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# The Dover Times

THE VOICE OF NORTHERN POPE COUNTY

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WELCOMED EACH WEEK INTO THE HOME OF BOBBY ASKUE



## Fire Dues

### Moreland

Moreland Fire Department is now accepting annual fire dues of \$30. Please mail dues to: Moreland Fire Department, PO Box 187, Russellville, AR 72811.

### Bayliss

The Bayliss Volunteer Fire Department is now collecting fire dues for 2012.

All residences or properties in the Bayliss Rural Fire District should make payments of \$25 and mail to: Bayliss Volunteer Fire Department, 9641 SR 333, Dover, AR 72837.

If you love to read, come help raise money

Friends of the Pope County Library Book Sale at the Hughes Center, Russellville, Thursday, March 8, 5-6 p.m. Members only. 6-8 p.m. Everyone welcome. Friday, March 9, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday, March 10, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday only - all books half price. Books on Tape \$5.00, Hardcover \$5.00, Paperback \$5.00. If you have any questions, please call 479-970-8048.

## Calendar

**Thursday, Feb. 23** — Tri County Water Distribution Board, 10 a.m., Headquarters, SR7 north of Russellville

**Tuesday, Feb. 28** — Pope County Quorum Court budget committee, 5:30 p.m., County Courthouse

**Thursday, March 1** — Pope County Quorum Court, 5:30 p.m., County Courthouse

**Tuesday, March 6** — Dover City Council, City Hall, 6 p.m.

## OUTSIDE

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Partly Cloudy High - 72°	Sunny High - 75°
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sunny High - 56°	Sunny High - 60°

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## Administrators re-hired for upcoming school term

All current administrators in the Dover School District will receive new contracts for the upcoming school year. This action was taken at last Thursday night's meeting of the Dover School Board. This includes: Verna Boxnick, Middle School Principal, Josh Daniels, Elementary School Assistant Principal, Donny Forehand, Elementary Principal, JoLynn Taverner, High School Principal, and Sue Virden, Curriculum Coordinator and Federal Programs Administrator.

The board accepted the resignations effective at the end of the 2011-2012 school year for Ashley Clifford- 7th grade literacy, Mike Galloway - special education paraprofessional, Jean McCain - custodian, and Shianne Whitaker - custodian. The 2012-2015 technology plan was presented by Technology Director Ben Janelle. This highlights the districts initiative for the next three years. The plan is required by the state and is non-binding.

A resolution to provide matching funds for 2013-2015 Funding Biennium Projects was approved. These fund will specifically be used for the new middle school addition in the amount of \$14,883,524.00.

Board president David Dale along with Michael Robbins and Tom Hill were in attendance. Michael Heimer and Ed Whitted were absent.

## Gibson seeks re-election for County Judge

Pope County Judge Jim Ed Gibson announces he will seek re-election.

"I look forward to the future and believe my experience and leadership will help maintain good government for Pope County," he said.

Gibson is a lifelong resident of Pope County. He is a Russellville High School graduate and attended Arkansas Tech University. He and his wife, Mary Kay, have two sons, Jeff of London and John of Little Rock; four granddaughters; a grandson; and two great-grandchildren. He is the son of the late John W. and Hettie E. Gibson.

Gibson is a member of the London Civic Club, the Russellville Lions Club, Russellville Area Chamber of Commerce, Dover Chamber of Commerce, London Masonic Lodge 339, Pope County Cattleman's Association, County Judges Association of Arkansas, Board Member of West Central Planning and Development Corp., Board Member of West River Valley Regional Solid Waste Management District, President of Jackson-Burris Senior Apartments, Board Member of ARVAC, Inc. and Member of the Board of Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center.

Gibson is a lifetime member of the London Parent-Teacher Association and an honorary lifetime member of the London Fire Department. In 2009, he was named Citizen of the Year by the Russellville Area Chamber of Commerce. He and his family attend the London Assembly of God Church.



## Lady Pirates sail towards Regionals

The Dover Lady Pirates finished second in district tournament held last week in Waldron. They have advanced to the regional tournament in Ozark and will play Siloh Christian Thursday at 4 p.m. See page 4 for preview story

## Library Board hires supervisor of young and adult programs

**By Van A. Tyson**  
The Pope County Library board has a new supervisor of young-adult and adult programs.

Assistant Librarian Sherri Simpson has been working with children's programming.

She has a master's degree in education and previously taught middle school students.

Librarian Shawn Pierce said people had approached her to increase young adult and adult programs and she was pleased to have Simpson take it over.

"Sherri is thrilled," she said.

The library has been busy in January, she told the board at its monthly meeting Wednesday, Feb. 15. A total of 8,225 people visited the Russellville branch and 3,000 used the other branches in the system, including Atkins, Dover and Hector.

Other use statistics were: 12,831 website page loads, 6,150 website visitors and 18 percent in page loads.

Electronic use included a 22 percent increase in e-books checked out. New patrons using Overdrive (the electronic catalog) increased from 67 in December to 85 in January. A total of 4,507 book titles are available in Library2Go and also 5,624 copies, including multiple copies of popular books. Pope County Library purchased 13 e-books in January, include five that were requested by patrons in the e-book format. Circulation totaled 14,746 in e-books.

She said the staff will meet with County Judge Jim Ed Gibson to deal with concerns he has about the contract with architect Jeffrey Scherer, who is working on a plan for library expansion.

All board members were present, including Chairman Connie Zimmer, Alta Cheek, vice chairman, Karen Womack, Jeannie Gray and Richard Perkins.

**Circulation**  
Circulation of books totaled more than 15,600 in January. The totals by branch were:

Branch	Adult	Juv	Yng Adult
Atkins	722	351	69
Dover	859	1,173	82
Hector	411	746	39
Bookmobile		222	
Russellville	7,051	2,828	594
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,265</b>	<b>5,581</b>	<b>823</b>
	<b>(Combined: 15,669)</b>		

## ATU to restore theatre workshop

Arkansas Tech University will move forward with \$4.8 million in improvements to its campus in Russellville, following action by the Tech Board of Trustees during its regular monthly meeting Thursday, Feb. 16.

Trustees committed \$176,510 to the initial phase of the restoration of the theatre workshop inside the Technionery. The funds will come from the unappropriated educational and general fund balance.

Arkansas Tech closed the theatre workshop on Sept.

15, 2011, after a report by the Russellville Fire Marshal found multiple "fire and life safety issues."

The theatre workshop will be returned to a safe operating condition by removing all hazardous materials (including paint), a preliminary cleaning, painting the interior walls, storage rooms and restroom, refinishing the floor and repairing the electrical system.

The funds dedicated to the project by trustees on Thursday will also allow the university to properly store items in the Technionery.

## Housley seeks re-election as Appleton constable

Constable James E. Housley of Appleton Township, formerly Griffin Township, is announcing his intent to seek re-election to an 8th term as constable.

Constable Housley has 13 years of experience, with more than 800 hours of law enforcement training. Over the preceding years, he has received his Part Time II certificate and Reserve Officer Certificate. He has also met all the requirements set by the State of Arkansas to be a certified Constable.

Constable Housley is a member of the Welcome Home Free Will Baptist Church, Appleton Volunteer Fire Department, Hector Volun-



James E. Housley

teer Fire Department, Hector Response Team and Hector Lodge #497. Housley said your support will be greatly appreciated.

## Hector School Board re-hires principals

The Hector School Board re-hired its principals and took some other personnel actions at its monthly meeting Monday night.

Principals renewed are Kathy Freeman, elementary school, and Jordan Price, high school, both for the 2012-13 school year. The actions came after a one-hour executive session.

Other personnel actions were additions of a literacy coach, \$1,250; math coach, \$1,250; dean of students, \$2,500, all effective July 1. All personnel action were unanimous on the recommendation of Superintendent Walt Davis.

**Bus purchase, bonds**  
The board also unanimously approved the recommendation of Davis to take the low bid on a 71-passenger International bus from Diamond State Bus Sales for \$76,500. Other bids were

Central Bus Sales, \$77,975, and Merl's Bus Sales, \$81,516.

The board also voted to ask the state Department of Education for permission to refinance some school bonds to get a lower interest rate after hearing a presentation by Jack Truemper of Stephens, Inc.

The board also approved the transfer of 7 and 5 year olds to the Russellville school district after Davis said they had always attended the Russellville schools and had been displaced because of a house fire;

approved the early release of a 17-year-old to leave at 2:20 each day to go to work, because the employment is vital to the household; (The student is "on track with grades and credits" he said.)

approved some handbook and policy changes that Davis said were mainly typographical errors;

approved the district's 2012-15 technology plan; approved renewal of the board's legal liability policy; scheduled the next regular meeting for March 13 at 6 p.m.

All board members were present except Todd Fountain, including Carolyn Cook, president; Terry Epperson, vice president; and Gary McDonald, secretary.

## Athletic Hall of Fame banquet is Saturday

The Dover Athletic Hall of Fame will induct five new members, as well as recognize four past inductees, at their annual banquet to be held February 25 at 6 p.m. in the High School Cafeteria.

Inductees to the 2012

Athletic Hall of Fame will be former basketball coach Sandy Taylor, former football coach John Karnes, Houston Townsend, Raymond Jones and Shane Lawson.

Past inductees to be honored are Lynell Brooks, JoAnn

Lovelady Kilburn, Merlene Brown Leavell and Henry Chronister.

Tickets are currently on sale at the superintendent's office. For more information, contact Athletic Director Robby Chenoweth.