

# Fewer arrests, more motor vehicle thefts at UofA than other SEC schools

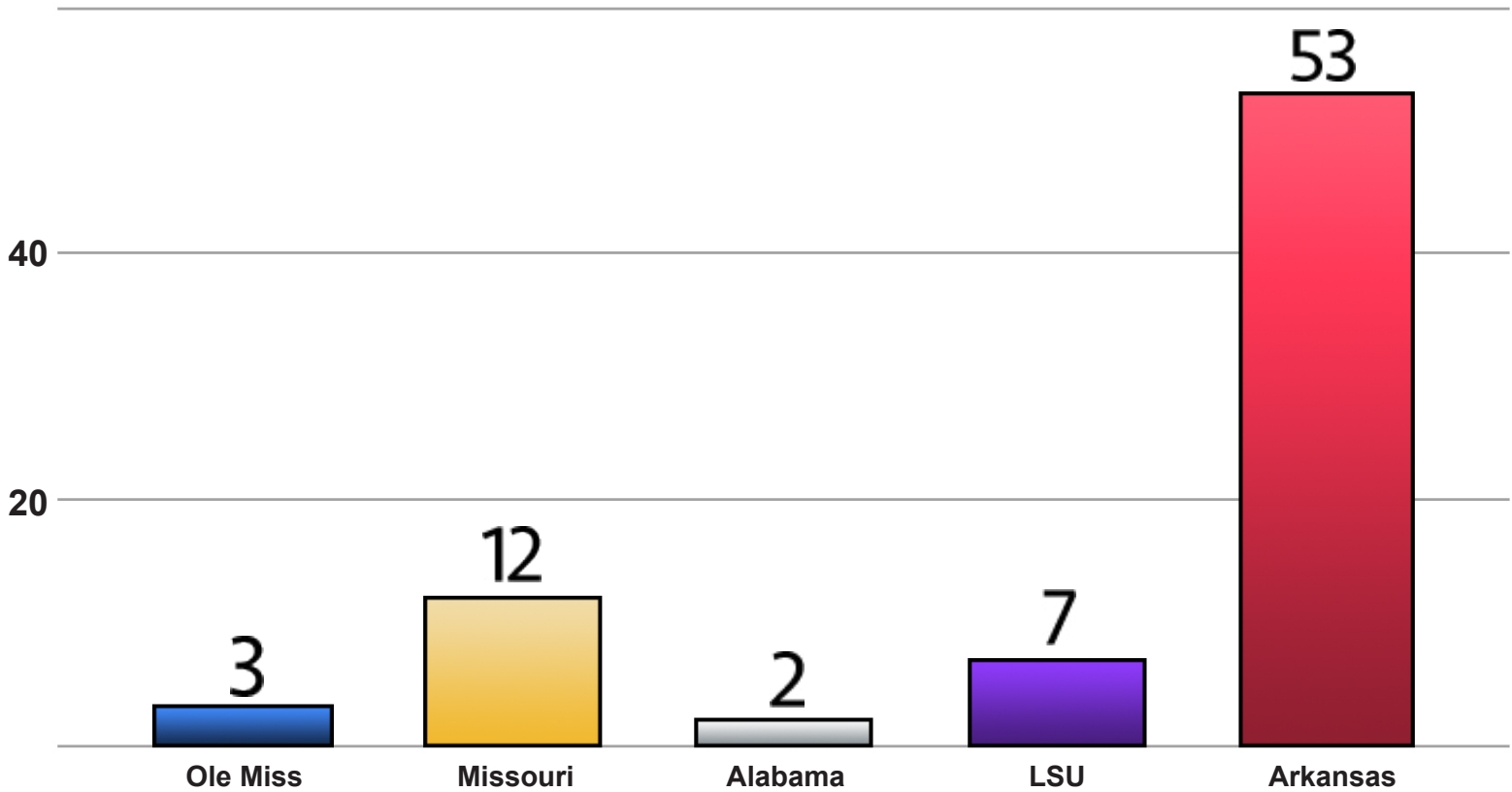
**Tegan Shockley**  
 Contributing Reporter  
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Burglary is one of the most-reported crimes throughout Southeastern Conference schools, but some crimes, like rape, stalking and hate crimes, are reported more at other universities than at the UofA, according to 2017 Jeanne Clery Reports.

Motor vehicle theft and burglary are consistently two of the most reported crimes at the UofA, according to the report. In 2017, there were 53 motor vehicle thefts, which is a 47 percent increase from 2016. Burglaries on campus increased to 19 reports last year from 17 reports in 2016.

Under the Clery Act, universities must provide campus crime policies and statistics for transparency's sake, according to the Clery Center. The latest reports show crimes from 2015-2017 that happened on campus, off campus and on public property.

Senior Seth Box feels safe on campus, especially because he has lived in Fayetteville and is confident in the local police department, he said.



2017 Motor Vehicle Thefts Among Various SEC Schools

Kevin Snyder // Photo Editor  
 Source: 2017 Jeanne Clery Reports

"I have a few good friends who work for the (UA) Police Department," Box said. "For the most part, I think they do a really good job. They do a good job patrolling the university."

At Louisiana State University, the University of Mississippi and the University of Alabama, burglary is one of the most-reported crimes, according to each school's Clery

reports. More burglaries occur at Louisiana State University than the University of Mississippi and the University of Alabama, with 40 reports in 2017. At the University of Alabama,

there were 29 reports, and at the University of Mississippi, there were 6 reports last year.

Junior Abigail Tee wanted to pick a safe university to attend, she said. Tee

selected the UofA after she talked to police to learn about statistics before she committed to any university.

"I don't walk to my car

See "UofA has" on page 3

## Substance crimes most prevalent in Maple Hill

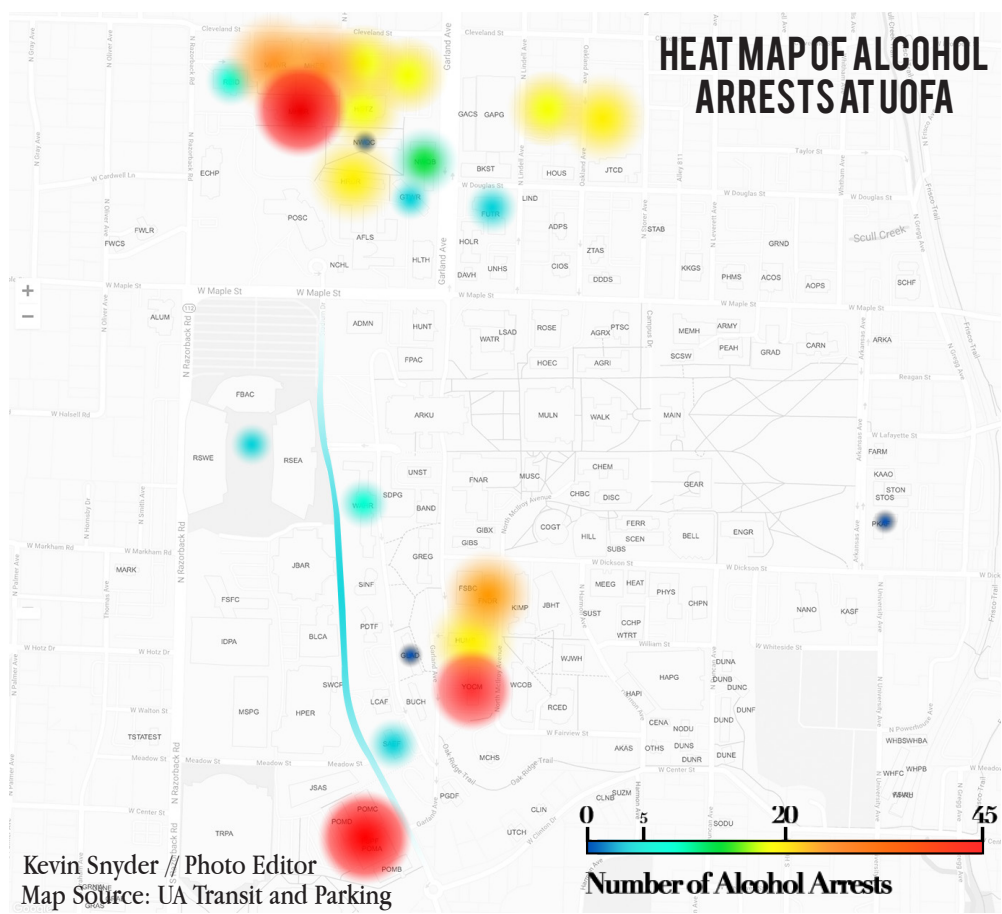
**Grant Lancaster**  
 Campus News Editor  
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Maple Hill South had the most incidents of drug and alcohol crime last semester, with 52 students arrested or reported to the Office of Student Standards and Conduct between Aug. 20 - Dec. 14, according to the UA Police Department Daily Crime Log.

UAPD officers arrested two students in Maple Hill South on charges of alcohol-related crimes, such as minor in possession or public intoxication, and two students on drug-related charges, while Campus Security Authorities like resident assistants reported 40 more students for possession of alcohol and eight students for drug possession, according to the crime log.

Yocum Hall, Pomfret Hall and Maple Hill West ranked just under Pomfret in reported crimes, with 48, 45 and 36 students arrested or reported, respectively, according to the crime log.

Most of the alcohol crimes reported at the UofA are minors in possession of alcohol, UAPD



Capt. Gary Crain said. The number of arrests fluctuates from year to year, he said.

UAPD officers arrested about 10 students in residence halls on alcohol-related charges last semester and about 10 for drug-related

charges, but CSAs have reported approximately 300 students for alcohol crimes and about 25 for drug offenses, according to the crime log.

In August 2018, UAPD began including CSA reports on the Daily Crime Log for

statistical purposes. UAPD officers do not have detailed information about these incidents, which are handled by the Office of Student

See "Conduct office" on page 5

## Students take self-defense classes, carry items for protection

**Clare O'Hagan**  
 Contributing Reporter  
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To protect themselves on campus or around Fayetteville, some students carry pepper spray or tasers while others opt to take self-defense classes.

Sophomore Emily Grisham thinks that taking a self-defense course like Krav Maga is necessary as a college student and especially as a woman, she said.

In 2016, there were 37,389 crimes reported on college campuses across the country, according to the U.S. Department of Education. With recent, although not confirmed, rumors and general panic concerning kidnappings and assault at the UofA, Grisham think it is important to take precautions in self-defense, she said.

Despite the rumors, no incidents were confirmed, UAPD Capt. Gary Crain said in an email.

"The rumors caused a lot of anxiety for a short period of time, but no one was injured, no one went missing and no valid crime discovered," Crain said. "The rumors never had credibility."

Grisham began training in Krav Maga, a form of self-defense developed by Israeli special forces, before she started college, she said. She took a two-hour class twice a week at Impact 360 in Searcy, Arkansas, where the students would practice punching and kicking techniques, she said.

Students learned new methods of defense regarding how to effectively stop any attacker, which included skills like disarming someone with a weapon and completely disabling the attacker, Grisham said.

"I think it's important to know how to defend yourself in college," Grisham said. "In today's society, we can't trust that everyone is a good

See "Students train" on page 3

### Former gang members describe attraction to criminal lifestyle



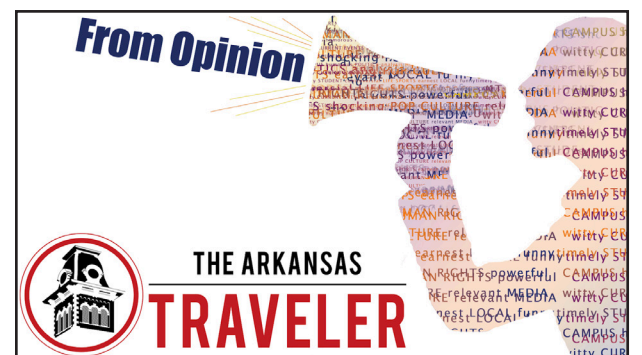
Despite the risks of gang involvement, some young people seek involvement for respect or a sense of belonging.

### Undocumented immigrants deal with criminal stigma



Springdale women share their experiences of coming to America and why they are so afraid of deportation.

### Eureka Springs police force signifies failed anti-crime microcosm



Opinion Editor Joah Clements discusses excessive and outdated crime prevention tactics in today's society.



Editor's Note

UA crime rates affect students' thoughts on safety



Chase Reavis
Managing Editor
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With crime and safety as the focus for our January issue, we are hoping to take a look back at the crime from the fall semester and previous years to get a feel for crime rates at the UofA while also analyzing the ways UA

administrators and students strive to keep students safe.

Despite a general decrease in crime related to alcohol and drugs at the UofA, crimes like rape, burglary, motor vehicle theft saw an increase from 2016 to 2017, according to the 2017 Jeanne Clery Report.

Details like these are further explored in stories throughout the issue, while others focus on specific crimes or people whose lives are tied to crime, like police officers or people involved in gang activity.

One of the ways students have worked to keep the UofA safe is SafeRide, a driving service that ASG began

funding in 2006. One of the stories in this issue goes into the negative connotation SafeRide has garnered as it is often misconstrued as a free alternative to Uber or Lyft.

While liquor law arrests decreased from 2016 to 2017, from 94 to 63, liquor law violations referred for disciplinary action increased from 379 to 566. However, both drug law arrests and referred violations decreased from 2016 to 2017.

Through looking into UA crime rates, we spoke to the UA Police Department and looked at what it's like to be a UAPD officer on a daily basis.

As well as understanding our own campus, we hoped to look into other SEC schools'

crime rates to contextualize our own and see the differences between schools. Within this, we talked to students who chose their school with crime rates in mind in order to understand what drew them to the UofA through their research.

Also included in this issue is a story about undocumented immigrants residing in Arkansas. By reporting on this story, we hoped to understand what it is like to have your existence be treated as a crime and how that can impact your residence in the U.S. In this story, we did not focus on the ideas of undocumented immigrants committing crime that are perpetuated by the media, but we instead chose to focus on this demographic as a group of people generally related to criminal activity by the mainstream media and the current administration.



THE ARKANSAS

TRAVELER

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Institutional breakdowns push youth to gangs

Halie Brown
Lifestyles Editor
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It was a mindset. Wherever he was, wherever he went, he had to represent it. It did not matter if it was Florida or Arkansas, in his mind, like many other young gang members, he had to represent his gang no matter where he was. Gilbert Gonzalez was to represent his neighborhood until he died.

Gonzalez was born into a family that was affiliated with the gang King Cobra. At age 12, he noticed the tattoos on his uncle's hands and arms and began to ask questions about his family's lifestyle. At age 15, he began to represent the gang. It was then that he was jumped in, which is a ritual that initiates a new member into a gang community, he said.

"You're in it from now on. There's no turning back," Gonzalez said his uncle told him.

There were an estimated 1,059,000 juvenile gang members in the U.S. in 2010, according to the 2015 Journal of Adolescent Health.

Youth gang members in 2010 were disproportionately black or Hispanic males from families living below the poverty level and from single-parent households, according to the 2015 Journal of Adolescent Health.

There are multiple reasons young people become involved with gangs. The breakdown of social, educational and familial institutions sometimes contributes to those reasons, associate professor Juan Bustamante said.



Taffy Kavanaugh Staff Photographer

Youth Matters leader Manuel Stopani (right) discusses plans for the next group meeting with assistant leader Justin Rodriguez (left) Jan. 13. The two run the program on their own.

Young people in Arkansas might also join gangs because they are not respected at home or might not be respected by their peers, said Youth Matters Director Manuel Stopani, a former gang member from a group in Los Angeles. Stopani declined to name the gang he was previously affiliated with.

There is gang activity in Northwest Arkansas, but not as much as in larger cities like Chicago or Los Angeles, Stopani said. Young people try to associate with and put their identities into gangs and gang culture, abiding by dress codes or slang and sometimes violence, he said.

In larger cities, there is more of a need to intervene

in gang violence, but in cities like Rogers where it isn't as present, law enforcement is focusing on preventing young people from joining gangs, Stopani said.

Gaining respect, or being recognized, and the movies and music's portrayal of gang-related activity was a large part of why Gonzalez joined the gang, he said.

"For me, it was like, I loved being respected and feared," Gonzalez said. "I used to love that, people fearing me. I think that's what draws a lot of people in. 'He looks cool. No one wants to mess with him because he's crazy.' They're drawn into that, they're like, 'I want to be like that dude, but I want to be better.'"

Gonzalez thinks the portrayal of gangs in the media is often realistic but overly harsh. Gonzalez supports cracking down on violence and criminal activity, but making convicted criminals appear unredeemable doesn't help, he said.

The unemployment rate for formerly incarcerated people is five times higher than the unemployment rate for the general U.S. population, according to a 2018 report about the Prison Policy Initiative.

In 2012, Stopani left Los Angeles, but while his environment changed, his

See "Rogers partners" on page 5

Low crime rates reported on Greek Life properties

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Students involved in Greek Life comprise nearly 30 percent of all UA students, but crimes occurring on UA Greek property only accounts for a small portion of crimes reported in the fall 2018 semester, according to the UA Police Department Daily Crime Log.

During the fall 2018 semester, there were 27 reports of crimes on the Greek house properties, with the majority occurring at the fraternity houses, according to the crime log.

These reports included instances of criminal mischief, theft, possession of a controlled substance, public intoxication, minor in possession of alcohol, burglary, breaking or entering, underage driving under the influence of alcohol, disorderly conduct, battery in the third degree and sexual assault.

The highest number of reports came from the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity house with four reports, including two reports of possession of cocaine, Public Intoxication and Minor In Possession Of Alcohol, according to the crime log.

There were six reports of alcohol-related crimes that occurred on Greek Life property in the fall 2018 semester, according to the crime log.

The North American Interfraternity



Courtesy of Jake Halbert

Members of Lambda Chi Alpha cheer on teams participating in their annual fundraiser, Watermelon Bust, from the balcony of the Lambda Chi Alpha house on Stadium Drive on Sept. 28, 2017.

Conference banned hard alcohol at all in-house Greek Life events under its authority Sept. 4, 2018, in response to alcohol-related deaths connected to hazing on college campuses across the country.

"Greek student leaders and organizations are expected to follow all university

and national policies as it relates to risk management, including alcohol and substance abuse," said Parice Bowser, director of UA Greek Life, in an email.

Senior Savannah Haynes is the

See "Greek Life" on page 7

# Kidnapping rumors cause fear on social media

Ryan Deloney  
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U A sophomore Carly Friederich checked her cell phone one day in early November and found a string of notifications. Instagram and text messages from friends and followers urged her to be careful and watch out, because of a potential kidnapper.

The texts she received warned her to exercise caution because there were rumors of abductions at the Northwest Arkansas Mall and on Maple Street, Friederich said.

"I remember being really confused because people weren't sure what was going on," Friederich said. "Within a week or two after that, I had heard from several other people that it wasn't safe to be going out at night. I heard someone had almost gotten abducted from a parking lot."

Anyone would be worried about rumors like this, said Alyssa Ivy, a parent of a UA student.

"I didn't know if it was true, but stranger things have happened on other college campuses," Ivy said.

In 2016, the UA campus experienced a similar incident to the one in November when there were clown sightings in Northwest Arkansas, which fell in line with the other clown sightings that were occurring in places internationally.

"The recent situation lasted longer and caused more anxiety (than the clowns)," said UAPD capt. Gary Crain.

During that time, there was a lot of chatter on social media, Crain said. No victims came to UAPD or the Fayetteville Police Department to make a formal report.



Kevin Snyder Photo Editor

Students walk past the Emergency Phone on Jan. 15 located in front of the Jim & Joyce Faulkner Performing Arts Center. There are 125 e-phones situated throughout the UA campus that can be used to notify UAPD officers.

"No one was missing," Crain said. "Many of the rumors floating around began with, 'I heard,' or, 'Someone told me.' It would be highly unusual for an attempted kidnapping to go unreported, so the rumors did not have much credibility."

Concerned parents called the department, and messages online multiplied, but there were no valid reports, Crain said.

"I have no idea how this one got started," said Casey Taggart Harris, an associate professor of criminology. "Though I'm

not an expert on rumors, I would assume this one started either as a joke somewhere or when someone misconstrued some event and thought it was a kidnapping."

Harris never saw much credibility in the rumors but thinks an abundance of caution was best even if they were just rumors, he said.

UAPD responded promptly to every call that came in and investigated every alleged report, Crain said. The police response comprised a patrol initiative to bring in officers to work extra

hours, surveillance and an increase in cars available for escorts. Police also worked with administrators across campus to provide accurate information about the situation to the community, he said.

"I think in many ways social media is valuable for quickly relaying information and for rapid communication," Harris said. "But this can also be its downside when false or unverified information is being communicated."

Credible news sources didn't validate the rumors, but brought

attention to the unconfirmed speculation. It was the attention from Facebook and Instagram users on social media that kept generating interest in the topic, Crain said.

This is because social media is not bound to the same news-making standards of traditional media, Harris said.

"Accounts are often less accurate and can further contribute to panic because many people can't reasonably sort out credible and unreliable sources or put specific crimes into context," Harris said.

The effects of a rumor spreading like this is particularly pronounced in certain cases. A Science Magazine report found that false news, particularly if it is unique, can spread significantly further, faster and more broadly than the truth in all categories of information.

Most of the official coverage at the time began and ended with very explicit statements from UAPD and FPD addressing the rumors and indicating that there was no evidence of any kidnappings, Harris said.

"Social media is tricky - that much I've learned," Ivy said. "I see people's unwillingness to trust it because a lot of what you read on there is nonsense. But when it comes to my kids and safety, in a way, I have to accept rumors as fact until I'm sure they're not true. Otherwise you're just playing with chance."

To combat any form of hysteria, Harris thinks a more informed public that is less susceptible to misinformation is needed. Ideally, people will still take threats seriously when there's appropriate reason to, he said.

A topic like crime is emotional and can generate high levels of fear, and therefore can create panic among people, Harris said.

Harris thinks in order to educate the general public, it is important that news media engage with people who know about crime - whether that be law enforcement personnel or crime researchers, he said.

"The more these groups are part of the media landscape, the better news and even social media sources can be at telling their readers how common such events are," Harris said, "and even advise caution about drawing too many conclusions without the right kinds of information."

## UofA has fewer reports of substance, hate crimes than most SEC schools

Continued from page 1

alone at night, obviously, but I think that's just women everywhere now, but generally I feel pretty safe," Tee said.

The UofA has one of the highest numbers of drug and liquor law arrests compared to the University of Missouri, Louisiana State University, the University of Mississippi and the University of Alabama. The University of Missouri had the most drug and liquor law arrests, with 319 in 2017, followed by 198 arrests at Louisiana State University, 139 arrests at the UofA, 103 arrests at the University of Mississippi and 114 arrests at the University of Alabama.

Bishop Lewis, the University of Mississippi crime prevention coordinator, thinks that alcohol-related crime is the biggest problem at the university, he said. Driving under the influence arrests are not included in the Clery report.

"I'd say the trends for (driving under the influence) over the years have improved," Lewis said. "When I first started here in 1999, we didn't have any taxi companies, or any bus services, any public transportation, anything like that. There weren't alternate means of transportation, and people had the tendency to drive intoxicated or impaired."

Lewis thinks that the University of Mississippi is a safe campus, especially among SEC schools, he said. The University Police Department offers multiple programs for students to help with safety, such as an active shooter response training that is mandatory for freshmen and transfer students.

Officers also try to connect with students by going to residence halls and through the Adopt-A-Cop program at the University of Mississippi, Lewis said. In the program, a specific officer acts as a point of contact for fraternities and sororities on campus.

"They contact (officers) if they're having a problem with people living in the house or somebody around the house. They call them all about that stuff," Lewis said. "They invite them to dinner and lunch. We have several new officers that are enjoying visiting their organizations."

The University of Alabama had the largest enrollment for SEC schools in the fall 2018 semester, with 38,392 students in the fall, according to its university news. At the UofA, 27,778 students enrolled in fall 2018, according to the UA Office of Institutional Research and Assessment. Compared to other SEC schools, the University of Mississippi had the lowest enrollment with 23,258 students, according

to its university news.

Stalking is one of the most reported crimes at the University of Missouri, with 49 reports in 2017. Rape is also a highly reported crime at the school. In 2017, there were 11 reports, compared to nine reports at the UofA. The University of Alabama had 22 rape reports in 2017.

Clery reports also include offenses like dating and domestic violence. Dating violence involves violence between people who are or have been in a romantic or intimate relationship, according to the Clery Center.

There were 22 reports of dating violence at the University of Alabama in 2017 and four reports at Louisiana State University, compared to zero reports at the UofA. The University of Mississippi also had zero reports.

Comparatively, the University of Missouri Police Department received more reports of hate crime than Louisiana State University, the University of Mississippi, the University of Alabama and the UofA. No hate crime has been reported at the UofA since 2014, but in the last three years, there were 14 hate crimes at the University of Missouri. Eleven of the reports occurred in 2015, during the time of the riots in Ferguson, Missouri, which had to do with protests following an officer-involved shooting of Michael Brown, a black teenager.

Box was surprised by the number of hate crimes at the University of Missouri but was unsurprised by the arrests at the University of Mississippi, he said.

"At Ole Miss, they're more of a party school," Box said. "I've visited there a few times. Just going around and talking to people at the university, that was kind of the main vibe that I got."

Lewis agrees that the school is known for partying but thinks the culture is changing, he said.

"We try to push, 'party responsibly, stay safe,' you know. While you're out in public, monitor your behavior, be respectful, all of that sort of stuff," Lewis said.

Tee is not surprised by the statistics in the Clery reports, she said.

"I'd rather be somewhere where there's theft instead of rape or hate crimes," Tee said. "It's not really that surprising."

The 2017 Jeanne Clery report is the most up to date information. The report for 2018 will be released later in 2019.

## Students train to cope with trauma, gain self-confidence

Continued from page 1

person, and living in a college town, we hear so many stories about rape. I don't want to be part of that statistic."

At the time, she was the only woman in her class because it was mainly directed toward law enforcement, although it is very different today because more women are joining, Grisham said.

"I was trained to fight until I was able to get away without being chased or until my instructor tapped (out)," Grisham said. "I felt this was a necessary course for me, personally, because others might see me as an easy target since I am a fairly small woman."

Fayetteville resident Kate Knox, 32, was attacked 10 years ago and turned to Krav Maga in order to cope with the trauma, gain self-confidence and defend herself when needed, she said.

After leaving a bar to go home with a close friend and a few acquaintances, Knox was attacked from behind by a man in her bedroom and thinks she could've done something more to prevent it, she said.

"Before Krav Maga, you have that fight, flight or freeze thing, and I would freeze," Knox said. "That's what happened to me 10 years ago when I was attacked. I just froze. It's one of those things where you can't change the past, but I would never have that happen to me again. Women should take at least a few classes and get used to the idea that they can fight back. Because if someone does attack you, you can say, 'Hey I feel threatened, but I can take care of this myself.'"

Knox used Krav Maga as both a means of self-defense and a way to cope with her trauma, she said.

"For the longest time, I felt regret, and I felt weak, but

now with taking these classes and knowing how to defend myself, it's helped me not only conquer that but face it as well," Knox said. "I honestly believe that it helped me more than therapy. Instead of talking it out, I got to act upon it and show that I can take care of myself."

Cole Saugey, a certified Krav Maga instructor in Fayetteville, decided to start training when a man verbally threatened him in line at the Walmart on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, and he realized he did not know how to defend himself, he said.

"I wanted something that was more of a tool than an art and something that would kick in whenever a situation arose so that I could escape the situation," Saugey said. "That's what set Krav Maga apart from other martial arts for me. It was a no-nonsense system, and they're focused more on striking vitals and creating an opportunity to escape the situation than they are about winning the fight."

It wasn't until Saugey started doing the training that he realized how much he didn't know, Saugey said. He thinks that most people have this glamorous idea of fighting and that it'll be like it is in the movies and television.

Real fights are brutal, when people get into training and feel what it's like to hit or kick something, they realize fighting isn't at all what they thought it was going to be, Saugey said.

"If it were up to me, taking self-defense courses would be just as important to take as anything else," Saugey said. "It's a lifelong skill that hopefully you'll never have to use, but you don't ever want to be in a position where something is happening to you or your family and you don't know what to do."

During the time of the rumored incidents near the

Northwest Arkansas Mall and around Maple Street this fall, Saugey had five new students come to the studio after the rumored incidents. Saugey also had an additional 10 individuals call or walk-in to discuss self-defense training because they were shaken or scared due to similar circumstances, he said.

Other reasons that people join classes are due to traumatic experiences they've experienced, Saugey said.

"We have a women's only class, which occurred because we have so many women who have survived traumatic events like assault or rape, who weren't comfortable working in an environment with men, so we created that class to give them an opportunity to get some training in," Saugey said.

For Senior Caitlyn Cook, being armed with self-defense tools is another method of staying safe on campus and around Fayetteville, she said.

Cook carries pepper spray and a taser with her wherever she goes for protection, she said.

"I got both my pepper spray and taser this year," Cook said. "I walk to class from my apartment, which is about a mile from campus. I had a really scary experience where a guy followed me in broad daylight, and after that I just never felt safe. Even if I don't use it, I know it's there if things got out of hand."

The Pat Walker Health Center's Wellness and Health Promotion department is offering two eight-week Krav Maga self-defense courses this spring semester from Jan. 15 to March 5 and March 12 to May 7, according to Pat Walker Health Center. Classes are held Tuesday evenings from 5 to 6 p.m. in Room 2123 in the student health center. The program is \$40 for students and \$55 for faculty and staff.



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# Northwest Arkansas undocumented population's future remains uncertain

**Halie Brown and Alex Nicoll**  
*The Arkansas Traveler*

She was 22 years old when she came to the U.S. with her aunt. For 15 days, Delmi walked through the desert or rode the bus because she had no other means of transportation. She was sad, having left behind her family, but now she has built a life for herself in America with her husband and sons.

Delmi, now 39, left Guatemala because of the economy, in America she now has a house, a job and a family, she said.

"When we start here, we felt we were rich," Delmi said with a laugh.

Delmi is just one of 200,000 immigrants in Arkansas. Out of the 200,000 Arkansas immigrants, 60,000 are undocumented, 40 percent of which are in Northwest Arkansas, said Mireya Reith, the executive director of the Arkansas United Community Coalition.

The numbers are more than likely changing, though, especially for the children of undocumented immigrants, because of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, which the Arkansas United Community Coalition heavily promoted alongside Catholic charities for immigrants' benefit, Reith said.

DACA grants individuals who came to the U.S. deferred action, or immigration status. Immigrants can receive DACA if they came to the U.S. before they were 16, are under the age of 31, and were in school



**Alex Nicoll** Editor-in-Chief

Immigrants work on their English Jan. 15 by writing letters describing their families in an ESL class in Springdale.

or have obtained a General Educational Development Certificate or were honorably discharged from the Army or Coast Guard, according to Homeland Security.

Morely, 47, immigrated to America after driving with her family for 11 days. She has been in America for 16 years and hasn't seen her family that she left behind from El Salvador in that time, she said.

She is not currently looking for citizenship because her husband has Temporary Protected Status, which is given to immigrants when they are unable to return to their country safely. With TPS, they can work in the U.S. legally but do not have a pathway to lawful permanent status, according to the International Rescue Committee.

Every 16 months, Morely's family pays around \$1,800

to renew their TPS and DACA. Every year, her son pays \$15,000 in taxes out of his paycheck, she said.

Morely's son, who was in college, participated in DACA, she said. But with DACA ending, his future is now uncertain, she said.

Many immigrants don't have legal status because they never had the opportunity to consult with an attorney, but in Morely's son's case his attorney died, she said. Now, he's facing deportation.

The son of a friend of Morely's was deported from NWA to Mexico 11 months ago. On Dec. 6, he was murdered, she said.

"In Mexico, he only lived 10 months, and then the guys killed them because the bad boys-extortion," Morely said. "They want money for him. When he no have the money, killed."

See "Immigrants fear" on page 7

# SafeRide functions as safety measure, not a 'drunk shuttle', director says

**Elias Weiss**  
*Staff Reporter*  
*@ecweiss*

An Associated Student Government official wants to change the image of a UA transportation service after stereotypes surfaced of the service being a "drunk shuttle."

The service, SafeRide, has been in operation at the UofA since 1999, according to SafeRide.

"In 2006, ASG started to sponsor, promote and oversee SafeRide," said Andrew Hudspeth, the director of SafeRide for ASG. "Right now, the culture of the program has changed a lot, even in the short time I've been here."

Before working closely with the SafeRide program, Hudspeth thought of the safe transportation services that exist at most SEC universities as just means for drunk students to get a free ride, he said.

"At the UofA, I went on a ride-along, and no one we picked up was inebriated," Hudspeth said.

"Typically, a lot of international students use the program because they don't have a car or don't know anyone who has a car," Hudspeth said. "I picked up five or six students in 20 minutes, and everyone was just going home from studying. That's good to see."

Hudspeth wishes SafeRide administration would address the stereotype that their service is primarily used as a drunk shuttle, he said.

"That's not what it is at all," Hudspeth said. "SafeRide's primary goal is safety. It's not a convenience thing; it's a last resort for those trying to get out of a bad situation."

SafeRide officials from the Transit and Parking Department neglected to comment after multiple attempts to contact.

ASG is responsible for \$165,000 of the \$250,000 SafeRide uses annually for bus maintenance, the SafeRide dispatch center, salary for managers and driver wages, Hudspeth said.

"ASG funds quite a bit of the

money through the Programs Allocation Board," Hudspeth said. "ASG's role is more geared toward student involvement in SafeRide. We don't do dispatch calls, bus routes or anything. ASG is more about promoting it as a service for students to use and work with."

Ridership with the program has decreased since 2015, but Hudspeth thinks there is a good reason, he said.

"We had the drop in the 2015-16 school year because we started requiring students to give their UA ID over the phone instead of just flashing the driver their ID," Hudspeth said. "Students who had graduated six or seven years ago still had their ID and would use it coming home from Dickson."

The rule was changed to make sure only paying students were using the service, Hudspeth said.

In the 2017-18 academic year, SafeRide made more than 4,000 trips, totalling almost 12,000 miles, according to the SafeRide website.

Despite the ridership decreasing by 15 percent since 2015, Hudspeth is confident no active students have been discouraged from using the service since the rule changed, he said.

"The honest-to-God truth is that the only reason we wanted (the rule change) is so we know they're going home and not to another party," Hudspeth said.

See "Safe Ride" on page 8



Courtesy of Safe Ride

# Conduct office sanctions educate, focus on preventing repeated substance offenses

Continued from page 1

Standards and Conduct, Crain said. The information from these hearings is not publicly available, he said.

RAs and other UA staff do not typically involve UAPD unless the offense is serious or the student is causing problems, Crain said.

Senior Cole Coston worked as an RA in the Northwest Quad resident halls for two academic years, from fall 2016 through spring 2018, he said.

In cases involving drugs, RAs must call UAPD instead of confronting the resident themselves, Coston said. Coston thinks the most common drug offense RAs encounter is possession of marijuana because the smell makes it easier to detect.

"If we smell it on our floor, we're supposed to call another RA to double check. Then you would call UAPD," Coston said.

In 2017, 39 of the 63 alcohol-related arrests on campus were in residence halls, according to the 2017 Jeanne Clery report. For

comparison, 542 reports of alcohol-related crime were referred to judicial review in the Office of Student Standards and Conduct that year.

Variables like the number of officers on night patrol and off-campus parties can affect the arrest numbers from year to year, Crain said. Although UAPD does not set up checkpoints to screen people for intoxication, students tend to avoid areas where large numbers of arrests happen.

"When you have a lot of arrests, word gets around," Crain said.

Although alcohol-related arrest numbers stay relatively low, many of the CSA reports include a large number of students reported in one incident, such as Nov. 15, when RAs reported 22 underage students for possession of alcohol in Maple Hill East, according to the crime log.

Coston thinks that the

Quads and Maple Hill had a reputation for large parties when he was an RA, and it was not uncommon for him to write up multiple students in a single incident, he said.

"A large portion of all freshman parties occurred in the Quads or Maple," Coston said.

RAs are instructed to write down names of all students involved in underage drinking incidents and take pictures of the alcohol alongside the students' ID cards, Coston said. These pictures, along with the incident reports the RAs write, help the Office of Student Standards and Conduct judge how severe the offense is or if the student is a frequent offender.

The RAs pour out all of the alcohol and escort the students while they throw away the empty containers, Coston said.

After the initial incident and the incident report, RAs are not involved in the judicial process, said senior Stephanie Oyibo, who was a RA in the Northwest Quads residence halls from fall 2016 to fall 2018.

When Oyibo was a RA, Pomfret, the Quads and Maple Hill residence halls had a reputation for having more incidents with drugs and alcohol, she said.

Oyibo thinks the high report rate in those dorms has more to do with the amount of students that live there than anything else, she said. She was surprised that Reid Hall and Walton Hall, which typically have a higher number of Greek Life students, have relatively few reports.

Kristoff Maxey, assistant director of Student Standards and Conduct, thinks that the sanctions the office's case managers impose keep students from re-offending because the aim is to educate, not simply to punish, he said.

"It's really about helping students understand how their actions now can impact their future goals," Maxey said. "We don't need to come to work and punish people."

Oyibo thinks the punishments from the Office of Student

Standards and Conduct are severe enough to prevent repeated offenses because they often restrict what students are able to do on campus, like participate in student activities, she said.

"The way Housing deals with it is good enough to make students not want to drink," she said.

Coston thinks that the sanctions imposed by the office of Student Standards and Conduct are about 50 percent effective at preventing students from offending again, he said.

"Some kids, if they get busted once, they actually learn from it," Coston said. "Some of the other kids, they don't care at all. They're just here to party, and they hate the RAs."

Coston thinks that many of the repeat offenders end up dropping out or transferring, he said.

Maxey thinks it is hard to infer which students will withdraw based solely on their conduct history, he said.

Outside of residence halls, the most arrests happen in

UA parking lots, where five students were arrested last semester on charges of driving while intoxicated or underage possession of alcohol and 11 more arrested on drug possession charges, according to the crime log.

UAPD officers responded to calls for incidents at Greek Life houses on campus, Crain said.

Early in November, UAPD officers arrested three students at the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity house on charges including possession of cocaine, according to the crime log. Another student was arrested on charges of possessing marijuana and cocaine in Lot 11, between the Phi Delta Theta fraternity house and the Sigma Nu fraternity house.

Nearly all of the reported drug crimes involve marijuana possession with a few outliers, such as the students arrested on charges of cocaine possession in November and a handful of prescription drug arrests, according to the crime log.

# Rogers police combat gang-related crime

Continued from page 2

behavior did not, he said. It was not until he found Christianity by reading a Bible that he left his gang, he said.

With Youth Matters, Stopani works alongside Rogers law enforcement to intervene and prevent young people from joining gangs, he said.

Gonzalez was a member until he was 25 and left shortly after the second time he was stabbed. Gradually, he began to represent the gang less, but it wasn't until he became a Christian that he walked away, he said.

Although Gonzalez has stepped away, he still sees issues with gang activity in Springdale, he said. In the past few years, he has heard of three to four deaths because of gang-related activity.

On average, there were 2,000 gang homicides per year from 2007 to 2012 in the U.S. Gang homicides estimated to account for 13 percent of homicides annually, according to the National Gang Center.

The friction between gangs attributes to most gang-related

deaths, Bustamante said. Police have told Bustamante that multiple gangs in Springdale are very territorial and pay close attention to the customs and cultures of gangs. Young adults in gangs skip school, deface property with graffiti and participate in violence.

One of the problems the Springdale police department see with gangs is graffiti, which is used by gang members to tag and intimidate other gangs, according to the Springdale Police Department. Springdale defines graffiti as the malicious destruction of property that contributes to other crimes by leading to the psychological and physical decline of a neighborhood.

In order to negate gang activity, the Springdale Police Department started the Springdale Nuisance Abatement Partnership Team. The SNAP Team attempts to control gang activity, illegal prostitution, stolen property and illegal drugs, according to the Springdale Police Department.

When Gonzalez was

involved with a gang in Northwest Arkansas, there were mostly Latino gangs, he said.

Springdale is currently experiencing a social class and racial divide, which has onset a ghettoization process, Bustamante said.

Some immigrants and Latinos come to Springdale to work at poultry plants to provide for their families and pay rent. Parents often work more than one shift, leaving young people without supervision, Bustamante said.

"Many times, children lack oversight," Bustamante said. "This is not because parents are bad; it's because they don't have any other option."

Often, immigrants that have lived or stayed in California, which has issues with gangs, are exposed to gang culture, Bustamante said.

Los Angeles is the gang capital of the U.S., with 450 active gangs that have a combined membership of 45,000 people, according to the Los Angeles Police Department.

The Springdale Police Department did not respond to repeated attempts by The Arkansas Traveler to comment.

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# OPINION

## Anti-crime strategies fail to address roots of criminal activity

Joah Clements  
Opinion Editor

On Jan. 8, I joined an estimated 43 million Americans in watching President Donald Trump's Oval Office address on the necessity of a border wall. Trump aimed to blame the Democratic party for the ongoing partial government shutdown.

To me and many other viewers, it was clear that this speech was meant to create fear and urgency around Trump's favorite and most overblown issue: illegal immigration and violent crime committed by immigrants.

Trump's strategy has been to rally his base around his stance on immigration, pointing to a lack of border security as the problem and ignoring all other factors. When the speech ended, I felt myself growing

increasingly skeptical of crime-fearing rhetoric, which is not typically conducive to long-term solutions. For example, Trump could build a wall between the U.S. and Mexico and arm it to the teeth with Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents, but doing so would not solve the underlying problems that have led to all the commotion at the border.

The following day, I drove a little more than an hour from Fayetteville to my hometown of Eureka Springs. Winter tends to be an off-season for tourism, Eureka's primary economic industry. One week into the new year, the town of just over 2,000 was especially devoid of traffic, save for a handful of locals, about half of which were police officers.

As I moved toward my destination through the scenic and winding roads of downtown Eureka, I kept a close eye on my car's speedometer. Driving-age townies from Eureka are well aware that exceeding the speed limit in any fashion is a quick

recipe for a speeding ticket, and it is a foolish exercise to assume you are not being watched as you drive through the town.

Being a former Eureka, I can attest to the fact that the town's locals often discuss the ratio of patrol officers to town citizens, which for some time has seemed higher than it should be.

For the second day in a row, I found myself thinking about the country's propensity for short-term, anti-crime provisions. These provisions are present both in the country's smallest towns and its most powerful offices.

I decided to call the Eureka Springs Police Department. I learned that ESPD employs 13 officers in total, well above national averages for a town of Eureka's size. FBI statistics suggest that a town of around 2,000 would more typically have between four and five officers, unless local crime conditions warrant more or fewer officers.

It was unclear to me whether Eureka's crime rate does indeed call for an additional eight or nine officers on top of the four

or five that should already be in the ESPD, so I went to websites that compile city crime averages such as City-Data.com and AreaVibes.com. These sites indicate that Eureka Springs' crime rate is between 97.2 percent and 127 percent above average. However, because Eureka is a tourist economy, these numbers could be artificially inflated depending on the town's various tourism seasons, or even by its above-average number of officers available to witness and record crime.

Assuming that Eureka is a good indicator of similar small towns across America, it seems to me that our country is addressing crime incorrectly on both the macro and micro levels. To be clear, though, this is not a problem specific to only Trump or my hometown of Eureka Springs but a national problem.

The Eureka Springs 2018 Budget indicates that the city wants to allocate nearly \$1.2 million to the ESPD, roughly 35

percent of the town's budget for general expenses. While this is roughly on par for a more populous city like Fayetteville, Eureka's expenses could be cut by hundreds of thousands of dollars considering the town's small population.

It is definitely important to remain vigilant of crime in excess, but it also seems that aggressive crime prevention strategies often result in additional costs to American taxpayers, whether that is a small town's response to seasonal influxes of tourists or the federal government's solution to the lessening issue of immigration crime.

Instead, American taxpayers should be wary of the fact that crime-related hysteria can cost them a lot of money and probably avoid addressing the root of the problem.

*Joah Clements is a senior English major and the Opinion Editor for The Arkansas Traveler.*

## Wealth, plea deals compromise integrity of American justice system

Emma Richardson  
Columnist

Outside the U.S. Supreme Court, there is a statue of a blindfolded woman representing justice. Across from her, there is a statue of a man holding a sword, representing the all-encompassing authority of the law.

As Americans, we rest blissfully in the ever-fraying assurance that nobody is above the law, but the evidence is slowly revealing that even justice has a price. The idea that one man's money can not only tip the scales of justice but buy them outright raises serious concerns.

One such man is registered sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, who in December settled out of court under allegations of using a woman as a sex slave.

Epstein began his career as a relatively unknown individual. Through hard work and several suspicious connections, he

eventually became a Wall Street giant before moving on to start his own investment management firm. He quickly amassed not only a reputation but also an enormous fortune. He gained a name as a philanthropist by establishing several foundations funding medical and scientific research.

In addition to all this, Epstein also ran a child trafficking ring from his estate in Miami. The Miami Police Department spent years collecting evidence that should have easily put him away for life. His victims number over a hundred, all of them young girls.

Shockingly, rather than spending his remaining years behind bars, Epstein was sentenced to 13 months in a private prison during which time he was allowed to spend 12 hours a day, six days per week at his New York office.

This was made possible by an unprecedented plea deal arranged between Epstein's

lawyers and the Miami U. S. Secretary General, Alexander Acosta, which reduced what would have been countless charges of child trafficking to two counts of prostitution as well as granting retroactive immunity to anyone else involved. This includes both those recruiting the victims and anyone else for whom he provided girls, which, according to multiple testimonies from the victims, happened frequently.

Virginia Roberts, who was first contacted by Epstein when she was 16, said in a sworn statement that, Epstein "also got girls for (his) friends and acquaintances. Epstein specifically told me that the reason for him doing this was so that they would ... be 'in his pocket,' and he would 'have something on them.' I understood him to mean that when someone was in his pocket, they owed him favors."

Epstein's plea deal was sealed as soon as it was signed, making

it impossible for anyone, including the victims, to gain access to the legal records of the extent of his crimes.

Unfortunately, this is just the beginning. Acosta, the secretary general who should have been working to serve something resembling justice, is now the secretary of labor in Trump's cabinet.

Incidentally, this is the department that creates and oversees laws around matters such as human trafficking. This collusion between the criminals and the justice system seems to run to the very top of the ladder. Rather than protecting the victims and ensuring that crime is punished, the justice system too often operates on a system of favors and payoffs, working to the advantage of the highest bidder. Our democracy is clearly breaking down when those at the highest level of government are harboring predators like this man.

While something like this incident could come straight from

a dystopian novel, the issue crops up even in Washington County. According to reports from the Washington County Sheriff's Office, there are 837 detainees held because they could not afford to post bail.

In such situations, the inmate will almost certainly be unable to afford a good lawyer and will instead get a public defender, making them more likely to receive a heavier sentence. On the other hand, simply having the means to post bail gives a kind of home-field advantage to those who can continue their lives in the comfort of their own homes while waiting for their court date.

This is to say nothing of those who are able to hire an experienced lawyer. Having a bail system that favors the wealthy and punishes the poor only further exacerbates the systemic imbalance between those with money and those without it.

In a nation that prides itself

on delivering liberty and justice for all, it is a disquieting reality that money is a significant factor in deciding who can commit crimes and receive no more than a slap on the wrist.

Unfortunately, the most we can do is bring issues to light and vote responsibly, but this problem needs to be addressed now. We often view corruption in the justice system as both unavoidable and only affecting those in government, but that is not the case. While corruption exists within our courts, we are all vulnerable to injustice.

As long as there is a disparity between the justice of the rich and that of the poor, those in power will have no incentive to abide by the law, and the powerless will not see justice served.

*Emma Richardson is a junior English major and a columnist for The Arkansas Traveler.*

## Washington, Benton County should withdraw 287(g) participation

Micah Wallace  
Columnist

A lot of people probably don't know what 287(g) is. This isn't because

they're uneducated or they aren't up to date on local politics but because sheriff offices in these respective counties have tried to stay obscure behind a veil of secrecy that perpetuates nonsensical policies like this one.

Here are the details: 287(g) is a section of the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act indicating an agreement between U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and our county's police departments that gives police the power to act as ICE agents and detain people for them. In exchange, the police get additional training on ICE's dime, while Benton and Washington counties' deputies are forced to pick up extra work.

Still confusing? Well, there's a reason for that. The Center for American Progress has reported a lack of transparency within the program nationally, and Benton and Washington counties are no different from the other 77 counties that participate.

Instead of Washington and Benton counties planning the annual public forum meant to educate constituencies about 287(g) so that it would be accessible to the public at reasonable hours, they opted for a different approach.

How does 10 a.m. on a Tuesday sound? Instead of a meeting location with plentiful seating, how about a cramped room with so few seats that even those forced into standing are packed like sardines?

Don't get there even two minutes late either, or you can expect to stand outside in the frigid cold, as State Rep. Nicole Clowney (D) and former congressional candidate Josh Mahony (D) had to. If it sounds like I'm speaking from personal experience, that's because I recently attended the 287(g) meeting in Benton County.

Yes, the Washington and Benton County steering meetings were both held in Benton County. Sheriff Tim Helder of Washington County didn't even show up

to hear from his constituency. After making those affected by 287(g) drive all the way from Washington to Benton County, he did not even show up to hear from them.

Sheriff Shawn Holloway of Benton County did show up, however, and he listened, which is something everyone can appreciate. As we see the fight over immigration occur on the national stage, the hypocrisy of a sheriff not showing up for his own constituents is too poignant to avoid mentioning.

It has gotten violent crime off the streets, this program "is not targeted primarily at serious offenders," according to the Migration Policy Institute. The MPI has also found that 287(g) is frequently a tool used by local sheriffs to strengthen immigration measures because of political pressure, arresting non-violent undocumented people at the opportunity cost of stopping the violent crime elsewhere. The final nail in the coffin for 287(g) should be this: The Cato Institute has found that

affected, like Good Shepherd Lutheran Church pastor Clint Schnekloth's retelling of his parishioner's challenge of awaiting his green card while under ICE detention.

His detainment affects his freedom and costs taxpayers money, but his wife's distress from their separation and her being forced to pick up extra shifts at a nursing home while awaiting the stability and comfort that her husband provided is what should make us empathetically understand

“As the cries to abolish ICE get more fervent, it no longer makes sense to equate our police force with ICE.”

Overall, though, both parties and counties are at fault. As the cries to abolish ICE get more fervent, it no longer makes sense to equate our police force with ICE, especially because the Black Lives Matter movement is already calling attention to the gross, racially charged incidents within our police forces.

Many counties that used to participate in 287(g) have recently ended cooperation with ICE because of allegations of racial profiling. This is a pattern, and we are falling into a trap because of an unfounded fear of undocumented immigrants striving for a better life.

In addition, the research against 287(g) is clear. Despite comments from Holloway that

287(g) does not fight crime, but it certainly does increase the number of assaults against police officers in areas where it is implemented.

Perhaps you are among the 39 percent of Americans that insist on building the wall, according to CNBC, or the 25 percent of Americans that support abolishing ICE, according to CBS News. Either way, there are too many negative effects on immigrants for the police force to justify doing this.

Let's also discuss the effect on our local immigrant communities. At the steering committee, Holloway heard stories from those whose loved ones have been

that this program doesn't deserve a dime of our tax dollars.

Undocumented immigrants and the police do have one thing in common: Both groups are negatively affected by 287(g). If we care about these groups at all, we should be calling Helder and Holloway to remind them that Washington County is about open arms for the most vulnerable members of our society.

*Micah Wallace is a sophomore political science major and a columnist for The Arkansas Traveler.*

# THE ARKANSAS TRAVELER



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# Community involvement helps officers cope with stress

Patrick Clarkson  
Staff Reporter  
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When he found a position at the UA Police Department, Officer Jacob Davis knew violence toward officers was something he might have to deal with. It's a thought that occasionally passes through his mind as he pulls on his vest and puts on his badge. It's a thought that he often has to shake off because he has a job to do, and when he shows up to work he needs to focus on the moment.

Davis began working for UAPD in 2015. The increase of police officer deaths in the last year has made him more nervous when he prepares to go to work, but once he is on duty, he puts the thoughts behind him, he said.

The number of police officer deaths in 2018 increased by 6 percent compared to 2017, according to Officer Down Memorial Page.

For Oakes, stress is just part of the job. Each officer tries to find their own way to deal with it. Oakes brings things into perspective by being more involved with his kids and his church. This involvement in his community helps him learn about some of the problems that are impacting it, he said.

Having a job that has them interacting with people, there are many unknown factors that an officer will encounter. There are situations that might involve violence or conflict but also encounters that leave a positive effect on those involved, UAPD Lt. Mike Oakes said.

"Exercise and eating healthy helps me," Davis said. "But it depends on the week. Sometimes, I just want to go to McDonald's and order three McDoubles."

The most common crimes



Taffy Kavanaugh Staff Photographer

Officer Jacob Davis sits in his squad car Jan. 12 before his patrol, which consists of him monitoring the UA campus and its surrounding areas.

that UAPD officers deal with is theft, which are often crimes of opportunity when people leave something out unattended, and criminal mischief, such as vandalism, the UA Capt. Gary Crain said.

Body cameras are in place to help police officers and their credibility, similar to dashboard cameras. When dash cameras were first getting installed on police cars, some officers thought that the action was going to put more pressure on officers until they realized the footage seemed to be more beneficial for officers, and the same thought process has happened in regard to body cameras.

UAPD added body

cameras to their uniforms in 2015 to increase the credibility of their officers while on the job. The addition also better protects officers in legal situations where footage is now available, Crain said.

Davis joined the UAPD after body cameras were added. Having body cameras on has never made him act differently while on patrol, he said.

"I'm honest, and I'm fair, so I have nothing to hide," Davis said. "I turn it on, and then I forget about it because I am never worried about what I might say or do."

The transparency from body cameras helps UAPD in their efforts to gain the support of the campus

community although they never had trouble with community trust. If access to the footage is required it can be brought out so that there can be an analysis of what happened. UAPD founder Larry Slamons decided that transparency is a necessity for law enforcement agencies, Oakes said.

In recent years, the backlash of an officer shooting an unarmed suspect has come under increased media scrutiny and, in some situations, led to mass protests, Oakes said.

As a member of the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, UAPD has training on when and how to use lethal force.

The methods that are taught are evaluated each year to affirm that they are still the best course of action, Oakes said.

UAPD does not talk about what the department would do if there was a shooting of an unarmed suspect. The training officers receive is designed to prevent unnecessary lethal force, Crain said.

UAPD became an armed force in the '70s so they could fulfill all the responsibilities that a police department has, Crain said.

There has to be a balance of power that the police wield, Crain said. Crain thinks how the police in St. Louis handled the protests in 2014, where it appeared

that officers were an army standing against protestors, was the wrong course of action, he said.

"We are supposed to serve the communities we work in and not overpower them," Crain said.

UAPD trains in methods that will allow them to avoid lethal force, but they have also undergone training that will make them effective in responding to a shooting on campus, Crain said. The last shooting on campus was in 2000.

"You practice and you have plans in place and you train," Crain said. "But you are never prepared for it because you are never certain when or where it will happen."

## Greek Life programs encourage safe behavior

Continued from page 3

Chi Omega sorority and thinks that negative stereotypes of Greek students as immature party-people are prevalent, but mostly untrue, she said.

"No matter where you are in college, there's gonna be people that promote that stereotype and people who don't, and I think that it's just a lot easier for people who aren't in Greek Life to look at those negative stereotypes of, like, crazy and immature partying people because it's just easier to hold up negative stereotypes than it is to promote positive stereotypes," Haynes said.

The NCAA and Budweiser partnered to award the UofA with a \$30,000 grant to educate students about the dangers of excessive alcohol usage, Bowser said. The grant project is intended to help educate the campus community through a partnership among the College of Education and Health Professions, the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, the Sam M. Walton College of Business, Substance Education and Alcohol Resources, New Student Family Programming, Housing, UAPD, Greek Life and Counseling and Professional Services.

Leaders from universities and colleges around Arkansas met at the UofA at Little Rock on Jan. 9 for the first Arkansas Statewide Greek Life Symposium to learn about how to minimize risks and increase safety in sororities and fraternities,

particularly when it came to hazing, Dean of Students Melissa Harwood-Rom said.

"(The symposium) was very much geared toward administrators, advisors and student leaders like chapter presidents, council presidents, individuals that lead within their respective Greek communities," Harwood-Rom said. "There were a lot of informational sessions so that students are aware of the consequences of hazing and not just the punitive consequences, but how it damages the community and truly the dangers of it."

UA officials suspended

of our initiatives have been ongoing for years, such as Title IX trainings, Keeping It Real, Coke Dates, etc. We have also implemented new programs, such as bystander prevention training and roundtable discussions designed for council and chapter officers."

Haynes has never felt like she has been in an unsafe situation during her time in Greek Life, she said.

"I think there was fear of change because I had never had any experience with (Greek Life)," Haynes said. "I definitely feared the unknown, and that therefore leads to, you know, fear of

is significant as it relates to the low number of arrests (three) for major campus Greek events, such as Row Week 2018."

When a student breaks the law, hazing-related or otherwise, officials report the incident to Office of Student Standards and Conduct and also submit the information to UAPD for an investigation. If it occurs off campus, then it would be the officials submit reports to the county sheriff or the law enforcement, which has jurisdiction over the area where the hazing is allegedly occurred, Harwood-Rom said.

**"I think that it's just a lot easier for people who aren't in Greek Life to look at those negative stereotypes of, like, crazy and immature partying people because it's just easier to hold up negative stereotypes than it is to promote positive stereotypes."**

- senior Savannah Haynes

the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity from campus for one academic year because of several reported incidents of hazing. After the suspension, there were no hazing reports in the fall 2018 semester, according to the crime log.

Greek leaders try to provide proactive programming efforts and initiatives to discourage risky behavior but also encourage Greek students to be responsible and safe, Bowser said.

"Safety is our main priority," Bowser said. "Many

not being safe or fear of something happening to me, but it wasn't specifically associated with my sorority."

Of the four reported instances of sexual assault on campus, only one reportedly occurred on a Greek property: the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity house, according to the crime log.

"Greek Life implemented a bystander prevention program entitled, 'Stand Up! Step In! Speak Out!'," Bowser said. "The program focused on alcohol, hazing prevention and Title IX. This

"We absolutely encourage anonymous report of any violation of the Code of Student Life- but particularly hazing because this is a very secretive activity," Harwood-Rom said. "It's secretive by design, and it usually occurs at night, or it usually occurs away from campus so that it cannot be seen and reported. So therefore, we are very grateful to the reporters who are doing the right thing and coming forward and giving us information that could help us save a life or multiple lives."

## Immigrants fear violence, extortion in home countries

Continued from page 5

Now, with her son facing deportation, she's afraid he's facing the same fate and might be killed by the gang Mara Salvatrucha, or MS-13, Morely said.

"People are still waiting. They think (we) have a lot of money, and go, 'Give me the money, give me the money,'" Delmi said. "My husband is afraid. Many people think he has the money because he was here for long time."

In the last three years, gangs, or maras, killed 20,000 people in El Salvador, according to the International Crisis Group.

"(I'm) worried every day, every night," Morely said. "It's difficult."

In 2018, 256,085 undocumented immigrants were removed by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

In 2015, when President Donald Trump announced his candidacy, he called for the deportation of 11

million undocumented people in the U.S., comparing undocumented immigrants from Mexico to violent criminals and rapists, according to the Council on Foreign Nations.

Around 42 percent of Latinos living in America think their situation has worsened since the 2016 presidential election. Around 49 percent are worried about their place in American society, according to the Pew Research Center.

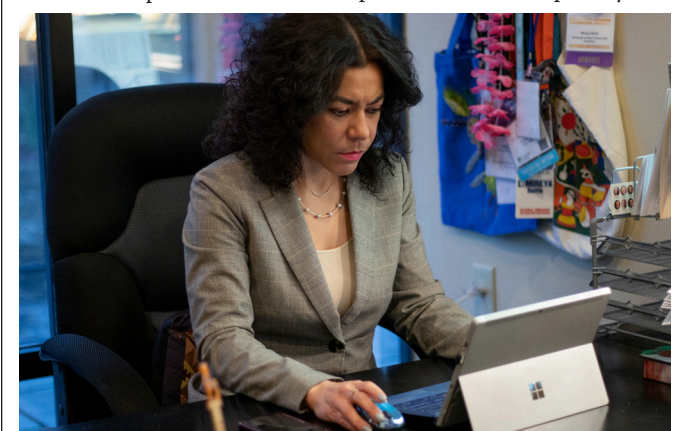
When Morely was fishing with her family at the lake after the presidential election, she experienced harassment, she said.

"The men say... 'You can't be here. Go,'" Morely said.

In the last year, Morely's son has also been experiencing harassment because he's Hispanic, she said.

"(A) boy said, 'David, okay this is the wall,'" Morely said. "I stay here... because you are Mexican people."

The Arkansas Traveler has redacted some names to protect the source's privacy.



Taffy Kavanaugh Staff Photographer

Mireya Reith, executive director of Arkansas United Community Coalition, prepares for a meeting Jan. 11.



# Homeless camp eviction reduced crime

Riley Kelley and Beth Dedman  
The Arkansas Traveler

The rate of crimes committed by homeless people on UA property has reduced significantly following the eviction of a homeless encampment on 19th Street in September.

UA Police Department officers evicted nearly 80 people living in a homeless encampment on undeveloped UA property south of 19th street Sept. 6 for the purpose of reducing the rate of crime in the area, said Mark Rushing, the UA assistant vice chancellor of University Relations.

UA officials made the decision to clear the land after they realized there was no way to ensure the safety of the people living there, Rushing said.

The number of calls requesting police assistance and reporting crimes being committed reduced

dramatically since the eviction, said UAPD Capt. Gary Crain, in an email.

"Between Jan. 1 and Aug. 31, 64 case reports were written for police response out there, and that does not include incidents that were resolved without a case report," Crain said.

The crimes that occurred on that property included homicide, rape, aggravated assault, battery, terroristic threatening, criminal trespass, public intoxication and criminal mischief, according to the UAPD Daily Crime Log.

"From Sept. 1 to December, only seven case reports have been required. Three of those were for people being out there after the area was restricted," Crain said.

Following the eviction of the encampment, UAPD officers have not seen an increased rate of crime on any other UA properties, Crain said.

"It isn't that the crime has just been displaced,"

Crain said. "It has been reduced and the people that were living there are being taken care of and rehabilitated by service providers."

Many of the people displaced by the eviction utilize services like the 7Hills Homeless Center's Safe Parking program, a service that provides a safe place to park for individuals sleeping in their cars, and the Salvation Army's overnight shelter, said Jessica Andrews, chief executive officer of 7Hills.

The homeless population in Fayetteville increased by 152 percent from 2007 to 2017, according to a report by the Community and Family Institute.

There are 202 people experiencing homelessness in Fayetteville and 474 experiencing homelessness in Northwest Arkansas, according to the NWA Continuum of Care Point in Time Count Aug. 1, 2018.

The demand for the shelter and the clothing workers provide at the 7Hills Day Center is highest during winter months, Andrews said. The center helps homeless

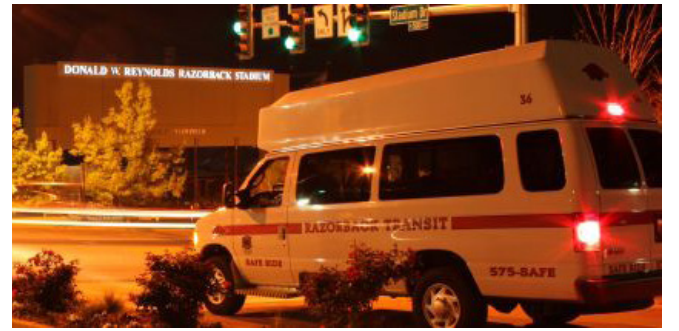
individuals meet basic needs like warm shelter, meals, showers and clothing.

The UA Board of Trustees sold the land that they cleared to Serve Northwest Arkansas, a nonprofit that helps the homeless community in the Northwest Arkansas area, to provide housing for homeless people.

The property was cleared of trash, underbrush and most trees to make room for Serve NWA's New Beginnings initiative, which will comprise of 20 micro-home sleeping units that Serve NWA officials hope will serve as a solution to Fayetteville's homelessness issue, according to Serve NWA.

New Beginnings will use volunteers and donations to provide shelter, case management and counseling to address the primary causes of homeless peoples' situations, including drug abuse, domestic issues and money problems, according to Serve NWA.

# Safe Ride director wants CPR certification requirement for drivers



Courtesy of Safe Ride

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"It's all about safety. We don't want anyone to get in trouble. The only reason we would ever call police or EMS is if they cannot function. It's still a safety thing."

Senior Andrea Elvir thinks the new procedure that uses UAConnect to verify students' addresses is tedious and can be frustrating in a situation in which action might need to be taken quickly, but she still uses the service, she said.

"It also takes a while (to arrive) but you can't really complain about much if it's free," Elvir said.

Hudspeth has big plans for the future of SafeRide, as well, he said.

"I had an idea for dispatchers and drivers to get CPR and first aid trained through the American Red Cross, so if anything ever came up, if someone was so intoxicated they couldn't breathe, the driver could resuscitate them," Hudspeth said. "It's low-cost (with) virtually no downside."

Hudspeth and other ASG officials have been working with Pat Walker Health Center officials to require these certifications for dispatchers and drivers, and he plans to have that requirement in place starting next month, he said. "To speak plainly, I've known many students to use SafeRide to get out of a bad situation," Hudspeth said. "Students use SafeRide because if there wasn't a service like it, I think we would have seen more incidents that would have shaken the UofA."

Hudspeth thinks the money that goes toward the program is well spent and still necessary despite the prevalence of rideshare services like Uber, he said.

"Uber is expensive, especially at 2 or 3 a.m. at night," Hudspeth said. "SafeRide has been a guardian angel for UA students in a way Uber or Lyft couldn't. (Paid services like Uber) are focused on making money, whereas we're focused on safety."



Morgan Browning Staff Photographer

The property located across from the 7Hills Homeless Center is cleared for the construction of micro shelters Jan. 14. Previously, homeless people lived in this area in tents, but authorities destroyed the camp a few months ago because of dangerous incidents.

**BE WELL**  
BE WHALE, DO WHALE

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23<sup>RD</sup>  
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
UNION CONNECTIONS LOUNGE

RAFFLE AND FREE STICKERS  
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Anyone requiring special services related to disabilities is asked to call 575-5002 or email [casf@uark.edu](mailto:casf@uark.edu) at least five working days in advance so that proper accommodations may be made. Event may include moving and flashing lights.

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