

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

**CURRENT REPORT
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

May 26, 2004

(Date of earliest event reported)

First Federal Bancshares of Arkansas, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Texas | 0-28312 | 71-0785261 |
| (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) | (Commission File Number) | (IRS Employer Identification No.) |

| | |
|--|------------|
| 1401 Highway 62-65 North, Harrison, Arkansas | 72601 |
| (Address of principal executive offices) | (Zip Code) |

(870) 741-7641

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Item 5. Other Events and Required FD Disclosure

On May 26, 2004, First Federal Bancshares of Arkansas, Inc. issued a press release announcing a quarterly cash dividend. A copy of the press release is included as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 7. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits

- (a) Not applicable.
- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) The following exhibit is included with this Report:

| <u>Exhibit No.</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 99.1 | Press Release, dated May 26, 2004 |

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

FIRST FEDERAL BANCSHARES OF
ARKANSAS, INC.

By: /s/ Larry J. Brandt
Name: Larry J. Brandt
Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: May 26, 2004

FIRST FEDERAL BANCSHARES

1401 Highway 62-65 North
P. O. Box 550
Harrison, AR 72601

FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Larry J. Brandt/President-CEO
Tommy Richardson/EVP-COO
Sherri Billings/EVP-CFO
870-741-7641

FIRST FEDERAL BANCSHARES OF ARKANSAS, INC. ANNOUNCES A QUARTERLY CASH DIVIDEND

Harrison, Arkansas - May 26, 2004 - (NASDAQ NMS:FFBH) First Federal Bancshares of Arkansas, Inc. (the "Corporation"), a unitary savings and loan holding company for First Federal Bank of Arkansas, FA (the "Bank") announced today that its Board of Directors at their meeting this morning, declared a \$.10 (ten cents) cash dividend on the common stock of the Corporation payable on June 24, 2004 to the stockholders of record at the close of business on June 10, 2004.

Larry J. Brandt, President/CEO of the Corporation, stated, "This will be our 30th consecutive cash dividend. Our strong capital base and continued profitability afford us the opportunity to pay another consecutive quarterly cash dividend. Such action demonstrates our commitment to and confidence in our future prospects."

The Bank, in its 70th year, conducts business from 15 full-service branch locations and 24 ATMS located in Northcentral and Northwest Arkansas. At March 31, 2004, the Corporation had total assets of \$697.3 million, total liabilities of \$621.7 million and stockholders' equity of \$75.6 million.