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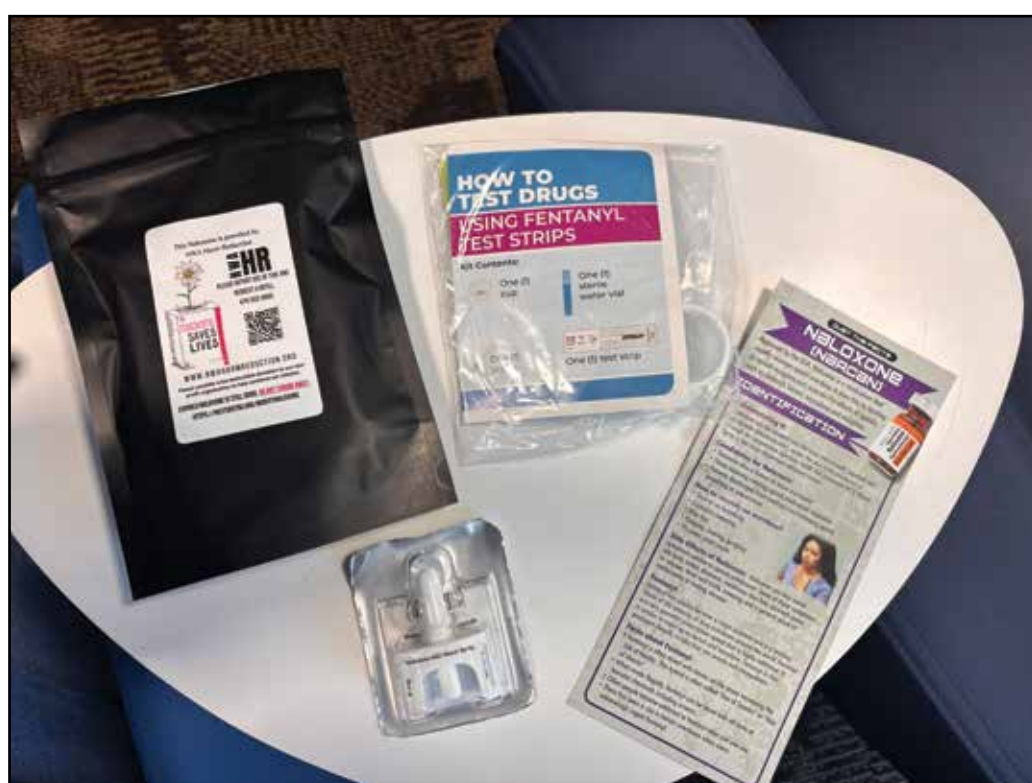
News Briefs

COLLEGE HOSTS OVERDOSE PREVENTION TRAINING

NWACC's Counseling and Wellness, NWA Harm Reduction lead sessions on Narcan kits and overdose prevention on campus

Chelsea Castillo
Editor-In-Chief

BENTONVILLE, Ark. – NorthWest Arkansas Community College held an overdose prevention and Narcan training event on Oct. 7. The event was led by the college's counseling and wellness department, along with guest speakers from NWA Harm Reduction, Brittany Kelly and Chris Jones. NWA Harm Reduction is a local non-profit organization that partners with colleges and universities to share about the resources they have available for the community such as free naloxone [Narcan], fentanyl testing strips, harm reduction items, 24/7 crisis hotline, etc. On the organization's website, the mission statement says, "Foster a community that prioritizes safety, dignity, and respect for all through compassionate, evidence-based harm reduction practices and a deep understanding of individual



Pictured above are naloxone kits that NWA Harm Reduction provided at the overdose prevention and Narcan training event at NWACC. Photo by Chelsea Castillo

needs."

At the event, the guest speakers demonstrated and lectured on how to use the naloxone kits

along with giving out kits, at the demonstration's end, to attendees who wanted one. An Arkansas state law went into effect in 2023

that established a plan for public high-schools and state-supported institutions to carry naloxone kits on campus. Many of the college's

faculty and staff have had required training for the kits; yet, the kits have been deemed crucial for everyone to carry with them in day-to-day lives.

Brittany Kelly, guest speaker from NWA Harm Reduction, spoke about her personal experience with the loss of her brother due to a heroin overdose in 2017. That loss led to her involvement in the organization and efforts to help prevent the harm for others in this drug crisis. Kelly spoke about the importance of everyone carrying Narcan, not for the intended use for yourself but for the scenario where someone around you might need it.

Chris Jones, guest speaker for NWA Harm Reduction, said, "We're not carrying Narcan to be used on ourselves, right? We can't hit ourselves when we overdose. So we're carrying it in the event that we encounter somebody that potentially is overdosing. That could be just using the restroom at the gas station and seeing somebody laid out and in the stalls."

SEE NARCAN page 2

Idea of Campus Dorms Met with Positive Views

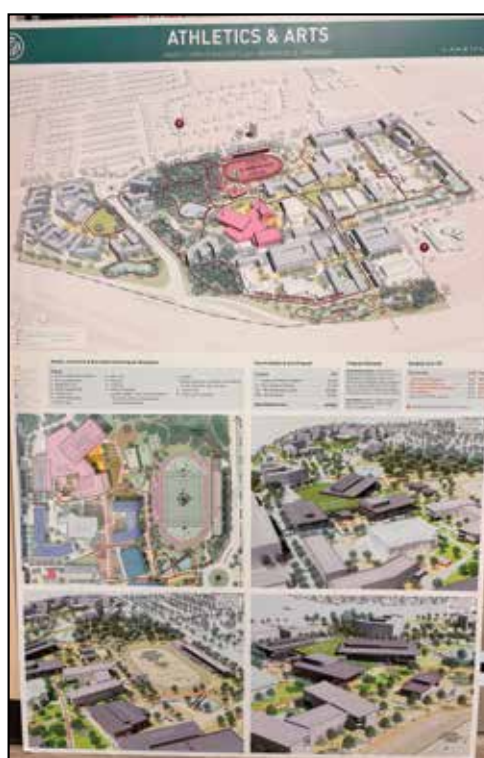
Kayrat Bektemirov
Reporter

BENTONVILLE, Ark. – NWACC's campus expansion master plan is transformative in nature and carries with it a lot of changes, including introducing student housing on campus via dorms, a fundamental change. The housing developments would be concentrated in the northeastern parts of campus, roughly along the roundabout and adjacent areas. The college's board of trustees approved a new master plan in March, and by August, the board instructed college leaders to explore housing opportunities for its students and workforce. The plan, in its current state, seeks to fulfill that objective among others that the school had been considering.

While the design and planning process involved student input via surveys, it still seems worthwhile to check in, track, and evaluate students' reception to the idea now that the plan is further along in development. Students interviewed expressed support toward the idea.

"I think that it would be an overall positive, and it would help more people," said current NWACC student Zach Allen. "I think that the addition of dorms would definitely help bring more people in and make life easier."

The plan also introduces the idea of campus dining halls. While it is still yet to be constructed,



Updated rendering of NWACC's campus master plan which displays student housing.

Photo by Chelsea Castillo

it is likely that certain dorms could house dining halls within it through mixed-use developments, SEE CAMPUS DORMS page 3

Police Investigate Fatal Road Rage Incident

Staff Report

The Bentonville Police Department is investigating a fatal shooting that occurred last Monday, Oct. 20, after a road rage incident escalated in a local parking lot located at 2501 SE 14th Street, according to a Bentonville Police Department press release. This location is only 0.7 miles from the NWACC Bentonville Campus.

At 2:29 p.m. that day, officers responded to a report of shots that, subsequent investigation indicates, began as a verbal altercation stemming from a road rage dispute between two drivers, the press release states. The confrontation escalated when one individual, identified as Daniel Davidson, a 29-year-old male from Rogers, exited his vehicle and approached the second vehicle to reengage in the dispute, according to Bentonville Police. The second altercation became physical, resulting in the second male involved firing his weapon.

As stated in the Bentonville Police's official statement, officers arrived at 2:36 p.m. and immediately administered medical aid to Davidson, who had sustained gunshot injuries. Bentonville Emergency Medical Services transported him to Northwest Medical Center Emergency Room, where he was pronounced deceased.

The second male involved in the incident remained on the scene until officers arrived and remained cooperative with the Bentonville Police Department. He was interviewed and subsequently released pending investigation, according to the Bentonville Police. No charges had been filed as of the date of the press release.

Detectives are still collecting evidence, including witness statements and surveillance footage. The investigation shows this to be an isolated incident, according to the Bentonville Police.

Anyone who may have witnessed the incident or has additional information may contact the Bentonville Police at (479) 271-3176.

NEWS



Honors Program Hosts Inaugural Event

NWACC's Honors program held an honors day event on Sept. 24. Event highlighted projects by NWACC's honor students.

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FEATURES



Dia De Los Muertos

NWACC's Latin Culture Club gains members, shares traditions, and hosts Dia De Los Muertos event.

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OPINION



'K-Pop Demon Hunters' Review

What happens when a husband and father finds himself unironically obsessed with an animated kids movie?

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This event is cosponsored by the Fayetteville Public Library, the Northwest Arkansas Holocaust Awareness Project (<https://www.nwacc.edu/academicdivisions/socbehavsci/nwa-holocaust-awareness-project/default.aspx>) and the NorthWest Arkansas Community College.

Writing Center Workshops

Every week, the NWACC Writing Center hosts three 1-hour workshops. These workshops give students the chance to grow their writing skills in an informal, interactive space. Details and TEAMS links for online workshops can be found on the Writing Center website: <https://www.nwacc.edu/studentsuccess/writingcenter/> Questions? Please contact Gregory Barlow at gbarlow@nwacc.edu.

Slim Chickens Discount

Your NWACC Athletics team just scored a deal for you-enjoy 10% off ANYTIME at Slim Chickens! All students, athletes, and staff can show their NWACC ID badge at the 1400 SE Eagle Way location to get the discount (gift cards excluded).

Free Tutoring At NWACC

Get help from trained and qualified tutors for your classwork. Walk into the Learning Commons (Burns Halls 1217) and find the:

Math & Science Center: NWACC faculty ready to up your problem-solving skills.

Writing Center: Get writing help from NWACC faculty who are ready to help you succeed.

Learning Commons hours: <https://library.nwacc.edu/tutoring>

Or make an appointment online: <https://nwacc.libcal.com/appointments>

NOTE: Peer Tutoring has expanded to Washington County. Head to the Walker Information Commons (Room 111) on Tuesdays, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

FREE Fitness Center on Campus

Get ready to crush your fitness goals because the NWACC Fitness Center is FREE for all students!

Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Friday: 8 a.m. – Noon
Want to get started? Simply scan the QR code on the desk when you stop by.

Music Department Fall Concert Schedule

The fall concert series has been announced for the music department. Admission is free and open to the public.

Music Department Semester Concert 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4 in Walmart Auditorium
Community Chorus of NWA Concert 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11 in Walmart Auditorium

The Community Chorus is a non-audition chorus, open to the community. The group meets for rehearsals every other Monday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more info or to join, contact Michael Brown at m3brown21@nwacc.edu.

Child Care Program Opportunities

NorthWest Arkansas Community College is the recipient of the Child Care Access Means Parents In School (CCAMPIS) grant and has partnered with the Helen R. Walton Children's Enrichment Center to provide low-cost, high-quality childcare to children of eligible students. As part of this program, students can receive care for their child while they attend school, study, and/or work. To be eligible for the CCAMPIS program: You must be an Arkansas resident and be the parent or legal guardian of a child under the age of 5 who is living in the home with you more than 50% of the time. You must be planning to complete a degree, certificate, or technical certificate at NWACC.

You must be receiving the PELL Grant or be PELL Grant-eligible.

You must meet income guidelines based on total household size.

Continued participation in the CCAMPIS Program is subject to the following:

Annual application and income verification.

Timely payment of out-of-pocket tuition.

Maintain enrollment at NorthWest Community College.

Maintain a GPA of 2.0 or higher.

Continued availability of funds from CCAMPIS.

For more information, contact Natasha Kile, Early Childhood Education Coordinator, at nkile@nwacc.edu.

Track II Nursing Applications Opening

Our Track II Accelerated Nursing Program is offered at both NWACC's Bentonville campus and Washington County Center. Applications open Nov. 1 - Dec. 1. Use the following link to apply: <https://www.nwacc.edu/academicdivisions/healthprofessions/nursing/nursingapplications/applicationtracktwo.aspx>. The program runs through four consecutive semesters Summer, Fall, Spring and Summer. We can accept up to 40 students per-campus. Once the application has been submitted send an email to nursing@nwacc.edu to make sure we receive your application. You can only apply to one campus. You will need an overall GPA of 2.75 or higher when you apply. An entrance exam must be taken as it is part of the application process. A date for the exam has not been set up yet. The NLN exam will be held in the Bentonville Campus, Center of Health Professions. We communicate through email, so please keep an eye out on your NWACC email.

If you have any questions, please email nursing@nwacc.edu

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Study Smarter, Not Harder NWACC's Free Tools for Success

Paige Keck and Jennifer Watson

Reporters

For students juggling jobs, families, and school, success at NWACC often depends on more than hard work. Across campus, a network of free support services – focused on academics, technology, wellness, accessibility, and community engagement – offers practical ways to make college more manageable. These resources are designed to fit the busy, cost-conscious schedules of community college students working to build a future while balancing their current reality.

Student Information Center

The Becky Paneitz Student Center is home to many resources, including the Disability Resources Center, the Dale Montgomery Counseling & Wellness Center, and the Student Information Center, among others. For those who need direction (literally), the Student Information Center team is willing to assist anyone in finding numbers, emails, or the locations of the people who manage varied resources at NWACC. Student David Camarillo said in an email, "... Whether that's with questions over Workday, Canvas, or the general NWACC website, to locating rooms and teachers on the campus, these workers put their all into making the environment a welcoming one for students of every kind."

NWACC Library

The NWACC Library has become a central hub for students seeking flexible academic support. There are three locations: the Pauline Walker Library (BH 1304) and Learning Commons (BH 1217) on the Benton County campus, as well as the Walker Information Commons (WC 111) on the Washington County campus. Beyond books, the library offers computer access, seating, and printers. Librarians regularly conduct workshops covering various practical topics – some recent ones include "Finding and Evaluating Sources" and "Organizing and Writing Research Arguments." These workshops are available in-person, online, or in a hybrid format. To register for library workshops and discover the complete list of library services, visit <https://library.nwacc.edu/home> to learn more.



Close up of the Naloxone nasal spray along with an information packet that informs the signs of an opioid overdose, provided by NWA Harm Reduction. Photo by Chelsea Castillo

CONTINUED from NARCAN page 1

Many people showed up to the special training event that Tuesday, such as NWACC student Kaitlin Mountz.

She attended the free demonstration, which sparked her interest in wanting to learn more about the resources and information available for students on campus and what she can take away from her own experiences.

"I have addicts in my family, although I've gotten away from them, I've been around enough people who have overdosed. It's really scary,

Writing Center and Workshops

The NWACC Writing Center (Learning Commons, BH 1217) is another popular place for students to visit. The Writing Center offers face-to-face consultations, writing workshops, writer resources, and email/virtual consultations. Face-to-face consultations are available in the Writing Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday – Thursday. Writing workshops are offered online and in person, with virtual sessions held Tuesdays and Wednesdays at noon on Microsoft Teams, and in-person sessions covering the same topic held on Fridays at 10 a.m. in BH 1007. The center also provides documentation guides for MLA, APA, Chicago, and other everyday style guides used in academic writing. Lastly, the Writing Center also provides email/virtual consultations, allowing students to submit papers for feedback so they can make adjustments before turning them in for grading. Papers are reviewed only during the Writing Center's open hours; consultants typically need 48 hours to review submissions. With that in mind, papers due over the weekend or early Monday must be submitted by noon on Wednesday. Visit <https://www.nwacc.edu/studentsuccess/writingcenter/> to learn more about workshops, writer resources, or submit a paper for review.

Math Help

For many students, math can be intimidating. Some students are years removed from their prior math classes, while others may still be working to initially grasp a concept. The Math Center (Learning Commons, BH 1217) offers a variety of tutoring options to meet students where they are and help grow their quantitative skills. The center is open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, and 10 a.m. to noon on Friday. Students can drop in without an appointment, though it is advised to check the schedule published on the website to confirm that the person currently working provides tutoring in the class you need help with. No need to worry about leaving something at home – the center has desktop computers, scratch paper, pencils, calculators, and textbooks you can borrow while there. Other options are still available for those who cannot attend the Math Center in person. Students can schedule an appointment with faculty tutors (to meet online or in-person), utilize Brainfuse (a service that provides live, on-demand tutoring), or access self-paced resources available 24/7. Visit **SEE STUDENT SUCCESS page 6**



NWACC Harm Reduction Representatives, Chris Jones and Brittany Kelly, speak to attendees on Oct. 7 for an overdose prevention and NARCAN training at NWACC. Photo by Chelsea Castillo

but this is stuff that I need to know. What if something happens, especially if it's becoming more common," Mountz said.

NWA Harm reduction provides resources on the organization's website, nwaharmreduction.org/resources, along with their hotline, (479)-553-9459. The non-profit works to educate the community on how to save lives through harm reduction practices. NWACC has a dedicated resource page on the college's website on where to locate the naloxone kits in Benton and Washington counties campuses, along with information on how to use the kit in case of emergency. For more information about NWACC naloxone kits and where to locate them, visit <https://www.nwacc.edu/administrativeservices/riskmanagement/opioidoverdosekits.html>

AWS Outage Crushes Global Internet

NWACC's Canvas Offline for 12 Hours

Braxton Kehr

Senior Reporter

A large-scale Amazon Web Services outage on Monday, Oct. 20, temporarily paralyzed a significant portion of the global internet, extending its reach to NWACC's digital learning platform, Canvas. The disruption forced the learning management system offline for approximately 12 hours, impacting students and faculty across the country. For NWACC, the impact centered on its Canvas system, which is hosted on the affected AWS Eastern Region servers.

Lucas Paxton, director of Digital Learning, explained that while Canvas services were still running initially, they were "degraded." Canvas made the strategic decision to take the entire system offline as a proactive measure.

"You can't have a student in the middle of the exam and have things just click off," Paxton stated. By taking the system down, Canvas ensured that students would not lose crucial work during critical moments. Canvas remained offline until AWS achieved stability, taking about 12 hours in total between start and finish.

Paxton noted that the timing, while disruptive, was "as best as it could be" since Mondays are typically the department's slowest load times and the outage did not occur during finals week.

The widespread outage was traced back to AWS's US-EAST-1 region in Northern Virginia, a crucial data center that hosts much of the internet's infrastructure. The root cause was a cascading failure triggered by a "rare software bug" and "faulty automation," per follow-up reporting from Wired.com, within AWS's internal Domain Name System management system for its DynamoDB database

service. DNS is essentially the internet's "phonebook," converting website names into machine-readable IP addresses.

The Digital Learning department and faculty immediately focused on mitigating the impact on students. Faculty were instructed to provide accommodations, such as extensions or retake opportunities, for students with exams or assignments due during the outage. Professor Sabrina Chesne of the English Department said her class happened to be affected in particular, as there were special resources on Canvas to be used in class on Monday, the day the outage occurred. Professor Chesne noted that, "One of these days we're going to circle back to paper and books, because all this stuff is gonna go down." One student at NWACC, Autumn Wood, took the outage as a sign that she wasn't meant to do school work that day saying, "I guess it wasn't meant to be so I made the most of my day."

Any students who feel their academic work was negatively impacted and has not received an accommodation are encouraged to contact the Digital Learning department directly: dl@nwacc.edu.

Paxton offered key advice for students to prevent loss of work during future technical issues, stressing the need for proactive data security: "If you're working on a discussion board, write it in Word, copy and paste it over." He advised students not to rely on the online system for initial drafts. Paxton also reassured the student body that the department has backup systems and will work to retrieve project data. "It's okay to relax and not worry about it too much...we have redundancy."

CORRECTIONS

Corrections shall be made in print and online in the event of an error of fact. No content should be amended without the knowledge of the editor-in-chief after it has been published. Eagle View does not remove content from www.nwacc.edu/academicdivisions/commart/studentnewspaper/default.aspx at the behest of a source under any circumstances.

In the case of factual error in a print story, a correction will be run in the next issue after the error is discovered. Any corrections to facts in an online story will be made immediately, with an editor's note marking the date and the nature of the correction. Small grammatical errors may be updated without an editor's note.

MISSION STATEMENT

The NorthWest Arkansas Community College Eagle View student newspaper shall provide students with a public forum for responsible news reporting and commentary and shall reflect commitment to integrity, truth and excellence.

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Honors Program Celebrates Two Decades

Inaugural Event Features Presentations, Alumni Panel

Staff Report

BENTONVILLE, Ark. – NWACC’s Honors Program hosted an Honors Day event on Sept. 24, highlighting the projects and presentations of Honors students and celebrating alumni.

Student poster presentations, video recording loops, interactive sessions, and student presentations from honors classes were a part of the day’s activities. Scheduled student presentations included:

Sarah Edmunds & Jenny Garcia-Villegas — “Sarah Bird Northrup Ridge: A Bridge Between Worlds” Class: History of the American People to 1877

Alex & Charista Paine — “The Life and Death of Elias Boudinot” Class: History of the American People to 1877

Emily Safcsak & Christian Ortiz — Aaron “Rick” Van Winkle: His Life Class: History of the Americas to 1877

Xenia Regalado Garcia, Eliana Delpilar, Raphael Spiros-Nelson Hackett’s Escape & Capture Class: History of the American People to 1877

Nadia Moutria — Option 1: “Ida B Wells: Resistance through Truth” Option 2: Sociology Research on Homeschool Students & Higher Ed Classes: History of the American People to 1877 / Sociology

Brittany Jones — Teen Pregnancy: Causes, Effects, Solutions Class: Honors Sociology

An alumni panel at noon featured honors program graduates Dana Doughty, Sharon Fox, Phyllis Sluyter, Ben Steiger, and Rachel Hamburg (who joined remotely). The alumni members described their experiences in the program and how it impacted their future studies and careers.

A meet-and-greet concluding event was held in the afternoon. All students, faculty, staff, Board of Trustees members, foundation board members, high school counselors and others were invited to attend.

For more information about the honors program, contact Sabrina Chesne at schesne@nwacc.edu.



[Top Photo] From left, Benjamin Steiger, Dana Doughty, Rachel Hamburg (on screen), Sharon Fox, Monica Vallejo, Phyllis Sluyter gather for photos following the conclusion of the Alumni Panel at the inaugural Honors Program Day. They discussed how the Honors program benefitted their academic and professional careers. [Bottom Photo] NWACC Honors alum Monica Vallejo, right, speaks as Dana Doughty and Sharon Fox look on at the inaugural Honors Program Day Alumni Panel.

Photos by Alyssa Spitzer

CONTINUED from CAMPUS DORMS page 1

among other facilities. “I think more food options on campus would be great,” said Alex Belto, also a current student.

Students also highlighted the convenience factor of dining halls being in close proximity to dorms. “I think that’d be helpful, so you don’t have to walk across the campus to go to another place to eat. So it’d just be more convenient for people,” said Matthew Castillo, another NWACC student.

Students also underscored the potential pros of the plan.

One of those is that through the installation of dorms, Belto said he believes that the school would be “allowing more students the opportunity to get an education.” Castillo said that “it could help with time management and getting here faster” in reference to the campus.

College dorms are nothing new, but these developments would symbolize a fundamental shift at NWACC. While largely a commuter school currently, the school would be seeking to improve other parts of its repertoire through this undertaking, such as introducing certain new facilities and enhancing the actual experience of walking through campus.

Another aspect of the plan that goes hand in hand with student housing is furnishing the campus with community parks, trails, and pedestrian spaces. This adds to the overall convenience factor as this pedestrian-friendly atmosphere is almost necessary when discussing dorms and student housing.

Students can still be commuters at NWACC: the school would only be enhancing the lives of students who would happen to be boarding. This added versatility is what students seem enthusiastic about. The school would be widening its pool of prospective students by adding in populations of students who may not be able to drive to campus everyday, or who simply prefer the conveniences afforded by campus housing as well as the camaraderie and natural environments.



Close-up of the campus master plan which displays student housing, wellness and rec center, community park, etc. Photo by Chelsea Castillo

Turning Point Turns To NWACC

National Movement Expands to NWACC, Urging Campus Dialogue



Ava Franco, left, speaks with a student about Turning Point USA at NWACC, as President Andrea Francis and another student Turning Point member looks on.

Photo by Jennifer Watson

Jennifer Watson
Reporter

BENTONVILLE, Ark. – A new chapter of Turning Point USA has been established at NWACC. The organization, founded in 2012 by Charlie Kirk and Bill Montgomery, promotes conservative and libertarian ideas on college campuses across the country. The group has faced criticism for its rhetoric and approach to campus activism, and Kirk’s death has reignited conversations about the group nationwide, with some questioning its influence while others call it a needed voice in politics.

Turning Point USA was approved as an official student organization at NWACC in early October 2025, and is led by President Andrea Francis, with Marc Turner, Performing Arts and Communication Chair, serving as the faculty sponsor. The group held its first tabling event on Oct. 16 in Bogle Plaza, handing out candy and sharing information about its goals and planned activities.

“A lot of us followed Charlie Kirk pretty closely, and we liked his debate style and how respectful the dialogue was,” said Ava Franco, Social Media Chair for the NWACC chapter. “So after he was assassinated, I think a lot of us felt very inclined to talk about things and get people talking again. So that’s what we’re trying to do here. We want people to talk again. We want to get back to the great foundation of what the country was started on, which I think is compromise.”

At the national level, Turning Point USA operates on hundreds of campuses and hosts large student conferences featuring conservative speakers. Over the years, some organizations and scholars have expressed concern about the group’s rhetoric and

its impact on campus climates. A 2024 report by the Southern Poverty Law Center described Turning Point USA as part of “the hard right” and said its activities are often designed to “rile up divisions on campus.” In a separate Wired report, founder Charlie Kirk was criticized for remarks suggesting that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was “a mistake,” a statement that scholars said alienates students of color and others whose rights the law protects.

Locally, Franco said the NWACC chapter’s focus is on open discussion. “We want to encourage free speech, and get people involved, ideally,” she said. “We know that not everyone is going to agree with us, and actually that’s what we’re standing up for. We think everyone has the right to their own opinion and views.”

The group plans to start small, holding regular meetings and information tables. “We’re planning to do a lot of chapter meetings, which is when we get everyone together and we talk about current events or, you know, play fun little silly games to get people involved and informed,” Franco said. “We’re hoping to eventually get [a speaker], but since we are small-scale right now, the semester might just look a little different.”

Asked about the criticism directed at Turning Point USA nationally, Franco said, “We would encourage everyone to keep very respectful dialogues. Everyone has their own opinion, and that is what makes this country so great, that we all have that right. So we would encourage everyone to keep being respectful of one another.”

Students interested in learning more can find the group on Instagram at [@turningpointusa_nwacc](https://www.instagram.com/turningpointusa_nwacc). “If you just want to come and sit in on a meeting, we’d love to have you and talk to you,” Franco said.

Eagle View Covers ‘No Kings’ Event in DC

Estimated Crowd of 200,000 Gathers in Nation’s Capital

Chelsea Castillo
Editor-In-Chief



Protester holds a “White House FOR SALE sign” at the Oct. 18 “No Kings” protest in Washington D.C.

Photo by Chelsea Castillo

WASHINGTON – Across the nation, the “No Kings” protest held 2,700+ events in many parts of the country, including many states such as Arkansas, California, Illinois, and in the U.S. capital of Washington D.C. Six members of the Eagle View were in the nation’s capital for a media conference and like other college students attending Media Fest 25, chose to cover the news event by reporting on the protest in DC. Many protesters attended for a variety of causes such as immigration, health care, and concerns against the current administration. The newspaper staff spoke to a couple of attendees and asked about their reasoning for marching that Saturday afternoon.

On the protest’s organization website, www.nokings.org/, it’s stated “No Kings” is a peaceful movement working on uniting the country to fight dictatorship all together. “Our peaceful movement is only getting bigger. ‘No Kings’ is more than just a slogan; it is the foundation our nation was built upon. Born in the streets, shouted by millions, carried on posters and chants, it echoes from city blocks to rural town squares, uniting people across this country to fight dictatorship together,” reads some of the information on the website.

The movement had a protest over the summer of this year, holding multiple protests across the country on June 14. That day aligned with the 250th anniversary of the U.S. Army parade and President Donald Trump’s birthday. Although the organization hasn’t released any more information for any upcoming protest, they include a “What’s Next?” tab on their website providing protest attendees and other website visitors with resources regarding a

person’s rights and ways to take action amidst the protest.

Many other organizations were on the ground sharing their resources for guests and protesters on how they’re contributing to the causes of the protest. Free D.C. had a booth on the ground and had many representatives speaking to protesters and attendees sharing the cause for the “Free D.C.” organization. Raymond Telson, representative for Free D.C., spoke to the Eagle View team about the nonprofit group and how they stand for the citizens of D.C. focus on how to rely information for the people and how to protect themselves from the heightened law enforcement in Washington D.C. “Right now, we are focusing on educating the people on how to deal with police and law enforcement here in D.C.,” Telson said.

It is reported that Oct. 18 nationwide protest brought in 7 million people to march in the streets for the causes they stand for. Two protesters at D.C.’s “No Kings” spoke to the Eagle View team on what brought them out to the streets that Saturday. Eugene and Kay Brantley, a married couple based in D.C., spoke about how the protest is a good example of providing a sense of community with others who might share the same views. “We think of some of the same feelings and it’s about being together,” Brantley said.

Not all the protesters in the nation’s capital were there to attend the No Kings rally as a group of several hundred marched near the White House in support of President Trump. Those protesters held signs of people who have passed due to fentanyl use while expressing loudly the phrase, “Biden poison is to blame.”

For more content about the Eagle View team’s reporting of the “No Kings” protest in Washington D.C. on Oct. 18, visit the Eagle View’s website, <https://nwaccagleview.com/> and the YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/@nwaccagleview1464.



Crowds of protesters gather at the Oct. 18 “No Kings” protest in Washington D.C.

Photo by Chelsea Castillo

From Wood to Dreams

NWACC, Community Volunteers Join Nonprofit in Building Beds

Lu Antolinez
Reporter

On Oct. 10, students, staff and parents from NWACC joined the non-profit organization Sleep In Heavenly Peace to achieve a powerful goal — building more than 45 beds for children in Benton and Washington counties who don't have a place to rest.

Sleep In Heavenly Peace is a national organization that started in Idaho in 2012, when volunteers delivered their first bed. Now with 400 chapters across the U.S., its mission — “No kid sleeps on the floor in our town” — has become even more powerful and inspiring. Funded solely by donations and driven by volunteer work, it continues to expand their mission nationwide.

“Our local chapter started in 2018,” said Melanie McMurtrey, the co-chapter president of Sleeping In Heavenly Peace NWA. “Since that time we've delivered 2,200 beds here in Northwest Arkansas; we are proud of this incredible accomplishment.”

Each bed built that Friday afternoon is a reminder that building a bed represents more than just nails and wood — it is a symbol of love, teamwork and commitment. Volunteers, with and without prior experience, worked together to reach the goal of making 50 beds. Despite some technical issues with a few of the materials, the group managed to assemble 48 beds, ready for delivery the next morning.

The Integrated Design Lab at NWACC provided the perfect space to turn these dreams into reality, supplying the equipment and tools that were needed for the project. “I found this to be one of the most quality volunteer experiences you could get in, you don't need any experience and we provided all the equipment you could possibly need,” said Ray Taylor, director of construction technology at NWACC. Each building day, NWACC's Trails and Trades and Service Learning programs work with Sleep in Heavenly Peace to build the beds, with volunteers using donated materials for the beds' construction.

After the building day, the team prepared for the next phase— delivering the 48 beds to the children who had been waiting for them. The delivery process begins months in advance when the organization reviews applications submitted online. After prioritizing the applications, volunteer groups begin delivering the beds to the selected applicants. All the pieces are ready to be assembled quickly, and within minutes each bed is complete with a mattress and bedding.

“We were school teachers and now God blessed us to be retired,” said Doug and Suzanne Anteau, members of Sleep in Heavenly Peace. “We wanted to contribute, and this is a good way to give back.”



Pictured above: Mr & Mrs Anteau, members of Sleep In Heavenly Peace. Photo by Lu Antolinez

By the end of Saturday, Oct. 11, these 48 children had their own beds where they can sleep in dignity and start dreaming again. The hard work of NWACC and Sleep In Heavenly Peace volunteers was rewarded with the smiles and gratitude of the families who received the gift of a place to sleep.

For More Information Visit:

<https://shpbeds.org/>

For a Short Related Video,
Vist Our Youtube Channel:

@nwacceagleview1464

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/LirX0j-V5I>

Volunteers build and assemble beds to be delivered to families within the community. Photos by Lu Antolinez



Spooktacular Start to the Season

NWACC Students & Families Attend Fall Fest



Lu Antolinez
Reporter

The atmosphere was refreshing, the tunes were upbeat, and the joy was infectious as NWACC turned into a vibrant autumn fair for its yearly Fall Fest.

On Thursday, Oct. 16, students, employees, and even parents gathered to mark the season with activities, food, and a touch of Halloween enchantment.

Between 5 and 6:30 p.m., colorful stalls set up by student organizations and campus offices lined the paths, presenting everything from fair-like games and giveaways to useful details on how to engage on campus.

Some of the biggest attractions included the Counseling and Wellness Department and the LIFE Program displays. The staff from Counseling and Wellness distributed tote bags, candies and advice on



stress relief while emphasizing the importance of self-care — even during the Halloween season.

Meanwhile, the LIFE Program brought smiles and resources for our Hispanic students and their families, providing support for those balancing studies, work, and family responsibilities.

“Fall Fest offers everyone an opportunity to connect, relax, and remember that they're supported at NWACC,” said Melody Kramme, mental health counselor.

As the sun set, families and students laid out blankets and chairs for the evening's featured movie — Monster House. The light from the outdoor screen illuminated faces of all ages as parents and students



NWACC students and families attend fall fest and participate in activities. Photos by Lu Antolinez

enjoyed snacks and laughter beneath the October sky.

“It's all about community, connection, and a bit of fun before midterms take hold,” said Maria Tapia, LIFE Success Coach.

With delicious food, wonderful company, and a sprinkle of fall magic, Fall Fest 2025 once again affirmed its status as a cherished NWACC tradition — a time when families, friends, and faculty could all embrace the season's spirit.

Finding Inspiration in Our Own Backyard

Talya Tate Boerner and Accidental Salvation of Gracie Lee

Lu Antolinez
Reporter

On Oct. 20, NWACC welcomed local writer and author of “The Miracle of Gracie Lee” novel, Talya Tate Boerner, to the campus for the October meeting of the college's book club. Boerner aspires to touch the hearts of readers throughout Arkansas and beyond with her literature. The event was arranged by the NWACC Book Club and fostered a welcoming and encouraging environment for students to engage directly with the author and well-known literary pieces such as, “The Miracle of Gracie Lee.”

Boerner, who hails from Northwest Arkansas, recounted her path as a writer — from her childhood in a small town to the publication of a narrative that deeply embodies the themes of hope, faith, and perseverance.

“The Miracle of Gracie Lee” narrates the journey of a young girl facing her challenges with bravery and creativity. It reflected Boerner's personal belief that everyday miracles can be discovered if we choose to seek them out.

Throughout the event, students were invited to pose questions, discuss significant passages from the book and learn more about how it delves into Boerner's creative approach. Boerner highlighted the necessity of persevering with one's aspirations, regardless of how modest the starting point may appear. “You don't need to come from a large city to craft an important story,” Boerner shared with the students. “Inspiration frequently arises from the people, places, and experiences that shape who you are.”

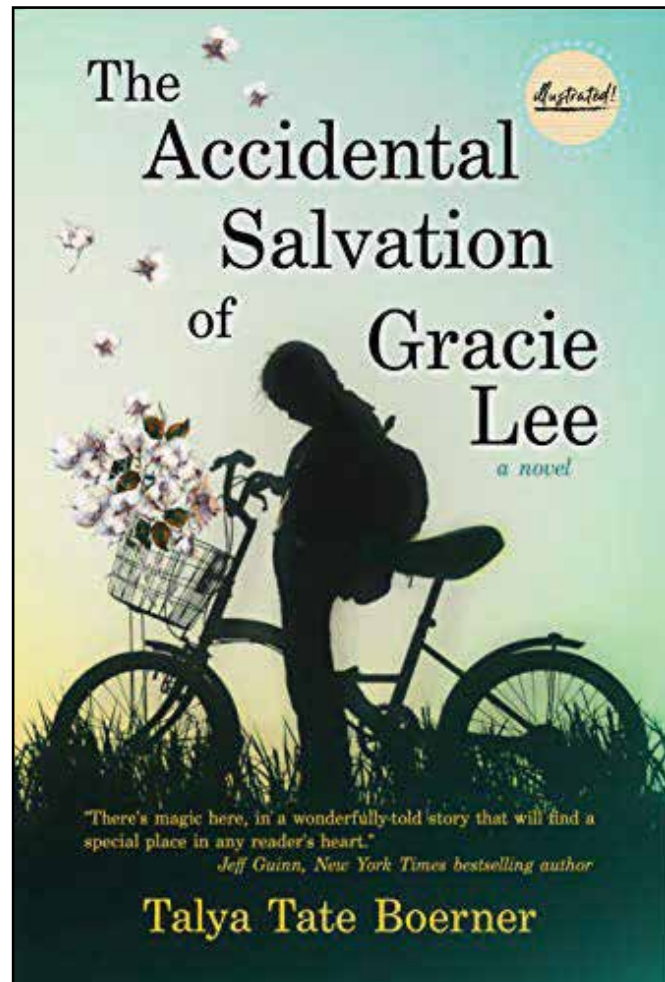
Her message resonated deeply within the NWACC community, she reminded all those who were present at the book club that local narratives hold the potential to create a worldwide influence. Boerner's visit served not only as a literary milestone but also as a source of motivation for budding writers and dreamers alike.



Courtesy Photo, Talya Tate Boerner,

Occurrences like these demonstrate that storytelling transcends mere written words; it serves as a conduit connecting communities, concepts, and emotions. As students departed the session, many felt inspired to pursue their interests and recognize that their own narratives hold significance as well.

The book cover of Talya Tate Boerner's Novel, “The Accidental Salvation of Gracie Lee.”



First in the Family:

NWACC's First-Generation Voices

**Evelyn Hernandez
& Terrance Poole**

Reporters

BENTONVILLE, Ark. – Shawna Thorup, NWACC library director, not only believes in the power of education but lives its transformative force.

Thorup, a first-generation college student on her mother's side, did not always imagine herself leading a college library or earning multiple degrees from some of the country's top universities. Her story began in a suburb of Los Angeles called Torrance, where she attended a local community college named El Camino, Spanish for "the road." Looking back, she smiles at the symbolism. "El Camino means the road, the path," she said. "So, you're on the path toward a better life."

That path wasn't always clear. As she was growing up, higher education was not expected or even understood in her family. "My grandparents never got past elementary school," she explained. "Education wasn't valued. Nobody cared about grades. Nobody was pushing me." Yet one person changed everything: her stepfather. "He gave me everything but DNA," she said fondly. "He went to college during the Vietnam War because you could defer the draft. He believed that education and even learning to type saved his life."

First-Gen Faculty, Staff

Thorup is one of many NWACC faculty and staff with a background as a first-generation college student. According to the NWACC website, at NWACC, the term first-generation student refers to students who are the first of their family to attend a higher education institution. Their parent(s)/legal guardian(s) have not completed any level of higher education. Students who have siblings in college but whose parents have not earned any degree are still considered first-generation. Some first-generation faculty and staff members have served in mentoring activities for current NWACC students, providing guidance and a listening for those students first navigating the world of college.

One Recent Student's Experience

That focus on connecting those with lived experience has benefitted students like Stephanie Mendoza, who graduated with an associate degree from NWACC and now attends the University of Arkansas. Mendoza said that being a first-generation student fortunately helped her become who she is now. She mentioned that NWACC resources allowed her to find help in a quick and easy way.

In Mendoza's case, she also had a parent championing her pursuit of a college degree.

"The least I could do for my mother is go to college," Mendoza said. "She's always wanted what is best for me and does anything for me to have a bright future."

She mentioned that her mother worked in the fields in California years ago, but now currently works in a power plant. Mendoza's mom has always wanted a brighter future for her daughter and encouraged Stephanie to take advantage of every opportunity given when it comes to education.

Mendoza has a big goal in mind. She's determined to be in the international supply chain. She said her drive to do that started in her sophomore year of school. Mendoza also excitedly mentioned, "I have to go abroad in order to completely graduate with my bachelor's degree. Exposure to different parts of the world is important for the international supply chain and the networks and experience that comes with it too."

She added that NWACC resources and faculty really helped her throughout her journey at the community college. Mendoza, a single child, struggled to fill out scholarship forms and figure out financial aid by herself. With the assistance of the school, she managed to be in college securely and was able to transfer to the University of Arkansas efficiently. The specific resources from NWACC mentioned on the website are SOAR (monthly meet ups with first-gen staff to share stories and receive advice), FIRST Club (provides resources through guest speakers and events), and First-Gen Graduation Banquet (a celebration held each spring for first generation graduates to celebrate achievements). These types of resources have helped Mendoza through her school journey and can help many other first-gen individuals as well.

Thorup's Two Choices

Thorup's path has similarities and differences from Mendoza's journey. After high school, Thorup's father gave her two choices: get a job or attend the nearby community college. "I didn't like high school," she admitted. "I was bored and disengaged. But who really wants a job? So, I went to El Camino." That simple decision would become a defining moment in her life.

"[El Camino] was different from high school, I got to choose my classes. I realized I wasn't a bad student, I had just been disengaged. What I learned in community college was how much fun it is to blow your own mind."

Shawna Thorup

Without the internet or Google, learning came the old-fashioned way through reading, memorizing, and conversation. "There was no ChatGPT, no



Shawna Thorup

Photo by Terrance Poole

YouTube," she said, laughing. "You had to actually know it." But she fell in love with literature and critical thinking. Her professors saw her potential, and before she knew it, she was excelling. "I graduated from El Camino with a 4.0 GPA. I was even named English Student of the Year. It was the first time I realized how capable I really was."

Encouraged by her professors, Thorup transferred to a four-year university, a huge leap for someone from a working-class family. She applied to UCLA, UC Berkeley, and San Diego State, and was accepted to all three. "I didn't expect it," she said. "But I chose Berkeley. It was the better school, and my dad encouraged me to take that risk even though it meant moving five hours away." The transition was difficult. "I was a junior living in the dorms with freshmen. It was rough," she admitted. "But if community college blew my mind, Berkeley exploded it."

At Berkeley, she was surrounded by brilliant minds professors who had authored books, scientists who had discovered fossils like Lucy, and classmates who would go on to fame, including basketball legend Jason Kidd. Later, at UCLA, she even studied alongside Troy Aikman. "You realize you're learning from people who are changing the world," she said. "It changes you."

"I believe college is the one time in your life where you can safely fail. It's about figuring out who you are when you step away from your family. You need to get lost a little bit so you can find yourself."

Shawna Thorup

For Thorup, college was not just about career preparation, it was about transformation. That's why she encouraged her own son to leave home for college. "We told him he could go anywhere but the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville," she said. "Because I wanted him to grow, to experience something new."

Reflecting on her journey, Thorup acknowledges that success rarely follows a straight line. "When I was young, I thought life was linear. It's not. It's full of switchbacks and turns. Sometimes you have to power through; sometimes you need to take a break. But the doors don't close, you can always go back."

Her story also reveals the tension first-generation students often feel between two worlds. "After college, my vocabulary changed," she said. "I was reading and writing so much that my grandma once told me she didn't understand my words anymore." That moment changed her. "Now, I make sure to stay down to earth when I talk. I'm not a stupid person, but I'm a real person."

"You never know what one person can do for another. One instructor at community college convinced me to keep going. My dad pushed me to apply. One person can change your whole life."

Shawna Thorup

Thorup's decision to go to college did not just change her own life, it transformed her entire family. "I was the first on my mom's side to earn a degree," she said. "After me, my cousins started going to college. Their kids are going to college. It changed the whole trajectory of our family." One cousin even credits a book she gave him in fourth grade with inspiring his love of reading.

When asked if she would change anything, Thorup did not hesitate. "No. Community college shaped me. I wasn't ready to leave home at eighteen. It was the right choice, it saved my parents money, and it made me who I am."

Today, as a library director, she continues to pass on those lessons to students finding their own path. "Learning isn't meant to make you comfortable," she said. "It's meant to make you grow. Growth hurts sometimes, but it's worth it."

Mendoza also offers some advice for current and future first-gen students. "Listen to your parents and communicate with them," she recommended. "Make them proud. They sacrificed a lot for you and sometimes you may not know it."

Latin Culture Club Gains Members, Shares Traditions

Organizations Hosts Campus Dia De Los Muertos Event

Aneyda Reynaga

Online Editor

BENTONVILLE, Ark. – The Latin Culture Club has been around for over a decade and was one of the largest clubs on campus before the pandemic. Since that time, the club has focused on building membership and finding more ways to share its traditions with the larger community. This year's Dia De Los Muertos event, held in conjunction with LIFE, was one way members shared their culture on campus.

Maria Tapia, adviser for the Latin Culture Club, said, "After COVID, it got really hard to start picking up again and bring the students back." It's not surprising that the pandemic made life harder for everyone, but the club has bounced back.

Returning members Anahi Ceron-Hernandez and Xenia Regalado Garcia discussed that sense of renewed enthusiasm for the club's work. "It's being with a community of likeminded people where we all understand each other. And it's knowing you guys have each other's backs..." Ceron-Hernandez said. Regalado added, "Latin Culture Club creates a space where our culture is not only seen but celebrated. This community offers the support and encouragement I need to keep going."

They're not the only ones, new member Jermie William Rosales said, "I get to know more about my community and my culture. I feel welcomed because it's people like me and first-generation Latino students that are going through the same thing I am."

These students expressed their excitement about the Dia De Los Muertos event, which is one of the biggest and most popular events of the fall semester. But what is Dia De Los Muertos?

Dia De Los Muertos or Day of the Dead is a holiday from Mexico and Latin America that honors deceased family members, friends, pets and more. Contrary to what some may think, Dia Le Muertos isn't a time of mourning or a time to be afraid. It's

a day to remember those who have passed and a celebration of the lives they lived.

Tapia, club adviser, said "In Latin and Hispanic cultures, death is not something scary. Death is celebrated. So, we want to educate people on that. It's [Dia de los Muertos] not a Mexican or Hispanic Halloween, we don't dress up in costumes and scary things." Still, there are some that dress up as Catrinas, which are skeletal figures that represent who we are and where we'll end up.

Traditionally, Dia De Los Muertos spans multiple days, despite the name suggesting it's only one day. For some the celebration runs from Oct. 27 to Nov. 2, and for others it begins on Nov. 1 to Nov. 2. However, the NWACC Dia De Los Muertos event took place on Tuesday, Oct. 28 and Wednesday Oct. 29.

On these days, many set up ofrendas or altars where they put up pictures of their loved ones along with foods they loved or things they owned in life. During this time of year, you can see Mexico enveloped in Cempasuchil flowers, candles, skulls, crosses and so much more.

Much like in Mexico, the NWACC campus was adorned in colorful flowers, string lights and candles. There was also the presence of festive music, food and skulls. Something different this year was the focus on education. "This year we want to be focusing on the education part. Why we use salt, why we use the marigold flowers."

The Dia De Los Muertos celebration was just one of many events the Latin Culture Club puts on each year. They also do potlucks and educate the community about the club, Hispanic traditions, food, music and more.

For more information about the club, contact adviser Maria Tapia at mtapia5@nwacc.edu and for more information about Dia De Los Muertos visit <https://www.mexicanmuseum.org/dia-de-los-muertos>.



Maria Tapia, Adviser for Latin Culture Club, and Yuselly Escobar, Life Mentor, set up for The Dia De Los Muertos. Photo by Aneyda Reynaga



Decorations that are being used for The Dia De Los Muertos event.

Photo by Aneyda Reynaga

The Roar & the Rally:

How Bikes, Blues, & BBQ Fuels the Northwest Arkansas Community

Braxton Kehr

Senior Reporter

For four days, from Oct. 1 to 4, downtown Rogers was transformed into the central hub for Bikes, Blues, & BBQ, the world's largest charity-driven motorcycle rally. While the bikes are the draw, the deep-seated mission of community support is what truly fuels this annual tradition. With events and spaces set up across the Rogers area, some of the key venues included the Railyard Live area of downtown Rogers and the Pig Trail Harley-Davidson store on Hudson Road.

The 2025 rally delivered an action-packed schedule for enthusiasts and spectators alike. Thousands of riders converged on Northwest Arkansas, eager to experience and explore the region's famed Ozark scenic routes, attend the music performances, or visit shops and vendors. The Vendor Alley was a vibrant marketplace, stretching across closed streets and the Railyard Plaza alike, featuring gear, crafts, leatherwork, and numerous food trucks and vendors.

A cornerstone of the rally is its incredible music lineup. Visitors enjoyed four straight days of free music featuring blues, rock, country, and even gospel across multiple stages, including the Railyard Live Butterfield Stage.

Of course, the rally wouldn't be complete without the namesake BBQ. The official food element of the rally —the Frisco Inferno BBQ Competition, hosted by the Downtown Rotary Club of Rogers — sizzled with competitive spirit. The categories were Best of Pork and Turkey and People's Choice, with competitors from across the country.

The winners were:

Pork - First Place: Bomb BBQ

Second Place: Jacked BBQ

Third Place (tie): Partner in Swine and NWA Roofing

Turkey- First Place: B2 Moving

Second Place: Baldwin & Shell

Third Place: Rub Me Raw

People's Choice - Sauce: Emery Sapp & Sons

Pork: Rub Me Raw

Turkey: Partner in Swine

Money fundraised from the competition supports local community endeavors, such as donated books for third-graders in the Rogers School District and scholarships for seniors at Rogers high schools. Rusty Turner, the president of the Downtown Rotary Club of Rogers, said, "We spend our money in the community, trying to make Rogers a better place to live." To date, Bikes, Blues & BBQ has raised over \$2 million.

The spectacle may be over, but the positive impact of the 2025 rally will continue to uplift and support the community long after the last engine has gone quiet.

A related video report is available on the Eagle View YouTube channel: @nwaccagleview1464



Motorcycles on display and ready to ride for Bikes, Blues, and BBQ, in downtown Rogers. Photos by Braxton Kehr

CONTINUED from RESOURCES 2

<https://library.nwacc.edu/tutoring/mathcenter> to access the Math Center schedule.

Technology Needs

Technology is essential to college success, especially for students taking

online or hybrid classes. NWACC offers more than 200 online classes, and students can earn nine different degrees, either 95% or 100% online. Beginning with the 2025-26 school year, NWACC now requires students to have their own laptops, reflecting technology's key role in academic success, even for in-person classes. Fortunately, the IT Help Desk is available to support students and faculty who are locked out of an account or experiencing other technical issues they cannot resolve. The IT Help Desk also provides guides for setting up multi-factor authentication, changing passwords, and accessing student email. While they cannot work on others' personal devices, such as laptops, they can help troubleshoot issues on those devices. The IT Help Desk at NWACC can be reached at 479-619-4357 or techsupport@nwacc.edu and is open from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday – Thursday, and from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday.

Canvas, the online learning management system used by NWACC, is supported by the Office of Digital Learning, which provides online tools and support for the platform. More information about online learning is available at <https://www.nwacc.edu/academicdivisions/onlinelearning/>.

Disability Resources

One of the most used resources in the student center is the Disability Resources Center, directed by Amy Robertson-Gann. Students must provide information and documentation to be eligible, such as proof of disability. Once a student is in the program, they receive accommodations to help ensure their disability won't hold them back from receiving a quality education. Robertson-Gann noted, "For students who need the support of accommodations, what we provide is a game changer! We get student feedback continuously about how important the support the DRC provides is!" For more information, visit: <https://www.nwacc.edu/disabilityservices/default.aspx>.

Food Pantry

Helping students doesn't end on campus either; NWACC's food pantry distributes food every two weeks to those who sign up. The food pantry is directed by Cierra Collins, Director of

Student Life. The small team running the pantry strives to ensure students can take home well-balanced, nutritious food, while keeping those who use this resource completely anonymous. There are

emergency food bags for those in need, as well as Pop-Up Pantries once a month that serve more perishable food items. Collins said, "We have a lot of students that face food insecurity [...] so I definitely think this is a big beneficial part of the student life, the environment, and the culture of the college." Visit <https://www.nwacc.edu/student-services/healthandwellbeing/foodclothing.html> to learn more.

Clubs and Organizations

NWACC also offers a variety of clubs and organizations for those looking to find a community at NWACC. A list of registered student organizations can be found at <https://www.nwacc.edu/campuslife/registeredclubsorganizations/default.aspx>

PRIDE at NWACC is one of the clubs and organizations serving students. This is a student-led organization that strives to meet every Monday or Wednesday. Even though this is a student-led operation, NWACC members still help ensure everything runs smoothly. Sharon Fox is one of the PRIDE advisers at NWACC. She helps make sure that everything, including snacks during meetings, is available and

helps organize on-campus events like the Life Transitions Closet for those who need new clothes. Fox said, "I love that PRIDE at NWACC is about service [and] about helping the entire community with what they're going through. Additional information can be found at: <https://www.nwacc.edu/campuslife/registeredclubsorganizations/prideofnwacc.aspx>.

Student Success

NWACC's free resources make it easier for students to manage busy schedules without feeling like they have to do it all alone. Whether you need a quiet study space, writing feedback, or simply someone to point you in the right direction, support is always within reach. Taking advantage of these tools can help students not only get through a semester but also build confidence and strategies that last long after graduation. To explore more tools and services available beyond those mentioned here, visit the Student Success page at <https://www.nwacc.edu/student-success/default.aspx>.

NWACC STUDENT RESOURCES



Library



Disability Resource Center

Writing Center



Food Pantry



Math Center



Clubs and Organizations

IT Help Desk



Student Success



Verification over Virality: Why Journalism Matters in the Age of Social Media

Braxton Kehr

Senior Reporter

When governments, corporations, and powerful people operate in the shadows, who holds the flashlight? In a world saturated with carefully crafted propaganda and instant misinformation, independent journalism is here to root out the truth. With the rise of social media as the avenue for news in the public space, why does journalism matter? Do we need traditional legacy media institutions when we have social media platforms? Plenty of Americans would argue that as an institution, the news media can't be trusted at all. Let's break down this issue shall we?

Independent journalism stands as a critical, non-governmental mechanism for people around the globe to be informed of current events. The media in a democratic society like ours has traditionally operated outside of the direct control of the government, serving as an autonomous pipeline of information that bypasses official narratives and potential propaganda. This independence is essential as governments, transnational corporations, and powerful individuals inherently possess vast resources and motivations to control or spin information to their advantage. Journalists act as important intermediaries investigating events, synthesizing data, seeking input from outside experts, and presenting verified facts that allow the public at large to make informed opinions, regardless of what the established powers prefer as the official narrative.

The "free press" earns this name as they are not subject to direct government or corporate control and this enables them to fulfill their most important role in a democratic society: holding power accountable. In America, our free press isn't perfectly objective — no human endeavor is — but despite its imperfections, it is dedicated to accuracy and fairness. The institutional commitment to fair and objective accountability of power allows the press to serve as a watchdog for the public. Journalists scrutinize budgets, investigate corruption, reveal human rights abuses, and fact-check public statements to shine a light on the truth a powerful figure or organization wants to keep hidden from the public. As such, this function of accountability is NOT about tearing down institutions but ensuring they operate ethically and in the public interest. Without an independent press seeking to verify claims and document wrong



Eagle View's Managing Editor, Kay King, wears a sweatshirt with the phrase, "JOURNALISM MATTERS. Now More Than Ever."

Photo by Chelsea Castillo

doing, any consequences of misbehavior — from minor policy failures to global crises — would go largely unrecorded and unpunished, completely undermining our foundations as a civil society.

So what are the core differences between professional news and social media posts? The crucial difference can be summed up in two words: verification and accountability. Social media, regardless of the specific app used or form taken, shares a common trait amongst itself; it is fast and widely accessible, lacks accountability, and primarily serves as a means of sharing, often motivated by emotion and reinforced by algorithmic bias. In contrast, professional journalism operates under a code of ethics that mandates accuracy, impartiality, and the careful vetting of sources before publication. As journalists, our commitment to ethical standards for our profession includes being transparent about corrections and this leads to a structured process designed to achieve factual integrity. While social

media can rapidly spread rumors and unverified information that polarize public discourse, ethical journalism aims to establish facts, provide context, and ultimately foster the public discourse that is necessary for a functioning democracy.

In the case of social media, there is no verification or accountability. Anyone can say anything, use AI or other editing tools to make convincing photos or video evidence, and do so anonymously without the opportunity for accountability if the information given is false. Professional journalists and the institutions they work for proudly attach their name and reputation to their work. A person who feels unjustly treated in a news story can contact the publisher and journalist to request a correction or even sue for defamation among other possible remedies. Journalism institutions, public or private, have rigorous editorial standards as they can be held liable for false reporting or relying on untrustworthy sources. This liability doesn't always take the form

of legal or civil court challenges but also in reputational damage and loss of business from readership or advertisers. Within the social media ecosystem, there is no such accountability or remedy for correction. Thus lies the danger of news reporting via unverified social media accounts and outlets.

We can look to history, 1930s-1940s Germany, as an example of what happens when the press isn't independent. In the early days of Nazi power, the Propaganda Ministry, through its proxy the Reich Press Chamber, took control of the Reich Association of the German Press, which was the guild that governed the entry requirements for the profession. Through various laws, the association began to keep records of "racially pure" editors and journalists at the same time, excluding Jews and their associates from journalism altogether. Over the next few years, the independence of the press was whittled away to nothing. The regime required all the press to ensure that any information "calculated to weaken the strength of the Reich abroad or at home" was left out of any coverage. We see this cycle starting again as removing the autonomous freedom of the press and requiring them to adhere to government-approved talking points is a trend of authoritarian regimes, even to this day.

Since taking office on Jan. 21, 2025, President Trump has issued several Executive orders targeting traditional independent journalism, aimed at restricting the access of the press who disagree with his policies and reducing the variety of viewpoints presented by a broad spectrum of press outlets. It is important that we, as a free democratic society, maintain our resolve to stand up for a free press and not succumb to the narrative presented by the powerful.

So, why does journalism matter? Ultimately, the value of independent journalism lies not in achieving perfect objectivity, but in its relentless commitment to rigorous verification and accountability. By adhering to core ethical standards, professional news organizations offer a structured and essential alternative to the chaos of the digital sphere. Sustaining this critical bastion of accountability and transparency is paramount as it remains the best mechanism for combating misinformation and holding power accountable to the public.

Braxton Kehr is a senior reporter for the NWACC Eagle View.

'K-pop Demon Hunters' Review

From PTA Meetings to Power Chords: Why This 39-Year-Old Dad Can't Stop Watching K-pop Demon Hunters on Netflix

Braxton Kehr

Senior Reporter

What happens when a 39-year-old husband and father finds himself unironically obsessed with an animated kids movie about demon-hunting K-pop stars? You get a cultural paradox, a perfect storm of embarrassing "dadness" and genuine feeling for a film that took me by surprise. You can usually spot me around town hauling my kids between extracurriculars, wearing the semi-permanent scowl of a dad who feels out of place in a rapidly changing pop culture landscape. My typical pop culture comfort zone is somewhere between Will Ferrell movie quotes and Seinfeld reruns. You might think it strange to hear me gushing over "K-Pop Demon Hunters." So why then is an animated kids film my new obsession? Let's start with a bit of background first.

Almost immediately surging to the top of the streaming charts both as a movie and soundtrack, "K-Pop Demon Hunters" has found broad appeal among a wide audience. The cross-generational success of "K-Pop Demon Hunters" can be summed up by a straightforward phrase: respect for fandom. It's this respect that makes the film's premise so universally relatable, even to a middle-aged dad like myself. To understand why, let's dive into the film's plot.

(Mild spoilers below; you've been warned)

The film wastes no time setting up the central premise of the story: demons exist in the world, and every generation, a trio of singers use the power of their voices to create a magical barrier to prevent demons from preying on the souls of humans, while also using their hunter skills to fight the demons who slip past the barrier. The fictional bands in the film, the demon hunting "Huntrx" and the demon-led boy band "Saja Boys" are brilliantly portrayed by an ensemble cast of Korean-born or descended actors split between voice acting and singing roles.

Of course, the stars of "Huntrx" also have to balance their lives as world-renowned K-pop icons. There are deeper themes in the movie that extend beyond the music and appreciation for fans; a significant part of the plot centers on Rumi's journey to accept her half-demon nature. This element of the story touches on several clichés and, in my opinion, doesn't offer any unique takes on the traditional hero's journey. That's not a criticism; the movie executes this element well, but it isn't the film's strongest aspect. Within the lore of the film's setting, it is the stirring of fans' hearts through the



Promotional movie poster of "Kpop Demon Hunters" Photo courtesy of Sony Pictures Animation

songs of hunters that provides the magical power to create the barrier against demons, known as the Honmoon. The adoration of fans, literal and figurative, empowers the hunters and the Honmoon. The villain of the film, a spiritual entity embodying humanity's personal demons — such as shame and regret — Gwi-Ma, subtly and masterfully played by Byung-hun Lee, seeks to destroy the Honmoon, allowing the demons unfettered access to feast on humanity's souls. Gwi-Ma is not your traditional villain, as it is not motivated by personal animus toward our protagonists, but rather exists as an intrinsic force found within the fictionalized context of the film. Several memorable characters help flesh out the film's world and advance the story by providing a grounded approach to fandom and a ubiquitous romantic subplot. The central conflict of the film revolves around Gwi-Ma sending a group of demons disguised as a boy band to compete with Huntrx for fans' affection, thereby weakening the magic that powers the Honmoon and allowing demons to break into our world... *Rest of Review can be found at www.nwacceagleview.com.*

Braxton Kehr is a senior reporter for the NWACC Eagle View and the occasional wearer of the scowl of a dad who feels out of place.

Residents Rise Up, Speak Up

Americans Unite at No Kings Protests

Riley Smith

Reporter

On Oct. 18, people in cities all over the nation came together to protest President Donald Trump's administration and policies.

The Eagle View team had the chance to observe and report on the march in Washington, D.C. Standing in a crowd of over 200,000 people, I couldn't do anything but watch with tears streaming down my face. My lips were stuck in a small smile as I watched the mass of people fight for their democracy. Signs of all kinds were lifted above the crowd as they marched together through the city streets. People of all shapes and sizes and ages were united in trying their hardest to protect the country they love enough to fight for.

As a blonde-haired, blue-eyed, white girl, I have never felt the direct impact of oppression. However, I have seen and witnessed it first-hand. I have always felt so powerless. I thought, "I'm a white girl from a tiny, southern town in Arkansas, what could I possibly do?" But seeing the No Kings protest, my perspective shifted, and my heart changed. A fire ignited in my soul. Did these 200,000 people once feel powerless? Do they still? They weren't powerless to me. They were brave, kind, hardworking people who had been either directly or indirectly affected by the new government policies. People in attendance had lost their jobs, family members, and friends to these policies.

According to the Department of Homeland Security, the Trump administration claims to have deported over 2 million immigrants. Approximately 300,000 of those are children. With planned government funding cuts, it is likely that over tens of thousands of employees will lose their jobs.

At the protest, we had the opportunity to speak to some of those who have already been affected.

"It's just sad," says Cathleen Cherry-Mann, sitting beside her husband, Graylin Mann, who has also lost his job. "These officials are supposed to be for the people, and they're not. They're for themselves."

"I [lost my job] in June, so we were forced into early retirement at 67, but what can you do?" says Mann.

Seeing and speaking to people who have been affected was eye-opening. But what opened my eyes even wider, was the sheer number of those who came to fight for those rights. The right to have a job, a home, food, and clothes on your back. The rights we were promised in the Constitution. The rights our citizens have fought for centuries. We deserve to be protected, fed, and treated fairly. To contribute to the cause, consider calling your legislators, donating to local or national organizations, and keeping yourself educated.

"The people are the only legitimate fountain of power." — James Madison.

Riley Smith is a NorthWest Arkansas Community College freshman from DeQueen.



This is one of the signs protesters made for the No Kings Protest. It displays the words "Not Terrorists! Just Grandparents Marching for Democracy." Photo by Riley Smith

Faculty Profile

Jennifer Watson

Reporter

Name: Alissa Bandy
School: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Subject: Anthropology
Time in Role: 10 years



Professor Alissa Bandy

What do you enjoy most about your job at NWACC?

Discussions- I love talking with students in and out of class. I love learning about their opinions, perspectives, and lives.

What do you think the local community should know about NWACC?

It's an affordable way to build skills and figure out at path they want to take.

What advice would you give your 12-year-old self and why?

Make sure you understand what you need to do to do what you want to do. Never apologize for caring and be kind to yourself.

Who was one of your favorite professors as a student and why?

Prof. Jerome C. Rose at the University of Arkansas-- kind, intelligent, loved my sense of humor, and made it possible for me to go to Egypt.

What's your favorite local restaurant, or favorite dish to make at home?

Sushi House for restaurant, pizza at home.

Student Profile

Lucas Luangsisombath

Reporter

Name: Khryzzia Pepino
Hometown: Philippines
Area of study: Nursing



Khryzzia Pepino

What do you hope to do after completing studies at NWACC?

After completing my studies at NWACC, I hope to find a nursing job and use my skills and knowledge into the workforce. Not only will I complete my studies after, but I hope that I can keep in contact with my classmates I studied with.

What do you wish other people knew about your area of study?

Studying nursing requires lots of time management, dedication, and discipline. I would like to advise other people to carefully review your decisions before going into the program. There will be a lot of times of staying up late reviewing 4-5 chapters and understanding ... material. Regarding clinicals, you will be assisting nurses in the hospital providing care to other patients. Though it takes effort and hard work, it is very humbling, and you get to take on hands-on experiences.

What led to your decision to study at NWACC?

I made the decision to study at NWACC because it gives me the benefit of affordable education while receiving strong support services. Having such a strong support service enables me to stay on track and plan my degree path accordingly.

What advice would you give a freshman entering your course of study?

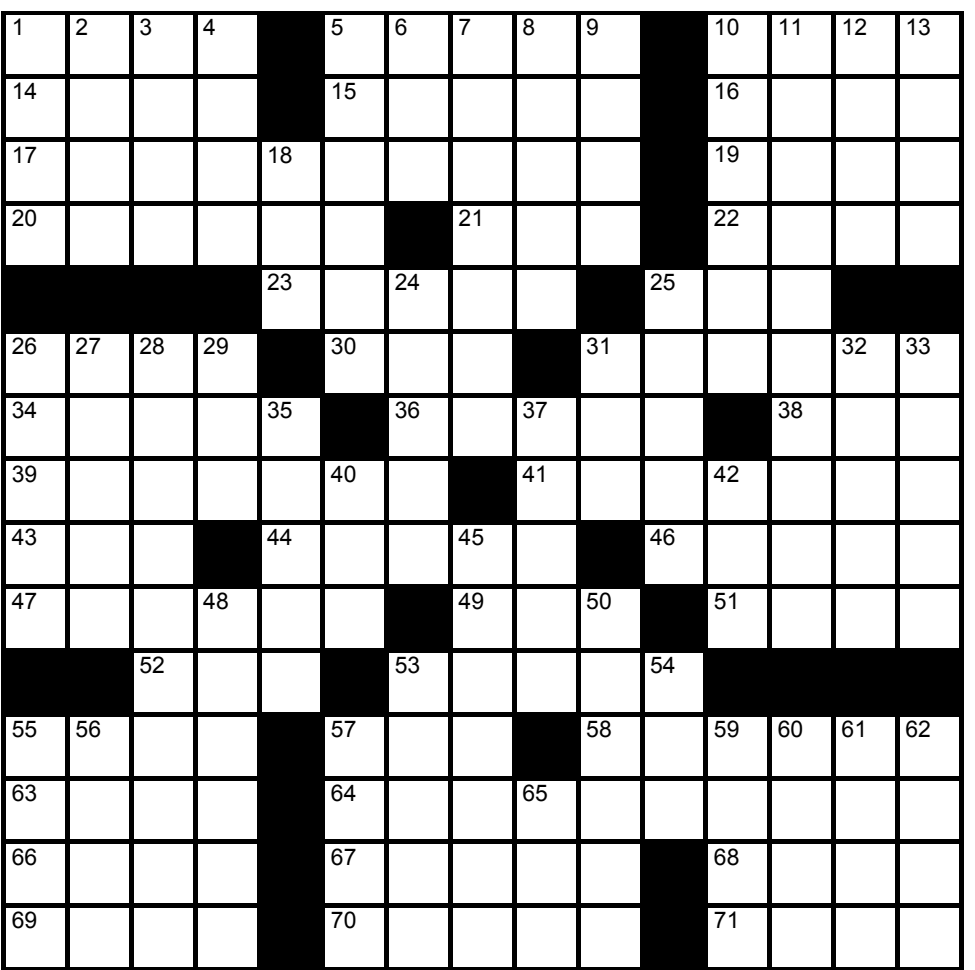
With nursing, it is required to take your pre-requisites before applying to the Nursing program. One advice I would give to a freshman is to focus on taking most of your classes early so that you will be less frustrated moving forward to this course of study.

Did you have any degree in mind? If so, what degree and why?

A degree I had in mind would be business management. I love learning about how businesses come together. I also found it fascinating how operations work effectively and understanding people. Though, I fell in love with nursing more because I wanted a degree where not only it is rewarding but prioritizing the care of people's health.

Across

- 1 Cronies
- 5 Manacles
- 10 Surrounded by
- 14 Auth. unknown
- 15 Lagoon surrounder
- 16 Without a doubt
- 17 Restaurant type
- 19 "Quit it!"
- 20 Chiang Kai-shek's capital
- 21 Conclude
- 22 Family member
- 23 Apprehensive feeling
- 25 Itinerary word
- 26 Liquefy
- 30 Miner's load
- 31 Worked the land
- 34 First-stringers
- 36 Auspices
- 38 Swelter
- 39 Tribal V.I.P.'s
- 41 Bon vivant
- 43 Lend a hand
- 44 Chicken
- 46 Copier need
- 47 Polar sight
- 49 Toupee, slangily
- 51 Chances
- 52 Greek consonant
- 53 Assail
- 55 Model
- 57 Implore
- 58 Prove wrong
- 63 Distress signal
- 64 Indian Ocean arm
- 66 Poker holding
- 67 Andrea Doria's domain
- 68 Broadcasts



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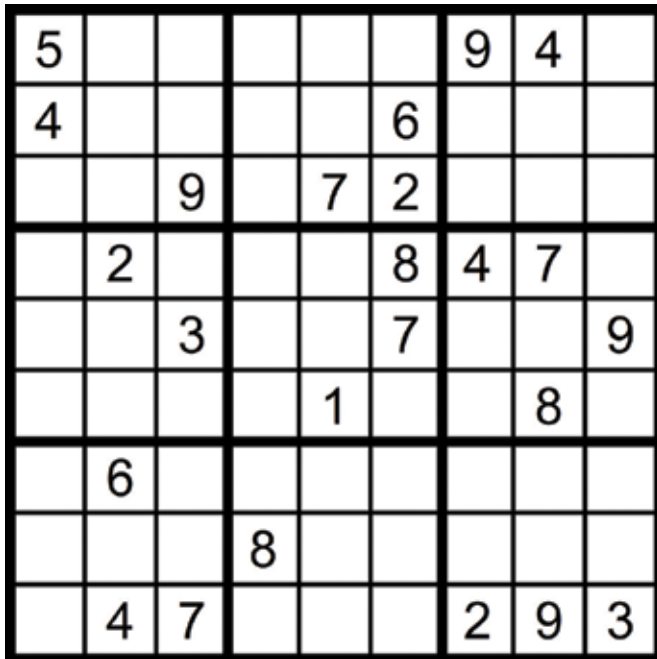
- 69 Nile reptiles
- 70 Bar seat
- 71 Covet
- 11 Investment choice
- 12 Pressing need?
- 13 Cabinet div.
- 18 Vacation locale, with "the"
- 24 Comprehend
- 25 Call upon
- 26 Kenyan tribesman
- 27 Body of values
- 28 General's forte
- 29 Flat hat
- 31 Tout's offering
- 32 Guessed wrong
- 33 Fabric workers
- 35 Brazilian palm, coco de ____
- 37 Taxonomic group
- 40 Forty winks
- 42 Bill and ____
- 45 Sauce ingredient
- 48 Toast word
- 50 Agreeable
- 53 Special Forces cap
- 54 Kind of party
- 55 Sobriquet for Haydn
- 56 Wood sorrels
- 57 Captures
- 59 Nibble away
- 60 Java is in it
- 61 Beach bird
- 62 Bridge position
- 65 Ghost's cry

Down

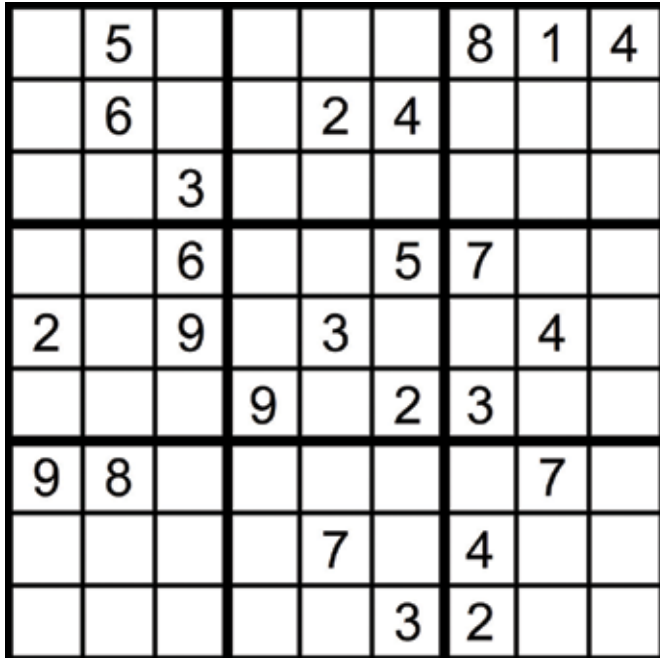
- 1 Actor's goal
- 2 Dwarf buffalo
- 3 French novelist Pierre
- 4 Cut short
- 5 Vegas attraction
- 6 Shoshonean
- 7 Divine
- 8 City near Detroit
- 9 Husky burden
- 10 Tear into

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY: HARD #1



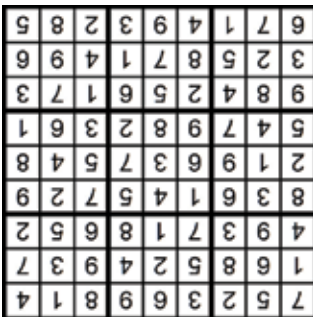
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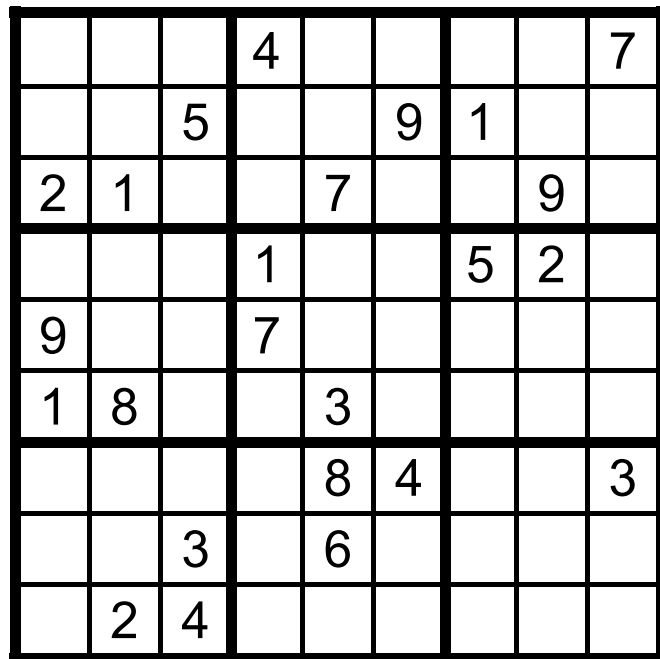
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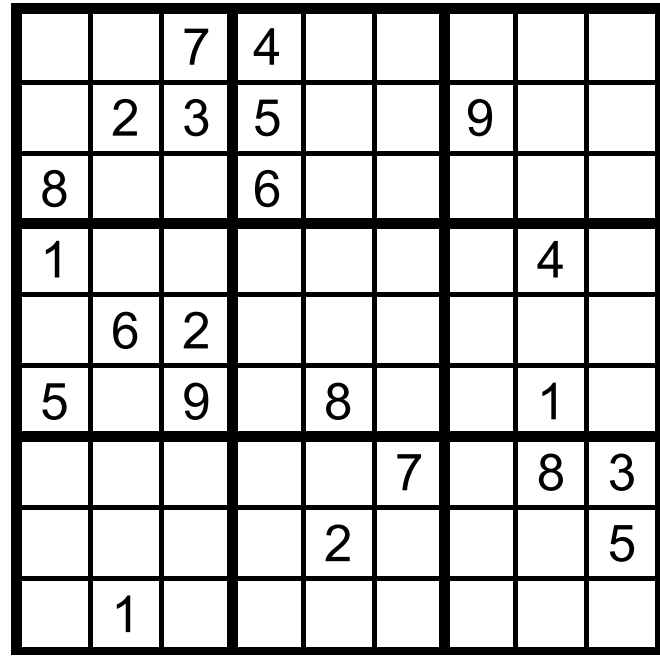
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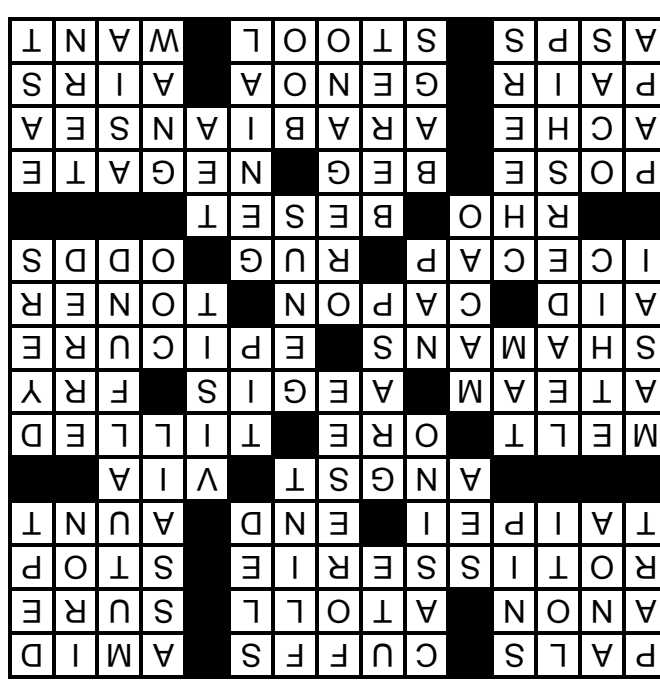
DIFFICULTY: HARD #2



DIFFICULTY: MEDIUM #2



SOLUTION FOR CROSSWORD



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