



## Inside the ESI

Crime	2
Council – budget	3
Mailbox	4
Council – parking	5
CAPC workshop	6
Planning	7
Dan and Aykroyd	8
Constables on Patrol	12
Epidemic	13
Nature of Eureka	13
Vampire electric	14
Art Attack	16
Astrology	20
Independent Soul	22

## This Week's INDEPENDENT Thinker



Michael Bishop of Douglass, Texas, believes that TransCanada committed fraud by telling Americans the substance in the proposed Keystone pipeline, which crosses Bishop's land, was crude oil, but it was bitumen, which produces tar sands. He took TransCanada to court and won a temporary restraining order against the oil giant.

Tar sands are heavier, nastier, and require chemical solvents to flow like crude. Which means it corrodes pipes. Which means it leaches into the water table the minute it spills. Which means people and cattle and birds and plants and fish and whatever's left would be drinking oil in their water. Which is an avoidable catastrophe.

Bishop, a retired chemist, is up against big oil \$\$\$ and has given renewed definition to "Don't Mess With Texas."



**Can't weight to get to school!** – Eureka Springs High School senior, Val Bailey, carries a stack of weights as he and other students help move equipment into the gym at the new high school Dec. 11. The student body is packing up, taking early exams and looking forward to attending the new school on their return from the holidays Jan. 3.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

## Council won't commit on how many cops it takes to abide by state law

NICKY BOYETTE

At their final city council meeting Dec. 10, aldermen elected in 2010 went out with neither a bang nor a whimper. The 80-minute meeting dealt with deleting items from the agenda, parliamentary maneuvering, points of order, differing opinions on the Attorney General's opinion and passing some legislation.

Alderman Lany Ballance thanked city attorney Tim Weaver for preparing an ordinance determining the maximum number of subordinate police officers. Council had voted 4-2 at its Nov. 27 meeting to have Weaver draw up the ordinance, although aldermen had argued both sides of the issue firmly and at length.

The same divisions surfaced at this meeting. Ballance moved to put the proposed ordinance on its first reading and alderman Karen Lindblad seconded.

"This ordinance is superfluous," responded alderman Butch Berry. He said council has the Attorney General's opinion, and the AG says the city is not required to set the number of officers with an ordinance. "Future councils would just have to amend the ordinance every time the police department changed its staffing, and

**COUNCIL** continued on page 24

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# INDEPENDENTNews

## Copper wire, gasoline thefts under investigation – one arrested

**C. D. WHITE**

Police investigation of three separate incidents of theft resulted in the arrest of Todd Larue Smith, a homeless man in Eureka Springs, and reports on other named individuals being handed over to the Carroll County Sheriff's office for further action.

According to ESPD Officer Brad Handley, he and Patrolman Brian Young responded to a call on Dec. 11 from Holly House behind the former Victoria Inn on US 62E reporting a Ford Ranger truck had been seen at the old sewer plant behind the Inn for two days in a row.

When officers arrived, they observed the truck backed up to the plant and full of old metal pipes and copper wire, with more that had been pulled off the building lying on the ground ready to

be loaded. There was also a small fridge Handley had observed at the site days earlier which was now in the back of the truck.

When a man walked out of the woods, Handley asked him if he was the owner of the truck and he responded in the affirmative. However, when Handley asked for his identification, the man said he had lost it. When Handley ran the truck's license plate number, it showed the owner as Todd Smith from Louisiana. Smith then produced his driver's license when asked a second time, and his identity was confirmed as Todd Smith.

Smith told officers he was just taking old junk from the property and didn't know it was wrong. He admitted he didn't have permission to be on the property or to take the scrap metal. He also said he had sold some the day before at Tom Barr Recycling in Berryville.

Smith was arrested for Criminal Trespass and Theft of Property. An inventory search of the truck turned up a metal bong containing residue that was placed into evidence.

Handley also investigated a report from Charles Casey at Johnson's

Automotive that about 20 gallons of fuel had been stolen on Dec. 9 from a wrecker parked at the shop on Greenwood Hollow Road.

According to a police report, Handley also learned from ESPD Chief, Earl Hyatt, that Wesley Beaver reported copper wire had been stolen from his nearby business, Old Town Electric, that same night. Suspecting it might be a neighbor, Beaver had gone to Tom Barr Recycling on Dec. 10 where it was confirmed the person Beaver suspected had sold copper wire.

With that information, Handley contacted Det. Mark Bailey with the Carroll County Sheriff's office since the suspect lived just outside city limits. When Bailey went to the recycling business, Tom Barr disclosed that the suspect and another individual sold 71 pounds of copper wire to him for \$171, and that he had pictures. Beaver confirmed that was about the amount of wire he was missing.

All investigative reports were handed over to the Carroll County Sheriff's Office Dec. 11 and the theft of gasoline and theft of copper wire both remain open cases pending further action.

**The Eureka Springs Independent office will be closed the week of Christmas so the hard-working employees may enjoy time with their people. Advertising and editorial deadlines for the Dec. 20 and 27 issues will be Monday, Dec. 17.**

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## Happy New Year, new council – here's the budget

NICKY BOYETTE

Alderman Butch Berry clarified with Mayor Morris Pate that the 2013 budget needs to be approved by January 31, so the next council could do that. Pate moved to defer any action until next year.

Alderman Karen Lindblad, however, said she had questions about the budget. She said the Police Department budget was approaching one million dollars, yet Berryville is attempting to lower its police budget by hiring veterans, thereby becoming eligible for federal funds. "We keep increasing and I really don't get it," she said.

Finance Director Lonnie Clark said increases in the budget were primarily in maintenance expenses for the police station. Also, their request last year for a new vehicle had been denied, so there is a cautionary

increase in vehicle maintenance.

Lindblad also noticed the line item for wages is increasing by \$65,000.

Clark responded the increase was not for another officer but for cost of living adjustments (COLAs).

Lindblad replied, "So we have a million dollar police department for a town of two thousand!"

Clark said the city has 800,000 – 900,000 visitors each year, and he does not know how those variables fit into the formula for determining the number of police officers. He added the police budget is based on anticipated revenues.

Alderman Parker Raphael pointed out the only way to keep good employees is to offer COLAs. DeVito agreed, citing how many times good employees get their training in Eureka Springs, and then off they go to Fayetteville or Springdale.

Raphael summed up the discussion by stating this meeting was not the time to do a major budget review. He said, "I am embarrassed we didn't handle this earlier, and I apologize to the public."

The vote to defer any decision on the 2013 budget was unanimous.

### Kids, board the Polar Express Friday!

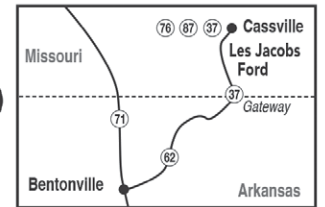
Friday, Dec. 14 from 6:30—7:30 p.m., the Carnegie Public Library will host a Polar Express party for young children. Children should wear pajamas, and will enjoy milk and cookies, make simple crafts for small hands, and hear a reading of the classic Van Allsburg book *The Polar Express*. Special Guest, The Conductor, will give every child a jingle bell. The event is free. Contact the library with questions, 253-8754 or email [info@eurekalibrary.org](mailto:info@eurekalibrary.org).

### Christmas with the APO

The Arkansas Philharmonic Orchestra, with music director Steven Byess, performs *Christmas with the APO* on Sunday Dec. 16, 2 p.m., at the Arend Arts Center in Bentonville. The performance features vocalists Steven Anderson and Laurie Gayle Stephenson and the McNair Middle School Glee Club, under the direction of Jennie Alves. Tickets are \$25 adults, \$10 for college students and \$5 for other students. Visit [www.arkansasphilharmonic.org](http://www.arkansasphilharmonic.org) or call (479) 841-4644 for tickets.

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## Mailbox thefts lead to drug arrest

C. D. WHITE

A report of mail being stolen from a box on CR 222 in Eureka Springs during the span of a month resulted in the Dec. 8 arrest of Jason Edmondson, 41, of Onyx Cave Road for Possession of a Controlled Substance and Paraphernalia.

According to Det. Thomas Achord of the Eureka Springs Police Department, the Wright family began noticing in November that mail was missing from their box. A neighbor had discovered some of their mail on their road and returned it to them, including a bag that had contained a prescription. After the initial incident, two "game" cameras were set up to try to get a description of the vehicles. On two different occasions the cameras caught two vehicles, the driver of one wearing a ball cap with an emblem on the front that resembled a crucifix.

The last known theft from the Wright's mailbox was Dec. 6, and it was reported at this time that the remote control to the driveway gate was taken. A report was filed with the Carroll County Sheriff's Office.

On Dec. 8, Achord was flagged down by Brittany Wright as he drove by their gate on CR 222. Wright said the car involved in the mailbox thefts had just driven by and described a red Volkswagen and the first three numbers of the tag.

The car she described, and the driver, Jason Edmondson, were familiar to Achord, who contacted dispatch and learned Edmondson had a warrant out of Carroll County. He advised Carroll County Investigator, Daniel Klatt, of the situation, including the subject's location and the warrant, and was cleared to pick Edmondson up.

Officer Paul Sebby, who holds a valid Carroll County Deputy Commission card, and Achord took Edmondson into custody at his residence. A search of Edmondson revealed a baggie he admitted contained methamphetamine and a glass pipe he said he used to smoke it in. Both items were collected as evidence.

Although Edmondson's car hood was warm to the touch, he denied knowing anything about the thefts on CR 222.

Edmondson was read his Miranda rights and agreed to speak with Achord, admitting to having the meth, but continuing to deny knowledge of the thefts even when presented with photographs of the vehicle and driver. Edmondson was wearing a black hat with a pin on the front. The pin was a flying wing, with a single propeller positioned vertically that looked similar to a crucifix.

According to Achord's report,

Edmondson said he used to break into mailboxes 10 years ago but denies stealing from the boxes on CR 222. However, he offered to confess to the mailbox thefts if he could be assured the drug charges would be dropped.

"I told him I couldn't promise him that, and any charges would be up to the prosecuting attorney. I also made it very clear to Edmondson that I would not take a confession to a crime that he didn't commit," Achord said. Edmondson indicated he was afraid of federal charges because it was a mailbox.

A packet containing Achord's interview with Edmondson, the photographs matching the suspect car to Edmondson's and photographs of Edmondson's hat matching the hat in the game camera photographs was delivered to Klatt on Dec. 10 so charges could be filed. On Dec. 10 Achord met with the Postal Inspector and delivered the same packet.

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### Historic Planetary Shift – Birth 2012

On Dec. 22, the public is invited to view the presentation *Prelude for Birth 2012 – Visions of a Universal Humanity* (see [www.birth2012.com](http://www.birth2012.com)), as Barbara Marx Hubbard brings together some of the finest minds of our time to reveal a positive future for humanity. The show will be presented Dec. 15, 6 p.m., at Flora Roja Acupuncture, 119 Wall St.

Presented in collaboration by: Lilian Bern – contact (479) 387-2108, Harmonia – contact Nancy Harris: [nanghar@gmail.com](mailto:nanghar@gmail.com), NWA Center for Spiritual Living- contact Kimberly Toller: [livinginthepresence@yahoo.com](mailto:livinginthepresence@yahoo.com) and Unity Center for Conscious Living – contact Annette Olsen: [annette.olsen@ymail.com](mailto:annette.olsen@ymail.com).



HUBBARD

### Community Christmas Dinners

- There will be a free Christmas Dinner on Christmas day at the ECHO Clinic building from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. sponsored by the Flint Street Fellowship.

- The Holiday Island Community Christmas Dinner

will be in the ballroom at the Clubhouse at 1 p.m. – \$10 for adults \$5 for children 5-12 years old. Purchase tickets from the recreation center or from Vern Anderson (253-6955) and Terri Hegna (253-1235).



# NICKY BOYETTE

abstaining. Pate cast the deciding fourth vote.

Council voted unanimously to approve the third reading of Ordinance #2169 which amends City Code to stipulate off-premise signs (also known as billboards) could be repaired but not “replaced,” a word introduced into the ordinance by a codification error.

that allowed “city-sponsored” sales. Aldermen approved having city attorney Tim Weaver draw up the ordinance to amend the language to “city approved.” Both updates to City Code had been brought to council by the Planning Commission.

Council also unanimously approved a resolution to end the moratorium on business licenses in Line Item 199, category “All businesses not otherwise listed.”



**Winners all** – Winners in the Arvest Bank-sponsored float contest in the Christmas Parade of Lights received their cash prizes at the Chamber of Commerce Dec. 7. In front from left, are Mike Bishop, Leroy Gorrell, Lu (a dog) and Merritt Taylor. In the second row from left are Chad Martin, Kimberly Owens, Connie Featherstone, Kimberly McGee, Jody Bascou, Mike Mercer, Susie Gant, Sharon Young, Autumn Hudgins and Allen Huffman. In the back, from left, are Amanda Haley, Greg Hein, Nathina Robinson, Laurie Gunnels, Tammy Bullock, Jack Miller, Joanie Kratzer, Wayne Carr and Becky Koester. This year's float winners are – Commercial: First Place, Crescent and Basin Park hotels; Second Place, Community First Bank and Third Place, Cornerstone Bank. Non-Profit: First Place, Academy of Excellence; Second Place, Eureka Springs Rotary and Third Place, Beaver Lake Baptist Church. Other category: First Place, Krewe of Krazo Cavaliers float; Second Place, Merritt Taylor (on horseback) and Third Place, Mark Hughes and Steve Beacham (walking Christmas trees). Bands: First Place, Elkins High School Band; Second Place, Eureka Springs Middle/High School Band and Third Place, Elkins Junior High School Band.

*PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY*

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A black and white portrait of Dr. Jerry Stein, a middle-aged man with short, light-colored hair, smiling slightly. He is wearing a dark jacket over a light-colored collared shirt. The background is a textured, mottled grey.

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**All we want for Christmas is our little lost dog.**



**"DIGGER"**

A white Miniature Poodle. Last seen in the Harmon Park area in Dairy Hollow of Eureka on Friday night 11-30-12.

**REWARD! No Questions! Call, 772-285-2909**

## CAPC positive despite GPP closing

NICKY BOYETTE

The mood was cautionary when the City Advertising and Promotion Commission met Wednesday evening to discuss next year's budget. Commissioners had set an ambitious budget goal of \$1.3 million one year ago and marketed accordingly, and it appears by year's end tax revenues will reach \$1.2 million.

Nevertheless, city tax revenues are up ten percent over 2011. This was the best year for many merchants in years. The commission, however, focused on how to fine tune next year's marketing expenses and achieve even better results.

One obvious variable that will affect city revenues is the closing of the Great Passion Play. Executive Director Mike Maloney said it is hard to determine what it will mean to the city that 40,000 - 50,000 visitors will not come to see the GPP in 2013. It will have an impact, but he pointed out many more people came here in 2012 regardless of the GPP.

Commissioner James DeVito observed the toughest part of finishing the year with revenues 10 percent above last year is how to repeat that performance. He did not take for granted how next year would play out,

and suggested staying with conservative budget projections to begin with.

Finance Director Rick Bright led commissioners through a summary of the proposed budget, pointing out changes and answering questions typical of budget meetings.

One budget item that would not go away was the contract with the Chamber of Commerce that puts the burden of paying the postage for mailing the *Visitors Guide* on the CAPC budget. The contract currently in place was scheduled to end in June 2011. Both parties were going through management changes, yet the language of the contract clearly reads the contract renews for five years unless both parties mutually decide not to, and neither office at the time was aware of the contract.

Maloney said he had already spoken with Mike Bishop, executive director of the Chamber. Neither was involved with making the contract but both are beholden to it. The contract calls for the CAPC to incur cost of mailing the *Visitors Guide* to whomever requests it, yet the CAPC does not see any information about who gets the *Guide*, only a bill from a printing company that mails it. Maloney intends to keep

expenses under \$25,000 in 2013.

"For one thing, don't even offer First Class postage," remarked commissioner Joe Joy. He said a person who wants a copy of the guide right away could probably download it.

Chair Charles Ragsdell said the CAPC could, in rebuilding its website, add features for gathering data from visitors to the CAPC website. Also, instead of bouncing the hit for a *Visitors Guide* directly to the Chamber, which would then go to the printer, the CAPC could emphasize other choices, such as direct download or even a DVD of the *Visitors Guide* in the mail.

This topic will remain on the agenda pending further research and negotiations, and commissioners will vote on the budget in January.

### Folk Festival

Commissioner Bobbie Foster asked what the CAPC needs to do to reenergize the Folk Festival and Bright responded they have been working with the Arts Council to make next year's event more like a true folk festival, with crafts and other attractions, and the Arts Council was excited to be involved.

Ragsdell said he visited the Maine

**CAPC** continued on page 26

## PAUL DANIEL GALLERY AND GIFTS

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**We're open!** - Metalsmith Lyla O. Allison and husband, Cory, hosted the grand opening of their new gallery, Allison Art Company, at 77 Spring St. on Dec. 8. Eureka Springs artist and high school art teacher, Jessica Cummings, is the gallery's first featured artist and was honored with a reception. Nine of her oil paintings of Eureka Springs scenes are on display.

PHOTO BY  
DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY





## Planning explores going underground

NICKY BOYETTE

Two representatives from SWEPCO met with Planning Commissioners at the Dec. 11 meeting. Chair Beverly Blankenship had asked for advice concerning underground vs. overhead utility lines, and Chuck Easterling, customer service representative, and field engineer, Mark Beasley, attended.

Easterling pointed out underground lines would not be vulnerable to an ice storm, yet distribution to the point service goes underground would still be at risk, which would put the entire line, aboveground and below, at risk. SWEPCO pays for service lines up to the house if the service is overhead, he said, and a customer who wants underground lines almost always will have to pay for trenching from the SWEPCO line to the house, the conduit in the trench, and electrical lines that bring the power to the house. He said many customers do this to avoid overhead lines. Easterling also said there are areas around Eureka Springs that are too vertical to allow for underground service.

Blankenship explained Planning is researching the subject because the idea is part of the Master Plan. However, she said Planning does not want to inhibit growth in town by crafting laws that are too restrictive.

Beasley said SWEPCO figures “the least cost to serve” at a site, in other words, what it costs SWEPCO to get power to a building in the least expensive way. Any cost above that amount is the customer’s responsibility. He explained that costs for underground lines could vary greatly because of the terrain around Eureka Springs, and trenching around this area might cost ten times what it would cost in a farming area.

Schneider still maintained everyone would save money in the long run because, once installed, underground lines would be safer and last longer.

Beasley pointed out, however,

that underground lines were not so easy to splice into, and there are considerations when the line is expanded. He said the city of Lowell has an underground line ordinance that is working well.

Commissioner James Morris said he thought the cost for underground lines at construction time is not that big a percentage of the total cost, and having utility lines out of sight increases property value and creates more attractive neighborhoods.

“We’ll all be underground before we get this done,” Blankenship quipped. She asked what the commission wanted to do with the new information.

Commissioner Ken Rundel said an ordinance requiring new construction to put utility lines underground was “doable, reasonable,” and a step they need to take as it’s in the Master Plan. He suggested they account for areas where the terrain precludes the task. He also suggested they not get bogged down on the fact that the city might never get all utility lines underground and therefore do nothing. “I think we should begin the process now,” Rundel said.

Morris suggested the ordinance require underground on all new construction unless the applicant can demonstrate extreme hardship. Commissioner Mickey Schneider added “terrain hardship, not financial hardship.”

Blankenship boiled it all down to “all new construction except for extreme terrain hardship.”

Vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

### Fractional ownership coming to town

Blankenship noted the transition of the Queen Anne Mansion to a fractional ownership (similar to a timeshare) is new for Eureka Springs. In fact, it is the only one in the state, and she is not sure what Planning needs to do to prepare for its arrival. She had asked the mayor to get advice from the Municipal League about

what the city should do, and one attorney told her if a category is not listed in City Code it cannot operate in town. This would mean fractional ownership business could not be here legally unless the law is changed.

Schneider pointed out that owners of these properties would more than likely be big spenders in town. Morris agreed. He said these owners will be a different group, and their presence in town does not take away from the motel or hotel business. “We will benefit in every way,” he said.

He also disagreed with the attorney’s assessment that the business could not operate in town unless it were listed in the Code.

After more discussion, Rundel moved to table the discussion until the next meeting.

### In other business

- Glenna Booth reported the Tree City Committee has been working on “a major rewrite” of the city’s Tree and Landscape Ordinance for a couple of years. She said they have done all they can at this point, and they are presenting their work to Planning for input. She said the proposed ordinance takes on urban forestry as well as landscaping. Topics covered include “buffer requirements” and “protection of trees during construction,” for example. Tree removal would no longer be on the Planning agenda.

She suggested they convene a workshop to discuss the ordinance in more depth, and Blankenship agreed.

- Planning considered a request for a Conditional Use Permit for 23 Hillside. The property is a B&B with two units grandfathered along and two additional units for which the new owner must get a CUP. A CUP is not transferred when property is sold.

Blankenship said the new applicants have done everything appropriately, and she read two letters in support of the application from neighbors. Morris observed the property has been a successful

PLANNING continued on page 25

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## Aykroyd can't make funeral, sends skull to Ellis

C. D. WHITE

Dan Ellis invited Dan Aykroyd to be the grand marshal of his Jazz Funeral because of Aykroyd's love of New Orleans, jazz and blues and his interest in metaphysical issues. What prompted Ellis to make the contact resulted from his purchase of a small bottle of Crystal Head Vodka, which he discovered was a concept of the actor's and his artist friend, John Alexander.

It's said Aykroyd and Alexander conceived the idea for Crystal Head Vodka in 2007 based on the legend of the 13 crystal skulls, which are thought to offer spiritual power and enlightenment to those who possess them; and as such stand not as a symbol of death, but of life. The premium vodka itself has quite a life – manufactured in Newfoundland and Labrador, it's quadruple-distilled and triple filtered through charcoal and then triple filtered through Herkimer diamond crystals. The skulls are made in Great Britain.

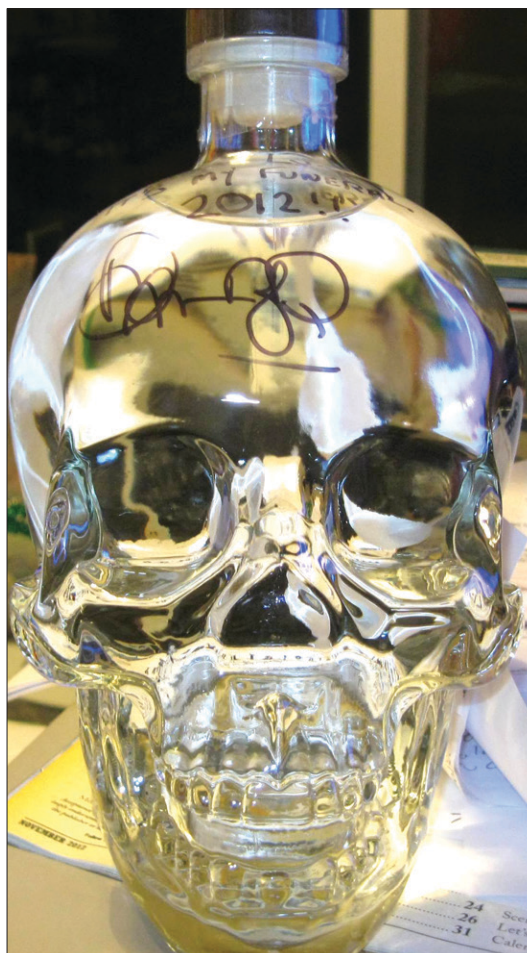
So, with the concept of Ellis's funeral fully understood, Aykroyd pondered the Jazz Funeral idea, and, after several emails, had to say he was already committed to a European trip. By way of apology for not being able to participate, Aykroyd sent Ellis the large version of Crystal Head, which retails for \$110. However, the box remained unopened until Ellis's recent funeral kick-off orientation party when he went to toast his

pallbearers, greeters and other funeral celebrants. When Ellis opened the package he found to his surprise Aykroyd had personally signed the bottle with a note reading, "Good Luck! It's My Funeral, 2012."

Ellis, rather than open the thoughtful gift, poured from the smaller bottle and everyone instead toasted to Dan Aykroyd.

Ellis's New Orleans style Jazz Funeral will begin with a Wake at the Rowdy Beaver Restaurant at 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 21, and proceed to the Pied Piper for 5:15 p.m. memorials and then to the New Delhi for an interesting Viking Funeral at 6:30 p.m. with a reception and reincarnation at the Rowdy Beaver Restaurant at 8 p.m.

For more details: see [www.JazzFuneral.DanEllis.Net](http://www.JazzFuneral.DanEllis.Net), email [dan@ureeka.org](mailto:dan@ureeka.org) or call (479) 981-9551.



**Move over, Annie Oakley** – Merritt Marie Taylor, 10, a 4th grader at the Academy of Excellence, rode her trusty steed, Princess, in last week's Christmas parade – not only the only rider, but she rode bareback!

**Annual Winter Zarks SALE**  
20% to 50% off!  
Thru Jan. 1st!  
(Cottrell Bronzes & some consignment not included)

Leo is collecting canned food & toys for his friends at the Good Shepherd Humane Society Shelter.

67 Spring Street  
Eureka Springs

## A little help from our friends:

(Please email your ongoing community service announcements to [newsdesk@eurekaspringsindependent.com](mailto:newsdesk@eurekaspringsindependent.com))

• **Food pantry, furniture bank and used book store** – Wildflower Chapel Food Pantry is open from 10:30 – Noon on Fridays. The Thrift Store and Used Furniture Bank is open Monday – Friday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Call (479) 363-6408 for more information. For service times and other chapel information, phone 253-5108.

• **Free Clothes Closet** in Penn Memorial First Baptist Church on Spring Street is open from 1 – 4 p.m. on Wednesdays. Call (479) 253-9770 to arrange to bring donations of clean new or used clothing, personal care items, linens, small appliances or dishes in good condition. These will be available to the community free of charge.

• **Coffee Break Al-Anon Family Group Women** meets Tuesdays at 9:45 a.m. at Faith Christian Family Church, Hwy. 23S. For more info, phone (479) 363-9495.

• **St. James' Episcopal Church offers free Sunday community suppers** until the end of March from 5 – 6:30 p.m. at the church, 28 Prospect Ave. (479) 253-8610.

### Meetings at Coffee Pot Club behind Land O' Nod, U.S. 62 and Hwy. 23S

• **Alateen** group – Sundays from 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. For more information, email [alateen1st@gmx.com](mailto:alateen1st@gmx.com) or phone (479) 981-9977.

• **Overeaters Anonymous** – Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. For more information, call Barbara at (479) 244-0070.

• **Narcotics Anonymous** – Fridays at 5:50 p.m. Phone (417) 271-1084 or (479) 244-6863 for more info.

• **Al-Anon Family Group (AFG)** – Sundays at 11:30 a.m., Mondays and Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

• **Eureka Springs Coffee Pot AA Group** Monday – Saturday 12:30 p.m., Sunday at 10 a.m.

Sunday – Thursday, and Saturday, at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday and Friday at 8 p.m. (479) 253-7956

or [www.nwarkaa.org](http://www.nwarkaa.org) (click Eureka Springs AA)



## Wrapping it up for Christmas

NICKY BOYETTE

During agenda setting, alderman Lany Ballance had added to the end of the meeting a discussion of legislative audits. She began discussion by citing from the last four audits of city finances, and read from the 2011 audit report that expenditures exceeded income in the general budget by more than \$401,000. She continued with each audit, and the total for the four years was \$1,432,215.

"I hope the next council can get a handle on this," she said. She suggested maybe reserves are dropping or CDs are being cashed in, but said she does not know yet although she has tried to find out.

Alderman James DeVito asked finance director Lonnie Clark if the city has been in the black all those years. Clark replied he could speak for only the time he has been here, but last year the city was in the black. He also said the mayor and council would have been having significant problems with the audit committee if there had been major issues as was being suggested. "There would have been trips to Little Rock, too," he said.

Alderman Butch Berry asked Clark if the city is required to have a balanced budget, and he responded it was. Clark continued to emphasize overspending of a significant degree would cause legislative auditors to call the mayor

*"I hope the next council can get a handle on this."*

— Alderman Lany Ballance

in for discussions. He said auditors examine records thoroughly.

Alderman Karen Lindblad asked Clark how much the city has in reserves. He stated the city has \$4,000,000 in all its accounts and some of it is in reserves, but he could not say exactly how much.

Ballance returned to the audit. "This document I'm holding is from the legislative audit. Are you saying this is not factual?" She repeated some of her earlier observations of apparent overspending.

Clark suggested that there might have been some bookkeeping reclassifications, and grants are not classified as operating revenue but the expenditures of the grant funds are listed, which could create the appearance of overspending.

At this point, Berry asked Ballance for the legislative audit she had quoted from, and he read from the audit summary where the auditor wrote, "there were not significant issues," and the city was "in significant compliance."

He asked Clark to explain what those statements meant.

Clark replied, "That means we're not deficient."

Ballance continued to read other sections of the report citing areas for improvement, and it was there discussion ended for this council.

### Council comments

During Council Comments, DeVito stated, "Bare-knuckle politics casts a pall on the process." He said suing the city, him, and others individually, is like taking a sledgehammer to the democratic process. He encouraged everyone to let the process work itself out. "It is a chilling message to potential aldermen that you might get sued," he said. He pointed out one of the ongoing suits was caused by an action at a special meeting just like the special meeting this council had convened to get the heating repaired in the Auditorium. He said he hopes hostility will diminish.

Ballance answered by saying her time on council had been interesting and she intends to continue watching city politics. She stated if she felt a suit against the city were necessary, she was willing to put her money where her mouth is. "Otherwise, Happy Holidays," she said.

The next meeting, and first of the new year, will be Monday, Jan. 14, at 6 p.m.

## Strong defense leads Lady Highlanders

NICKY BOYETTE

Patience on offense and relentless team defense led to a convincing 38-26 victory for the Lady Highlanders against Bruno-Pyatt on Tuesday night.

Bruno-Pyatt focused on stopping Taylor Osterhout, Eureka's leading scorer, and although the strategy was effective for awhile the Lady Scots held their own through the first quarter and led 4-2 entering the second quarter. Bruno-Pyatt took advantage of Eureka turnovers in the second period to pull ahead at halftime 13-10.

Coach Brian Rambo adjusted his offense at halftime, and both Osterhout and Abbey Moore

found open shots in the third quarter, and the Lady Highlanders regained the lead. It also helped that strong defense held Bruno-Pyatt to only two points in the third quarter.

In the final period, the solid defense forced Bruno-Pyatt, playing from behind, into lower percentage shots leading to easy buckets for Eureka Springs. Abbey Moore got two steals leading to layups toward the end to put the game away.

Scorers were Taylor Osterhout leading the way with 21 (including twelve for twelve at the free throw line); Abbey Moore added 13; Samantha Mueller and Hayden Mayfield also scored.

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**Publisher** – Sandra Sewell Templeton

**Editor** – Mary Pat Boian

**Editorial staff** – C.D. White, Nicky Boyette

**Photographer** – David Frank Dempsey

#### Contributors

Ray Dilfield, Steven Foster, Becky Gillette,  
Wolf Grulkey, Cynthia Kresse, Dan Krotz,  
Chuck Levering, John Rankine, Risa

**Office Manager/Gal Friday** – Gwen Etheredge

**Art Director** – Perlinda Pettigrew-Owens 

**Domestic Sanitation Specialist**

Jeremiah Alvarado-Owens

#### Press Releases

newsdesk@eurekaspringsindependent.com

#### Letters to the Editor:

editor@eurekaspringsindependent.com  
or

#### ES Independent

**Mailing address:** 103 E. Van Buren #353  
Eureka Springs, AR 72632

#### Subscriptions:

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**Office:** 178A W. Van Buren  
Eureka Springs, AR 72632

#### Display ads:

##### Contact

Michael Owens at 479.659.1461  
mowens72631@gmail.com  
or Mary Flood at 479.981.3556  
advertise.independent@gmail.com

#### Classifieds:

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All **INDEPENDENTMail** must be signed and include address and phone number for confirmation.

We reserve the right to edit submissions. Send your **INDEPENDENTMail** to:

**ES Independent**, 103 E. Van Buren, #353, Eureka Springs, AR 72632 or editor@eurekaspringsindependent.com

## Straight from the stars

Editor,

This is Risa, the esoteric astrologer who writes for your paper (and many others). Each week as I read your paper, from front to back and back again, I think to myself, "this is a good local paper! It has a sense of spirit, of freedom, real news, real people and feeling of independence."

I am honored to be a writer in your paper and to have a presence in Eureka Springs!

*Risa D'Angeles*

## CICA leaving?

Editor,

Even though it received scant local support and relatively few locals attended, it is a sad turn of events for Eureka Springs that the director of the CICA International Summer Music Festival has decided to relocate the event to Dallas. Eureka Springs is the poorer for having lost the festival.

*George Macy*

## Where to shop if there's no Walmart?

Editor,

We are always so tickled to read your newspaper because I'm not sure if it's real or parody (joke). I feel the same about Eureka Springs. Me and my ex-husband, who are sometimes best friends, often travel to your little city and are amazed at the beauty of course, but it isn't just your trees and weird roads, it's all you people! In the restaurants, grocery store, trolleys, and even the banks, people seem truly happy to live here.

They said on the radio we're supposed to give thanks this season and we couldn't think of anything we was really thankful for until we came back to Eureka Springs and there it was, all wrapped up in one big present you give yourselves and us. You are lucky. We hope we are the last people to discover you because we don't want it to get well known and crowded and expensive like every other damn city that thinks they're

so wonderful like Mobile and Irving.

*Kay Beaumont-Gottlieb*

P.S. If Walmart or Disneyland ever wants to come to your town we hope you don't let them in either.

P.S.S. Merry Christmas to all in your town, thank you thank you. We especially like the Cathouse.

## The white elephant in the room – it's eating

Editor,

A Great Big Thank You to everyone who helped to make our Holiday Island Fire Department Auxiliary White Elephant and Bake Sale a success. All of you – the ladies auxiliary who sorted, priced, baked goodies, set up the sale and worked the sale – the fire department who hauled and lifted, hauled and lifted – and all the wonderful people who came and supported us by buying our treasures – made the day a great success. Thanks again and have a Very Merry Christmas.

*Mary Amundsen*



## WEEK'S Top Tweets

**@Zen\_Moments** --- The hope of a secure and liveable world lies with disciplined nonconformists who are dedicated to justice, peace & brotherhood. ~ M.L. King

**@diegob1975** --- Man Falls From Sky Near London Heathrow. Also, he's dead.

**@RedAlert** --- Do you think Congress and Obama's paychecks should be ceased until the fiscal cliff is resolved?

**@MotherJones** --- "But if our planet goes over the climate cliff, we will plunge into an abyss of impacts that we cannot reverse."

**@NaohCafeImports** --- Winter Storm Cesar, name could be better. US weatherservice should only be able to use name of former American Gladiators

**@cassiemurdoch** --- Do the Rockettes have stress dreams about showing up to work with pants on?

**@cabbagenews** --- Seattle: Pot-Smoking Gay Bride

Arrested for Jaywalking.

**@BarackObama** --- The 2012 White House holiday card, starring Bo:



**@aaronfullerton** --- "Don't ask me again" is my favorite computer button that I wish was also a real life button.

**@Kentremendous** --- "Well, it's been eight minutes. Time to release the new version." – Adobe Flash Player engineers



## The Christmas cliff

It occurred to us in an offhand holiday moment after the bubbly had lost its fizz, shopping had lost its luster, and cookies had lost their heads that Christmas is for children. We've been told that forever, since we were children, but we always thought that meant something to do with presents.

Children are the little people we create, raise, support and put our hopes and wishes in for safekeeping. Why make life an insurmountable climb for them? Because we're still children ourselves? We're not young anymore but we're getting away with oodles of immaturity.

Adults get all balled up worrying about a strange metaphor coming out of Washington called a fiscal cliff, which those who study this sort of thing say is more like a fiscal curb. But fiscal curb has no fear attached to it, therefore isn't quickly effective. So we beat the fiscal cliff drum even though we have no earthly idea what they're talking about.

Adults have the wonder of children, and the innocence. But adults seem to be more impressionable than children. Children believe adults, but adults believe politicians. We adults listened to a man for more than a year who wanted to be president of our country, but he stashed his money in other countries so he wouldn't have to pay United States taxes. Google even does it. We adults let them get away with calling it smart business. Smart because offshore accounts simply charge transaction fees, not taxes, so the wealthy can keep their wampum all to themselves.

Which means the very wealthy in our country who want to live here, who want to benefit from our roads, education, mail delivery, libraries, medical research and spaceships, who want the protection of our soldiers and quick response teams to help hurricane, tornado and earthquake victims, who want care for sick kids and sick old people, just don't want to pay for it. They want us to do that. They want the poor and middle class to pay for their benefits while their riches accumulate, not diminish because of silly support of their country.

Correct us if we're wrong, but isn't that welfare? Isn't that leaning on someone else to do for you what you refuse to do for yourself?

Before we get all twirled up over the insensitivity and outright greed of this, we realize there are legitimate reasons the wealthy hide their money. For one thing, there is anonymity. Just because you have a 25,000 sq. ft. house for two people doesn't mean you want people to know you're rich. And it makes all the sense in the world to protect money from political upheaval. Heavens to Betsy, what if the workers of our country walked off their jobs and the streets were in turmoil and people started shooting others for a cigarette? Gee, that hasn't happened since Monday.

This attitude that one who earns or inherits or steals a lot of money is better, or more clever, than the rest of us started long ago, on a playground somewhere. We were all on a playground, we all shared the same tetherball, and we all had the same teacher, same neighborhood. Our difference was gender. Or color. Or size. Or eyesight. Or clumsiness. We were all children but somehow, one of us got more of something and the attitude was on. We were taught that we would outgrow it but instead we perpetuated it.

Which brings us back to the fiscal fight, a fancy way of saying, "You had better stop this spending because we are out of money and you are going to send us all to the poor house!" And because we're all grown up, we know that the only ones who will go to the poor house are the ones who have been working and paying their taxes so that a few rich adults could take the tetherball home and tell us to buy a new one.

Amplifying frailty is not a solution to fair distribution of responsibility. Nor is eating the rich, but you've got to admit, it beats stale Christmas cookies.



## The Pursuit Of HAPPINESS

by Dan Krotz

I'm going to start my memoirs as soon as I decide on a title. Right now I'm torn between *My Life as Master of the Universe* and *The Appalling Tedium of Me*. Some days it feels like Title One is exactly right... and some days Title Two fits like a glove. Still, we know that a life is the sum of its parts and not just one part; the trick is to strike a balance and avoid having an editor re-title our memoir *Grey is Nice and it Doesn't Show Dirt*.

Striking a balance is tricky. For example, I am lucky to be married to a woman who is much smarter than I am. This is a good thing, a big plus. She also knows she is smarter than I am which, let me say, isn't always such a big plus. And she is interested in rocks, dirt, plants and animals, and applies what she learns; she walks hand in hand with the natural world.

This means she is a practical woman, a very good thing. It also means that she becomes excited when the monthly *National Geographic* hits the porch; she will read "Why Spiny Toads Can't Perform Multiplication Problems" to me in an insistent and awe-struck voice. Not a good thing, but again on balance, not the worst thing.

Love and romance are part of this life, but ever changing. Once, it was, "Chase me! Chase me!" and now it's, "How about it, Fatboy?" On balance, all good: my heart is a grateful one, every time.

A long time ago I hired a kid to demonstrate software I was peddling. I took him on a road trip for training; one night we stayed at a tacky Holiday Inn in Mitchell, South Dakota. The kid was mesmerized; I learned he'd never stayed in a motel before. "This is so cool," he said. "This is so neat."

What a greenhorn, I'd thought. Now, I think how life is a balancing act between innocence and experience, a thing we must lose to gain the other. How that turns out, I suppose, becomes the title of our memoir.



# INDEPENDENT Constables On Patrol

## DECEMBER 3

10:12 a.m. – Resident near downtown reported an unattended dog following pedestrians and sometimes growling at them. ESPD asked her to call when the dog was in sight so Animal Control could respond because this dog had been dumped in the area, and Animal Control has been trying to catch it for months.

11:45 a.m. – High school asked for

assistance with a student. The student left before a constable arrived.

12:24 p.m. – The student returned to school grounds and was engaged in a shouting match with the principal. Incident began to escalate, but again the student left the premises before constable arrived. Student was later seen walking west on U.S. 62, and the constable got her statement.

1:25 p.m. – Another student at the high school was found to have marijuana on his person. He was arrested and later released to his mother.

2:36 p.m. – Caller asked to speak with a constable regarding harassment.

2:45 p.m. – Constable checked a vehicle that had been parked alongside a road for two days.

## DECEMBER 4

12:19 a.m. – Residents in a mobile home park were playing music loudly and therefore they had to speak loudly, causing a disturbance for neighbors. They told the responding constable they would keep it down for the night.

3:16 a.m. – Constable on patrol responded to report of an alarm going off at a business. He found everything secure. False alarm.

11:35 a.m. – Constable responded when part of a load fell off a truck bed and damaged another vehicle.

3:00 p.m. – Property owner reported renters who had just moved out not only damaged the premises but took some things with them. Constable gathered the information.

6:31 p.m. – Vehicle going eastbound on U.S. 62 crossed the centerline several times according to an eyewitness. Constables did not encounter the vehicle.

10:44 p.m. – Alarm went off at a restaurant, but everything was okay.

## DECEMBER 5

12:37 a.m. – Sheriff's office alerted EMS to location of victim of a gunshot wound to the leg.

1:21 a.m. – Concerned citizen and Arkansas State Police both reported the same vehicle driving at times in both lanes of U.S. 62 heading toward town from Berryville. Constable found the vehicle parked and unoccupied in a neighborhood.

2:04 a.m. – The second friend told the first friend the first friend's boyfriend was beating up another friend. The

boyfriend was gone when the girlfriend and a constable arrived at the scene, and the girlfriend claimed it had been only a verbal dispute.

## DECEMBER 6

12 a.m. – Resident claimed someone knocked on her back door at midnight, but no one was there when she looked. She did see a van parked in the area, and she asked for the constable on patrol to check on it.

1:04 a.m. – ESH asked for constable assistance because two patients had been smoking in the bathroom, and the hospital wanted them removed from the premises. Constable arrived and asked them to leave.

9:28 a.m. – A stray, vagrant, unfettered, unchaperoned, unattended dog was loose on the Loop until a resident coaxed it into a domicile. Animal Control picked it up and took it to the pound.

10:25 a.m. – Several complaints came from the same neighborhood about a dog barking. Animal Control will be issuing citations to the owner.

2:09 p.m. – Routine traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the driver for failure to pay child support in Pulaski County. Driver got a free ride to county jail.

6:46 p.m. – Alarm sounded at a bank. Turns out employees had set it off. False alarm.

## DECEMBER 7

1:27 a.m. – Night clerk at a motel reported seeing one of the guests walking around in his underwear and going into empty rooms. This person had created disturbances at the motel in the past, but the owner confirmed he could stay. Constable convinced the midnight Rambler to stay in his room for the night.

11:14 a.m. – Observer near a motel thought it looked suspicious for a barefoot young woman, long black hair, dressed all in black, to be apparently hanging out near the motel. Constable later encountered a male fitting the description, and he said he was just passing through town. He had his shoes in his backpack.

3:14 p.m. – Owner of a business asked a constable to check out a vehicle apparently abandoned in the parking lot. Constable recognized it and said he would try to speak with the owner.

3:36 p.m. – A mother asked for a welfare

check on her daughter. Constable found the daughter to be just fine.

6:07 p.m. – Concerned driver reported a possibly intoxicated driver, supposedly all over Hwy. 23, heading into town from the south and then turning east on U.S. 62. Constables on patrol did not encounter the vehicle.

7:23 p.m. – A car alarm downtown had been shrieking for awhile when a constable arrived. He was able to find the owner nearby to shut it off.

8:15 p.m. – There was a minor two-car accident. No injuries.

8:24 p.m. – Motorist managed to find himself high-centered on a curb. Constable and tow truck arrived to rescue him.

11:20 p.m. – Constable had to repair a barricade blocking a downtown stairway.

## DECEMBER 8

12:20 a.m. – Constable found an empty pet carrier near Lake Leatherwood. He took it to the pet carrier pound so its owner can claim it.

6:24 p.m. – Constable arrested an individual on a Carroll County warrant for failure to appear for no seatbelt.

7:30 p.m. – Witness saw a driver trying to parallel park hit the vehicle in front of him. Constable gathered information in case someone needs it, but he did not see any damage to either vehicle.

## DECEMBER 9

9:12 a.m. – Constable issued a ticket to a vehicle parked in a No Parking zone. 1:07 p.m. – Vehicle in a parking lot caught its bumper on a space curb. Bumper and vehicle parted ways. Constable filed a report.

4:35 p.m. – Shoplifter got busted by the shop owner. With constable at his side, the suspect returned the item plus he paid for it. No report necessary.

4:45 p.m. – Clerk at a store asked ESPD to be on the lookout for a mother and baby who might have walked off accidentally with a rattle.

7:26 p.m. – Someone stole pots and pans from an apartment. Constable responded but no one was home at the time. He will return tomorrow for the report.

10:25 p.m. – Alarm went off at a business. Constable on patrol arrived at the scene, and the daughter of the owner told him they had been having problems with the alarm, and she turned it off.

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# Epidemic isn't skipping Carroll County – Part I

C. D. WHITE

There may not be the symptoms usually associated with a biological disease, but this epidemic spanning all age groups from teens to seniors nonetheless exhibits telltale signs: a change in behavior, secretiveness, change in appetite, mood swings, bursts of anger, hyperactivity or lethargy, and for students, often a downturn in grades and lack of interest in school. Some have even died from its effects.

It's an epidemic now being addressed in many rural communities across the U.S., where town governments are working with law enforcement to put programs in place to keep it from spreading. It's the alarming rise of prescription drug abuse, which has topped the illegal use of meth and heroin countrywide, according to several recent studies.

The survey that identified only 1.5

million cocaine users in 2010 found 7 million users of psychotherapeutics. Of the 36,450 overdose deaths in the US in 2008, 20,044 involved a prescription drug – *more deaths than from all illicit drugs combined*.

In our area communities, many people are of the opinion that “it’s not a problem here.” They couldn’t be more wrong. According to members of the Eureka Springs and Berryville PDs and Carroll County Sheriff’s Department who are on the front lines dealing with the problem almost daily, “it has reached epidemic proportions.”

The insidious effects of prescription drug abuse have resulted in property damage, rising incidents of theft, vandalism, ruined relationships, injuries and even death. Unfortunately, the problem often stays under the wraps of denial until it crosses over into the

criminal aspect. Then it becomes the entire community’s problem.

“This isn’t just Eureka Springs,” ESPD Chief Earl Hyatt commented to the *Independent*, “and it’s not city or county or state. It’s the new drug of choice across the country.”

“It’s epidemic,” agreed Sgt. Shannon Pearson of the Berryville Police Dept. “It crosses all boundaries and it’s unreal the problems it’s causing.”

Now that many ingredients used to make methamphetamine have been reformulated to be useless when broken down, drug users have shifted attention to the easier-to-access but just as potent prescription drugs. Opioid-based pills, such as Oxycontin, and painkillers such as methadone are high on the list, along with stimulants.

**Oh, my achin’ back**

Getting them is relatively simple.

Other than stealing from the family medicine cabinet or nabbing a prescription pad left in sight in a clinic or doctor’s office, the most common method is a visit to multiple doctors and emergency rooms with a complaint of severe back pain or some other pain. In cities where medical records are part of a centralized system, these patients are usually flagged as drug seekers and the care provider is tipped off. In rural areas where hospitals are part of a non-local system or no system at all, it’s easier to visit hospitals and clinics without a doctor being aware the patient has just had prescriptions written by other doctors; often on the same day.

Mercy – St. John’s Hospital in Berryville, for instance, has a centralized electronic medical record (EMR) system. If a patient has a medical record

**EPIDEMIC** continued on page 19

## TheNATUREofEUREKA

by Steven Foster



### Bark and buds

One might assume that a botanical enthusiast is dormant like a tree this time of year – no leaves, no flowers, nothing to identify or photograph. Although it’s still technically autumn, it feels like winter. Winter is a great time to hone your tree identification skills, as nearly every woody plant has distinctive winter buds, leaf scars and bark patterns that open up a new world of plant identification opportunities.

During our recent long Indian summer, I noticed that even though the deciduous trees had lost their leaves buds had begun to swell as if they were preparing for spring. Warm weather is one trigger for flowers and leaves to emerge, but a more important biological trigger is the length of the day. Warm weather tempts the buds to swell, cold weather contracts the urge and short days ultimately keeps the whole cycle in check.

Anyone who routinely splits wood for a fireplace or stove has likely learned to identify tree barks. Straight-grained red oak has a dark, rust-furrowed bark with tight-hugging scales easily distinguished from the white-gray, more flaky bark of white oak. Hickory has a rich-gray,

almost elephant hide-like appearance and texture. The proverbial woodpile is a good place to start learning the differences

between different tree barks. One is likely to reach for an easy-to-split red oak section if given a choice between it and hickory.

In the field, the most distinctive tree bark is that of sycamores. The smooth, white, light gray to green bark exfoliates into relatively large sections, often falling near the tree. It’s easy to plot out a creek bed along a valley this time of year by just looking for a line of light-colored leafless sycamores.

Similarly, in Eureka Springs one can sleuth the location of underground water flow not far beneath the ground surface when one sees a sycamore growing on the upper side of a hill. Another tree in our woods grows in a clump of askew small trunks, with ashen gray bark chapped in scales squared like those of an alligator’s hide, making it one of the easiest trees to identify by a quick glance at the bark. And it makes perfect sense to recognize a dogwood by its bark.





## There's a vampire in your house

C.D. WHITE

You've invited it across the threshold, so now it's in your house to stay; sucking energy out of every appliance it can, even when the dials, knobs and buttons say "Off." It's known as vampire electricity, and you'll never see it doing its insidious deed until you get the electric bill. The good news is you can put a stake in the heart of this energy waster, thanks to the Carnegie Public Library.

Three kilowatt meters are available for checkout at the library so you can measure home energy use. Simply plug the meter into any home outlet and then connect any 115-volt (only!) appliance into the

meter. Test the appliances twice – turned on and turned off. The kilowatt meter estimates the amount of energy the appliance uses in each mode, and how much money it costs to operate over time.

It's a great way to discover which appliances may be in need of repair or replacement and to increase awareness of how much energy appliances and electronics are using even when turned off. Microwaves with clocks not set to the right time or VCR/DVDs and other electronics you don't have set to record or run at certain times are good examples of energy wasters that don't need to stay plugged in. True, they might not be using much electricity in a day, but those days keep adding up. Multiply by all

the appliances you leave plugged in, and it makes a difference over a year.

Get educated about residential energy use, reduce energy consumption and save money at home by unplugging electronics when not in use. According to the Energy Information Administration, appliances and lights account for 33 percent of a home's energy use. Total energy costs for these cost the average Arkansas household \$627 a year.

Contact the library at (479) 253-8754 or email [info@eurekalibrary.org](mailto:info@eurekalibrary.org), or visit [www.arkansasenergy.org](http://www.arkansasenergy.org) on the "Track and Save" program.

## Eureka Gras grand marshal announced

Brad Henry, executive director of the Northwest Arkansas Tourism Association (NATA), has been named Grand Marshal of the 2013 Eureka Gras Mardi Gras Extravaganza parade. The New Orleans-style carnival has grown to include ten days of events throughout January and February. Henry will be presented at two of the four masquerade balls and will lead the Eureka Gras parade through historic downtown beginning at 2 p.m., Feb. 9.



HENRY

As NATA Director, Henry promotes tourism, travel, and hospitality attractions in the region covering Benton, Washington, Carroll and Madison Counties. The Association also draws together city tourism entities – chambers of commerce, visitors' bureaus, and tourism committees – creating a united, regional effort for tourism promotion in addition to building a regional identity promoting Northwest Arkansas as a premier travel destination.

Prior to becoming NATA director, Henry was in the destination management, corporate events and hospitality industry in Las Vegas for 11 years. While there he created large scale, high dollar corporate events with fireworks, Elvis impersonators, and Vegas showgirls for larger companies in every major hotel casino.

Henry hails from the Pittsburgh, Penn., area and moved to Bella Vista in 2010 with his wife, Dawn, where they enjoy time with their two golden retrievers Buddy and Dolly.

Although Mardi Gras has been celebrated in Eureka Springs for more than a hundred years, Eureka Gras is only in its eighth year as a presentation of the Krewe of Krazo (Krazo is Ozark spelled backwards).

For details on Eureka Gras events, visit [www.Krazo.Ureeka.Org](http://www.Krazo.Ureeka.Org) or phone event organizer, Dan Ellis, at (479) 981-9551.

## Bittersweet basketball

Monday night, the Eureka Springs senior boys team lost to Green Forest 65-50 in the Green Forest Holiday Classic Tournament. Highlander scorers were Josh Premeau and Dalton Johnson both netting 17; Tanner Allee threw in 9; Michael Deleon hit for 5, and Nathan Andress added a deuce.

Tuesday night, the junior high boys defeated Bruno-Pyatt at home, 54-13. Dalton Kesner led the scoring with 15 (including three triples); Dylan Lawrence and Austin Kimbrall both scored 8; Oscar Mendez 7; Jacob Holloway 5; Mathew McClung and Dakota McKinney hit for 4 each and Tyler Crawford added 3.

Also Tuesday night, senior boys beat Bruno-Pyatt 67-56. Josh Premeau had

a big night scoring 35; Dalton Johnson was outstanding with 22, including six 3-pointers.

Tanner Allee contributed 8 and Andrew Ritter a bucket to complete the scoring.

Wednesday night, senior boys beat Bruno-Pyatt 57-24 in the 5th place game of the Green Forest Holiday Classic Tournament. Again leading scoring was Josh Premeau putting up another strong performance with 32. Tanner Allee scored 11; Dalton Johnson 10 and Andrew Ritter, 4.

Senior High boys are now 8-10 overall.

All four Highlander teams play Friday, Dec. 14 at home against Magazine. First game starts at 4 p.m.

## The kindest cut – free cuts by Chris

Those who have foregone a holiday haircut due to a tight budget now have a chance to gussie up. On Tuesday, Dec. 18, from 10 a.m.—4 p.m., Chris Patton-Rodgers offers free haircuts at the Grand Central Salon. She suggests people call the front desk (253-6756) for an appointment, but walk-ins are welcome. "They just might have to wait a while," she said.

People of all ages are welcome. "Hopefully, I can slick some neighbors up in time for the holidays," Chris said. "The ones who can afford to may give a monetary donation. Otherwise, I encourage people to bring pet food, hygiene products, and/or canned goods too." Items will be donated to appropriate charities.

"Maybe I'll get really busy and will have to stay later if needed," Chris said.



## Community Christmas Services & Special Music

*(If your church has a special Christmas service to add to this list, please email it to [newsdesk@eurekaspringsindependent.com](mailto:newsdesk@eurekaspringsindependent.com))*

**Dec 16** – First Presbyterian Church: Christmas Contatas, 11 a.m.

First United Methodist Church: Indigo Fischer, flute, 5:30 p.m.

Holiday Island Presbyterian Church: *Tapestry of Light—A Celtic Christmas Celebration* by Joseph M. Martin. Performance directed by Harry Hoffman.

Diana Brown, piano. 9 a.m.

**Dec 23** – First United Methodist Church: Soprano Martha Bartell, 5:30 p.m.

Holiday Island Baptist Church: Christmas Candlelight Service, 5 p.m.

**Dec 24** – St. Elizabeth Catholic Church on Crescent Drive: Christmas Carols, 11 p.m. followed by Midnight Mass.

Faith Christian Fellowship: Candlelight Communion Service, 5 p.m.

First United Methodist Church: service of Lessons and Carols, 5:30 p.m.

Holiday Island Presbyterian Church: Candlelight Communion, 6:30 p.m.

St. James Episcopal Church: Christmas Eve service and music, 7:30 p.m.

Grace Lutheran Church: Christmas Eve service, 5 p.m.

**Dec 25** – St. James Episcopal Church: Christmas Day service, 10 a.m.

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church: Christmas Mass, 9 a.m. at the parish hall, Passion Play Rd.

**Rotary student excels in studies and sports** – Jake McClung III, an ESHS Junior, is the Eureka Springs Rotary Student of the Month for November. He is the son of Joe and Chrys McClung of Eureka Springs and currently carries a 3.74 GPA. Jake has academic honors in Biology, English, Spanish I and Algebra II. He has been president and vice-president of his class and is a student council representative as well as co-president of the Future Business Leaders of America Club. His athletic achievements include the Junior High Highlander Award and 11 other awards in running and track. Jake came in first in the Eureka Race in 2011 and second in 2012. He received the Hustle Award in both baseball and basketball. He spends summers working as a lifeguard at Holiday Island Recreation Center. Jake is an altar server at St. Elizabeth's Church and volunteers at the Salvation Army and St. Vincent DePaul. He looks forward to college and a career in physical therapy.

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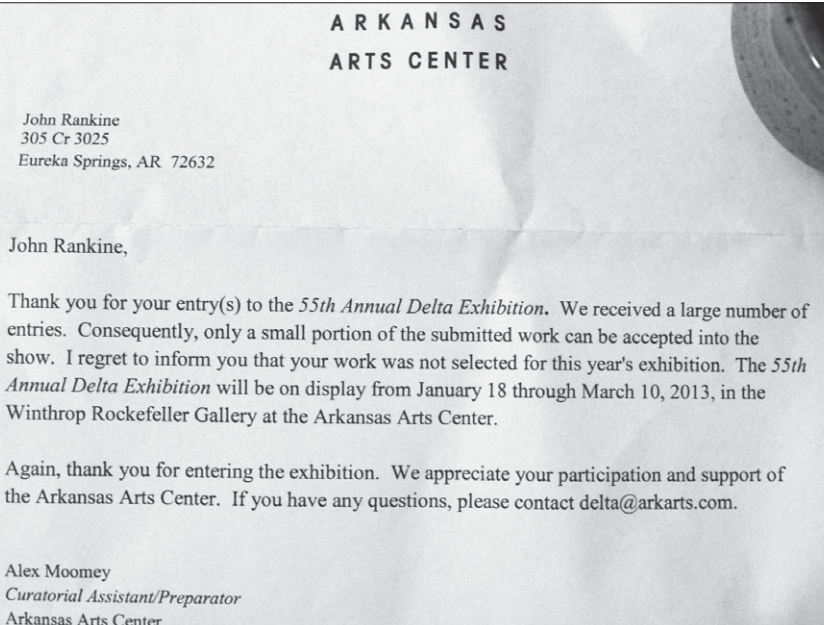
*"Even if you are the most luscious, juiciest, perfect peach in the orchard, there is going to be someone who hates peaches."*

ANONYMOUS FACEBOOK

Such fragile creatures we are, "we" being artists. "Rejection," a word you think "we" would be used to. Nope.

The annual Delta Exhibit in Little Rock is considered a prestigious show in which to get accepted. It's a juried show now in its 56<sup>th</sup> year, judged by a different but highly qualified person in the art field every year. It's also a show I've been rejected from three years in a row.

Ouch! And it doesn't help that three very good friends got accepted and garnered honorable mentions for their work last year. Of course, I was genuinely thrilled for John Willer, Zeek Taylor and Cynthia Kresse who "made the cut," a sports metaphor that still traumatizes this boy-who-throws-like-a-girl. All three deserved the honors, and I did not miss showing support by making the trek to our state capital.



Walking into Delta, I was first struck by the high quality of work, then my artist ego kicked in and the dissing began. "How in the hell did that get accepted? What was that judge thinking? Am I missing something here?" Questions that when really boiled down translate

to, "Why did this judge hate me and my artwork?"

Eureka Springs artists were snubbed by this year's Delta

juror, all receiving polite rejection notices in the mail. In response, I thought, how fun it would be to hold a Salon des Delta Refusés Exhibit of artists who were denied entrance to the Arkansas Arts Center here at The Space – a show to soothe our fragile egos.

Rejection comes in many forms, like watching your donated benefit artwork go for less than the price you paid to have it framed (a whole column unto itself).

Art appreciation is subjective, like the praise and criticism I throw out weekly on this page. It's one person's opinion, and I remind myself that being chosen for the Delta or any other grant or exhibit is a crapshoot – you win some and lose some. You pick yourself up, continue to create, but still wonder, "Who doesn't love peaches?"

## INDEPENDENTArt

### ***Nutcracker and Annie* featured in Christmas recitals**

Soul Motion at Mindful Living Studio will be hosting children's



© Richard Quick Photography

Christmas recitals Dec. 15 and 16. The ballet class presents excerpts from *The Nutcracker* starring 3 – 7 year-olds and special guests on Saturday, Dec. 15 at noon. Sunday, Dec. 16, the youth musical theatre class will perform *Annie, The Mini Musical* at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for adults and free for kids. Both performances are at the studio, 99 Spring St, lower level. Call (479) 244-9057 for more info. Come support area youth in two

great productions led by instructor Miss Melanie.

### **Jewelry from Bee Creek at Eureka Thyme in time for Christmas**

Debbie Weiland is well-known to folks in Carroll County, but not many know she designs exquisite jewelry at her studio on Bee Creek.

Debbie hand forges and hammer-textures all her creations. She may use acid etching and/or oxidization to give a rich, antiqued look. She polishes and clear coats all pieces to give a lasting luster to the metal finish. Weiland uses recycled copper washers, tubing, coins and found objects on her earrings and bracelets. She also incorporates Czech glass, shell and gemstones as well as Czech and Swarovski crystals.

Meet Debbie and view her fresh, creative jewelry on Saturday, Dec. 15, from 1 – 6 p.m. at Eureka Thyme, 19 Spring Street, in downtown Eureka Springs.



ART continued on page 27



# FAME CAME LATE<sup>©</sup> - Chapter 6 (cont.) “A Funny Kind of a Spring”

*Fame Came Late* © is an unpublished historical manuscript written by Lida Wilson Pyles (1906-2000). It is the story as she was told about Eureka Springs bear hunter, John Gaskins. Pyles married into the Gaskins family in 1924.

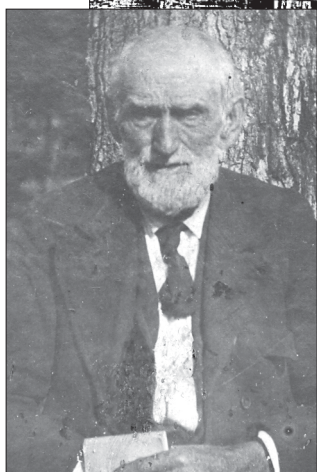
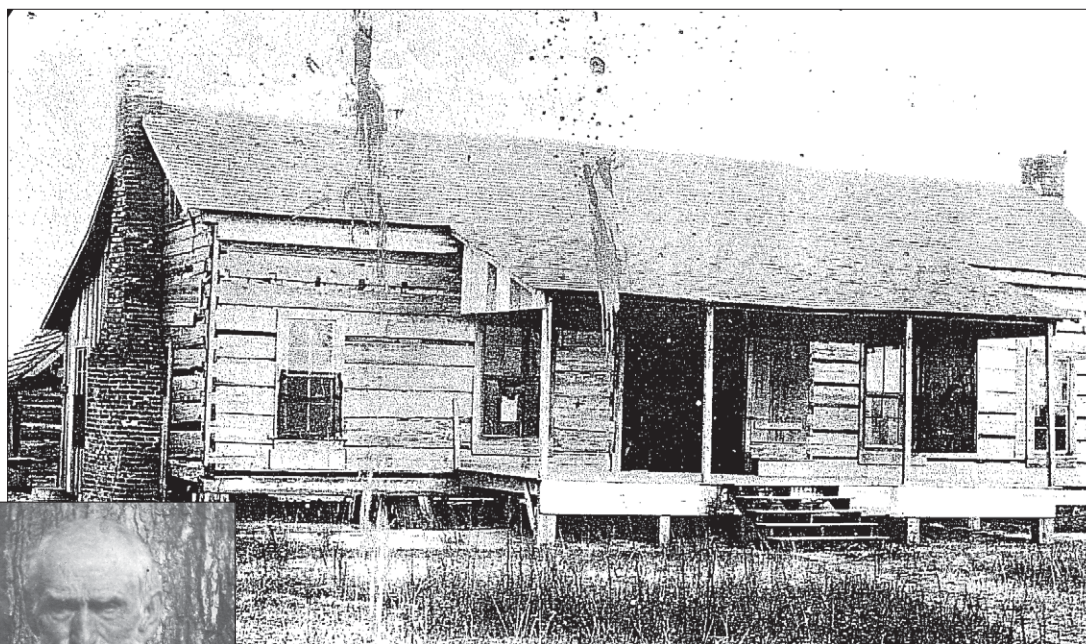
“Well, about the only thing I guess was the funny kind of spring we run into,” Johnny said. “I guess we couldn’t say we found it. It wasn’t lost. I’ve camped there many times before when I was on a hunt. The ashes of my old campfires was still there.

“This time, Alva Jackson, Burton Saunders and his kid, and Hiram Pinkley was all with me. I led the way to th’ campin’ place an’ we made camp there jest as I had allus done, by the big spring. We fixed our supper an’ was getting’ ready to bed down.

“Th’ Saunders boy kept complainin’ to his Pa that his eyes was hurtin’ worse. Th’ boy has allus had somethin’ wrong with his eyes. His Pa bathed them in water from the spring and told him to go to bed an’ they would probably be better in the mornin’. He was jest tryin’ to get the boy’s mind off his eyes so he would go to sleep.

“Th’ strange thing was that th’ next mornin’ the boy’s eyes was better an’ so was Hiram Pinkley’s leg. He’s still got a bad leg from that fight he had with a bear two months ago. He had washed it with th’ spring water, too. I told him that maybe th’ sore was better jest because it was clean. But, he argued along with Burton, that th’ water had some kind of healin’ power. Alva Jackson reads everything he can get about medicine an’ is almost a doctor himself. He says there ain’t a doubt in his mind that there is somethin’ different about that spring. He wouldn’t leave there with his boy. Wanted to stay fer awhile and give th’ water a chance to do somethin’ fer th’ boy’s eyes. Bill, Harp, and me, we went on with our hunt and left Pinkley there with Saunders, his boy and Jackson at the spring.

“They have been there for the whole time we’ve been gone. I’m beginnin’ to



agree with ‘em, Susan. There’s somethin’ different about that spring. It’s healin’.”

“It sounds funny to me, Johnny, that the spring has been there all this time and nobody

knowed it was any different from all the others in these hills,” Susan’s voice hinted at skepticism.

“Maybe it ain’t so different, Susan. Maybe all of them springs around that part of th’ country is healin’.”

“Maybe all of ‘em are. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if people could find cures fer their sicknesses right here in these hills?”

“T’wouldn’t surprise me none,” her husband remarked. “I’ve allus said that th’ Lord put ever’thing we need right here in these hills iffen we was jest smart enough to find it. I’m beginnin’ to believe it more every day. We know about the herbs in the woods that cures different things. Why wouldn’t it be reasonable to believe that He put healin’ water here, too?”

“It’s something to think about, Johnny, but I’m goin’ to bed to do my thinkin’. The baby had colic this mornin’ an’ I’m all tuckered out.”

“How is the little feller?” the grandfather mentioned the baby for the

first time since his return.

“He’s sleepin’ pretty good right now, snuggled in th’ bed by the side of his Pa. I’ll tell you, Johnny, it does my heart good to see how he takes care of that baby. Sometimes, I think that baby is a blessin’ from God.”

“You may be right, but I have doubts that God ever sent woods’ colts fer blessin’s, but I guess we can wait an’ see while you’re hopin’ you’re right.”

“Johnny, there’s somethin’ else that’s botherin’ me worse right now than

the baby. It’s Sam. He’s getting worse all th’ time. He coughs all the time and sometimes goes back to bed in th’ daytime. That ain’t like him, Johnny. That ain’t like Sam.”

“I know it, Susan. I guess I’ve done jest like you. Tried not to pay any attention to it because I don’t know what to do about it. I guess we can at least talk about it. We both know it’s consumption that he got in the war. It was the God-damned war. Consumption don’t run in my family. He picked it up in th’ war. I reckon th’ war will never be over. It’s left a mark on this family fer sure.”

“Johnny, I’ve made him every kind of tea I have ever heard of. He takes it but I think he’s just give up, like we have. He knows he ain’t never goin’ to be any better.”

“I know, Susan. With all th’ things we have went through, even with me an’ th’ boys bein’ off to war, we still don’t know what it is to have to give up one of our children. I guess it’s somethin’ we’ve got to think about, Susan. We’ve got to be prepared fer it when th’ time comes.”

## Fat Tuesday Alert!

After the Krazo 2<sup>nd</sup> line pub crawl on Feb. 12 head for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual St. ‘Lizabeth King Cake Ball and Cajun Dinner at St. Elizabeth’s Parish Center on “Fat Tuesday.” Tickets are now available. The public is invited to join in this celebratory event, which will be capped off by “the largest King Cake in Arkansas,” according to Father Shaun Wesley.

The evening includes dancing to the music of Bentonville’s Naturally Brass jazz combo from 6:30—10 p.m. The center will be lavishly decorated in the Mardi Gras theme, costumed wait-staff included. Costumes for guests are encouraged but not required. An authentic Louisiana dinner is included in the ticket price, and starts off with homemade crawfish corn bisque followed by Natchitoches meat pie, shrimp étouffée, slaw, Andouille sausage and more. Guests may partake of dinner any time from 6—8 p.m. There will also be a cash bar available. Reservations are required.

The Parish Center is located at 232 Passion Play Road. Tickets are \$65 per couple or \$35 single and may be purchased in advance. For further information and to purchase tickets, call Rod or Phyl McGuire at (479) 253-8864. St. Elizabeth’s Catholic Church in Eureka Springs sponsors the event.



## The end is near (for Dan Ellis) - Jazz Funeral features new local band

HARRIE FARROW

Following in Tom Sawyer's footsteps, Eureka character and event promoter, Dan Ellis, has decided to attend his own funeral. Considering what a party he's got planned for the event, who can blame him for wanting to partake in the festivities while still alive? Although, he makes no claims he'll actually be living on that day; after all, he's picked 12/21/12, the day some believe the Mayan Calendar predicts the world is destined to end.

Ellis, who's from New Orleans, had always planned to have a traditional jazz funeral in the Big Easy for his actual death. When he moved to Eureka Springs after Hurricane Katrina, he decided he'd have his jazz funeral here, but then in 2009 when he decided on a Mayan theme for his Eureka Gras event in 2012, he got the notion to have a funeral on the last day of the Mayan Calendar, "be he dead or alive."

His goal is to see how many people he can get to be participants or spectators; he's hoping for at



least a thousand – and you're invited to participate.

There will be an Irish Wake at the Rowdy Beaver from 4 – 5 p.m. including eulogy, gospel singing and a procession of trolleys, convertibles and limos. Following at Cathouse Lounge/Pied

Piper Pub will be a Ceremonial Dedication to Life, more gospel singing and a wailing contest between two groups of mourners at the "Wailing Wall."

Join the fun after that as part of the "Second Line" of mourners at the end of a procession with a coffin and hearse, pallbearers in tuxedos, jazz band and mourners with black hats and black umbrellas. The new Eureka Springs Jazz Band will be led by Jim Swiggart on trombone and features Berryville band directors Drew Morris and Julius Stevens on trumpet, Daniel Hodge on alto sax, Randal Cavanagh on tuba and a second group made up of their outstanding band students.

And you won't want to miss the "Viking Funeral" at the New Delhi Café from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. as Ellis's effigy being burned and ashes placed in an urn. Finally, at the Rowdy Beaver, the Funeral Reception – Hallelujah Time! – and a reincarnation by Ellis who will make a "rejuvenated appearance."

For more information, times and locations, see [www.JazzFuneral.DanEllis.Net](http://www.JazzFuneral.DanEllis.Net)

## AUDacious by Ray Dilfield

So here we have yet another glaring example of the conflict between artistic vision and the need to provide an income right in our literal back yard.

The recent closing of the Great Passion Play is one more chapter in the ongoing proceedings of *Commerce v. Vision*. It's not really a huge stretch to compare an artist's pursuit with what GPP's management saw as their grand mission – enrichment of the human soul – whether through songwriting, watercolors or a lip-synced drama. Each is endeavoring to convey their own interpretation of The Truth to their audience.

And both face the same challenges in also needing to put food on the table.

Granted, it's far easier for the solitary artist to maintain his artistic integrity and remain



uncompromising in his vision if he doesn't have to concern himself with temporal issues like covering a mortgage or meeting a payroll. In the absence of independent wealth or a steady stream of patrons who support one's unadulterated vision, the rest of us must be willing to flex at least a little bit in order to serve our multiple masters. Sneer if you must, but sometimes we have no choice but to crank out some nauseatingly cute big-eyed kitty or sad clown pictures, a song that follows the formula *du jour* to garner airplay, or a screenplay about teenage vampires just to ensure

world to hole up in a shack in the woods and continue to produce art that pleases only himself. In the case of the GPP however, there developed a kind of managerial schizophrenia where the board's intransigence on compromising the purity of their mission by offering anything other than a 2000 year-old story conflicted with the goals of that part of their staff who needed to fill the seats with the patrons who made it all possible. Would it have bordered on apostasy to use the amphitheater to put on an Amy Grant concert? Would the purity of their mission have been sullied by an

## Oil and Water *redux*

we have the means to continue the pursuit of what we really want.

Some will adamantly refuse such compromise. The individual artist may have the option of withdrawing from the

all-day Christian rock festival in the parking lot? These possibilities, and many others,

were among suggestions made over the last several years in an effort to help the GPP expand its audience. Each was dismissed out of hand so we'll never know if they might have helped or not.

On the one hand, we can admire their adherence to what they saw as their Holy Mission. On the other, we can shake our heads at the hidebound thinking that led to their own demise and the loss of an asset to the city's tourism.

Is it a rationalization to think that "selling out" to commercialism in order to support one's larger vision is acceptable? That's a question we each have to answer for ourselves. And refrain from answering for others.





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**EPIDEMIC** continued from page 13

in any of their hospitals, they will be aware whether or not the individual has a history of drug seeking. If there are no medical records, a patient with a complaint of pain may get a prescription from the emergency room and fill it at the hospital pharmacy; go from there to a clinic or doctor outside the Mercy system, find another pharmacy and possibly end up at a hospital and/or doctor in Harrison and having the prescriptions filled at pharmacies that aren't part of a centralized network.

Often the "patient" isn't even getting these pills for their own use, but to sell – and it's big business. Those using Medicare can get prescriptions for 30 to 120 pills

filled for as little as \$2.50 – \$5 and sell each pill for \$10, and often more. Dealers can rack up to \$5,000 on the bunch. "That happens all the time," reported Pearson.

"There are twenty year-olds overdosing on prescription drugs and dying from something they may not even know what it is," said Pearson. "Short of a centralized system, it is down to local awareness, and even at that, because of HIPPA (medical privacy laws), we have to operate in the blind."

That makes it hard for law enforcement to find and stop this kind of drug traffic. However, Hyatt said the local community is "blessed with enough community-minded citizens who will help us. Some work as

confidential informants and others just want to help. There's a big problem with prescription narcotics. It's the new meth."

The problem spans all age groups, but the worst thing for local police officers is to see young people die from overdoses and incidents relating to them. "It's horrible and it's happening here. If people think it's not a problem, well, that's just terribly wrong," Hyatt said.

So what are these pills, who takes them and why, and what is it about them that can be so dangerous? Aren't prescription drugs supposed to be safe? The answers may come as a surprise in Part II in next week's *Independent*.



## Darkness Verging on Light

**T**hursday's Sagittarius new moon – the last of 2012 – prepares us for Winter Solstice and the Festival Week of the New Group of World Servers. Uranus becomes stationary direct (4.37 Aries) Thursday. The New Age is right on schedule. In the sky **Thursday and Friday** are the Geminids meteor showers (possibly fifty an hour) dropping light into the minds of humanity, building the Rainbow Bridge. Anticipation, expectancy, hope is everywhere.

Monday, Mercury in Sag opposes Jupiter in Gemini, a most important event. Sag & Gemini,

mutable signs, signify change, needed periods of reorientation activated prior to the emergence of new developments for humanity. Mercury streams forth Ray 4, a new harmony after chaos. Gemini, sign of duality (and later synthesizing duality) is connected to the heart of the Sun and thus the pulsation of life that sustains us. Gemini, Ray 2, radiates to Earth Love/Wisdom.

Jupiter (also Ray 2) in Sag points to our long journey into our galaxy's night (December 21<sup>st</sup>, the depths of darkness verging on Light). Jupiter expands us. During Festival week (Week of

Impact), we will be expanded by a Love falling to earth and by revelations impressed upon our hearts and minds from the Galactic Center. Showing us the way toward the Light.

The ancient Commentary concerning Gemini and Sag. "When the two (Gemini & Sag) become One (Sag), the 4<sup>th</sup> (humanity) becomes the 5<sup>th</sup> (Soul). The Soul calls to us, the new Age begins, the New Era Community beckons. We must prepare." Here is the YouTube for the Festival of the New Group of World Servers. So everyone can join us. [www.youtube.com/watch?v=VbBQuZAVgUI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VbBQuZAVgUI)

**ARIES:** You're curious, even more than usual. You need to study and learn things. You want to exchange philosophies and ideas with others. You feel enthusiastic and even inspired by your community and by communication. It's not a time for details. Only the big picture will do. Offer no advice. Be practical and seek out different lands, peoples and cultures. The world is uniting. You are the facilitator.

**TAURUS:** You're interested in how people think, what motivates them, all their subtle mysteries and secrets. This is Taurus' Scorpio side. You're able, after time and pondering, to understand and analyze people and their strategies. You are the Illumined Mind from the Pleiades. A mind that can work medically, scientifically and astrologically with penetrating authority. Your communication skills are being heightened.

**GEMINI:** You love to discuss two different sides of a conversation simultaneously. You play, understand, decide upon both, knowing all sides are true on different levels. Most important

to you is someone who listens and hears your thoughts, ideas and communications. You're skilled at tidbits of information and ideas. Boredom often assails you. You must learn sincerity, truthfulness, and then love – your purpose.

**CANCER:** Everyone's forgetting lots of things these days. But you aren't. You remember everything, from way back in time to the present day. Often, however, you're worried and nervous. Things around you seem disorganized. However, you're so useful with everyone these things matter less and less. One day you will begin to clean, clear, order and organize. For now do whatever eases nervous tension. Rest more. For headaches, grow and tincture feverfew.

**LEO:** Something has lifted you from the deep intensity you live with into a lighter and brighter world of creative expression. You engage others in conversations filled with playfulness and fun. You become entertaining (an entertainer) when interacting with others. You find those with intellectual capacities to be very attractive. You're proud of what you've done, proud of your children and/or pets. Proud of your creativity. And yourself.

**VIRGO:** Usually your mind is set upon order and detail. But something new has come into your life. It's imagination setting up ideas and plans that are unusual and unexpected. All thoughts of separation and demarcation have left. You begin to change your home to reflect the new persona you've become. More lively, colorful, imaginative, intellectual. An

atmosphere of experimentation. Embrace this. Like a wildflower garden 'abloom.

**LIBRA:** You do many intelligent interactive things – read, teach, exchange ideas, understand the news (Rachel Maddow), talk with friends ceaselessly, think about having parties, are active outdoors, garden and current with the many and varied lives of your many and varied friends. You could feel a bit nervous these days concerning money and finances. To curtail worry, tend very carefully considering the long term. Tell me what you would do if you had only one day to spend your money. And then money was gone?

**SCORPIO:** Though many think they fear Scorpions, they have it wrong! Scorpions are very practical and intelligent. They see obstacles and find logical answers. They see conclusions before anyone else and shy away from them. They work according to their own timing and schedule. Because they know time's relative. Scientists have proven that no one multitasks. Scorpions knew this first. They are the great researchers.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Your appearance is that of tallness, like a mountain, sturdy and supportive. You are these things. However, you've also become a bit more like the planet Mercury, a messenger on a bike in San Francisco. Fast, nimble, adaptable, changeable, versatile and quick like a flash (of light). This image is why many Sags are photographers. They catch the in-between realities that no one sees. You do. With great curiosity and

emotional interest.

**CAPRICORN:** You're experiencing silence at this time, having become a bit of a Pisces these days. Not so quick to respond as a new level of trust is developing. It's not quite time to express yourself yet. People tell you secrets, things they can't tell others. You maintain their secrets. Good. Don't overanalyze. Ask yourself questions and wait for the answers to appear. This is intuition, impressions from the Raincloud of Knowable Things. It doesn't involve analysis. You are learning to communicate differently.

**AQUARIUS:** Curiosity impels you to go out and about in the community, town and villages interacting with people, learning about community events, being on teams, creating trends and introducing ideas that eventually become ideals within humanity. You're future-oriented, you play fair, you're unselfish and you have great hopes and dreams. The moon hiding Uranus rules you. Sometimes you're sad, seeking people like yourself. There are few. They're in community.

**PISCES:** It's how you communicate with others that makes you loved by strangers. There's authority in your words. Many activities are involved in your work these days. Is your desk piled high with various aspects of your life? Is it like an archeological dig? Multiple places, people, settings, events, conversations, travel, ideas and the arts are needed for your work. Without them, you feel dry, like a wasteland. Negotiate for them.



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*Risa, Founder & Director, Esoteric & Astrological Studies & Research Institute –  
a contemporary Wisdom School for the study of the Tibetan's teachings in the Alice A. Bailey books  
Email [risagoodwill@gmail.com](mailto:risagoodwill@gmail.com); Web journal: [www.nightlightnews.com](http://www.nightlightnews.com); Facebook: Risa's Esoteric Astrology*



## CHAMBERAppeal

### All is not lost

I'm sure that by now most everyone has learned of the decision made by the Elna M. Smith Foundation to close the Great Passion Play after 45 consecutive seasons. This is a sad time for many of us who love the Great Passion Play, respect its purpose and appreciate all it has done for the development of tourism in Eureka Springs. There is no doubt that the closing of such a long-standing attraction will impact our community greatly.

It is my understanding that the property and assets are being turned over to Cornerstone Bank and they plan to move as quickly as possible in finding a buyer for the property. It is their hope that someone will step forward to redevelop and reopen a great attraction for Eureka Springs.

I urge everyone to focus on the

positives working for us right now in Eureka Springs. Losing an attraction such as the Great Passion Play is painful. We all can and should hope for a positive end to this unfortunate situation. We should all remember that Eureka Springs remains a wonderful vacation destination and, if packaged properly can and will rise above this challenge and grow stronger.

Let's take a quick inventory of our assets starting with the history, architecture and natural beauty of the Ozark Mountains. History has been preserved throughout the entire city and our museums tell the story. We are surrounded by an array of great architectural works from our entire downtown district to Thorncrown Chapel. With the lakes, rivers, parks and outdoor activities we have a tremendous

future in Ecotourism.

Being one of the most vibrant arts communities in the U.S, and positioned less than an hour away from America's newest art destination, more art enthusiasts will discover our city. Contrary to what some may say we have many fun family attractions for families on vacation. There are two fantastic animal parks in our area, three commercially operated caves, two nightly music theaters, the railway, go karts, mini-golf, ghost tours, mystical illusion show, carriage rides and more; not to mention downtown entertainment, special events, festivals and parades throughout the year. We have many "one of a kind" attractions plus castles and mansions. Our shopping and dining is unique and we have fantastic spas to promote better health.

Our appeal reaches singles, couples, families, reunions, professional tour operators and groups, meeting and convention planners, motorcycle enthusiasts and more. We are a destination for weddings, honeymooners and anniversary couples.

The Greater Eureka Springs Chamber of Commerce is joining with the City Advertising and Promotion Commission to make sure Eureka Springs is not left behind by news of the Great Passion Play closing and we need your help. We are asking that you promote the good things we have going for us. We must move forward and use assets to continue to grow as the Extraordinary Escape!

**Mike Bishop, President/ CEO**  
**Greater Eureka Springs**  
**Chamber of Commerce**

## Centennial giving program benefits fire departments

On behalf of Cornerstone Bank's Centennial contributions, \$11,000 was presented to six local fire departments. The Eureka Springs Fire Department, Grassy Knob Fire Department, Berryville Fire Department, Inspiration Point Fire Department and Holiday Island Fire Departments each received \$2,000 and the Beaver Fire Department received \$1,000.

Each donation enables departments to enhance their buildings, equipment and fire trucks. The bank is giving \$100,000 back to the communities they serve throughout their centennial year. Charlie Cross, President & CEO of Cornerstone Bank said, "These donations will allow our volunteer firefighters to keep our communities safe. This is our way of saying to the community, 'Thank you for the 100 years of loyalty and support given to Cornerstone Bank.'"

## Go "Purple" for Christmas

The Purple House Hospital Thrift shop invites the public to take advantage of the new inventory of adult winter clothing and Christmas items and decorations. Located on the Eureka Springs Hospital Campus at 24 Norris Street, hours are weekdays from 10 a.m.—4 p.m. Call Mary Dolce at (479) 253-4939 or e-mail marydol5@aol.com for more information.



**Pop the bubbles** – The Village Stroll on Dec. 8 became a race under the bubbles from the bubble machine in front of Village Gifts for Sofia Asbury, 3; Devyn Harpole, 5, and Natalie Asbury, 2. The Second Annual Stroll gave shops in Pine Mountain Village a chance to offer an evening of holiday sales and refreshments to visitors and residents.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY



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**LADIES NIGHT MON. • OPEN MIC TUES.**

Fri., Dec. 14 • 9 P.M.  
**TRASH CAN BANDITS**  
w/CHUCKY WAGGS

Sat., Dec. 15 • 9 P.M.  
**MATT SMITH & ISYAH WARFORD**

Sun., Dec. 16 • 4-8 P.M.  
**ERNIE'S MEMORIAL**  
Portluck w/SKINNY GYPSIES

**Mon., Dec. 17 • 9 P.M.  
SPRINGBILLY**

Tues., Dec. 18 • 9 P.M.  
**OPEN MIC**

Wed., Dec. 19 • 9 P.M.  
**JONES BROTHERS**

Thurs., Dec. 20  
Jazz night  
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Fri. Dec. 14 **LADIES NIGHT**

**BAD JACK WICKED**

Sat. Dec. 15 – **BLEW REED & THE FLATHEADS**



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# INDYSoul by Gwen Etheredge Little Zero & Gone Was Here

Saturday night at the SQUID & WHALE you can hear Little Zero and Gone Was Here. Roger Tipton is Little Zero, rhythm guitar, vocals and an original songwriter. Gone Was Here is a trio of longtime friends – Jon Collins on bass; Jason Hannah on lead guitar/vocals and Andy Sagraves on drums. They credit the great minds and spirits they have had the pleasure of working with over the years with making them the musicians they are today. What they are today is a mix of genres such as Americana, blues, country, folk and a little jazz. *Holdin' On To The Blues* shows off some low-slung blues chops, while *The River Song* is a twilight-walk-on-the-banks bit of Americana folk. The list of original songs defies categorization. Come out and hear them; the live performances often slide into impressive jams.

## Little Zero and Gone Was Here –

playing the Squid & Whale Saturday night at 9 p.m.



**FRIDAY – DECEMBER 14**

- **BEREAN COFFEEHOUSE** Neil Ogle Jazz, 7 p.m.
- **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** Finals – Karaoke Contest
- **CHELSEA'S** Trash Can Bandits w/Chuck Waggs, 9 p.m.
- **EUREKA LIVE!** DJ & Dancing
- **EUREKA PARADISE** DJ & Dancing
- **EUREKA STONEHOUSE** Jerry Yester, 5–8 p.m.
- **GRAND TAVERNE** Arkansas Red Guitar, 6:30–9:30 p.m.

- **JACK'S CENTER STAGE** Karaoke with DJ Goose, 9 p.m.–closing
- **LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON** The Dirty Roots
- **NEW DELHI CAFÉ** Jazz Tech Ruin, afternoon, Big Bad Gina, evening
- **PIED PIPER CATHOUSE LOUNGE** A.J. Gaither One Man Band, 8 p.m.
- **ROWDY BEAVER** Bad Jack Wicked It's Ladies Night
- **ROWDY BEAVER DEN** Skillet Lickers
- **SQUID & WHALE PUB** TJ Kong & the Atomic Bomb CD Release Tour
- **VOULEZ VOUS** Smokin' Joliet Dave & The Mighty Mudhounds, 9 p.m.

## SATURDAY – DECEMBER 15

- **The AUD** John Two-Hawks Christmas Concert
- **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** Muddy River
- **CHELSEA'S** Matt Smith & Isyah Warford, 9 p.m.
- **EUREKA LIVE!** DJ & Dancing
- **EUREKA PARADISE** DJ & Dancing
- **GRAND TAVERNE** Jerry Yester Grand Piano Dinner Music, 6:30–9:30 p.m.
- **JACK'S CENTER STAGE** Jukejoint, 7 p.m.–closing
- **LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON** One Night Stand
- **NEW DELHI CAFÉ** Jazz Tech Ruin, afternoon, Big Bad Gina, evening
- **PIED PIPER CATHOUSE**

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Evening – **BIG BAD GINA**

Saturday, Dec. 15 • Afternoon  
**JAZZ TECH RUIN**  
Evening – **BIG BAD GINA**

Sunday, Dec. 16 • 1-4 P.M.  
**MAGIC MULE**  
Wednesday, Dec. 19  
**OPEN JAM**

Thur. Dec. 13 **OPEN MIC**

Fri. Dec. 14 **CD RELEASE TOUR**  
AND **TJ KONG** From Philadelphia  
AND **THE ATOMIC BOMB**

Sat. Dec. 15 **Little Zero and Gone Was Here**  
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**LOUNGE** *A.J. Gaither One Man Band*, 8 p.m.  
**• ROWDY BEAVER** *Blew Reed & The Flatheads*  
**• ROWDY BEAVER DEN** *Skillet Lickers*  
**• SQUID & WHALE PUB** *Little Zero & Gone Was Here Rock n Roll*  
**• VOULEZ VOUS** *Swing and a Miss*, 9 p.m.

#### **SUNDAY – DECEMBER 16**

**• CHELSEA'S** *Ernie's Memorial and Potluck with the Skinny Gypsies*, 4–8 p.m.  
**• EUREKA LIVE!** Customer Appreciation Night, 5 p.m.–close  
**• LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON** Free Texas Hold 'Em Tournament *with prizes*, 6 p.m.  
**• NEW DELHI CAFÉ** *Magic Mule*, 1–4 p.m.  
**• SQUID & WHALE PUB** “Local Kine” Local Talent Showcase

#### **MONDAY – DECEMBER 17**

**• CHASERS BAR & GRILL** Pool Tournament, 7 p.m.  
**• CHELSEA'S** *Spring Billy*, 9 p.m.  
**• LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON** Open Mic with D-Rock

**• SQUID & WHALE PUB** Monday Night Football, 7:30 p.m.  
**• VOULEZ VOUS** Locals Night  
**TUESDAY – DECEMBER 18**  
**• CHASERS BAR & GRILL** Game Night  
**• CHELSEA'S** Open Mic  
**• LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON** Pool Tournament, 6:30 p.m.  
**• SQUID & WHALE PUB** Taco Tuesday

#### **WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 19**

**• CHASERS BAR & GRILL** Sing and Dance with *Tiny*  
**• CHELSEA'S** Drink & Draw w/ Bob Norman and *Jones Brothers*, 9 p.m.  
**• LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON** Ladies Night—Happy Hour all night  
**• NEW DELHI CAFÉ** Open Jam  
**• PIED PIPER CATHOUSE LOUNGE** Wheat Wednesday *Draft Beer Specials*  
**• SQUID & WHALE PUB** Disaster Piece Theatre

#### **THURSDAY – DECEMBER 20**

**• CHASERS BAR & GRILL** Taco

& Tequila Night  
**• CHELSEA'S** *Jazz Night Christmas Party!* Ugly & Super Ugly Xmas sweater contest  
**• GRAND TAVERNE** *Jerry Yester Grand Piano Dinner Music*, 6:30–9:30 p.m.  
**• LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON** Taco and Margarita Night  
**• SQUID & WHALE PUB** *Open Mic Musical Smackdown featuring Bloody Buddy & Friends*  
**• VOULEZ-VOUS** Open Mic Night



## UUF Sunday, Dec. 16

Guest speaker is Rev. Forrest Church, senior minister of the All Souls Unitarian Church of New York City for 30 years. Dr. Ron Dugger will share “Invocation” and “Benediction - Where did we come from? Where are we going?” taken from *The Cathedral of the World, A Universalist Theology* the last book written by Rev. Church. Please join us at 17 Elk Street, Sundays at 11 a.m. Extra parking in Ermilio’s lot, 26 White Street. Child care provided. (479) 253-0929.

## Dianna Henry Dec. 17 at ESMS meeting

The Eureka Springs Metaphysical Society will host Dianna Henry on Dec. 17. Dianna ‘Snow Eagle Seeds Sing’ Henry has been a life-long organic gardener and, since the ’80s, an avid seed saver and spiritual gardener. As a Sacred Corn Carrier, Dianna shares the wisdom of corn for healing and nurturing the body and soul.

Meet this fascinating woman from 7 – 9 p.m. at 68 West Mountain Street, downstairs in the Christian Science edifice.

## Help pick HI’s best citizen

The Holiday Island Chamber of Commerce needs help choosing the Holiday Island Citizen of the Year. This person need not be a chamber member, but should be someone who has been helpful to the community, businesses, friends or neighbors and possesses a positive attitude and sense of community pride. Nomination forms are available at the Holiday Island Information Center and at chamber businesses. Nominations are due by Dec. 31.

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# EUREKA LIVE

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**Friday, Dec. 14 • 9 p.m. SMOKIN' JOLIET DAVE & THE MIGHTY MUDHOUNDS**  
— Hard-rockin' blues & one hell of a good time!

**Saturday, Dec. 15 • 9 p.m. SWING & A MISS**  
— Sultry swing jazz you don't want to miss!

**Friday, Dec. 21 • 9 p.m. GINGER DOSS**  
— Get entranced by this Chakra-rockin' master!

**Saturday, Dec. 22 • 8 p.m.**  
**Friday, Dec. 28 & Saturday, Dec. 29 • 9 p.m. RUBY REVUE BURLESQUE!** — The Springs of Eureka will be SIZZLIN' once again! Don't miss this SMOKIN' HOT and always SOLD OUT show!

**Sunday, Dec. 30 BIG BAD GINA**

**Monday, Dec. 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH**  
with **TWO GREAT BANDS!** 6:30 p.m. – 1 a.m.  
**BIG BAD GINA** and **Jerod & The Stringbreakers!** \$15 cover includes a midnight champagne toast & lots of party favors! Dinner & drink specials too!

**Saturday, Dec. 22 at 8 p.m.**

**The NAUGHTY SANTA PARTY of the Year!**  
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**Monday LOCAL'S NIGHT!**  
**Thursday OPEN MIC NIGHT**





## St. Nick and the Vic

– St. Nicholas, left, and Reverend Ben E. Helmer, Vicar, talk while Helmer waits to serve people at the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Silver Tea at the Crescent Hotel Dec. 6. Sponsored by the Women of St. James Episcopal Church, this year's tea was held to benefit the Eureka Springs School of the Arts.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

## Dear Santa

– While Santa entertains in the background at Basin Springs Park Dec. 8, Mrs. Claus helps Steven Smith, 8, write a letter wishing for a gift for a friend. Mrs. Claus, portrayed by Mary Elizabeth Clark, helped Steven and other children make wishes for others who are less fortunate than they.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY



**December Bride** – Erica and Jason Martin from Fayetteville said their "I do's" at Thorncrown Chapel Saturday before being shutterbugged at Sweet Spring.

PHOTO BY COVE FENNELL

## Rent the sign, help the big cats

Calvin Cotton at Geographics has an 8 x 12 ft. outdoor sign space for rent on Hwy. 23S, barely outside the city limit, and at eye level to the highway. If he can rent it by Jan. 1, he will donate \$500 to Turpentine Creek Wildlife Rescue to assist with the new large animal rescue they have taken on. You may make and place your own sign or be assisted in the purchase and placement of the sign. For rental costs and details phone (479) 253-9995.

**COUNCIL** continued from page 1

council does not need to solve the problem this way," he said.

Ballance responded she read the opinion of the AG differently, and hoped passing this ordinance would bring the city into compliance with state law. She suggested they use staffing information provided by Police Chief Earl Hyatt and "get him what he needs." She pointed out Hyatt had said he needs nine subordinate officers, and suggested they put "Nine" in the blank in the ordinance, or 11 or 15 or whatever council is comfortable with, but council should pass the ordinance to comply with state law.

"I would like to see if this is going to fly before we worry about

numbers," Berry said.

"Passing this is clumsy," alderman James DeVito said. "We'll have to change it all the time." He suggested they solve the problem by passing the budget with an ordinance.

Ballance again observed Weaver had written a satisfactory ordinance which would get the job done, so why not put a number in and pass it?

DeVito countered that picking an arbitrary number just to pick one was an exercise in futility. He also described the strategy as "cumbersome and inefficient."

Lindblad pointed out the proposed police department budget would increase by more than \$109,000, so she thought it was a good idea to limit

the number of officers on the police force. She moved to put "11" in the ordinance's blank setting the number of officers. Vote on her motion was 3-2, DeVito and Berry voting No, so her suggestion failed.

Ballance then asked Mayor Morris Pate what number would be appropriate with Hyatt, and Pate answered, "What he has."

So Ballance moved to fill in the blank with nine subordinate officers, and again the vote was 3-2, DeVito and Berry voting No.

Ballance then moved to fill in the blank with 19, but Weaver cautioned against putting in an unrealistic number. Undeterred, Ballance stated firmly it was council's responsibility

to set the number of officers

"We're in a stalemate," Berry said, and moved to defer the issue to the first of the year. The vote was 3-2, with Ballance and Lindblad voting No.

Ballance quickly moved to suspend the rules and introduce an agenda item requiring council to pass the budget with an ordinance, and DeVito asked for a point of order.

Before the discussion wandered further astray, Pate pointed out he had not had a chance to vote on the previous motion of deferring the discussion until next month. "It will wait," Pate said, and he cast the deciding fourth Yes vote, so further discussion will be waiting for the new council.



# Bulletin Board

**Holiday Events – Don't miss a minute of fun.**  
*Keep this list of events handy for dandy planning!*

## December 15

• **Holiday Island Christmas Tour of Homes** Noon – 4 p.m. \$15 in advance, \$20 day of tour – purchase at Island Airco and Cornerstone Bank in HI, Arvest in Eureka Springs, [www.holidayislandrotary.com](http://www.holidayislandrotary.com)

• **Holiday Island Singers** annual holiday concert, 7 p.m. in the Holiday Island Clubhouse Ballroom.

• **John Two-Hawks' 9th Annual Christmas Concert** with Gravette Jr. High School Choir. City auditorium 7 p.m. Tickets \$20 at the door, \$15 in advance (online only – buy two get one free), kids 15 and under free. (479) 253-5826. [johntwohawks.com](http://johntwohawks.com).

**15 – 16 Berryville Christmas Celebration** 6 p.m. – Live nativity, music, drama – choir of 45. For more info, email [carastevens18@gmail.com](mailto:carastevens18@gmail.com).

## 16

• **Holiday Island Singers** annual holiday concert, 3 p.m. in the Holiday Island Clubhouse Ballroom.

• **The Tapestry of Light – A Celtic Christmas Celebration** Holiday Island Presbyterian Church at Stateline and Walnut, 9 a.m. The public is welcome.

**18 Eureka Springs Elementary Christmas show** at the Auditorium 7 p.m. (Doors open 6:30)

**21 Jazz Funeral** – New Orleans style. Join in an authentic New Orleans Funeral to celebrate the end of the Mayan Calendar. Parade, pub crawl, wailing contest, Viking funeral at the New Delhi Café (and a resurrection!). [www.jazzfuneral.danellis.net](http://www.jazzfuneral.danellis.net) or [jazzfuneral.blogspot.com](http://jazzfuneral.blogspot.com).

**27 – 30 Intrigue Theater** in 1901 Gavioli Chapel, 80 Mountain. Experience inexplicable Victorian-era mysteries. Limited seating, 8 p.m. Advance tickets: [www.impactmagic.com](http://www.impactmagic.com).

**31 New Year's Eve Bash(es)** – Reserve now at the Crescent and Basin Park Hotels and the Inn of the Ozarks for dinner, dancing and room packages. And check the *Independent* for celebrations at Pine Mountain Theater, the Rockin' Pig Saloon and other fun spots!

**Free Parking!** Enjoy events and shopping from December 1 - 31 for two hours of free parking at meters.

## PLANNING continued from page 7

business with nothing bad said about it, and moved to approve the application. Vote was unanimous.

• Planning convened briefly as the Board of Zoning and Adjustment, and Gordon Powell represented a proposed tree cut at 579 W. Van Buren. The plan calls for cutting down six older trees in bad shape and replacing them as budget allows with 26 flowering and fall color trees.

He said trees under consideration for removal have been either damaged by the ice storm, trimmed for power lines and therefore misshapen, or old and hollowed out. Replacement trees will include species of maples, redbuds, and cherries.

The board voted to approve the tree cut if at least six trees were replanted within nine months.

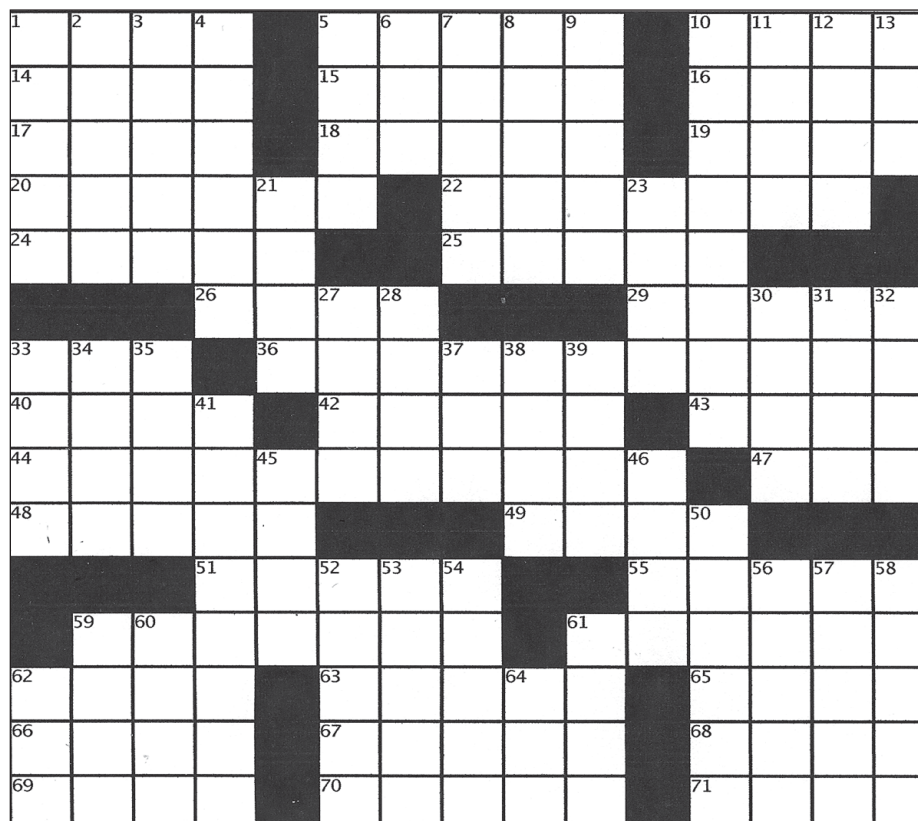
Next meeting, next year, will be Tuesday, Jan. 8, at 6 p.m.



# INDEPENDENT Crossword

by Chuck Levering

Solution on page 27



## ACROSS

1. French holy women (abbr.)

5. DEA agts.

10. Granular snow

14. Terse

15. Acronym for terminology school

16. Atop

17. Wing-shaped

18. Way up; way down

19. Release

20. Climber's aids

22. Believable (*Archaic*)

24. Lyrical couplets

25. A drier

26. Other choice

29. Solitary

33. Nipper's foot

36. A taste of Eureka

40. Farm measure

42. Too many on a match

43. Big rig

44. Texas party

47. Born (*Fr.*)

48. Court denizens (abbr.)

49. It's in your wall

51. Agricultural workers

55. Change the price

59. Main

61. Ere

62. Instead of

63. Scout's rider

65. Steeple

66. Hot couple

67. \_\_\_\_\_ ear and out the other

68. Company VIPs

69. College profs, usually

70. More unusual

71. Coastal raptor

## DOWN

1. Scene or view

2. Amsterdam bloomer

3. Poetry's muse

4. Walked with confidence

5. Scotland's monstrous loch

6. Other (abbr.)

7. Flinch

8. Capital on the Nile

9. Threaded fastener

10. Narratives

11. Tied

12. Release pressure

13. Woman's booster (abbr.)

21. Role for Jodie Foster

23. Let's Make A \_\_\_\_\_

27. Topers

28. Reverberate

30. Oast

31. Iditarod terminus

32. Famous New York canal

33. South American gourmet wild animal

34. German eight

35. Court injunction

37. Rainbow shape

38. Gardenia necklaces

39. Achievement

41. Utopias

45. Dorothy's aunt \_\_\_\_\_

46. Entice

50. Mar

52. Proportion

53. What a palm has

54. Religious conclave

56. Drunkard

57. A hot crime

58. They fly in Vs

59. Pulp or marrow

60. An oboe needs one

61. South African Dutch

62. Sass

64. Skull and Bones

chapter (abbr.)



# INDEPENDENTClassifieds

The INDEPENDENT Classifieds cost \$8 for 20 words, each additional word is 25¢.

**DEADLINE – Tuesday at noon**

To place a classified, email [classifieds@esindependent.com](mailto:classifieds@esindependent.com) or call 479.253.6101

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**COME ENJOY THE EUREKA SPRINGS WINTER FARMERS’ MARKET.** New winter hours: Thursday 9 a.m.–Noon. Same old place, Pine Mountain Village parking lot. Still lotsa good stuff-fruit, vegetables, baked goods, honey and meats. Free coffee and tea in our heated shelter ‘The Gathering Place’. See ya there Thursday morning.

## MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

**5000 SQ. FT. WAREHOUSE W/ ITEMS FOR SALE INCLUDING:**

1. **Armoire, small** – circa 1930
2. **Armoire, large** – Art Deco made of walnut veneer & dates back to the ‘30s. It has center section with double doors for hanging clothes, and two end sections with curved doors revealing adjustable shelving. Each compartment has individual keys. Dimensions: H:72”, W:78”, D:25”
3. **Maple Hutch** – circa 1950s
4. **Other; Ethan Allen Dining Table w/6 chairs**
5. **Brand new pondliner, 20’x20’**  
Too much to list! Call for appointment. It’s worth a look! (479) 981-6970/(479)253-7609

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**’86 FORD BOX TRUCK**, 17’ box, runs good. \$1500 firm. (479) 253-2853

## PETS

**PET SITTING, HOUSE SITTING.** Holiday Island, Eureka Springs and surrounding areas. 25+ years experience. Reliable, references, insured. Call Lynn (479) 363-6676 or Emily (918) 409-6393

## RENTAL PROPERTIES

### HOMES FOR RENT

**LARGE HOUSE FOR RENT IN EUREKA SPRINGS!** Spacious 2,200 sq. ft., 3 BR/1BA single story home on 4 wooded acres in Mill Hollow. Two living areas with open floor plan. Tiled floors, recent new carpet and paint, two fireplaces (pot-belly cook stove in kitchen), outstanding well water, big front porch, central heat and air, washer and drier available, refrigerator, double oven range, **WATER, SEWER AND TRASH ARE PAID, and groundskeeping included.** Fantastic bluffs and views, with old wagon road walk to town, also garden space is available too! Pets okay with deposit, available now. (No indoor smoking) \$950/mo, Call Eric @ (479) 253-6972

**HOLIDAY ISLAND VILLAS & TOWNHOUSES** near lake and marina. From \$375/mo. (479) 253-4385

**2BR/2BA HOME** w 2-car garage. \$750/mo, first/last/security deposit. Call (479) 253-6283 or (479) 253-6959

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**PAIN, STIFFNESS, FATIGUE:** Symptoms of Lymphatic Congestion which leads to DIS-EASE. For affordable lymphatic decongestion therapy call Alexa Pittenger, MMT (479) 253-9208. Eureka!! Massage Therapy, 147 W Van Buren

**WINTER MASSAGE PRICES THROUGH JANUARY 2013** with half off one hour and ½ hour massages and great deals on couples massage and on the Laughing Hands Royal Treatment which includes hot stones, essential oils, facial special cream and a foot scrub. Or buy three massages for the low price of \$105.00. Call (479) 244-5954

## SERVICE DIRECTORY

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**HEAVEN SENT HANDYMAN** Carpentry-repairs/remodeling, Flooring, Painting, Plumbing, Landscaping. Artistic problem solver, detail oriented, reliable, bondable. (501) 650-0431

**CHIMNEY WORKS** Complete chimney services: sweeps, repairs, relining and installation. Call Bob Messer (479) 253-2284

**TREE WORKS** Skilled tree care: trimming, deadwooding and removals. Conscientious, professional arborist and sawmill. Bob Messer (479) 253-2284

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**CAPC** continued from page 6

Folk Festival in Bangor, a town of 33,000, and the festival brought 80,000 visitors to town. Their festival had non-musical elements to it, such as food events, workshops and multicultural presentations. He said the Eureka Springs Folk Festival “is a major crown jewel we can promote to the entire country,” and feels it must be supported not only adequately but also confidently. He suggested looking at what makes other festivals successful and seeing if those components would fit for Eureka Springs. The CAPC, he said, must be willing to invest in bringing back the old-time draw of the Eureka Springs Folk Festival and find some sponsors.

Commissioners decided to devote its Jan. 23 workshop to festivals.

### Lots more

• Maloney said he learned last year that cable ads in target areas are an efficient and effective investment, especially because of the video-on demand feature that allows viewers to watch extra promotional material about whatever is being advertised. He said according to analytics, the Eureka Springs Video-on-Demand ad had way more viewers than the ad for the State of Mississippi, saying it wasn’t even close.

He suggested this year’s marketing might emphasize lifestyle ads rather than event ads because eco-tourism is very popular, and outdoor ads last year made Eureka Springs popular with outdoor types in Tulsa, Oklahoma City and Dallas. He sees expanding the overall cable marketing in 2013 into Wichita, Houston and beyond.

• More than 600,000 people viewed the Food and Wine Weekend ad on Video-on-Demand, Maloney said, and some of them watched it more than once.

• Bentonville, Branson and Eureka Springs will share 20-25 travel writers beginning the second week in May. Maloney said it should be a wonderful opportunity to get vast exposure for the entire area. DeVito said the joint venture by the three communities is a confederacy with unlimited potential.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, January 9, at 6 p.m.





**Memory moment** – June Westphal, right, and Mary Pat Boian share a recollection during Westphal's book signing at the Historical Museum on Dec. 12. Westphal was autographing copies of her book *50 Memory Moments* – stories about people of historic Eureka Springs and nearby communities. The stories were originally presented on KESA radio and have been preserved in a 56-page book available at the Historical Museum for \$10.

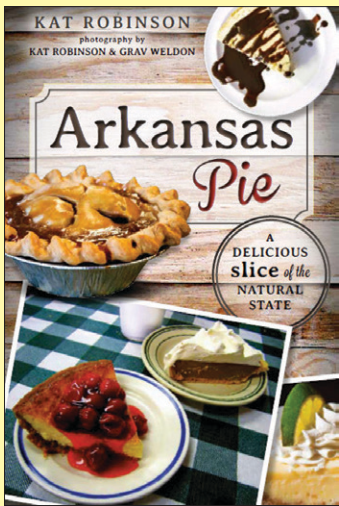
PHOTO BY CD WHITE

**Spring Cleaning** – Ozric Maese and Hannah Youngblood dig in to help clean Harding Spring. It's a project of their Clear Spring School teacher, Juanita Crider, who weaves Service Learning and Life Skills into her 4th – 6th Grader's curriculum with hands-on projects. The community can thank the kids for this one as they cleaned Harding Spring. The class found cleaning up the spring very satisfying and plans to work with the Springs Committee to test the water and keep the spring healthy. Other students who dug in were Tarrah Youngblood, Hawk Slane, Oakley Griffin, Steven Rivers, Kylie Fife and Bree Johnson.

ART continued from page 16

### Pie-faced at Eureka Thyme

Kat Robinson, author of *Arkansas Pie, A Delicious Slice of the Natural State* will be at Eureka Thyme for a book-signing event Saturday, Dec. 15. Her website, [www.ArkansasPie.com](http://www.ArkansasPie.com), details the tour she made with photographer Grav Weldon on a 400-pie sampling tour through the state. Her book features delectable photos of pie along with recipes so you can make them at home. Meet Robinson and view her delightful book on Saturday, Dec. 15, 1 – 6 p.m. at Eureka Thyme Gallery, 19 Spring St.



### Abstracts featured at Tinmaker

Tinmaker & Glitz, 45 ½ Spring St., is hosting a reception for abstract artist Jay Vrecenak on Saturday, Dec. 22 from 11 a.m. to 5 pm. If you haven't met Jay or seen her work, now is the time. Current fans will also enjoy seeing Jay's new works.

Come experience this artist's delightful ability to see things differently. Jay immersed herself in photographing textures last Fall, and then had a great desire to paint some of them. You'll see the spirit of play both in her paintings and her photographs.

Tinmaker & Glitz is also featuring Daniel Larmay's tin art and the photographs of Steve Wood. Come stroll the gallery on Dec. 22 and meet Jay Vrecenak. Refreshments will be served



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### CROSSWORDSolution

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## 24 BANDY



**NEW**  
Lovely custom built 3 bed/2 bath home. Gleaming hardwood floors, sun room w/ lakeview, HUGE kitchen, formal dining, oversize garage, fenced yard & MORE! MOVE IN READY! **\$234,000.**  
**CHERYL COLBERT 479.981.6249**  
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## 40 CR 1482



Wonderful home on 12 wooded acres in Eureka Springs. Minutes from Beaver Lake boat launch. This lovely 3BR all brick home boasts radiant 3-zone heating, windows galore, native stone fireplace & groomed landscaped grounds & garden. This home is in MOVE IN condition! **\$209,900.**  
**PAUL FAULK 479.981.0668**  
eurekasprings-realty.com - pbfaulk@cox.net

## 13 WOODVIEW LANE

Charm! Charm! offered in this beautifully maintained home. The home is located on a cul de sac offering end of road privacy with a large front porch. 1308 sq ft, 2 bedrm/2 bath, built in 2005 and meticulously maintained. Great open floor plan, large garage, fenced, loft style master suite with a Juliet balcony overlooking luscious wooded area. **\$139,900.**



**AL HOOKS 479.363.6419**  
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## 15638-40 HWY. 62 WEST



Fantastic home and cottage or a great business opportunity. Nestled on Hwy 62 with great white river valley views from rear decks and high traffic visibility. Two individual homes offer multiple use possibilities or that quiet get away family compound. 1457 sq ft house and 910 sq ft cottage each hosting 2 bedrooms and 1 bath in each dwelling. Check it out at roadsidheaven.com. **\$189,900**  
**AL HOOKS 479.363.6419**  
alhookseureka.com - alhooks@me.com

## 97 WALL ST.



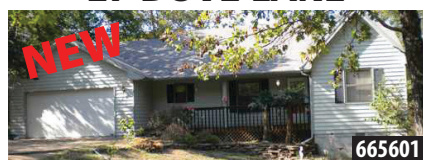
Meticulously restored 5 bed/2.5 bath home on 3/4 + acres in TOWN. Winner of Historic Preservation Society's Restoration Award. MUST SEE TO APPRECIATE! **\$259,000. \$249,000.**  
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## 15 HOWELL ST.



Nestled in the heart of historic downtown. Beautiful wrap-around porch and luscious gardens hidden behind stone walls. Recently renovated with attention to details. 2 oversized bedrooms, hardwood floors, bright and airy. Off-street parking and much more. **\$194,900.**  
**OWNER FINANCING.**  
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## 27 DOVE LANE



This home boasts an open living/dining area that has a wood burning fireplace. With the split floor plan, provides privacy. A great deck for entertaining and a fenced back yard. 2 car garage. Utility laundry room. Close to all Holiday Island amenities. **\$135,000.**  
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## 152 CR 140



Cedar home w/ guest house on 8.29 (+/-) acres, pond, beautiful mtn. views & land. The home features large open rooms, geothermal heat, generator, large windows, 2-car garage, 1-car carport, detached 3-car carport w/storage, guest house w/kitchenette, bath. **POSSIBLE OWNER FINANCING. \$449,900. \$399,900.**  
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You are  
Invited  
Jazz Funeral

12/21/2012

details

at:

JazzFuneral.DanEllis.Net

## 11 HOWELL STREET



Heart of ES, prime location, very well maintained on 2 city lots. Wrought ironed fencing, stamped concrete patio/motor court w/ electronic gates, wrap around balcony/porch. Appraised 1/2012, under appraisal value, must see. Owner agent. Additional guest house & studio and garage available under MLS# 661098. Great in city compound with great privacy factor. **\$225,000.**  
**AL HOOKS 479.363.6419**  
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## 52 COPPER ST.

Great home on one of Eureka's unique streets. Views of downtown from deck & backyard. Approx. 1,724 sq. ft. 2 bed/2 bath, 2 car garage with additional parking pad. PLUS additional 1 bed/1 bath & workshop, both with separate entrances. Fireplace, Jacuzzi bath, eat in kitchen and lots of storage. This is a MUST SEE! **\$153,000.**  
**AL HOOKS 479.363.6419**  
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## 36 N. MAIN ST.

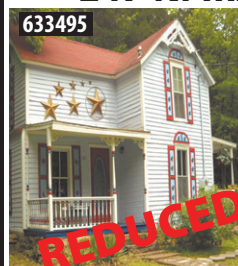
Own your own building right on Main St! This structure currently houses 1 business in 2 spaces on street level and 3 nitely rental units on the 2nd floor. With the pedestrian foot traffic and Main St. location, this building boasts unlimited potential for those looking for that unique building that can make dreams come true! Live and work is one possibility. Off street parking behind building. **Now only \$399,900.**  
**AL HOOKS 479.363.6419**  
alhookseureka.com - alhooks@me.com

## 83 SPRING ST.



Rare opportunity to own a prime retail building, located right on historic Spring St. This building boasts a retail location on street level and a nitely rental unit on the second level with private entrance. Decks on front and back of building provide views! Unlimited possibilities are waiting for you! **\$490,500.**  
**PAUL FAULK 479.981.0668**  
eurekasprings-realty.com - pbfaulk@cox.net

## 247 N. MAIN ST.



C-1 commercial zoning, 2 story cottage, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths each with Jacuzzi, gas log fireplace, 4 lots 25x80 each, 4 to 6 off-street parking spaces. Great for antique shop, tourist lodging or home. Well traveled Hwy. 23 North with high visibility. **\$137,000.**  
**AL HOOKS 479.363.6419**  
alhookseureka.com - alhooks@me.com

## 215 CR 301

**GREENWOOD HOLLOW**  
This building currently houses 'Enthios'. It is being used as a Dance Studio & Performing Arts Venue. Right side of building is the dance studio with special flooring. The left side houses 4 suites being used in various artistic venues. The building can be used for any C-1 type of businesses. The building was formerly used as a coffee house. An incredible opportunity for that individual looking to house several different ventures or as a unique home or home business opportunity. **\$169,900**  
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## 1058 CR 220

A rare opportunity to own 2 newer homes with 180' views (see partial view pic) that you can see for MILES! Currently run as nitely rentals gives you the opportunity to live in one and rent the other. One home is a 2 bedroom 2 bath w/2 car garage. The other a 2 bedroom 1 bath. Both have decks so you can enjoy the awe inspiring views! Sitting on 2.5 acres, provides privacy and room to grow. **\$260,000.**



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# HOOKS REALTY

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