

Numbers up but budget freeze enacted

NICKY BOYETTE

Monday evening saw Eureka Springs city council spend two-and-a-half hours talking about the city's finances with a couple other topics briefly interspersed, but it was mostly finances from 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Council convened 30 minutes early for its monthly budget workshop, and Mayor Butch Berry started off saying February sales tax revenue was up 18 percent over January. Alderman James DeVito added that collections at the City Advertising and Promotion Commission (CAPC) have also been especially favorable this year, which bodes well for future city revenue.

Fire Chief Randy Ates also had glad tidings. He was able to break a stalemate in the billing process at the state-level Medicaid office, and the city can now back bill for ambulance services for the past year, meaning the city stands to receive up to \$53,000.

Berry said city revenue was not keeping up with expenditures, and announced he had sent a memo to department heads last week instituting an immediate "freeze on all non-operational essential expenditures." The freeze includes new hires, replacement hires, pay rate increases, travel and conference expenses, uniform purchases and even maintenance expenses. His memo states, "Maintenance items that can be directly related to the immediate and essential operation of the city only will be considered on a case-by-case basis."

Berry reiterated the problem is cash flow lagging behind expected expenses, not a mishandled budget.

Alderman David Mitchell was first to comment. "The memo says it all. This what a business should do and the freeze should not be released until we're in the black." He later called Berry's move "remarkable."

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A Hallelujah Chorus – A large crowd got a great laugh out of the Holiday Island Theatre Guild's production of the Jones, Hope, and Wooten comedy *The Hallelujah Girls*. The play follows the hijinks of five women whose daily lives get in the way as they try to shake up their lives after the recent death of a friend. *PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ALVARADO*

This Week's INDEPENDENT Thinkers

In a week when a woman dragged a swan from a lake to take a selfie and left it to die on the beach, and sperm whales were found dead on shores of the North Sea because their stomachs were full of plastic debris, we were encouraged to read about Operation Icefish, an anti-poaching group that's successfully chasing and stopping illegal fishing ships in Antarctica.



PHOTO CREDIT: FACEBOOK

The ships lay illegal nets that catch huge numbers of fish over miles of ocean, dragging in innocent bystanders like dolphins and seabirds, then change their identities and do it all again. The ships are hard to discover and harder to stop, but the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society is devoted to proving that there are good people with good energy doing something to make us all look good.

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INDEPENDENT News



For what it's Earth – David Pettit, who constructed the bamboo pagoda at the Pagoda Garden downtown, is shown on Earth Day working with Faith Shah installing native plants in the garden.

PHOTO BY BECKY GILLETTE

COUNCIL continued from page 1

Alderman Terry McClung stated regarding the memo, "I think it's great. It's going to stop spending and it will give us a better handle on where we are with the budget."

Sales tax implementation

Berry said he found no legal impediments in his conversations with the Municipal League regarding his plan to ask for a two percent sales tax on retail items and using the anticipated \$1.2 million annual revenue for infrastructure upgrades, maintaining the Auditorium, and building back the city's reserves.

He said his plan was to allocate \$200,000 toward the Auditorium. Of that total, \$150,000 would be for operating the facility and \$50,000 could be for maintenance and reserves. The remaining \$1 million would go toward repairing and extending sewer and water lines and rebuilding the city's reserves.

After discussion, the mayor agreed a percentage of revenue rather than a fixed amount could be apportioned to the Auditorium. Mitchell was not comfortable that the CAPC, which pays an annual amount of more than \$100,000 to operate and maintain the Auditorium now, would be "off the hook" if the tax were enacted.

Berry stated much of the CAPC contribution would go away as would much of what the city pays for Auditorium utilities;

however, details would be worked out when they are ready to craft an ordinance.

Alderman Joyce Zeller commented she did not think the public would support a tax to fund the Auditorium. Maybe sewer repair, but not the Auditorium.

McClung remarked if the city were to net \$1.2 million from the tax, he would want to give \$300,000 toward the Auditorium, but did not think the tax would generate nearly that much.

DeVito mentioned Berry had presented a five-year plan, so suggested a five-year sunset on the tax, and Berry countered that he was thinking of a ten-year sunset.

DeVito answered that the city should then have a ten-year plan, to which Berry was amenable. "It took us ten to fifteen years to get into this mess, so it will take us awhile to climb back out," he said.

Mitchell was still not satisfied that the CAPC would not be participating much in maintaining the Auditorium, and DeVito replied, "The Auditorium has been a political hot potato for years. It has been tossed back and forth between the city and the CAPC." He said 12 percent of CAPC collections are diverted to maintaining a building, not attracting tourists to town. If funds were redirected back into advertising, it would benefit everyone because the city depends on tax revenue it gets from tourists.

Berry said he would continue to update council at the next meeting.

Bank erosion jeopardizes water lines

NICKY BOYETTE

Barry Connell, plant manager at the Freeman-Raney Water Treatment Plant, told the Carroll-Boone Water District board at its April 21 meeting that in February staff at the plant suspected something was wrong with a section of the transmission line south of Berryville. On Feb. 12, personnel were getting ready to go to the vicinity and walk the line to find the problem when a person who had been walking his dog along County 322 called to report a hole in the ductile iron pipe.

Connell and crew went to the scene and found a leak that had bored a hole in the ground deep enough to lose a shovel in. He said it sounded like a jet engine. However, they were able to repair the pipe fairly quickly without shutting down the flow of water.

Connell reported there is a new concern. That same transmission runs near a portion of Keels Creek about a quarter mile west of County Road 302. In 2012, CBWD contracted with consulting engineers McGoodwin, Williams & Yates to stabilize a section of Keels Creek where erosion of the bank had put a section of CBWD pipe in jeopardy. Engineer Chris Hall of MWY stated the 2012 repair is holding well, but just upstream from that location winter floods seriously eroded another 40-60 feet of bank and the pipeline is in jeopardy again.

Hall said if the pipe were to burst, all customers downstream –Berryville, Green Forest and Harrison – would be under a boil order for at least the couple of days it would take to repair the pipe. However, MWY has already applied for a grant through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management to proactively stabilize the stream bank again. He said, as with the previous project, they would bring in riprap and boulders and even use fill from the creek to restore the creek bank back to its original position before the erosion, then add topsoil and plant grass in areas that

needed to be reclaimed.

Between the two funding agencies, 87.5 percent of the \$600,000-700,000 repair would be covered by the grant. The good news, according to Hall, is the creek veers away from the transmission line after this section.

Hall toured the site with representatives of FEMA but has not yet learned if the grant has been awarded. He said if the grant were awarded, he would want to begin work quickly to prevent any further erosion and protect the transmission line.

The board voted to authorize MWY to aggressively pursue this project.

Other projects

Hall said the parallel transmission line project has moved beyond nearby residences, and even though the terrain is rough, they can make faster progress toward Hwy. 23. Hall stated that in another part of the project, contractors would in late May or early June begin boring a tunnel under the Kings River for inserting a section of pipe.

In other business, the board voted to award the three-year sludge removal contract to Miller-Lagoon Services.

Finances

Office manager Cathy Klein reported the project for moving a section of the transmission line because of the widening of US 62 near Green Forest is complete, and it came in under budget. Total cost was \$1,354,000 of which \$890,116 will be reimbursed by the Arkansas Highway Department.

She also announced the plant had produced about 18 million more gallons to date than they had budgeted. Also, she noted they are \$52,000 under budget on expenses, partly because of lower than expected electricity bills. Klein stated, all factors considered, they are \$81,000 favorable compared to their budget.

Next meeting will be Thursday, July 21, at 10 a.m. at the Freeman-Raney Water Treatment Plant.

ESH gets new administrator

NICKY BOYETTE

Vicki Andert, chief of nursing at Eureka Springs Hospital, announced Allegiance Health Care has hired F. Peter Savoy III as the new administrator for ESH. Savoy's background includes serving in multiple administrative positions since 1975, as well as maintaining a private law practice

specializing in health care and municipal law. He also served as Mayor of Mamou, La., from 1981 to 1986.

Savoy holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from McNeese State University, Certified Nursing Facility Administrator, Certified Nursing Facility Administrator Preceptor, and Juris Doctorate degree from Southern

Law Center, and is a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association.

Savoy will hold the CEO office for ESH and River Valley Medical Center in Dardanelle. He will begin May 16.

Savoy replaces Chris Bariola who moved on to a similar position for a facility just south of Memphis to be nearer his family.

Special ceremony at Soldier On Service Dogs Facility

Mayor of Fayetteville, Lioneld Jordan will proclaim Northwest Arkansas Veteran Suicide Awareness Day on April 29 at a special ceremony that will begin at 9:30 a.m. at Soldier On Service Dogs' facility, 2378 W. Moore Lane.

Twenty-one red, white, and blue trees will be planted on Soldier On Service Dogs' grounds to represent the 21 veteran lives lost in Northwest Arkansas to suicide each year. SOSD hopes that these trees will serve as a motivator to band together as a community to lessen the number of seeds of suicidal thoughts planted and as a memorial to those who have suffered.

The public is invited to attend. Individuals may purchase one of the trees in memory of a loved one or to show their support of the effort to erase Veteran suicide. Each tree will include a plaque that can be inscribed with a name or quote. The trees are \$50 a piece.

For questions about the ceremony or if you would like a tree email Katelyn@soldieronservicedogs.com or call (479) 521-9301.

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Storm warning could come

NICKY BOYETTE

Mayor Butch Berry told council Monday he had spoken with the United States Department of Agriculture last year about the possibility of a grant to pay for warning sirens to be stationed around town to alert citizens of tornadoes or other violent weather events.

"They found one," Berry said. The city can receive a grant of \$41,000 to position three sirens in strategic places around town. However, the city would need to pay a match of \$14,350. He said this amount would be available because of refinancing the Eureka Springs Fire Department ambulance.

Council was still reeling from discussions of stagnant revenue, the need for a sales tax and a freeze on non-essential

expenditures, so responses came slowly. Alderman Terry McClung commented that the city has survived all these years without a tornado in town, but added he would have a hard time saying "no" to the grant.

Alderman Joyce Zeller asked, "Don't we already have enough ways to alert people? Couldn't it be hacked? Aren't we freezing spending? Couldn't we put this off?"

Berry responded when the city wrote the grant it was not known the budget situation would be like it is. But the grant opportunity is here now, and would not be available later. He acknowledged Zeller's concerns.

Alderman David Mitchell also acknowledged Zeller's questions, but likened this situation to when

the Fire Department said it needed to upgrade the self-contained breathing apparatuses because the firemen were not safe otherwise. "We must protect citizens," he contended, "and we have this opportunity and we can pay for it."

Alderman James DeVito added that climate and weather patterns have changed, so the possibility of needing a warning device has increased. "I'm willing to bite the bullet on this one and be in favor of it. If it saves one person, one family, it will be a small price to pay."

McClung moved to assign the resolution a number and read it for passage. Vote to approve his motion was 4-1, Zeller voting No.

They are sooo hot!

Burt Hamilton originally wanted to concoct a West Indian hot sauce, but found when he added turmeric and other spices his sauces leaned more toward East Indian flavor. Friends loved it.

Burt and his partner, Carly James, decided to bottle Mundi Sauce, and before you can say, "Yowza!" they were stirring 60 gallons of sauce at a time at the University of Arkansas Food Innovation Program plant.

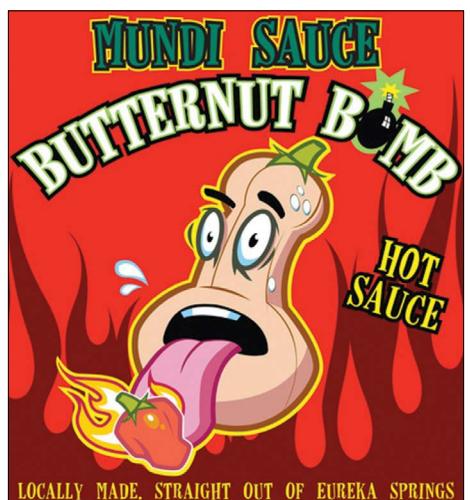
What could be better? Entering their Butternut Bomb sauce (with ingenious ingredients like butternut squash) in the Louisiana Hot Sauce Expo in Lafayette, of course.

More than 62 vendors competed in the Indian Hot Sauce competition, with cooks from Hungary, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and Great Britain vying to be top dog. And who won?

Eureka Springs' trendsetters Burt and Carly! First Place World's Hot Sauce Award! True story!

You can buy Mundi Sauce at Hart's, Bunch's, Tad's and Alpine Liquor in town, or stick around for the Cinco de Mayo celebration and competition at Chelsea's, slightly off Center, at 5 p.m., Thursday, May 5.

BTW, Mundi Sauce is the only FDA sanctioned hot sauce made from scratch in Arkansas. Burt, who does the cooking, said he has a covey of organic gardeners growing a variety of exotically hot peppers this season so they'll be ready for the Dallas Zest Fest in January.



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Mercy Hospital Berryville awards scholarships – Mercy Hospital Berryville Auxiliary held a reception and awards ceremony Saturday, April 16 for recipients of the auxiliary scholarships. Left to right: MHBA President Anita Spearman, Carla Aguilar, Rachel Fancher, Dallas Galyen, Ashton Shaw, Lupita Perez and Carl Roberts. *PHOTO BY NETA STAMPS*

Huss presents To Do list

NICKY BOYETTE

New Parks Department director Justin Huss last week gave Parks commissioners a list of items to address immediately, including replacing all rental boats at Lake Leatherwood City Park, renovation of Cabin #4, and an online reservation system for booking the cabins and camping spots. He suggested using LLCP reserves to pay for these items, and maintained they would all be revenue generators.

Huss also suggested Parks could use the funds allocated, but unused while the gardener position was vacant, for a new greenhouse at Harmon Park and a projector for outreach presentations at civic clubs, and outdoor movies. The greenhouse would provide plants to sell and replenishment at springs' gardens and other Parks properties. Commissioners approved re-allocating the funds from the gardener position as Huss suggested, but were more circumspect when it came to spending reserves.

Commissioner Jay Fitzsimmons wanted Huss to provide a clearer accounting summary of projected revenues at LLCP and expected uses of the money. Huss replied the marina fleet – boats they rent out to visitors – was full of holes. Commissioner Steven Foster added, “It looks like the Taliban came

through. The boats we use for planters are in better shape.”

Chair Bill Featherstone agreed the fleet was due for an upgrade. Regarding renovating Cabin #4, he said they should have all cabins available between Memorial Day and Labor Day, and waiting until the next workshop to decide about spending the money would push them past Memorial Day. Huss added he wanted all cabins in shape for renting next winter as a new revenue source.

Fitzsimmons insisted on a better look at the cabin before deciding. Featherstone suggested they hold a special meeting at Cabin #4 as soon as possible and make a decision then, but contended they could go ahead and decide about replacing the marina fleet.

Foster moved to spend \$13,075 from reserves for replacing the equipment at the marina, and Huss agreed to come up with an action plan for LLCP revenue and expenses. Commissioners voted to approve Foster's motion and agreed to

gather for a special meeting at Cabin #4.

Huss told commissioners it was leaving dollars on the table by not addressing the reservation system, but that topic was left for the next workshop.

Director's report

- Huss announced he hired Summer Sherrod, a horticulture student at the University of Arkansas, as the new gardener. She is finishing her degree online and will take over duties as gardener April 26.

- Commissioners grappled with how to handle unpaid vacation pay for interim director Donna Woods. Featherstone said Woods was a full-time city employee during her nine months as interim director, but she was so busy she never took any time off. Featherstone said Woods deserves to be remunerated.

However, city policy states city employees are not eligible for vacation pay until after one year. Discussion covered whether it would be contrary to city policy to pay her vacation pay or even award her a bonus. Commissioners

decided to table the topic until Huss spoke with finance director Lonnie Clark.

- Foster reported he had encountered 20 herpetology students from the University of Arkansas on a field trip at LLCP. They told him they had seen seven collared lizards and one timber rattler. Foster said he would be conducting a botanical walk at LLCP Saturday, May 14, at 10 a.m., for the Arkansas Native Plant Society.

- Featherstone said the LLCP committee needs new members. Anyone interested should talk to him or Huss.

- Commissioners and Huss agreed to “an initial amount to be reviewed” of \$300 per month for Huss as mileage reimbursement for his use of his own vehicle for work.

- The commission voted to add new commissioner Barry Reed to the list of authorized check signers.

Next workshop will be Tuesday, May 3, at 6 p.m., at LLCP, and the next meeting will be Tuesday, May 17, at 6 p.m.

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Eureka Springs has no official shelters for natural disasters

BECKY GILLETTE

If a natural disaster occurs, where do you go for shelter if you live in Eureka Springs?

"We have no shelters," Eureka Springs Fire Department Chief Randy Ates told the *Independent*. "To have a recognized, certified shelter you have to meet all the qualifications and standards of the agencies involved. We don't have any official shelters of that sort. No one has stepped forward and said, 'You can use my place,' and taken steps to establish a shelter."

What could be done instead, Ates said, is have churches or schools volunteer to provide shelter after a disaster. While there probably wouldn't be much in the way of food and water supplies, or cots and bedding material, having a school or church open to take people in could save lives.

"Let's say, for instance, an area of town is without electricity on a cold winter night," Ates said. "We can contact various churches, places with a bathroom and kitchen, that would open up their

doors and house residents. I believe the school would be willing to open up the gym or cafeteria until the event passes."

Ates suggested consideration of setting up a shelter at the new community center. It is centrally located, and tourists could find it.

"It would be awesome if we could set up a shelter there, especially for stormy weather," Ates said. "It would increase the value of the community center."

One of the most likely natural disasters that could affect Eureka Springs would be a tornado. Some people think the city is less prone to have a tornado than more flat areas of the country, but Ates said Eureka is not immune to tornadoes.

"If you watch the weather, it is easy to believe that," Ates said. "Storms will start up in western and mid-Oklahoma.

By the time it gets here after dark, often the storms break up with different paths of air flows. But we have had several near misses in recent years. One passed

over Highway 23 between Chana's and Turpentine Creek, and tore up some chicken houses. And then the year before that we had one that went around the south edge of our area at the Madison County line and destroyed several farm buildings."

The city is working to provide better tornado protection for the community. Ates said the city has applied for a tornado siren grant from USDA, and has made it

through the first half of that selection round. The grant would be used to install three tornado sirens in town.

Local schools practice diligently to be prepared for a tornado or other natural disaster, and the Eureka Springs Hospital and local nursing homes have emergency action plans in place and backup electrical generators.

"Tourists are the ones who can be caught flat footed, but many hotels have plans where they can move guests into more secure areas such as hallways and sublevels," Ates said.

Disasters are a major test of a community's resilience, including the willingness of people to volunteer to help after the disaster.

"One of the biggest misconceptions is in the event of a disaster, emergency services will take care of everything," Ates said. "It is simply not possible. While we will most definitely do our best, it overwhelms the ability of our people to cope. People need to be prepared themselves until emergency services can get to them. We have to gain access to the most dangerous areas first, and care first for those with the most serious injuries."

"In the event of a true disaster, we won't be able to call in other resources because they will be coping in their communities, as well. The saving grace is this area has more than your average number of people who will step up and lend a helping hand."

Ates recommends having an emergency preparedness kit for anything

you can't do without for 72 hours after a disaster. A waterproof tote can be used to keep a flashlight with spare batteries, a battery powered portable radio (keep in mind that in a true disaster, cell phone and land lines will be useless and the main way of finding out what is going will be the radio), a change of clothing, prescriptions and a copy of important documents including prescriptions, a driver's license, and a Social Security card to prove you are a resident. Put several bottles of water and some food in your tote. In case the water system is contaminated, it is a good idea to have a case of drinking water stored. Having some cash can be handy because without electricity, debit cards and credit cards won't be working. A first aid kit is also recommended along with a gas camp stove for cooking if you don't have a woodstove.

It is also good to have phone numbers written down, including those of family and close friends and your insurance company. If your cell phone battery is dead and you borrow a phone from someone else, it is good to know what numbers to dial.

It is important to have situational awareness. For example, if it looks like some bad weather is in store, make sure to fill up the car with gas because if the electricity goes out, gas stations are unable to pump.

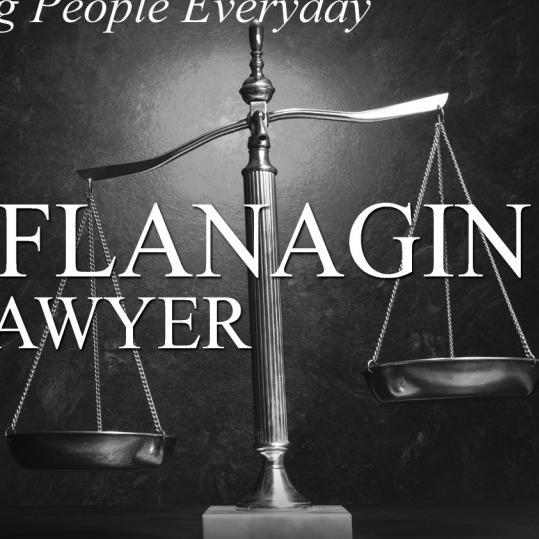
Don't forget to look out for others.

"Do you have neighbors who live in homes that are not secure in high winds?" he asks. "Neighbors who might not have a back-up source of heat if the electricity goes out? We are a small community and help each other, but sometimes people get overlooked."

For people who want to know more about how they can help after a disaster, training is available through the Community Emergency Response Team program. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members also are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community. If you are interested in receiving CERT training, visit the website ready.arkansas.gov/getInvolved. Classes are held on demand.

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Low Impact resolution going to council

NICKY BOYETTE

Jim Helwig, geologist and member of the Springs Committee, urged Parks' commissioners last Tuesday to adopt a resolution endorsing "an initiative for an integrated approach to storm water management... for all of its projects." The approach is called Low Impact Development, and Helwig said LID refers to systems and practices that mimic natural processes that manage storm water as close as possible to where it falls. Permeable pavement, rain gardens and rain barrels can be part of the approach.

Helwig said the topography of Eureka Springs, along with its karst hydrology and dense development, presents challenges for handling storm water. "We should consider adoption of LID as an opportunity to vastly improve our relationship with the natural environment and our management of parks."

Parks Director Justin Huss said Parks is the obvious place to push this agenda, and urged commissioners to lead by example. He also mentioned Mayor Butch Berry is developing a plan for a two percent tax to improve the city's infrastructure, and this initiative could be included in the mayor's plan.

Chair Bill Featherstone said the city saw the effects of not having effective storm water management in place last year. "We should be the showcase," he said.

Commissioners voted unanimously to endorse the resolution and send it to city council.



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ESFD to get safety equipment

NICKY BOYETTE

Alderman James DeVito moved to place proposed Ordinance #2240, waiving requirements of competitive bidding for purchasing 10 self-contained breathing apparatuses for ESFD, on its second reading at the April 25 city council meeting.

Fire Chief Randy Ates told council the plan has been to phase out ten units per year, hopefully with the assistance of grant funds. Mayor's assistant Kim Stryker said the city received a grant for \$47,000, which obligated the city to match with \$16,904. She said that sum would purchase eight of the devices, and Ordinance #2240 stipulates the city intends to purchase ten.

Mayor Butch Berry pointed out the \$16,904 for the match plus two additional units at probably less than \$8000 each still would put the total at around \$32,000. Ates mentioned the Rural Eureka Springs firefighters were willing to put up \$5000 toward the equipment, and alderman David Mitchell announced his daring arithmetic had determined the city would therefore pay \$27,000 for ten units when \$80,000 had been budgeted.

DeVito corrected language in the proposed ordinance and moved to approve it on its second reading. That vote went so well, he put the ordinance on its third reading, which also passed unanimously.

Planning to work out Code update

NICKY BOYETTE

Chair Steve Beacham represented a resolution from Planning asking city council to establish a 90-day moratorium "on the issuance of new business licenses in residential zones for Category 175 Tour Homes." He explained that citizens in one particular neighborhood complained to Planning of late-night tours through a property not registered as a tour home. The influx of visitors at the late hours had been causing distress for locals, who signed petitions asking for the tours to stop. Planning was following up on the outcry by asking for a brief pause in the tours while they completed their update of City Code, which would include the section on tour homes.

Alderman James DeVito said he spoke with the tour operator in question, who said he had suspended tours that were the focus of the complaint. DeVito asked if there were still a need for the moratorium.

Beacham replied, "It is the will of the council," and he was only bringing up concerns that were brought to him.

Council decided to take no action on the moratorium. However, Mayor Butch Berry said council would be ready to review Planning's work on updating City Code when it was completed.

During Public Comments, Gary Toub and Kathy Martone who had applied to Planning for a Conditional Use Permit at a one-unit Bed & Breakfast for 23 Elk, asked to postpone their appeal. A strong contingent spoke out against the application at the April 12 Planning meeting, and commissioners denied the request.

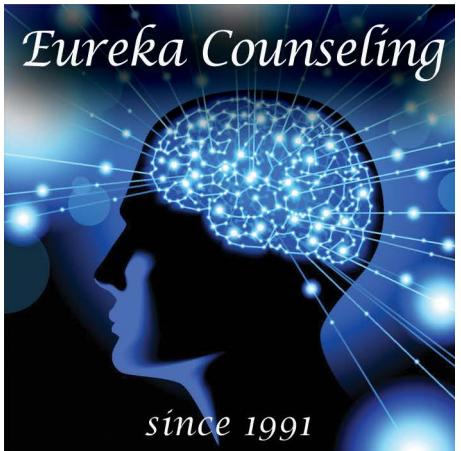
Nevertheless, similar complaints were aired again at the council meeting.

Susan Porter said she was against council carving out a portion of a neighborhood, or what she called spot zoning. She also mentioned Elk Street is very narrow, and a B&B would

create more traffic. Besides, there is a tourist lodging next door and City Code does not allow a CUP within 200 ft. of a same or similar CUP.

Linda McBride said she was concerned with rezoning. Also the city has reached its saturation point for

COUNCIL - CODE UPDATE continued on page 17



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Thanks for the memories**Editor,**

Regarding Vernon Tucker's article
 "The Community Camel," AMEN!

Dear Mr. Vernon Tucker,

I'm 86 years old born in Eureka Springs, Ark., March 27, 1930 – I've written fan letters twice in my life and they have both been to you (this is my second). You speak to my soul! How precious is your gift to say what I wish I had the talent to say!

I don't think you can make a dent in the preconceived notions of the leaders of our "city" (not community anymore) but I thank you for bringing such precious memories back to me – when the mayor and city council worked without pay, worked because they loved their community – my dad, George Head, along with Warren Keck, Brittin Baker – had square dances in the basement of the Auditorium every Saturday nite, summer, winter, year 'round, to make money to support the volunteer fire department – they made enough to buy a new truck.

It was all about making things better, not "different."

I've never ceased to be amazed by the people who move here because they "love the laid back" living, then after being here a few years, decide they know a better way for the city to operate. Take a seat on the council and do nothing but talk! It's laughable and pitiful at the same time.

I remember when the farmers came to town in wagons and pick-up trucks, parked on the courthouse lot (on Saturdays) and sold homegrown produce. The best corn, tomatoes, green

beans, melons, eggs – that was before we had to have parking meters of course.

We had a "Sale Barn" for buying and selling livestock.

We had appliance stores, shoe repair, laundry, dry cleaners, 10¢ store, bakery, small restaurants with home cooking, car dealers, furniture stores, shoe stores, dress shops, drug stores (3 of them) Loy Hess at the Rexall, Bela Pendergrass – Pendergrass Drug, and Mr. Porch – Porch Drug, and 4 doctors had offices downtown.

Thank you for reminding "the powers that be" that some of us live here because it's home. We stay home on "diversity weekends" and our families with little ones can't visit from Tulsa on those weekends – it's all about "political correctness," which I'm too old to observe!

Loved your article – please don't wait so long to jog my memory, I promise I won't write an "epistle" the next time!

Genevieve Bowman**Salute to the American Legion****Editor,**

The Legion Hut Mr. Tucker wrote about [Guestorial April 13] was built by the American Legion Walker-Wilson Post 9, not the VFW. Yes, there is a difference. Post 9 has been serving Eureka Springs for nearly 97 years. We are housed three miles north of downtown with plenty of parking. All are welcome.

Mike Warkentin**Rubbing Elbos****Editor,**

I've had a secret crush on Max Elbo (please don't tell his wife, Selena) ever since I saw a pointillism pen and ink he

had done of my not-so secret crush, John Lennon.

Max is a creative genius and I've been fortunate to formally photograph him, twice.

Max was part of the 2004 series where I photographed 75 Eureka Springs artists, most in their studio environments. Arriving at Max's home for the first time I was not sure what to expect.

Max was in his bedroom sitting in his big comfy chair, with everything important close at hand – his guitar, pens, paper, computer, pipe and Selena, who arrived during the shoot with a big smile and a cup of tea.

The second photo shoot was for the Eureka Springs School of the Arts benefit calendar featuring local artists wearing only an apron (the women) or a baseball cap (the men) emblazoned with the ESSA logo. Each artist was being photographed in a sponsoring local restaurant and I met Max downstairs at Mud Street Café, again not knowing what to expect.

A large wooden bar is the centerpiece of the restaurant and once it was cleared I timidly asked Max to don his cap, get naked and climb aboard the bar. Sitting him upright with legs crossed, I place a large strawberry shortcake in his lap and snapped the photo.

It was an awkward moment for both of us, but Max smiled through it all, and I think eventually forgave me.

This Sunday, May 1, starting at 4 p.m. is a benefit fundraiser and celebration for Max Elbo upstairs in the Basin Park Ballroom.

How appropriate we kick off the May Festival of the Arts in celebration of this gifted local treasure.

John Rankine**WEEK'S TopTweets**

@amishschool: My mother talks into the phone like a combat soldier calling in air support.

@WmAder: A thing I learned at this week's staff meeting is I like to cuddle as

I fall asleep.

@68Cly29: I am not narcissistic. I just wonder how all of this pertains to me.

@1folloernodad: A police dog had to sniff my bag but it was a puppy so I wasn't even worried cause it's probably not good at its job yet.

@ConanOBrien: After months of practice I can finally touch

my toes. By telling them that they're beautiful.

@greenishduck: I like when websites ask, "How did you hear about us?" Haha. Paranoid much?

@adamhess1: I just bumped into my old headmistress who said how weird it is to see me all grown up now. Surely it would be weirder if I were still 9.

@friedmanjon: "Sorry I'm late, but let me explain." – Inventor of the snooze button at the initial presentation.

@caseytduncan: Me: I wouldn't miss it for the world. Friend: It was yesterday.

@juliussharpe: Somehow women make a new friend every week while guys just know the same six people their entire lives.

INDEPENDENT Editorial

Taking what's offered

Years ago, on a cold winter afternoon in the mid-1960s, a young boy was walking home from school in Seligman, Mo., right up the road from us about 20 miles. He saw something next to a barn he wasn't accustomed to seeing and ran home to share the news with his mother.

"Mama, there's a neegra living in that old barn next to the railroad tracks."

His mother gave him her full attention and asked what he saw and when he saw it. Then she said, "You and your brother get in the car right now and wait for me."

The boys did as they were told, and in a few minutes their mom came out and started the engine. She drove to the barn, told the boys to stay in the car, and hollered for the man who appeared from inside. "Get in," she told the man, and he did. In the front seat she had a pile of what she had collected in a hurry – a blanket, food, and what money she could scrape together. She put the blanket around the man and said for him to help himself to a baloney sandwich and a banana.

"You're not safe around here," she told him.

The woman drove her two sons and the homeless black-skinned man 90 miles to Springfield, where she let him out, downtown. She handed him what money she had, gave him what food was left, and told him to keep the blanket.

More recently, we were in a restaurant next to a table of four. Their conversation indicated that the older couple were parents of the 50 or so year-old woman and in-laws of her husband. The older woman looked neither with it nor out of it. She had kind but vacant eyes.

When the meal was finished, the server brought the check and four mints. The daughter opened a mint and offered it to her mother. Three times. "Mother! It's a mint! For you!" Each time she announced that it was a mint, her voice trebled right up, as though hearing were the problem.

Finally the older woman took the mint from her daughter, looked at it for a moment, put it in her mouth and swallowed it.

"Mother! It was a mint! You're not supposed to swallow it whole!"

The daughter was ready to call Air-Evac, and pleaded with her husband, whose cell phone suddenly rang. The husband said, "I don't know who this is," and answered it anyway while his wife prattled, "Ted, mother swallowed the whole mint! Do something."

Ted got up and left the table to talk to someone he didn't know.

"Daddy! Mother ate the mint without chewing!"

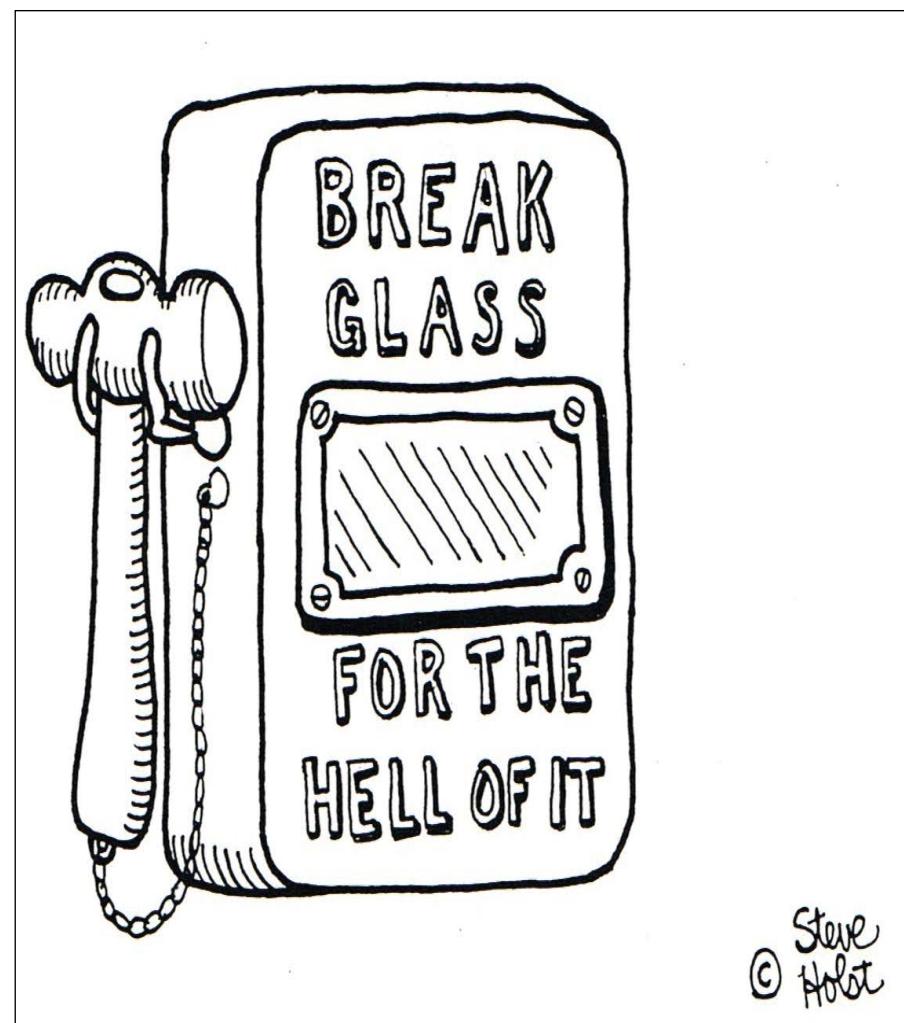
The father looked at his wife and touched her cheek with the back of the fingers of his right hand. "Maybe it will kill her. I hope not."

He pulled out his wallet, and with shaky fingers trolled for a credit card and placed it on the tray. The server swooshed in and instructed the man to sign a tiny, shiny piece of paper. The son-in-law hung up, verified that his father-in-law had tipped, and said it's time to go. He and the daughter led the way, while the old man pulled his wife's chair out and helped her up. When both were steady on their feet, the woman took the mint out from under her tongue, wrapped it in the original cellophane, nudged it under her saucer, and smiled at her husband. They tottered out of somewhere they likely never wanted to be to be driven back to somewhere they did.

There is no earthly reason these two events crowded into a cranium that hasn't been backed-up in years, other than watching presidential candidates cauterize each other instead of listening, providing, inspiring, and relating. We don't have to be unkind to anyone unless we want to be.

Maybe we should just take what's offered, a baloney sandwich or a mint, and hope for the best.

Mary Pat Boian



© Steve Holt

The Pursuit Of HAPPINESS

by Dan Krotz

The Boss and I were preparing to leave the parking lot of the Evil Retail Giant when I noticed a set of carpeted floor mats in the trunk of our Subaru. They were (and are) in their factory wrappers, entirely pristine, and much nicer than the standard-issue rubber mats we're currently using. I suggested that we should replace the rubber ones with the upscale carpeted ones.

"Oh no," she said, with some alarm. "I'm saving them for good."

For a number of (entirely legitimate) reasons, I burst into hysterical laughter. And I could not stop, even when I started to choke. It was only when I ran out of oxygen, and became aware of her glower, that I finally got myself under control.

"It is not in your best interests to make fun of me," she said. "What's so amusing?"

Just between you and me – and you've gotta promise not to repeat this – every so often the Boss falls off the logic train and makes about as much sense as a schizophrenic on acid skiing down an icy mountain slope. On these occasions, albeit rare, I have certainly learned that it is not in my best interests to laugh, or to suggest a saner range of alternatives; better, I assure you, to assume a longanimous face, to simply nod, to fain agreement.

"I'm just trying to think of what 'good' might mean in this instance," I said, nodding. "Do you mean, like, someone important coming to see us? Who would ride in our car?"

"Don't be ridiculous." she scoffed. "We don't know anyone important."

And yet, was that true? I suddenly remembered when Harald and Sonja, King and Queen of Norway, came to Minneapolis, in 1992. They were so beautiful, and young, and in love, that I washed and waxed my 1970 Volvo station wagon on the off chance that they might drive down the street where I lived. I was so hopeful. (Really).

They didn't, but I still believe in miracles. Maybe they'll come to the Ozarks, maybe they'll need a ride from the airport. The Boss is right (again). We'd better save those mats for good.

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.
- **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.
- **Overeaters Anonymous** – Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. Barbara (479) 244-0371 • **Narcotics Anonymous** – Fridays, 5:30 p.m. (903) 278-5568. Meetings held at Eureka Springs Coffee Pot Group behind Land O' Nod Victorian Inn.
- **Coffee Break Al-Anon Family Group Women** – Tuesdays, 9:45 a.m., Faith Christian Family Church, Hwy. 23S, (479) 363-9495. • **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. Meetings held at Eureka Springs Coffee Pot Group behind Land O' Nod Victorian Inn. All other meetings: See www.nwarkaa.org

INDEPENDENT News

Hickory-Hazel compromise reached

NICKY BOYETTE

At the April 19 Parks meeting, Parks chair Bill Featherstone again presented Jim Girkin's request for vacation of Hickory Street, a platted but unopened street that runs through property Girkin owns. Girkin intends to unify contiguous properties so he can sell them. Girkin had originally asked for a vacation of a portion of Hazel Street, but after considerable legwork investigating his request, he withdrew that part of his application.

Featherstone noted that a small portion on the southernmost edge of Girkin's lots could be used to connect parts of the proposed urban trail loop. It's a steep hillside, and Featherstone described using a switchback trail design to get down the grade. Girkin agreed to transfer his portion of that lot to the city in return for approval of the rest of this plan. Featherstone was very careful to ensure commissioners knew exactly what they would be vacating, and they ultimately voted unanimously to approve what Featherstone called "a reasonable compromise."

Their decision will be passed along to the Planning Commission for consideration.

INDEPENDENT ConstablesOnPatrol

APRIL 18

9:54 p.m. – Caller just west of downtown reported hearing either fireworks or gunshots nearby. Constable on patrol scoured the area and did not hear a thing.

11:28 p.m. – Motel staff asked ESPD to check on a suspicious vehicle. Constable never encountered it.

APRIL 19

6:21 p.m. – Merchant downtown reported a shoplifting.

10:02 p.m. – There was an altercation at a laundromat about stolen clothes.

APRIL 20

4:39 a.m. – Central dispatch passed along that a passerby noticed a vehicle with its doors open in a parking lot near downtown. Constable went to the scene. He found a vehicle with a flat, and gave the owner a ride home.

2:06 p.m. – There was a private property accident.

4:01 p.m. – ESPD learned of a possibly suicidal female. She was transported to ESH.

11:22 p.m. – Resident in an apartment complained about the volume of the neighbor's music. Constable discussed the complaint with the neighbor.

APRIL 22

10:39 a.m. – Traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the driver for driving on a suspended license, possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, speeding and no vehicle insurance.

1:03 p.m. – Individual was arrested on a warrant for contempt of court.

APRIL 23

12:01 a.m. – Motorist called in another vehicle being driven all over US 62 in the city limits. Constable encountered the vehicle and issued a citation to the driver for careless and

imprudent driving.

12:12 a.m. – Guests at a motel returned to their room to find someone had broken in.

1:29 a.m. – A boyfriend staying at a downtown tourist lodging told ESPD his girlfriend was missing. Constables found her and learned the couple had had an argument. They separated for the night.

11:27 a.m. – Motel manager discovered property left beside the motel. Constable picked up the items.

12:06 p.m. – Constable and EMS responded to a two-vehicle accident on US 62 toward the western part of town.

9:48 p.m. – On the eastern side of town, there was a three-vehicle accident. Constables, EMS and ESFD all responded. One driver was arrested for DWI, no proof of insurance and refusal to submit. Another individual was arrested for public intoxication.

APRIL 24

11:03 a.m. – Concerned caller from Madison County claimed the mother of the step children had taken them, and the mother seemed intoxicated. Constable encountered her vehicle. He found the mother did not appear to be intoxicated and the children were okay.

11:49 a.m. – Individual reported her cell phone went missing from her parked vehicle.

4:34 p.m. – Motorist called in a reckless driver who had almost hit several vehicles on its way toward town from the south. Constable observed similar reckless behavior and issued a citation.

APRIL 25

1:53 a.m. – Observer downtown noticed a possibly inebriated male passed out on the sidewalk. Constable who responded found a female lying down to look at the sky and not intoxicated.

Hazards' plan moves ahead

NICKY BOYETTE

Steve Beacham, chair of the Planning Commission, represented a resolution forwarding the Hazard Mitigation Plan developed by Craig Hull of the Osage Group for city council's consideration Monday night. The resolution states the plan "identifies natural hazards, assesses local priorities and targets specific infrastructure components for strengthening."

Beacham said the 150-page document identified three hazards in particular: the tunnel underneath downtown, the dam at Black Bass Lake and the sewer and infrastructure issues in town. He said by adopting the plan, the city can chart a direction for addressing these concerns.

The first question from council was from alderman David Mitchell: "Does the plan obligate the city to spend any money?"

Beacham said the plan did not obligate the city to spend anything, and adopting it does open up grant opportunities.

Alderman James DeVito moved to have city attorney Tim Weaver draft a resolution adopting the Hazard Mitigation Plan, and vote was unanimous to approve the motion.

Council was not so fast to adopt another part of Hull's plan, establishment of an Improvement District. Beacham explained the Improvement District would be a partnership between public and private entities to provide a cooperative and equitable structure to accomplish common goals such

as repairing the tunnel downtown which runs underneath both publicly and privately owned properties.

Alderman Terry McClung pointed out the resolution council received from Planning did not clearly establish participation levels for the financial partnership.

Mayor Butch Berry said the Improvement District would be for the five or six property owners from the

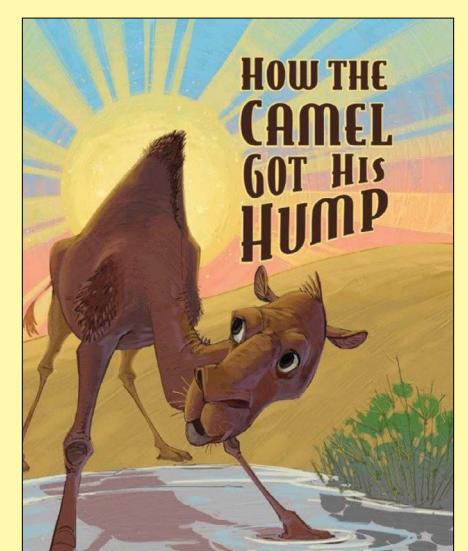
courthouse down to the Grand Central Hotel, and said once details were ironed out the Improvement District would help identify how the partners could repair the crumbling tunnel beneath them.

Sentiment was the group wanted to hear more explanation from Hull. Berry said he would try to get him to the next meeting, so the topic was tabled.

How the camel got his hump

The Arkansas Arts Center Children's Theatre on Tour will perform *How the Camel Got His Hump* at Main Stage Creative Community Center on April 30 at 2 p.m. The story tells of the lazy camel who won't do his part until the Djinn of all the Deserts rolls in on a cloud of magic dust and the camel learns a valuable lesson about hard work and cooperation.

Admission is free and seating is limited. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. Main Stage is located at 67 North Main Street.



Frolic with the mermaids at the Aud this weekend

Students in Bekah Wilson's acting classes, from Carroll County, Harrison, and Reeds Spring, Mo., will fill the Eureka Springs Auditorium with fun, fish, and fantasy this weekend when Elite Dance Studios presents *The Little Mermaid*, a play that became an instant classic when it was released in 1989.

The lead role of Ariel is played by Callie Johnson, a talented young performer who has worked with Wilson in past productions. The cast also includes Wilson's son Gavin and daughter Eden, both who performed in a production of *Oliver!* in Harrison last year.

Wilson began offering acting classes at Elite in 2014. Last year's acting class worked primarily on monologues, but Wilson thought performing in a play would add depth to experience. "They still work on voice, improv, and other basics," she said, "but now they're putting all their tools to work at once."

The current acting class began in September, but the group did not start

practicing for this play until January. By the end of February, they had added weekend rehearsals, although Wilson frets about not having the kind of rehearsal time she would ordinarily have.

"I don't know if it's because of Facebook and texting, but kids seem to have more difficulty than ever communicating face to face," Wilson said. "Performing in front of a live audience is very scary, but it's one of the most rewarding things anyone can do!"

She said this performance could not have hit the stage without sponsors. "We had to pay rights and royalties for the show, and rent the Aud, so I asked the kids to help find businesses that could help. Parents of the actors have also gone above and beyond to support the play." On a Sunday afternoon earlier this month, parents worked on costumes in the lobby at Elite while the students rehearsed in the adjacent studio.

Wilson will direct for the Theatre



Fish and fun at the Aud Saturday and Sunday – From left, Sadie Sharp as Flounder, Callie Johnson as Ariel, Gavin Wilson as Prince Eric and Eden Wilson as Sebastian.

Company of the Ozarks and North Arkansas College in the coming year.

The Little Mermaid will play at 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 30, and 3 p.m.

on Sunday, May 1. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for children under 16, and tickets are available at Elite Dance Studios or by calling (870) 423-5304.

HDC OKs porch

NICKY BOYETTE

It took very few minutes for the Historic District Commission to approve the only application on the agenda at the April 20 meeting, and as a result Britt Evans will soon be building a 10x12-ft. rear deck at 18 Eureka Street.

Commissioners also approved these four items on the Consent Agenda:

- 1 Kingshighway – new sign

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. Keynote speaker is State Rep. 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.

Patching it together

Eureka! Quilters Guild will present, *Quilts – Enduring Treasures*, at the Convention Center at Inn of the Ozarks on Saturday and Sunday May 6 and 7 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. The show will feature works of Suzanne Tourtelot, Carole Sturgis and Martha Ann Warren among quilts made by guild members.

Quilting vendors, a guild boutique and lunch will be available on site. A \$5 admission donation is requested. If you have any questions contact Margy Thompson at (918) 630-8992.

Code Yellow Alert for all blood types

The Community Blood Center of the Ozarks has issued a code yellow alert for all blood types. There will be a blood drive at the Berryville High School, 215 Ferguson Street on Tuesday, May 3 from 9:30 – 3 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 for more information on the LifePoints donor rewards program go to www.cbcoc.org or call toll-free (800) 280-5337.

- 107 E. Van Buren – new sign
- 15 Spring – new sign
- 16 White – new sign

Consent Agenda items are Level I applications that the City Preservation Officer believes to be in accordance with the Design Guidelines.

Chair Dee Bright presented these Administrative Approvals that are applications for repair or work involving no changes in materials or color but which also include applications for changes in roofing color:

- 194 Spring – replace front stairways
- 3 Howell – re-roof with shingle surface flat roofing
- 110 Spring – replace porch flooring & railings
- 23 Hale – repaint
- 51 Copper – re-roof, new color
- 12 White – repair, repaint
- 19 Kimberling – rebuild retaining wall
- 12 Hillside – re-roof, new color; repair, re-paint porch

Next meeting will be Wednesday, May 4, at 6 p.m.

Removing English ivy can save the life of a tree *And the thousands it can cost to remove a dead tree*

BECKY GILLETTE

On Earth Day instead of planting a tree, arborist Chris Fischer demonstrated how to save the life of a tree by removing a section of English ivy covering a very large, old catalpa tree located on private property next to the Downtown Natives Pagoda Garden on First Street.

When you look around Eureka Springs, you find areas where hillsides and trees are covered with English ivy that can choke the trees making them unable to function, which can be fatal. That not only might cause the loss of a tree that may have been growing in Eureka Springs prior to the town being founded, but it can cost thousands of dollars in tree removal costs. It can also cause significant damage to buildings and property when the tree eventually falls.

The designation of how exotic or invasive plants rank is a local scenario based on the threat or injury it is posing. In Fayetteville, English ivy is considering one of 18 invasive plants to be restricted from landscape plans reviewed by the urban forester.

"In my take, the ivy is more prevalent here in our trees than any other organism," Fischer said. "It is the number one plant that is harming mature standing trees. Ivy is a candidate for one of the worst invasive non-native plants in the state. The University of Arkansas master gardeners have included it in their top ten list."

He likens a tree covered with ivy to someone wearing a turtleneck sweater in the summer. It slows down the metabolism of the tree by preventing the exchange of gases necessary to growth.

During the Earth Day demonstration, Fisher started by carefully using a chainsaw to cut three quarters of the way through thick ivy vines. He cautions this should only be done by someone with considerable prior experience with chainsaws as this is work that needs to be done carefully. Next he used a handsaw and loppers to cut through the rest of the vine without harming the bark.

The ivy is cut all the way around the tree, generally

from the crown to shoulder height. A pry bar is used to remove ivy in that area, with careful attention to not injure bark and to sever vines at the base of the tree.

In the case of the catalpa tree Fischer was working on, with the help of one other person it took only about an hour to remove the section of ivy. You don't want to totally remove the ivy all in one step as that can shock the tree and give it a sunburn. But the initial work is just the start.

"The fight is just beginning," Fischer said. "You have to be vigilant to remove vines that will continue trying to grow up the tree."

It is best to kill ivy before it gets to be a major problem. If the tree is heavily infested, as the ivy dies, it will shed large amounts of material. While that takes cleanup, it also lightens the load on the tree considerably, making it less prone to wind damage.

"This catalpa has probably ten cubic yards of biomass hanging in it," he said. "That's a lot of weight in growing tissue and water. When you sever the ivy roots, it will dry up and die. But it will take years for all the upper parts of the vines to dry off and disconnect from bark. That's what needs to happen to reduce that weight and gravitational pull on limbs and upper canopy so wind, snow and ice can go through the tree without stressing it."

Another reason to remove ivy is the negative impacts on wildlife.

"Ivy has no natural pests and no natural foragers," Fischer said. "Deer, birds and insects don't eat it. Exotic invasives take over when there is no natural competition and no natural management scenario."

Another non-native Fischer says is nearly as damaging as English ivy is creeping euonymus (creeping winterberry). Like ivy, it is an evergreen that produces berries spread by birds. Both also crawl across the ground and propagate by root.

A third contender for the most damaging plant is Japanese honeysuckle.

TREES continued on page 20

Trails and bicycling report

NICKY BOVETTE

Adam Biossat reported at the April 19 Parks meeting that the trails committee has focused on overhauling trail signs and developing a trails policy. He also said trail numbers will be posted and maps will feature the numbers so bikers and hikers can figure out where they are. Biossat also said he has initiated a monthly fun bicycle ride beginning at 5 p.m. at Harmon Park on the last Tuesday of each month.

Nate Griffey told commissioners the half-mile beginner trail at LLCP was completed, consuming 82 volunteer hours. Griffey also announced there

would be “a big deal” race at LLCP Oct. 23 when the National Interscholastic Cycling Association stages a mountain bike race for high school and junior high-aged students. Griffey could not anticipate how many participants there would be, but an NICA representative told him a similar race in Minnesota needed to find parking for more than 1000 cars.

Griffey also said the International Mountain Biking Association will gather for its World Summit in Bentonville on Nov. 10, and Eureka Springs should see plenty of bikers around that time. The Fat Tire Festival will be at LLCP July 15-17.



Cats at the Castle a success – The Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge habitat fundraiser brought faithful supporters for a night of food, drink, and music on Sunday. It featured a silent and live auction and a presentation by New Yorker Bill Nimmo, founder of *TigersinAmerica.org*. Pictured (l.-r.) Charles Ragsdell, Bill Nimmo, Tanya Smith, Scott Smith, and Kizmin Reeves. *PHOTOS BY JAY VRECENAK*



Vicki Andert, head of nursing, presents Catherine Pappas, ESH community liaison, with Employee of the Year Award. *PHOTO BY NICKY BOVETTE*

Pappas named Allegiance Employee of the Year

NICKY BOVETTE

Vicki Andert, head of nursing at Eureka Springs Hospital, announced that Catherine Pappas was named as the 2015 Employee of the Year for Allegiance Health Care. Pappas serves as the community liaison for ESH.

Pappas commented it is her task to educate and inform the community about the services at ESH. She also will follow along with patients who have been released to further care before they can go home, to ensure they get the services they need. In addition, Pappas is the clinic director for the ESH Family Clinic at the Eastgate Center.

“I am humbled to receive an award for doing something I really love to do,” she said, “and what makes it complete is everyone at the hospital. This award represents Eureka Springs Hospital.”

Andert also mentioned Pappas is the third ESH employee in a row to win the award. Andert was honored in 2014 and administrative assistant Jodi Smith received it for 2013.

Andert explained the Allegiance corporate office sends out nomination forms to all of its 32 facilities in five states, and facilities might send back multiple nominees. The corporate office picks the winner.

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. Book selection is *Wearing God: Clothing, Laughter, Fire, and Other Overlooked Ways of Meeting*

God 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.

Laughter and thought at EUUF

EUUF President Forest Jacobi will present *Comebacks, One Liners, and Last Words. Quips to make us laugh, think, and question* on Sunday, May 1 at the Eureka Unitarian Universalist

Fellowship, 17 ELK Street.

Service starts at 11 a.m. and childcare is provided. \$4 for adults, \$2 for children and \$10 per family. Proceeds go to charity.

Travel through the depths of struggle

CoreAge in the Deep's evening of performance art will be Saturday, April 30 at 7 p.m. at The Cave, 240 Hwy. 23 South Suite B. CoreAge performers will take you through the depths of Struggle descending to the bottom of

the ocean floor and up to the land of CoreAge. Kate Lucariello, violin and poetry, and Travis Clark, Cello, will begin the journey into the deep. RSVP is required and there is limited seating. For ticket price call (870) 350-5571.

Harps for Heart of Many Ways

Four harpists from the Northwest Arkansas area will have an evening program, *Harpe Diem*, on Saturday, May 7 at 7 p.m. at The Heart of Many Ways, 68 Mountain St.

This is the final concert in the springtime fundraiser for the Heart of Many Ways historic church building. \$15 suggested donation at the door.

Second Saturday music announced for May

Second Saturday Music in the Park coincides with May Festival of the Arts events on Saturday, May 14. The gypsy jazz of Fayetteville's Block Street Hot Club will be in the Basin Park band shell from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Internationally recognized saxophonist/flutist Bryan Savage will perform from 4 – 5:30 p.m. and from 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Art in the Park will be going on from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. featuring artists offering textiles, jewelry, painting, sculpting and fine wood designs. Enjoy art as it is being created by members of the Weavers Guild, Potters Guild, and the Plein Air Painters in the park setting.

It's an ArtRageous month!

Join on May 7 for a quirky and energetic ArtRageous Parade to kickoff of the May Festival of the Arts. Floats, art cars, dancers, musicians

and more will float down Spring Street in bright colors. Go to www.eurekaspringsfestivalofhearts.com for more events happening this month.

Gallery at Sun Fest Dining Room

The May-June exhibit by fifteen Holiday Island Art guild members will open on May 5.

Early plein air artist exhibit

The Eureka Springs Historical Museum will hold a reception for a special Plein Air exhibit of paintings by early Eureka Springs artists on Thursday, May 12 from 1 – 3 p.m. Paintings and

information on past Plein Air artists and their works of art will be on display.

This exhibit is in conjunction with the May Festival of Fine Arts during the month of May.

Sacred Earth concert for mothers

John Two-Hawks returns to The Auditorium for his annual Mother's Day concert. Two-Hawks welcomes all to reawaken the awareness of our living connection to the earth and universe. All mothers get in for free.

Staying in the pink

The first Nuits Rosé' Eureka Springs Wine Fest will be celebrated May 6 – 8. Various restaurants and bars will be offering Rosé' tastings, flights, and pairings to serve with special menu items.

Drink in the pink at these businesses: Cottage Inn Restaurant; DeVito's of Eureka Springs; Eureka Grill; Grand

Taverne Restaurant and Lounge; Grotto Wood-Fired Pizza and Wine Cave; Keels Creek Winery; KJ's Caribé Restaurante y Cantina; Le Stick Nouveau; Railway Winery; Sparky's Roadhouse Café; StoneHouse Wine Bar.

Check individual participants' websites or Facebook pages for details on offerings during Nuits Rosé.



EARLY DAYSat 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 Six – Play Days on North Main

In those days neighbors would drop in for a chat ever few days. Mrs. Rippetoe, Mrs. Henson, Mrs. Spangler Mrs. Roberts (Fred's mother), and later, Mrs. Gottlich (a sister of the Seidel brothers), often came to visit our mother for an hour or so. Mrs. Spangler brought her little son Harry; Ida loved the little fellow, took delight in amusing him, and was grieved when he died. I have a note in my diary dated August 13, 1890: We went over to Mrs. Spangler's this evening. (At that time living in the Cuthbertson house).

The Spanglers moved out of our neighborhood to a place near the curve of the hill below Spring Street and above Hillside, near where the Obenshains lived. Leonard was born after they moved, or shortly before; I do not remember him very well. But I knew Earl Spangler well. I know the day and month and year of his birth. Why? He was born four days before our sister Ettie's oldest child, which was quite an event to us. Mrs. Spangler and Ettie spent the Fourth of July in our home while the rest of the Millses were at the Fourth of July celebration at the Narrows. Our father always had charge of the fireworks.

There was a siege of high water when the White River was out of its banks. I know it was in the summer of 1888 or

1889. The railroad men were afraid of the bridge at the Narrows being washed out. It was still raining and the river's crest was surging over the stone piers. Loaded flat cars were run upon the bridge to hold it down. Of course, being a girl, I could not go down to the Narrows to see the high water, but I knew some boys who went. Our father went, too, but the boys told us more about what they saw than Pa did. I did hear Pa say that so far as he knew the high water from the White River had never run through the Narrows.

When I was a child in Eureka Springs, I ran barefoot in warm weather. I think that more than sixty years ago all children did – in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri – East, West, North, South. We did not go to town without putting on our shoes, and how I hated them! I do not know how old I was, but I remember the last time I went barefoot, for I was ashamed. Our bunch was made up of my younger brother and sister, May and Kate Rippetoe, Walter and Blanch Gottlich, Fred Roberts, and others. We went to the Magnetic Spring, which was quite near, almost every day. On the day in question we went as usual. I suppose I was the oldest in the bunch, but we were all barefoot. There was a large crowd of ladies and gentlemen there, and I was ashamed. I never went anywhere

again without wearing shoes.

I was a little girl down there when the Magnetic Spring was discovered. I have recently read a comment by someone who had never been able to find any magnetic properties in the water of that spring. While this is one of my best loved springs, I wish to state that the water of the spring, in my opinion, was never magnetic although steel knife blades laid in the water would pick up needles.

The original spring was not of a copious flow and emerged from rocks of unattractive formation, flowed eight or ten feet over a flat, sloping rock, to trickle into a small, rocky basin. There is no reason to doubt the words of those persons who laid open knife blades so treated and became magnetized. I believe now that not the water, but the rock, had magnetic properties which the water conducted into steel knives.

The source of the spring has since been tapped at a picturesque spot and a more bountiful flow of water secured. This new supply is colder for it no longer flows over a flat rock exposed to the sun, but it is still the same water, and very good water it has always been.

My younger sister had some recollections of the Magnetic Spring, that I shall include with my notes:



"One day when I was at the Magnetic Spring, I noticed a man holding his knife blade under the stream of water. His companion was watching him intently, so out of childish curiosity, I watched also.

"You are wasting your time," said the watcher.

"Personally I agreed with him anyone could see the knife was clean and to me it seemed foolish to keep on washing it, as I supposed that was what he was doing.

"No, I am going to prove I am right," answered the man with the knife. Presently he added, "Now you will see."

"From his pocket he took a needle, some small tacks and a few other such things. But I have never forgotten how those objects clung to the knife blade as it was held above them.

"The man watching was surprised. I was astonished and did not understand until several years later that the man with the knife was demonstrating the magnetic qualities in that sparkling stream of water."



Art in a higher place – The newly opened Roxy's Upper Room at 95 Spring St. had a continuous crowd of supporters and featured music by Catherine Reed. *PHOTOS BY JAY VRECENAK*



Mercury Retrograde in Taurus

Mercury (the wing-footed Hermes) retrogrades Thursday, at 23 degrees Taurus (till May 22). Mercury in Taurus, sign of values, resources, investments (time, money), possessions. Mercury has us rethinking, reassessing, re-evaluating, reviewing values, money and possessions. What, where and how are they? During Mercury retro humanity, events and Earth's kingdoms collectively enter into retreat (except for those born with Mercury retrograde).

As Mercury governs our thinking, communication, interactions,

transportation, when retro (moving in reverse), there's confusion, everything works backwards, sideways or not at all. Everyone's driving without thinking, looking in a rear-view mirror, and concentrating on inner realities. With Mercury retro we do not move forward easily, destination routes are obstructed and all actions must be re-thought-out, redone, re-kindled, re-worked, re-assessed, re-envisioned and re-arranged. It is a time for all words beginning with "re" (meaning to do it again).

During Mercury (and all retrogrades)

we're forced into an interval of doing things differently, a lull to rest and recuperate in. It's good to consciously make use of Mercury's three weeks of retrograde. To consider the retro as sanctuary, haven of quietude and place of refuge – businesses need to think this way. But this new way of thinking and utilizing the energies of the planets and stars, understanding their relationships with us, must begin first with each individual.

Mercury retrograde actually creates a time of mental relief. When it begins, Mercury is alerting us that our minds

are filled to capacity with information gathered (Gemini task) since the last Mercury retro. Mercury retro gives us time to review, assess, order and organize (Virgo tasks – Mercury rules both Gemini and Virgo) mental information, making room for new information offered the next three months (till the next Mercury retro). During Mercury retro we have revelations that allow for deep inner understandings. Mercury is the mind, the "illuminating principle" in our lives. Mercury is the Messenger. Offering us the "Raincloud of Knowable Things."

ARIES: What are your financial realities and perspectives, how are they faring, are they safe, are they budgeted, do you tithe? These are some of the monetary questions coming into focus the next three weeks. Also of importance is the questioning and reviewing of your values. What and whom do you value? Are you also valuable? How valuable?

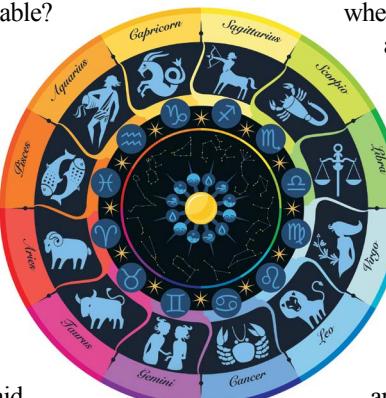
The retro sheds light upon your deep values. You see them change.

TAURUS: There could be confusion in communication with close friends, lover(s), intimates. There could also be confusion or questions concerning your values, possessions you consider important, and their maintenance. It's possible someone close may not agree. There won't be any compromise. Your life changes through the decisions you make, through what you can't see.

GEMINI: During this time you will be returning to the past, to friends and/or family close to you, those you love and cherish. Our family is our first and foremost group where we grow, experience and learn life's lessons. Should sad or grievous thoughts appear, think on them with offerings of forgiveness and asking to understand your part (what you said yes to before birth). Then in your revelations, you will be "doing your part."

CANCER: Revelations may appear as your mind has an inner focus, quite compassionate, yet it could turn quickly to a Virgo criticalness. Be aware of this. Study the religious and/or spiritual. Alice Bailey's book *Ponder on This* is good at this time. Have the intention for fairness, for non-judgment, clarity and the mantram from long ago, "*Let reality guide my every thought and Truth be the Master of my Life.*"

LEO: Communication confusions could occur at work, with colleagues, superiors, others working around you. Awareness of this allows you to make concessions when speaking with others. The focus for three weeks will be on non-critical judgments concerning your work and other people's work, everything professional and, most important, your life path. Do you know the Soul Invocation?



VIRGO: What are you thinking about in terms of legal affairs, education, travel and past communications? Be prepared for delays in all areas of your life but especially with any sort of travel. Have discussions concerning the legal system. You find yourself asking where is justice? Tend to things forgotten. You will be hidden for a while. Your actions must be explained to others so they understand. Use few words.

LIBRA: Be careful with money, finances and resources. Be acutely aware of where your money is being used, how and when it's coming in, what you're doing with it. Neither provide nor ask others for loans. Investments at this time are not suggested, either. Hold still with your money so you can assess its use when everyone's mind is clear. Intimacy is renewed in the clear light of day. Be in touch with those you've tried to forget. Be forgiving.

SCORPIO: One-on-one communications need care, awareness, and kindness. Previous partnership issues, concerning constancy, safety, money and security, arise once again for re-evaluation. Messages are mixed. Be aware of this. Disputes call for negotiation. Perhaps this is too difficult at this time. Make no decision for three weeks. Simply observe. Misperceptions may occur. Follow your ever-present intuition.

SAGITTARIUS: You're more sensitive than usual. Is that possible, you ask? Yes. Health wise, for the next three weeks, it's best to create daily routines that strengthen your well-being. You must maintain a non-judgmental response to co-workers lest falling into old criticism occurs. Criticism separates, then an existential loneliness emerges. Read everything over three times as errors are missed in retrogrades. Rest within silence for a while.

CAPRICORN: If you have children, observe them during this Mercury retro in Taurus. Children and elders are especially sensitive to transits. In your observations, what do you see in terms of their ability to communicate, maneuver their world of friends, school and studies? It's good to create a Mercury Retrograde journal for later use. Observe yourself during these times, too.

AQUARIUS: Something occurs concerning home, where you rest your head each night. It has its roots many months ago. What happened? What domestic issues are reoccurring now? This is a time for assessment, review, re-evaluation and revelations concerning what you need, where and what home means for you. Continue each night to write down what you want and need. Always be grateful for what you do have. Have faith and hope.

PISCES: Only patience assists you at this time. It seems that emptiness has appeared in all parts of your life and may be difficult to understand. Stand within that emptiness, become empty yourself, allow life to flow through, cleanse, clear and empty out of you. Many will not understand this part of your life. It's an initiation, very valuable, extremely difficult. You stand alone. No matter your actions, the emptiness remains. Expect nothing. Be still.

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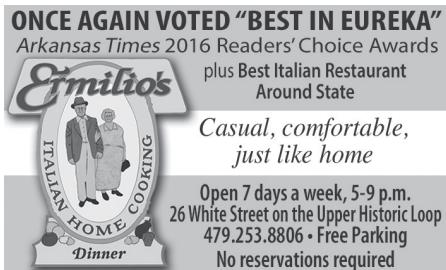
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COUNCIL – CODE UPDATE continued from page 7

B&Bs and cautioned council about “chipping away at neighborhoods.” She also cited parking issues and how narrow Elk Street is.

Glenda Satterfield asked council to protect residential areas. LauraLee Wilcox claimed there was overwhelming opposition to the CUP request

that put neighbors at a “great risk of losing property values.” She also cited the 200-ft. rule. Jim Puckett said his house is across the street from 23 Elk, and he maintained parking is a real problem there. Elk is very narrow, there is a tourist lodging within 200 feet, and he was against allowing a commercial venture in the neighborhood.

Rick Bright spoke out on something different. He

presented a jar of a decidedly brown liquid and said it was his tap water. He said he appreciated that council was doing something about the city’s aging infrastructure, but his problem will not be fixed by a water rate increase. He was not convinced the two percent tax would fix the problem anytime soon, but he appreciated the fact council was focusing on the issue.

Next meeting will be Monday, May 2, at 6 p.m.



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THURS., APRIL 28 • 8-11 P.M.
Opal Agafia

FRI., APRIL 29 • 8-11 P.M.
Mountain Sprout

SAT., APRIL 30 • 8-11 P.M.
Tom Bryant

TUES., MAY 3 • 5-7 P.M.
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INDYSoul

by Reillot Weston

Mountain Sprout plucks favorites at Cathouse; Cowgirl's Train Set blow steam at Chelsea's

May the Force be with you! Ratliff Dean, a deep-voiced guitar slinger from Texas, plays Chelsea's on Thursday at 9, and Mountain Sprout returns to the Cathouse, their

first Eureka joint, to play fan faves Friday. Saturday Cowgirls' Train Set tracks some prairie songs at Chelsea's. Listen for the whistle...

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *Opal Agafia*, Singer/Songwriter, 8 p.m.

CHELSEA'S – *Ratliff Dean*, Americana, 9 p.m.

EUREKA LIVE! – *Green Screen Karaoke*, 9 p.m.

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

BALCONY RESTAURANT – *Catherine Reed*, Singer/Songwriter, 5 p.m.

BREWS – *Pearl Brick*, Singer/Songwriter, 7 p.m.

CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *Mountain Sprout*, Bluegrass, 8 p.m.

CHELSEA'S – *Billabong Waters*, Surf Rock, 9 p.m.

EUREKA LIVE! – *DJ and Dancing*, 9 p.m.

GRAND TAVERNE – *Arkansas Red*, Guitar Dinner Music, 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

NEW DELHI – *The Medicine Man Show*, Folk, 6 p.m.

ROWDY BEAVER – *2 Dog 2 Karaoke*, 7:30 p.m.

ROWDY BEAVER DEN – *Tightrope*, Rock, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

BALCONY RESTAURANT – *James White*, Singer/Songwriter, 12 p.m., *Catherine Reed*, Singer/Songwriter, 6 p.m.

BREWS – *Chris Harp*, Singer/

Songwriter, 7 p.m.

CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *Tom Bryant*, Singer/Songwriter, 8 p.m.

CHELSEA'S – *Cowgirl's Train Set*, Americana, 9 p.m.

EUREKA LIVE! – *DJ & Dancing*, 9 p.m.

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

NEW DELHI – *Bourbon Highway*, Rock, 6 p.m.

ROWDY BEAVER – *Johai Kafa*, Folk, 7:30 p.m.

ROWDY BEAVER DEN – *Tightrope*, Rock, 1 and 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 1

BALCONY RESTAURANT – *Michael Dimitri*, Singer/Songwriter, 12 p.m., *Melissa Carper*, Singer/Songwriter, 5 p.m.

INDY SOUL continued on next page



Cowgirl's Train Set play at Chelsea's Saturday, April 30, at 9 p.m.

Open Wed. – Sun. 11 'til close

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Fri., April 29 • 9 p.m. – BILLABONG WATERS

Sat., April 30 • 9 p.m. – COWGIRL TRAIN SET

Sun., May 1 • 9 p.m. – NATHAN KALISH

Mon., May 2 • 9 p.m. – SPRUNGBILLY

Tues., May 3 • 9 p.m. – OPEN MIC

Wed., May 4 • 9 p.m. – W.T. NEWTON

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

I'd like to spice things up a bit with my partner. A friend suggested sex texting but I'm completely clueless in that realm. Can you offer some pointers please?

Sexting is no longer the trash-texting between horny teens of days past. A 2015 survey found sexting, which includes text, images and video, to be the most prevalent "naughty" behavior reported among millennials. Sixty percent surveyed sext regularly. Sexting today is equivalent to the steamy love letters that once encumbered the U.S. postal service.

Sexting is the contemporary love letter, powered by erotica and exchanged in real time. It's fabulous foreplay and an effective way to insert flattery and excitement into your partner's day. Unspoken desires and fantasies are more easily shared in writing. Sexting creates connection and helps sustain a couple's intimacy dialogue. By minding some general guidelines anyone can play the sexting game with skill.

When sexting, trust is essential. Long term lovers, no worries. If it's your latest crush, proceed with caution. Receiving a sizzling sext is a major ego-boost. Will he impulsively share it with the nearest colleague or wisely delete the sexting session once completed?

Timing is everything. A casual check in like "What are you up to?" prior to "I'm taking your body to the dark side tonight!" would be particularly beneficial if your recipient is casket-side at grandma's funeral. Ease into sexting dialogues. The shock factor can easily offend. Witty, yet dirty is the best approach. Tempt and tease. Build the tension with intention. The intention? To arouse and induce an aching, craving, burning desire for you.

Sexting is intimate, so speak verbatim and use full words. Abbreviating diminishes the allure. Don't do it. Proofread! Auto-correct is *Not* your friend. "Can't wait to piss every inch of you tonight." "Thinking of kicking your clock really turns me on." Buzzkill. Point made.

Private part pics: Don't unless requested. If requested, have at it! Be sure to include a connected body part for context and be aware of your surroundings. Your feet below the beast, turn-off. Tampax box in the background, turn-off.

Recognize when it's time to stop. The power lies in the hand that gracefully ends the session. Finally, a word to the Not-So-Wise: If you're using a work place assigned cell there is nothing in this column that pertains to you.

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

BAREFOOT BALLROOM – Max Elbo Artist Benefit, 4 p.m.
CHELSEA'S – Nathan Kalish, Singer/Songwriter, 7 p.m.
EUREKA LIVE! – Green Screen Karaoke, 7 p.m.
NEW DELHI – Tony Alvarez, Singer/Songwriter, 12 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 2
CHELSEA'S – Sprungbilly, Bluegrass, 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 3
CATHOUSE LOUNGE – Los Roscoes, Blues, 5 p.m.
CHELSEA'S – Open Mic, 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4
BREWS – Open Mic, 7 p.m.
CHELSEA'S – W.T. Newton, Singer/Songwriter, 9 p.m.



Keeping the Island spruced up – The Holiday Island Hospitality Association held their semi-annual roadside cleanup on Saturday, April 23 along the roads of the Island. Volunteers gathered 21 trash bags in 8 miles, cleaner than ever! PHOTOS BY JEREMIAH ALVARADO

Stephen Foster at Metafizzies

The May 2 meeting of the Eureka Springs Metaphysical Society will feature Stephen Foster continuing his discussion on metaphysical interpretation of the Gospel of Matthew. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at Heart of Many Ways, 68 Mountain Street. All are welcome.

Spinning the fork for the animals

Enjoy a meal of delicious homemade meatballs, salad, and garlic bread offered by Good Shepherd Human Society volunteers on Thursday, May 5 from 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the 4 States Event Center, 2100 East

Van Buren. Complement the meal by purchasing a glass of wine for \$5. A silent auction with 15+ items will be offered, and a mini adopt-a-thon to find your perfect friend. Adults are \$7 and children under five are \$3.

DEPARTURES

Wilburn "Corky" Eugene Comstock Nov. 18, 1939 – April 21, 2016

Wilburn "Corky" Eugene Comstock of Holiday Island, Ark., was born Nov. 18, 1939 in Springfield, Mo., a son of John Fitch and Cleo Maxine (Sigars) Comstock. He departed this life Thursday, April 21, 2016, in Holiday Island, Ark., at age 76.

On March 8, 1974, he was united in marriage with DiAnn C. Krier, who survives him of their home. He is survived also by his daughter, Carrie Comstock Gay and husband, Jeff, of Eureka Springs, Ark.; three

grandchildren, Haley, Sam and Logan; Charolette Shield Zeuthen and husband, Kevin, of Fayetteville, Ark., sister Harriet Parker and husband, Randy, of Springfield, Mo.; daughter, Gina Henderson and husband, Randy, and their son, Zack; several nieces, nephews and a host of other family, friends and loved ones.

He is preceded in death by his father, John Comstock, his mother, Cleo, and her husband, Ralph Smith, and one son, Mark Comstock.

Gathering of Remembrance with family and friends will be at 3 p.m., Saturday, April 30, 2016 at the Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center, Eureka Springs, Ark. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Nelson Funeral Service.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. Online condolences may be sent to the family at nelsonfuneral.com. © Nelson Funeral Service, Inc. 2016

Aubrey "Jake" Clevenger Nov. 24, 1933 – April 21, 2016

Aubrey "Jake" Clevenger of Grassy Knob in Eureka Springs, Ark., for 15 years, passed away from cardiac failure Thursday, April 21, 2016.

Jake was born November 24, 1933, in Stephens City, Va. In 1955 he met and married his first wife of 20 years, Elaine Cherny and started a family.

Jake served in the U.S. Marine Corps for 20 years, which included both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He retired as a First Lieutenant in 1973. After his retirement, he worked as a maintenance mechanic.

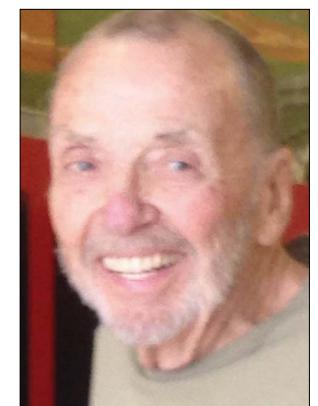
He enjoyed riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle and working in his beautiful garden.

Jake is survived by his ex-wife and current partner of over 40 years, Elaine Clevenger Rubin; daughter Deborah Lee Clevenger and her

partner, Donna Fisher; two sons, Jeffrey Lee Clevenger and his wife, Meredith, and Thomas Benjamin Clevenger and his wife, Denise. Jake leaves behind a legacy of five grandchildren, six great grandsons and one great-granddaughter. Jake was preceded in death by his parents, second wife, Elizabeth, sisters Imogene and Rosemary and grandson, Steven Clevenger.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 1 at the Grassy Knob Community Center in Eureka Springs. Jake's atonement will be at a future date at the Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

Family requests in lieu of flowers to please make a donation to the Good Shepherd Humane Society in Eureka Springs, Arkansas.



TREES continued from page 12

"All three of those do damage to standing trees, but also limit the emergence of seedlings," Fischer said. "They are a double dose of bad news. They prevent a diversity of other plants that provide food for butterflies, bees and other wildlife. Invasive ivy, euonymus and honeysuckle are turning landscapes into smothered monocultures reducing the inventory of contributing plant materials needed by wildlife. The argument behind this whole native plant movement is that invasive plants really represent a loss of habitat. When you have a pollinator friendly garden, you are not just giving them pollen, but food for the larval stage. You want not only pretty, fragrant flowers for bees and butterflies, but leaf biomass for insects to eat when they are caterpillars to reproduce. That is a radical concept to want insects to come in and ravage your garden flowers."

One of the problems with ivy, euonymus and honeysuckle is that the city doesn't collect vines for disposal because they can't be shredded in a chipper. So what can be done with them? The Portland No Ivy League, which is working to remove invasive English ivy in Portland, Ore., recommends chopping it into pieces and mulching with it.

"But you have to make sure it doesn't root back into the ground," Fischer said.



"The same thing is true of another common invasive plant, vinca, which roots on the ground readily. That is why some of these invasives are so successful."

For more information, Fischer recommends Fayetteville's invasive plant guide. For every invasive plant identified they recommend a removal process and alternative plants to consider.

Also on Earth Day, volunteers

worked across the stairs from the ivy removal demonstration on the Downtown Native Pagoda garden. Hundreds of native plants are being established to help Eureka Springs with its commitment as the first city in Arkansas that "accepts the designation and commits to the standards of Bee City USA." For more info, see the Eureka Springs Downtown Network's Facebook page.

HI Rotary receives award

The Holiday Island Rotary Club is one of 14 Rotary Clubs in District 6110 to receive the Presidential Citation from Rotary International President Ravi Ravindran for their achievements during the current year. Holiday Island has received the Bronze award. and Northeast Oklahoma.

Randall Cavanah is the Holiday Island club's president and Linda Graves is president elect. The club meets at the Holiday Island Elks Club Friday mornings at 8 a.m.

Finding new treasures

The springtime Yards & Yards of Yard Sales will take place on Friday and Saturday, April 29 – 30 from 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. at 74 sales citywide. You can pick up a map of sales at the Visitor Information Center at Pine Mountain Village.

For more information call (479) 253-8737 or email holly@eurekaspringschamber.com and find Yards & Yards of Yard Sales of Eureka Springs on Facebook.

DROPPING A Line

by Robert Johnson



Well, it seems it was just a couple weeks ago we were hoping the water temp would just get above 58°. Won't see that number on Beaver Lake for awhile. We've been way upriver below Springdale, War Eagle, Horseshoe Bend, to the Hwy. 12 bridge islands this week and found big bass, stripers and crappie in all these places in water between four and 20 ft. deep, with water temps already running between 65° to 67°.

All fish were caught on shad running to the sides with planer boards and freelining behind boat. That means no weights.

John Buglovsky from Aurora, Colorado, got big fish this week with this 30-pound female, which had a male coming in beside her that almost got netted too, so the spawn is on. The white

bass here at Holiday Island are moving up the creeks and Beaver tailwaters, wanting to spawn.

If we get a good rain, the run is on. We did get some nice crappie off the shoreline with minnows about five ft. deep so they have found it is also their time to spawn. The walleye spawn should be about over, which leaves them more in a feeding mood and they come back from their river run.

Well, I'd better get to bed so I can fish in the morning. Got two more days with John and a couple of his buddies, so we might get lucky and get a 40-pounder.

Get on the water if you can, already seeing people getting wet and skiing. Spring will be gone before ya know it. Stay Safe.

Robert Johnson. fishofexcellence.com (479) 253-2258.

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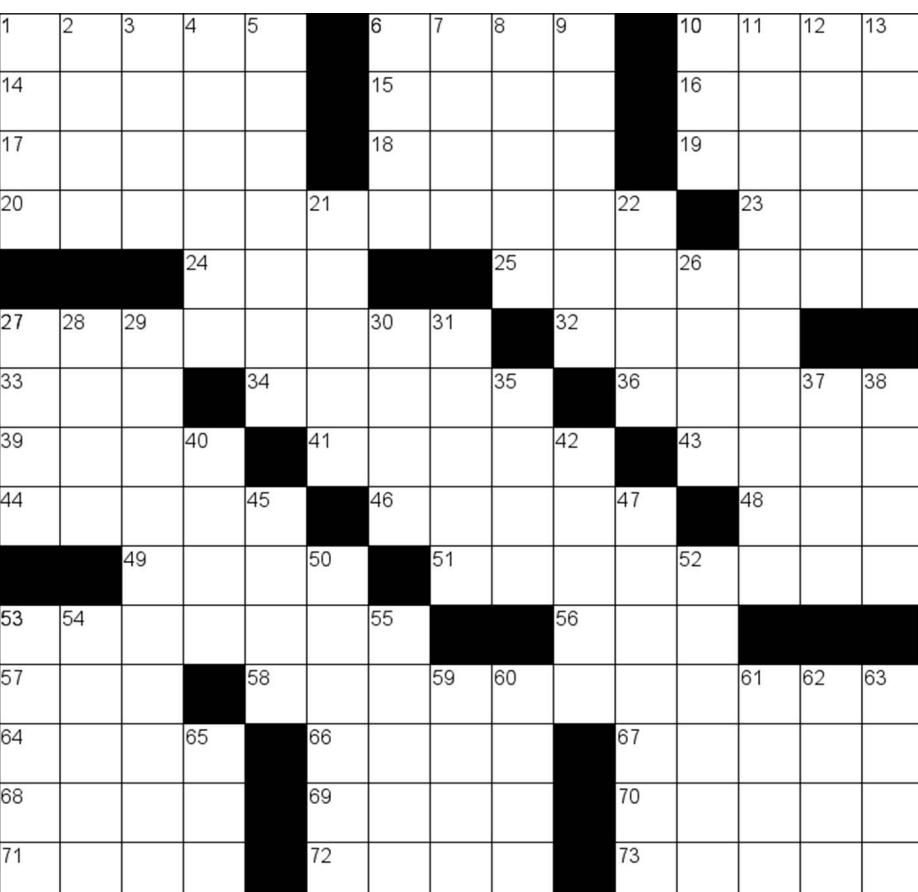
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INDEPENDENT Crossword

by Mike Boian with extensive help from his wife, Ann

Solution on page 23



ACROSS

- Type of finish
- Braves' Tomahawk
- Great time
- Less common
- "____ from New York!"
- Emanation
- African antelope
- Stink
- Commotion
- Noisy ghost
- Comfort station, in England
- Brand of laundry soap
- Inactive
- Prolonged and bitter feud
- Night light
- Anger
- Distributes cards
- Pay for, provide
- Locale
- Proboscis
- Chapped chilblain
- Cavern
- Stuck by el toro
- Your sister's nephew, perhaps
- It can be stretched
- Nearly starving
- Rule, with over
- Close buddy
- Greek goddess of dawn
- Diplomacy based on given circumstances
- Bard's black
- Detached portico
- Remain at large
- Georgia, New York or Italian city
- Cooking technique
- Pablo Casals' instrument
- Let it stand
- ____ and the King of Siam
- Forest population
- Type of school
- Sign of holiness
- Stressful exam
- Like refugee camps
- Made dinner choices
- Dutch shoe
- Conceal
- Egg-shaped
- Human being
- Possess
- Really weird
- Hunter constellation
- 78 card deck
- Deserves
- Sequoia

DOWN

- Open year round!
- Regional speech
- Ukrainian seaport
- Finger vexation
- Equals
- Machine resembling human beings
- Eroded
- Give temporary usage
- Prefix, indicating a lawyer's assistant
- Story
- Engine state
- Greek island in the Aegean
- "Nothin' but ____!" during March Madness

INDEPENDENT Classifieds

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLORA ROJA COMMUNITY ACUPUNCTURE & APOTHECARY

– Carrying over 300 organic herbs, teas and spices. Large selection of supplies for all your DIY natural health, home and body care needs. Open Monday-Saturday 11-6, 119 Wall Street. (479) 253-4968. www.florarojaacupuncture.com

LAUGHING HANDS MASSAGE announces its **tax time** special with half price specials. Laughing Hands always a great location for couples massage. Call (479) 244-5954 for appointment.

It's A Mystery BookStore

the gently-used book store featuring vintage, modern & classic reads on the Berryville Sq. www.itsmystery.net.

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EUREKA SPRINGS FARMERS' MARKET Open Tuesdays and Thursdays only, 7 a.m.–noon. Vegetables and fruits, cheese, meat, eggs, honey and so much more. Come for the food, music and to be with your friends. Catch us on Facebook.

BREAD ~ LOCAL ~ SOURDOUGH
Ivan's Art Bread at the Eureka Springs Farmers' Market
New Sourdough Chocolate Muffins & Loaves
Breakfast breads and specialties
Request Line: (479) 244-7112

The Eureka Springs Farmers' Market is growing and **LOOKING FOR MOTIVATED VENDORS** to join our market. We are looking for vendors to supply any of the following items Chicken, Pork, Lamb, Honey and/or Eggs. If you can supply any of those items on a regular basis we have customers eagerly waiting to buy them. For more information please contact Melissa Carper Market Manager at (504) 491-4614.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

QUILT SHOW

May 6 & 7, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center.

Almost 200 quilts, special displays, vendors, guild boutique, opportunity quilt, \$5 donation at the door.

Elkins Arts in the Park

Saturday, April 30

8 a.m. – Color Run!

8-11 a.m. – Pancake Breakfast

11 a.m. – Dog Parade!

10 a.m.-3 p.m. – Live Music, 50+Vendors, Petting Zoo, Pony rides, K-12 Artwork & more!

ELKINSART.COM

Bunch Park! Follow the signs.

For more info.: (479) 422-1808 or email elkinsarts@gmail.com

PERSONALS

Dear PARENTS,

Missing you.

DAUGHTER

PJP – Thanks for letting me off, typical P luck. BTW the jam was really good.

ANTIQUES

WONDERLAND ANTIQUES buys/sells antiques, primitives, unique vintage items. Open 10-5. Closed Tuesday & Wednesday. Hwy 62 east of Eureka 3 miles. (479) 253-6900

YARDS & YARDS OF YARD SALES

SALE – 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday-Saturday.
Large building across from Razorback Gift Shop, Hwy. 62 West.

SALE INSIDE RAIN OR SHINE. Lots of antiques and decorative accessories, table saw, brass bed, grandfather clock, household, garden. 22 Elk St., Eureka Springs, Friday & Saturday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

HOLIDAY ISLAND YARDS AND YARDS SALE – April 29 & 30. Kitchenware, decorative items, toys, girls and women's clothes, furniture. Holiday Island Shopping Center next to Post Office.

YARDS & YARDS OF YARD SALES

544 CR 227, EUREKA SPRINGS (BEAVER), APRIL 29-30, 7 A.M.-3 P.M.

– Rain or shine. Excellent condition. Antique furniture, jewelry, lamps, artwork, garden décor, Christmas and wedding decorations. Items from Pottery Barn, TJ Maxx, local stores. Clothing, linens, music equipment. Flintling supplies and equipment.

ATTENTION TOY COLLECTORS –

Check out #51 on Yard Sale Map. Vintage H.O. Trains, Pressed Steel Trucks, Matchbox, Hubleys, Tootsietoys, Arcade, promos. For information call (479) 981-6060.

HELP WANTED

NOW HIRING ALL POSITIONS, PARKSIDE PRETZELS.

Excellent pay. DOE. Apply in person, 8 Spring St. at Basin Park after 1 p.m.

ROCKIN' PIG now hiring experienced host or hostess. Apply in person only. Gaskin Switch Center, US62.

NOW HIRING PREP AND LINE COOKS. Apply in person at Pied Piper/Cathouse, 82 Armstrong.

FARM TO TABLE FRESH is seeking a line cook, prep person, and server part time/full time. Apply in person at 179 N. Main St.

FRESH HARVEST TASTING ROOM

Manager & Sales Associate positions available. We are looking for professional and polished sales manager and sales associate to join our team! Very competitive pay and possible benefits. We offer a positive, fun and fast paced environment. Ideal candidates will have retail experience, some culinary skills, be able to discuss very basic cooking techniques, and be able to lift 30 pounds to shoulder height. Come join a dynamic team! Please send resume or work experience to POB 14, Eureka Springs, AR 72632 or call Troy or Steve at 479-253-6247.

HELP WANTED

Myrtie Mae's Café is looking for Morning Shift Line Cook

For the person that enjoys working mornings and a full-time year-round position.

Please stop by or send résumé to randy@innoftheozarks.com

 **Myrtie Mae's Café c/o BEST WESTERN INN OF THE OZARKS**
P.O. Box 431
Eureka Springs, AR
479.253.9768

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

WANTED – day time care provider for boy with Down syndrome. Please call Joe at (479) 304-8998.

VETERINARIAN / KENNEL ASSISTANT NEEDED – A small animal, veterinary hospital in Eureka Springs, AR is looking to fill a position immediately. The applicant must be comfortable working with and around animals. **Veterinarian/Kennel Assistant** job will include cleaning duties, assisting the doctor and customer service. Must be able to lift 50 lbs. Experience in this field a plus but not required. Starting pay will be \$9.50 to \$10.50 based on applicant's experience. Animal Hospital of Eureka Springs is an EOE. Please call or come by our clinic to inquire or apply: (479) 253-8923, 18 Hwy. 23 South, Eureka Springs, AR 72632

AQUARIUS TAQUERIA – Experienced line cook for night position, Thursday through Monday. Submit résumés or applications to 91 S. Main.

EUREKA SPRINGS SCHOOL OF THE ARTS has a **part-time job opening for an Administrative Assistant.** Responsibilities include managing events and projects, assisting in marketing and social media support, and conducting research for data collection. Send résumé to Peggy Kjelgaard, Executive Director (director@essa-art.org) or call (479) 253-5384. May 6th submission deadline.

INDEPENDENT Classifieds

HELP WANTED

PEACHTREE VILLAGE is accepting applications for C.N.A.'s for the night shift. Pick up an application at 5 Park Drive, Holiday Island, AR.

ACORD'S HOME CENTER is seeking the right person for full-time position. This individual must be motivated, have an outgoing/positive personality and be fully customer oriented. Retail, hardware/building materials and flooring background is a plus. A current driver's license, a clean background check/drug screen and (depending on the position applied for) the ability to lift 90 pounds to chest height are all requirements to join our team. Acord's offers a fast paced, positive work environment, year round hours, competitive pay, paid vacation, and an opportunity to grow. Submit your résumé and pick up an application at 251 Huntsville Road or call (479) 253-9642.

THE GREATER EUREKA SPRINGS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE is looking for an outgoing, enthusiastic, friendly person to fill a part/time position in our visitor's center. Applicants must be knowledgeable about Eureka Springs and the area. If interested please send résumé to president@eurekaspringschamber.com.

RENTAL PROPERTIES

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HOLIDAY ISLAND VILLAS & TOWNHOUSES near lake and marina. Peaceful and quiet, ample parking. From \$375/mo. (479) 253-4385

DOWNTOWN SPACIOUS 1-BR APT., upstairs. \$530 plus electric & gas. Call (479) 253-9481 or email dan@twilight.arcoxmail.com

ONE BEDROOM Spring Street downtown. First, last, deposit, references. Private patio, front balcony. Water paid, no pets. (479) 253-9513

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COMMERCIAL FOR LEASE

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1,000 SQ. FT. – 99 SPRING. Studio/workshop next to post office. Mountain Street access. (479) 244-5100, (479) 253-4314.

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2+ BEDROOM, 1.5 bathroom house in quiet neighborhood in Eureka. New kitchen, range, and wood floors. Washer/Dryer, mostly unfurnished. One or two people. References & background check required. Available May 1. \$750, \$1500 deposit. (479) 239-4228 leave voice message.

Taking a closer look at our community



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TENDER HEART WILDLIFE RESCUE is a wildlife rehabilitation center dedicated to caring for indigenous injured and orphaned wild animals. This rehabilitation/release program is made possible solely by donations.

THWR needs financial donations. Contact Andrea White at 870.350.4189

f View the nursery and release videos at Tender Heart on Facebook

We're on the Map for

YARDS OF YARDS SALE

FOOD DRIVE – Benefiting Flint Street Food Bank

Food bank needs: Beans, cereal, canned meat, toilet paper

10% OFF

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Spring
DEALS!

*April
29–30*

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