

**ACADEMIC EXPO,
CONTINUED**

"I think that just crafting and having the ability to look at something that started from nothing and be able to say, 'I did that.' It's just something that helps you appreciate not only the craft itself, but yourself and that you made it," Schaefer said. She said she appreciated

learning about different stress management techniques from her peers. Lindsay Wendell, a first-year student majoring in radiology from Bell City, Missouri, presented their project "Foster for Hope," which involved creating 60 boxes of

necessities for foster children. They collected items worth \$15 each from classmates and assembled the boxes together, fostering teamwork. Wendell said the project taught them about generosity and gratitude. Despite starting early for Christmas,

they emphasized the year-round need for hygiene items. "Just being able to hand them out to people that are in need, and know that in the boxes are necessities that they will all love and cherish that they even got. I just think that's like a great outcome

to the project," Wendell said. Renelique said she was pleased by the way the students were able to use their creativity to create projects that impact the community. "I think there's a scripture in the Bible that says, 'To whom much is given, much is

required,' Renelique said. "For them to have a heart to want to give back, that's very rewarding. It shows who they are as people, as students. I just think that that's just so amazing for them to want to help others."

**SGA,
CONTINUED**

McGowen said the resolution was well-written when it was initially proposed and that Gonzalez did a great job making sure the resolution had content that would benefit students in need.

The SGA president said she hopes the scholarship committee will help SGA find a solution for students who are struggling to pay for housing. She said this is an issue that has become prominent over

the past year, so she is glad SGA is making progress toward helping these students. Chauncy Betts, a sophomore strategic communications major from McGee, Arkansas, is one of the senators who

helped create this resolution. Betts said he helped aid Gonzalez with the grammar and content of the resolution. He said they thought a lot about how future senators would react to the resolution and he is

happy the resolution was passed. "We have all worked on it for a long time, but especially Louis, he's very passionate about SGA and he's very passionate about this scholarship resolution," Betts said. "College can be very

expensive and a lot of students now tend to continue to live on campus. So, this resolution will help decrease the amount that the students will have to pay."

**CAREER FAIR,
CONTINUED**

"There's always open positions with us that we're always looking to fill and we're very happy about always hiring in state. So we like going around to all the Arkansas branded schools and try to fulfill some recruitment," Barnum said. "So the biggest thing about

our agency is, hopefully you like clean air, clean water and clean land, because that's what we're in charge of so we make sure everything's clean, ready to go, drinkable, clean air to breathe and good place to live." Jimmy Dye, a junior political science major from Trumann,

Arkansas, said he attended this event because he isn't sure what he wants to do with his degree yet. "Most people want to go to law school, but I'm looking for more of the public sector. It's actually a good source to actually find new places that don't get talked about a lot," Dye said.

He said career fairs like the public agencies and nonprofits fair are important because most students don't know what they want to do coming into college and some still don't know what they want to do by the time they are graduating, and opportunities like this can lead

students to an unexpected and new way to use their degree. Jacob Copeland, a senior computer science major from St. Louis, also attended the fair. He said E&E and the International Revenue Services booth caught his interest. "I had no idea I could use

my degree in computer science at Arkansas energy or the IRS. I thought it was more like bureaucratic stuff. But now, since I came out of this fair, I learned different ways to use my degree that I did not know of before," Copeland said.

First class of Arkansas Delta Womens Leadership Academy celebrates graduation

**A-STATE NEWS
PRESS RELEASE**

The graduation ceremony, held at the ASU System office in Little Rock, continued the education the women have been part of for the past year. For their final meeting, attendees visited the Arkansas State Capitol and met in the Senate chamber to hear from Sen. Jane English of North Little Rock, Sen. Breanne Davis of Russellville, and Sen.-elect Jamie Scott of North Little Rock, about the importance of women in public service and priorities for the next legislative session. Shane Broadway, vice president for university relations at the ASU System, welcomed the class to the ASU System office. "Thank you for being part of this class. You're going to make connections and friendships with other female leaders. We are thankful that you are part of this inaugural class," said Broadway. Libby Doss Lloyd, director of communications for the Little Rock Convention and Visitors Center, spoke about the city that she serves and the events and activities that take place in the state's capital. Guest speaker Anna Beth Gorman, CEO of the Women's Foundation of Arkansas, shared details on what types of experiences help build a great leader. "Build your social capital. Mentor relationships are so critical because these are the people who are going to help you build trust. You need someone local who can help you get in the door. You can't build social capital if you do not have mentorships," Gorman said. Keith Gammill, director of AEDC Manufacturing Solutions, spoke on the five

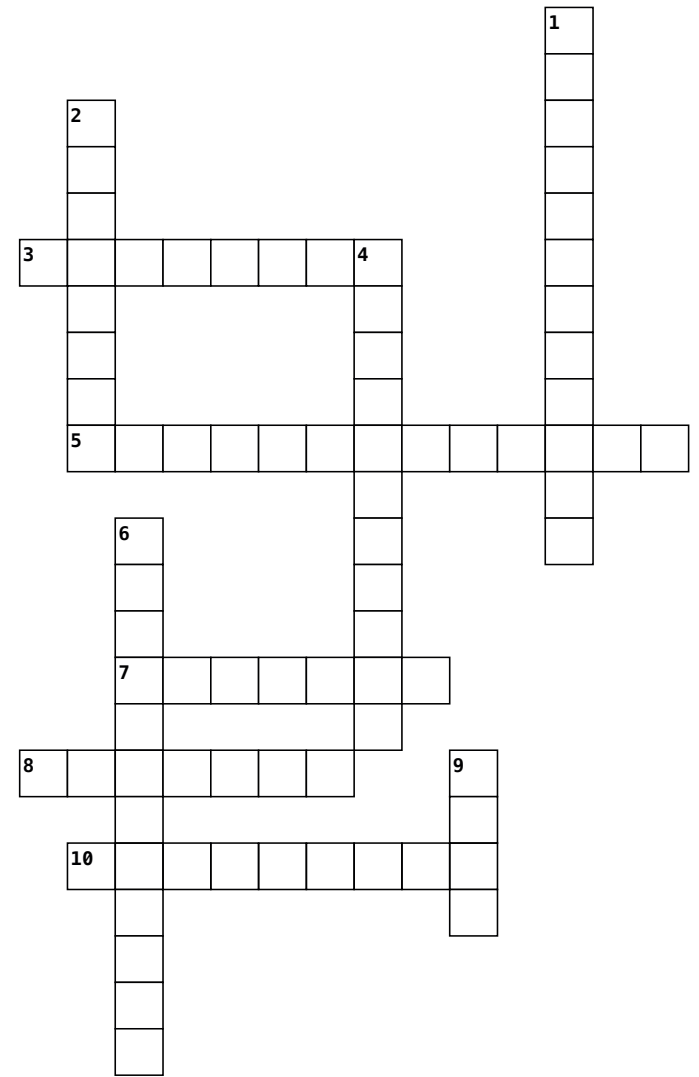


PHOTO COURTESY OF A-STATE
The 25 women in the inaugural class of the Arkansas Delta Women's Leadership Academy, pose in front of the Arkansas State Capital at their graduation ceremony.

obstacles for transformational leadership improvement. "If you are leading, you must be moving. Think about the word. Leading is about going somewhere," said Gammill. In addition to continuing their education on being leaders in the spaces where they reside, work, and thrive, the women were encouraged by keynote speaker Natalie Rockefeller, fundraiser and volunteer. "Strong women will cheer for each other. Strong women will congratulate you on your successes. Be a strong woman and surround yourself with strong women," said Rockefeller. Dr. Cherisse Jones-Branch, dean of the A-State College of Liberal Arts and Communication, and Andrea Allen, executive director of the Delta Center for Economic Development, are the architects of the program, along with program coordinator Cari White. "I want to recognize each of you and everything you have put in this year. I recognize what a commitment you have made and I appreciate you for it," said Allen. During the ceremony, they said they are proud

of the participants and eager to see what they accomplish in the future. "Congratulations. Continue to do the work that you're doing," said Jones-Branch. The 2024 class voted classmate Kennidi Ridgell as their speaker. "Every single woman here has a bright light. The goal is to make sure you believe on the inside that your light is a bright source and that you carry yourself in a way to see it on the outside," said Ridgell. Each of the ladies took on a project throughout the past year to better their communities. At each stop along the way, speakers shared insights about their leadership journeys as well as their cities and community programs. "This leadership academy, from start to finish, from speaker to speaker, to every single encouragement from our classmates and fearless leaders we have officially found our light," Ridgell concluded. The second cohort of the ADWLA will be announced soon, with 25 qualified women from across the Delta.

This week's puzzle



DOWN:

1. The esoteric religious and political sisterhood that is the focus of the new Dune prequel
2. This was the subject of this week's Student Speak
4. SGA passed a resolution that created this type of committee
6. This holiday is coming up next week
9. This make of truck was featured on Campus Crime this week for swerving into traffic

ACROSS:

3. School mascot of the team A-State football beat Saturday
5. This person won the 50th annual Miss A-State competition
7. The Mike Tyson and Jake Paul boxing match was hosted on this streaming service
8. The type of architecture that is designed with the intention of stopping unwanted behavior such as loitering or sleeping
10. An academic expo was held Nov. 13 for these kind of students