

MORNING NEWS

SERVING NORTHWEST ARKANSAS SINCE 1886

TODAY IN SPORTS
MOUNTIES' NEWCOMERS STEPPING UP
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STOCKING UP



STAFF PHOTO J.S. WEDGEWORTH

Nimesh Modi stocks items at the Stop-N-Shop convenience store Friday at the corner of Monte Ne Road and Amis Road in Rogers. Store owner Kirit Modi thinks an improvement to Monte Ne Road could help business at his store.

Meth Cleanup Funds Cut

LOCAL AGENCIES MUST PAY COSTS

By Tracy M. Neal
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Law enforcement agencies across the state are now responsible for paying the cleanup cost for busted methamphetamine labs after federal funds were cut.

Capt. Mike Sydorik, the head of the criminal investigation division for the Benton County Sheriff's Office, said he learned from the Drug Enforcement Agency that cleanup costs will no longer be paid by the federal government as part of budget belt-tightening.

The Rogers Police Department already have been billed for one lab this year, said Rogers Police Chief Ron Largent.

"It's an unbudgeted cost," Largent said. "This is going to be an issue with the budget. I have to look at alternatives to find the money."

Travis Newell, head of the narcotics unit for the Benton County Sheriff's Office, said the cost to handle hazardous materials resulting from a methamphetamine lab bust can range from \$800 to \$5,000 per case. Cost depends on the size of the lab and how far the cleanup crew has to travel, Newell said.

Rusty Tayne, a spokesman for the Drug Enforcement Agency, said the DEA did not cut the funds.

"The money does not come from the DEA," Tayne said. "It comes from Congress and Congress has not funded that program further. We have exhausted cleanup funds"

SEE FUNDS PAGE 2A

Road Upgrades Proposed

IMPROVEMENTS WILL IMPACT OLDER NEIGHBORHOOD

By John Gore
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ROGERS — Nicole Mozzoni's two-story house is a nearly 100-year-old Sears kit house.

On a cold, breezy afternoon Mozzoni stood outside her home at 600 E. Mulberry St. looking at a satellite map marked with a proposed route for Monte Ne Road. She looked at the map, then at houses east of hers, then back at the map.

"It looks like the road would come pretty close to my house, maybe two houses down," she said pointing to a small house. "I don't think I like that. It would bring a lot more traffic into this neighborhood. There's enough traffic already."

The Mozzoni family is just

one that could be impacted by proposed improvements to Monte Ne Road on the east side of the city.

The plan calls for the straightening of three 90-degree turns and moving the street farther to the west. The new five-lane street would connect with the existing road near Gum Street and Veterans Park. As many as 30 homes could be bulldozed to make way for the new road, city officials said. The improved street would help move north-south traffic, easing congestion on Eighth Street, officials said.

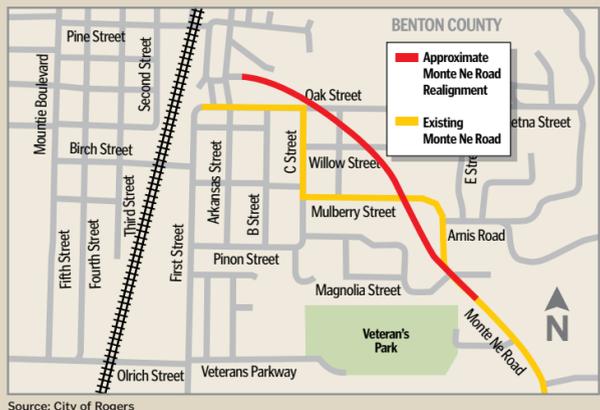
Resident Reaction

Although her children are

SEE IMPROVEMENTS PAGE 2A

City Plans To Move Monte Ne Road

Aldermen recently approved a \$483,042 contract to McGoodwin, Williams and Yates to design improvements to a portion of Monte Ne Road. Money for the project is tied to a proposed bond election.



Source: City of Rogers

STAFF GRAPHIC GABRIEL CALZADA

College Reviews Student Survey

By Teresa Moss
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BENTONVILLE — NorthWest Arkansas Community College plans to enhance future services by using results from a student survey.

The survey was conducted by the college through Foundations In Excellence, a self-guided study designed to enhance achievement for first-time and transfer students in secondary education. The study was designed by the John N. Gardner Institute.

More than 1,400 students responded to the survey.

Lisa Anderson, the college's director of Institutional Research, said the survey has identified several things the college is strong in along with things the college wants to improve upon.

Anderson said students feel the college is excelling at the quality of instruction, student safety and acceptance along with relaying the importance of academic honesty.

SEE SURVEY PAGE 3A

Pinnacle Station Requests Permit

OWNERS SEEK FIRST PRIVATE CLUB LICENSE IN ARKANSAS FOR GASOLINE STATION, MARKET



STAFF PHOTO J.S. WEDGEWORTH

Pinnacle Station Local Market at 2000 Promenade Blvd. in Rogers is the first station in Arkansas to apply for a private club permit from the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. Rogers planning commissioners are scheduled to discuss Tuesday whether to grant a conditional-use permit to allow the private club.

By John Gore
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ROGERS — The Pinnacle Station Local Market at 2000 Promenade Blvd. may be the first gasoline station/cafe/market in Arkansas to have a private club license if planning commissioners approve a conditional-use permit request.

The matter is on Tuesday's commission agenda.

Steve Lair and Steve Turner, co-owners of Petromark White Oak Stations and Pinnacle Station, requested the permit.

State Alcoholic Beverage Control approval would also be required before a club could operate at the station.

"We are looking at this very carefully," said Michael Langley, director of Alcoholic Beverage Control Administration. "This is the first

request we've received for a private club license for a gasoline station and market."

The business is more than just a gasoline station. The store includes an upscale market with gourmet and imported foods; a meat and seafood market; convenience store items such as chips and soft drinks; and a cafe that serves lunch and dinner.

Lair said Friday the store was designed to be unique.

"We wanted to develop a market and restaurant. We brought in the top people to design the market and two chefs from James at the Mill to develop the cafe. The management of the cafe and market are completely separate from the gasoline station and the convenience store," Lair said.

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