

## Nicole Frey named new chief operating officer of ASU System Foundation

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Nicole Frey became the chief operating officer for the ASU System Foundation, effective Oct. 3. A graduate of Arkansas State University, she returned to the Jonesboro community after working in high level auditing positions for Fortune 100 companies EY and Walmart.

"I am very proud and feel very accomplished to be able to come back and serve my alma mater in a more expansive role," Nicole Frey said. "I graduated Arkansas State University from the College of Business and now I'm in a business role that helps to directly support the school I attended."

The chief operating officer maintains banking relationships with all schools in the ASU

System that are part of the foundation, which are A-State, ASU Beebe, ASU Mountain Home, ASU Newport and ASU Three Rivers. They also keep records of expenses and provide financial guidance.

Nicole Frey was born in Jonesboro. She attended A-State and got her bachelor's in international business with a minor in Spanish. After obtaining her first degree, she went back and got another bachelor's in accounting.

She started out as a financial services representative for Liberty Bank of Arkansas, then became a staff accountant for Goad & Company. She was then a staff auditor for BKD CPAs & Advisors and then served as a senior external auditor for EY. Her time at EY had her working in the Netherlands.

After her time at EY, Nicole Frey was a manager for global sourcing finance

and strategy for Walmart, before moving to senior manager then a senior manager for international finance.

She is married to Cody Fry. They have an 11 month old daughter named Luna. She is the eldest of two siblings.

The chief operating officer is a new position brought on by the need for more day-to-day support, as well as the retirement of the current president. Nicole Frey is the first woman to serve as chief operating officer for the foundation.

"I feel like it's an accomplishment to be the first female in this position," Nicole Frey said. "I've been the only girl on many audit teams that I worked on in my professional career. I think I'll bring that new light to this role."

As chief operating officer, she plans to modernize some of the foundation's processes as



Photo by Jessica McMillan | Photo Editor

Nicole Frey, the new chief operating officer for the ASU System Foundation.

well as looking into more shared services. She also wants to streamline day-to-day activities.

foundation, mentored Frey to prepare her for the position.

"Philip has been an excellent mentor to me since I started in early October.

CONTINUED:  
NICOLE FREY, 4A

## Craighead County/Jonesboro Public Library defunded at city and county level

RACHEL RUDD

NEWS EDITOR

The Craighead County/Jonesboro Public Library will have its budget sliced in half following the results of the Nov. 8 election. The measure to cut the library's funding from two mills down to one passed at the county level by a margin of 59.8% and by 48.8% on the city level.

"We think it's a vindication of the democratic process," said Iris Stevens, coordinator of Citizens Taxed Enough. "We got out our information and tried to explain to people what the issue was and how it was going to work out for the library. We relied on them to make that decision and they did."

The budget will be reduced by \$2 million and will go into effect next year. "For the 2022 fiscal year,

they're going to receive about \$4.4 to \$4.5 million from the city and county tax revenue," said Robin Martin, treasurer of Citizens Taxed Enough. "With the millage cut, they'll receive half of that, so that would be \$2.2 to \$2.5 million."

Vanessa Adams, director of the Craighead County/Jonesboro Public Library, said the library is starting to look at how to respond to this new budget.

"All we have done so far is look at numbers, see about practical ways we could cut without having to shut down any branches," Adams said. "We're going to do our best to not eliminate branches or staff."

Gabriela Alonso, a first-year world languages and cultures major from Los Angeles who works at the library, said she was worried for her fellow employees.

"I fear since I am part-time I

will be (laid off), but my fear is greater for the staff that are full time and have been working at the library for years. If I do get laid off, then I'll continue to be positive and thank the library for being such an amazing first job for me," Alonso said.

Since the announcement of the results, the Save Our Libraries campaign began discussing calling for a special election in 2023 to raise the millage.

"They have tossed around that idea, but it is not anything definite," Adams said.

Stevens said the campaign should hold off on calling for a special election.

"It's absurd to do something at this point until you see how this functions," Stevens said. "We proved through the numbers that this is not going to hurt this library."



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAIT 8

The Craighead County/Jonesboro Public Library has been defunded at the city and county level.

## Former President Donald Trump announces 2024 bid



PHOTO COURTESY OF CNN

Donald Trump announced his candidacy for the 2024 presidential election on Tuesday. Speaking at his Mar-a-Lago estate, he was surrounded by allies and advisors as the crowd cheered him on. "This will not be my campaign, this will be our campaign all together," Trump said. If re-elected, Trump would be the second president to serve two nonconsecutive terms, the first being Grover Cleveland. Trump will not be running under a third party, he plans to run under the Republican party. "America's comeback starts right now," Trump said. "Your country is being destroyed before your eyes."

## CAMPUS CRIME



RACHEL RUDD

NEWS EDITOR

Nov. 13 | 3 p.m.

Officer Levi Chism was contacted by complainant one at the ASU Police Department in reference to harassment. The complainant said suspect one would not quit messaging her phone and social media accounts after she told him to leave her alone.

The complainant said she and suspect one were simply friends, but that he wanted to further their relationship. When she declined, suspect one began telling her that he loved her and started sending picture messages of her residence to her.

The complainant also stated that suspect one will not quit calling her friends and family concerning their relationship. Chism was told

suspect one repeatedly called and messaged the complainant at approximately 1:30 a.m. despite being told to stop.

The complainant was told to block suspect one's number and social media accounts. She was also informed of the affidavit process.

Nov. 11 | 5:38 p.m.

Officers responded to execute an arrest warrant signed by Judge David Boling at 1105 French St. for the apprehension of suspects one and two. Upon arrival, it was determined that suspect one and suspect two were not there.

A resident of the property offered to escort the officers to where she recently brought the suspects to. Officers followed her to 310 Thomas Green Road, Apt. 47.

The suspects were taken into custody and told why they were being arrested.

After being handcuffed, the suspects were transported to the Craighead County Jail.

Suspect one and suspect two are both being charged with three counts of theft of property less than \$1,000.

Nov. 7 | 1:10 p.m.

Officer Stephen Montgomery, received a report of a stolen bicycle. He spoke to victim one about the incident.

Victim one said sometime between the evening hours of Friday, Nov. 4 and the morning of Nov. 7, his bicycle was stolen from outside apartment.

The bike is described as an orange Rockrider Model ST100 21-Speed Mountain Bike. The estimated value of the bike is \$150.

A photo of the bike could not be provided, however, a photo matching the make and model was pulled from other resources.