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News Briefs

NWACC's Entrepreneurial Spirit Award nominations

For the third year the NWACC's Entrepreneurial Spirit Award honors and recognizes an NWACC employee who has excelled at starting new initiatives at the College.

The Entrepreneurial Spirit Award honors an NWACC employee(s) who has achieved a unique career success or milestone as the result of taking a risk. The individual is willing to step outside the box to create something new or different and provide services, develop products or improve practices by organizing, developing or innovatively deploying available resources.

Nominations can be submitted by peers and selection is made by the Entrepreneurial Spirit Award committee, which is comprised of a student representative, faculty, staff and administration.

Nominations are due March 31, 2026 and the award will be presented at the Employee Recognition Awards Ceremony in May.

NWACC Book Club Meets April 14

The NWACC Book Club will meet from 12 to 1:15 p.m. April 14 in Walmart Auditorium for a campus-wide author talk. April marks national poetry month.

April's selection is Brody Parrish Craig's poetry, "The patient is an unreliable historian."

Time: 12-1:15 p.m.

Contact Sabrina Chesne schesne@nwacc.edu to borrow a book. More information is available at: <https://nwaccbookclub.blogspot.com/2025/08/fall-2025spring-2026.html?m=1>

Board of Trustees meeting

The NWACC Board of Trustees will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, April 13 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30p.m. in the Burns Hall third floor Trustees Board room.

Seeking Volunteers for Service Learning Veteran Scholarship BBQ Fundraiser

The Service Learning Veterans Scholarship BBQ Fundraiser, in partnership with the Veterans Services, will be April 22 from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm in Burns Hall.

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INCUMBENTS RETAIN NWACC BOARD SEATS

State Race, Washington County Judge Race Headed to Runoff

Jonathan Barrett
Reporter

BENTONVILLE, Ark. – Three Board of Trustees seats were up for election on the March 3 ballot, and the results were positive for the current office-holders: Ashley Pointer, Ron Branscum and Amber Latimer.

Two races on the March 3 Republican ballot resulted in runoff elections to be decided March 31. In Washington County, incumbent County Judge Patrick Deakins faces challenger Tim Shepard for the Republican nomination. In a three-way race, no candidate secured a majority of votes. The winner of the GOP primary runoff will face Dana D. Deree, a Democrat, in November. In a statewide GOP contest, Senator Kim Hammer faces Bryan Norris for Arkansas Secretary of State. New terms for the incumbent Board of Trustees members elected March 3 will

begin in January. Trustee Pointer retained her NWACC Board of Trustees seat for Zone 1 with 56.67% for a total of 1,449 votes, according to results certified by the Benton County Election Commission. Pointer's opponent, Angela Calix, received 1,108 votes in the final tally.

In Zone 5, Trustee Ron Branscum retained his position receiving 56.83% or 994 votes. Branscum's opponent Peter Bailey received 755 votes. Trustee Amber Latimer ran unchallenged in Zone 8 therefore retaining her trustee position.

Nine individuals from Rogers and Bentonville school districts (the college district) serve on the Board of Trustees. The trustees are chosen by voters in the geographic zones they represent. According to the college's 2025-26 fact book, members of the Board of Trustees of NorthWest Arkansas Community College are elected by zone in groups of three each even numbered year at the general election.

Pointer, the Zone 1 choice, was appointed by Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders to serve on the board to fill a vacancy created by the May resignation of Dr. Carolyn Reeves.

Reeves accepted a fellowship with the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock, according to the NWACC website. Zone 1 is the area north of Highway 102 (Centerton) and parts of western Bella Vista.

In Zone 5, Branscum sought re-election to the seat for Zone 5, which is in the central section of Bentonville—for the most part west of I-49 and primarily north of Walton Boulevard.

Branscum is a business owner of a company known as Strategic Business Consulting. He also has multiple years of experience in the financial field, including working for the Arkansas State Bank Department.

Trustee Latimer of Zone 8, which includes parts of southwest, central and south Rogers, was running unchallenged for the seat. She works for Gibson Real Estate as an executive real estate broker.

All candidates for the NWACC Board of Trustees were contacted through email, and no return emails responding to questions were received. All information about the candidates was taken from the NWACC Board of Trustees webpage via <https://www.nwacc.edu/aboutus/collegeleadership/botmembers/index.html>



Image of early voting stickers given out for the March 3 primaries. Photo by Wayne Cook

Battle of the Ozarks

Pea Ridge National Military Park presents 164th battle anniversary

Jonathan Barrett
Reporter

PEA RIDGE, Ark.— On Saturday, March 7, Pea Ridge National Military Park held the 164th anniversary commemoration event of the battle.

Throughout the day, volunteers put on living history events at multiple locations across the park. Allowing spectators to learn about what occurred during the battle. The 24th Missouri Company B, formally known as the Holmes Brigade, demonstrated how a Union soldier would live while in camp. The demonstration included what the soldiers wore, ate, and slept in. The demonstration was led by the Holmes Brigade orator Jon Siltman. During the firing demonstration, Siltman talked through an infantryman's drill throughout the Civil War such as how to properly load the weapon, sequences of fire, and how to march in different formations. Siltman also provided a breakdown of all the equipment a soldier would be carrying during the Civil War.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans were present during the event. Les Wood from the Missouri chapter says the group's mission is to, "Talk about the history of families of all Confederate soldiers—and to preserve their ancestors." All members of the group have ancestors who fought for the Confederate Army.

Chief Administrator and Interpreter Travis Cott led the charge to make this event happen. Cott said he wanted people to know how the Battle of Pea Ridge "played a role in the Civil War." Cott stated that this event is to commemorate the battle. Cott also wants the public to know that the park is free to the public. The tour road opens at 6 a.m., and the park also has hiking trails and horse trails for public use.

The Battle of Pea Ridge occurred March 7-8, 1862. According to the website for the Pea Ridge National Military Park, more than 23,000 soldiers fought there to determine the fate of Missouri. The Union won in the most pivotal battle west of the Mississippi River: <https://www.nps.gov/peri/index.htm>.

A two-part documentary about the battle is available on the History Underground YouTube channel as part of the History Traveler series, episodes 450 and 451: <https://www.youtube.com/@TheHistoryUnderground>.

Washington County 2026 Election Results

Aneyda Reynaga
Managing Editor



Washington County poll workers assist voters at Springdale Public Library's polling location on election day, March 3.

Photo by Aneyda Reynaga

SPRINGDALE, Ark. – Washington County voters had many things to vote for on their ballots including candidates for Circuit Judge and Prosecuting Attorney on all ballots and Constable, Collector, Coroner, Justice of the Peace, and County Sheriff on party primary ballots. They also had questions about Farmington and Greenland school millage increases.

The election results in the nonpartisan District 4 Circuit Judge races resulted in one runoff that will be decided in the general election Nov. 3. Wendy Howerton, who had 39% of the vote, and Kristin Pawlik, who received 38% of the vote, will be on the ballot to decide who becomes the next Division 2 Circuit Judge. In the Division 3 contest, April Rye Shy defeated Maria McSperritt. Circuit Judge Diane Warren secured re-election to the Division 8 judge seat by capturing 54% of the vote in a race with Dawn Egan and Joanne Clarie.

In another non-partisan judicial race, Lisa Parks, a former public defender, was elected prosecuting attorney for the 4th Judicial District (Washington and Madison counties). She defeated longtime deputy prosecutor Denis Dean for the job. She will replace Brandon Carter, who was appointed to the position by Gov. Sarah Sanders in November 2024, according to the Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette.

SEE Washington County Election Results on Page 3

NEWS



More than a Welcome: The Students Behind the First Impression

NWACC student ambassadors share their experiences and roles as student leaders at the college.

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FEATURES



'Star Party' Features Stellar Opportunities

Wrap-Up encourages guests to gaze at the stars. NorthWest Arkansas Community College Astronomy club hosts star watching party for SACF.

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SPORTS



Two Mexican Giants to Razorback Stadium

LigaMX Teams Club America and Club Tigres Face Off

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Volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks. Students who need service learning or volunteer hours are encouraged for this event.

The event is a great way to meet people, have fun, and do good in the world.

If you are interested in volunteering, please fill out the volunteer form: <https://forms.office.com/r/s1WhfKgUmz>

Questions can be emailed to SL@nwacc.edu

Trails and Trades Summer camp registration is open

Registration is open for two summer camps "Pedals and Pathways" and "Spokes & Shovels." More details can be found in the links below:

Pedals and Pathways is designed for ages 7-11 and will take place June 8-12, 2026. https://secure.touchnet.net/C20691_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=296&SINGLESTORE=true

Spokes and Shovels is designed for ages 12-15 and is set for July 6-10, 2026.

https://secure.touchnet.net/C20691_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=297&SINGLESTORE=true

Applications opening for Health Information Management and Respiratory Therapy

Applications are now open for the Health Information Management (HIM) and Respiratory Therapist programs March 1-July 1. For more details and how to apply check out the following pages:

NWACC's Health Information Management (HIM) program prepares you to perform as an entry-level technician. Duties include organizing and managing health information data by ensuring its quality, accuracy, accessibility, and security in both paper and electronic systems.

<https://www.nwacc.edu/academicdivisions/healthprofessions/healthinformationmanagement/application.html>

A Respiratory Therapist (RT) is a highly specialized medical professional who works alongside physicians to provide life-saving health care for those with heart and lung disease. As critical members of the health care team, Respiratory Therapists utilize high-tech equipment to provide hands-on patient-centered respiratory care to those of all ages.

<https://www.nwacc.edu/academicdivisions/healthprofessions/respiratorytherapist/admissionrespiratorytherapist.html>

Save the date for commencement

Northwest Arkansas Community College Commencement will take place at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 9, 2026 at the Walmart AMP, 5079 W. Northgate Rd. Rogers.

Please check your email and text messages for ceremony registration information.

NWACC Food Pantry – Spring 2026

Need help with groceries? The NWACC Food Pantry is here to support students, faculty, and staff throughout the semester.

Location: Burns Hall 1214

Pick-Up Location: Cox Welcome Desk (Burns Hall)

Distribution: Every other Thursday

How it works:

- Complete a Food Pantry application bi-weekly
- Requests are due by 3:30 p.m. the Thursday before distribution
- You'll receive an email when your bag is ready
- You'll have one week to pick up your items

Emergency needs? Email StudentLife@nwacc.edu

Free Fitness Center on Campus

Get ready to keep your new year's resolution and crush your fitness goals at the NWACC Fitness Center which is free to all students! The center hours are Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Friday: 8 a.m. - Noon

To take advantage of the fitness center simply scan the QR code on the desk when you enter.

Spring Music Events

Several spring music events are scheduled for upcoming weeks. These are open to the public and free. For additional information, contact m3brown21@nwacc.edu

Semester Concert

Tuesday 4/28 - 7 p.m.

Walmart Auditorium Shewmaker Center

Community Chorus of NWA

Monday 5/11 - 7 p.m.

Walmart Auditorium Shewmaker Center.



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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.

Editorial content in the Eagle View is prepared by the students of NorthWest Arkansas Community College and does not necessarily reflect the views of NWACC.

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Model UN Team Wins Awards in St. Louis

Next Stop: New York City

Jennifer Watson

Online Editor

From Feb. 18-21, NWACC's Model U.N. team competed and earned honors at the Midwest Model U.N. Conference held in St. Louis, Missouri. A total of four schools from Arkansas were present, with NWACC as the only Arkansas community college that competed. The team will next compete in April at the National U.N. Conference in New York City.

At the Midwest Conference, Mandy Lopez won an outstanding delegate award for representing Mexico on GA4 (Special Political and Decolonization Committee), as well as a position paper award. Lindsey Lawrence won an honorable mention award for representing Bangladesh in the UNEA (United Nations Environment Assembly).

Mandy Lopez, a captain on NWACC's team, said that she enjoys seeing newcomers – "novices," as they're officially called – grow in confidence.

"Just seeing that spark in their eyes when they finally get it and want to participate" she said. "That is probably my favorite thing, because I get to watch people in real time fall in love with Model U.N."

Other NWACC participants at the conference included Jacob Baker, Tatum Buchanan, Lizeth Cervantes, Melany Chavez, Mollie Kilgore, Gaby Mora, AJ Morales, and Kayla Spitzer. The team represented Bangladesh, Mexico, and Turkey on General Assembly second committee, General Assembly fourth committee, United Nations Environmental Assembly, and United Nations Committee on Trade and Development.

Back in the fall, NWACC competed at the Arkansas Model U.N. Conference held at Harding University in Searcy. The team was awarded best delegation, and won awards in every committee they represented.

"You have to come at it from the stance of the nation you're representing, not from America," said team captain Lindsey Lawrence. "You have to take yourself out of your own shoes and go into theirs. You'll see at conferences, some people kind of struggle with it."

At the Arkansas Conference, Angela Deneke won a best delegate award for representing Algeria on the Council of Arab League. Also representing Algeria were Melany Chaves and Mandy Lopez, who each won honorable mention delegate awards for representing the Economic and Social Council and the Security Council.

Querenda Torres won an honorable mention delegate award for her representation of the Republic of Sudan.

Ghita Jeroundi won a best delegate award for her representing



NWACC's Model U.N. students competed and earned honors at the Midwest Model U.N. Conference held in St. Louis, Missouri.

Photo courtesy of NWACC's Political Science professor, Matt Evans

Bangladesh on the Human Rights Council. Jeroundi, Enrique Soto, and William Wise won a best delegation award for their representation of the country.

NWACC's Fall 2025 Model U.N. team also included Hidgens Leonard and Matthew Cornog II, who represented Algeria on the Human Rights Council. Also representing the HRC was Mollie Kilgore, and Keenan Addington and Lucien DuSoleil, who represented the Republic of Sudan. Lindsey Lawrence and Anthony Suviaz represented Netherlands on the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

On Nov. 6, 2026, NWACC will host the Arkansas Collegiate Model U.N. Conference. Schools from around the state and region will come to Bentonville and compete alongside NWACC students.

Hundreds of NWACC students have participated in Model U.N. at regional and national conferences since the team was founded in Fall 2017.

Both Lawrence and Lopez mentioned that Model U.N. helps develop skills that serve participants long after their final conference.

"It's true that the things, the policies that we're enacting, debating, and voting on – are not real. [However], the topics are real world," said Lawrence. "We get to be part of world problems and find solutions to them."

Lopez also emphasized that Model U.N. isn't just for certain majors.

"It's for everybody, because the point is for you to learn and gain an understanding of the world around you, and that is an important skill for anybody to have."

More than a Welcome

The Students Behind the First Impression

Keenan Addington

Reporter



Bulletin board outside NWACC's Burns Hall displaying student activities throughout the 2026 spring semester.

Photo by Chelsea Castillo-Velazquez

"Will you be my friend when I come to NWACC?" an incoming student asked Student Ambassador Ghita Jeroundi after a campus tour. To Jeroundi, that question alone meant more to her than the incoming student likely realized.

For Jeroundi, her role as an ambassador was about more than introducing new students to the college; it was about making them feel they belonged before they even enrolled. "Being an ambassador isn't just about giving information," she said, "but also about making someone feel welcomed and less alone." That moment captures the heart of what NWACC Student Ambassadors do. The Student Ambassador program places students on the front lines of welcoming new arrivals, representing NWACC while helping ease the transition into college life.

However, life as an ambassador involves more than just giving tours and greeting incoming students. Student Ambassador Jennifer Carpio didn't sugarcoat what the job actually looks like. "This part is more tedious and might require extra work," she said when describing the preparation that goes into every campus tour. "We prepare by practicing our tours and presentations for upcoming students." Still, Carpio emphasized that this preparation is exactly what allows the program to succeed.

After that, the real work begins: group tours, individual visits, content creation for NWACC, and hours spent at the welcome desk, all while balancing a full class schedule. Yet for Carpio, one of the more unexpected parts of the role has nothing to do with recruitment at all. "You also hang out with other student ambassadors," she claims, "creating stronger friendships."

Marian Hendricks will be the first to tell you she didn't overthink

her decision to apply. She wanted to be involved, and the scholarship didn't hurt either. What she didn't expect was how much the role would give back. "It has been an awesome experience," Hendricks said, "Becoming a student ambassador has grown me in so many different ways." She also shared a message for students who have never heard of the program. "More people should know about it," she said simply, "It is such a life-changing opportunity, and I would do it again if I could."

Being a student ambassador sounds like a lot, and on paper, it is. Representing a college while simultaneously being a student yourself requires a level of time management that not everyone is prepared for. But ask any of the ambassadors how they handle it, and the answer is surprisingly consistent: it is more manageable than it looks.

Carpio points to the structure of the program itself as the reason why. "Our student ambassador recruiters are great," she said. "They are understanding, and you have a schedule tailored to your own schedule." That flexibility makes the difference between the role feeling like a burden and feeling like a natural extension of campus life. On slower days at the desk, she added, homework gets done. "You can do homework while still representing NWACC," she said. "Win-win in my opinion."

Jeroundi echoes that sentiment but frames it differently. For her, balance comes from staying grounded in her own identity as a student. "I'm still a student first," she said. "When I represent NWACC, I try to stay real and remember that I'm speaking from my own experience, someone who's figuring things out, working hard, and getting involved. I don't try to be perfect, just honest."

If the ambassadors have one frustration, it is this: not enough people know the program exists. Hendricks put it plainly. "More people should know about it," she said. For a program that puts students at the center of recruitment, the ambassadors themselves often go unrecognized for the work they do behind the scenes.

Carpio feels that gap acutely. "Student ambassadors are not recognized for their hard work," she said. "We do things behind the scenes that people don't know about." She hopes that more visibility for the program would do two things at once: honor the work already being done and inspire the next group of students to get involved. "Promoting being a student ambassador would improve both the program and the school," she said.

The student who asked Ghita Jeroundi if they could be friends probably didn't realize she was doing anything extraordinary. Jeroundi was just doing her job, showing up, being present, and making someone feel like they mattered before they had even decided if NWACC was right for them. That is what the Student Ambassador program produces: not just recruiters, but students who understand that the first impression of a college can shape everything that comes after it.

Fayetteville Voters OK Bond

Jennifer Watson

Online Editor

Voters in Fayetteville approved all nine items on the city's \$375.5 million bond package on the ballot in the March 3 election. The bonds covered financing for current and future projects as well as approval for specific projects for the city to undertake. The projects include infrastructure maintenance and improvements in addition to new amenities.

A point repeated throughout descriptions of the bond issues was that the prospective projects would not require residents to pay more in taxes. This was the premise of the first bond question, which was required to pass in order for any of the additional bond projects to take place.

According to the city of Fayetteville's website, the existing rate has been in place "for more than two decades." This item passed March 3 with over 75% voting in favor.

The second question pertained to "Water/Wastewater System Bonds," which amounted to the largest portion of bonds, at \$150,050,000. City officials have stated that this project will need to take place regardless of the bond passing; however, it would "most likely" have to be

SEE Fayetteville Voters OK Bonds on Page 5

CONTINUED from Washington County Election Results on Page 1

A three-person race for the GOP nominee for Washington County Judge went into a runoff election scheduled for March 31. Early voting begins March 24 as incumbent County Judge Patrick Deakins faces challenger Tim Shepard. Shepard captured 48% of the vote on March 3 while the incumbent received 31% of the vote. A third candidate, Mark Scalise, received 20% of the Republican primary votes. There is not a Democratic candidate for the county judge seat. A statewide Republican runoff for the Arkansas Secretary of State nominee is also on the March 31 ballot, pitting Sen. Kim Hammer against Bryan Norris. Other primary races set the stage for Nov. 3 balloting.

The following information about November races is from the Ballotpedia website.

For Justice of the Peace, District 1, Lou Reed Sharp faces incumbent Bradley Bruns, a Republican.

For Justice of the Peace, District 2, Democrat Faith Laukon faces David Wilson, a Republican.

For Justice of the Peace, District 4, incumbent Vladimir Rivera faces Republican Bill Ussey.

For Justice of the Peace, District 5, Democrat Stephanie Shufelt faces incumbent Kyle S Lyons, a Republican. Lyons received the party nomination March 3 by defeating Jacklyn Perry Ryan.

For Justice of the Peace, District 6, Democrat Lowell Taylor faces Republican Lisa Ecke.

For Justice of the Peace, District 7, Democrat AnneDella Hines faces incumbent Charles T. Dean Jr., a Republican.

For Justice of the Peace, District 8, Democrat Shawndra Washington, the incumbent, does not face a Republican challenger.

For Justice of the Peace, District 9, Democrat Beth Coger, the incumbent, does not have a Republican opponent.

For Justice of the Peace, District 10, Diane Bryant who won the Democratic primary against Frank Jensik, will face incumbent JP Robert E. Dennis, a Republican.

For Justice of the Peace, District 11, incumbent JP Suki Lin Highers does not face a Republican opponent.

For Justice of the Peace, District 12, incumbent JP Evelyn Rios, a Democrat, does not have a Republican challenger.

For Justice of the Peace, District 13, incumbent JP Willie E. Leming, won the Republican nomination by defeating challengers Greg Curoso and Ty Bates. There is not a Democratic candidate.

For Justice of the Peace, District 14, Democrat Jimm Garlock faces incumbent Gary Ricker.

For Justice of the Peace, District 15, Democrat Caitlin Draper will face incumbent Republican Butch Pond.

Arkansas law allows for an independent to file by a May 1 deadline.

In other March 3 voting:

- **Incumbent Sheriff Jay Cantrell defeated challenger Mike Stewart for the GOP nomination. There is not a Democratic opponent.**

- **Incumbent Washington County Collector Angela Wood received the GOP nomination and will face Democrat Rachel Eubanks in November.**

- **Mike Neville defeated William Mason for the Republican Party nomination for Coroner. There is not a Democratic opponent.**

Becky Lewallen, Washington County Clerk, faced no challenger in her bid for the GOP nomination and faces no Democratic challenger.

Kyle Sylvester, Washington County Court Clerk, faced no challenger in his bid for the GOP nomination and faces no Democratic challengers.

In constable balloting, Shawtill Puryear was chosen as the GOP nominee for District 1 township and will face Democrat Michael John Belzner in November. Mark E. Miller received the GOP nomination in District 2 township and faces no Democratic opponent. Republican Joe Maynard and Democrat Mark Farrer will vie for the constable post in the District 3 township.

A request for a two-mill increase in the tax rate for Farmington School District was approved.

The Farmington School Mill Increase question vote was:

FOR 58.04%

AGAINST 41.96%

Greenland voters rejected a two-mill increase in the tax rate that would have funded facility upgrades

The Greenland School Mill Increase question vote was:

FOR 44.49%

AGAINST 55.51%.



Poll workers at the Springdale Public Library on primary election day.

Photo by Aneyda Reynaga

Shaping New Connections Through Ceramics

Featuring Ceramicist Chrystal O'Boyle's Journey and Work

Cerella Lor
Reporter

For this year's Spring Arts & Culture Festival, NorthWest Arkansas Community College featured ceramicist Chrystal O'Boyle, who shared her 12 years of unique artistry with an audience of art lovers. O'Boyle has a strong passion for ceramics and said she was "honored to be selected and gladly accepted the invitation" for the festival.

O'Boyle was born and raised in Fayetteville and earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts in art education at the University of Arkansas. Currently, she's an artist in residence at the Community Creative Center, and will hold a solo exhibition in May.

During O'Boyle's seminar, she demonstrated this year's SACF theme of connection by emphasizing how her art pieces not only built her connections throughout the country, but also built connections to her audience. As she talked about developing her artistic style, she continuously mentioned how her sculptures capture specific moments in time by the way they are positioned or by their actions.

O'Boyle's 3D sculptures are made in different scale sizes and are full of details that create opportunities for her audiences to interact with them, such as stepping in to get a closer look. While her sculptures are inanimate, in those moments, they speak thousands of words to her viewers who find connections between themselves and her artwork.

Tabitha Darrah, ceramics instructor at NWACC, nominated O'Boyle for the featured artist lecture and submitted her name to the festival committee. Darrah also introduced O'Boyle to the audience before her lecture, "Shaping Connections." Darrah said, "Chrystal's journey is all about connections—making new ones and returning to previous ones. Her work explores connections, those gestures, thoughts, and moments that seem singular but are in fact an action we share with individuals—those moments of similarity tie us together to create connections."

Alongside mentioning her works of art, O'Boyle also discussed the behind-the-scenes of her ceramic sculptures. She went into detail about her processes, which was a helpful segment of her lecture for students and individuals interested in ceramics. Some of her work processes include using silicone molds, firing techniques on sculptures, and cold finishes/surfaces on ceramic pieces.

After the lecture, some suggested that her words were just as inspirational as her sculptures. Astrid Hercules, a student studying psychology at NWACC, said, "From this event, it feels more obtainable to be an artist from seeing someone be successful, especially someone who's local and around our age." Additionally, Lee Madrid, a student studying fine arts said, "I recently started sculpting, and I like to see other people's processes because, for my sculptures, I struggled a lot. So, seeing how other artists navigate their prompts and ideas is helpful to learn."

The student responses may show how impactful the artist's journey and work are on others. As stated by O'Boyle herself, "I hope students were able to see that pursuing a life in the arts is possible and accessible to them."

Those who would like to see more of Chrystal O'Boyle's artwork can view her solo exhibit May 7-May 31 at the Community Creative Center in Fayetteville. Additional information is available under the heading "Upcoming" at <https://communitycreativecenter.org/mccoyle-gallery/>.



Chrystal O'Boyle during her lecture at the Spring Arts and Culture Festival. Chrystal O'Boyle's ceramic sculptures displayed at Northwest Arkansas Community College.

Photos by Cerella Lor



Mending Together: One Stitch at a Time

Embroidery Artist Connects Craft to Health, Connection

Erin Shields, Valeri Villegas and Lizeth Cervantes

Reporters

Imagine sitting between a hospital room and a waiting room during one of the most difficult moments of your life with no internet, television, or phone service to distract you. Beatriz Segura found herself in this situation about a year and a half ago while caring for her mother, who was in the ICU in Mexico.

With nothing to occupy the long hours of waiting, Segura began embroidering and crocheting again. What started as a way to pass the time during a stressful and uncertain week and a half soon became something much more meaningful. Through embroidery, Segura reconnected with a cultural practice and discovered how therapeutic the simple act of stitching could be.

Segura shared her story during the NorthWest Arkansas Community College Spring Arts Festival from March 2-6. This year's theme of "Connection" brought the community together to celebrate diverse arts, music, cultures, and insightful ideas.

Having lived in Northwest Arkansas for over 22 years, Segura spoke about how embroidery is deeply tied to culture, particularly in Mexico where many different styles of embroidery exist. Embroidery goes back to indigenous traditions where each ethnic group developed its own designs and techniques. Segura has learned through years of visiting Mexico, and mainly teaches three types of techniques like el Bordado Preparado, el Bordado Oaxaqueño, and Pata de Gallo.

These crafts have been passed down from generation to generation, but embroidery is becoming a lost art due to the rise in screen time among today's youth. Segura not only stresses this art's disappearance within coming generations, but also highlights the health benefits embroidering has to offer. This rhythmic repetition can help reduce stress, calm the

mind, and build emotional resilience. Embroidery also stimulates the brain and supports cognitive benefits such as neuroplasticity, which helps the brain form new connections.

In many cultures, women embroidered clothing, linens, and household items out of necessity, but these pieces also carried artistic expression and cultural meaning. As a result, men would stray away from such forms of art as they were stereotyped as girlish activities. However, embroidery is not only about beauty; it also has functionality.

Segura gives us insight on life in Mexico saying, "When you have a pretty embroidered napkin you get to brag more," adding, "here when you go buy tortillas you usually go to the stores and grab a bag or in aluminum foil but in Mexico you go wait in line at a tortilleria with an embroidered napkin and while you wait in line you talk about your embroidered napkin"

Another meaningful part of the event was when students and staff participated in the mini interactive lesson Segura showcased. aron Fox, Dean of Communication and Arts at NWACC, also participated. She took photos for the Communication and Arts School's social media and enjoyed trying the stitches out. She was already familiar with embroidery and was natural at passing thread through fabric.

Segura's presentation showed how something as simple as needle and thread can have powerful effects on the mind and community. Embroidery offers a way to relax, preserve culture, and connect with others. As Segura explained, "We don't just mend fabric; we mend ourselves." Through each stitch, embroidery reminds us to slow down, be present, and appreciate the connections we share with others.

NWACC student Sophia Ruiz contributed to this report.



SACF event, "Stitching Well-Being and Crafting Calm," led by Beatriz Segura on Tuesday March 3. Quilts and clothing were made by attendees of the event.

Photos by Lizeth Cervantes and Sophia Ruiz

Festival Audience Hears About Life after Battle

Professor Presents Research about Pea Ridge, Surrounding Communities

Maebre Peal

Reporter

On a cold March morning in 1862, the Battle of Pea Ridge began near the Leetown hamlet. More than 160 years later, at NWACC's Spring Arts and Culture Festival, Chris Huggard revisited the battle and its lasting impact on the surrounding communities.

On March 5, Huggard, a history professor at NWACC, delivered a talk in White Auditorium titled, "After Pea Ridge: Neighbors at Odds in the Civil War." During the presentation, Huggard focused on how the war affected families and communities in the surrounding areas. He highlighted the stories of John Ingall and the Heaslet brothers that revealed the divided loyalties and neighbor v. neighbor conflicts that broke out during and after the war.

During his presentation, Huggard drew from newspaper articles, family diaries, and accounts preserved by Nancy Miser Buttram in the Benton County Pioneer. He explained how these sources revealed connections and conflicts between families on opposing sides of the war.

At the beginning of his lecture, Huggard explained to the audience that his research on the Battle of Pea Ridge and the stories of the surrounding communities began by accident. Huggard told audience members that he had been granted a contract to write the history of the Civil War park, and that after he finished, he thought, "Someday, I'll make it into a book."

"I thought I would just do a chapter on the battle, do an environmental analysis of it, and then do a history of the park," he said in an interview later. "Once I started getting into the research, I realized there was a lot of stuff that had not been written about."

Huggard noted that the stories that have been written about the Battle of Pea Ridge don't talk about the community around the battle, or about the park itself in anything more than references. During the interview, he specifically mentioned the book "The Battle of Pea Ridge" by William Shea and Earl Hess, which focuses mainly on the military history of the battle.

"They don't really talk much at all about the community," Huggard said. "They don't talk about the settlement of the area. They don't talk about the period after the battle or anything about the park, just references."

After Huggard finished his talk, he invited three Civil War reenactors to the front of White Auditorium to give the audience an insight into the life of Civil War soldiers. Reenactors Joe Rainey, D. D. Dunagin,

and that they didn't want to fight for the Confederates. "Arkansas raised more troops for the Union than any other southern state," Rainey said.

Rainey and Dunagin showed the audience members how the soldiers in the Civil War would load a 1842 Smoothbore Musket and a 1855 Springfield. As part of their demonstration, Rainey explained how the soldiers would always fight in two ranks, shoulder to shoulder, with the shorter soldiers in the front rank.

At the end of the event, attendees were allowed to look at the model weapons and food rations that the reenactors brought with them and ask them questions. While talking to a small group of the students, Dunagin shared that he had a personal connection to the battles fought in the area, as a piece of land near Avoca where the Battle of Little Sugar Creek, also known as the Battle of Dunagin's Farm, used to belong to his grandfather J. Dunagin.

Nadia Moutria was among the NWACC students who attended Huggard's presentation. She said she enjoyed the presentation and learned some things about the

region's past. "I love history! I'm a history and sociology major, so it was up my alley," she said. "I liked it whenever he told stories of the individuals who lived in the area. Like the little girl who snuck off to see the grave at Pea Ridge."

Moutria also found it interesting that places like Pea Ridge and Bentonville had sub-colonies during the war. "They were union-protected spaces so farmers could live in somewhat peace," she explained.

A surrounding place with some history behind it was Leetown, a small community that sat on a wooded plateau, with the Pea Vine Ridge settlement to the north and the Little Sugar Creek settlement to the south. During the Battle of Leetown, all houses within three miles of the battlefield were taken to be used for hospitals, placing the small village, which only laid a half-mile south of the federal battleline, directly in the path of the war and military operations.

Historical accounts show that the battle devastated the small community. Most families moved to the nearby settlement of Pea Ridge after the war had ended. The ones who stayed in Leetown after the war, ended up relocating to Rogers in 1881 after the installment of the "Frisco Line" railroad. The once thriving settlement slowly faded away, with the grave of two-year-old Robert Braden being the only remembrance of the village that once stood there.

NWACC student, Aubre Floyd contributed to this report.

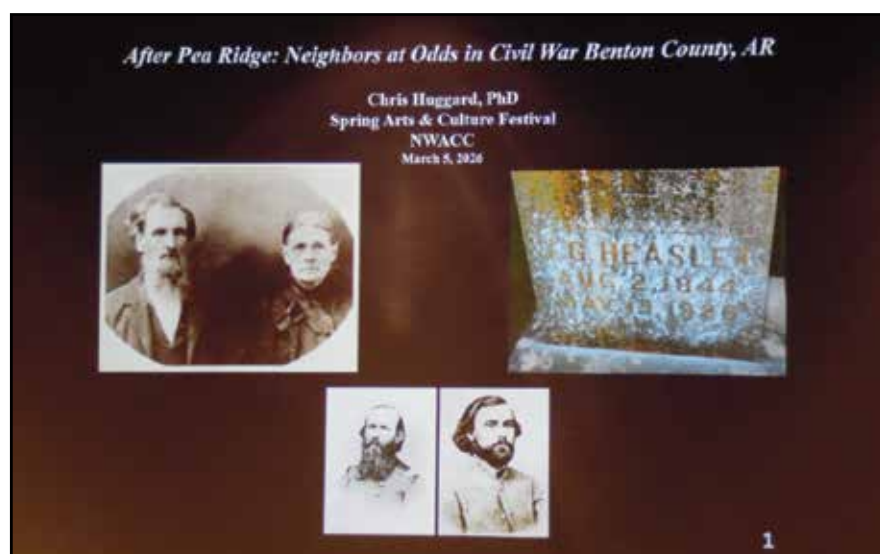


Image of a slide show presented at Dr. Chris Huggard's SACF event, "After Pea Ridge: Neighbors at Odds in Civil War Benton County, AR." Photo by Maebre Peal

Students Share Poetry, Stories at Nucleus Release Party, Open Mic

**Lara Nicholson
And Jonathan Barrett**

Reporters

As part of the Spring Arts and Culture Festival, students came together in Room 108 of the Student Center to celebrate student creativity at the Nucleus Release Party and Open Mic Poetry Reading.

Students who were published in the 2025-26 issue of the Nucleus literary journal were invited to read aloud from their work during the event, which took place from noon to 1:15 p.m. Other students were welcome to share poetry, fiction, or creative nonfiction during an open mic session. After the readings, there was a reception where attendees could pick up copies of the journal's printed edition.

A range of student voices and writing styles were showcased at the event. Some readers shared their personal stories or historical narratives, while others shared poems and short stories that ranged from humorous to emotional.

Students were able to experience literature both on the written page and through live performances thanks to the passionate and emotional delivery of each speaker's work.

First-year NWACC student Beth Jennings shared one of her poems and took part in the reading.

Jennings said that she was inspired to attend and read her work in public by her participation in campus writing programs.

"I am part of the creative writing club and in the creative writing class and helping with the literary journal," Jennings said. "It sounded fun and a good way to celebrate the writing of others."

Jennings said it was her first time taking part in an open mic reading, even with her involvement in campus writing.

"Yes, it's my first open mic," Jennings said. "I did have fun and loved hearing other pieces."

Jennings' poem, which was about tomatoes, illustrated the event's encouragement of artistic freedom. The work suggested how student writers can transform commonplace subjects into creative poetry by fusing humor with reflective imagery.

Hunter Lawrence, author of "Devotion," is also the Vice President of the Creative Writing Club and encourages students to take part

in the club. Lawrence said, "Come as you are...Be bold." Lawrence drew inspiration for his poem from personal experience of unrequited love as a gay man. Lawrence explained those experiences will allow individuals to "Gain power."

The event and the range of stories told were also well received by the audience. A student who attended the reading, Emely Sosa, stated that she first went for extra credit.

Despite extra credit being a motivator for attending, Sosa said that the event's creative pieces made it stand out. "My favorite story was the proposal," Sosa remarked.

The open mic and reading also celebrated the release of Nucleus, NWACC's student literary journal designed especially to showcase the creative work of students.

According to information on the Nucleus Literary Magazine website, NWACC students have been working on the Hive Avenue Literary Journal since 2019, which publishes work from writers and students across the country. However, instructors and students desired to produce a magazine devoted to showcasing NWACC students' artistic abilities.

Fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, art, graphic design, and photography are all welcome to submit to the journal.

The concept of a hub for creativity within the campus community is reflected in the name Nucleus.

In beekeeping, a nucleus hive is a small starter hive used to begin a new bee colony, symbolizing the beginning of a new creative space for student artists and writers.

The journal, according to its organizers, serves as a platform for exhibiting student creativity and creating a long-lasting tradition within the NWACC community.

Professor Lara Candland teaches Creative Writing 1 and 2 at NWACC as well as being the faculty advisor for the Creative Writing Club. Candland has authored 2 poetry books and is currently producing a novel. Candland said she was proud of her students. As an educator, Candland said, it "feels great to see how her students' work has evolved." If you are interested in submitting your work, you may go to hiveavenue.wixsite.com/nucleuslitmag or contact Professor Candland

at l3candland@nwacc.edu. The college's annual Spring Arts and Culture Festival, a week-long celebration with a range of artistic and cultural events throughout campus, includes events like the Nucleus release party.

The event gave students a chance to publish their work and speak directly to their peers by combining a journal release, student readings, and an open mic session. For many attendees, the event provided a friendly environment for writers to express themselves and showcased the creativity found within the NWACC student body.

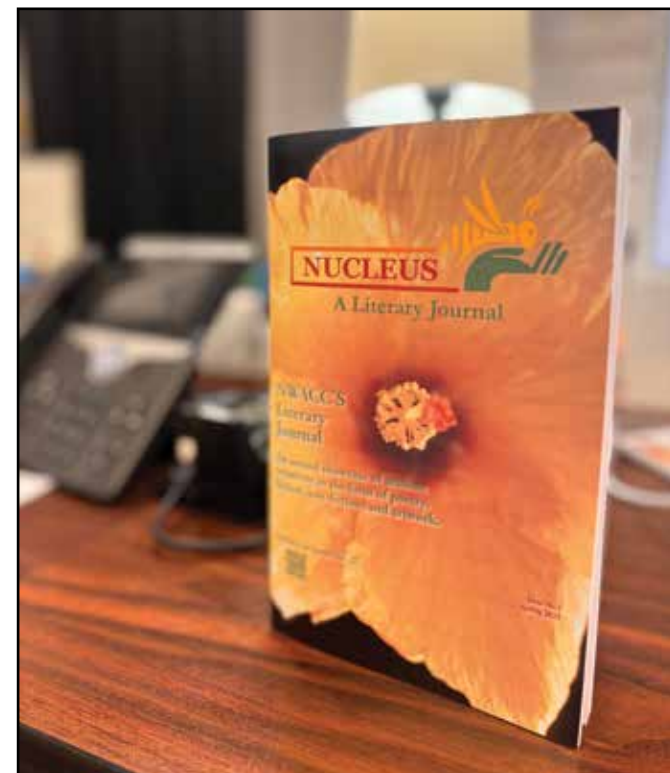


Image of NWACC's new student literary magazine, "Nucleus." Photo by Chelsea Castillo-Velazquez



Space - which is considered the final frontier -- draws the interest of many people. Atop the campus parking garage, the NWACC astronomy club hosted a star gazing party for the public on March 12. After a couple of cancellations because of cloudy conditions, the club and its supporters set up high tech telescopes for around two dozen people to view the planets in the solar system. Despite some thin clouds, the participants were treated to seeing the planets close up. With the assistance of stargazing apps, people were able to locate and identify stars and constellations.

Photos by Wayne Cook

'Star Party' Features Stellar Opportunities

Wrap-Up Encourages Guests to Gaze at the Stars

Jonathan Lowder

Reporter

On Thursday, March 12, the Northwest Arkansas community gathered for an evening of eventful stargazing as well as learning at the "Star Party" hosted as part of NWACC's Spring Arts & Culture Festival.

The event took place on top of NWACC's parking garage while guests parked on the lower levels and made their way to the top where multiple telescopes and binoculars had been set up to observe a series of stars, planets, constellations, etc. The event was organized by Explore Scientific, NWA Space and Science Center, NWACC, and Sugar Creek Astronomical Society.

The evening featured snacks on top of a small informational presentation by NWACC's own astronomy experts on some star and planet facts. For example, right above the school from the vantage point on the parking garage's top floor there appeared what from the naked eye seemed as a regular star, but was actually the planet Venus. Or like how the Subaru logo represented the Pleiades star cluster otherwise known as "The Seven Sisters."

The "Star Party" was part of NWACC's Spring Arts & Culture Festival, which highlighted a range of educational and cultural events. Like all festival activities, the "Star Party" was free and open to the public. The March 12 date represented a delay from the earlier scheduled date during the March 2-6 festival; cloudy weather and the threat of rain postponed the event.

Organizers considered the event a success, as it inspired interest in astronomy and brought the community together for an engaging and educational evening under the stars. If you're interested in astronomy or want to know more about it, NWA Space is working to build a world class center that will connect people and the latest advancements in science and technology while continuing to foster a space for an effective love of learning. Those interested can find more information at NWA.Space.

Words Between Us

Reading Event Kicks Off March 4 SACF Lineup

Aneyda Reynaga

Managing Editor

BENTONVILLE, Ark -- On Wednesday, March 4, the Spring Arts and Culture Festival’s “Words Between Us” event started off the day. During this event students and staff read excerpts from their favorite writers and books.

The Spring Arts and Culture Festival happens every year and started in 2015 with Lindsey Hutton, former English professor at NWACC. This year the members of the SACF organizing committee were Brandon Andrews, April Brown, Samantha Bunker, Raquel De Avelar Bilck, Sharon Fox, Jessica Gutierrez, Kendrea James, Kate Knoll, Cody Taylor, Shawna Thorup and Matt Evans.

Each year has a different theme with this year being connection(s). According to Evans, professor of Political Science, the intent was to have readings that reflected connections and disconnections in a variety of ways. He mentioned that this event was similar to last year’s “Risky Writers” only that this time there was an emphasis for it to be in-person.

This year’s readers were Heather Lundy who read “Excepting Mrs.Pentherby,” “Gone to the Grave: Burial Customs of the Arkansas Ozarks, 1850-1950,” and “The Strange and Beautiful Sorrows of Ava Lavender,” Stephanie Freeman, who read “Frankenstein,” Emily Safcsak who read “Tender is the Flesh” and Evans, who read “The Kentucky Derby Is Decadent and Depraved” and “The Drowned and the Saved.”

Evans mentioned that he chose “The Kentucky Derby is Decadent and Depraved” because it represents “a journalist failure and triumph for the writer, but offers an interesting depiction of the localized connections produced through the fanfare and industry of horseracing.”

He added that the writer of the book, Hunter S. Thompson made up the story because he didn’t do the work properly but had to produce a story anyway to be paid. However, after he published it, the story created a celebrity culture around him focused on a new style of writing called “Gonzo journalism.”

The next writer Evans talked about was Primo Levi, who was a Holocaust survivor and wrote “The Drowned and the Saved,” and mentioned that the writer didn’t let his experience be utilized to hurt others. To connect this writer to the theme, Evans said, “His writing, for me, spoke to the disconnection we find in making others less human, stripping away their humanity as others to be contained, deported, imprisoned, or killed.”

The Spring Arts and Culture Festival has since ended, but there was plenty to see and learn. Many students and staff attended the events excited to hear about history, community and how we’re all connected.

Aneyda Reynaga is managing editor of the NWACC Eagle View. She is studying journalism, and she loves reading and playing video games.



Students and staff listen to Matt Evans as he reads “The Kentucky Derby is Decadent and Depraved”

Photo by Aneyda Reynaga

Before the Headlines, They Had Names

NWACC Librarians Explore Murder Mystery Cases

Keenan Addington

Reporter



Librarians Heather Lundy (left) and Shawna S. Thorup (right) hold Sisters in Death: The Black Dahlia, The Prairie Heiress, and Their Hunter by Eli Frankel, a book discussed during last week’s Black Dahlia lecture at NWACC

Photo by Keenan Addington

Elizabeth Short was born in Boston and raised in Medford, Massachusetts, the daughter of Cleo and Phoebe Short. Her father abandoned the family in 1930, faking his own suicide and leaving behind a wound that never quite healed. She was a sickly teenager with chronic bronchitis and asthma, pushing her toward warmer climates. She also possessed a restless spirit, which spurred her toward something bigger. By the time she landed in Los Angeles, she was a wild child. She hung around bars, soaked up the glamor, and told anyone who would listen that she was going to be somebody.

Short wasn’t wrong, though the fame that found her came at the worst possible cost. On Jan. 15, 1947, at just 22 years old, her body was discovered in the grass near the Leimert Park neighborhood of Los Angeles. She had not become a star. She had become a headline.

However, six years earlier and more than 1,600 miles away in Kansas City, another young woman met a similarly horrifying fate. Though it never became headlines like the murder of Beth Short, the killing of Leila Welsh was just as shocking. Welsh was a young teacher and socialite from a well-connected Kansas City family. Raised modestly on a prairie farm before becoming part of the city’s upper social circles, she was known as intelligent, ambitious, and well-liked.

On a winter night in 1941, while her mother and brother slept in nearby rooms, a killer slipped into Welsh’s bedroom on Rockhill Road. She was bludgeoned with a hammer and nearly decapitated with a butcher knife. After she had bled out, the attacker mutilated her body.

The brutality of the crime stunned Kansas City and quickly became a nightmare for investigators. Suspicion initially fell on Welsh’s brother, and despite pressure tied to the powerful Pendergast political machine, authorities were unable to secure a conviction. Like the Black Dahlia case years later, the murder of Leila Welsh ultimately remained unsolved.

Decades later, author Eli Frankel revisited both cases in his book Sisters in Death: The Black Dahlia, The Prairie Heiress, and Their Hunter. Drawing on police records, letters, and newly uncovered documents, Frankel argues that the murders of Elizabeth Short and Leila Welsh may not have been isolated tragedies but instead connected crimes committed by the same killer.

The possibility of that connection became the focus of a discussion during NorthWest Arkansas Community College’s Spring Arts & Culture Festival, where librarians Heather Lundy and Shawna S. Thorup explored the parallels between the two cases.

During the presentation, the librarians walked through Frankel’s research and the similarities between the murders. In addition to looking at the crime itself, the librarians emphasized how crimes are investigated, how media can affect these cases, and how to properly research these topics. Though the two women lived very different lives, Short drifting between cities in search of opportunity and Welsh rooted in Kansas City’s social world, the violence that ended their lives showed disturbing similarities.

The mystery behind the Black Dahlia case and the Prairie Heiress case still fascinate many people, investigators, writers, and journalists 80 years after the murders.

Yet the discussion was not meant to glorify the killer. Instead, Lundy and Thorup focused on the lives of the women themselves. True crime stories often elevate the mystery of the perpetrator, while the victims are remembered only through the violence done to them.

By revisiting the stories of Elizabeth Short and Leila Welsh side by side, the presentation attempted to restore something often lost in the headlines: the humanity of the victims.

Before they were mysteries, before they were cases debated for decades, Elizabeth Short and Leila Welsh were simply two young women with futures ahead of them, lives that history remembers not for who they were but for how they died.

NWACC student, Kaitlyn Keeter contributed to this report.

NWACC Volunteers Build Beds for Those in Need

Lu Antolinez

Senior Photographer

BENTONVILLE, Ark. - On March 13, nearly 100 volunteers gathered on the NorthWest Arkansas Community College campus for the assembly of beds that happens every semester.

Volunteers, students and staff of all ages worked together through an organized assembly-line process that included cutting wooden boards, sanding, drilling and assembling bed frames. Once the frames were complete, volunteers stained the wood and branded the boards with the organization’s logo before preparing them for donation.

The effort is part of a collaboration with Sleep in Heavenly Peace, which has a motto of “No kid sleeps on the floor on our town!”

The large-scale volunteer effort was coordinated through the college’s Construction Technology program, led by Director Ray Taylor. In a Facebook post, Taylor noted that Matt Evans, service learning coordinator and political science professor, approached him five years ago about the project. Since that time, more than 440 beds have been constructed and delivered.

Throughout the event, the workshop environment was filled with the sound of tools and teamwork as volunteers moved through each stage of the construction process. The structured system allowed participants to efficiently build multiple beds while learning hands-on skills.

The event not only focused on craftsmanship but also on community service. In total, 55 beds were built and each bed will be donated to individuals who currently do not have one, helping provide an essential piece of furniture for families in need.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace–Bentonville chapter posted a note of thanks on its Facebook page, “We are incredibly grateful for our partnership with Ray Taylor and NWACC Integrated Design. Thanks to their support, and the amazing volunteers who showed up ready to serve. We were able to build 55 beds on Friday that will soon be delivered to children across Northwest Arkansas. We truly have some of the best supporters, and because of you, more kids in NWA will have a safe, comfortable place to sleep.”



The message on volunteers’ shirts—“No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town”—reflects the mission behind NWACC’s bed-building event.



Ray Taylor, director of Construction Technology at NWACC, guides volunteers during the bed-building event, sharing his expertise in construction while supporting the community project.



On March 13, nearly 100 volunteers gathered on the NorthWest Arkansas Community College campus for the assembly of beds that happens every semester. The event is called, “Build-A-Bed.”



Photos by Wayne Cook

CONTINUED From Fayetteville Voters OK Bonds on Page 2

funded through rate increases. In the first week of August, Fayetteville saw three waterline breaks in as many days. At the time, the city’s chief communications officer Gracie Ziegler told the Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette that “some parts of our water system are decades old and weren’t designed for the level of growth we’ve seen in recent years.” The proposal passed with 85% of voters in favor.

Parks and Recreation were the focus of the third bond question, involving an investment of \$25,500,000. Per the city website, this project would focus on “improving parks, trails, and outdoor spaces used for recreation and community gatherings.” While specific project locations weren’t identified, all projects will follow the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Parks System bonds passed with 78% of the vote.

The fourth bond question, in the amount of \$18,100,000 sought to address Fayetteville’s 55- year-old animal shelter that “was not designed for today’s population, intake volume, modern animal welfare standards, or technology,” according to Fayetteville Mayor Molly Rawn. The Animal Services Facility bonds passed with 81% of votes in favor.

Bond questions five and six pertained to transportation

via trails and roads. \$3,800,000 is allotted to “pedestrian infrastructure,” with a focus on safe walking and biking routes. \$56,000,000 is dedicated to road improvements specifically, including intersections, bridges, and “traffic safety features” across the city. The Trail System bonds passed with 75% of the vote, and the Transportation (“road improvement”) bonds passed with 82%.

Some \$1,050,000 was allocated to improving Fayetteville’s trash and recycling systems. Including new and expanded recycling drop-off facilities, infrastructure improvements, and equipment upgrades. Voters approved the Sustainability bonds with 78% of voters approving.

A \$61,900,000 aquatic recreation center was the focus of the eighth bond question, which passed by a narrow margin of 50.71%. The center, based on “a multi-year feasibility study and community input,” would provide swimming, fitness, and recreation options year-round.

The ninth and final bond question was focused on adding a new fire station plus related equipment, an “apparatus,” and training facilities at a cost of \$18,650,000. A total of 86% of voters approved this measure.

Pickleball Club Hosts First Meet

Staff Report

NWACC Pickleball Club had its first meet on Feb. 27 at Osage Park in Bentonville. The casual afternoon of pickleball brought students, faculty, and staff of all skill levels to the location.

According to a club Instagram page, the group will meet at Osage Park every Thursday at 5 p.m. Those who have never played pickleball before are still welcome to attend. For the first event, club leaders pledged to be on hand to teach the basics and help participants jump right in.

Additional information and pointers include:

Bring a paddle if you have one

A limited number of paddles will be available to borrow

Refreshments and snacks provided

Contact n3hernandez5@nwacc.edu or o3elshoff@nwacc.edu with any questions.



Ramy Mangna returns the pickleball during the NWACC pickleball club first meeting of the season at Osage Park in Bentonville. There are about a dozen members comprised of staff and students in the pickleball club.



Olivia Elshoff (left) and Ramye Mangna, two of nearly a dozen NWACC pickleball club members, discuss the rules of pickleball during the first meeting of the club at Osage Park in Bentonville.



Olivia Elshoff gets ready to make a return during the first meeting of the college pickleball club at Osage Park in Bentonville.



Nick Hernandez gives some pointers of serving the pickleball to Barbara Humphrey during the first meeting of the school's pickleball club meeting at Osage Park in Bentonville.



Nick Hernandez (front right) watches as teammate Barbara Humphrey readies to return the pickleball to Eli Wynn (back left) and Ian Miller. The foursome got some practice in during the first meeting of the college pickleball club at Osage Park in Bentonville.

Photos by Wayne Cook

Two Mexican Giants to Razorback Stadium

LigaMX Teams Club America and Club Tigres Face Off

Aneyda Reynaga

Managing Editor

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark.-- Donald W. Reynolds Razorback Stadium will host its first international soccer match in a "Golden Clash" with two major rivals of the Mexican league. The men and women's Club America and Club Tigres will be a part of a doubleheader that will face off on March 28.

The tickets went on sale Friday, Jan. 30, and will be valid for both matches. The women's match will be held at 2 p.m. followed by the men's at 5. According to the Arkansas Razorbacks website, the Club America bench is in front of section W105, while the Tigres bench is located in front of section W103. Tickets are still available and you can find them <https://arkansasrazorbacks.com/tickets/>

Club America is one of the oldest teams in the league, established in 1916 and has a total of 16 titles for the men's - the most of any team - and a total of 2 LigaMX femenil titles for the women. They are based in Mexico City and will go up against the Nuevo Leon natives.

Club Tigres was established in 1960 and is a younger team compared to Club America. They have a total of 7 LigaMX femenil titles for the women and 8 for the men. They are based in San Nicolas de Garza, Nuevo Leon and have a historic rivalry with C.F Monterrey, a team also based in Nuevo Leon.

These teams have established themselves as some of the most famous in Mexico and the world. Now, Fayetteville will be welcoming these world class teams in the eve of the 2026 World Cup.

For more information about Club America, check out <https://www.clubamerica.com.mx/>

For more information about Club Tigres, check out <https://www.tigres.com.mx/es/historia/>

Aneyda Reynaga is managing editor of the NWACC Eagle View. She is studying journalism, and she loves reading and playing video games.



Promotional game poster for the international soccer match, "Golden Clash," on March 28 at Donald W. Reynolds Razorback Stadium. 2



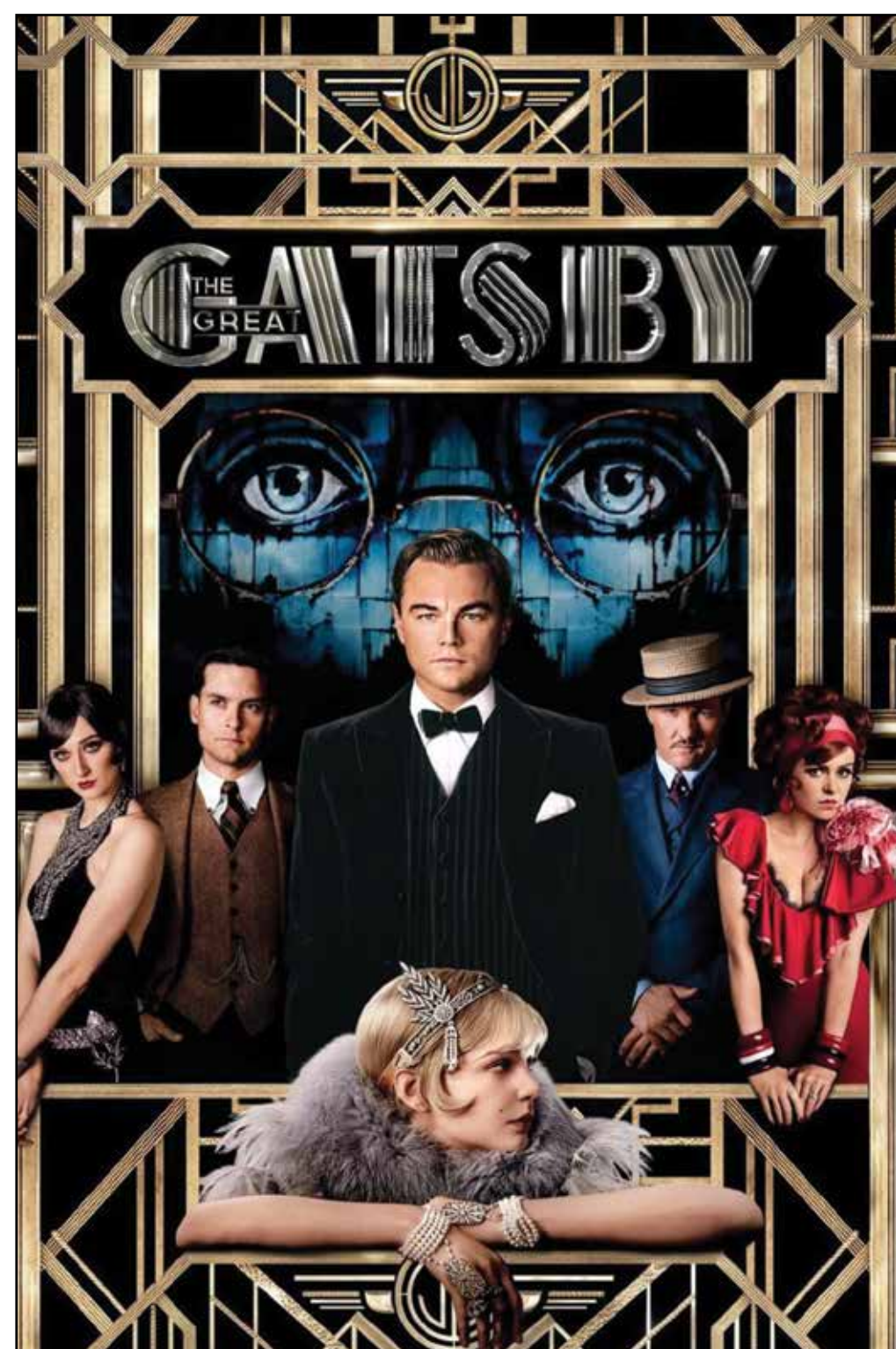
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‘The Great Gatsby’ Brings Intensity to Retelling of Famous Book

2013 Flick Says Much About Money, Class, Love



Promotional Movie poster of 2013's Book adaptation, "The Great Gatsby." Starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Tobey Maguire, and Carey Mulligan.
Photo Courtesy of Warner Bros. Pictures

Emmanuel Hernandez
Reporter

Some movies are easy to watch and forget, but "The Great Gatsby" is not really one of those. It is loud, emotional, dramatic, and full of style. The movie came out in 2013 and was directed by Baz Luhrmann. It stars Leonardo DiCaprio as Jay Gatsby, Tobey Maguire as Nick Carraway, and Carey Mulligan as Daisy Buchanan. I chose this movie because it is based on a famous book, but this version makes it feel more modern and intense. I also picked it because it gives a lot to talk about. It

is not just a romance movie. It also says a lot about money, class, love, and the American Dream.

The audience for this movie is wide. It can appeal to students because "The Great Gatsby" is such a well-known book that a lot of people read in school. It can also appeal to adults who like drama, romance, and visually exciting movies. Since Leonardo DiCaprio is in it, that also helps bring in a bigger audience. I think the movie is meant for people who like emotional stories but also want something that looks very stylish and different from a normal drama.

The plot follows Nick Carraway, who moves to New York in the 1920s and ends up living next to the

mysterious Jay Gatsby. Gatsby throws huge parties, and everyone seems interested in him, even though nobody really knows much about him. As Nick gets pulled into Gatsby's life, he finds out Gatsby is deeply in love with Daisy Buchanan, who is already married. The story starts to show that behind all the money and beautiful parties, there is actually a lot of sadness, obsession, and dishonesty. I thought the plot was interesting because it keeps you wanting to know more about Gatsby and what is really going on in his life. Even if you already know the story, the movie still makes you want to keep watching because of how emotional it feels.

The character development in the movie is strong, especially with Gatsby. He is probably the most interesting character because he seems confident and successful on the outside, but inside he is really built around one dream. Leonardo DiCaprio does a great job making Gatsby feel charming but also sad. Nick is also important because he is the one watching everything happen, and over time he starts to understand that the rich and glamorous world around him is not as perfect as it looks. Daisy is a little more complicated. There are moments where she feels emotional and real, but there are also times when she seems distant. Tom Buchanan is not as complex as Gatsby, but he still works well because he clearly represents arrogance, control, and old money. Overall, the characters do not feel flat, which makes the movie better.

The technical quality of the movie is one of its biggest strengths. The visuals are probably the first thing most people notice. The costumes, houses, music, and party scenes are all very dramatic and memorable. Everything looks rich and over-the-top, which fits the story really well. The movie does a good job of showing how excessive Gatsby's world is. At the same time, there are some moments where it almost feels like too much. The editing can be very fast, and sometimes the movie is so focused on looking impressive that it does not slow down enough. Still, I think the movie is very well made overall, and the style is a big reason people remember it.

The music also stands out. Instead of only using music that sounds like the 1920s, the movie mixes in modern songs and artists. That was a bold choice, but I think it helped make the story feel more alive for modern viewers. It made the movie feel less old and more connected to people today. The audio and dialogue are also clear, and the scenes mostly flow well, even if some parts feel a little too busy.

When it comes to representation, the movie is limited. Most of the main characters are wealthy white people, so it is not a very diverse film. That mostly comes from the original story and the time period it is set in. There is not much strong representation of groups like Hispanics, Blacks, Native Americans, or people with disabilities. Because of that, the movie feels narrow in who it focuses on. The bigger issue the film explores is class. It shows a world where rich people have power and where money shapes how people live and treat each other.

The movie also had a pretty strong impact. Even

though some critics were mixed on it, a lot of people still remember this version of "The Great Gatsby." It introduced the story to younger audiences and made it feel fresh through the music, fashion, and visual style. It is one of those movies that people still talk about because it looks so unique. It may not be everyone's favorite adaptation, but it definitely made an impression in popular culture.

Overall, I think "The Great Gatsby" is a good movie. It is not perfect, and sometimes it feels too dramatic or too overloaded with style, but it is still very effective. It keeps your attention, the acting is strong, and Gatsby's story is emotional enough to make the movie work. I think the film does a good job showing that all the money and luxury in the world cannot guarantee happiness. I would recommend it to people who like drama, romance, and visually creative movies. I would also recommend it to students because there is a lot to analyze in it.

"The Great Gatsby" is a strong movie because it mixes a tragic love story with deeper ideas about wealth, class, and dreams. It has a broad audience, an engaging plot, and characters that feel interesting instead of flat. Its technical quality is one of its biggest strengths, even if the style can sometimes feel like too much. The representation is limited, but the movie still gives people a lot to think about. In the end, I would recommend it because it is memorable, emotional, and different from a lot of other literary adaptations.

Emmanuel Hernandez is a media student and staff member of the NWACC Eagle View.

ON THE SMALL SCREEN

"The Great Gatsby"
Movie Review
Runtime: 2h 23m
Genre: Musical, Biblical, Adventure
Director: Baz Luhrmann
Release Date: 2013
Rating: 4/5

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Rising Gas Prices and Global Conflict: What Students Should Know

Lu Antolinez
Senior Photographer

Conflicts occurring far away can sometimes seem irrelevant to the everyday lives of students. But, the ongoing strife between Iran and Israel illustrates how global events can have consequences everywhere — including at NWACC.

The situation itself is intricate and involves numerous political, military, and historical dimensions, but one of the most immediate consequences students may observe is an increase in fuel costs.

Why a distant conflict impacts gas prices

Oil is exchanged on a worldwide market, meaning occurrences in a specific area can affect prices globally. The Middle East is a key oil-producing region, and any disruptions there frequently lead to instability in energy markets.

Recent information indicates that global oil rates have soared since the conflict intensified, with crude oil exceeding \$100 per barrel, according to a Reuters article. In the United States, the average price for gasoline has also increased as energy markets react to supply uncertainty, according to a CBS article by Megan Cerullo.

One key factor is the significance of the Strait of Hormuz, a narrow waterway near Iran through which about 20% of the world's oil supply passes. If transportation through this critical route is disrupted or threatened, concerns about global oil supply can quickly drive prices upward in international markets, according to reporting by Reuters.

Implications for students in Northwest Arkansas

For NWACC students, increased fuel prices can impact daily habits. Many students travel from nearby cities such as Bentonville, Rogers, or Springdale, usually relying on their own vehicles for transportation to campus.

As gasoline costs climb, commuting expenses are likely to rise as well. This might require some students to plan their budgets more carefully for travel or modify their plans for transportation. Higher fuel costs can also influence other financial areas. Transportation plays a vital role in delivering groceries, supplies, and various goods, so a rise in fuel prices can lead to broader changes in pricing throughout the economy.

A reminder of global interconnections

For numerous students, this scenario highlights the interconnected nature of today's world. Events in one area can sway markets, supply networks, and daily living expenses across the planet.

Simultaneously, students and experts stress the need to remain informed while approaching international disputes with a sense of nuance and regard for the diverse communities involved. While the future of the conflict remains unpredictable, its economic repercussions serve as a reminder that worldwide events can influence local realities — even for college students in Northwest Arkansas.

Lu Antolinez is a student at NorthWest Arkansas Community College studying media. She was named senior photographer for the Eagle View this semester.



Current gas prices posted for drivers in Springdale, Arkansas.

Photo by Lu Antolinez

Faculty Recital

NWACC faculty, Austin McFarland, Sung Kun Jung and guest Samantha Canon performed on March 3 in White Auditorium
Photo courtesy of Stephanie Freeman



Student Recital

NWACC students, Noah "Hidgens" Leonard and Jazia Craft performed in Burns Hall 2105 on March 17
Photo courtesy of Stephanie Freeman



SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY: MEDIUM

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

DIFFICULTY: HARD

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

SOLUTION FOR MED SUDOKU

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

SOLUTION FOR HARD SUDOKU

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

SOLUTION FOR CROSSWORD

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

Across

- 1 Confuse
- 6 Honshu city
- 11 Neighbor of Mo.
- 14 Jeans material
- 15 Kicked off
- 16 Large amount
- 17 Hindu mystic
- 18 Key material
- 19 ___ Quentin
- 20 Foreman's superior
- 22 Conclude
- 23 Istanbul native
- 24 Insult, in slang
- 27 Contest effort
- 29 Concert venue
- 30 Move slowly
- 32 Sedona maker
- 33 Swelter
- 34 Zeno, notably
- 36 Sleep spoiler
- 38 Routing word
- 41 Half man and half horse
- 43 Sharing
- 45 Rough stuff
- 46 Conflict
- 48 Kidney-related
- 49 Like Falstaff
- 50 Porker
- 52 Bingo relative
- 53 Ham's need
- 56 Where to get a fast buck?
- 58 Produce duds
- 59 Parsley or sage
- 60 An Everly brother
- 61 Crayola color
- 63 Baseball stat
- 64 The brainy bunch
- 66 Certain sorority woman

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
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73					74					75				

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- 70 Service award
- 71 Noble gas
- 72 Wedding helper
- 73 Casual attire
- 74 Haughty response
- 75 Lady
- 10 "___ more?"
- 11 Matter of debate
- 12 Memorize
- 13 Sri ___
- 21 Octopus's defense
- 23 "Don't give up!"
- 24 Old dance hall
- 25 Lay to rest
- 26 British biscuit
- 28 Pageant crown
- 29 Combat gear
- 31 Best seller
- 33 To and ___
- 35 Chocolate source
- 37 Greenfly, e.g.
- 38 Creepers
- 39 Fatuous
- 40 Luminous
- 42 Final (Abbr.)
- 44 Albanian coin
- 47 Patron
- 49 Little lie
- 51 Obtain
- 53 Scarlett's love
- 54 Eagle's nest
- 55 Cover, in a way
- 56 Sonata section
- 57 Loose hemp or jute fiber
- 60 Student overseer
- 62 Discovery grp.
- 64 "___ Miniver"
- 65 Aardvark's morsel
- 67 High degree
- 68 Stew vegetable
- 69 Pitcher's asset

Down

- 1 Much spam
- 2 Condensation
- 3 Chain letters?
- 4 Peru's capital
- 5 Author Zola
- 6 Samurai's sash
- 7 More than one
- 8 Torment
- 9 Certain Iranian