AMS STUDENTS OF THE MONTH
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WE HAVE A WINNER!
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THE ATKINS CHRONICLE 1894 100 YEARS 1994

The Atkins Chronicle

THE HEART OF THE ARKANSAS RIVER VALLEY FOR 120 YEARS

WELCOMED EACH WEEK INTO THE HOME OF JOHN HEFLIN

50¢

USPS 035-740

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2015 — NO. 42 | ATKINS (POPE COUNTY) ARKANSAS 72823 | ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTIETH YEAR



Rivals Cup Struggle — Football players from Dover and Atkins tug on the Rivals Cup in preparation for Friday's game at Jack Berry Field in Dover. Players are from left: Pirates Kaleb Fondren, Luke Price and David Beavers and Red Devils Austin Dobbs, Nick Gray and Devin Dollar.

FYI — FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Offices closed for labor day holiday

The Pope County Courthouse and county offices, except for emergency type services (9-1-1, ambulance service, sheriff's patrol, and coroner), will be closed Monday, Sept. 7, in observance of Labor Day.

Atkins school election to be absentee

The Atkins School Board election, scheduled for Sept. 15, will be early voting and absentee only because the incumbent, Shawn Rooke, is unopposed for the available 5-year position.

Womack to host coffee in Russellville

Congressman Steve Womack (AR-3) is hosting the following event, which is open to the public:

WHAT: Coffee with the Congressman – Russellville

WHEN: Friday, Sept. 4, from 9 to 10:30 a.m.

WHERE: Pope County Senior Activity Center
1010 North Rochester Avenue
Russellville, AR 72801

AHS Class of 1965 planning 50th reunion

The Atkins High School Class of 1965 is planning its 50-year class reunion for Oct. 2 and 3, in conjunction with the football homecoming game. More details will be provided in future editions of the *Chronicle*. We are currently trying to contact all class members, and do not have current addresses or phone numbers for everyone. Any help would be greatly appreciated. For more information, contact Joe Sorrels at 479-747-3257 or Judy Watson at 479-641-2483.

Bank employees locked in vault

Two employees were accidently locked in the vault of the Pottsville branch of Centennial Bank Thursday of last week.

The two employees were at the branch around 12:30 p.m. when the door accidently closed behind them

The branch is open only for drive through, with the lobby closed. A customer waited for service and when no one came to the window, honked, with no response.

She then had someone call 911, and Pottsville police went to the scene and met a bank manager with a key.

"They were glad to see the policeman," the manager said.

"It is something you never think will happen and they will take care to avoid it in the future said the manager, who asked not to be identified.

She also said the bank preferred not to name the employees.

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Red Devils/Pirates ready for 42nd renewal of Pope County rivalry

By Gary Murdoch

The Atkins Red Devils and Dover Pirates will continue with one of the longest continuous rivalry games in the state Friday (9-4), at Dover, when the two Pope County schools play for the 42nd time in a rivalry that began in 1975. Atkins won 9 of the first 10 games in the series, 18 of the first 20 games, and led the series 24-5 when the Rivals Cup was added to the game.

After Atkins won the initial Rivals Cup game 35-24 in 2003 and the first six games in the series, the Pirates won back-to-back games in 2009 and 2010 and cut the Red Devils overall lead in the series to 33-8 with last year's 51-20 victory. Atkins leads the Rivals Cup series 9-3 but the rivalry has become much more competitive in the last 6 years. The two teams are 3-3 since 2009. Game time for Friday night's game at Jack Berry Field in Dover is 7 p.m.

"It's going to be a monumental challenge for our 23 little guys. It'll be an opportunity for something great," Atkins Coach Tommy Cody said at the press conference Monday.

Dover Coach Greg Smith said, "We're excited to see the football season get started. The seniors will try to win two in a row against Atkins."

Wall, county treasurer, not seeking re-election

Donna Wall, Pope County treasurer, has issued the following statement:

"I am grateful that I have been elected to serve six terms as Pope County Treasurer. It has been the fulfillment of a dream that I thought was completely impossible many years ago. That said, I will not be seeking re-election in the upcoming Republican Primary election in March, 2016. There remains almost one and one-third years in this current term. I intend to complete this term to the best of my ability and God's grace.

"Many factors have been taken into consideration in making this decision. The result has been that, at the end of this term, it is time to leave this position and devote my time to being a full-time wife, mom and grandma. I am looking forward to that position and to time at home and with my family.

"I am indebted to so many people for the opportunity I've had. Family, friends, staff, fellow officials over the last ten plus years, fellow workers, party members, all citizens of Pope County and most of all, my Heavenly Father. God has been my strength and guide. I find Him ever faithful and He has made it possible for that long ago dream to become a reality.



Wall

"I have enjoyed my time at the Courthouse; my career there spans 35 years. My goal has always been to welcome and be of assistance to the citizens of Pope County. After all, it is your Courthouse and your Treasurer's office. I have made many friends and enjoy the cooperative work atmosphere in the Courthouse. The Pope County officials have a unique and uncommon ability to come together for the good of the County and its citizens to do the County's business.

"I thank you for my job as Pope County Treasurer and ask God's blessings on each of you."

Murphy announces candidacy for Court of Appeals

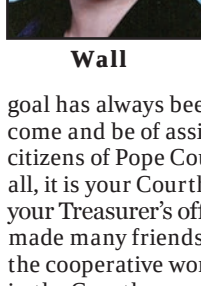
Circuit Judge Mike Murphy of Conway has announced his candidacy for the Arkansas Court of Appeals, District 2, Position 2 in the March 1, 2016 nonpartisan judicial elections.

Murphy currently serves as the 1st Division circuit judge for the 20th Judicial District (Faulkner, Searcy and Van Buren counties).

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve our citizens as one of their trial judges. It is an honor to seek this position on the appellate court bench. If elected, I pledge to work hard and uphold our laws with fairness, honesty and integrity."

A Faulkner County native, Murphy opened a private law practice in 1988 and worked as a deputy prosecutor. Elected as Conway's city attorney in 1990, he served for over 22 years before being elected circuit judge. Murphy attended UCA and the University of Arkansas, receiving his law degree from the School of Law in Fayetteville in 1986. He also served as law clerk for the United States Magistrate Judge in Springfield, Mo.

Murphy was an adjunct instructor at UCA; member of the Arkansas Bar Association House of Delegates; a past-president of the Arkansas City Attorneys Association and former member of the Little Rock Air Force Base Community Council. He is a member of the Arkansas Judicial Council, the Arkansas and Faulkner County Bar Associations and serves on the boards of the Conway Public Schools Foundation and the Faulkner County Museum Commission.



Murphy

Murphy is the father of three teenagers and member of Conway's First United Methodist Church.

District 2 of the Court of Appeals is comprised of 18 counties, including Baxter, Boone, Cleburne, Conway, Faulkner, Fulton, Independence, Izard, Jackson, Lawrence, Marion, Newton, Pope, Randolph, Searcy, Sharp, Stone, and Van Buren.



Photo by Sonja Bowden posted on Faceboo

Community Pep Rally — AHS Cheerleader Baylee Bowden flys above the rest during the community pep rally held in Sorrels Stadium Friday night.

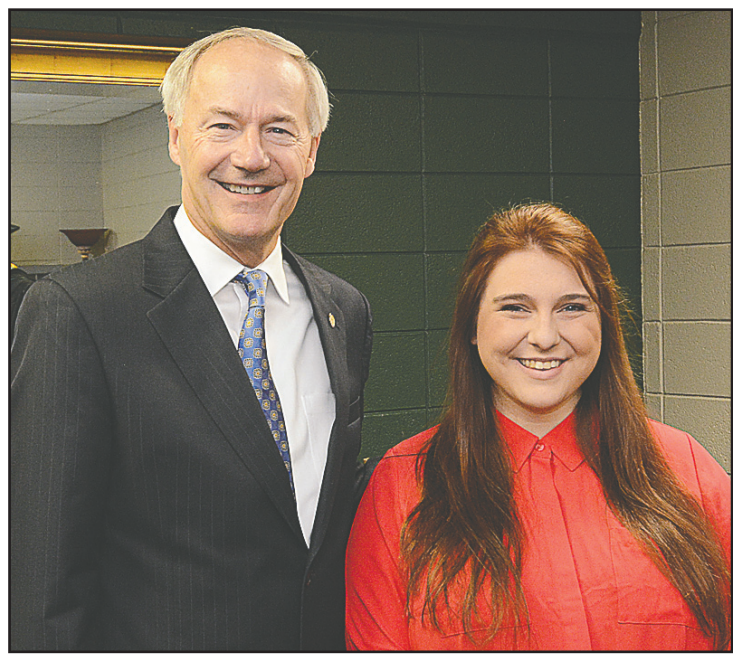
Rape suspect arrested in Oklahoma

The Pope County Sheriff's Office wishes to acknowledge the U. S. Marshal Service in the apprehension of Aaron Lyle Riddle on Friday, Aug 28.

Riddle was wanted in Pope County for two counts of rape of a person less than 14 years of age.

Riddle was arrested in Oklahoma and will be extradited to Arkansas after appearing in court on Oklahoma charges.

"I would also like to acknowledge our citizens who responded swiftly in supplying information about the possible location of Riddle. You are our eyes and ears in the community and your help is invaluable and always appreciated, " said Pope County Sheriff Shane Jones.



Arkansas Tech University student Jacqueline Reeves of Atkins (right) responded to an online request form inviting Gov. Asa Hutchinson to speak at the institution, and he accepted the offer by serving as guest speaker at the 2015 Arkansas Tech freshman convocation on Tuesday, Aug. 25.

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CALENDAR

Thursday, Sept. 3 — Atkins Lions Club, noon, Atkins Memorial Presbyterian church fellowship hall. Visitors welcome

Thursday, Sept. 3 — Pope County Quorum Court, 5:30 p.m., County Courthouse

Thursday, Sept. 3 — People for a Better Atkins (PBA), 7 p.m., Depot

Tuesday, Sept. 8 — Atkins City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall

OBITUARIES

Elmer Johnson
Lela Morris
Keith Murray
Frances Minter
Amanda Lambert
Dorothy Newport
Mary Frances Tomlin