

Transit, meters and ESFD considered in budget conclave

NICKY BOYETTE

Eureka Springs City Council convened for budget talks 30 minutes before the regular meeting Monday, where alderman Terry McClung led the questioning and finance director Lonnie Clark was the one with answers.

McClung and Clark held a back-and-forth about the Transit Department and whether it would be wise to use funds available to pay down the tram loan even though Transit pays its monthly statement out of proceeds from tram tours. McClung commented the city would save a bit by not paying the 2.93 percent interest for as long.

Then McClung led a methodical inquiry into general fund accounts, and Clark explained where sales tax and other revenues were deposited and which accounts were used to write payroll checks and other regular expenses. Discussion led to Clark’s observation that reserves keep getting smaller because the city has been subsidizing water and sewer payments out of the general fund.

Mayor pro tem David Mitchell, filling in for an absent Mayor Butch Berry, pointed out the city also paid for new water meters, but maybe only 60 percent have been installed and the return on investment is not what was expected. McClung said the city had to replace the faulty meters anyway, but Mitchell remembered council being excited when it decided to purchase the meters because of the forecasted revenue increase.

COUNCIL-BUDGET continued on page 2



Egging on the kids – Autmn Lewellen, daughter of Amanda Tacker, gathered Easter eggs at the Crescent Hotel Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 27. The cool morning didn’t stop kids from hunting down eggs all over the East Garden.

PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ALVARADO

This Week’s INDEPENDENT Thinkers

One thousand plants are grown worldwide for food, beverages, spices and medicine. Seventy-five percent of flowering plants rely on hummingbirds, bees, butterflies and other animal species to pollinate, or move pollen grains between two flowers of the same species, allowing the plants to reproduce.

France’s National Assembly approved a bill banning neonicotinoid pesticides, big words meaning chemical sprays, suspected of killing honeybees.

Naturally, pesticide producers point out that studies are inconclusive and alarming for farmers wanting to “protect” their crops from nature. Critics of the bill, including Bayer CropScience and Syngenta, insist this legislative action could reduce harvests 15-40 percent.

One of every three mouthfuls of food we eat is here because of pollinators. So how do chemical companies anticipate feeding the world when pollinators are too dead to pollinate?

Ever eaten money?



PHOTO FROM DREAMSTIME.COM

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Corduroy pillows make headlines.

Council looks beyond city for Parks' commissioners

NICKY BOYETTE

Parks Commission Chair Bill Featherstone told city council Monday that amending City Code to allow up to three people who live outside city limits, but in the western district of Carroll County, to serve on the seven-person commission would be in the city's best interest.

He said the commission went for an extended time with a vacancy, however, various Parks committees have been

populated by those interested in helping achieve goals with trails, springs and at Lake Leatherwood, and several of them live outside city limits. He claimed increasing the size of the pool would provide a better chance for maintaining a full commission.

Alderman James DeVito agreed with Featherstone's request, and alderman Terry McClung moved to have the city attorney draft an ordinance reflecting such. Featherstone volunteered to provide

a draft of the ordinance.

Alderman Bob Thomas, however, was not comfortable with anyone from outside the city sitting on a city commission. He foresaw that those inside city limits were being further removed from the process of governing the Parks Department, which they pay taxes to support.

DeVito pointed out the Cemetery Commission at one point was in a position of not having enough commissioners to even convene a meeting, so increasing the pool for Parks would only be a good move.

Vote to allow up to three commissioners residing outside the city

limits but in the western district to serve on the commission was 5-1, Thomas voting No.

Wrap up

- Mitchell announced long-time Planning commissioner Ed Leswig had passed away Sunday.

- Council unanimously voted to seat Barbara Dicks on the Hospital Commission, Barry Reed on the Parks Commission and alderman Bob Thomas as a temporary commissioner on the Cemetery Commission.

Next meeting will be Monday, April 11, at 6 p.m. There will be a workshop on food trucks at 4 p.m. before the meeting.

COUNCIL-BUDGET continued from page 1

"We're trying to pedal quickly to make up revenue, but we're not getting there quickly enough," he said. Mitchell confidently added that Berry is almost ready to present council with a revenue increasing plan.

Mitchell also addressed the shaky situation for collecting as much as \$130,000 owed to the Eureka Springs Fire Department. He explained ESFD only recently set up a process for pursuing bad debts. As collection data is compiled, it

is turned over to a billing agency which in due time turns information over to a collection agency, where so far the process has stalled. He called the situation "grossly unacceptable." However, the collection process has been thoroughly combed over and weak links have been identified. Mitchell claimed Berry is working to pull the city out of this, possibly by finding a different collection agency.

Council will hold a budget workshop 30 minutes before its second meeting of each month.

Business After Hours at ECHO

The Greater Eureka Springs Chamber of Commerce will hold Business After Hours at ECHO Home & More Thrift Store, 4004 E. Van Buren on Thursday, March 31. All are invited for an evening of networking and socializing beginning at 5 p.m. Refreshments will be served. For more information about the ECHO Home & More Thrift Store call (479) 253-5888.

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Tours could enhance Aud experience

NICKY BOYETTE

Jackie Wolven, director of the Eureka Springs Downtown Network, made her case again to the City Advertising and Promotion Commission (CAPC) for including the historic Auditorium in ESDN downtown tours. She said tours in the past included a walkthrough of the facility until an incident during Mayor Morris Pate's time in office when an item went missing from the Auditorium and "we were falsely accused." The allegedly stolen item mysteriously reappeared, but she said all keys to the Auditorium were collected and the Auditorium has been off-limits for the tours since.

Wolven insisted Mayor Butch Berry does not have a problem with the Auditorium being part of the tours and had said the CAPC, which is in charge of maintaining the Auditorium, should make the call. She also said the tours are a mainstay for the ESDN budget, that part of ESDN's mission is to preserve and create cultural attractions downtown, and the auditorium is "the keystone" of all downtown attractions. Wolven maintained having visitors tour the facility would leave an impression, and they would be more likely to return as a ticket-buying patrons.

She said the matter of keys could be easily negotiated, and ESDN has tour

insurance to cover liabilities. There was the matter of extra cleanup after a parade of tourists, but Wolven contended the CAPC would benefit from allowing new people to experience the Auditorium.

Commissioner Charles Ragsdell suggested the CAPC could assist ESDN in developing a short video presentation a tour guide could use. Executive Director Mike Maloney said he could see "a general agreement that this is a positive thing." He agreed to develop what the CAPC would require of ESDN and arrange a meeting with Wolven soon.

Dressing it up

Interested observer Susan Harmon said she hears from guests at her Bed & Breakfast they wish there were more things downtown to explain the colorful history of the town. She suggested the

CAPC create experiences tourists would remember and share with others.

One idea would be characters in Victorian costume to pose in photographs with visitors, which Harmon asserted would find their way onto social media and thereby market the town. Tourists could pose with Carrie (also spelled Carry) Nation wielding her hatchet, for example. Harmon also suggested souvenir trinkets reminiscent of the healing waters that attracted original settlers to the area.

Maloney commented he appreciated fresh ideas, and thought ESDN, the Arts Council or the Chamber of Commerce are avenues through which these suggestions could blossom. He agreed Eureka Springs has a fascinating history and welcomed the challenge of implementing fresh ideas for getting people to visit.

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The *Eureka Springs Independent* and *Eureka Springs Fun Guide* Facebook pages remain as they were.

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ESI STAFF

Sunday at EUUF

Moshe and Hamsa Newmark will give an update on Syria on April 3 at Eureka Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 17 Elk Street at 11 a.m. Childcare is provided and there is extra parking at Ermilio's, 26 White Street.

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INDEPENDENTNews

Mountain bikers enthralled by Leatherwood

NICKY BOYETTE

CAPC Executive Director Mike Maloney announced at last week's workshop that four representatives of *Bike Magazine*, the quintessential periodical for mountain bikers, rode the trails at Lake Leatherwood City Park recently and told him they want to do a story on the biking trails of LLC and other venues in northwest Arkansas, and post video footage posted on their website. Maloney heard similar exposure in the magazine was a boon to a town in Vermont, and remarked that biking is becoming a great niche market for bringing visitors to town.

Bikers are not the only ones checking out Eureka Springs, Maloney told commissioners. The television show, *Hotel Impossible* wants to come to town. This Travel Channel program is a reality show in which hotel expert Anthony Melchiorri and his team spend three days remaking a hotel in need of remodeling. Maloney said the conversations he has heard indicate the show wants to film here this spring. It has not been decided which business will be featured.

Maloney also commented that Eureka Springs's presence on social media has been "vibrant." More than 2,000,000 tweets referenced Eureka Springs in February. Dallas continued to rank as the number one source looking for information about Eureka Springs, but Chicago moved into second place. Maloney ascribed its ascension to Sales Director Karen Pryor's recent appearances at trade shows there.

Maloney said he had partnered with Arkansas Parks and Tourism to place a quarter page ad in *Garden & Gun* magazine, a high-end lifestyle publication with a circulation of 1.3 million, popular with a targeted group of potential visitors across the South. The magazine features articles on food, music, arts and culture, the sporting life and travel.

Next regular CAPC meeting will be Wednesday, April 13, at 6 p.m.

Planning hears hazard mitigation plan near completion

NICKY BOYETTE

Craig Hull of the Osage Group addressed the Planning Commission at its March 22 meeting regarding the hazard mitigation plan he and his wife, Caelli, have been preparing. He said he had emailed commissioners a very long draft of his report, and wanted further input.

His recommendation, based on all conversations he has had so far, would be for the city to create a Central Business Improvement District (CBID) to equitably distribute the burden of expenses related to hazard mitigation issues. He called the CBID "the apparatus of long-term maintenance," and saw it as the best way to get local businesses to participate.

But the next important step, according to Hull, would be to complete the plan so the city can begin to mitigate identified threats to its infrastructure, such as the dam at Black Bass Lake, the tunnels underneath downtown, stormwater runoff issues and fire preparedness. Hull said he wanted the finished report to be an actionable document, not "just another book on the shelf."

He asked commissioners to peruse the draft and get feedback to him, and said he would provide a resolution commissioners could endorse and send along to city council.

Commissioners committed to reading the draft and discussing the resolution at the next meeting.

Code review

Chair Steve Beacham continued discussion from the previous meeting regarding omissions in City Code regarding permitted and conditional uses. He said the goal was to send to council a complete package of items needing to be changed instead of addressing things piecemeal.

Commissioner James Morris provided an example. He said he received a complaint from a resident that there are tours of Penn Castle very late at night. He was told a large vehicle stops at the site and passengers disembark onto the narrow street, which is disruptive to neighbors because of the late hour.

Commissioner Pat Lujan suggested they review the tour business guidelines to

PLANNING continued on page 23

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Centennial perfect reason to visit national parks

With the National Parks celebrating their 100th anniversary, and gas prices low, it may be the prefect year to plan a road trip to one of the 58 National Parks.

"The Centennial will celebrate the achievements of the past 100 years, but it is really about the future," the National Park Service has on its website. "It's about kicking off a second century of stewardship for America's national parks and for communities across the nation."

NPS was created by an Act of Congress August 25, 1916. Yellowstone National Park was established in 1872 as the nation's first national park.

The mission of the NPS is to preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

An estimated 307.2 million visitors filled parks in 2015. The most visited national park is the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, which draws more than 10 million visitors annually, twice as many as the second most popular park in the country, Grand Canyon, which had 5.5 million visits in 2015.

Other top visited parks include Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado, Yosemite in California, Yellowstone covering 2.2 million acres in three states, Zion in Utah, Olympic in Washington state, Wyoming's Grand Teton, Acadia in Maine, and Glacier National Park in Montana.

Holiday Islander pumped about NPS celebration

Worked at 50 of 58 parks

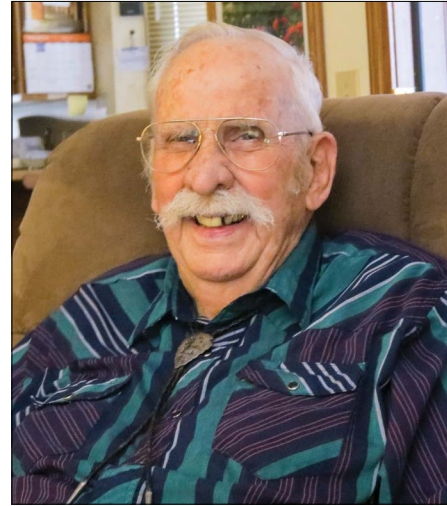
BECKY GILLETTE

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service, and Holiday Island resident Dan Wilson, 83, was a part of NPS more than a third of that time working as a landscape architect at 50 national parks during his 32-year career. Following his "retirement" he continues to consult.

In 1958 Wilson, an Army veteran, graduated from Michigan State University as a landscape architect and was hired by the NPS Midwest Regional Office in Omaha.

"I did design and construction work in cooperation with the Bureau of Reclamation, including irrigation projects involving small dams in Kansas, Nebraska, North and South Dakota. Then I was transferred to the Denver Service Center."

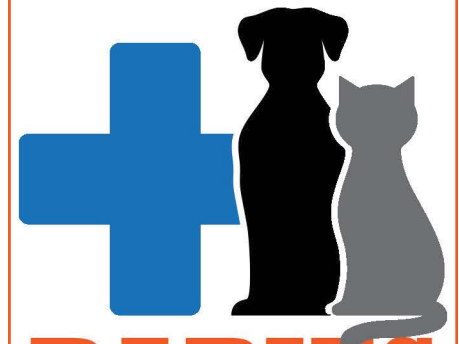
Many people, when they think of a NPS employee, see a park ranger or naturalist in a uniform. Wilson never wore a uniform, and worked behind the scenes in the design and



Dan Wilson

construction office that included engineers, archeologists and geologists. His primary role was supervising contractors and doing

NATIONAL PARKS continued on page 14



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Private Option Medicaid program could stymie state budget

BECKY GILLETTE

The issue of the special session starting April 13 regarding funding for the Private Option Medicaid program is not only about lower income people losing access to affordable healthcare, there could also be a huge hit on the state's budget. Some of those on the Private Option would qualify for traditional Medicaid, and that requires a bigger spending match with the state paying for 30 percent of the care.

It also could impact the health of hospitals in the state, which are often the largest employer in that town or county paying some of the highest salaries. Robert "Bo" Ryall, president and CEO of the Arkansas Hospital Association, said the problem is particularly acute because the Affordable Care Act (ACA) mandates huge reductions in Medicare reimbursements for hospitals representing a loss of \$2.5 billion for state hospitals over a 10-year period.

Ryall said uncompensated care costs for hospitals in Arkansas were \$380

million per year prior to the Private Option, which reduced the uncompensated care costs \$149 million from 2013 to 2014. Before the Medicaid expansion, some hospitals were in financial difficulty and experiencing layoffs.

"Since then jobs have been added and hospitals have stabilized," Ryall said. "It has obviously been good for hospitals."

Legislators opposed to the Private Option, renamed Arkansas Works by Gov. Asa Hutchinson, program have stated the state's share of costs for Medicaid will grow in the future to the point of being a major strain on the state's budget. In 2017 the state has to start paying a five percent share with that increasing to 10 percent by 2021.

But Ryall said ending the program now would be a huge detriment to the state's budget.

"There is a benefit of \$757 million to the state budget from 2017 to 2021 even with paying the state match over that period," Ryall said. "This also sustains employment at hospitals, which are often

the largest employer in the area where they are located."

Hutchinson, who favors continuing the Private Option, has said ending the program would result in a state budget gap of \$100 million per year. Rep. Bob Ballinger has doubts about the alleged budget gap, and said he has seen predictions closer to \$60 million. Sen. Bryan King also questions the budget impact predictions.

"What is really going on is the reality that there is a spending problem at the Department of Human Services," King said. "They are trying to say if you don't vote for this, it will hurt all state government. Are there issues and challenges to doing away with the program? Yes, there are. It is like a cue ball. You hit this one ball and it hits all the other balls, and it will hurt the state budget. DHS is badly managed. It had a \$60-million system to re-verify Private Option enrollees that never worked. Now they are saying they need another \$200 million and no guarantees it is going to work. DHS is not a train wreck; it has gone off the cliff."

King said the hospital association hasn't been accurate on their predictions.

"One thing they said was the emergency room use was going down," King said. "But people covered by the Private Option have five times the use of emergency rooms than the normal population."

King also alleged widespread fraud with the Medicaid expansion. He said 20,000 of the people enrolled don't even live in Arkansas.

"There are dead people on this program," he said. "There are people all over the U.S. on this program."

The entire reason the Private Option was adopted in Arkansas is that conservative Republican legislators weren't going to support the Medicaid expansion because of their opposition to the Obamacare. But King said the Private Option costs hundreds of million more than if the state had expanded regular Medicaid instead of going through private insurers.

Ballinger sees major flaws with the program that he said has been a huge boon to private insurance companies.

"The Private Option is a perfect picture of crony capitalism," Ballinger said. "It is taking future taxpayers' dollars and paying into a program so the CEOs of Blue Cross and Blue Shield can keep \$10-million salaries. We have totally strengthened their hand and now they are a \$1.7-billion stronger monopoly of healthcare in Arkansas."

Ballinger also said states that didn't do the Private Option or the Medicaid expansion are doing well.

"My point is people are not dying on the streets in those places," Ballinger said. "The economy is booming in Texas. If we could have the same economy as Texas, I would embrace it with both arms."

Stephen Foster at Metafizzies

The April 4 meeting of the Eureka Springs Metaphysical Society will feature Stephen Foster continuing his discussion on metaphysical interpretation of the Bible. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at Heart of Many Ways, 68 Mountain Street. All are welcome.

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Healthcare plan pits politicians against doctors

BECKY GILLETTE

On April 13 a special session begins in the Arkansas Legislature that will determine if about 267,000 people in the state will continue to be covered by the Private Option Medicaid expansion. Legislators representing the Eureka Springs area, Sen. Bryan King and Rep. Bob Ballinger, said they plan to vote against continuing the Private Option. Their votes are particularly important because it takes a 75 percent vote to approve funding bills. King is counted as one of nine or ten senators opposed to the Private Option, and only nine are needed to kill the program.

Both legislators said the expansion is too expensive, and that costs for healthcare add to the national debt.

"The Private Option Medicaid expansion is a marriage between big business and big government," King said. "We are spending this nation into doom."

"It is an expansion of government," Ballinger said. "It is a lot more spending. Every dollar we take of federal money comes from borrowed money. We can't continue to borrow money and burden our children with it. We need to find ways to help people that don't put a burden on our children."

The Private Option, developed with the hope of passing in a conservative Red state, barely squeaked by to be approved. Initially 100 percent of the cost of the program comes from the federal government, with the state's share gradually increasing to 10 percent in years ahead. Under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), often called Obamacare, Blue states expanded their traditional Medicaid program to provide coverage to millions of Americans, but most Red states did not.

Without legislative budget approval, the Arkansas program that purchases health insurance for low income people ends at the end of 2016, which would leave about 267,000 people without coverage and ineligible for government-subsidized health insurance available to people with higher incomes. There are fears people losing their health insurance wouldn't be able to afford timely care, and would end up waiting until they were very sick and going to the emergency room where hospitals are required to provide treatment regardless of ability to pay. People could end up not being able to work because of illnesses that could have been successfully treated.

"The best solution is the ECHO clinic. What we need to do is provide more of that."

"That is the way real healthcare will be fixed."

— Rep. Bob Ballinger

The argument about not being able to afford to provide healthcare coverage doesn't cut it with Dr. John House, chief of staff at the Eureka Springs Hospital and a family practice physician at the Washington Regional Family Clinic. House said if the U.S. stopped spending huge amounts of money on overseas military campaigns, "bombing the hell out of foreign countries," there would be plenty of money to provide healthcare for all Americans.

Ballinger suggested that if the 267,000 people lose coverage, they could go to free clinics like the ECHO (Eureka Springs Health Outreach) Clinic run by volunteers.

"At the ECHO Clinic they care about you and feed you a meal," Ballinger said. "You are shown real love rather than charity. The government sees a need, steps in to provide solution, but that is not always the best solution. The best solution is the ECHO clinic. What we need to do is provide more of that. That is the way real healthcare will be fixed."

Dr. Dan Bell, medical director of the ECHO Clinic, said they are pleased Ballinger thinks so highly of ECHO.

"But people need a lot more care than we can provide them," Bell said. "We are there a couple days out of the month. Patients need more than we can give them in two days a month. We

can take care of basic things, but not emergencies, surgical procedures or specialty consultation. Those are the things that get neglected and get people in trouble. What is best for patients is to have full coverage where they can get timely care and comprehensive care."

Bell said hospitals in Arkansas have been losing millions in uncompensated charity care. Having patients insured has been good for the bottom line of hospitals, helping them stay open.

"The Private Option is clearly good for Arkansas bringing in a tremendous amount of federal funding to help us," Bell said. "It is real clear it is in the best interests of the whole state."

ECHO uses the same benchmark to providing care as the Private Option. Someone can make up to 138 percent of the poverty level, or about \$1,000 a month, and be eligible. A family of four can make about \$2,000 per month. Bell estimated almost a third of the people in Carroll County fall in that category.

PRIVATE OPTION continued on page 17

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Careful what you plant

Editor,

Being that plants are vital, and we would all perish without them, it's interesting to observe what is going on in their realm. Though members of the plant kingdom do not speak, they do retreat, decline, advance, hog the road, invade, perish, shelter, protect, nourish, wilt, bloom, grow, wither, perfume, rot, decay and disappear just like humans do. So we have to watch with our eyes and let them do the talking.

What are they saying? I have been watching: In our subdivision in the Ozarks, a hop away from Eureka Springs, colonizing *sericea lespedeza* and *Sorghum halepense* [Johnson grass] smash, smother and crush native ephemerals and other Ozark specialties, like Widow's cross, Sweet William and rose verbenas. These delicate wonders do not have a fighting chance so they decline and disappear.

Mighty oaks are being replaced in new housing developments with non-native trees of various kinds – forsythia, burning bush and Korean boxwoods. Each of these choices by developers or homeowners is a climate change matter. Why? Because native plant colonies or groupings create a finely-tuned food web, floral and faunal connections, companionship, and opportunities for life. Sterile patches being placed together without regard to native ecology are contributing to climate change bit by bit.

I won't apologize for saying that English Ivy, *Euonymus fortunei*, Japanese honeysuckle are ugly wherever they are smothering a native

tree or invading whether it be a yard, city block or country property. I will apologize for not explaining myself earlier as I have been very busy growing thousands of Ozark natives in the greenhouses at Forest Park in St. Louis and working with the University of Missouri in St. Louis in developing a sustainable landscape on their campus. Sometimes we have to watch what people do and not just what they say in a moment of exasperation.

I am proud that the 10,000 plants we propagated in Forest Park greenhouses will be distributed all across the state of Missouri in Monarch way stations. Please watch what plants are doing to each other, especially when they are not living harmoniously, with one vine suffocating a whole tree to death.

One single tree does not symbolize biodiversity or a forest, and one tree covered in invasive plant material from another continent shows climate change is here to stay unless we act to change things.

Susan Pang, Garfield, Ark.

Racism unwelcome

Editor,

A friend and I were watching the coverage of the terrorist bombings in Paris and Belgium wondering how anyone can enjoy inflicting such suffering on people just going about their business. He said, "I think the bombers are unhappy people."

Perhaps so. But, I want to dig a little deeper. Now, don't assume I am *excusing* their violence. I am trying to understand why they want to blow themselves – and Westerners – into little pieces.

These males (and yes, they are

mostly male) who are Europeans live in isolated, run-down Islamic communities and are assaulted daily by racism. They can get no jobs. They believe in an interpretation of their religion that is anti-woman and violent, identifying other religions as "infidels" who should be killed, etc. Blowing up infidels is a quicker way to Paradise than living in a slum.

Ironically, Muslims are directed to pray towards Mecca, a city in Saudi Arabia that harshly and violently controls women, dissenters, and schools, etc. The ruling family is immensely wealthy from oil. They are staunch allies of the U.S.

I agree with Bill Maher about the damage *all* religions have done; not just warped Muslims who practice Islam. *The Intelligence Report* of the Southern Poverty Law Center identifies Christian hate groups, some of them right here in Arkansas, especially in Harrison, also Fayetteville, Little Rock, Van Buren, Faulkner County, Russellville and some statewide organizations.

And, "devout Christian" Cruz wants to lock up in policed surveillance all American Muslims (those he cannot throw out). I guess he got his bigotry from his father, Rafael, a known gay-basher.

Mr. Thump [sic] calls women dirty and demeaning names, wants to nuke ISIS territory and use torture to force suspects to talk faster.

Now, they are using their wives to batter each other. Naked Melania or Golden-Sachs Mrs. Cruz are not running for president. What a crude campaign the Republicans run. And, a lot of American racists love it!

T.A. Laughlin



WEEK'S Top Tweets

@elizabethisruined: Tweets are actually just brain selfies.

@designersays: Unlike the British or Australian spelling for colour/flavour/ neighbour, the Americans don't include u

because it's all about them.

@senderblock23: The letter Q is an O smoking a cig. So cool.

@swiftenhaal: On the bright side, smoking cigarettes reduces the risk of winning a marathon.

@paxochka: Judging by my handwriting possible future career choices include doctor or kindergartner.

@samalmightysam: I like to cry sometimes so people think I know how to chop onions.

@garyjanetti: I wouldn't want to live forever. I don't even want to stay at a party past nine.

@tyshultz: Found some chips in the bag of air I just bought.

@damienfahey: A Facebook friend just used the same number of exclamation points to say he's eating guacamole as he did to announce the birth of his kid.

@flyoverjoel: It's quaint when a company publishes a fax number on their website's contact page. It's like finding a Walkman at a flea market.

INDEPENDENT Guestatorial

Ashes to ash trees

Whether supporting my body as I climbed among its branches or hiding me from sight during a game of hide-and-seek, the ash tree, proud and indestructible in the center of my backyard, was an integral part of my childhood. Growing up, I felt like the luckiest kid on the block; I had a 60-foot tall jungle gym all to myself. Eventually I stopped climbing it every day and got too old for daily backyard playtime, but the tree was still important to me. I grew up, changed schools, and watched both of my siblings move out, but even when the world around me turned upside down, the ash tree was rooted there to stay.

The tree is gone now. During October of last year I came home from school to find a “Happy Tree Service” truck blocking the driveway. Behind the truck, a wood chipper worked away at some familiar tree branches. I dreaded what I might see next and walked with apprehension to the backyard. Just as I had expected, the ash tree was reduced to a stump on the ground. I stared blankly into the exposed emptiness of my once favorite space. But before I could allow myself to feel anger or even sadness, I had to figure out one thing: why?

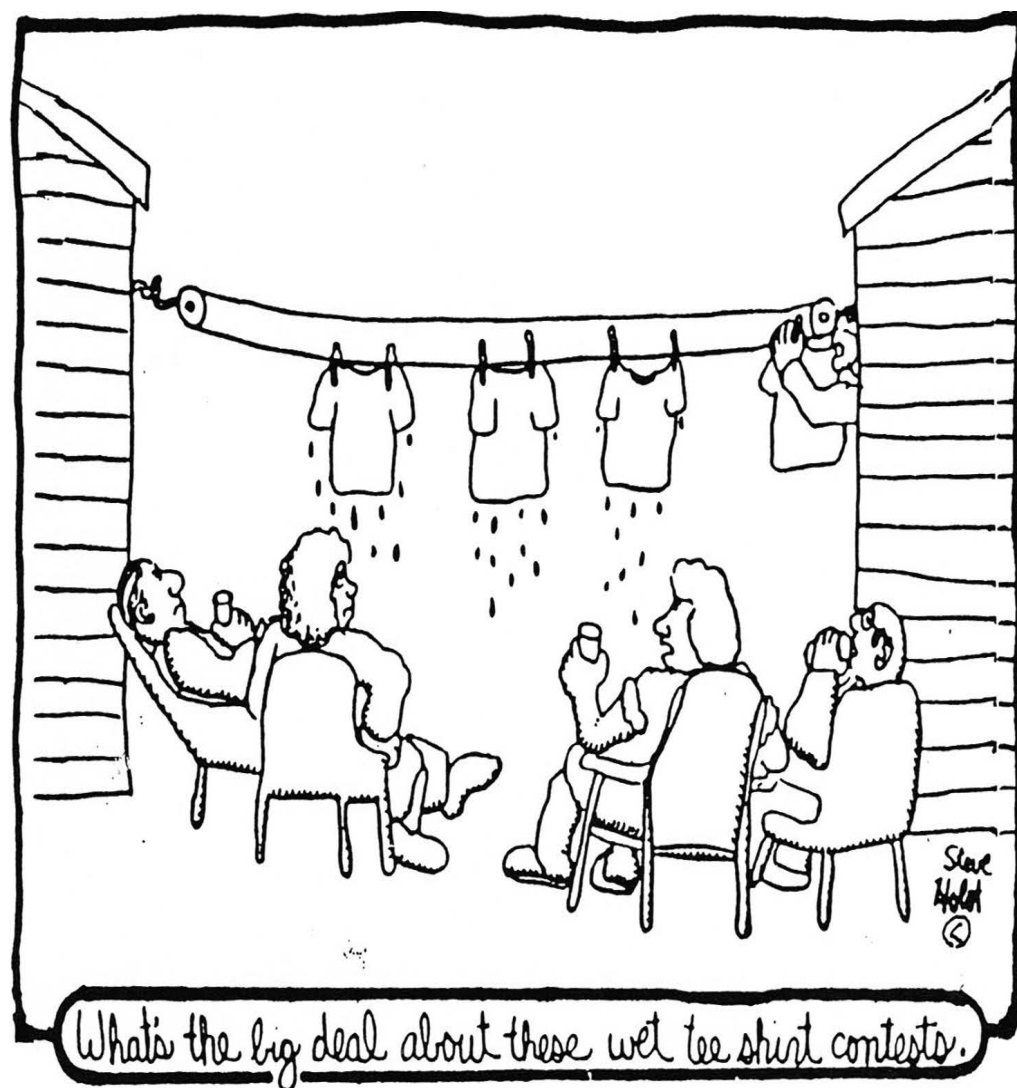
Inside, I searched for my mom and demanded an explanation. I was ready to blame an angry neighbor or natural disease, perhaps a city law or a neighborhood regulation, but I definitely wasn’t ready to take responsibility for a problem that seemed out of my control. And that’s why, when I asked my mom who was at fault, her response startled me: “We are all responsible.” She went on to describe the mass ash tree casualties across the United States; humans introduced the emerald ash borer, an invasive species of beetle from Asia. This is just one example of our society’s failure to consider the consequences of industrialization, commerce, and the exploitation of natural resources. As ash borers spread across the Midwest, they essentially seal the fate of every ash tree they find. My mom’s words struck me with a feeling of urgent responsibility.

As the “Happy Tree Service” truck disappeared down the street, I began to consider what I could do to help. That same night, I applied for the Tyson Environmental Research Fellowship in an effort to broaden my understanding of the natural sciences. I later signed up for shifts with the Audubon Society to help in ecosystem restoration and backyard conservation. And I volunteered my summers at the Wild Bird Rehabilitation, where I got to work with injured wild birds, aiding them in their recovery from largely human-related accidents. At the end of the rehabilitation process, the birds were released into their natural habitats in order to fight the decline of songbirds in our local ecosystems.

The more involved I got with the environment, the more sure I became of my ultimate purpose. In calling myself an environmentalist, I’m really calling myself a humanitarian, because by destroying the environment, we are destroying ourselves. Elizabeth Kolbert, author of *The Sixth Extinction*, states that, “In pushing other species to extinction, humanity is busy sawing off the limb on which it perches.”

When the limbs of my own ash tree were sawed off, I realized I had to find a way to sustain life on earth. My ash tree may be gone, but the moment of its demise was the moment that inspired me to fight environmental degradation and promote life across the entire planet. By branching out beyond my own backyard, I know I can help the world rise up from the ashes of human destruction.

Jolena Pang, age 18



What's the big deal about these wet tee shirt contests.

The Pursuit Of HAPPINESS

by Dan Krotz

One of the fun things I do at the *Eureka Springs Independent* is produce a weekly Internet radio program – a podcast – featuring local businesses, artists, and small-scale farmers. The show is the *Ozark Radio Hour*, and I spend most of my time on the program writing scripts and editing audio files. Once in a while, though, I get out and interview somebody. Earlier in the year, I got to talk with Eureka Janet Alexander about her work as a jewelry maker and her life as a long time Eureka Springs resident. Janet is such an ebullient, trash-talking artist-genius, that my spirits were lifted all week long.

I got interested in Internet radio when I investigated getting an FM radio license. An FM license didn’t cost much, about \$10,000, but a Christian radio broadcaster in Springfield, Missouri, has a powerful transmission tower on a hill just outside of town, powerful enough to muffle and smother the small station I had in mind. The upside is that you can get Jesus 24/7, but you’ll need a computer, or telephone or car radio app, to listen to us.

The *Ozark Radio Hour* is hosted by local actor, activist, and business owner Richard Pille, and retired Circuit Judge and working attorney, Gerald Kent Crow. So far, they’ve kept their promise to inform most folks about what’s worth knowing, and to infuriate at least once listener each week.

The show’s Cultural Editor is author and publisher, Sharon Laborde. Sharon does all the real work on the program, and is joined by T. Racy Johnson, covering the local music scene, and Lee Mitchell, who pitches in with Holiday Island updates.

So far this year, the *Radio Hour* has featured Greg and Vicki Schneider at Railway Winery, the folks at Bear Creek Nursery, artists Drew Gentle and Stephen R. Feilbach, and many other talented and always local folks. This week, Sharon Laborde interviews author, and city alderwoman, Joyce Zeller.

If you’re interested in being on the radio, let me know here at the *Independent*, at info@ozarkradiohour.com, or stop me for a chat if you see me around town. I’m the fat guy in the “Karma Cafe” sweatshirt.

A little help from our friends:

- **Carroll County Domestic Violence Hotline:** 1-844-247-3223 (844-24PEACE) is available 24/7. The Purple Flower Domestic Violence Resource and Support Center of Carroll County is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at 103 West Church St. in Berryville. (479) 981-1676. The Purple Flower will also have free and confidential Domestic Violence Empowerment Support Group on every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the Month at the Berryville Community Center from 6 – 7:30 p.m.
- **24-hour NWA Crisis Line for Women** – NWA Women’s Shelter serving Carroll County – “Empowering families to live free of violence.” (800) 775-9011 www.nwaws.org
- **Cup of Love free soup lunches** – Cup of Love provides soup lunches at Flint Street Fellowship Mondays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. and at First Baptist (Penn) Church on Fridays, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. (479) 363-4529
- **Flint Street Fellowship food pantry, lunch, free clothing** – Pantry open 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Free lunch Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Free clothes/shoes closet, books and household items. (479) 253-9491 or 253-4945. Leave donations in barrel at entrance if facility is closed.
- **Wildflowers one-dollar, furniture barn/thrift store** US 62E across from Hill County Hardware. One-dollar store in the yellow building every Friday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Thrift store, furniture bank in big blue barn behind the chapel open Wednesdays – Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Donation drop offs Thursday – Saturday between 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Healing and delivery outreach in chapel Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.
- **Shamatha and Tonglen meditations Monday** – A meditation group will meet every Monday at 6:30 p.m. to focus on Shamatha, learning how to focus to achieve peace of mind, and Tonglen, a practice of love and compassion on all beings. The meetings will alternate these two practices so that one is the focus on each Monday with coffee and tea afterward. Call Alece at (479) 244-6841 or Gary at (479) 244-6840.
- **Celebrate Recovery** – Soul Purpose Ministries, 801 S. Springfield, Green Forest, 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday. Potluck followed by 12-step Christ-centered meetings for those suffering from addiction, habit, hang-up or hurt.
- **Coffee Break Al-Anon Family Group Women** – Tuesdays, 9:45 a.m., Faith Christian Family Church, Hwy. 23S, (479) 363- 9495.
- **No high school diploma?** Free GED classes in the Carnegie Library Annex every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 9 a.m. - noon with study and tutoring for the GED test. Open to ages 18 and up. GED classes also in Berryville at Carroll County Center. Some open to ages 16 and 17 per educational requirements. For info: Kathy Remenar (417) 342-8498, Carnegie Library (479) 253-8754, Carroll County Center (870) 423-4455). Offered by North Arkansas College with Carnegie Library support.
- **Grief Share**, A Bible-based, 13-week program for those who have lost a loved one will begin on Sunday, Feb. 21 from 1 – 3 p.m. at Faith Bible Church, Suite C, 3 Parkcliff Drive, Holiday Island. Share with others experiencing similar circumstances in an informal, confidential setting. Call (479) 253-8925 or email lardellen@gmail.com.
- **Alateen** – Sundays, 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. Email alateen1st@gmx.com or phone (479) 981-9977 • **Overeaters Anonymous** – Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. Barbara (479) 244-0371 • **Narcotics Anonymous** – Fridays, 5:30 p.m. (903) 278-5568 • **Al-Anon Family Group (AFG)** – Sundays, 11:30 a.m., Mondays and Tuesdays 7 p.m. • **Eureka Springs Coffee Pot AA Groups** Monday – Saturday 12:30 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m.; Sunday – Thursday, Saturday, 5:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Friday, 8 p.m. (479) 253-7956 • **Al-Anon** Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. All other meetings: See www.nwarkaa.org

INDEPENDENT ConstablesOnPatrol

MARCH 21

10:54 a.m. – Restaurant manager reported two patrons left without paying their bill.

6:43 p.m. – Central dispatch passed along to ESPD there was a trailer in the road in front of the high school. Turns out the trailer was in the road further down Lake Lucerne Road and out of city limits, so ESPD sent the call back to CCSO.

6:18 p.m. – Motel manager asked ESPD to check on an apparently abandoned vehicle parked behind the motel. Constable determined the vehicle was not stolen and advised the manager the vehicle could be towed at the owner’s expense.

6:27 p.m. – Waitress reported a couple at a different restaurant left without paying for their meal.

6:55 p.m. – A mother was concerned with how her daughter and son-in-law were treating their 15-month old child.

MARCH 22

2:05 p.m. – Passerby noticed a male passed out on the sidewalk in front of the library annex. Constable learned the person was not inebriated. He had simply sat down to read for a while and had fallen asleep.

9:30 p.m. – Individual was reportedly walking in the road. Constable on patrol did not encounter him.

9:38 p.m. – Report came in about an erratic driver, but constables never saw the vehicle.

MARCH 23

12:34 a.m. – Central Dispatch reported a vehicle had left a road in the western part of town and had run into a tree. Constables found the vehicle, and no one was around. Vehicle was towed.

2:42 p.m. – Motorist reported an erratic driver but constables never saw the vehicle.

6:23 p.m. – Observer called in a suspicious person in a vehicle parked at a business. Constable responded and called EMS. Person was transported to ESH.

7:40 p.m. – A male drove away from his house even though he was not supposed to be driving. However, his car died, and his mother went to pick him up.

MARCH 24

3:29 a.m. – Resident near downtown reported smelling smoke. Constable checked the area but advised it was smoke from a Forestry Dept. burn.

5:24 p.m. – Constable was responding to report of a male yelling obscenities when a second call came in of a male and female hollering at each other. Constable could not find either of them.

9:22 p.m. – Apparently people at a local restaurant were asking other patrons for drugs. Constable responded, but the subjects had already left.

11:38 p.m. – Customer in a bar said a vehicle had sideswiped his vehicle. Constable took a report of a hit and run.

MARCH 25

9:26 a.m. – Employees opening a business triggered an alarm.

11:11 a.m. – Constable on patrol checked out a vehicle with a flat tire allegedly parked for a week on a neighborhood street above downtown.

12:09 p.m. – Resident in a neighborhood on the

other side of downtown claimed vehicles were parked so that emergency vehicles would not be able to get through. Since the caller was a cardiac patient, this situation was a concern. Constable visited the scene and determined no vehicles were obstructing the roadway.

1:56 p.m. – Concerned resident reported someone had broken into the neighbor’s house and items had been taken. Constable filed a report.

2:36 p.m. – Motorist reported tires were spilling out of a trailer being pulled down a road in the northeast part of town. Constable stopped the driver, who stated his employees were collecting the spillage.

3:22 p.m. – Supposedly there were suspicious activities in the north part of town, so constables added extra patrols in the area.

10:09 p.m. – There was an accident on private property.

11:22 p.m. – Traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the driver for no driver’s license and possession of a controlled substance.

MARCH 26

12:14 a.m. – Passerby noticed two males jump from a vehicle parked near a business. A female driver remained in the vehicle. Constable responded and found one male and one female. He advised them to leave the premises. Constable did not find any damage to the building.

1:51 a.m. – Resident was playing music too loud for the hour. Constable responded. Volume assumed an appropriate level.

3:11 a.m. – Guest at a tourist lodging reported her sister’s boyfriend was inebriated and had a gun. They had taken the clips from him, but asked for assistance from a constable. The male was gone when the constable arrived.

7:45 a.m. – Traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the driver for driving on a suspended license and no proof of insurance.

11:11 a.m. – Merchant downtown complained music in the park was so loud she could not hear her customers. Responding constable determined the music was within acceptable limits.

2:34 p.m. – Constable spoke with a person who claimed she was getting threatening messages on social media.

5:27 p.m. – Constable took a report of a stolen license plate.

8:13 p.m. – There was a hit and run accident, and the constable got a report from a witness.

8:25 p.m. – Domestic upheaval got the attention of constables. One person was arrested for public intoxication, disorderly conduct, fleeing and resisting arrest. Another person was arrested on a warrant out of Rogers PD.

10:25 p.m. – Witness told ESPD a male had flattened a tire.

10:36 p.m. – Constables searched for a child reportedly walking along US 62, but did not find anyone.

CONSTABLES continued on page 23

Ethics questions regarding King's free trip to Florida

BECKY GILLETTE

Sen. Bryan King, R-Green Forest, was featured in an *Arkansas Democrat Gazette* article on ethics reform last Sunday regarding a trip Florida he attended paid for by the Foundation for Governmental Accountability, a nonprofit organization opposed to the Affordable

Care Act/Obamacare and the Arkansas Private Option Medicaid expansion.

In 2014 voters approved Amendment 94 barring lobbyists from covering legislators' expenses for trips unless the money is from a regional or national organization to attend a regional or national conference.

"It is not a lobbyist-funded deal," King was quoted as saying. In an interview with the *Independent*, he said that it was an educational trip and he accepts free trips to attend a number of conferences both with groups he generally agrees with and those he doesn't usually agree with.

Amendment 94 also had a provision

establishing a citizen commission on legislators' salaries that ended up doubling those salaries. King said that isn't quite accurate as he now doesn't get as much in expense money. The amendment also extended term limits. King, for example, said he could probably serve one more term, but hasn't yet decided if he will run again.

Ozark Mountain Solid Waste District meeting

A meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, March 31 at 10 a.m. for the Ozark Mountain Solid Waste District Board. The meeting will be held at Harrison City Hall Chambers, 116 North Spring Street, Harrison.

Meditate, articulate, interpolate

The Eureka Springs Buddhist Study Group will gather for 30 minutes of meditation followed by reading and discussion on Thursday, March 31 at 4 p.m. at Heart of Many Ways, 68 Mountain Street. All are welcome.



Safety Lesson –

(l-r) Cyrano Mahurin in front of Hannah Youngblood, Hawk Slane, Bert Jones (helper), and Ozric Maese look on while artist in residence and blacksmith instructor Dan Morris explains safety to a group of Clear Spring School students attending classes at ESSA.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

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Mine won't spin"**

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Bikers on parade, too – Smiles were abounding as the Celebrate Jesus Parade rolled down the streets of Eureka on Saturday. A large crowd, fresh from music in Basin Park, enjoyed the warm air and floats that passed their way.

PHOTOS BY JEREMIAH ALVARADO



Eureka Springs Al-Anon Family Group ongoing meetings

Eureka Springs Al-Anon Family Group is a support group for the friends and families of alcoholics, whether the alcoholic is still drinking or not. ESAFG has changed and added meeting times. Meetings are held at the Coffee Pot Club at the corner of Huntsville Road and Stadium Road, behind the Land O' Nod Inn.

Weekly Meetings:

- Sunday Alateen meeting has been discontinued
- Sunday at 11:30 a.m.
- Monday at 7 p.m.
- Wednesday evening at 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

For more information about other Al-Anon groups in Arkansas go to ar.al-anon.alateen.org.

Rabies Clinic coming soon

The Good Shepherd Humane Society will host an immunization clinic on Saturday, April 2 from 3 – 6:30 p.m. at the Berryville Thrift Store, 207 Eureka Ave. The clinic will be held behind the store.

One and three-year rabies shots, booster vaccines and micro-chipping will be offered. Special deals will be available for multiple immunizations and immunizations with microchipping. Dogs must be leashed and cats in carriers. To receive a three-year rabies shot one must show proof of previous year's shot records.

The rabies clinic will be offered again in May and June. Call (479) 253-9188.

A conversation with God April 7 – 9

The Jerusalem Chapel, 935 Passion Play Road, will show *A Conversation with God* April 7 – 9 at 7:30 p.m. This show is a look into Lucifer's last conversation with God before he was cast out of heaven. RSVP is required and the event is free with donations accepted. The event may not be suitable for children under 18 years of age.

Code Yellow Alert for all Negative blood types

Community Blood Center of the Ozarks has issued a Code Yellow alert for negative blood types. CBCO will host two blood drives on Friday, April 1 with the first at Tyson of Berryville, 110 W. Freeman from 9 a.m. – noon and the second at Walmart from 2:30 – 5:30 p.m. A blood drive will be held at the Holiday Island Elks Lodge, 4 Parkcliff Drive on Monday, April 4 from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Each donation will be awarded LifePoints as a part of CBCO's donor

rewards program. LifePoints may be redeemed online for a variety of gift cards or points may be assigned to other meaningful causes or charities.

To be eligible to give blood you must weigh at least 110 pounds, be in good health and present a valid photo ID. For more information about sharing your good health with others or on LifePoints donor rewards go to www.cbco.org or call toll-free (800) 280-5337.

Tim Snell to speak at KRWP meeting

The Kings River Watershed Partnership will host Tim Snell of The Nature Conservancy at their annual general meeting on Thursday, March 31 at 6 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room of the Berryville Community Center. The public is invited to learn about how TNC is working to preserve the Kings

River through purchasing property in the watershed. Reports on upcoming river clean ups and KRWP's educational programs will be given.

Refreshments will be served and memberships may be made or renewed. For more information www.KingsRiverwatershed.org.

Get aBuzz for April

The Writers' Colony at Dairy Hollow calls all young writers to join at the Buzz Café at 3:30 p.m. on April 5 to free their creative spirit with a fun writing prompt and sharing work during open mic.

Kenzie Doss will be joined by Damon Dean, a poet, teacher and the Colony's Moondancer Fellowship recipient to lead the writing exercise.

Free java and cocoa is provided and munchies are for sale. Public, private and home-schooled kids 11-18 are invited. The event is free and adult supervised. For more information call (479) 253-7444.



An eggceptional morning – Kids, aged 6-12, rushed headlong to grab as many eggs from the Fountain Garden at the Crescent Hotel on Sunday. It didn't take long before all the eggs in the garden had been placed in baskets and carried away. *PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ALVARADO*

EARLY DAYS at Eureka Springs[©] – by Nellie Alice Mills, 1949

Early Days at Eureka Springs Arkansas 1880-1892, a memoir of Nellie Alice Mills whose family moved here in two covered wagons from Oswego, Kansas, was written in 1949, relying on memory. In her second book, *Other Days at Eureka Springs*, written in 1950, she went through old records she had kept. The family home was built on the west side of Leatherwood, "about a hundred yards beyond the mouth of Magnetic Hollow, opposite Cold Spring, which supplied us, and all our neighbors, with water."

Part Five – Early Schools

Behind the Cromer a hollow leads down to the Dairy Spring. Toward the Christian Church the slope is gentle, but on the other side of the schoolhouse the houses stood with their front doors on a level with the street, but the rear part of some of those houses were set on stilts. Small children could and did walk upright under two or three of those houses. It was dry there when it rained, a good place to play.

The third activity that gave us great pleasure was jumping the rope. Never before or after did that sport take so much of our time. The street was smooth, level, and wide; there was little traffic. I don't know how we got it, but we used a long heavy rope; each one who played the game must take her share of turning the rope. What games we played! I was an expert. Chase the Fox; Grind the Coffee; Skim the Milk; Climb the Ladder; Run Through the Back Door.

We were not always playing outside. Some of the older pupils from the other room frequently came into our room. I was little; I liked to watch them and listen to their chatter. Among them was a girl I admired greatly. She was pretty, well dressed; she had a great "gift of gab." She always had something to say.

Boys and girls of her own room gathered about her. I would watch her spellbound as she sat in the rear of Miss Melon's room, surrounded by her admirers. One day, bolder than usual, I addressed her: "What's your name?"

Quick as a flash, she answered: "Puddin' and tame. Ask me again and I'll tell you the same."

I think she was ashamed when she saw how completely I was disconcerted by her answer. She said nothing to me, then or ever. But turning to those around her, she remarked, "She said that so funny."

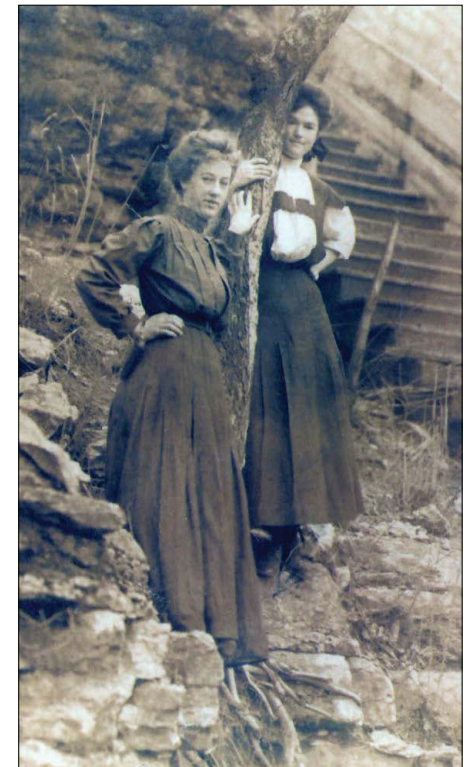
It was not at all funny to me. I had heard that doggerel rhyme all my life, but I had never before been slapped in the face with it. I never did know that girl's name.

Flossie Charles, with whom I have been intimately associated for many years here in Monett, Missouri, was a pupil at the Cromer School. I have learned from her that she and her brother Frank, after eating their lunch in the woods behind the schoolhouse, would walk down to the Dairy Spring. Thus it happened that Flossie did not join in the games I played. I had never gone to the Dairy from that direction, not knowing how near it is.

For three or four terms (not years) after this, our schools were down on Spring Street. Where Spring Street makes that sharp turn to the left where the Springs Hotel now stands is a block where three different buildings at various times, were used for schools. At the upper end of the block, facing west was the Nixon Building. It was two stories high, but only the upper floor was used. The front room was only a few steps above the street; but a long flight of steps was needed to reach the ground from the back of the room. My first teacher after leaving the Cromer was Miss May Anderson who taught in the back room of the Nixon Building, while Mrs. Gibbons taught the older children in the front room.

The next term Miss Anderson was again my teacher, but the school was in the Cary Building, a two-storied structure where now stand the laundry adjacent to the Springs Hotel. The upper floor of this schoolhouse was a few feet above the street, the lower floor, several steps down.

A street one block long – I'll call it Short Street – descended from Spring Street to Mountain Street, which it joined a short distance below the south end of the Footbridge. Where it joined Spring Street



a few rods above, the old firebell, now adorning the retaining wall at the south side of Basin Circle, hung supported by a low frame of very heavy timbers.

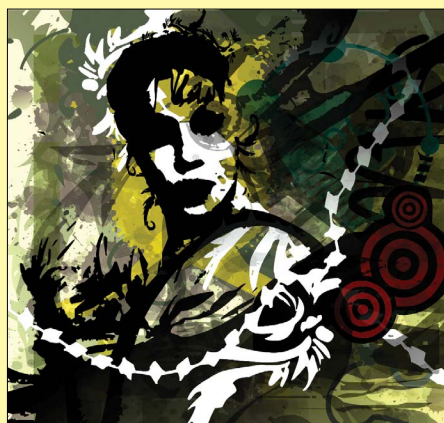
During our school days in the Cary Building, our playground was a large, square vacant lot, enclosed on the south and west by the buildings facing Spring Street, on the north by Mountain Street, on the west by Short Street. The lot had been leveled by a retaining wall along the two streets. A sidewalk seldom used, bordered the wall. A diagonal path across the vacant lot joined Mountain Street opposite the end of the Footbridge.

Jeff Danos at Brews

Jeff Danos will be the featured artist for the month of April at the newly expanded Brews with an opening reception on Thursday, March 31 between 5 – 8 p.m. and all are invited.

Danos fuses mixed media, digital collage with font manipulation to create striking high-contrast compositions. This will be the Danos's first solo exhibition in Eureka Springs and will feature works both old and new.

Brews is located at 2 Pine St. More of Danos's work can be viewed at JDanos.com



Mother Ozark – mixed media digital collage

Abstraction and sculptor at EFA

Calligrapher and abstract painter Charles Pearce will be April's featured artist at Eureka Fine Art and Sculptor Hank Kaminsky will be the gallery's three-dimensional guest artist for the month. Kaminsky will be showing new work from his *Spirit Wind* series, a collection of small spheres cast in zinc.

Pearce will be showing his latest painting *Bohemian Rhapsody (A Tribute to Freddie)* as well as other recent works. Opening reception is April 9 from 6 – 9 p.m. during the Eureka Springs Second Saturday Gallery Stroll. All are invited.



Artist Charles Pearce

Adding rhythm to the North Main Music Park

The Eureka Springs High School Art Club has been designing and creating a rhythm installation to the Eureka Springs Interactive Music Park on North Main. The art club has gathered materials and created designs to be applied with the goal of a look of steam punk and mother nature.

The installation event will be held in the North Main Music Park at noon on Saturday, May 7. For more information contact Sandy Martin at artscouncileureka@gmail.com.

NWA Permaculture group discuss planting projects

The Northwest Arkansas Permaculture group will meet on April 2 from 10 a.m. – noon at the home of Cindi Barnschein, 11 County Road 242. The group will discuss sustainable planting methods and projects. For more information call Jerry Landrum at (479) 244-0377.

Famed service dog team to speak at Soldier ON Service Dogs

Steve Karmgard and Pluto will speak at Soldier ON Service Dogs' headquarters, 2378 W. Moore Lane in Fayetteville on Wednesday, April 6 from 6 – 8 p.m. A hot dog supper will be served.

Karmgard, a quadriplegic, was paired with Pluto in May 2012. During the demonstration, he will describe how having a service animal has made a difference in his life and explain Pluto's training and discuss the importance of public access.

The event is free to the public and there will be a question-answer session following the event. Space is limited. Call (479) 521-9301 to reserve a seat.



Dana Cooper at Eureka House Concerts

Eureka House Concerts will present singer/songwriter Dana Cooper on Sunday, April 10. Cooper has performed on Austin City Limits, Mountain Stage and the Kerrville Folk Festival. Doors open at 5 and music starts at 6 p.m. For more information go to eurekahouseconcerts.com or call (479) 244-0123.

NATIONAL PARKS continued from page 5

contract management for work on the national parks, including Yosemite, Yellowstone, Zion, Bryce Canyon, Timpanogos Cave, Grand Teton, Big Bend, Death Valley, Hot Springs and Mesa Verde.

Wilson worked in 22 states and Washington D.C., and appreciated continually learning about different geological formations, climate and indigenous plants.

His favorite assignment? "I often get asked that question and it is difficult to answer," Wilson said. "Every park and every area is unique in its own right. I was assigned to Boulder City, Nevada, near the Lake Mead National Recreational Area, and then we moved to Wisconsin working on the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. Later I worked on the Buffalo National River in the Ozarks. They were all so totally different. Pea Ridge, which is the last national park where I worked, is also unique. We transferred here from Yellowstone in 1989 after the big fire, knowing we would retire here in Arkansas."

One highlight for him as a veteran who served in

Germany at the start of the Cold War, was working on the POW-MIA museum in Andersonville, Ga.

Wilson's wife of 60 years, Grace, often visited him on his assignments, and was delighted to see how much he loved his job. "It's nice to have a job you don't dread," she said. "Dan always enjoyed going to work."

Throughout the years the NPS has been challenged by budget cutbacks, even though private and government funding helped create projects, for instance the Andersonville Museum funded by NPS and POW-MIA organizations.

Wilson made many friends through his years with the NPS, and even after retiring 26 years ago, he came back to help out with projects.

"They called me back to do some construction supervision work at Pea Ridge when they remodeled the Visitors' Center," Wilson said. "I was called to do some work at Ft. Smith National Historic Site, and on the Bathhouse Row area of the Hot Springs National Park. Then I did some roadwork at Arkansas Post National Memorial in Southeast Arkansas. It's a beauty, right on the Mississippi and Arkansas Rivers."

After retiring, he worked doing planning coordination for Holiday Island and the 12th hole pond, served on the Eureka Springs Tree City Committee, and did quality control for construction of the Carroll County Detention Center.

He is a member of the American Legion Post # 9 where he was instrumental in the planning and construction of the Veteran's Memorial at Hwys. 187 and 23. He has also been active in a Masonic Lodge.

He is particularly proud of the work he did for the Holiday Island Presbyterian Church established on Stateline and Valley Drives.

"I helped site the building and later I worked on planning the expansion and landscaping," he said.

Wilson enjoys history, particularly the Civil War history of this area where there were so many families split between supporting the Union or the Confederacy. He recently gave a talk on that to the Civil War Club at Holiday Island.

The Wilsons encourage people to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the NPS by visiting a National Park this year.



Park it and party – A crowd gathered to welcome and meet new Parks Director Justin Huss on Friday, March 25. *PHOTOS BY JEREMIAH ALVARADO*



Goddess Gala April 12

The Goddess Gala/Merlin Foundation Fundraiser will be Tuesday, April 12 at the Basin Park Hotel Ballroom from 6 – 11 p.m. Events include a raffle, drumming, blessings, potluck feast and dancing. Costumes are encouraged.

Advanced tickets are \$14, \$20 at the

door. Proceeds will benefit the Merlin Foundation's work with abused children. Tickets are available at Gazebo Books, Annies at the New Orleans, Eureka Market or Valerie Damon. This is a women only event. For more information go to www.GoddessGala.com.

ArtRageous Parade seeks applicants

The May Festival of the Arts annual ArtRageous parade is Saturday, May 7 at 5 p.m. Organizers are seeking applicants to participate to make the 2016 parade totally ArtRageous!

The parade is open to everyone and everything – floats, cars, walkers, musicians, dancers, animals, groups, vans, bikes, drummers, kids and adults.

Parade applications are available at the CAPC office, 121 East Van Buren, Suite 3B or may be printed online at eurekaspringsfestivalofthearts.com. Return your submission by April 22. For more information contact the CAPC at (479) 253-7333.

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Aries & Uranus - "All Things New"

We are in the midst of Aries, the sign that always begins things, initiating "all things new." Aries, fire, is the first sign, the new life emerging. Aries begins the celestial dance of the planets. This is the dance of the whirling dervishes. Aries is cardinal, action oriented. Aries is the essence of Life itself entering form and matter.

The planet Uranus is presently in Aries. Uranus entered Aries March 11, 2011. For the past five years Uranus has

been creating the disruptive (needed) shifts in our world. Because Uranus is revolution, freedom, liberation, new archetypes (patterns), new ideas and rhythms. Uranus rules (oversees) the Aquarian Age (and technology). Uranus transcends limitations, disrupts, suddenly shifts perspectives. Uranus is a lightning bolt, the fire of heaven (which Prometheus captured). It generates deep insight, imagination, intuition, electrical currents (the "waters of life poured forth for thirsty

humanity.")

Uranus envisions the future, is scientific. It challenges, creates rebellion and the needed revolution that banishes the old and brings forth the new. As Uranus distributes Aries until 2018, we will continue to see a revolution, a rebellion, a new state of creativity, perceptions, the new world religion, education and a new narrative/story appear on Earth.

We are to envision together a "brave new world" coming into being – one that

the trinity (humanity, the New Group of World Servers, and the Devas/angelic builders) must create together. We will need courage, cooperation and community to withstand the new electrical rhythm, the "waters of life poured forth for thirsty humanity." We will build this "brave new world." Uranus, Aries and Aquarius will show us the Way. What cannot be part of the new world will begin to vanish. The stars and planets only support "all things new."

ARIES: You're the target, repository, fiery field, recipient, beneficiary, receiving instructions directly from God (Uranus) that everything must change. You're initiator, designer, architect, inventor, leading the other 11 signs in building cooperatively the new world order. This is an interesting task since cooperation isn't your specialty. However, since you're the leader, you will learn. Call upon Uranus for help. Keywords: monumental change.

TAURUS: So much is being released from your body, emotions, mind. Perhaps you're having headaches. There's a new path to be walked upon. The previous one is fast disappearing. All that you've done up to this time is preparatory. A deeper spiritual reality appears through dreams, study, contemplation. A new journey to new lands, too. This will take time. You will be changed profoundly. Keynote: Saving the world.

GEMINI: You are to meet new people, enter a new group and social network. These people are unusual. They meet your needs for spiritual depth, esoteric and astrology study. A place has been prepared for you. All that you have known now feels limiting, dull, uninspiring, tedious and without humor. Yes? What do you need to come forth? Keywords: Esoteric Group

CANCER: In the coming years, beginning now, new gifts, talents, abilities and achievements appear, slowly at first, and then pouring down like a summer rain. You discover yourself, feel freedom for the first time, seek freedom for others because you understand not being free – from emotional obstacles, beliefs, thought-forms you thought were real. All past disappears. You stand "revealed." Keyword: Talents.

LEO: Many and various events cross your path creating adventures, goals, and a new spiritual and/or religious state. You may travel far and wide, consider dual citizenship, study alien life forms. Everything foreign (different) and cultural becomes your focus. Study unexpectedly begins, ends, shifts dimensions. Are you to found a college, a publishing house, an animal sanctuary? Keywords: Perception radicalizes.

VIRGO: Pay close attention in the coming years. Everything concerning money,

resources, inheritances, wills and taxes alters. You will learn many things, enter new territories, new dimensions. You will learn how to value, safeguard and cherish what you have. You will transform, rise up like a phoenix, soar like an eagle who mates for life. So much uncertainty at first, later leads to new and greater intimacy. Keyword: Experimentation.

LIBRA: An interesting new energy enters your relationships. You will learn to identify, live with, and be at ease with these changes. You will realize difference creates change and change allows everything to thrive. You will cultivate change in your relationships by introducing new and exciting ideas, plans, and ways of living differently than what most think possible. You will initiate the idea that all minds are created equal. This in itself is revolutionary. Keywords: Cultivation, as in a garden.

SCORPIO: You will realize that all relationships must have, at their center, freedom and equality. You will not tolerate anything that creates a hierarchy of power-over or dominance in any part of your life. In your workday world, you will become free of restrictions, Daily routines unravel, your diet and exercise change to meet your body's new health needs. Locations, work, have all changed. Nothing stays the same. Keyword: Finally!

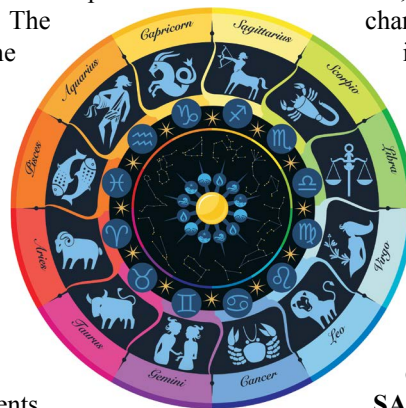
SAGITTARIUS: What's important to you? Creative self-expression, fun, playfulness, spontaneity. You become the shining example of all things new. Many will embrace your emerging true self. Others will be disturbed. As you become more and more out-of-the-ordinary, creativity increases. There could be unexpected love affairs (they come and go), a pregnancy (real or metaphor), a risk-taking windfall. You become a protector of children (child within). You'll feel you "have it all." Keyword: Uninhibited.

CAPRICORN: Your domestic situation and/or routines will begin to change. You may seek a new location, completely redo or rearrange your home. You may be called to travel, seeing a new location of beauty. Be sure, by working on this daily with family, that communication, kept open and sharing, the seasons change, the family changes. Keywords: Contact (communication) releases Love.

AQUARIUS: What was written for Aries, applies also to you, but in a different context. You, along with Gemini, are responsible for the distribution of ideas to the minds and hearts of humanity (the masses). You're responsible for exposing new concepts that help create the new era through art and the art of conversation. You are to make the "contacts that release the love that underlies all happenings." Always have hope. Keywords: Conscious Intention.

PISCES: Your values and sense of self-worth, resources, assets, finances and possessions shift unexpectedly, fluctuate radically until they reach a balance and equilibrium. Your skills increase, your wounds will heal, recognition occurs, and brilliance from the Raincloud of Knowable Things becomes available. The magnetic center is revealed. The rollercoaster eventually comes to a stop. Keywords: "Build it and they will come."

Risa – writer, teacher, esotericist, astrologer, founder & director, Esoteric & Astrological Studies & Research Institute, a contemporary Mystery School with foundational studies in astrology, the Ageless Wisdom Teachings & the Seven Rays. Email – risagoodwill@gmail.com Web – www.nightlightnews.org/ FB – Risa D'Angeles



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PRIVATE OPTION continued from page 7

Bell has seen patients improve dramatically with better care under the Private Option.

"People who were completely disabled have gotten hips replaced so they can walk again," Bell said. "We have people with serious problems such as prostate and colon cancer, get the care they need. One of the

things we do at ECHO is help patients get on the Private Option. In fact, we push people to do that. If they won't apply, we won't see them. We are their safety net, but we help them get better coverage with the Private Option. It would be a real tragedy if that were no longer available. The Private Option was a very good idea. The country has looked at what we have done."

Bell asks the question: What would these legislators

want for themselves and their families? Just be seen at a free Christian clinic for health needs? "It is real clear what they would want for themselves and their family, and to vote contrary for these other folks is not a Christian thing," he said. "It is counter to doing the right thing for your fellow man. Many voting against the Private Option are fundamentalist Christians and are getting crossways with their belief system."

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Jimmy Wayne Garrett

SAT., APRIL 2 • 8-11 P.M.
Ratliff Dean

TUES., APRIL 5 • 5-7 P.M.
Los Roscos



Diversity Weekenders keep dance floors polished

Friday's April Fool's Day kicks off a fun weekend full of dancing, revelry, loads of music, drag shows, get-togethers and food to celebrate Spring Diversity! Our friend Jimmy Wayne Garrett plays and sings earnestly with a deep repertoire at the Cathouse on Friday, then Sad Daddy, a family amalgamation of folksy drifters, shimmers with lovely harmonies at Brews on Saturday. Their guitarist, Brian Martin, plays at Chelsea's Wednesday.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31
CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *Opal Agafia and the Sweet Nothings*, Americana, 8 p.m.
EUREKA LIVE! – *Green Screen Karaoke*, 9 p.m.
GRAND TAVERNE – *Jerry Yester*, Grand Piano, 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1
BALCONY RESTAURANT – *Steve Jones*, Singer/Songwriter, 5 p.m.
CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *Jimmy Wayne Garrett*, Singer/Songwriter, 8 p.m.
CHELSEA'S – *Diversity Band*, Rainbow Rock, 7 p.m.
EUREKA LIVE! – *Kamikaze Drag Event*, 9 p.m.
GRAND TAVERNE – *Arkansas Red*, Amplified Acoustic Guitar Dinner Music, 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.


LEGENDS SALOON – *DJ Karaoke with Stan*, 8 p.m.
NEW DELHI – *Ozark Travellers*, Rock, 6 p.m.
ROWDY BEAVER – *2 Dog 2 Karaoke*, 7:30 p.m.
ROWDY BEAVER DEN – *Leather N Lace Trio*, Rock, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2
BALCONY RESTAURANT – *Catherine Reed*, Singer/Songwriter, 12 p.m., *Jeff Lee*, Folk, 6 p.m.
BREWS – *Sad Daddy*, Americana, 7 – 10 p.m.
CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *Ratliff Dean*, **INDY SOUL** continued on next page



Sad Daddy play Brews Saturday, April 2.


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Best Little Drag Event
\$10 Cover

SUNDAY • 7 P.M.
Green Screen Karaoke

EXPLORING the fine art of ROMANCE... by Leslie Meeker

My husband wants to incorporate more role-playing into our sex life. I'm not opposed but it's difficult for me. I just feel self-conscious and awkward. How can I get over my discomfort and enjoy it?

Incorporating fantasy in its various forms is key to keeping that fire burning in long-term relationships. While humans are hard-wired to seek novelty most couples inadvertently fall into a sexual routine that rarely varies. If you dare, bedroom make-believe can definitely add flare.

Taking on a new identity in the bedroom can feel daunting at best. Exploring fantasies together requires the willingness to be vulnerable and must be based upon a strong foundation of trust. Beyond that, with an open mind, a playful spirit, a bit of imagination and a solid sense of humor, you're well on your way.

Fantasy play is just that – play. It's not work. There is no perfect scenario and things are not likely to go

exactly as planned. There is great freedom in assuming an alternate persona. Let this liberate you. Release all expectations and role with it.

Role-playing scenarios are diverse and infinite. Two primary themes prevail. The steamy sexual encounter with a stranger, your partner of course can be played many ways. There's the repairman and housewife, escort and client or the ever-so-popular bar scene where you meet for the first time, flirt wildly and seduce recklessly all the way to the bedroom bacchanal that wakes the neighbors.

The other prevailing theme is based upon a power differential: the executive and secretary, professor and pupil, doctor and patient, cop and criminal, etc. If you're just testing the role-playing waters, assuming any of these personas may feel overwhelmingly awkward and the themes too corny or contrived.

Simple solution. Scale it back a notch. Incorporate just the power differential. Most couples have settled into comfortable roles when it comes to bedroom dynamics.

If your partner is typically the initiator while you're more passive, simply switch roles. Take charge, request compliance, make specific demands and call every shot while slowly seducing your partner. This simple change in routine can ignite an erotic energy, provoking an eruption of daringly more illicit fantasied frolics. Fantasy is an erotic essential. Not only does it tantalize the mind, it increases arousal and intensifies climax.

Let the games begin!

Questions? Email leslie@esindependent.com. Leslie Meeker, M.A., L.P.C., is a psychotherapist who has specialized in relational and sex therapy, sexual compulsivity and sexual trauma for the past 17 years, after receiving extensive training in human sexuality at the Masters and Johnson Institute in St. Louis, Mo.



INDY SOUL continued from previous page

Americana, 8 p.m.

CHELSEA'S – *Iris*, Singer/Songwriter, 9 p.m.

EUREKA LIVE! – *Best Little Drag Event*, 9 p.m.

GRAND TAVERNE – *Jerry Yester*, Grand Piano, 6:30 p.m.

LEGENDS SALOON – *JAB the Band*, Rock, 9 p.m.

NEW DELHI – *Whiskey Mendez*, Folk, 12 – 4 p.m., *Medicine Man Show*, 6 p.m.

ROWDY BEAVER – *Leather N Lace Trio*, Rock, 7:30 p.m.

ROWDY BEAVER DEN – *John Harwood*, Singer/Songwriter, 1 – 4 p.m., *Karaoke with DJ Goose*, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

BALCONY RESTAURANT – *Jeff Lee*, Folk, 12 p.m.

CHELSEA'S – *Iris and Diversity Band*, Sunday Fun-day Party Bands, 2 p.m.

EUREKA LIVE – *Green Screen Karaoke*, 7 p.m.

NEW DELHI – *Sarah Hughes*, Singer/Songwriter, 12 – 4 p.m.

ROWDY BEAVER DEN – *Giggin Lyons Key*, Singer/Songwriter, 12 – 4 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 4

CHELSEA'S – *Sprungbilly*, Bluegrass, 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *Los Roscoes*, Blues, 5 p.m.

CHELSEA'S – *Open Mic*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

BREWS – *Open Mic*, 6:30 p.m.

CHELSEA'S – *Brian Martin*, Singer/Songwriter, 9 p.m.

Diversity Weekend event schedule

Friday, April 1

- Diversity Band at Chelsea's Corner Café, 10 Mountain St. 9 p.m.

- *Calling all Goddesses* Drag Show at Eureka Live Underground, 35 North Main. 9 p.m., cover charge

Saturday, April 2

- Diversity in the Park 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Basin Spring Park. Vendors, music, treats and celebrations with special performance by Melonlight dancers.

- PDA (Public Display of Affection)

2 p.m. All are welcome to kiss in the park in the largest PDA event in the Midwest

- Open House 2 – 6 p.m. Magnetic Valley Men's Retreat, 587 Magnetic Road – Men Only

- Diversity Disco at FRESH, 179 North Main, 6 – 9 p.m.

- Iris band at Chelsea's Corner Café, 10 Mountain Street. 9 p.m.

- *Calling all Goddesses* Drag Show at Eureka Live Underground, 35 North Main. 9 p.m., cover charge.

- *Sad Daddy* band, Brews, 2 Pine Street. 7 p.m.

Sunday, April 3

- Nature and Wildflower ID hike, Leatherwood City Park, 11 a.m. Sponsored by *The Bear and The Barber*

- Texas Style Drag Show and Brunch at FRESH, 179 North Main. 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Diversity Band and Iris Sunday Jam, Chelsea's Corner Café, 10 Mountain Street. 2 p.m.

Support local non-profits on April 7

18 locally led Carroll County nonprofits will be participating in ArkansasGives Day on April 7, a 12-hour online giving event from Arkansas Community Foundation. From 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. you can donate to nonprofits through ArkansasGives.org.

Locally-led Carroll County nonprofits participating in this year's ArkansasGives Day include: Berryville Restoration Project, Bible Reading Ministry International, Christview Ministries, Clear Spring School, Eureka Springs Community Center Foundation, Eureka Springs School of the Arts, Flint Street Fellowship, Loaves & Fishes Food Bank of the Ozarks, Mid-America Mission Inc. Woodland Bible Camp, Opera in the Ozarks at Inspiration Point, Soul Purpose Ministries: The Jeremiah House, the Carroll and Madison Public Library Foundation, The Cradle, The Learning Center of North Arkansas, The Rainbow Covenant, The Writers' Colony at Dairy Hollow, Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge, and Village Writing School.

For more information email carrollcounty@arcf.org.

Cat got your tongue? –

Tanya Smith shows off a tiger kite during the March 26 Kite Fest held at Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge. Food, music, and family activities filled the day for attendees and KaleidoKites' experts were on hand to assist kids in kite making.

PHOTO BY JAY VRECENAK



DEPARTURES

Gregory Eugene Crocker Dec. 8, 1966 – Feb. 27, 2016

Gregory Eugene Crocker was born Dec. 8, 1966 in Joplin, Mo., to James and Peggy Crocker, and passed away on Saturday, Feb. 27, 2016 at the Willard Walker Hospice Home in Fayetteville, Ark. He was 49, and a resident of the Gateway area.

He graduated from Joplin Parkwood High School in 1985. He started working at his family's business, Ozark Memorial Park, at age 14, and was president and owner from 1991 – 2011.

He was an active member of the Elks

Lodge #501 and the Joplin Shrine Club.

Greg was always ready to have fun and loved playing pranks on everyone. He had the best sense of humor. His favorite place to be on weekends and during the summer was Beaver Lake with his family and close friends. You would find him scuba diving, fishing, cruising the lake in his favorite boat, and being ornery with his lake buddies. Greg had a contagious laugh and spirit that always brightened your day. He will be greatly missed by many.

Religious services were held at the air

chapel at Ozark Memorial Park in Joplin on March 12, conducted by Matt Thomason.

Greg is survived by daughter and son-in-law, Danielle Marie and George Lonnie Terrell III; daughter McKenzie Lauren Crocker; Uncle Bruce and Aunt Joan Houston; nieces Lauren and Brooke Thomason; many cousins; and his Arrowhead Point lake family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James Eugene and Peggy Ann Crocker, and grandparents, George Eugene and Oletha Pearl Crocker.



Edmund John Leswig March 30, 1935 – March 27, 2016

Edmund John Leswig of Eureka Springs, Ark., was born March 30, 1935 in Jamaica Long Island, New York, a son of Edmund John Leswig, Sr. and Constance Grace (McGinnace) Leswig. He departed this life Sunday, March 27, 2016 in Eureka Springs at the age of 80, three days short of his 81st birthday.

Edmund was a volunteer for the Salvation Army, member of the Elks Club, Rotary Club and was on the Eureka

Springs Planning Commission.

In 1960 he was united in marriage with Judith (Jakubek) Leswig, who survives him of the home. He is also survived by son, Christopher Leswig of St. Charles, Ill.; son, Douglas Leswig and wife, Kimberly, of Paddock Lake, Wis.; four grandchildren, Samantha, Anthony, Gordon and Nicholas Leswig; and one great-grandchild, Beverly; several nieces, nephews and host of friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents and one sister.

A Celebration of the Life of Edmund J. Leswig will be held 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 30, 2016 at the Saint Elizabeth's Parish Center, Eureka Springs, Ark. with

Richard Schoe officiating. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Nelson Funeral Service, Inc. Online condolences may be sent to the family at nelsonfuneral.com. © Nelson Funeral Service, Inc. 2016

Leland Wayne Stewart

March 20, 1941 – March 21, 2016

Leland Wayne Stewart, a resident of Alpena, Ark., was born March 20, 1941 in Berryville, Ark. a son of Henry and Mattie (Denney) Stewart. He departed this life Monday, March 21, 2016 in Harrison, Ark., at age 75.

He enjoyed playing music, dominoes and singing gospel music. Leland proudly served in the United States Army and was a member of the Alpena First Baptist Church.

On May 17, 1991, he was united in marriage with Linda (Taylor) Stewart, who survives him of the home. He is also survived by son, Billy Stewart and wife, Jenny, of Green Forest, Ark.; daughter, Liz Milam and husband, Joe, of Harrison, Ark.; daughter, Lori Keeton and husband, Jeff, of Harrison, Ark.; son, Rick Wilson and wife, Pam, of Southwest City, Mo.; son, Cliff Wilson and wife, Donna, of Rich Hill, Mo.; daughter, Karen Crosson of Branson, Mo.; sister, Myra Beal and husband, Leon, of Springdale, Ark.;

grandchildren, Winstin Stewart, Waydin Stewart, Lori-Beth Knapp, Jasi Dezort, Ashton Keeton, Garrett Milam, Ashley Kaler, Victoria McDaniel and Melissa Wilson; 10 great-grandchildren, several nieces, nephews and host of other family and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents, one sister, Wanda Johnson; five brothers, Charlie, Melvin, Cleo, Keith and Eldon Stewart; and one granddaughter, Whitney Gardner.

Funeral service was March 25 at the First Baptist Church, Alpena, Ark., with Brother Lonnie Burks and Brother Freddie Blevins officiating. Committal service was at the Carr Cemetery under the direction of Nelson Funeral Service.

Memorial donations may be made to the Carr Cemetery, c/o Gene Stewart, 410 North Main, Berryville, Arkansas 72616. Online condolences may be sent to the family at nelsonfuneral.com. © Nelson Funeral Service, Inc. 2016



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Seeking artists to put art in the park

The Eureka Springs CAPC is seeking artists and art demonstrators for the 2016 May Festival of the Arts *Art in the Park* on Saturday, May 14 in Basin Spring Park. All artists are encouraged to apply.

Details and printable registration forms can be found at www.eurekaspringsfestivalofthearts.com or stop and pick up a form at the Eureka Springs CAPC office. Deadline for submissions is April 22 and space is limited.

For more information call Dori Thomas at (479) 253-7333 or dthomas@eurekasprings.org.



Anthony Boettner from over in Centerton came to fish here at Holiday Island this week looking for whites and walleye. He must’ve seen the bottom of the paper, “Whites are bitin’” and jumped on it. We found some good pockets of whites upriver between Beaver and Houseman, but had a heck of a time getting them to go with that northwest wind. The walleye were a little more active, but only got one keeper trolling a chartreuse flicker shad down about 11 ft. For shoreline fishing on this end of the lake and catching whites and stripers, it’s almost time to start looking at the day use side of the dam. Fish are ready for spring, with walleye and whites being

caught from Holiday Island to Spider Creek in the tailwaters. Crappie are holding deep with cold unstable weather, but moving into the shoreline brush on the warm fronts. A jig or minnow under a slip float might put some in your boat. According to the extended forecast we might not have any more nights that get below freezing with lots of warm days ahead. So get your gear together because the fishing forecast looks good. That’s what I’m doing now, so till next week get ready and enjoy the warm days. Robert Johnson, fishofexcellence.com (479) 253-2258

Potluck at the Holiday Island Barn

Friends of the Historic Holiday Island Barn will have a potluck on Sunday, April 10 at the Barn beginning at 1 p.m. and a meal at 1:30 p.m. A short meeting will be held afterward to discuss a proposed patio. Lonnie Nichols and others will provide entertainment. Bring a dish to share, and contributions to the barn fund and musicians are appreciated. All are welcome. For more information contact Ken Brown at (479) 253-8934 or Susan Smith at (479) 253-5163.

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by Mike Boian with extensive help from his wife, Ann Solution on page 23

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- ACROSS**

1. “Confound it!”

5. Villainous lion in *Lion King*

9. List entries

14. Baylor’s hometown

15. Holy reminder

16. Ethical

17. Turns blue litmus paper red

18. Terribly unclean

20. Eric’s hair color

21. To chant

22. Stale, musty

24. Unsaturated zone

28. YSL competitor

29. Correct text

31. Avoid responsibility, with “out”

32. Khrushchev’s prop

33. Funds receiver

34. Hint

35. Settled up

36. Donates

37. *The Scarlet _____*, Travis McGee novel

38. Type of wind

39. Not like Venus de Milo

40. Garage or yard

41. Hilo adornment

42. Dainty drinks

43. Stop

44. Make a break

46. Boring

49. Non-military person

52. Ben Gurion’s omega

53. Formerly

56. Small hill

57. Fragrant resin

58. Arab leader

59. Grayish white

60. Gather little by little

61. Nutmeg’s coat

62. Solo
- DOWN**

1. Bashful was one

2. Non-venomous snake

3. Type of bacteria

4. Unit of wool

5. Mass of ivy

6. Cheerful, in Glasgow

7. Furthermore

8. Red coat

9. Copy

10. Carried

11. Notable times

12. Deface

13. Tricky

19. Fleets

21. _____ of Capri

23. George Washington’s teeth, rumored

25. Eclipse is one

26. Immerse; drench

27. Rapier

29. Type of dropping

30. Hid the gray

32. Soupy’s surname

33. Procurer

35. Large quantity

36. Feel sorrow

37. Bug spray

39. Headache remedy

40. Hemplike fiber

43. To inquire

45. Pueblo near Albuquerque

46. Ape

47. Nose worthy

48. Each single one

50. One unit

51. City in NW Ohio

53. Plead

54. 90-degree angle

55. Cost to play

56. _____ Chi Sigma

INDEPENDENTClassifieds

The INDEPENDENT Classifieds cost \$8 for 20 words, each additional word is 25¢. **DEADLINE – Monday at noon**

To place a classified, email Classifieds.Indie@gmail.com or call 479.253.6101

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Saturday, April 30th

Arts in the Park, Elkins, AR Arts & Crafts, Businesses, Non-profits! Apply online elkinsart.com for info. Tiffany (479) 422-1808.

To place a classified, email Classifieds.Indie@gmail.com

PERSONALS

Dear PARENTS,
Coming back for another visit?
Love and miss you,
Your DAUGHTER

HKP – The shells better be good ones. Are you dropping the relatives off at Perkins in P.B. for pick up or should we meet for a picnic on the Little Frog Bayou?

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AT MUD STREET CAFÉ for experienced line cook and barista. Apply in person.

COOK/KITCHEN HAND – Approximately 20 hours a week. contact Hannah (479) 981-1506.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY! Maintenance position with Blue Spring Heritage Center. (479) 244-6418

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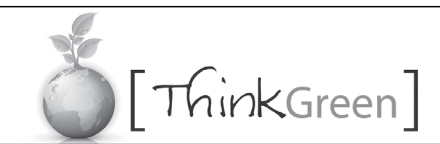
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CONSTABLES continued from page 10

11:27 p.m. – Resident on North Main told ESPD he had heard a woman scream. Constable responded, and the woman said she had been asleep, but the constable cleared the building just in case.

MARCH 27

9:08 a.m. – Careful observer noticed the flag at a motel was upside down. Constable discovered the flagpole had been damaged. Flag was taken down pending repair of the pole.

9:39 a.m. – Individual claimed another of her tires had been slashed.

12:57 p.m. – Motorist came upon a box of nails in the road in the north part of town. Constable cleaned up the roadway.

2:52 p.m. – ESFD personnel reported they had witnessed a nude female trying to climb out of the sunroof of a vehicle, but the driver took off going south on Hwy. 23 at a very fast rate of speed. The vehicle was out of city limits, so information was passed along

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to other authorities.

4:22 p.m. – Irritated observer claimed a particular vehicle regularly parks in a spot on a narrow downtown street, turns on its flashers but obstructs traffic. Constable on patrol advised the driver not to do it anymore.

6:13 p.m. – Unsettled resident on a hillside east of downtown saw what appeared to be a male dressed in camouflage sitting in the woods holding a rifle. Constable went to the scene and found a 13-year old male playing with a plastic, broken BB gun.

7:16 p.m. – Individual complained his neighbor disturbs the peace by working on a vehicle at all times of day. Constable chatted with the mechanic.

10:14 p.m. – Traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the driver for speeding and DWI.

MARCH 28

3:35 a.m. – Individual covered in blood walked into a tourist lodging. Constable searched for but never encountered the person.

The morel mushrooms the better

The Greater Eureka Springs Chamber of Commerce will present the Eureka Springs Morel Mushroom Festival on April 16 at Pine Mountain Village from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

There will be seminars on mushrooming from 9 – 11 a.m. with topics:

- Intro to Mycology – A study of biology concerned with fungi. Learn how to identify types of fungi, learn where they grow and the types of soil and trees that types of fungi like.
- Safety Guidelines – Learn what you need before heading out into the woods.
- Ethical Foraging – Learn to observe proper etiquette while hunting morels.

• Proper cleaning and cooking of morels

There will be a morel mushroom hunt at 1 p.m. with prizes being awarded for the most morels found, largest morel and the strangest looking morel. Other contests will include best morel joke, poem, song and more. Silver Dollar City will provide the prizes.

The event is free to the public. If you would like to participate in the guided mushroom hunt the cost is \$5. Remember to wear boots, gloves, etc. For more information about the event, booth space and sponsorships contact Chris Rodgers at (479) 253-8737.

National Day of Prayer at the Great Passion Play

The Western Carroll County Ministerial Association is sponsoring a National Day of Prayer event on Thursday, May 5 in the Great Hall of the Great Passion Play. A full breakfast buffet opens at 6:30 a.m. and the program begins at 7. The keynote speaker is State Representative Bob Ballinger and local Christians will lead praise music.

Tickets are available at the Kerusso Christian Outlet at 105 Passion Play Road. Kerusso's is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12.50 each and you can sponsor a table of 8 for \$100. Checks are payable to WCCMA. For more information contact Pastor John Wallace of Faith Bible Church in Holiday Island at (479) 363-6636.

Book study at St. James Episcopal Church

The next Blue Skies Book Study at St. James Episcopal Church is Tuesday, May 24 in the Undercroft from 5 – 6:30 p.m. The book selection is *Wearing God: Clothing, Laughter Fire, and Other Overlooked Ways of Meeting* by Rev. Lauren F. Winner. The book is available at the Eureka Springs Carnegie Public Library. The meeting will be led by Joanna E.S. Campbell. All are welcome. For more information call (479) 253-8610.

PLANNING continued from page 4

see if times of operation are listed.

Beacham mentioned Penn Castle might not be on the list of tour homes, so they will keep this on their agenda. He suggested they begin a list of recommendations for updates to City Code at the next meeting.

Other business

- Commissioner Woodie Acord reported the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Development had announced there will an event called G60 on Tuesday, May 24 from 6–9 p.m. at the Auditorium. The event is for aspiring entrepreneurs of all ages to have 60 seconds to pitch their idea before a panel of judges. Two winners – one decided by the judges, the other by the audience – will receive a \$1000 prize. He said the goal is to “gather the entrepreneurial mindset of the area” in an effort to boost local businesses. Acord encouraged all commissioners to attend the event.
- Commissioners refined their rules for allowing the public to speak during their discussions. Beacham said he wanted a consistent policy and he did not want commissioners to have to vote each time on whether to allow a person to speak. They decided that if a person who has already spoken in public comments has pertinent information on an agenda item, a commissioner may request the chair to recall that person to answer specific questions. Lujan insisted that during discussion of an agenda topic, he wanted to avoid “an open mike” and thereby cut down on redundant comments.
- Beacham announced the tentative date for a city council workshop on food trucks is Monday, April 11, at 4 p.m., before the city council meeting. He will attend and he suggested other commissioners might attend as well.

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