Civilian Service Award in 1972 for her work.

The first ship designed through her program was the Oliver Hazard Perry-class guided missile frigate. The first of these ships were built in 1975, and many are still in service in Allied navies today. Not only had she developed a sturdy and effective craft, Montague became the first person to design a ship using only a computer.

Her position as a designer required her to keep the navy on the cutting edge of technology, ahead of every other nation that has put ships out to sea. She helped design the Seawolf-class submarine

and the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier, both popular and successful crafts designed and built in the 1970s.

After a long, distinguished career, Montague retired in 1990 and returned to Little Rock. She remained active in her retirement years, working with area youths and mentoring students. She also traveled, giving speeches to various groups.

The Women's Foundation of Arkansas, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting economic and educational advancements for women in the state, nominat-

ed Montague to be one of their 2018 inductees into the Arkansas Women's Hall of Fame. Montague learned that June that she would be included in the Hall of Fame, joining a group of famous and ground-breaking Arkansas women that included poet Maya Angelou, civil rights activist Daisy Bates, former Senator Hattie Caraway, and former Senator and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. The honor was a touching recognition of a lifetime of work in service to her country. However, four months later, Montague died quietly in Little Rock at the age of 83.

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