



PHOTO, 4B
 "Paint your stress away" held for community members last week



Happening at A-State

A-STATE HERALD

STAFF REPORT

Spring 2020 class registration is here

- Priority and Honors registration: Oct. 28-29
- Oct. 30-31: upper level and graduate students
- Nov. 1: Freshmen and Sophomore

Bluegrass Monday

Kim Robins and Forty Years Late will perform a concert of bluegrass music at 7 p.m. on Oct. 28, at the Collins Theatre, 120 West Emerson St., downtown Paragould. The concert is part of the Bluegrass Monday concert series presented by KASU, 91.9 FM.

Born into a musical family and singing in church since the age of five and in her father's band, Robins traveled across the country as part of an opening act for musical legends including Loretta Lynn, Conway Twitty, Barbara Mandrell and The Oak Ridge Boys.

BLUEGRASS, 4A

IT moves

The Information Technology store on A-State's campus moved to the first floor of the Dean B. Ellis Library.

More information will come when the store opens Mallorie Deaton, manager of the IT store, said. No date is set for the opening.

Ukulele artist to play for performing arts series

Arkansas State University's Fowler Center will present a concert by ukulele artist Jake Shimabukuro at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 25 in Riceland Hall, as part of its annual performing arts series.

UKULELE, 4A

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Getting Ready for Homecoming

MELISSA PALUMBO

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

One of the most anticipated events at any university is Homecoming, and it can take some planning to get in all the activities schedules for this weekend.

The A-State Homecoming Parade is set for 6:30 p.m. Thursday in downtown Jonesboro. The Downtown Block Party, hosted by the Student Activities Board and Downtown Jonesboro Association, will follow the parade from 8 to 11 p.m.

The class of 1969 will be touring the campus on Friday for their 50 year reunion. Alumni from several departments, including communication, education and behavioral science, will come back to their alma mater to help guide current students through their field of choice.

Awards and scholarships will be presented at 6 p.m. in the Mockingbird room in the student union.

Of course, Saturday is the main event, with kickoff for the game at 6 p.m. Before that, though, there will be a full day of events for the community.

A 5k will start at 8 a.m. beginning at the Red Wolf statue on Aggie Circle, followed by Pack Preview activities from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Welcome Center and the Reng Student Union.

Much more is in store for this busy week ahead, so go enjoy life in a college town and happy Homecoming!



Archive Photo By Ammar A. Taqi
 Stacey Mott, a senior majoring in communication disorders, was voted Homecoming Queen last year. She will crown this year's Homecoming Queen.

Homecoming Court Finalists

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Homecoming Queen Finalists:

- Kynlee Cunningham of Bryant, a senior psychology major, nominated by Alpha Omicron Pi sorority.
- Emily Doggett of Jonesboro, a senior exercise science major with a minor in psychology, nominated by A-State Spirit Squad.
- Brayton Ragsdale of Jonesboro, a senior nursing major, nominated by Zeta Tau Alpha sorority.
- Taren Thind of White Hall, a senior biology and chemistry major with a pre-professional emphasis, nominated by the Honors College.
- Erika Tuck of Jonesboro, a senior Interdisciplinary studies major, nominated by Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

Homecoming King Finalists:

- Andrew Elmore of Maumelle, a senior marketing major, nominated by Alpha Omicron Pi sorority.
- Zhedrick Jackson of Jonesboro, a senior world languages major with an emphasis in Spanish, nominated by Sister 2 Sister.
- McKinley James of Dumas, a senior marketing major, nominated by Delta Zeta Sorority Inc.
- Justus Sawyer of Jonesboro, a junior civil engineering major, nominated by Student Philanthropy Council.
- Danny Vivar of Bryant, a senior strategic communications major, nominated by Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

"Come to the 870" Pack Plan to assist students attending A-State Arkansas residents with zero family contribution to have no upfront costs

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Students who are residents of Arkansas who have an Expected Family Contribution of zero on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, will have no upfront cost to attending Arkansas State University next academic year.

The Come to the 870 Plan invites students from families with modest means from across the state to attend on-campus at A-State.

"We call it the Come to the 8-7-Zero Plan because it removes the primary barrier for the students who have the greatest potential to change their lives and the lives of their families," Chancellor Kelly Dampousse said. "If you have a zero EFC, you have zero tuition and fee costs to attend A-State."

Named for the area code for Jonesboro and a large portion of the state of Arkansas, the 870 Plan packages together a combination of a new A-State Heritage Grant with federal aid, state scholarships, and work study opportunities. The A-State Heritage Grant is a need-based grant that salutes Arkansas State's legacy as a university that has traditionally served the first-generation students of the state and

played a pivotal role in uplifting families through higher education achievement.

"It is inspired by the same factors that made A-State the top university for Social Mobility in Arkansas in the recent US News rankings," Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management Bryan Terry said. "This program starts at home - here in Jonesboro and the Crowley's Ridge region - by working to get those who need college most into college. It then reaches out to invite students across our state to the 870."

In addition to ZERO tuition and fee costs, students in their first year at A-State year may use any excess funding to help zero out on-campus living expenses.

"This all begins with students filling out their federal eligibility form - it's called the FAFSA - and seeing what you and your family qualify for in grants and scholarships," Dampousse said. "From there, our Financial Aid and University Advancement team will create a custom package to reduce the overall starting cost of attendance at A-State to zero."

First-year students may require a modest federally

backed student loan to bridge the gap in the first year as in-state students see a significant grant increase beginning with their second year through the Arkansas Promise scholarship program.

"We know that coming to college and completing a degree is the greatest predictor of higher lifetime earning potential," Terry said. "The 8-7-Zero Plan's goal is to reduce the upfront cost for these students who need assistance the most to exactly that: zero."

Families should start filling out the FAFSA now at www.fafsa.org. Funds for the 8-7-Zero program are limited, and applications should be submitted by A-State's priority consideration date of Dec. 1. Also, make sure to use Arkansas State's federal school code on the FAFSA which is 001090.

The leader in the state for social mobility of its graduates, Arkansas State seeks to enhance its position by assisting the neediest students with this program.

"There is a proliferation of free college plans across the country, and we want to be clear, this is not 'free college,' but it does remove the major obstacle to social mobility for talented students through the creation of a customized admission," Terry said. "There is work study in the

packages, and we believe that is important. We will spend a great deal of time matching students with mentors that can guide them through that all-so-important first year."

Even for students who don't have a "zero" expected family contribution, A-State has numerous private scholarships and other assistance programs that significantly lower the cost

and complete their degree. Terry said people who stopped attending A-State for family reasons, but stayed in good academic standing, can access the A-State Heritage Grant and other programs.

"We want to educate the state," Terry added. "We have seen the studies and we know that A-State can assist with Jonesboro's needs by educating working adults. An educated population is simply good for all of us in Arkansas. The bottom line is this institution has prided itself on transformation. We want to change lives, and we will work to create the experience that minimizes the financial impact on students and their families."

Terry and his enrollment management team are hosting the first major open house of the fall recruitment season on Homecoming weekend, Pack Preview on Oct. 26.

"That Saturday, we will be ready with answers for students in our area," Terry said. "If you are a sophomore who just got your first test scores, a junior who has questions about majors or a senior trying to figure out how to pay the bill, we want you to get registered for the event. Come see what campus is like and get ready to become a Red Wolf."

The Come to the 870 Plan also has a component for those wanting to return to A-State

"Our motto here is Every Red Wolf Counts. Accordingly, we want to grant the academic dreams of achieving a degree from A-State,"