



# PREMIERE



## KENDRA STREET

Premiere's Outstanding Teacher

AUGUST 2015

- BACK TO SCHOOL
- DOWNTOWN PARAGOULD IMPROVEMENTS
- TASTE OF HOME
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## CONTENTS



Marmaduke's Kendra Street was selected by Premiere readers as the area's Outstanding Teacher. See her story on page 26.

**8** OUR COMMUNITY

**10** NEW SIDEWALKS→→

**13** CALENDAR

**14** SCENE 'YA

**16** BELLE MEADE→→→  
Project Starts

**21** YOUNG ARTIST

**22** JONESBORO HOSTS  
SERIES

**26** BACK TO SCHOOL

**34** BUSINESS IS GOOD

**44** WEDDING STORY→→

**50** HAPPENINGS





**JOHN DEERE**



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## From the Managing Editor...



Richard Brummett, Managing Editor

Congratulations are in order for Marmaduke kindergarten teacher Kendra Street, winner of this year's Premiere Magazine Outstanding Teacher Award. That's Kendra on the cover of this month's issue, since she was voted by

Premiere readers as their favorite from among the 16 monthly winners for the past school year. We are always happy to recognize outstanding teachers, since we understand they are helping shape the lives of tomorrow's community leaders.

Having grown up in the home of a teacher, and having two daughters who followed in their grandmother's footsteps, I know the long hours required and the stress factors that accompany the task of trying to educate someone else's children. Not every home emphasizes school work, and not every parent demands that their children show respect in the classrooms and hallways, making the job a difficult one.

According to a 2012 Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation report:

-- Teachers spend an average 5 hours per day on instruction, both in class and providing tutoring or extra academic support while approximately 36 minutes is spent on student supervision and discipline.

-- Every day teachers spend an average of 45 minutes planning, preparing, or collaborating with colleagues and 36 minutes per day on

### A Big "Thank You" to allyIT

There aren't many feelings worse than having a magazine just moments away from being ready to go to press and watching your computer slowly die, taking with it all your work.

That's where I found myself last week and only the expert touch of allyIT's Gerard Connors brought this month's issue back to life. He was able to retrieve almost everything that had disappeared and I owe him a debt of gratitude for his excellent work. ♦

grading, documenting, and analyzing student work.

-- Teachers have seen a 56% increase in the number of their students who are living in poverty and 49% have seen more students arriving at school hungry; more than half of elementary school teachers reported that students take standardized tests seriously and perform to the best of their ability. In middle school, it falls to 43%, and by high school, 36%.

Teachers care about your children, and we are fortunate to have many excellent educators in our community. We salute them all. ♦

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Dr. Carole Cramer and Max, her assisted therapy dog. At right, Max helps comfort Tucker Ward, who has a rare genetic disorder. Animal-assisted therapy helps address a wide range of health issues.



## Meet Max, an assisted therapy dog

**A**nimal-assisted therapy is a widely accepted practice to significantly reduce stress, anxiety, pain and depression in people of all ages with a variety of health issues.

Noted researcher, Dr. Aubrey Fine, poses three theories on why people connect to animals. The first is Love – we feel love toward animals because they provide a warm and wanted connection with us. The second is Attachment – we like to care-give and care-receive. The third is Biophilia – we need to interact with our environment and other species. Drs. David Radin and Carole

### Our Community

By Cheryl Nichols



Cramer understand this need for connection due to their amazing dog, Max.

**Cheryl Nichols:** David, tell our readers a little about Max.

**David Radin:** Max is a five year old Parti Standard Poodle. The term “Parti” refers to his black and white coloring. Max is smart

and calm and so good with people and other animals. He is a wonderful family dog.

**CN:** Why did you and your wife, Carole, decide to adopt a poodle?

**DR:** We’ve adopted many rescue dogs over the years, but because of Carole’s allergies and our desire to find a breed with a bit more behavioral predictability, we decided to do some research on pure breeds. We learned that poodles do not shed and are hypoallergenic. We visited a recommended breeder and fell in love with poodles.

CN: How did you and Carole get involved with pet therapy?

DR: It was really Max that presented the idea. As he grew out of his playful puppy stage he was so easy to train and seemed to have a natural sense of calm and compassion around other people. People were drawn to him. The Flo & Phil Jones Hospice House at St. Bernards was opening and searching for certified therapy animals to visit the residents. Carole and I knew this was a perfect job for Max and we were willing to make the training and time commitment. There were no organizations in Jonesboro that provided the certification training so we located a training group in Little Rock called Able Paws. The certification process took a few months. As his handlers, Carole and I attended a workshop without Max and then worked on skills with Max. We participated in practice evaluations and then we each passed the certification exam with Max.



Max and owner Dr. David Radin.

skills with Max. We participated in practice evaluations and then we each passed the certification exam with Max.

CN: Tell me more about the impact this experience has had on you, Carole and Max - the "therapy team."



Max at the St. Bernards Hospice House. Dogs like Max provide comfort for those in need, as witnessed by the loving hand of the resident touching Max.

DR: Max has allowed us to meet people and provide comfort in ways we would have never experienced without him. We have met families like the Bryon and Ashley Ward who's son, Tucker, has a rare genetic disorder called Sanfilippo Syndrome. Carole and I have been working on rare disease therapies for years (David and Carole are research

scientists with labs in the Arkansas Biosciences Institute at Arkansas State University) including the Sanfilippo disorder. So, as you can imagine, interacting with Tucker and his family is deeply meaningful for us.

CN: To learn more about animal therapy and training options please visit <https://petpartners.org/> . ♦

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Visitors to Downtown Paragould will be asked to step lightly and carefully for several months while the entire area takes on a new look.

**D**owntown Paragould started getting a makeover in July, undergoing a project designed to provide new sidewalks, utilities, and streetlamps from one end of Pruett Street to the other, but the idea for the facelift was born as we entered the 2000s.

Approximately 15 years ago Brian Borne, the first director of Main Street Paragould, envisioned a downtown area with improved lighting, sidewalks and streetscapes -- an idea that is just now beginning to see the light of day.

When the current project is completed months from now, Downtown will feature a much more attractive and appealing look for shoppers and diners who visit the Paragould area.

KEG Construction of Paragould was awarded the project, which carries a price tag of more than \$865,000 and Main Street Paragould Executive Director Gina Jarrett said she finds the improvements "pretty incredible. This is going to have a huge impact



on us, for 50 or 60 years down the road. We are going to be well-lit, and Downtown will look good and inviting."

Jarrett said when the work proceeds it will include parts of 2nd and 3rd streets as well as "all our east-west streets -- Main, Emerson, Court, Poplar. Overall, it's an eight-month project.

"This is something we've needed for a long time," she said, explaining that a number of things have deteriorated over time, but new stained concrete patterns that will join the curbs will make an increasingly attractive picture.

"We've needed lighting desperately," Jarrett said, crediting Paragould Light Water and Cable for contributing the new lighting scheme.

"They've done the utilities and gotten the electricity run," she said. "No one can even remember us doing anything like this since the time of dirt roads and boardwalks. They've uncovered and replaced the original waterlines ... this is just going to be huge for Paragould."

Work began on the north end of Pruett Street in the 200 block and will continue southward month by month.

Jarrett said local businesspeople have been supportive of the idea, even though having

sidewalks destroyed and concrete chunks lying around has not been the best for business. "We have a great bunch of businesspeople downtown," she said. "It shows in our growth. We have a new restaurant opening soon, we have businesses that have relocated here, we have businesses redoing their look ... we currently have no retail spaces ready to be rented. "Before long, it's going to be necessary for us to build new structures in order to be downtown."

**"This is going to have a huge impact on us, for 50 or 60 years down the road. We are going to be well-lit, and Downtown will look good and inviting."**

-- Gina Jarrett  
Main Street Paragould

Money for the improvements was included in in the city of Paragould's 2015 budget, Jarrett said. ♦

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31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	



**Whitlee Smith, 3, has a smile on her face, thinking about the fun she could have in the water park at the Paragould Community Center. Whitlee is the daughter of Lance and Laura Smith of Jonesboro.**

# PREMIERE'S SCENE 'YA



Marty and Lance Brown at the St. Bernards Triple Swing event in Jonesboro.



Joseph and Mara Lundry swinging at Craighead Forest State Park in Jonesboro.

Premiere Magazine caught several folks out and about in Northeast Arkansas



Above, Crystal Harrison and Ella Brewer; below, Madelyn Easley, Howard Clark, Howard Clark, Sydney Armstrong and Lace Warren at Craighead Forest.



Jennifer Brunner and her children at Craighead Forest.

Above, Malexis, Kamaryon and Martha Otis at Craighead Forest.



# Taste of Home Cooking School brings the taste of fall to NEA

Specialist adds culinary kick to the season, sharing delicious recipes with local home cooks

The perfect recipe for creating new memories with loved ones includes good friends, good conversation and, of course, great food. As home cooks across the country head back to the kitchen to cook up fall's flavorful dishes, the Taste of Home Cooking School is preparing to share seasonal recipes that are certain to delight.

Taste of Home's Culinary Specialist Jamie Dunn will be at the Arkansas State University Convocation Center on Tuesday, Dec. 8, to share home cooking tips and tricks while demonstrating step-by-step recipes for the season's best dishes. This season's event is brought to Northeast Arkansas by MOR Media, Inc.

The Taste of Home Cooking School is America's leading cooking school program, inspiring more than 140,000 passionate home chefs at 200-plus events nationwide. Attendees experience exciting recipe demonstrations using ingredients that are easily found at the local grocery store and best of all, the dishes are submitted by home cooks from across the country.

"From experienced home chefs to beginners learning their way around the kitchen, the Taste of Home Cooking School offers something for everyone – putting a fresh spin on old favorites and adding new and



Tickets won't last long at the ever popular Taste of Home Cooking School, scheduled for Jonesboro in December. See information below on ticket prices and how to purchase them.

delicious recipes to your seasonal repertoire," said Dunn, Taste of Home Culinary Specialist.

Attendees will receive a gift bag including the Taste of Home Cooking School magazine. This magazine includes recipes featured during the program, along with many more, as well as coupons and other goodies from participating national food companies. Some attendees will go home with an exciting door

prize or one of the tasty recipes created onstage that night.

Tickets will go on sale soon at the Arkansas State University box office for \$15. Visit their website at [www.astate.edu/tickets](http://www.astate.edu/tickets) and click on "Cooking School" for complete ticket information and show highlights.

For more information, visit [www.Taste-ofHome.com/Cooking-Schools](http://www.Taste-ofHome.com/Cooking-Schools).

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# Green House Cottages of Belle Meade



AMMC's Barry Davis, Greene County Judge Rusty McMillon, Mark Thompson and Ross Ponthie of Southern Administrative Services, Paragould Mayor Mike Gaskill, Belle Meade's Pam Diggs, Dr. Barry Hendrix and Sue McGowan of the Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce do the honors at the Green House Cottages groundbreaking.

One of the most modern concepts in elderly housing and rehabilitation took its first steps in Paragould during July, when local dignitaries and various healthcare industry representatives took part in the groundbreaking ceremony for the Green House Cottages of Belle Meade.

Ten cottages are planned for the initial construction phase, with each cottage of approximately 7,500 square feet containing a private room for the resident, kitchen, bathing facility and their own staff in the house with them. Each cottage will house 12 residents.

The ceremony took place next to Chateau On The Ridge, an assisted living facility, on land purchased by Belle Meade from the Arkansas Methodist Medical Center. The new project has a price tag of \$15.8 million.

Belle Meade Nursing Center Administrator Pam Diggs said, "This is something I fell in love with from the first time I heard about it. We will be able to care for patients at any level of care that they need. It will be

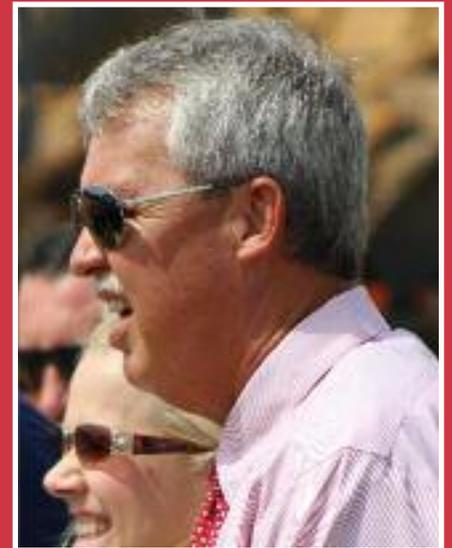
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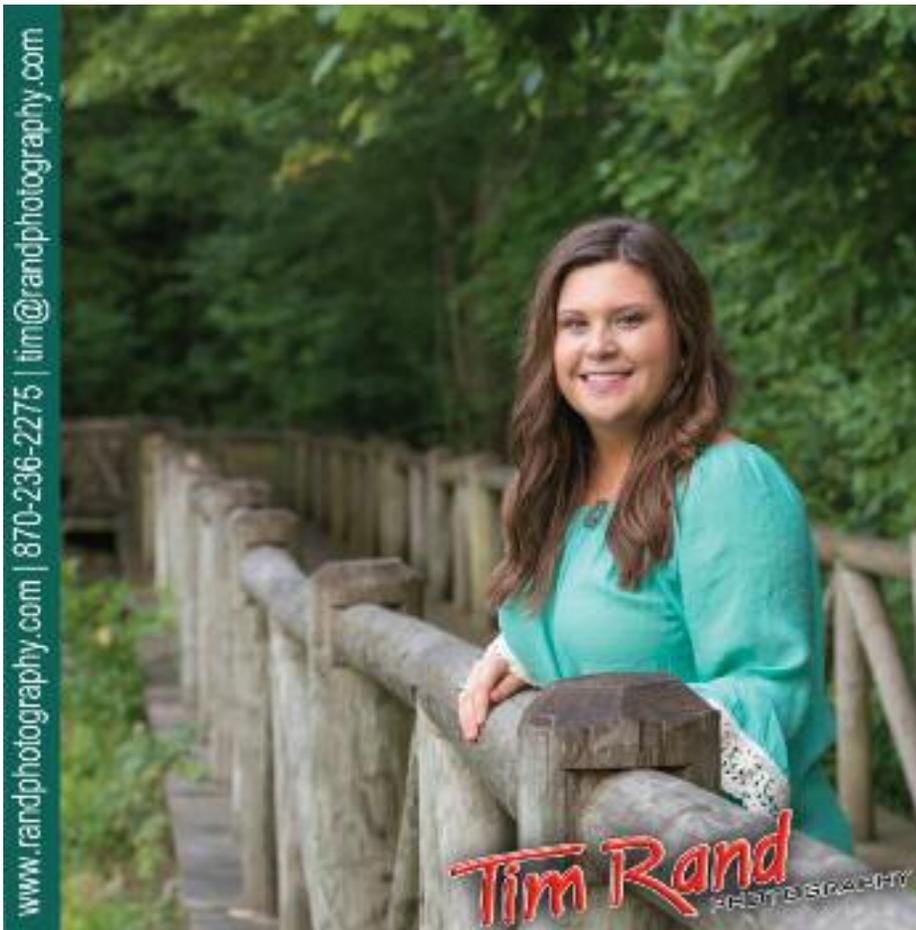


Speakers at the groundbreaking ceremony for the proposed Green House Cottages of Belle Meade included Paragould Mayor Mike Gaskill, above left; Pam Diggs, Belle Meade Nursing Center Administrator, above; and Jon Ponthie, left, managing member of Southern Administrative Services.



Belle Meade residents, right, joined scores of supporters at the groundbreaking ceremony for the new cottages that will house the elderly. City and county officials and representatives of the local business world showed up to lend their support the the cause.





done in a very dignified, private and just a wonderful situation for all of them.”

Instead of one large facility to house senior residents, individual cottages are planned with a new outlook toward elderly care.

Jon Ponthie, managing member of Southern Administrative Services and one of the developers of the project, said the concept is ahead of its time.

“It basically throws the concepts of long-term care on their ear,” Ponthie stated. “It’s a deinstitutionalized model.”

He said instead of featuring a huge central complex it will host the series of cottages that will help the facility translate into better and more personalized care for those who make use of it.

Diggs said the individual attention will be much better for the seniors living there, pointing to the opportunities for residents to enhance relationships with those who care for them.

Diggs said it will be “a more intimate environment. People thrive better in a smaller environment.”

In opening statements, Paragould Mayor Mike Gaskill said couldn’t be happier to see construction begin.

“It provides something for all of our citizens in Paragould,” Gaskill said. “This has only been done in two other places in the state of Arkansas. We’re excited about being able to do that. It’s a project that’s going to take care of our elderly people and that’s a great thing because, you know that they are just as important to our community as everybody else is.”

Ponthie said his company is delighted to be a part of the project, again pointing to the wonderful relationships the elderly can expect and come to appreciate due to the smaller approach to housing and care.

Additional buildings planned include an administrative office and a state of the art rehabilitation complex that will include speech, occupational and physical therapy.

Ten houses are scheduled for the original construction phase, with the ability to expand to 14 total if an increase in population warrants the additional buildings. ♦

# Downtown Jonesboro BBQ & Music Festival features Commodores

The Jonesboro Advertising and Promotions Commission's BBQ and Music Festival will host one of Motown's best selling acts. The annual free event will include the Grammy Award winning band The Commodores, who have sold over 70 million albums with hits including "Brick House," "Fancy Dancer," "Lady (You Bring Me Up)," "Too Hot ta Trot," "Easy," "Three Times a Lady," and "Nightshift."

Alderman Tim McCall, Commission Member and Festival Chairman, said the event "is about providing our community and visitors with an opportunity to see Jonesboro and all the things we have to offer. The Commodores bring one of the most durable and enjoyable bands of the R&B world to Jonesboro."

While attending college at Tuskegee Institute in 1968, they were discovered by Berry Gordy and went on to become Motown's largest selling act for two decades, the '70s and '80s.

Event Coordinator Jack Turner said, "The Commodores have staying power. Just like their hit song 'Brick House,' the Commodores have created a foundation that just won't budge, even after four decades."

In recent years the festival has seen Lee Brice, 38 Special, Rick Springfield, Easton Corbin and Night Ranger perform in Downtown Jonesboro.

The festival also hosts the Kansas City Barbecue Society-sanctioned Arkansas State



The Commodores will bring their musical talents to Northeast Arkansas in September for the Downtown Jonesboro BBQ & Music Festival, providing a free concert.

Championship. The Kansas City Barbecue Society (KCBS) is the largest BBQ organization in the world. Each year, the Grand Champion is invited to the American Royal and Jack Daniels World Championship. McCall said, "The past few years we have seen contestants from all over the country and as far away as Washington State. Last year's event saw over 65 contestants competing for more than \$10,000 in cash and prizes."

McCall and Turner, who have organized the event since inception, said they are "excited to have the Commodores coming to

Jonesboro. Those attending will be in for a great show, with hit after hit and to top it off, it's free!"

The Commodores will take the NEA Baptist Stage at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, September 26. Other activities include activities for the kids, plenty of food, vendors, crafts and wrestling.

For more information contact:

Tim McCall, Event Chairman, at:

870-974-4663 or [tcmr@suddenlink.net](mailto:tcmr@suddenlink.net)

Jack Turner, Event Coordinator, at:

870-926-6611 or [jturner0@gmail.com](mailto:jturner0@gmail.com).

An advertisement for iROCK 103.9. On the left, a smartphone displays the station's logo. To the right, the logo is shown in a larger, stylized font. Below the logo are the Apple App Store and Google Play logos, and the website address irocknea.com. A pair of headphones is also visible at the bottom.

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# GCT student's work wins Congressional Art Competition

Cheyenne Johnson, a May graduate of Greene County Tech High School in Paragould, captured first place in the 2015 Congressional Art Competition, earning a trip to Washington, D.C., and a meeting with U.S. First District Congressman Rick Crawford.

Johnson's entry, "Ribbon," will now be displayed in the Cannom House Office Building for the next year, and earned entry into the national contest as well.

Cheyenne said her mother is a breast cancer survivor, inspiring her to create her pink ribbon flamingo.

"When I entered the competition and then found out I won," she said, "to be honest, I was sort of shocked. I thought it was good ... but I was still shocked."

The Congressional Art Competition began in 1982 to provide an opportunity for members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. Since then, over 650,000 high school students have been involved with the nationwide competition.

The competition is open to high school students only. Artwork must be two-dimensional and each entry must be



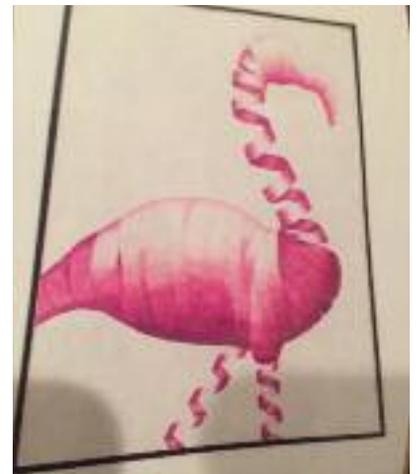
Congressman Rick Crawford and Cheyenne Johnson pose with her artwork, entitled "Ribbon," which is also pictured at right. By winning the local competition, Johnson earned the right to have her work entered in the national contest as well.

original in concept, design, and execution.

Cheyenne is currently a student at Hair Tech Beauty College in Paragould but said she plans to keep in touch with her artistic side.

"Drawing, painting ... anything, really," she explained.

Cheyenne is the daughter of Randy and Martha Johnson of Paragould. ♦



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## Jonesboro set to host Cal Ripken World Series

Hundreds of 10-year-old baseball players will arrive at the beautiful Joe Mack Campbell Stadium to compete in the World Series this month.

**N**ine regional champions and an all-star team from Jonesboro will play in the Cal Ripken World Series at Joe Mack Campbell Park in August, bringing together some of the best 10-year-old baseball teams in the country.

The World Series will bring about 130 players and their families to Jonesboro - potentially thousands of people that city officials say will provide a boost to the city's economy.

Jonesboro's Advertising and Promotion Commission provided the tournament guarantee fee of \$45,000 that is to be used for costs associated with the World Series such as travel and lodging expenses for each team.

"It's going to be a huge economic impact to the city taxpayer's wise. I expect a couple million dollars off tax revenue between hotels and food and restaurants and gas," Jonesboro Parks and Recreation Director Wixson Huffstetler said.

According to published reports, the Jonesboro Parks and Recreation Department, Jonesboro Baseball, and the Jonesboro Advertising and Promotion Commission spent about half a million dollars to make the tournament a possibility for Northeast Arkansas.

In order to help accommodate the huge crowds that are expected, some additions have been made since the agreement to host the World



More than 200 new parking spaces have been added at Jonesboro's Joe Mack Campbell Park to help make the large number of visitors to the national tournament a bit easier to handle.

Series happened three years ago. For instance, an additional 270 parking spaces were constructed at Joe Mack Campbell Park, a venue considered one of the best in the region.

The Cal Ripken 10-year-old World Series will begin with team orientations on August 6, an opening ceremony on August 7, and the games will take place from August 8-15.

Mountain Home will also be representing Arkansas in the 10-team tournament bracket. ♦



David MacDonald, above, a Jonesboro police officer, was the winner of the 4-wheeler donated by Barton's Power Sports. From left below, Becky Wilson gives checks to Greg Lawson and Kevin Foust of D.A.R.E; Michael Davis of the Iron Riders Of Christ; Abate's Larry Brewer; and Kevin Richardson representing Out Of The Dark.

## Riding on the Ridge Rally raises needed funds

Thanks to both the numerous sponsors and motorcycle riders who participated, the 2015 Riding on the Ridge Rally raised money for area organizations.

Out Of The Dark and the Jonesboro D.A.R.E. program each received checks for \$14,000, while Arkansas Bikers Aiming Toward Education and Iron Riders Of Christ each earned \$1,000 or more.

Becky Wilson, Chairperson, ROR - Ridin On The Ridge Bike Rally, presented the checks. ♦



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# Get Up and Go...

It's a short drive from Paragould to Missouri's Lake Wappapello State Park but one that's long on entertainment for those who love the outdoors.

About 30 minutes from Poplar Bluff, Wappapello provides opportunities for hiking, trail riding, camping, swimming, watering skiing and fishing, for starters.

Lake Wappapello's clear Ozark waters can easily be accessed via the park's three boat ramps. Fishermen will find an excellent population of white bass, crappie and bluegill, as well as largemouth bass and catfish. Swimmers gain access to the lake at the park's sand swimming beach. The park's store offers personal watercraft rentals as well as drinks and snacks. Swimmers, boaters and hikers all have easy access to picnic and day-use areas, which include picnic sites, shelters and playground equipment.

Visitors wishing to stay overnight have two lodging options. Eight modern cabins with kitchens are available with advance reservations. These air-conditioned and heated cabins come equipped with linens, kitchen supplies, picnic tables and grills. Four rustic camper cabins are also available. Campers have a choice of two campgrounds -- one perched on the ridge and one nestled near the lake. Each campground features hot showers, modern restrooms, laundry facilities and sanitary dumping stations.

Follow Highway 67 North from Paragould, then turn right on Hwy. 172 East to find the park. For information, call 573-297-3232. ♦



# ... to Wappapello State Park

Lake Wappapello boasts an amphitheatre, above, but it is the lake itself that draws the crowds. Shaded playground areas abound, as do campsites and the chance to gather with friends for a relaxing day on the water.





Rustic cabins, above, can be rented and the lake provides areas for skiing and wakeboarding, a roped off beach and swimming area, and the chance to see some wildlife, even on a hot summer afternoon.





Premiere readers have chosen Marmaduke teacher Kendra Street as Teacher of the Year.

## Kendra Street is Teacher of the Year

**K**endra Street was excited to learn she had been chosen as Premiere Magazine readers' Teacher of the Year, but not for the exact reason one might expect.

"I was definitely very surprised," she said upon learning of her honor. "Very excited, but definitely very surprised. But the biggest thing for me was not necessarily that *I* won, but that a *Marmaduke* teacher won."

Kendra, a kindergarten teacher at Marmaduke Elementary School, will begin her ninth year of teaching in just a few days and said being recognized by others for doing something she loves is quite an honor.

"It's the biggest compliment you can get as a teacher," she said. "For other people to appreciate what you do is great, and to be named Teacher of the Year is incredible."

She said instead of setting specific classroom goals before the school year even gets started, she prefers to approach each new session "with an open mind. Every child has his or her own personality and needs to be dealt with a different way.

"I like to go in, take my time, learn each child," she said, "and then see what we think works best for them."

She said every year is different when dealing with students who are so young.

"It's hard to know what to expect," she said. "At the beginning, I just want to get to know the kids and what their individual needs are. Once we get going, and get settled, then what I want is for everyone to achieve ... to meet their potential."

Kendra was selected from a field of 16 teachers, each one a winner in Premiere's

Outstanding Teacher of the Month promotion.

Teachers are nominated by parents, coworkers, students and others and receive movie passes and gift certificates from local businesses to recognize their selections. Then, at the end of the school year, all 16 are once more presented to the readers and voting resumes for the one teacher designated as Teacher of the Year.

For winning, Kendra earned another prize package of gift certificates and a cash bonus, as well as the honor of appearing on the cover of Premiere's annual Back to School issue.

"Just surprised, that's really all I can tell you," she said, "... and honored. I'm really honored to be someone's teacher of the year and I appreciate anyone who voted for me.

"I just do what I do because I love it." ♦

## GIFT ARKANSAS 529 COLLEGE INVESTING PLAN

As Arkansans, you understand the value and importance of higher learning & skill development for your children & grandchildren. This past spring, the GIFT Arkansas 529 College, Trade & Vocational School Savings Plan launched an exciting 75-county tour to heighten public awareness and kick start the conversation about the state's college and vocational school savings plan called GIFT Arkansas 529. The Arkansas plan is appropriately named "GIFT" (Great Investment For Tomorrow), because there are few greater gifts that you can provide for your children and grandchildren than the powerful gift of education.

GIFT Arkansas 529 College, Trade & Vocational School Savings Plans help families save for college or vocational school expenses because the earnings on the 529 account grow tax-deferred and then become tax-free when used for qualifying higher education expenses (allowed by Section 529 in the IRS Code). An additional bonus for Arkansas residents is a state income tax deduction (up to \$5,000/individual and \$10,000/couple per year) for their contributions into their 529 college & vocational school investing account.

Another powerful component of the GIFT Arkansas 529 College Savings Plan is the

Aspiring Scholars Matching Grant program. The ASMG initiative offers matching grants to income-eligible GIFT AR 529 account owners, and you may contact the Aspiring Scholars Coordinator, Emma Willis, at (501) 682-3817 for additional information regarding this program.

Assets may be used at any accredited 2 or 4-year college, trade/vocational or graduate school in the country, and qualified higher education expenses include tuition and certain room and board costs, required fees, books and supplies. Account owners may select the investment option (managed by Vanguard) that is best for them, including age-based options or custom portfolios.

The thought of paying for college or trade school can be daunting. But it is important to remember to start early and that "every dollar counts!" Open your account today, and allow the earning power of your dollars to work for you. Call the Executive Director Beth Anne Rankin at (501) 682-1406 or go online at [www.arkansas529.org](http://www.arkansas529.org) for more information about GIFT Arkansas 529 College Investing Plans.



Executive Director,  
Beth Anne Rankin

### Contact Us:

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7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.,

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**Play while you can ...  
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*Area parks are getting a lot of attention as the temperatures rise and the days before school begins dwindle. Jill and Raylee Vaughn, above, fed the ducks at Reynolds Park while below. Logun Ervin splashed away at Crowley's Ridge State Park.*





Abi Sage frolicked at Paragould's Labor Park during a hot summer afternoon.

# Not that many perks when you are a teacher's kid

There were not all that many perks to being a teacher's kid, which is what I was for all of my school days.

Like any other student, if I managed to make an exceptionally good grade on a difficult assignment I wanted some recognition, but when I proudly displayed my paper with the big red "A" scribbled on it, inevitably someone would say, "Duh ... your mom's a teacher" as if Mom somehow transmitted answers to me from the far reaches of the school complex.

It was especially frustrating once I was in junior high and fighting my way through courses like algebra. When someone pulled out the teacher's kid card I wanted to say, "She teaches *fourth* grade. The hardest math problem she put on her last test was to add 14 and 31. How is that helping me with this A plus B plus C thing?"

Let me make a bad grade and kids couldn't wait to publicize the news, finishing off the critique of my most recent 72 with, "And your mom's a teacher!" punctuating it with hearty laughter.

## Get Rich

By Richard Brummett



But one day when we were in the fifth grade I thought my status as the offspring of an educator might actually pay off. We were playing the sixth grade in a baseball game at recess, a hotly contested match in which we underclassmen were giving the older boys all they could handle.

When playing baseball, a common occurrence was for the ball to wind up across the street in someone's front yard, since Woodrow Wilson Elementary School was situated right in the middle of a neighborhood. Whether the result of a foul ball, a bad hop or a throw, the ball frequently found its way onto the neighbor's lawn, just a short sprint away, but school rules dictated that we had to go get a member of the Safety Patrol to make the 30-foot walk across the street and back instead of

getting the ball for ourselves. A really dumb rule, I surmised; by the time we found a Safety Patrol person and got them to stop playing hopscotch or jumping rope or just talking, we could have already retrieved the ball, gotten two more hits and scored a couple of runs.

That was the case one day when the ball bounded across the pavement and there was little time left in the second recess period, and we really, really needed that ball, and needed it right then. As we frantically scanned the playground for an official street crosser, one of the sixth-graders looked at me and said, "You can go get it. Your mom's a teacher."

"Yeah, that's right," even more sixth-graders said. "You can get it. Your mom's a teacher."

I wasn't certain about that loophole in the Don't Cross The Street policy, but these guys should know, right? They're sixth-graders, after all. They've been here a long time. They've seen things, they've lived through a lot of recesses, haven't they?

So I told myself, "Yeah, I'm a teacher's kid. I can go get it," and that's exactly what I did, sprinting across the street and back like someone dodging sniper fire. I was a momentary hero, the one guy who helped the game resume without the hassle of chasing down a fellow student wearing a Safety Patrol sash.

I was "the man" for the remainder of that middle recess, looking with great anticipation toward the last one when we were going to continue with one of the greatest baseball upsets in Woodrow Wilson history, all because I got the ball back in time for us to continue playing before the bell rang.

My celebrity status lasted about 20 minutes into the next class period, when I was summoned to the principal's office and greeted with the news that a member of the Safety Patrol had seen me cross the street. "But my mom's a teacher," I explained, to which the principal said, "Exactly. So you should know better," and she informed me that I could just stay in the classroom and write sentences during the final recess of the day.

As I said, there weren't that many perks. ♦

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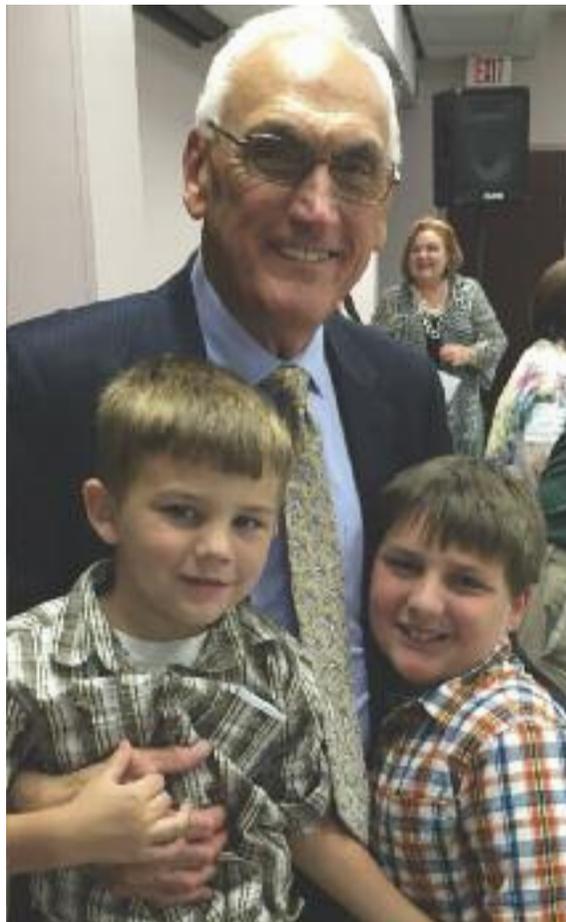
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## Friends, family mark Hefner's 80th birthday



**P**aragould's Dick Hefner celebrated his 80th birthday in style, taking the good-natured barbs of friends and family in stride.

The longtime Greene County Tech High School principal was toasted and roasted by wellwishers as he marked his milestone birthday event at Paragould's Community Center. ♦



After listening to others' comments about him, Hefner had his turn at the microphone before spending time with his grandsons.



# SAVE THE DATE

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# Jonesboro offering Citizen Police Academy again

The Jonesboro Police Department will again provide an opportunity to citizens who want a working knowledge of police functions, policies and services through its community outreach program, the Citizen Police Academy.

Beginning September 3, the program will take an interactive approach with many opportunities for hands-on activities to reinforce the curriculum taught by police officers and law enforcement personnel.

Classes will be conducted on Thursday nights for 12 weeks, covering a wide range of topics like patrol operations, police canine operations, criminal investigations, crime prevention techniques, traffic stops, and SWAT tactics.

Students also may choose from electives like spending a day on a firing range or riding along with an officer.

The mission of the CPA is to educate the community about the Jonesboro Police Department in order to dispel misconceptions about police officers and police functions, while encouraging a partnership with the community to enable community-led problem solving.

The class will be limited to 35 students selected from among eligible applicants. Participants must be at least 21 years old, live or work in Craighead County, have no prior felony arrests and have no serious misdemeanor arrests in the last two years.

Students must attend at least 75 percent of the classes to be eligible for graduation in November.

Upon graduation, CAP alumni who are interested may volunteer to help the JPD when needed.

For more information, or to register, contact Paul Holmes, JPD media specialist, at 870-336-7297, pholmes@jonesboro.org, or Sgt. Cassie Brandon, cbrandon@jonesboro.org. An application can also be found on the JPD website at [www.jonesboropolice.org](http://www.jonesboropolice.org).

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# Business Is Good

## Unico names Briana Bohr to Loan Processor position

**B**riana Bohr is a new Loan Processor at the Kingshighway branch of Unico Bank in Paragould.

A native of Rector, Briana is married to Wes Bohr, a Master Technician at Bayird Motors in Kennett and is mother to 19-year-old twins, River and Raven.

She has experience in the business world, having spent two years as a teller with another bank and three years with a title company, and has just earned her finance degree from Arkansas State University.

Briana and her family live in Rector and she said the first days on her new job have provided positive feedback.

“So far it’s been a great experience,” Briana said. “Everyone has been very friendly and welcoming. It is a very family-oriented environment.”

She said even former banking coworkers “all have been very excited for me. And I’ve gotten a lot of support from the community.”

Briana can be reached at Unico Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. ♦



Briana Bohr

## Christmas Parade in Downtown Paragould set for December 8th

**P**lans are being made for the 2015 Paragould Christmas Parade, and volunteers are being sought for a variety of roles.

“The Spirit of Christmas” will be this year’s parade theme, with the actual event taking place on Tuesday evening, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m.

Tracy Mothershed is chairwoman for the parade committee and has asked that those willing to volunteer in any capacity commit no later than Nov. 1.

Anyone seeking information about the parade or on how they might be of assistance may call Mothershed at 870-565-5169. ♦

## Downtown Jonesboro Association gets grant

The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage, recently awarded the Downtown Jonesboro Association a \$15,000 Main Street Downtown Revitalization Grant.

From left: Lt. Gov. Tim Griffin, Department of Arkansas Heritage Director Stacy Hurst, Hailey Knight, Blake Johnson, Main Street Arkansas Director Greg Phillips.





Dr. Ezekiel (Zeke) Shotts

## NEA Baptist welcomes new radiology specialist

**D**r. Ezekiel (Zeke) Shotts, originally from Paragould, recently moved back to Northeast Arkansas to practice at NEA Baptist in Jonesboro. Dr. Shotts is a radiologist who also specializes in image-guided procedures to help alleviate pain and treat various conditions.

He received a bachelor of science in biology with a minor in chemistry from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, then went on to obtain his doctor of medicine from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock. Upon graduation, he moved to Rochester, MN, to participate in the Diagnostic Radiology Program at Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education (Mayo Clinic).

Dr. Shotts brings a new service line to NEA Baptist – a Musculoskeletal Procedure Clinic. Through this clinic and advanced technology at NEA Baptist, he provides diagnostic and therapeutic image-guided musculoskeletal procedures resulting in pain relief and improved quality of life. The clinic treats various conditions such as tennis elbow, carpal tunnel, trigger finger, plantar fasciitis, pain in the joints and much more. This specialized clinic requires a referral from a family medicine physician or other specialist.

Dr. Shotts is a member of the American College of Radiology, American Roentgen Ray Society, Radiological Society of North America and International Spine Intervention Society. ♦

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## Dr. Nolan Jaeger accepting patients at St. Bernards

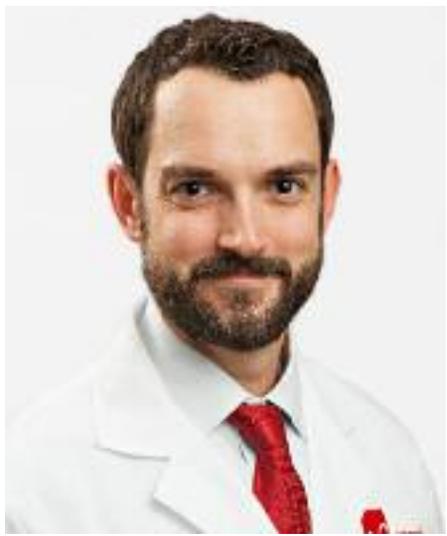
**D**r. Nolan Jaeger has joined the medical staff at St. Bernards as a plastic surgeon and is seeing patients at St. Bernards Plastic Surgery, 1150 East Matthews Ave., Jonesboro.

He is one of 27 new physicians in the St. Bernards "Class of 2015."

Jaeger received his medical degree from the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine in Oklahoma City. He completed a six-year integrated plastic surgery residency at the University of Nevada School of Medicine in Las Vegas and also holds an undergraduate degree in international studies from the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Fla.

Jaeger specializes in all avenues of reconstructive surgery, including breast and skin cancer reconstruction, hand surgery, burns and trauma reconstruction. Additionally, he offers a full spectrum of aesthetic surgery and non-operative anti-aging interventions.

He grew up in Oklahoma and moves to Jonesboro with his wife, Quincy, and two dogs, Hank and Lobo.



Dr. Nolan Jaeger

In his free time, he enjoys hunting, fishing and spending time with his family.

Patients can make appointments with Jaeger by contacting St. Bernards Plastic Surgery at 870-336-3190.

He is a member of St. Bernards Medical Group and St. Bernards Healthcare Regional Providers (SHARP). ♦

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## Thoughtful Donation



Autumn Northcutt, owner of Rhea Lana's of Jonesboro, a Children's Consignment Event, recently donated bundles of newborn diapers to the Women's Services Department at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center. The diapers will be given to families who deliver at AMMC. Pictured are Autumn and Tiffany Duty, RN, Women's Services Unit Coordinator at AMMC.

## ASU-Newport offers hunter ed class

**A**rkansas State University-Newport will host an Arkansas Game and Fish Commission hunter education class on Aug. 6 on the college's Newport campus. The class will be held in Walton Hall Room 127 from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m., with a scheduled lunch break.

Anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1969, must complete a hunter education course and carry a valid hunter education card to hunt in Arkansas.

Youths under 16 may hunt without hunter education as long as they are under the direct supervision of an adult who is 21 or older.

The class is free and there is no waiver associated with it.

To register contact Jennifer Ballard at 870-512-7861 or via email at Jennifer\_Ballard@asun.edu.

The class is limited to 30 students. ♦



## Arkansas Methodist Medical Center

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### Breastfeeding Class

**Saturday, August 1**  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Professional Office Building  
This class discusses the importance of breastfeeding and offers tips for success. This class is free for those delivering at AMMC with a small charge for others. There is a \$10 fee for materials. For classroom location, more information or to register, call 239-7016.

### Infant Safety Class

**Saturday, August 1**  
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Professional Office Building  
This class is offered to expectant families and anyone caring for an infant. This class is free for those delivering at AMMC with a small charge for others. There is a \$10 fee for materials. For classroom location, more information or to register, call 239-7016.

### Childbirth Preparation Class

**Tuesday, August 4, 11, 18, and 25**  
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Professional Office Bldg. Auditorium  
This class is for anyone who is expecting. Register early to ensure availability for when you are 5-8 weeks from your due date. Please wear comfortable clothing and bring two pillows and a blanket to class with you. This class is free for those delivering at AMMC with a small charge for others. There is a \$10 fee for materials. For classroom location, more information or to register, call 239-7016.

### American Red Cross Blood Drive

**Thursday, August 13**  
11:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Professional Office Bldg. Auditorium  
If you would like to donate life-saving blood, please call 1-800-RED CROSS for details on requirements. You can also find more information at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).

### Mommy and Me Breastfeeding

**Support Group Meeting**  
**Monday, August 17**

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Professional Office building  
Second Floor Conference Room  
Greene County Health Unit's  
Leina Kennedy, Breastfeeding  
Peer Counselor, teaches this class  
for new and expectant mothers.  
For more information, call the  
Greene County Health Unit at  
235-7782.

### Stroke Support Group Meeting

**Tuesday, August 25**  
6:00 p.m.  
AMMC Sarah Gynn, Fourth Floor  
This meeting is open to stroke  
survivors, their friends, families  
and/or caregivers. For more  
information, call 239-7289.

### Healthy Pregnancy Class

**Monday, August 31**  
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Professional Office Building  
This one-time class for expectant mothers who are prior to 16 weeks into their pregnancy. Class is free for those delivering at AMMC with a small charge for others. There is a \$10 fee for materials. For classroom location, more information or to register, call 239-7016.

### 18th Annual Men's Health Fair

**Tuesday, September 3**  
6:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Professional Office Bldg. Auditorium  
This year's men's health fair will include blood glucose and cholesterol screenings, blood pressure checks, weight and nutrition screenings and PSA testing for prostate cancer. For more information, visit [www.nyammc.org](http://www.nyammc.org).

### 18th Annual Women's Health Fair

**Tuesday, October 1**  
6:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Professional Office Bldg. Auditorium  
This year's women's health fair will include blood glucose and cholesterol screenings, blood pressure checks, and weight and nutrition screenings. For more information, visit [www.nyammc.org](http://www.nyammc.org).

# Master Gardeners win awards at convention

Greene County Master Gardeners' had 15 members attend their state convention in Benton, where they received awards in two of the five categories in which they competed.

Receiving the Friend of Master Gardeners ward was Bob Branch. Connie Whitman, President, presented his award in front of the Greene County Courthouse, where Bob has played a big part in creating, funding and maintaining the project in memory of his sister, Francis Walls.



Bob Branch

Earning the Master Gardener of the Year Award was the group's president, Connie Whitman. According to information supplied



Front: Tabetha McFarland, Sally Mugford, Marilyn White, Connie Whitman, Holly Fletcher, Kathy Graber, Carolyn Palmer, Jean Crossno, Linda Glickert and Cora Flannery; back: Kenny Fletcher, Pauletta Tobey, Tacie Huffman, Ann Bowers and Patti Roberts. At right is club President Connie Whitman with her Master Gardener of the Year Award.

by the group, "This is a great honor bestowed on any Master Gardener and is limited to only one a year. Connie is well deserving of this award."

Others receiving awards were Patti Roberts and Holly Fletcher -- Lifetime Awards; Con-

nie Whitman -- a 10-year award; and Marilyn White -- a 5-year award. ♦



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The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage, recently awarded the Main Street Paragould Association a \$15,000 Main Street Downtown Revitalization Grant. From left: Lt. Gov. Tim Griffin, Department of Arkansas Heritage Director Stacy Hurst, Gina Jarrett, Main Street Paragould Director, Tracy Mothershed, Main Street Paragould Board President, and Main Street Arkansas Director Greg Phillips.



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Several area high school students participated in NEA Baptist's Nurse Camp.

## NEA Baptist hosts Nurse Camp for students

Every year, NEA Baptist hosts a free three-day nurse camp for area high school students interested in pursuing a career in healthcare. This year, the camp took place June 29th – July 1st and offered students more chances than ever to learn about the various facets of working in healthcare.

“Nurse Camp at NEA Baptist has been a fantastic opportunity for students in our community and around Northeast Arkansas who are interested in a health care career in nursing,” said Ashley House, MSN, RN, Staff Development Specialist Manager. “Our three day camp offered a full schedule with both fun and educational activities – such as a mock code drills where students see the healthcare team work to save a life in the simulation lab, team building to make new friends from other schools and work with real nurses, CPR training with First Aid certification so they can go into the community as trained individuals in basic life support, job shadowing to see all the different types of nursing and more. Many of our students enjoy the experience so much that they return for as long as they are eligible to attend. The students are compassionate and we love to see them spark a new interest for the field of nursing. We hope to make a small imprint on the heart of these young students as they learn what career path they will take.”

The three-day camp educated students through team building sessions and discus-



sions with nurses from various areas of the hospital. In the classroom, students received CPR, first aid and vital sign training. Students also had the opportunity to job shadow a healthcare professional for a more hands-on

Students observed and took part in hands-on projects at the Nurse Camp.

learning experience. They also took tours of the medical campus and saw presentations from local emergency service personnel.

Maria Daniel, RN, ICU Head Nurse also stated, “I really enjoyed the chance to help shape young minds through the team building and job shadowing projects during Nurse Camp this year. Working in health care is very rewarding and it is equally gratifying to share my experiences and knowledge with students who are interested in this career path. These students are the future of our health care system and it is exciting so see their enthusiasm and determination.”

For more information about NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital, call 870-936-1000 or visit [www.neabaptist.com](http://www.neabaptist.com). ♦

## ASU Paint the Town Red Week is September 8-12

The Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce is participating with ASU to "Paint the Town Red." Join in and decorate your business by painting windows/doors; hanging banners and signs. This year inside decorations will also be judged.

There will be two contests: one for the best decorations inside and a separate contest for outside. You may enter either or both.

Judges will look for most spirited, originality, and best design. Decorations should be in place by Monday, August 31.

To participate in the contest, email [kbrinkley@paragould.org](mailto:kbrinkley@paragould.org) to register. Judging will take place the week of August 31- Sept. 4, and winners will be announced on Wednesday, September 9.

Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place will be given in each category.

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, September 9. The Chamber will host a Red Wolves luncheon at the Paragould Community Center. Everyone wear red!! Winners of the decorating contests will be announced at the luncheon.

### *Paragould Paint the Town Red T-shirts*

\$13 for Youth S-XL (S: 6-8; M: 10-12; L: 14-16; XL: 18-20)

\$13 for Adult S-XL

\$16 for XXL and XXXL

T-shirts must be paid for at time of ordering. Make checks payable to Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The back will be blank. You may put your company's logo on the back if you order at least 12 shirts. The cost will be \$2 extra per shirt. Please call Caps Plus directly for these orders (870-236-9292). Remember it will take longer to process company logos.

Deadline for orders is Friday, August 14. Go by the Chamber office and order yours today.



Jonesboro Police officers led a summer safety program for area youngsters, teaming with Subway restaurants to produce the seminar.

## Subway, police team up for summer safety

Subway restaurants of Jonesboro partnered with the Jonesboro Police Department and Jonesboro City Youth Ministries to develop a summer safety event.

In July, police officers led a safety course at Allen Park as part of the Jonesboro City Youth Ministries summer program. Children were taught safety habits by the officers and received SUBWAY gift cards, redeemable at any of their Jonesboro restaurants.

Some of the safety measurements addressed were the proper way to wear a helmet and other safety gear when on bikes or skateboards, and properly using crosswalks at intersections.

Officers also brought representatives of the Canine Unit for demonstrations and interaction with the kids.

"Around summer, children often resort to television and video games to keep themselves occupied, but Subway's 'Playin' Safe' campaign encourages safe outdoor physical activity," said officer Kevin Foust. ♦





Dr. John Jiu was the winner of the live auction featuring an MG Midget.

# Community enjoys Triple Swing event

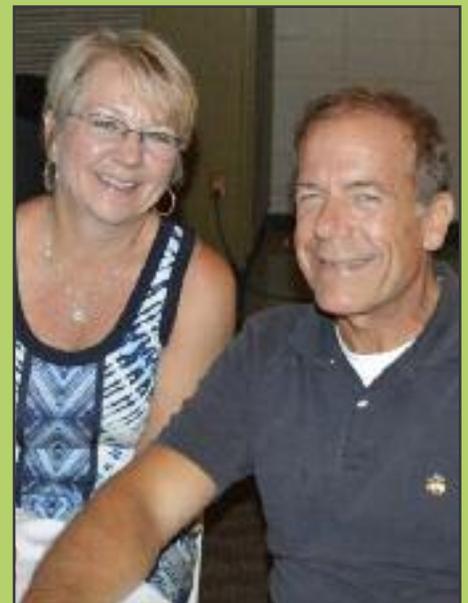
## Annual fundraiser boosts St. Bernards' efforts

The St. Bernards Advocates sponsor a unique and very successful fundraising effort each year known as Triple Swing, with proceeds designated for a need within the Medical Center including pediatrics and hospice.

Triple Swing is a three-day extravaganza that starts with a casual dinner-dance on Saturday evening and eventually wraps up with a Monday golf tournament. In between are auctions and various other events that make for a fun-filled time. ♦



There was plenty to smile about at the annual St. Bernards Foundation Triple Swing fundraiser, as participants enjoyed food, music and dancing as well as bidding on auction items.



*All because two people fell in Love*



## Our Wedding Story ... Taylor and Drew

**I**n January 2013, Drew, a member of the Paragould High School Band, was practicing with the Paragould Indoor Percussion Winter Guard and preparing for their first performance.

Taylor, being a member of the Greene County Tech Eagle Band, went to all of the practices to support her fellow band members. She was also involved with Tech TV and decided to interview a member of the group for an assignment. It was during this time she was introduced to Drew, who was Captain of the line. Taylor got the interview and continued to support them through all the practices and performances.

On February 20 the first text was sent between the two and for the next year and a half they continued to keep in touch with each other through texts.

In May of 2014, Taylor graduated from GCT and her schedule finally slowed down. She decided to accept Drew's invitation for a first date. After that night they began to spend



every free minute together enjoying the summer, taking trips to the river, hanging out at bonfires and making frequent late night trips to IHOP with friends.

As the summer ended, Taylor prepared to move four hours away to attend Arkansas Tech University. They had decided they could make a long distance relationship work. Drew reluctantly made the trip to help move her into her dorm room.

Taylor had been away for two long weeks. On August 29, 2014, she made her first trip home to celebrate her birthday with Drew and her family. That night Drew gave Taylor a ring and popped the question.

On June 20, 2015, they became Mr. and Mrs. Drew Edrington. Surrounded by their family and friends, the beautiful ceremony took place at Swindle Farm in Paragould, followed by a reception with lots of fun and dancing.

The couple will reside in Paragould. Taylor attends Black River Technical College and will later attend Arkansas State University to work toward a degree in Music Education. She is employed at Shoe Sensation in Paragould.

Drew attends Arkansas State University where he plans to receive a degree in Ag Business. He is employed at Delta Cotton Co-Op in Marmaduke.

The bride is the daughter of Robbie and Heather Mullins. The groom is the son of David and Tamra Powell and Chris Edrington. ♦



Wedding photography by Rodney White

## Engagements



Photo by Whitney Vasser

Bryan Davis and Brittany Beamon

### Beamon-Davis

**B**rittany Beamon and Bryan Davis have announced their plans for a September wedding during the following calendar year.

Brittany is the daughter of Terry and Angila Beamon of Paragould, and Wanda Beamon of Rogersville, Missouri.

Bryan's parents are Keith and Donna Davis.

The wedding is set to take place on September 17, 2016, at Swindle Farms in Paragould. ♦

## Birth Announcements

### Compton

**N**athan and Stefanie Compton of Delaplaine welcomed a son, Case Andrew Compton, to the family.

Born at NEA Baptist Hospital, the baby weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and was 21 inches long.

Grandparents are James and Nancy Compton of Delaplaine; Rick and Terry Conrad of Paragould; and Quentin and Diana Duff of Poplar Bluff, Missouri. ♦



Photo by Natalie Gray Photography

Case Andrew Compton

### Gaines

**J**acob and Kalee Gaines of Paragould announce the birth of their son, River Mark Gaines.

Born at St. Bernards Medical Center, River weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and was 20.5 inches long.

Grandparents are Nita Reed and the late Mark Reed, Chris and Lisa



River Mark Gaines

Wilcox, and Paul and Lanae Gaines. ♦

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## Birth Announcements



Kellin Keith Anderson

Photo by Kathryn Richey

### Anderson

**N**athan and Brittany Anderson of Paragould have welcomed a son, Kellin Keith Anderson, to the family.

The baby was born at St. Bernards and weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and was 20 inches long. Grandparents are Robin and Janet Reeves, Brad and Sherri Anderson and Jody and Renee Dillon. ♦

## Jonesboro woman in the running for Swanson Inspiration Award

**J**oyce Clayton of Jonesboro has been selected among thousands of applicants as a finalist for the national 2015 Richard. L. Swanson Inspiration Award through the Healthways SilverSneakers program.

Clayton is a member of the NEA Baptist Clinic Wellness Center and SilverSneakers program.

The winner of the national award will be determined through a voting system conducted on Facebook. A "Swanson Voting" tab can be found on the SilverSneakers official Facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/silversneakers>.

Clayton is one of 10 finalists from across the country. Voting is open on Facebook through August 7 and users are allotted one vote every 24 hours. ♦



Joyce Clayton

# Look what's cooking this September and October at AMMC!

Save the dates for our "Recipe for Health & Wellness" Men's and Women's Health Fairs

**Recipe for Health and Wellness**  
**Men's Health Fair** Thursday, September 3  
**Women's Health Fair** Thursday, October 1  
 6:00 AM - 2:00 PM - Professional Office Building Auditorium

You'll find all the ingredients for a healthy lifestyle at our "Recipe for Health & Wellness" Men's and Women's Health Fairs. There will be refreshments, health screenings and much more.

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# August

## CALENDAR

**Saturday, August 1** **Friday, August 7**

**DOG DAY OF SUMMER.** a fun day for dogs and kids...think hot and wet! 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. For more information contact Main Street Paragould at 870-240-0544.

**Sun.-Thurs., Aug. 2-6**

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL.** hosted by Pruett's Chapel and Shiloh Methodist Churches nightly from 6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. The event will take place at Shiloh Methodist Church located at 5811 W. Kingshighway. Registration is Sunday, August 2 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. For more information contact Pastor David Moore at 870-500-5486.

**Mon.-Fri., August 3-14**

**MY SUMMER SUCCESS.** a free wellness program at the NEA Baptist Wellness Center in Jonesboro will teach children the importance of a well-balanced diet and exercise. For more information, contact Erica Huffstetler at (870) 336-1760 or log onto [www.neabaptistfoundation.org](http://www.neabaptistfoundation.org).

**Thurs - Sat., August 6-8**

**CAVE CITY WATERMELON FESTIVAL.** with several new events and activities added to the festival this year. For more information call Julie Johnson at 870-307-9631 or Crystal Crow at 870-283-5301.

**"ELVIS" TRIBUTE ARTIST.** Tony Witt will perform at the Collins Theatre at 7:30 p.m. Call the Collins at 870-236-6252 for more information.

**Saturday, August 8**

**10TH ANNUAL RFD DRESS GALA.** tickets will be available by contacting Kristen Hubble at [hubble\\_kristen@yahoo.com](mailto:hubble_kristen@yahoo.com) or by visiting [www.chefjonesboro.com](http://www.chefjonesboro.com).

**Saturday, August 8**

**RUMMAGE ON THE RAILS.** Downtown Paragould, community garage sale will begin at 7:00 a.m. and last until noon. For more information on setting up your sale or shopping, call Main Street Paragould at 870-240-0544.

**Saturday, August 15**

**CHAD GARRETT & FRIENDS.** at the Collins Theatre beginning at 7:00 p.m. The show features Randy Aden, Brad Owen, Kevin King, Ken Wadley, and special guest, Skeeter Nash. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3 for kids 10 and under. For more information, contact Chad Garrett at 870-239-8503, ext. 1241.

**Saturday, August 22**

**PARAGOULD 5K/2M RUN/WALK.** presented by the Paragould Police Department DARE Program. The race begins at 8:00 a.m. at the Paragould Community Center. There is a

\$20 registration fee or \$25 the day of the race. Those 13 and under race for \$10 unless they are wearing a DARE T-shirt then they run for FREE. Deadline to register is August 12. The first 100 participants will receive a 5K T-shirt. For more information, call 870-239-7564. Register online now at [www.runsignup.com](http://www.runsignup.com) or [www.racesonline.com](http://www.racesonline.com).

**Saturday, August 22**

**"THE CHUCKWAGON GANG"**, sponsored by the Paragould Lion's Club will perform at the Collins Theatre at 7:00 p.m. Call the Collins at 870-236-6252 for more information.

**Monday, August 24**

**KASU'S BLUEGRASS MONDAY.** featuring "Southern Raised" performing at 7:00 p.m. at the Collins Theatre. No admission but they do pass the hat to pay the artists with a recommended donation of \$5.00 per person. Downtown eateries will be open as well. p.m. For more information contact Main Street Paragould at 870-240-0544.

**Monday, September 28**

**KASU'S BLUEGRASS MONDAY.** featuring "The Farmhands Bluegrass Quartet" performing at 7:00 p.m. at the Collins Theatre. No admission but they do pass the hat to pay the artists with a recommended donation of \$5.00 per person. Downtown eateries will be open as well. p.m. For more information contact Main Street Paragould at 870-240-0544.

# Recurring EVENTS

**First Monday of every month:** Paragould Young Professionals First Monday Lunch, noon.

**First & Third Wednesday:** Perking on Pruett, 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. At Something Sweet. Find out what's happening in the One and Only downtown Paragould. Your input is welcome.

**Second Tuesday of every month:** The Greene County Wildlife Club meets at the Paragould Community Center beginning at 6:00 pm.

**Second Tuesday of every month:** Greene County Master Gardeners present a Brown Bag Lunch Program at the Greene County Library from 12-1. Bring a lunch and enjoy a free gardening presentation.

**Second & Fourth Tuesday of every month:** The Paragould American Legion Post 17 meets at 7:00 p.m. at the corner of Court and Hwy. 49. The second Tuesday is a business meeting and the fourth is a Pot Luck Dinner with spouses and friends.

**Third Thursday of every month:** Alive After Five, Downtown street market in Downtown Jonesboro.

**Second Thursday of every month:** The Compassionate Friends, 7:00 p.m. Southside Community Church Conference Room, 2211 Jones Road. For parents grieving the loss of a child. [fcinfo@northwestarkansas@yahoo.com](mailto:fcinfo@northwestarkansas@yahoo.com).

**Second Thursday of every month:** The Memory Cafe, support group for those having memory, dementia or Alzheimer's at 1:00 pm at Swirlz Yogurt and Coffee.

**Second Wednesday of every month:** St. Mary's Spaghetti Dinner, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Admission is \$6 for all you can eat spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert and drink. At St. Mary's Catholic Church in Paragould.

**Every Third Monday:** Greene County Retired Teachers Meeting, 11:00 a.m. at Grecian Steak house. All retired Greene County school personnel are invited.

**Every Third Thursday:** Alzheimer's Support Group with the Alzheimer's Arkansas Association and Home Instead Senior Care, 2:00 pm at Chateau on the Ridge.

**Fourth Tuesday of every month:** Greene County Master Gardener Meeting, Greene County Library, 6 pm, guests welcome.

**T.O.P.S. (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly)** Wednesday mornings at the Paragould Community Center in Room E. Private Weigh in at 8:00 a.m.; support meeting at 8:30 a.m. May attend one meeting as a guest.

Send your calendar events to:  
[tara@mormediainc.com](mailto:tara@mormediainc.com)

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# Happenings



## 1. Cruise Winner

Brandy Brewer was the winner of a free Carnival Cruise sponsored by MOR Media as a way of saying “thanks” to radio listeners and Premiere readers. The five-day Caribbean cruise originates in New Orleans. Brandy, a Brookland school teacher, visited the MOR Media studio to record a promo with the help of Leisa Rae, at left in photo.

## 2. Scholarship Recipients

The Arkansas Methodist Medical Center Auxiliary recently awarded seven \$1,000 scholarships to students studying in the medical field. Pictured left to right are: Caroline Jarrett, Breanna Scott, Topper Killough, Morgan Tripod, Allison Hitt and Shannon Gomer. Not pictured is Kylee Ridge.

To be eligible for a scholarship, applicants must be enrolled in an education program within the medical profession and be in the beginning of their second year of education in the medical field by August 2015.



## 3, 4. Gardening Project

The Greene County Library is a sanctioned project of the Greene County Master Gardeners program. Ann Bowers and Brenda Barr, master gardeners coordinators, along with other master gardeners, cleaned beds, trimmed shrubs and did a major cleanup at the library in Paragould during July.



To have your news and events included on Premiere Magazine's Happenings page, email information to:  
[editor@premiere-magazine.com](mailto:editor@premiere-magazine.com)

# Stay Tuned

## What's in store next month



It will be time for the county fairs to begin, so the Premiere editorial staff will provide informative and entertaining features related to when and where to go and what to do when the gates are open. Rides, games, pageants, entertainment, arts and crafts ... we'll have the information for you here.

## Features

### Library Card Sign-up Month



September is Library Card Sign-up month and Premiere will take a look at the many services area libraries offer patrons. Be sure to be informed by reading the September issue of Premiere. ♦

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