

TODAY IN SPORTS

Tang Sisters To Play In Nestle Summer Junior Open State Championships

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Tigers Top Seed In Vype Tourney

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ROGERS MORNING NEWS

Signature Check Continues

STAFF TO WORK TODAY TO VERIFY NAMES FOR BALLOT ISSUE

By Tom Sissom
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BENTONVILLE — The Benton County Clerk's office staff will work today to verify petition signatures for a referendum allowing alcohol sales in Benton County.

County Clerk Tena O'Brien said Friday afternoon the staff checked 48,042 signatures submitted to her office July 12. Of the those checked through Friday, she said, 37,185 were accepted and

10,650 rejected. Another 207 signatures are pending while staff do additional checking. The petitioners need another 3,986 to place the measure on the Nov. 6 ballot, O'Brien said.

Marshall Ney, spokesman for Keep Dollars in Benton County, the group sponsoring the initiative, said he expects petitions to be certified.

"It sounds like they have about 9,000 more signatures

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STAFF PHOTO J.S. WEDGEWORTH

Mike Churchwell, left, Bentonville transportation engineer, talks Friday with Jason James, assistant region engineer with the Highway Department, about a project during a break at the Future Development of NWA & How It Effects Small Business Summit at the DoubleTree Guest Suites in Bentonville.

Street Projects Abound Around Bentonville

By Misty Gittings
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BENTONVILLE — The city has taken an "extremely aggressive and progressive" approach to upgrading road infrastructure in recent years, Mike Churchwell, transportation director, said at a regional summit.

The summit was hosted by

the Bentonville/Bella Vista Chamber of Commerce on Friday.

A \$110 million bond program approved in 2007 and partnerships with the Arkansas Highway Department have helped the city take that approach, Churchwell said.

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BODY RECOVERED



STAFF PHOTOS SAMANTHA BAKER

A Benton County Sheriff's deputy looks across Beaver Lake as a woman cries hysterically Friday after Jeffrey Wayne Wall of Rogers drowned about 20 yards from the lake's shore near Old Prairie Creek Road and Black Bass Road east of Rogers.

Rogers Man Drowns

LAKE DEATH FOURTH ONE IN COUNTY THIS SUMMER

By Bob Caudle
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ROGERS — Family members and strangers scoured the banks of Beaver Lake yelling "Jeffrey" on Friday afternoon.

The group was searching for Jeffrey Wayne Wall, 42, of Rogers, who was last seen just off the shore at a swimming spot east of Rogers near the intersection of Old Prairie Creek and Black Bass roads.

Members of the Benton County Dive Team pulled Wall's body from the lake about two hours later.

He went under in 6 to 8 feet of water about 20 yards from the shore and never resurfaced, authorities said.

"He had been down for about 10 minutes before we got the call," said Deputy Doug Gay, public information officer for the Benton



Boaters drop a buoy about 20 yards offshore while assisting Benton County Sheriff's Office deputies and the Beaver Lake Fire Department in the search for Wall.

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TODAY'S WEATHER



100/68
BEAVER LAKE

1,114.3 FEET

ROGERS MORNING NEWS

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Operation Reboot Helps Veterans

By Amy Buckley
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For eight years Ricky Haynes was homeless.

A Vietnam War veteran, Haynes was able to find a home through Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing, but the program only got him so far. When he moved in, he said he just traded his tent for four walls.

"I didn't have nothing," Haynes said.

Haynes' plight is common, according to Susan Hansen, public affairs officer for the Veterans Healthcare System of the Ozarks in Fayetteville.

Those under care at the hospital who are homeless, living with family or at risk of losing their living situation can apply for housing vouchers in Washington County or Jasper County, Mo.

"When they move in, these people typically do not have anything," Hansen said.

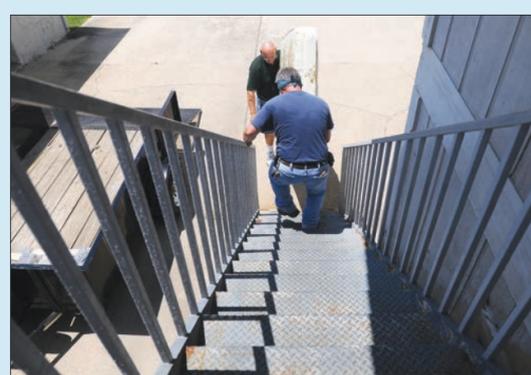
The program serves 67 people. Case workers try to connect veterans with other organizations, Hansen said. Operation Reboot, a district effort headquartered at American Legion post in Rogers, is one of their more formal partnerships. Haynes found

furnishings and some new friends through Operation Reboot.

People who have things wouldn't understand, Haynes said, but now he has something. He has a television and dishes. The support from Legion members has meant a lot to him. He routinely volunteers to help them drop off or pick up donations.

"They're helping veterans to rebuild their lives," he said.

What he saw as a 17-year-old in Vietnam doesn't have to be his reality forever, Haynes said, and now he's



STAFF PHOTO ANTHONY REYES

Marvin Akers, front, and Bill Freeman, both with the American Legion post in Rogers, deliver a mattress to a veteran Thursday in his apartment in Fayetteville. The pair are working with Operation Reboot, which strives to assist veterans in need in Benton and Washington counties.

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