



PHOTO: 4B
Take a look at "9/11 Remembered."

Craighead County Library board member resigns after attempting to ban LGBTQ books

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Craighead County Library Board member Amanda Escue resigned during Monday night's meeting after claims she had been personally harassed and sent hate mail. The hate mail included a sack of poop and a glitter bomb to her door.

Escue openly debated that LGBTQ books do not belong in the children's library. She said she wanted the library to be more "considerate towards parents" and put "appropriate" topics into the children's section. Dean Martin, a senior political science and music education major as well as a strong ally to the LGBTQ community, spoke out at the meeting and addressed board members for censorship. Escue announced her resignation after everyone spoke.

"I think that was one of the best things that could

possibly happen," Martin said. "I think that is probably the most ideal thing for that board. Unfortunately, while I like to see the good in all people, Mrs. Escue was unable to drop her partisan and religious beliefs and showed she was incapable of representing all taxpayers in Craighead County."

One of the A-State students who went to protest the removal of the books, freshman psychology major Jayden Garret, went to the meeting last night to support the LGBTQ community.

"I think the reason that most people voted to ban the books is because, growing up as conservative Christian youth, you think that it's wrong. You think that God hates gays but that's not the case," Garret said. "God is supposed to be an all-loving God. I think that the reason people use their hate is out of fear. It's not a justification for their God, it's wrong. I would say to them God doesn't want you to hate him, he wants you to extend love."

Escue wants the board to control sensitive content in the children's section -- others



Photo by: Alex Clark | Life Editor

John Caldwell speaks about abusive past to appeal the need for LGBTQ books.

believe this is censorship. David Eckert, library director and A-State instructor of double bass, believes that Escue's and other parents' wishes are a type of censorship.

"You're going to put certain material in certain spots that are going to make it more difficult to find that material,"

Eckert said. "That is still censorship. Don't kid yourself. When we put stuff behind our desk, that is censorship."

Freshman social work major Lexi Harp went to the meeting to protest alongside other Arkansas State students.

"I'm in the A-State Young Democrats and they were

talking about it," Harp said. "It really frustrated me that they wanted to take these queer and LGBTQ books out of our library, it really bothered me. It didn't feel right to not go and show my support."

One of the speakers at the meeting brought up the point that many books have

LGBTQ content inside of them, and it would be hard to distinguish what should and shouldn't be deemed appropriate. A lot of them are considered classics including "The Diary of Anne Frank".

This controversy first started after parents and town members complained about the pride displays in the library. The display includes titles like "My Family, My Two Moms," "Sewing The Rainbow" and "Call Me Max." These titles discuss LGBTQ topics and family dynamics in an appropriate and educational way geared toward children.

"I just want everything to always be fair. Everybody pays taxes, so everybody has a right to everything in the library," Eckert said. "I just hope the library is welcoming to all people of the community, all walks of life: economically, socially, racially, ethnically. I'm hoping that people will come in and we have a little bit of something for everyone."

The next board meeting will be Oct. 11 to further discuss and vote on the issue and is open to the public.

Sarah Huckabee Sanders stops in Jonesboro for 'Freedom Tour' rally in campaign for governor of Arkansas

COURTNEY EDWARDS

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Sarah Huckabee Sanders for Governor Campaign's "Freedom Tour" came to a close on Saturday after a pancake breakfast honoring the nation's heroes on the 20th anniversary of 9/11.

From Sept. 5 to Sept. 11, Sanders made 15 stops throughout the state.

Sanders visited the ASU Regional Farmer's Market on Sept. 8 for a Freedom Tour Rally. As she addressed the crowd, Sanders mentioned the friendly faces looking back at her.

Sanders spoke of her position as the former White House press secretary for President Donald Trump, as well as her familial tie to politics as former Gov. Mike Huckabee's daughter. "I was in college before I knew it wasn't normal to spend your weekends and summers passing out brochures and asking people to vote for my parents," Sanders said.

Bill Ennis of Jonesboro said he supported Sanders because she believes in the same things he believes: hard work and dedication. "I like her dad," Ennis said. "She did a great job when she worked for Donald Trump and she's what Arkansas needs."

Sanders followed in her father's footsteps by attending Ouachita Baptist University, where she served as a member of the Student Senate



Photo by: Courtney Edwards

Sarah Huckabee Sanders speaks at the "Freedom Tour" Rally in Jonesboro.

while pursuing a major in political science and a minor in mass communications.

Sanders was the third woman to ever be the White House press secretary. Now, she's hoping to become Arkansas's first female governor.

Sanders said being a mom helped her to keep her priorities in place for her role as press secretary.

"One of the reasons I'm running for Governor of Arkansas is because I want to make sure the path in front of my kids, and the path in front of every kid growing up in this state, is free and clear so that they can run full speed towards whatever it is that they want," Sanders said.

Josh Hannah of Paragould said he attended the event to

hear what Sanders had to say to decide whether he wanted to vote for her or not. He agreed with Sanders about protecting the second amendment.

"She hasn't said anything that I disagree with, so I support her," Hannah said. "It may change, but until then, it won't."

During her time as press secretary, Sanders had to defend Trump's controversial or contradictory statements.

This led to her own credibility becoming questionable.

After her announcement to run for governor, KASU reported that in May 2017, Sanders told reporters Trump fired FBI Director James Comey after White House officials "heard from countless members of the FBI" that rank-and-file members had lost confidence in

Comey. Special counsel Robert Mueller's report said what Sanders said was not true.

Sanders said she experienced some criticism on her tour around the state, saying she was "nationalizing the race."

"And my answer to those people: You bet I am.... We have people in Washington in leadership, the radical left that are not OK just changing policy," she said. "They want to fundamentally change who we are as a country. And we cannot sit back and do nothing and allow that to happen."

A supporter of Sanders, Gary Harpole of Jonesboro attended the rally with his wife, Lisa. He said electing the right governor was very important, and he believed Sanders was the right choice.

"We believe in her vision for the state and her vision for the community," Harpole said. "She has shown a tremendous effort to Northeast Arkansas and that's just real important."

Sanders said Arkansas needs a governor who is capable of leading the fight. She said not only would she wage that fight, but she would win it.

"Not only will I be a fighter," Sanders said. "I will be the leader that our state needs to take us straight to the top."

Gov. Asa Hutchinson is term-limited and cannot seek reelection. Sanders announced her run for Governor on Jan. 25, 2021. The election will be held on Nov. 8, 2022.

The Herald Celebrates 100 Years: A peek into the 1930s



A-STATE HERALD

STAFF REPORT

In 1929, Dr. F.W. Plunkett established a Press Club. By 1932, the Press Club had cultivated enough interest to warrant a change in design and format. That is when "The Aggie Herald" became the "Arkansas State College Herald." The publication also grew from five columns to eight.

Just one year later, A-State established a certifiable program in journalism and printing. The college invested in several

printing devices, including two old linotype machines. Only one of the machines worked and the other was used to provide parts for the working one.

On Oct. 24, 1933, the first edition to be printed on campus, the paper commemorated the reorganization of the publication. After that, The Herald was produced by the journalism class instructed by Plunkett with volunteer contributions from the Press Club and other students.