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This Week's INDEPENDENT Thinker



IMAGE FROM PHOTOSARCH.COM

The New Year's Baby is innocent, pure and hopeful. We love to raise a toast bidding Father Time farewell and focus on the baby, the diapered child depicted in editorial cartoons for generations – a symbol of rebirth, joy and dreams.

We raise our glasses to all of you who believe the whole point of being here is to make life better for babies and their babies. Trading and spreading knowledge and dreams makes for a Happy New Year everywhere on our earth.

May this be the year we put fresh swaddling thoughts on all our babies and guide them to full, contented lives.

Best of the Indy 2012 – 1/2 yr. in review



Dalton Johnson shoots in the fourth quarter against Mountainburg in the Highlanders' last game in the old high school gymnasium in Eureka Springs, Friday, Dec. 21. The Highlanders won their "Shut Out the Lights" night game 67-56. First game in the new Eureka Springs High School gym is scheduled for January 8.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

Two arrested following alleged theft/drug sale

C.D. WHITE

A spate of confusing and changing stories involving an incident on Dec. 18 to which both Carroll County Sheriff's deputies and Eureka Springs Police responded resulted in the arrest of Samuel Alburdis, 23, of Beaver – and later the man who filed a complaint against him, Spencer Blake Osborne, 31, of Eureka Springs.

Reports originally filed with ESPD and CCSO state Osborne wanted to file a report of aggravated robbery saying Alburdis pulled a knife on him after taking \$120 from Osborne's car parked at the Subway in Eureka Springs. According to Osborne's original statement, he yelled at Alburdis, who jumped in his vehicle and waved an approximately eight-inch knife at him and sped away. Osborne followed in his car while calling 911. When the chase approached 23N at the two-lane bridge, Alburdis allegedly got out of his vehicle brandishing the knife and Osborne backed off the road, fearing he would be attacked. Alburdis allegedly stated he never left his car.

In the report, Osborne stated he saw Carroll County Deputy Jennifer Sibley pull across the street and watch from her vehicle. Osborne said Alburdis got back in his vehicle and drove off and Osborne did not follow him.

On Dec. 19, Det. Brad Handley, having procured the necessary warrant, arrested Alburdis at his residence on charges of Aggravated Robbery, Breaking or Entering and Theft of Property. His

CRIME continued on page 29

Only 363 shopping days 'til Christmas!

Council makes progress, but with difficulty

NICKY BOYETTE

July 9

• Alderman Karen Lindblad objected to the plan for the proposed urban deer hunt, primarily that the hunt as it was set up was not what voters had voted for and the duration of the hunt was too long. The hunt being proposed would run Sept. 15 – Oct. 7 and Nov. 10 – Feb. 28.

Lindblad said she envisioned hunters hauling dead deer through town during the Christmas parade, and was concerned injured deer would run across property lines causing problems for citizens who want nothing to do with the hunt. She maintained council could determine parameters of the hunt. Council and Mayor Morris Pate asked for citizen input.

• Council debated an ordinance regulating limousines so that City Code could define the difference between a limousine and a taxi. There were not enough votes for a second reading.

• Lindblad said citizens had told her they wanted to vote for aldermen by ward only. Alderman James DeVito said if anything should go to a vote of the people, it would be how they vote. Alderman Ken Pownall said there was more to the voting issue than just voting by ward.

• Beverly Blankenship, Chair of the Planning Commission, said property owners

COUNCIL continued on page 20

CAPC embraces zombies, phone apps and festivals

NICKY BOYETTE

In July, Mike Maloney, executive director of the City Advertising and Promotion Commission, unveiled *CAPC: Vision 2015*, a document he said would launch the city into the next three years. One feature was a plan to enhance and update the eureka Springs.org website so the CAPC can “deliver the goods,” especially to mobile phone users.

Maloney also wanted to fill up the calendar. “What if there were something going on every weekend?” he proposed, saying analytics they have been getting regarding who views cable ads allows him to target his marketing better than ever to attract tourists.

“We are the driving force,” Maloney said, but he intends to involve the business community in developing the continuum of activities that bring in crowds.

The recent Fleur Delicious weekend event had been a success, and Maloney was looking forward to reenergizing the Food and Wine Weekend in early November.

Jeremy Mason McGraw introduced his concept of allowing zombies, vampires and all beings immortal to take over the town for the month of October. His plans called for a September press conference introducing some of the immortals, events during the entire month of October, a spider the size of a Volkswagen Bug perched at the edge of the Auditorium roof, a program of events disguised as a lifestyle magazine and even a tie-in with the Sci-Fi channel.

Commissioners liked his ideas, but James DeVito observed it was too late in the year for accomplishing a project so grand this year. Chair Charles Ragsdell said he like all the guerilla marketing aspects in McGraw’s plan, but the CAPC had little support funds to offer.

McGraw agreed with DeVito that whatever they do, they should do it well.

Discussions had begun with the mayor for extending the contract with the city for the CAPC to continue managing the Auditorium for several years.

In August, the CAPC developed plans to prevent marketing efforts from inadvertently giving local

businesses the opportunity to spam potential visitors, thereby souring someone’s opinion of Eureka Springs. Ragsdell suggested website improvements that would prevent indiscriminate use of email addresses.

Maloney introduced the concept of reassessing all festivals throughout the year. He said he was looking at not only filling in the lulls but adding “new ideas that might fit.”

Just past mid-year, collections were up more than 16 percent over the previous year, and DeVito noticed this increase was in spite of higher gas prices and severe summer weather.

The CAPC continued to move its marketing away from print media toward updatable features on its website.

Branson and Eureka Springs began to explore a mutually-beneficial relationship, with the CAPC getting plenty of space for ads at the Branson airport.

Maloney announced further movement on making the Food and Wine Weekend the event it once was. Businesses around town had begun to participate in the planning.

JazzEureka weekend, Sept. 20-22, elicited rave reviews. Ragsdell observed it was one the more successful jazz weekends he has experienced in Eureka Springs. He pointed out the commission worked on a shoestring budget but got an excellent return for its investment. Quality entertainers including Ron Radford and Delfeayo Marsalis came to town at a reasonable cost bringing in visitors, keeping merchants happy and entertaining locals.

Maloney announced his cable television marketing would be taking advantage of a feature called “video on demand” in four markets beginning Oct. 15. Cable viewers in Kansas City, Little Rock, Tulsa and Oklahoma City would be able to use remote control commands to call up additional information during ads for Eureka Springs by clicking a link to the eureka Springs.org website.

He also announced the analytics are showing the number of people viewing the CAPC website continues to grow, especially viewers using mobile devices.

CAPC continued on page 24



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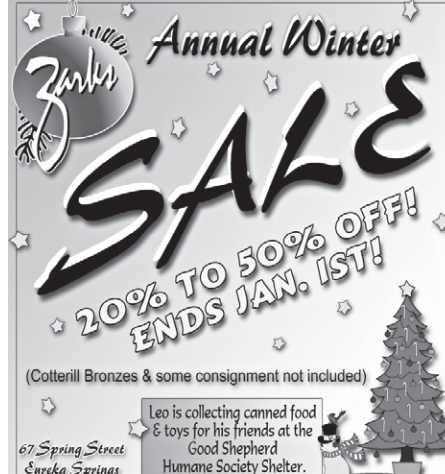


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County court spends cautiously but readily

NICKY BOYETTE

Sheriff Bob Grudek explained the county's 911 operation for the Quorum Court at its July 20 meeting. He told the court the goal for the dispatchers is to get a professional to an emergency as soon as possible. First responders at the scene can determine whether or not the emergency requires further response, such as an airlift service, but the dispatchers do not make that assessment.

If an airlift is necessary responders will alert dispatcher who will contact both Mercy and Air Evac to see who can get a helicopter to the scene faster. Grudek said he does not want the dispatcher to be in the situation of calling one service and not the other based on membership. He said the county partners with both Mercy and Air Evac to provide the best possible medical service.

Justice of the Peace Jack Deaton, fire chief for Holiday Island, declared all he is looking for is a chance to save someone's life. He has in the past called dispatch and said, "I need three ambulances,"

not caring which ones showed up and dispatch handled it from there.

All parties seemed to agree the priority was not who delivered the service but that the response was quick and those who needed it got the care they needed.

• JP Dan Mumaugh introduced an ordinance that would appropriate \$155,000 for repairs to Blue Spring Rd. He said it had been patched and repatched many times and the road was important to tourists. JP Lamont Richie added those tourists also spend money elsewhere and pay sales taxes which fund the county jail.

JP Ronald Flake commented, "That's a lot of money for a mile and a half of road." He said the county could get a lot more out of that money if it were spent in rural areas where the chicken trucks beat up the roads.

Deaton commented that tourists don't come here to see the chicken houses.

Barr continued, "We try to treat everyone the same, east and west. This

one needs attention, so we chose it."

Vote to approve the ordinance was unanimous.

• Richie reported the Personnel Committee recommended hiring the Johanson Group of Fayetteville to conduct a salary study of all departments in the county to create a blueprint for pay rates and raises.

Opinions differed. Grudek liked it but others had reservations. The \$20,000 cost of the study was a problem for JP Chris Graham but not for others. Nevertheless, the court voted 8-2 to pass the ordinance that authorized Barr to negotiate with the Johanson Group to conduct the salary study.

• Terry Hankins of Insight explained to the court his company is in the business of saving money for customers by reducing their phone bills. He will find overspending and negotiate better rates. Insight would get its payment the first year from money it saved the county.

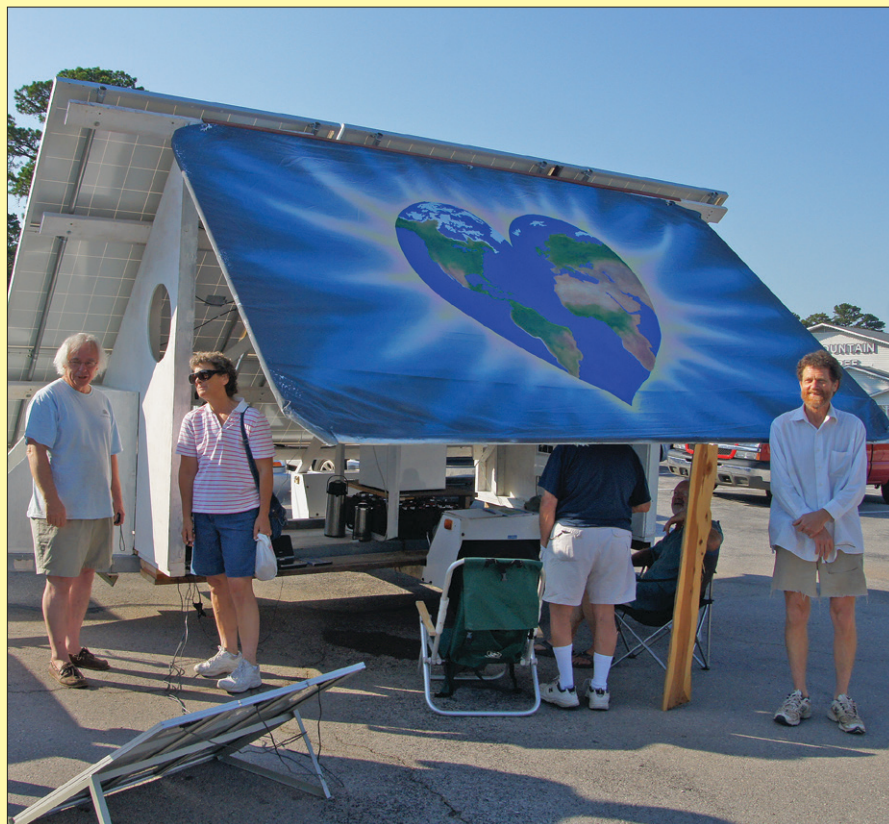
Flake said he did not see how they had anything to lose. There would be no

QUORUM COURT continued on page 32

Sign up now for grant writing workshop

On Thursday, Jan. 24, 1-4 p.m., Ann Friedman, Manager of Grants and Foundations for the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, will hold a grant-writing workshop at the Writers' Colony at Dairy Hollow during her residency at the colony.

Friedman has tailored her presentation to suit the Arkansas marketplace. There is a donation of \$35 to attend the workshop. Refreshments will be available. Call Linda Caldwell at (479) 253-7444 or email director@writerscolony.org to sign up for the workshop. Seats are limited.



Power to the People – Engineer Jerry Landrum assembled the country's first solar system designed to run all electrical appliances at a farmers' market.

PHOTO BY JOHN RANKINE

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Parks makes big plans and wins an election

NICKY BOYETTE

Arborist and photographer Chris Fischer described for the Parks Commission at its July 16 meeting how to make good use of a possible \$7500 grant from the Arkansas Forestry Commission to create a rain garden in Harmon Park.

Fischer said he wanted to create a low-impact scenario for dealing with storm water near Cardinal Spring. He said he would use the grant money to "create a more attenuated swale" which will provide not only flow control but a more effective use of the water that is there.

Bald cypress, box elders among others species will be planted along the newly defined course for the runoff. Fischer said the project will take care to protect a species of William's Crawfish living near Cardinal Spring.

Commissioner Steven Foster commented that the project is "an opportunity to clean up a sweet spot that has become a mess." He called the area under discussion a "wild, neglected area," and the project couldn't help but be a good thing.

Fischer said the proposal would be submitted by August 1.

Director Bruce Levine reported that Eagle Scout Keaton Boardman had completed his Eagle Scout project of creating a stepped stairway out of limestone slabs at Lake Leatherwood Fields. Featherstone added that the steps were "far nicer than we ever would have been able to afford."

Commissioners voted to make the

smoking ban in Basin Park permanent.


Chair Bill Featherstone reported the recent Fat Tire Festival held in Lake Leatherwood Park had been outstanding, with nearly 500 entrants participating. He said seeing so many spectators, young and old, enjoying the event reconfirmed for him why they worked so hard to build the Lake Leatherwood fields because there is no other venue in town that could have hosted the event.

August

Rachel Brix introduced her concept of a dog park in Harmon Park, mentioning she was aware the idea had been kicked around in the past, and although she thought interest still simmered, nothing was happening. Foster told her, "It takes a champion and there was no champion."

She asked for an open mind. She had done her homework and distributed packets explaining her concept. She

PARKS continued on page 25




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Public Works employees still managed a laugh as they replaced a broken sewer pipe in 103° heat on Center Street the first week of August.

PHOTO BY JOHN RANKINE

Fluoridation remains CBWD's biggest hurdle

NICKY BOYETTE

Opponents of the state's decision to add fluoride to the water in the Carroll-Boone Water District spoke out at the CBWD board meeting in July. Chair Jim Yates allowed those in attendance a chance to speak, and everyone who spoke was against the decision.

One speaker pointed out cities all over the world are removing fluoride from their water systems because of data demonstrating its detriment to health, and Arkansas is just now wanting to add it. Another speaker said her son would not be able to touch the water once fluoridated because of a health condition, besides the fact that cost of adding the chemical is extreme. Another opponent of the plan said he had a Ph.D. in environmental science, and another speaker with a chemistry

background stated, "Fluorine is the worst of the halogens. It is especially poisonous to kids if you give it to them all the time."

Teresa Mathews pointed out the board had a graceful way out if they chose to take advantage of it. The law says the board does not have to fluoridate if it does not have the money to implement the plan. "So you don't have to fluoridate," she said.

Dan Bowers, attorney for the board, announced that because Delta Dental has postponed its funding for the project until May 2013, the board did not have to decide anything yet.

The board heard that its Keels Creek stabilization project had been completed. Fallen trees and other debris had partially blocked portions of the creek causing serious erosion

CBWD continued on page 35

In August we said goodbye to a beloved tulip tree that had graced the front of the library for years; this picture shows the lean and the resulting sidewalk buckling that necessitated the cutting.

PHOTO BY STEVEN FOSTER

Living history –

Clear Spring School 7th, 8th and 9th students are using the stump of the tulip tree that was cut down in front of the Carnegie library last month to provide a timeline of events connecting growth of the tree to development of our community. A key is connected to numbered tags

attached to rings in the stump so readers can see how big the tree was when. From l. to r. Bram Heimann, Syama Barden, Wyatt Pavelsek, teacher Cindy Blackburn, Alyssa Bartlett, Noah FitzPatrick, B'Elanna Powell, Khalia Smith and Beth Gucio.

PHOTO BY DOUG STOWE



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INDEPENDENT End of Year Review

Planning had much to hash out

NICKY BOYETTE

July 10

• Beverly Blankenship, Chair of the Planning Commission, pointed out garage sales in town are not what they once were. City Code allows a person to have three garage sales a year, meaning dragging everything out into the front yard for a weekend, but people are banding together to get permits for large sales, basically an open air flea market, at the same location multiple times a year. She said this practice circumvents the original intent of the law, and one solution would be to change the law to allow only three outdoor sales per year at a location.

Another issue she noticed was the part of Code regarding outdoor sales allows sales of items at “city-sponsored” events, but now there are several events during the year that sell items and the events are not city-sponsored. The language has become a bit archaic, she said, and she recommended updating the language to read “city-sanctioned” or “city-permitted.”

Many ancillary issues came to mind for commissioners and Blankenship said she would prepare a document with suggestions for the next meeting.

• The definition of a B&B states the owner must live on site, and the

commission agreed that “on site” should mean on the same property and not divided by a street, roadway, alley or right-of-way.

• Planning considered the request for the vacation of Vine Street, a short unimproved that had been used for years only as a driveway for a neighbor. Part of a building, the former Cafe Santa Fe, rests on a section of Vine Street, and records about the history of the location are confusing, according to Parks Director Bruce Levine, and the reasons for the encroachment might be entirely explainable.

Commissioner Ken Rundel moved to authorize Blankenship tell council that Planning recommended that all of Vine Street be vacated.

July 24

• Commissioners again had a difficult time defining the exact problem with the law regarding outdoor sales or a solution to all the complications. Eventually Blankenship said, “We don’t have to do anything. If you don’t care how many times they have sales out on the highway, we can leave the law alone.”

Commissioner James Morris remarked, “If we don’t have a problem, let’s don’t fix it yet.” They postponed

discussion till the next meeting.

• Blankenship also mentioned the Queen Anne mansion had announced it intends to become a private club, and now B&Bs are coming forward wanting to be private clubs. Lawyers are looking into it and Planning might be called upon to do some research.

August 14

• Rundel advocated an ordinance limiting outdoor sales to three per year per location as well as requiring an end time each day. He also advocated a limit to how soon items could be put out prior to the start of the sale and how long things could be left out afterwards.

Commissioners considered noon of the day before as the start of setting up and noon of the day afterward as end time for putting away. They suggested for now that 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. could be the hours of the sale during a day. They also thought about excluding special events and the city-wide yard sale as not counting against the total per year.

Blankenship said all they can do is make suggestions because council will hash it out. She said she would bring their ideas back to the next meeting for review

August 28

• “The more I look into this,
PLANNING continued on page 28

Four kids in a fountain...

William
Linker, Gavin
Mitchell
and Charlie
and Aubrey
Huntley cool
off in the
fountain in
Basin Park in
August.

PHOTO BY
JOHN RANKINE



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• **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 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.

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INDEPENDENT End of Year Review

School board bids adieu to old, embraces new

NICKY BOYETTE

With the new high school construction and a lawsuit with the state still hanging over its head, the Eureka Springs School Board had much to consider during the last half of 2012.

At the July 19 meeting, Boardmember Tom Freehling described the phone system at the elementary school as “one of Alexander Graham Bell’s first projects.” He this was an opportunity to upgrade the phone system for all the schools. There was agreement with the concept but a practical plan remained to be worked out.

• High school principal Kathy Lavender reported on the excellent results for Eureka Springs students on recent Advanced Placement testing. Several students earned college credit for biology, calculus, statistics, English and history.

• In August, the board chose Peggy Kjellaard to replace Tom Winters, who had resigned. The community also learned that popular and successful SkillsUSA teacher Mike Bonds tragically drowned.

By the September meeting, Jason Morris had unseated Freehling in the school board election. Principals of the three schools reported on progress completing the Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (ACSIP), which Superintendent Curtis Turner called “the engine that drives us” because it is the planning and funding distribution design for the state,

and federal dollars are involved.

Turner told the board that Kinco, the construction company building the high school, had reached the point where they were asking for some of the retainage, funds held back to assure the district is getting what it wants and a sure sign of moving toward completion of the project.

In October, Robert McCormick announced his resignation from the board, and Gayla Wolfenbarger was chosen to replace him.

Cindy Holt, principal of the middle school, mentioned that two of

her science teachers, Fred Hopkins and Berry Griffin, received grants from the Arkansas Community Foundation to purchase microscopes for studying nature at the cellular level and equipment for learning about solar energy.

Progress on the new high school continued on pace, and Turner thought substantial completion could occur during November. He steadfastly maintained Jan. 2 as the date for beginning classes in the new facility.

Katrina Pumphrey, Technical Coordinator for the district, presented

SCHOOL BOARD continued on page 33

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INDEPENDENT End of Year Review

HDC plugs some leaks

NICKY BOYETTE

The Historic District Commission reviews applications for construction in the Historic District and compares the plans with Design Guidelines they are bound to uphold. Guidelines generally don't allow wiggle room for commissioners. Two examples in July tested the practicality of the guidelines.

Applicant Rachel Brix said she and her husband were faced with replacing siding that was deteriorating in an area that gets damp and is prone to mold. They wanted to use Hardie Board because they had been told it was a long-lasting alternative to other siding materials for their situation.

Commissioner Doug Breitling told Brix that Hardie board was not appropriate for a historic structure, and commissioner Richard Grinnell agreed saying the guidelines specifically disallow fiber-cement siding. Brix responded that some of her neighbors have it.

Breitling answered the neighbors might not have appeared before them or maybe there was an addition to the original structure and HDC might have allowed Hardie board in that case.

Brix then said she and her husband needed to move forward, so she asked what would HDC approve at that meeting. Breitling said they would approve wood siding, and they did.

- At the same meeting, Chris Crider said he had been asked to repair old-fashioned wood gutters at 14 Kingshighway. The gutters were in such bad repair that not only were the soffits and fascia deteriorating, but runoff had found its way into the interior of the house.

Grinnell, again reading from the guidelines, said that those kinds of gutters should be repaired if possible.

Crider said the expense of repairing them would be prohibitive. Grinnell said he understood Crider's situation, but guidelines tell them that economic hardship should not be a consideration in the decision-making.

Crider replied the system is so poorly designed that it would surely fail again if it were repaired. Commissioners decided to visit the site before their next meeting.

After the site visit, the commission held to its guidelines and Crider maintained it would be better to start over rather than use the same strategy that had failed already.

Grinnell told Crider to pick a section, pull it apart and see where it goes from there.

Crider replied, "What I'll see is a bunch of rotten boards."

- At the August 15 meeting, Crider appeared for the third time, and reported he had complied with Grinnell's request to see what was underneath the failing dilapidated gutters, and he found that it appeared someone had tried three different fixes and all had failed. He said the owners were adamantly against paying for a gutter system that has continually failed.

Building Inspector Bobby Ray had said there was no way to repair the existing gutter system. Grinnell also noted the existing gutters have no slope so there is poor drainage which exacerbates all the other leaky failed gutter issues.

Commissioner Dan Hebert noted the house had already sustained significant damage, so the motion was made to approve Crider's repair plan, and this time the vote was unanimous in favor of it.

- Immediately after Crider's application had finally been approved, Mary Romano told commissioners her flat roof at 9 Emporia leaked and she was applying to replace it with a new pitched roof hopefully to alleviate the leaking problem forever.

Commissioner Greg Moon informed her the house is more than 100 years old. Grinnell pointed out the house is a contributing house, and the guidelines clearly state the original shape and pitch of the roof must be maintained. He told her there are

HDC continued on page 31

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Moving things right along

Editor,

You're the best Independent Thinkers! Your endorsement of marriage equality will prove to be vitally important for Eureka Springs.

Michael Walsh

NY resolution – mending

Editor,

Here we are again. Another tragedy.

Most of us ask why? How? Easily pointing the blame toward the gunman and the gun. These acts of violence are repercussions of the real problems we face in this world. Violence is everywhere! The entertainment business profits on it. Fear has become big business.

All of the wars we start. We should feel the same sorrow for all of the families (humans) that are killed, displaced at the hands of our government.

Despite our very small differences

we are all human and are fortunate enough to share the same mother... Earth.

Greed has blinded humanity. It is our responsibility to not only realize this but also try and mend it.

Harry Cook (human)

Protest against protest

Editor,

It is now the second time I have read

MAIL continued on page 34



YEAR'S Top Tweets

@BloodyBuddyBoyd ----

Bravo!@ESIndependent I was honored to be profiled in your very 1st ed. Thanx! It's great to have a Made in the USA local paper!

@Demented_Jokes --- Ever

thought how, in the '60s, people took acid to make the world weird? Now the world is weird, people take Prozac just to make it normal.

@active_neurons --- "We live in a world where we have to hide to make love, while violence is practiced in broad daylight." ~ John Lennon

@MMFlint --- "The female body has ways to shut that thing down." What the female body is going to shut down is YOU, Congressman Akin. You & your party.

@RazorbackProbs --- What do the Razorbacks and Bobby Petrino have in common? Neither one has scored much since the motorcycle accident.

@markcritch --- I guess the moral is "Don't rip on the 47% while they're still in the room serving you drinks."

@chrisrockoz --- Half a billion dollars have been spent on campaign ads so far. It's a good thing our schools & economy are in great shape or I'd be mad.

@FillWerrell --- I think the 2012 election was what the Mayans were warning us about.

@jackwpayne --- Politicians and diapers have 1 thing in common; they should both be changed regularly, and for the same reason.

@domholmestattoo --- One of the best things I've ever seen via twitter...at a women's equality demonstration, best protest sign ever.



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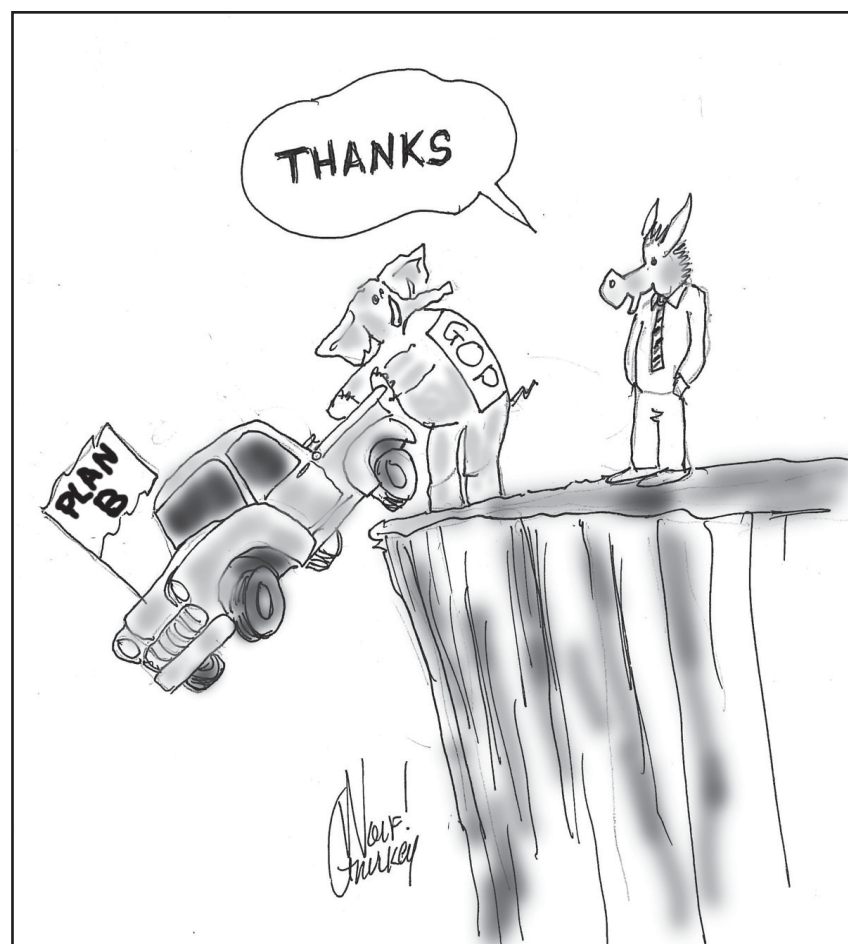
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The week after Christmas

T'was the week after Christmas, when all through the town
Not a creature was stirring, no tourists around.
The goods were all stacked in the storefronts with care,
With high hopes that visitors soon would be there.
The townsfolk were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of dollar signs danced in their heads.
But wait we must for an economy zap,
So we all settled into that long winter's nap.
When out on the streets there arose such a clatter,
We rushed out of bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the windows we flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.
The moon on the streets gave off quite a glow,
Outlining in silver the objects below.
When, what to our wondering eyes should appear,
Corvettes and tour buses and bikers with beer!
More rapid than eagles those visitors came,
And we whistled, and shouted, and called them by name!
"Hey Texas and New York and Kansas and Georgia,
Come stay in our lodgings, we have lots of fun for 'ya.
CAPC, Chamber and Downtown Network all
Have been working and planning, and you heard the call.
To the top of the Crescent from the street known as Wall,
We've got events and dining and no stuff from the mall!"
As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky –
So into the shops, the tourists they flew,
And packed into restaurants and galleries, too.
With their bags full of stuff and bellies now round,
They turned to the lodgings for a sleep that was sound.
In the morning we knew a good plan had been found,
And hopefully our little town would abound
In fairness and kindness from our top to our bottom
And we'd keep tourists happy as long as we got 'em.
Still, a couple days later we read in the news
That just a few people were singing the blues.
"Tourists are okay," said one with some poise,
"But can't we just have them without all the noise?"
What? Go back to sleep in our Victorian village
And treat people like they just came here to pillage?
No, instead we decided there was nothing to fear
And all kinds of guests would be most welcome here.
So on toward the future where promise is bright
With a toast and good wishes for a great New Year's night!

–CDW



The Pursuit Of HAPPINESS

by Dan Krotz

I spent the morning picking up dog flop in the back yard. It is not a glamorous occupation but it needs doing and it is not difficult; put your right hand in a small plastic bag, carry an identical bag in your left hand. Stoop, scoop and pick with the right hand, drop flop into the left hand held bag. Repeat as often as necessary.

While meditating on the task at... well, in hand... I apprehended that it is, yes, important work, but done generally by unimportant people. Valdimir Putin is not, assuredly, picking up after the Dacha dog nor, come to think of it, is my wife. Relative importance is immediately established. Anyway, the subordinate, gloomy meditation is that my unimportance, barring acts of God, will continue into 2013, and beyond. There will be piles of the stuff in my future. Happy New Year, I said to me.

Yet, I am not without higher aspirations; I have plans, and I am sure you have plans for 2013 too: so do others among us. Ellen Foncannon, from Studio 62, will undoubtedly write some fine music. The President will find a way to propitiate the organized crime families and religious fundamentalists that are called government in the Mideast. Steve Shogren, one of our better photographers, will take a picture I'll want to frame and hang in my office.

Our State Legislature will snuggle up to the Medicaid expansion, but save face by regulating Grandma and make sure she gets tested for controlled substances before insurance is issued. Marsha Havens will distinguish herself, with grace and style, as a new Chamber of Commerce director. Greg Hein, who makes everything great at the Crescent Hotel, will begin thinking about another 1st place win for the hotel's 2013 Christmas Parade float.

And my plans? Two plastic bags, one bag full? Is that all 2013 holds for me? Maybe not. Maybe the Opera of the Ozarks will move to the Great Passion Play amphitheatre; maybe Willie Nelson will play there when the Opera takes a rest. We could sit in the front row for both. Happy New Year to us!

INDEPENDENT Best of Constables on Patrol

JULY 2

12:42 p.m. – Curiously concerned resident reported seeing three females with pink hair and a male with purple hair acting suspiciously in a neighbor's yard, even peeking under his vehicle. They walked away toward downtown, but responding constable did not encounter anyone matching the description.

11:52 p.m. – Downstairs resident at an apartment complex reported kids jumping and running and being noisy upstairs. Constable on patrol found a mother and her daughter sitting quietly on the porch.

JULY 7

3:57 p.m. – ESPD received a report that a tree down on Magnetic had captured a VW Bug. Responding officer discovered the Bug had escaped but he put cones out for safety.

JULY 17

4:53 p.m. – Caller told ESPD one of her employees has not been seen for two days. She said he frequents Lake Leatherwood Park and described his vehicle. Officer found his vehicle and called the missing person's father for more information. Constable encountered missing person on a bike trail, determined he was okay and encouraged him to call his father and place

of employment.

JULY 20

8:52 p.m. – Sheriff's office told ESPD it got a 911 call in which someone screamed "Help!" and then hung up. Responding officers went to the apparent location but no one was there. ESPD thought the call might have been related to the next item.

9:05 p.m. – A caller was yelling at someone reportedly driving recklessly on Spring Street, but the driver parked at a tourist lodging and appeared to be in for the night and suddenly every little thing was all right.

JULY 21

6:12 a.m. – Resident near downtown noticed a person apparently passed out in a front yard. He did not look injured, just passed out. Constable on the scene woke him and discovered the individual lived nearby and sent him on his way.

6:32 a.m. – Same constable was alerted to another individual sleeping in someone's front yard. Again the individual was almost home, and the officer scurried him along.

JULY 22

2:09 p.m. – Passerby noticed a baby deer and two puppies in the back of a pickup. Constable arrived for a welfare check and the animals seemed okay. He also checked with the owner.

JULY 23

4:55 p.m. – Resident told ESPD that someone broke into his apartment while he was at work. Only thing missing was his goldfish. Officers will maintain extra patrols in that area.

JULY 26

7:28 p.m. – A tree fell on a house near downtown, and the resident had been slightly injured but refused help from EMS. She was also apparently trapped inside the house. ESFD and first responders arrived but the resident refused them also, and instead asked for a tree service. They were able to determine the individual had a cut on her arm but was otherwise okay except she was upset her cat was missing and she had a fallen tree on her porch.

JULY 28

6:35 p.m. – Witness saw three kids above Harding Spring throw a bowling ball down onto a stone bench and break it. ESPD is gathering information.

JULY 31

6:54 p.m. – Constable assisted sheriff's department with an alleged mentally unstable male running through a neighborhood with a parrot. EMS transferred the individual to Berryville and the parrot was returned.

AUGUST 2

7:48 a.m. – Local hotel reported finding a small marijuana plant growing on

the premises. Constable verified it was marijuana and destroyed it.

9:41 a.m. – Motel reported an individual had been eating their continental breakfast for a few days but was not a guest. Responding officer discovered the individual had a felony warrant out of Texas and arrested him.

11:24 p.m. – A mother asked for a constable to respond because her 15-year old daughter would not come out of her room. Constable arrived and found everything was okay.

AUGUST 10

11:14 a.m. – Madison County alerted ESPD to a pickup truck stolen from the Huntsville area. The truck was later involved in a gas drive-off in Elm Springs, and the vehicle, but not the passengers, was later discovered in Bella Vista.

AUGUST 10

5:37 p.m. – Resident reported an electric guitar in the neighborhood was just too loud for her evening walk. Constable spoke with the musician who turned down his amp.

AUGUST 14

4:18 a.m. – Concerned passerby reported seeing a female apparently passed out in her vehicle, which was parked in the drive-through of a bank. Turns out she was a paper carrier waiting for her papers.

AUGUST 17

11:34 p.m. – Employee at a motel complained about a banjo party. Officer who responded asked the players to keep it down for the night.

2:44 p.m. – Two constables responded to more than one domestic issue at the same address. Supposedly seven people live there and they fight often. One male was cursing at an elderly person on oxygen. Another couple was fighting and she hurt his neck and broke his windows. Marijuana was possibly involved. Constables took a report.

AUGUST 19

1:15 p.m. – Concerned motorist reported a sports bike driving extremely fast and passing on a double yellow line on its way to town from the north. The vigilant witness managed to box in the sports bike as well as all other southbound traffic on Hwy. 23. Constable responded and advised the citizen the incident was out of city limits so it was the sheriff's bailiwick. Also he advised the citizen he could not block traffic nor impede the alleged transgressor, but the call was forwarded to the sheriff's office.

AUGUST 21

10:02 a.m. – Constable responded to the high school because a female student was not in class and her mother believed she had run away with the new guy town. Constable told the mother to talk to the sheriff's office about filing a pick up order.

AUGUST 22

1:02 p.m. – Residents in a neighborhood were trying to build a speed bump on their street using sticks. Constable on patrol asked them to desist because they were creating a traffic hazard.

AUGUST 26

3:39 a.m. – A couple were fighting on a street in a neighborhood. The male had a gun. When a third person tried to intervene, the male hit him on the head with the gun. Constable arrived on the scene and found no injuries on the couple and the third person refused medical help

AUGUST 30

8:33 a.m. – Passerby reported two men were arguing in a field near U.S. 62 on the eastern edge of town. Constable learned from one of the disputants he was not sure why the other man was yelling at him. No report was necessary.

4:14 p.m. – Tourist lodging clerk reported an elderly couple screaming and being hostile. Clerk wanted them to leave. Constable responded and discovered the couple had not liked their room, and they had moved on.

SEPTEMBER 2

12:11 a.m. – Constables responded to reports of a suspicious vehicle with one headlight out circling though a parking lot. They encountered the vehicle and attempted to make a traffic stop, but the vehicle continued out of the parking lot and eastward on U.S. 62 at about 30 mph. Vehicle eventually turned onto Passion Play Road and stopped in a parking lot. Driver was arrested for driving left of center, resisting arrest, criminal mischief, felony fleeing an officer, driving on a suspended license, third degree battery, DWI and refusal to submit.

SEPTEMBER 6

8:06 a.m. – Passerby noticed a small, shivering dog at Little Lake Eureka. The owner had called Animal Control the previous night while looking for it, and Animal Control reunited owner with lost dog.

SEPTEMBER 7

10:20 p.m. – A man went into an establishment for a short visit, and when he went back outside, his truck was gone. He told the police he thought it might have been stolen. Officer who responded found the truck with the man's estranged wife. Officer gave the man a ride to the station where they were to meet up with the ex-wife and get his possessions back.

SEPTEMBER 10

2:01 a.m. – Five or six people were making a lot of noise at the late hour, and a neighbor complained. After a visit from a constable the tumult subsided.

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2:35 a.m. – The tumult, however, re-erupted, according the neighbor, and another constable visited the area. He talked with different group of noisy people who soon left the area. A resident nearby said he would watch for any more problems.

SEPTEMBER 15

3:03 a.m. – Two individuals were allegedly trying to break into a room at a motel. Responding officer arrested one of them for public intoxication, criminal mischief and disorderly conduct.

3:06 a.m. – A father reported his son was missing. They had been walking back to their hotel room by taking a short cut through the woods, and now he couldn't find his son. Officer on duty told him his son had been arrested (see previous item).

SEPTEMBER 20

9:53 p.m. – A motel clerk reported a male was calling requesting random room numbers and then calling the room trying to impersonate the manager and asking for verification of the credit card number. The motel was going to call the phone company and trace the calls. ESPD said no guests had complained so far, and advised the motel to keep the information in case there are complaints.

SEPTEMBER 24

3:42 p.m. – Eyewitness reported a mother and her five kids were throwing rocks across the street at signs in a parking lot near Hwy. 23 N. Constable on patrol had to speak with the family of flingers.

SEPTEMBER 28

1:55 p.m. – Downtown merchant witnessed another merchant walking up and down Spring Street screaming at the crowds. Constable went to see for himself but did not see any troublemakers at the time.

SEPTEMBER 29

1:05 a.m. – Patron of a bar told ESPD another customer had spewed alcohol on her. When she had told those in charge about it, they allegedly threatened to call the police on her. The officer on the phone with her told her to call ESPD during the day Monday through Friday and ask for the supervisor, and she hung up.

1:16 a.m. – Same complainant called back and wanted to file a complaint against the bar where she had been. A constable went to her house to take the report, and she slammed the door in his face. Constable surmised the complainant was intoxicated.

2:11 a.m. – Same complainant showed up at the police station, apparently very intoxicated. She wanted to file a complaint about the bar where alcohol had been spewed on her. During the report, she learned that nothing would be done at that moment,

and she walked out of the station saying she would speak to the chief on Monday. She then sped away in her vehicle. An officer made a traffic stop and arrested her for DWI, refusal to submit and careless and imprudent driving.

OCTOBER 4

10:02 a.m. – Observant passerby noticed a wallet, shoes and false teeth in a motel parking lot. Constable collected the items and took them to the station where the owner later claimed them.

OCTOBER 12

8:06 p.m. – Two brothers engaged in a domestic dispute because one brother was at a restaurant with the soon-to-be ex-wife of the other brother. The soon-to-be ex-husband had entered the restaurant and hit the brother and then waited outside by the brother's car. Two constables responded and took a report.

OCTOBER 14

12:14 a.m. – Bar downtown told ESPD there was a fight going on with maybe 40 people involved. Constables arrived and calmed things down. They arrested an individual for disorderly conduct. Turns out he also had a warrant out of Harrison PD.

OCTOBER 27

11:19 p.m. – An individual told ESPD his mother had gone on a date in Eureka Springs and had not returned any of his calls for nine hours. Constable checked where her car was supposed to be parked and it was not there. However, the mother made contact soon afterwards and everything was okay.

OCTOBER 31

9:18 a.m. – Resident reported that a person she knows, not a friend or acquaintance, walked into her house unannounced and with no reason for being there. Resident did not want to file charges but wanted the intruder never to set foot in her house again. Constable filed a report.

NOVEMBER 2

10:29 p.m. – Resident of an apartment house reported trouble with his neighbors. He had fallen while outside and had broken his hand and cell phone. Blame abounded. Constable at the scene determined problems would have to be settled in civil court.

NOVEMBER 3

12:26 a.m. – Dispute at the apartment house continued. Another resident reported the person who had broken his hand and cell phone earlier would photograph his girlfriend when she went outside. The resident asked for police assistance because this person was harassing them. Constable

on patrol arrived and restored calm.

7:35 p.m. – The person who had been robbed on Halloween arrived at the station to file his report on the theft of his Xbox, piggy banks and car title.

NOVEMBER 3

1:32 p.m. – Constable on patrol found a door open at the elementary school. Upon investigation, he found teachers inside.

NOVEMBER 7

3:36 p.m. – Resident near downtown asked for constable assistance. Her angry and out of control daughter had locked her out of their house. Constable arrived to help calm things down.

NOVEMBER 22

11:48 a.m. – A vehicle managed to fall off one level of a parking area onto another. The vehicle flipped over, passengers were inside, but no one was injured

NOVEMBER 23

6:57 a.m. – Constable making his rounds found a cash box belonging to a downtown business. He checked the business, and the doors were locked. He held onto the box until the business opened.

8:46 a.m. – Clerk at a downtown store reported the pins from the door hinges were missing. Everything was in its place inside.

9:18 a.m. – The business belonging to the previously discovered cash box reported a break-in. Items were scattered around and some things were missing. Detective gathered information.

DECEMBER 1

1:53 a.m. – A tow truck driver called for constable backup because individuals were harassing him for trying to tow the disabled truck. Constable who responded arrested one of the obstructionists for public intoxication.

DECEMBER 5

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 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.

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WCCAD keeps ambulances rolling

NICKY BOYETTE

At the July 24 Western Carroll County Ambulance District (WCCAD) meeting, Eureka Springs Fire Chief Rhys Williams told the Western Carroll County Ambulance District Board he needs more first responders. Even though there are many more trained than when he first volunteered in the early '80s, gaps still exist in parts of the county. Holiday Island Fire Chief Jack Deaton distributed copies of a map that showed where first responders for the district live, and most of the county is well-represented. There was a conspicuous void on the map around Eureka Springs.

Commissioner Joe McClung said he wanted to help Williams attract more first responders, but he was not sure how to do it. He said he was open to ideas for boosting recruiting.

Williams reported that he had been working with Bare & Swett Agency to get the performance bond required in the contract between Eureka Springs and WCCAD. The contract is for five years, but the agency said they could do the bond year to year only and had issues with some of the language. Chair Chuck Olson said he would find

out what the problems are because they need to get the bond in place.

At the August 21 meeting, Olson asked if first responders were allowed to use tourniquets. Deaton said the new tourniquets do not cause as much tissue damage to extremities, but a first responder should defer to the paramedics on a scene because they have better training. He also mentioned a properly trained responder can use a blood pressure cuff to apply pressure to an area to help stem the flow of blood, carefully release, then apply again. Williams said he had seen a tourniquet used only once in his 27 years of experience. Olson observed he was watching out for litigious exposures and encouraged all responders to follow protocol.

Williams announced they are making progress on setting up their next responder conference to be held at the Inn of the Ozarks in February 2013. They will be adding new hands on trainings for participants. He said they met new instructors and made valuable contacts at the one they conducted earlier this year.

Williams told commissioners at the Sept. 11 meeting his call volume

has increased significantly this year, getting as many as 100 calls each month. He mentioned in particular several accidents, some fatal, west of Eureka Springs. Deaton remarked, "Flatlanders think they can drive these hills."

Commissioner Ken Mills observed that, according to response reports from other departments, demand for ambulances to roll in those areas has been light. Deaton noted some of his 23 responses during the past month have even been non-emergency calls.

Lynn Palmer, chair of the EMR Alliance, reported that she had ordered and received new supplies including tourniquets, AED pads and seat belt cutters. She said Dr. Greg Kresse had approved their using tourniquets once the responder is trained.

Commissioners discussed at its November meeting if they should review the contract with ESFD because it calls for 90 percent of the calls to be handled in less than 15 minutes, and McClung pointed the arithmetic in the reports showed a slower response time. He said he was not so much concerned as he was pointing out what the contract said.

Olson pointed out they do not want to put drivers at risk just to meet a number. Jason Morris, ESFD Captain, added the time of the report was late summer and early autumn when there are more deer on the roads, and there are also locations in the district where it just takes that long to get there.

Later Morris suggested commissioners consider revising the contract to have 18-20 minutes be the target. Olson acknowledged his point and the commission agreed to watch the trends and see what the data says.

There was a discussion of responders who receive the training and a backpack stocked with supplies, but who seldom respond.

Deaton said for many years he has kept records on who responds, and he could point out names who haven't responded much yet they still have district equipment, "and that's a problem."

Olson acknowledged he had a copy of the signed Performance Bond signed by Eureka Springs Mayor Morris Pate. The commission will invite insurance agent Chris McClung to attend the January meeting to answer questions about the bond.



How many bugs and buses does it take to fill a parking lot? – Two hundred and eighty-four. But at least 150 more joined in for the ride down Spring Street in the 20th Annual VW parade in August.

PHOTO BY JERRY HINTON

Hot peppa

– Enid Swartz hangs with the hot chili peppers at the Blue Moon Market August 30 as tropical storm Isaac fingered vendor tent tops with brief winds. Isaac never became a threat, but dropped off some welcome rain on its trip northeast.

PHOTO BY CD WHITE



Commission trying every which way to get a new hospital

NICKY BOYETTE

Michael Merry, Chair of the Hospital Commission, reminded commissioners at the July 16 meeting that their attorney, Seth Ward of Health Law Firm of Little Rock, had encouraged them to stay fiscally conservative for the moment.

Merry and commissioners discussed how best to use their funds without knowing whether Allegiance, the company leasing operations of Eureka Springs Hospital, will follow through on building a new hospital in town as the commission at one time had believed. Allegiance and the commission have learned the commission cannot use its funds to assist a for-profit corporation in building a new hospital.

Commissioner Anna Ahlman wanted know what they could do to encourage Allegiance to move on the project. Commissioner Pam Crockett said they could provide money for EMS services or indigent care. She thought if Allegiance knew how committed they would be, Allegiance would be more comfortable moving forward.

In the meantime, they decided to get more advice from the attorney.

Merry formally welcomed Chris Bariolo, new ESH administrator, at the September meeting. Bariolo told commissioners he began his career in a mental health facility and became a troubleshooter watching out for duplication of tasks and wasted spending. He said his goal at ESH was to make services even better while expanding services when possible. Expansion is significantly limited at the present facility, but he planned to open a physical therapy clinic by converting the laundry facility on Passion Play Rd.

Vicki Andert, Director of Nursing, told commissioners that ESH had received its Level IV trauma certification which means ESH meets nationwide standards for advanced trauma care and the Emergency Room will have emergency room doctors on site at all times.

Merry asked Bariolo about the condition of the facility, and he said, "It looks good for what it is." The building

limits what services can be added, but now he is focused on making what they do as good as possible. "We get good marks for quality service," he noted, "and that is what makes us successful."

Ahlman asked him about the possibility of building a new hospital, and Bariolo said he had not been involved in any discussions about a new hospital. Maybe when he gets settled in, he said, he and Allegiance can have that conversation.

At the August 27 meeting, city council voted against reseating longstanding commissioner Jack Pritchard. Pritchard can remain on the commission even though his term expired, yet the commission was chagrined at council's vote. Merry pointed out there would be an election coming soon, and "if we still have the same city council, it will be nobody's fault but our own."

In October, Bariolo announced early in 2013, ESH will be moving toward installing a system of using electronic medical records and it should be functioning by summer. Eventually all records will be transferred into the system. He also said he had not yet had discussions with Allegiance about building a new hospital in Eureka Springs.

Merry told the commission in November he wanted to do something important with the commission's funds. His plan was to find a way to help offer medical tests which indigent patients cannot afford and often avoid, thereby leaving important medical information ungathered.

He said patients are not getting the help they need. His idea is to figure out how the commission can donate as much as \$10,000 annually to pay for the tests not already covered. "I can't think of a more positive thing the commission could do to affect the health of local citizens." Since the commission is part of city government, it must establish appropriate protocol before it can use its money in this way.

Andert reported that because of their new Emergency Room status,

patients are being treated faster. She said there is an ER physician on duty all the time every day, and satisfaction surveys have shown patients are pleased with their care at ESH.

The ER physicians are part of the Sessions Group, which brings physicians from all over the state to staff hospital emergency rooms leaving local primary care physicians more time to care for patients.

Commissioners continued the goal of pursuing a new hospital for Eureka Springs. In December, they met with Laura and Charlie Morrison, architects who had been developing drawings in 2006 for a hospital for two different sites

on Passion Play Road before momentum on the project stopped. The commission looked at the Morrisons' preliminary drawings as a way to get reacquainted with what is possible on those sites.

Everyone agreed that soil geology and topography of the site they eventually choose will determine what they can build and what it will cost.

Commissioner Pam Crockett suggested they go through their attorney, who specializes in the health care field, to find a hospital consultant knowledgeable in building hospitals to guide them through the process.

Merry will pursue finding a hospital planner.

PASSAGES **End of Year Review**

In Memoriam

Alma Mildred Groblebe Kappen, March 6, 1916 – August 4, 2012

Michael Lee Bonds, Jr., May 20, 1978 – August 4, 2012

Nancy Jo McElhannon Foggo, 50, d. August 14, 2012

Janet Naomi Rosain Penn, May 2, 1920 – August 15, 2012

Gloria Marlene Follett, Jan. 19, 1931 – August 19, 2012

Jeanne Pearson Taylor, July 2, 1921 – August 30, 2012

David Crafton Massey, Nov. 12, 1946 – Sept. 9, 2012

Jackson Donovan Destry, December 3, 1990 – September, 2012

Robert "Robbie" Edwin Freiburger,

May 27, 1966 – September 27, 2012

James David (Dave) Bird, Sr., October 14, 1933 – October 3, 2012

Jesse Michael Kurczek, August 8, 1984 – October, 25, 2012

Elizabeth Atchley Green, April 29, 1925 – October 29, 2012

Carole F. Allen, September 11, 1933 – November 14, 2012

Clyta M. Holland, January 5, 1922 – November 19, 2012

James Ray Allison, May 16, 1945 – December 2, 2012

Randall (Randy) Paul Middleton,

April 4, 1962 – December 3, 2012

Beloved Pets

Lilliputian Lavender Lace ("Mrs. Lacey Jones"), d. August 13, 2012

ButterScotch Froelich, d. September 6, 2012

Sadie Owens, d. November 9, 2012

Joey Owens, d. November 9, 2012



2012 will be remembered as the Year of the Zeek.

Our local, talented and prolific artist was everywhere last year – easily snatching the Media Whore Crown with stories, photos and articles in every major Arkansas publication. Accolades were endless, from the Chamber's Man of the Year to his Pigshibition pig, a prestigious TED Talk, to the cherry on the cake – his Arkansas Arts Council Governor's Award for Life-time Achievement in the Arts. No one deserved it more.

Photographer Jeremy Mason McGraw lit up Basin Park in May with his popular Creative Energy Project and was responsible for the creepy but very fun Zombie Art Show at The Space in November. I'm giving myself a self-congratulatory pat on the back for the successful Finding Nature – Art in the Landscape exhibit co-curated with Chris Fischer, also at The Space.

Classical music remains a hard sell in Eureka Springs. Sadly the CICA Summer Music Festival may transplant to Dallas where there is more support and definitely more money. I plead guilty, attending only two of the many wonderful performances at The AUD.

Alice Walton and the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art continued making news – bringing in the Hudson River School Exhibit and acquiring a major Rothko for its permanent collection.

Kudos to ES Arts Council chair Sandy Martin who scored funding for the proposed musical sculpture park on North Main that will be designed by local artist Ranaga Farbiarz.

Other notable art news – Another successful opera season – Peggy Kjelgaard is back at ESSA, – Beth Withey whips the Ozarks Chorale into shape – Bob Norman continues the Drink and Draw at Chelsea's – the First Saturday Drum Circle in Basin Park gets bigger – May Festival of the Arts budget grows thanks to CAPC director Mike Maloney – the Art Wall remains shabby – we are still on *American Style* magazine's Top 25 Arts Destination list – jewelry is banned for sale in Basin Park – artists continue to flock to our little burg, and of course, the arrival of the fun and informative *Eureka Springs Independent*.

The year's biggest story was the loss of the Great Passion Play. I don't consider lip-syncing an art unless you are Lypsinka. (Definitely worth a Google search) but they did have a pretty eclectic collection of religious art. It's been a while since my last visit to the Sacred Arts Exhibit but I recollect a work signed Titian, or Tintoretto – one of those Italian masters. My uneducated eye wondered at the time if it could possibly be an original and now wonders if the bank is now proud owner of a multi-million dollar masterpiece? Is this the Christmas Miracle that could save the Passion Play and thus save our town? Whether real or fake, I'm copywriting the whole idea and selling the plotline to the LifeTime Channel.

On the bright side, we didn't have a motorcycle-themed art show in 2012 and with any luck that idea will remain on the burn pile of bad ideas.



David Roll and Sherry Young tricked out at Zombie Art Exhibit at The Space. Zeek Taylor deserves it all.



Pickin' and blowin' – Bill Inhow, from Morton, Illinois, was one of a group of nine expert banjo pickers accompanied by two tuba players who volunteered to play downtown during the International Banjo Rally this fall at the Inn of the Ozarks.

PHOTO BY JERRY HINTON



The sky's the limit – A crowd of 500 and close to 100 aircraft flew into the Carroll County Airport on September 8 for the Cajun Lunch and Fly-In, including this T-6 Texan built in the '40s. Photographer Jeremiah Alvarado-Owens preferred to view the event from above and all was "CAVU" – clear air, visibility unlimited.





Mistletoe beyond Christmas – a sticky subject

In England, the Druid Saxon ancestors of what are now the British Islands (10,000 years ago a land bridge connected England to present France over what is now the English Channel) revered European Mistletoe (*Viscum album*), which is common throughout much of northern Europe. In

England, mistletoe is primarily found on apple trees as well as hawthorns, pears, linden trees, walnut and willows among others. The Druids, however, view that mistletoe which grew on oaks to be the most sacred, imbued with special spiritual significance.

A Druid priest, cloaked in a white



PHOTO BY STEVEN FOSTER

robe, sought out mistletoe that grew on oaks and was said to harvest it with a golden sickle. At the ceremony performed annually, two white bulls were sacrificed beneath the oak tree, with prayers and song offered to the Druid gods. The Celtic word for this parasitic evergreen shrub was *gwid*, which simply meant “the shrub.”

Misseltoe, or mistletoe, is from a Saxon word signifying “birdlime shrub.” Both the white berries and the inner bark of mistletoe contain a sticky substance. The genus name *Viscum* honors this glue-like quality, and our word “viscous” is derived from it.

Birdlime was obtained by bruising the fresh bark, rubbing it into small lumps, washing repeatedly in cold water, then squeezing the lumps between the fingers until all of the fibers were separated from the viscous glue within. The sticky substance is also made from holly bark boiled for 10-12 hours, then processed to reduce it to a sticky substance. In recent history, birdlime was used by the British during

World War II to make sticky bombs.

Famously in ancient times, this sticky glue called birdlime was smeared on the branches of trees and when a bird landed on the branch it was stuck, captured. The practice is outlawed in the European Union but still persists in the Valencia region of Spain, and used to capture the song thrush, considered a local delicacy. The sticky substance within the seed is also part of shrub’s mechanism for seed dispersal. Various thrush species eat the seeds of mistletoe. The seeds pass through their digestive systems intact. When droppings are deposited on a tree branch, the viscous substance around the seed allows it to stick to the branch and germinate. Or as once commonly expressed, “The thrush, when he pollutes the bough, sows for himself the seeds of woe.”

So you see, there’s much more to mistletoe than a simple chance for a holiday kiss.

Bulletin Board

Holiday Events –

*Don’t miss a minute of fun.
Keep this list of events handy
for dandy planning!*

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.

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.



The Annual Bank Robbery Re-Enactment was a success as our local young thespians collect ill-gotten gains from the robbers.

PHOTO BY RICHARD QUICK



The Annual Jazz Festival brought Blind Boy White, Eureka Springs ex-pat and Margot Cameron to the streets for some impromptu jazz.

PHOTO BY JOHN RANKINE



Cutting edge – Jim Nelson was one of 18 artists who opened their studios to the public during the 7th Annual Eureka Springs Studio Tour in September.

PHOTO BY JOHN RANKINE



That's one sweet potato! – Or is it a yam? Patrice Gros talks with some of teacher Jane Houseal's seventh graders at the Eureka Springs Farmers' Market in October.

PHOTO BY JERRY HINTON

Field hospital

– Civil War re-enactor, Doug Kidd, portrays a Civil War surgeon and cuts up for middle school children in October during a preview of the "Voices from the Silent City" educational cemetery tours fundraiser for the Historical Museum.



PHOTO BY MARY FLOOD



Hundreds of kids from all over Northwest Arkansas came out to Trick or Treat on White St. Halloween night. It was a beautiful, mild, clear evening, and according to many White St. residents it was the busiest Halloween ever. Yahkie Nauman and Melanie Linker think no one knows who they are.

PHOTO BY JOHN RANKINE



Homecoming honors – Homecoming King and Queen, Keegan Wilbur (far right) and Shelby Clark, share the floor with Mr. and Mrs. Basketball, Josh Premeau and Taylor Osterhout, at October's Homecoming game at Eureka Springs High School.

PHOTO BY JERRY HINTON

This Week's INDEPENDENT Thinkers – End of Year Review



7-5-12

Warren Buffett



7-12-12

Nuns on the Bus



7-19-12

Nelson Mandela



7-26-12

Sally Ride



8-2-12

Steve LaTourette



8-9-12

Anthony Baxter



8-16-12

Helen Gurley Brown



8-23-12

Nadezhda Tolokonnikova, Maria Alyokhina and Yekaterina Samutsevich

8-30-12
Elena Tsembris, Sammi Seigel and Emma Axelrod



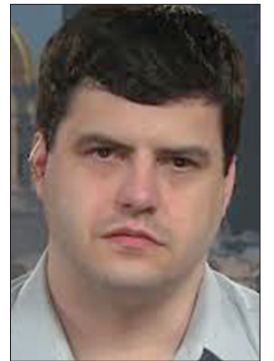
9-6-12

Bill Clinton



9-13-12

Hopi



9-20-12

James Earl Carter IV



9-27-12

Elizabeth Warren



10-4-12

Judge Jim Gray



10-11-12

Malala Yousafzai



10-18-12

Mary Anderson



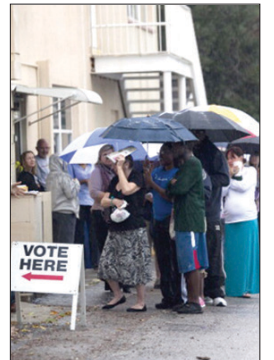
10-25-12

Russell Means



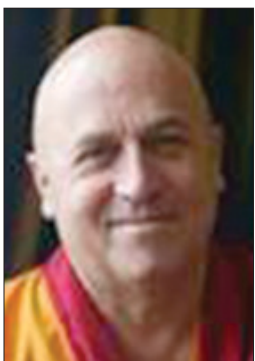
11-1-12

Taylor Wilson



11-8-12

American voters



11-15-12

Matthieu Ricard



11-22-12

Sarah Josepha Hale



11-29-12

Max, Harvey and Lucas Udell



12-6-12

Dave Brubek



12-13-12

Michael Bishop



12-20-12

Rachel Carson

COUNCIL continued from page 2

were renting out homes in residential zones where City Code prohibits tourist lodgings. Aldermen voted 5-1 to have city attorney Tim Weaver work with Blankenship on crafting an ordinance.

July 23

- Ballance said some people would be disappointed regardless of what council does, so she moved to comply with plans of the deer hunt committee. When it was time to vote on her motion, she and Lindblad voted No, so the motion failed 2-2.

Weaver pointed out council had “simply voted not to accept the committee’s recommendations. The vote of the people still stands and you’ve not ended the possibility of a hunt.”

During agenda setting, alderman Butch Berry moved to discuss rescheduling the hunt at the next meeting.

- Weaver said since the previous meeting, five property owners had obtained a business license under the line item 199 “Business not otherwise listed” category because they wanted to rent their properties in the R-1 zone short term. They were not paying taxes on the rentals. Berry suggested putting a moratorium on issuing line item 199 licenses until they figured out what to do, and Weaver prepared a resolution declaring a 90-day moratorium and vote to approve it was 4-1, Ballance voting No.

Aug. 13

- Two representatives of Arkansas Game & Fish answered questions about urban deer hunts. They tried to assuage fears about dire possibilities presented by Lindblad and Ballance, and Pownall moved to limit the hunt to Nov. 10 – Feb. 28, and Berry seconded. The vote was 4-2, with Lindblad and Ballance voting No.

Berry then moved to require hunters to be members of the Arkansas Bowhunters Association, which means they will have passed a proficiency test, and the vote was 4-0-2, with Lindblad and Ballance abstaining.

- New owners bought property adjacent to Vine Street, a short, undeveloped city street which resembled a barely-used driveway. They asked the city to vacate the property and no nearby property owners affected objected. Ballance objected, adamantly insisting the city should not give away its property. Property owners involved were either at the meeting or were represented, and since they were ready to move forward with the plan, Pownall moved to assign the ordinance vacating the property a number and proceed. The vote to even read it was 4-1-1, Lindblad voting No and Ballance abstaining. Vote to approve the first reading was the same as the votes on the second and third readings, so the ordinance passed. The series of votes on a second ordinance dealing with the vacation of Vine Street were all 4-0-2, with Lindblad and Ballance abstaining, so both ordinances passed.

- Ballance pointed out discrepancies between City Code regarding the use of yellow bags for garbage pickup and the contract with Carroll County Waste Management. She saw inequities between what was required of residents and businesses. Much back and forth about the subject was followed by Pate saying he would speak again with the director of CCWM.

- Council voted 4-2, Lindblad and Ballance voting No, to table discussion of voting for alderman by ward only.

Aug. 27

- Council wrangled again about the deer hunt, and this time Ballance moved to proceed with the hunt and Lindblad seconded the motion. Berry speculated both Ballance and Lindblad would vote No, claiming the maneuver was “just a way of voting down the deer hunt and trying to circumvent the process.” Vote on the motion was 2-3, with Ballance, Lindblad and Pownall voting No. Pate said this vote would effectively end the chance of a hunt unless one of the No voters brings the issue up again.

- Diane Wilkerson, assistant to the

mayor, told council the heating system in the Auditorium had died. Options were to try another repair or replace the system at a cost of \$125,000 – 150,000. Lindblad insisted on having another audit of the system within a month and then decide what to do, and that is what they did.

- Alderman Parker Raphael suggested amending the limousine ordinance to require a two-hour minimum for a limo ride, and his motion was approved 4-1, with Berry voting No. Council approved the second reading of the ordinance unanimously.

Sept. 10

- During public comments council was lambasted for recent actions of trying to do away with the deer hunt. Ed Leswig stated the concept of council is to represent the ideas and actions of citizens, and council went against the will of the people by voting against having the hunt. He called it malfeasance and misfeasance.

Weaver’s opinion, after carefully reviewing council recordings, was that council had voted to have the hunt when it set the dates from Nov. 10 – Feb. 28. He said the vote at the August 29 meeting was an improper vote because the issue was not brought back to the table in a procedurally correct fashion.

Ballance said she was “one hundred percent against the perversion and subversion” perpetrated by the deer hunt committee. When it was time for agenda setting for the next meeting, Lindblad asked for reconsideration of the deer hunt.

- The third reading of the limousine ordinance rolled over a rocky road. Vote to approve it was 3-2, with DeVito and Pownall voting No, so the ordinance failed until it is brought back in another form.

- Pate reported he and Mike Maloney, executive director of the City Advertising and Promotion Commission, talked about renewing the contract for the CAPC to continue managing the Auditorium. There was disagreement over the length of the renewal and how much the CAPC

should contribute toward utilities. Nothing was agreed upon except to allow Pate and Maloney continue to negotiate.

- Council voted down 2-3, DeVito, Lindblad and Raphael voting No, to set up a Water/Sewer Committee.

Sept. 24

- An attempt to reconsider the deer hunt was voted down when Pownall moved to take the item off the agenda and hand the hunt over to Pate. Echoes of previous points began to recirculate until Raphael called for point of order. He said council had been through this already, and Lindblad was treading on old wounds. Council then voted 4-0-2, Ballance and Lindblad abstaining, to approve Pownall’s motion, thereby taking the hunt off the agenda.

- Ballance had previously introduced a request for Planning to prepare a list of city properties being encroached upon, since the city had given away Vine Street upon request, saying the city might want to know what it would be giving away in the future. Blankenship said the request needed clarification and the expense of fulfilling the request was prohibitive because surveys on all the properties would be required.

Pownall moved to have Planning provide a written report on the request. Discussion got out of hand for a moment, “point of order” claims flying everywhere, and as Pate was restoring calm. Lindblad called him on a point of order. Eventually the vote on Pownall’s motion was 4-2, with Raphael and Berry voting No. This item was subsequently withdrawn from the agenda.

- Council voted 5-1, Raphael voting No, to postpone discussion of a budget resolution until they had another budget workshop.

Oct. 8

- Council agreed to pay as much as \$100,000 for a major upgrade on the heating system in the Auditorium.

- Planning requested a change in City Code regarding outdoor sales to amend the term “city-sponsored” to “city-approved” or “city-sanctioned”

and this change would update the Code to cover what is happening in the city now. Discussion hit on several other related issues and soon became quite large. Disagreement on terminology and what exactly they were discussing continued until DeVito moved to table discussion until the next meeting so they could clarify the talking points. The vote was 5-1, Raphael voting No.

- Discussion of voting for aldermen by ward circled the table again. Lindblad claimed voters want a change, and they have told her they would prefer to vote by ward only. She said people don't want candidates from their ward voted down by people across town. Raphael said he had not heard from a single person who likes the idea. DeVito reiterated his opinion that the issue should be left to a vote of the people, not just the six at the council table. Lindblad responded it was six people who had voted to have it this way, so this table could vote to change it. They settled on getting more input from the public.

- Council voted 3-2, Lindblad and Berry voting No, Pate casting the deciding Yes vote, to approve first reading of an ordinance which clarified that the owner of a B&B must live on the same property as the B&B, which means not divided from the B&B by a street, lane or right-of-way. They eventually approved the second and third readings.

- Council voted to approve an amended budget resolution, and Pate gave notice of his veto. He did not elaborate.

- Council voted 4-1, Berry voting No, to have Police Chief Earl Hyatt attend the next meeting to explain his staffing requirements. Pownall read from state law that council shall determine the number of subordinate police officers on the force. He wanted to hear from Hyatt. Berry and Raphael contended council reviews the number of officers when it considers the budget. Ballance insisted it was council's legal responsibility to determine the number. Vote to have Hyatt attend the next meeting was 4-1, Berry voting No.

- The moratorium on issuing on line item 199 licenses was about to expire, so Pownall moved to extend the moratorium for 30 days, and the vote was 5-1, Ballance voting No.

- The first reading of an ordinance requiring all commercial construction permits to be reviewed by Planning passed.

- The renumbered sign ordinance prepared by Pownall and Planning commissioner Ed Leswig finally reached the table. Council approved the first two readings.

Oct. 22

- Municipal League attorney Chris Bradley appeared to update aldermen on the situation regarding Nelli Clark's lawsuit against the city. He explained because a city vehicle was involved, though not responsible, the city's tort immunity might not protect the city. Possible outcomes for the city would be to settle the case, go to the State Supreme Court for a ruling, or try the case in court. Bradley said his position has been to take it to the Supreme Court because "implications are enormous since it would open a window for anyone to sue for even frivolous reasons." Council decided to consider the situation before making a decision.

- Council asked Bradley about the protocol for filing charges of misfeasance, malfeasance or nonfeasance. He said a legislative audit should handle these, or a person could go to the prosecuting attorney.

- Pate read into the record his reasons for vetoing a budget resolution at the Oct. 8 meeting. At issue was a line item in the budget allocating \$8300 to the Cemetery Commission. Pate disagreed with council's taking money from other departments to create the cemetery line item, contending the Cemetery Commission has funds. Pownall contended the funds are restricted, and no one wanted the cemetery to be without adequate funding. The vote to override Pate's veto was 3-3, with Berry, Raphael and James DeVito voting No, so the override failed.

- Also at issue was Pate's veto of a council vote to have Police Chief

Earl Hyatt appear before them. Pate stated, "city council does not have any administrative authority over any department head." He said he has the responsibility to manage and direct department heads, and "I did not give this city council administrative authority to instruct any department head to do anything."

- Council approved the second reading of the ordinance requiring all commercial construction permits to be reviewed by Planning. Berry maintained Planning commissioners might not have enough proficiency to review technicalities of a building permit.

- Same stances and arguments resurfaced regarding voting for alderman by ward only. Lindblad moved to assign the proposed ordinance a number and proceed.

DeVito said, "I stand by my assessment that it should be up to voters to decide how they vote."

Ballance responded, "If we left these things to the voters, then women and Blacks would not have the right to vote."

More rancor ensued. Pownall insisted on a public hearing, but said council should hear the ordinance first. Vote to read the proposed ordinance was 4-2, Berry and DeVito voting No, as was vote to approve the first reading.

Ballance moved to suspend the rules and place the measure on its second reading, and Berry quickly responded, "What's the hurry! We just read it for the first time. Now we're pushing it through. Somebody's trying to buffalo us!"

There was no second to the motion, and instead of suspending the rules, council took a short break.

- Pate announced the Auditorium contract between the city and CAPC had automatically renewed through 2013.

- School board member Sam Kirk asked council to pay as much as \$30,000 for the widening and resurfacing of Lake Lucerne Road as soon as possible because of the imminent opening of the new high school building.

Nov. 6 special meeting

- Council convened a special meeting because the moratorium on line item 199 licenses was about to expire. They passed a resolution extending the moratorium for 60 days with the understanding they will have a solution in fewer than 60 days.

Nov. 6 election

- DeVito was the only incumbent re-elected. Berry and Pownall did not run and Lindblad, Ballance and Raphael were defeated.

Nov. 12

- A packed room watched Superintendent Curtis Turner urge council to move quickly to repair Lake Lucerne Rd. He said during this year, the schools had learned they could not spend school funds to improve a city street, although he had received two bids for widening the roadbed from 17 to 21 ft. and resurfacing the road as far as the second school entrance.

Lindblad said people were telling her how disappointed they were the schools were asking the city for money. She also was not convinced the Attorney General's opinion was the final answer. Council voted 4-1, Lindblad voting No, to have the Public Works director work with Turner to create a spec document to improve 820 ft. widening and paving it, and created an ordinance selecting a contractor and waiving bids. Vote on the motion was 4-1, Lindblad voting No.

- Weekly rentals in the R-1 zone bubbled back onto the agenda, and Blankenship again told council Planning was trying to watch out for neighborhoods by not allowing short-term rentals where the city does not allow them.

DeVito stated the licenses should have never been issued in the first place, and Raphael urged action before other owners try to sneak through the loophole.

After the first reading, DeVito moved to amend the ordinance by removing the word "seven" and replacing it with "thirty," referring to the minimum number of days a property can be rented. Vote was unanimous.

COUNCIL continued on next page



Reigning beauty – This year's Original Ozark Folk Festival Queen is Samantha Grat, escorted by Nicholas Walker.

PHOTO BY JERRY HINTON



Joy Pennington (l.), executive director of the Arkansas Arts Council, and Cathie Matthews (r.), director of the Department of Arkansas Heritage, flank Karin Boudet Ford and Zeek Taylor as Gov. Mike Beebe presents Taylor with the Governor's Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement in Little Rock in October.

PHOTO BY JOHN RANKINE

COUNCIL continued from previous page

Bob Jasinski spoke on this subject during public comments and said licenses should never have been issued. He read from City Code that the owner would need a Conditional Use Permit to conduct business in this way. He said the ordinance left nothing to interpret and the law is unambiguous.

- Council approved the third reading of the ordinance requiring construction permits to be reviewed by Planning.

- Vote to approve a resolution supporting marriage equality was 4-0-1, Pownall voting Present.

- The proposed ordinance to change voting procedures to voting for aldermen by ward only did not get enough votes to be read for the second time. The vote was 2-3, with Pownall, Berry and DeVito voting No. This issue is now off the agenda.

Nov. 21 special meeting

Council voted to waive competitive bidding and allocate up to \$38,000 for widening and resurfacing 820 ft. of Lake Lucerne Rd.

Nov. 27

- After more than six months of discussions and wrangling with legal definitions surrounding “weekly”

rentals in residential zones, council decided City Code was sufficient as it stood and the city should refund license fees to the 10 property owners who obtained licenses council now considers “void from inception.”

The term “seven-day rental” is a term meaning rental for residents, not transients, according to Weaver. He stated Code says clearly renting for less than 30 days requires collection of the CAPC tax. The only issue is people have taken advantage of the language to rent homes to tourists.

Points and counterpoints rattled off the walls, but in the end, council needed only to vote on whether to refund the license fee, which they did 4-1-1, Raphael voting No and Ballance voting Present, and then vote to drop the topic from the agenda, which was unanimous.

- Council voted 5-1, Pownall voting No, to pass along sewer impact fees to the school district.

- Ballance adamantly maintained that State Code indicates council shall establish the number of officers by ordinance. She moved to have Weaver draw up an ordinance leaving a blank for the number of officers, and Pownall added there should be a pro-

vision in the ordinance accounting for attrition, which meant no officers would replace ones who retired or moved away.

Berry asked Weaver if the city were in violation of state law, and Weaver indicated he would need more study of the question, but his first thought was probably not.

Council, nevertheless, voted 4-2, Berry and DeVito voting No, to have Weaver draw up the ordinance and leave a blank for the number of officers.

- Ballance reported the Yellow Bag Research Committee had the following recommendations: 1) make sure the rules are fair across the board and not discriminatory against residents and 2) research using recyclable bags.

Pownall moved for the mayor to accept applications for a Solid Waste Advisory Committee as stipulated by the contract. Vote was unanimous.

- Two proposed sign ordinances that had been waiting on the shelf more than a year pending the cleanup of the sign ordinance finally were considered. Intent of the first ordinance was to make sure off-premise signs could not be replaced, only repaired, but the codification process changed the language. Vote on the cleanup was

unanimous. Council also approved a second reading of it with a 5-1 vote, Ballance voting No.

The second ordinance forbids digital/electronic signs in the city. First reading was approved 6-0. The second and third votes passed with Ballance voting No both times.

Dec. 10

- Ballance move to put the proposed ordinance determining the number of subordinate police officers on its first reading. Berry stated, “This ordinance is superfluous.” He said the way to set the number of officers is through the budget process.

Aldermen went back and forth until Berry observed they were in a stalemate and moved to defer the issue to the first of the year. Vote was 3-2, Lindblad and Ballance voting No. Pate cast the deciding Yes vote.

- Council voted to defer passing a budget until the new council is seated.

- The third reading of the off-premise sign ordinance was approved.

- Aldermen moved to have Weaver draw up an ordinance to changing the phrase in Code from “city sponsored” to “city-approved.”

- The moratorium on line item 199 licenses was lifted.

Bows and curtsies – The third-grade Hedgehoppers take in some well-deserved applause after a dazzling routine at the 65th Original Ozark Folk Festival Queen’s contest in October. Eureka Springs third graders have performed in every Folk Festival for decades, carrying on a lively tradition. This year’s group was a crowd favorite.

PHOTO BY JERRY HINTON



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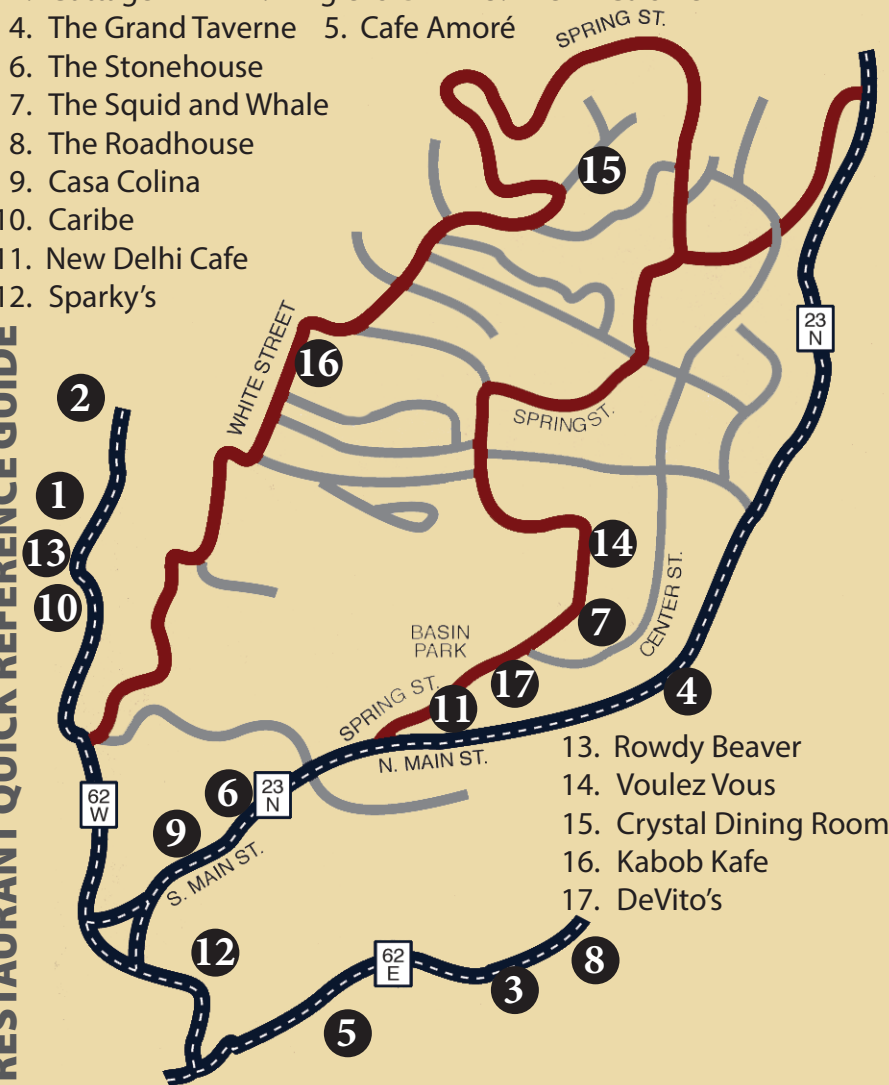
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AUDacious by Ray Dilfield

Our season has wound down (with only minor wounds) and we go into what theater folk refer to as a few weeks of dark time. Except there won't be much darkness involved.

This will be the time to catch up on all sorts of chores and projects getting the Aud ready for another year.

First on the list is repainting the stage. Sounds like a fairly simple, straightforward task, doesn't it? Not really. First, there's the deck itself. After years and years of multiple repainting – often with different types of paints and varying levels of prep work – it is really due for a good sanding. Even that doesn't sound too daunting until you consider the stage



curtains and drapes.

In most theaters the soft goods are mounted as part of the rigging system which allows them to be flown out into the fly loft (the tall section above the stage) and out of harm's way. As a result of some regrettable decision making during the 2004 rehabilitation, we don't have that option. Since it's not really practical to take several 24'x36' pieces of 28 oz. Velour down to the laundromat, we'll have to take other steps to protect them from sawdust

Beats a lump of coal

and paint. See where the degree of difficulty on this seemingly minor project is going?

Then it will be time to go through the whole lighting system.

Instruments need to be cleaned, inspected, bench-focused, and relamped as needed. Several years worth of patches and work-arounds need to be straightened out and the whole system restored to a basic repertory plot from which all of our shows can be modified as needed.

Oh yeah, did I mention that the lighting bars aren't part of the rigging system either? So it's up the 24 ft. ladder from which you can safely reach two or three instruments at a time, climb back down, move the ladder a bit, climb back

up, and keep that up through 40 or 50 cycles. Then repeat it to put them all back up.

Once that's all done, we've

still got things like dripping faucets, a couple of leaky toilet flaps, touching up dings on the concession stand's woodwork, replacing grip strips on the stairs, a good deep cleaning of tile, floors, carpet and upholstery, replacing a few light bulbs here and there (*aren't you glad you don't have to deal with the chandeliers?*) and a ton of other things what need doin'.

By the way, we also have to start planning for next year's events and festivals. Dark time doesn't sound so restful now, does it?



CAPC continued from page 2

Budget talk began in October both for planning the 2013 budget and for finishing out this year. Maloney pointed out July and August had been brutal for everyone in the state because of the weather. Then on Sept. 1, some Eureka business rebounded with their best weekends ever. He also said he was developing a website specific to groups who need a site for company meetings and retreats, which would be an attractive market for Eureka Springs.

Commissioner Bobbie Foster said her restaurant had the biggest breakfast revenue ever during Corvette Weekend Oct. 6-7. Commissioner Lynn Bridwell said his restaurant also had a great weekend.

Also successful was the mix of the Food and Wine Festival and Porsche Weekend. Downtown was hopping, some restaurants set records, and lodgings did well, also. Maloney said it was the right events at the right time.

What was not as successful a combination was staging the Folk Festival and Diversity Weekend at the same time, Oct. 29 – Nov. 3. Diversity Weekend went well but the Folk Festival seriously suffered. Maloney called it a train wreck. Featured entertainer Ronny Cox put on an excellent performance

in the Auditorium for about 50 people. Bridwell suggested they discuss festivals at a workshop and commissioners agreed.

Maloney reported that Jeremy Mason McGraw's first attempt at introducing zombies to Eureka Springs, even though far less ambitious than he first described to the commission in the summer, was a success. His Zombie Crawl attracted a sizable crowd for the weekend, which was notable because it was the first time for the event.

The Auditorium contract had automatically renewed, so the CAPC was again responsible for running the Auditorium and booking acts. In addition, city council agreed to pay for upgrading the heating for the facility.

In late November, budget discussions arose. "Obviously we are bringing people to town, and merchants are really pleased, but we still must be able to pay our bills," Foster observed. She was concerned that the CAPC might not reach its lofty goal of \$1.3 million in tax revenues for the year. She exhorted commissioners to look at how to achieve the same results next year but spend less to get there.

Maloney agreed that some marketing attempts had not worked well, but others had far exceeded expectations, such as

cable advertising in specific markets like Kansas City, Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Dallas and Shreveport. He sees cable marketing, especially with the video-on-demand feature, serving Eureka Springs well in 2013.

DeVito observed the commission gambled with an aggressive budget and it paid off in that city revenues increased ten percent – more than any city in Arkansas and more than Branson. He said the CAPC is going in the right direction.

Ragsdell suggested another attraction in town could be a Second Saturday event in which merchants stay open longer and they could add music to the mix in order to bring in visitors.

By the time of the December CAPC meeting, the Great Passion Play had announced it had closed. Attendance had declined for several years, yet it still brought more than 40,000 visitors to Eureka Springs in 2012. Maloney said it would be difficult to figure what the impact of losing 40,000 visitors to the town would be. Far more visitors came to town for attractions and events other than the Passion Play, nevertheless, its closure adds an element of conjecture to the budgeting for 2013.

As for 2012, city tax revenues were up ten percent over 2011. The

CAPC looked at how to learn from the 2012 adventure in marketing and produce better results with less expense. Commissioners agreed a conservatively aggressive approach would be appropriate until the first few months play out.

Ragsdell asked commissioners to seriously consider how to revitalize the Folk Festival, the longest-running event of its kind, and make it the huge event it once was. He suggested they look at what other festivals do successfully and add components that would be a good fit for Eureka Springs. The commission decided to discuss festivals at its first workshop of 2013.

Maloney reported more viewers had watched the video-on-demand ads about Eureka Springs than the ads for the State of Mississippi, and by a wide margin. He plans to expand his targeted cable advertising to Wichita and Houston and maybe other areas.

He announced a partnership between Eureka Springs, Branson and Bentonville has developed, and one outcome will be the arrival of a group of at least 20 travel writers who will spend time in each city in May. "The result should be wonderful exposure for the Northwest Arkansas-Southwest Missouri area," he said.

PARKS continued from page 4

even passed around samples of the kind of fencing she recommended.

Commissioner Ruth Hager remarked she thought the dog park would help tourism because it would offer another amenity for visitors in town, many of whom bring pets with them.

Featherstone said his concerns were what it would look like and how would it be maintained in perpetuity because Parks would not maintain it. He warned, "If it gets built and it's not maintained, it will have to come down."

Brix accepted the challenge and said she would be back.

- Featherstone announced a petition had been circulated gathering signatures in support of a one-eighth cent sales tax for four years to fund exclusively implementation of the Lake Leatherwood Park Master Plan. He expected the tax would bring in around \$400,000 over four years. The city could not devote resources necessary to maintain or renovate the park, and he maintained public input would help develop the Master Plan.

Levine announced the Arkansas Forestry Commission had granted funds for Chris Fischer's bioswale project near Cardinal Spring.

September

Rachel Brix now found herself to be a newly-seated member of the Parks Commission. She reported on progress made to create an advisory committee for the dog park. One point of discussion was where to build the dog park. Harmon Park was closest to neighborhoods near downtown, but there was also a site available near the cemetery and a site could be made available in Lake Leatherwood Park. Many other factors were considered at that early stage of the planning.

- Fischer reported on progress toward getting the Cardinal Spring area prepared for implementing his bio-swale project now that Parks had been awarded the grant. Levine and the Parks crew had cleaned up the area, and Fischer had walked through the site with two representatives from Arkansas Game &

Fish, who offered advice. There was also a discussion of how to get local schools involved in the project.

October

The dog park project marched on. Brix said she had received endorsements and positive feedback from businesses, but the challenge at that point was how to pay for fencing and other site improvements. Harmon Park continued to be top choice for location of the dog park.

Featherstone reported the Lake Leatherwood Master Plan was available online, though still a work in progress. He pointed out Parks simply wanted to provide a way to maintain the park because it is becoming unsustainable, the primary reasoning behind the one-eighth cent sales tax initiative on the ballot in November. The tax has a sunset date of four years after which voters can either renew it or let it fade.

He announced Steven Foster had resigned.

Levine told commissioners that on Saturday, Oct. 20, illusionist Sean Paul would be handcuffed and locked inside a 40-gallon milk container in Basin Park which would slowly be filled with water. Commissioner Draxie Rogers commented, "It ought to be great!"

Parks held a town hall meeting Oct. 25 to give the public a chance to contribute to the Lake Leatherwood Master Park Plan or ask questions about the park. Twenty supporters showed up, and almost everyone commented or asked questions.

"Any Master Plan is only as good as the money we can put behind it," Featherstone stated. Other plans have come and gone, but he said Parks wants this one fully implemented.

Alderman Butch Berry observed that if Parks gets the initiative passed, they would need to leverage proceeds judiciously to get the most out of it, but he encouraged them to repair things well so that the repairs will last.

Brix remarked that Parks must foster intrinsic interest in the park, and she liked that education has been a major component of the Master Plan. She suggested they develop educational junkets not just for local students

but for tourists as well. "Once Lake Leatherwood Park is awesome, everyone will want to see it," she commented.

Featherstone invited questions from the public about the initiative or the Master Plan because, "I don't want to lose the election because of bad information."

November

At the Nov. 19 meeting, Featherstone thanked the voters for passing the one-eighth cent tax initiative in support of the Lake Leatherwood Park Master Plan. He said he expects the end results to be "off-the charts awesome."

Levine told the commission the good weather and beautiful autumn foliage helped Lake Leatherwood Park reach its financial goals for the year. He also said he met with a Trails Advisor from the National Parks Service who will be available to consult with developing the Master Plan and with preparing presentations in support of the Master Plan.

- Jeremy Mason McGraw described different components of a month-long Halloween event he is planning for next October. He said the goal is to enhance the Eureka Springs experience for visitors. He is alerting Parks because he will need permission to use Basin Park and other spaces.

McGraw intends to stage a variety

of attractions for all ages from pumpkin-carving contests to another Zombie Crawl. He wants so many scarecrows the town will need a map to keep track of them all.

Parks approved in general his use of their spaces pending development of the plans.

- Eureka Springs High School student and Eagle Scout, Nathan Wilkerson, proposed creating a 350-ft. trail near the Cardinal Spring area in Harmon Park as his Eagle Scout project. He plans to add two benches along the path and create educational markers to protect the spring and creek.

His project would be completed mostly before Fischer begins his bioswale project in the spring so the two will not conflict. Vote to approve Wilkerson's project was unanimous.

Brix reported the Dog Park Advisory Committee had a fundraiser and now has \$400 in an account. "So now we're really for real!" she said.

The discussion found time for fencing choices, safety issues and, of course, the search for donors and ways to acknowledge them. Brix admitted, "I'm a very positive thinker and I am expecting lots of donors to give huge donations, so my thinking is we're going to need a place to put all those plaques."

Zombies for Obama

— Donna and Steven Foster trudged through the streets with the rest of the zombies on Nov. 2, but these two were looking for some nice, clean right-wing brains to eat. Horrifying.

PHOTO BY
JOHN RANKINE



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INDYSoul

by Gwen Etheredge

It's that time of year again — out with old, in with the new or insert your own clichéd line here. If a fun crowd with live music is how you like to celebrate there are plenty choices in Eureka Springs on New Year's Eve. Basin Park Hotel's Barefoot Ballroom is where **The Ariels** will be, a local favorite with rock, rhythm and blues covers and a nice selection of originals. Chasers has **Ozark Thunder**, a local classic rock band. At Chelsea's you can hear the **Lil' Slim Blues Band**, led by the son of blues master Magic Slim. The Crescent's Crystal Dining Room has booked jazz/swing band **Swing and A Miss**. Eureka Live! is having a blacklight masquerade ball with prizes for best masks. Jack's Place will have **Chad Emmert** who never disappoints with his brand of blue-tinted rock. New Delhi Café's end of the year party will feature **SpringBilly**, who have so much fun playing their bluegrass that it's contagious. The Pied Piper Cathouse Lounge will celebrate with **Handmade Moments** a three-piece jazz trio who are part of **Don't Stop Please**. The Rockin' Pig Saloon has the rock-n-roll sound of **Bryant**. The Rowdy Beaver will ring in 2013 with **Rockhouse** a group of locals boys who have rocked the house every time I heard them, while little sister The Rowdy Beaver Den will have **Jesse Dean** the lead singer from **Left of Center** who does a great solo act of classic rock & blues. The Squid & Whale is having a New Year's Eve party featuring **Slam Boxx** a local alternative/hard rock band. And last but certainly not least is the farewell to 2012 bash at Voulez-Vous with two bands.

Friday, Dec. 28 • Evening SKINNY GYPSIES
Saturday, Dec. 29 • Evening SPRINGBILLY
Sunday, Dec. 30 • Afternoon SPRINGBILLY
Monday, Dec. 31 • Evening SPRINGBILLY
Wednesday, Jan. 2 OPEN JAM

Happy New Year



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First up is **Jarod Goodman & The Stringbreakers** with some folksy rock followed by **Big Bad Gina**, a goddess groovin' trio who will entertain you with sounds of reggae, rap, jazz and disco. So whether your year was fabulous, tragic, life-changing or totally boring — it's now over and a new chapter begins.

FRIDAY — DECEMBER 28

• **BEREAN COFFEEHOUSE** *Jonathan and Kara Story*, 7 p.m.
• **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** DJ and Dancing
• **CHELSEA'S** *Centerfuze*, 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** DJ & Karaoke, sing & dance
• **NEW DELHI CAFÉ** *Skinny Gypsies*
• **PIED PIPER CATHOUSE LOUNGE** *Jason Gordon*, 8 p.m.
• **ROWDY BEAVER** *Skillet Lickers*
— It's Ladies Night Lingerie Show
• **ROWDY BEAVER DEN** *Live Music*
• **SQUID & WHALE PUB** 3¢ *Genius Indie - Alternative*
• **VOULEZ VOUS** *Ruby Revue Burlesque Show*, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY — DECEMBER 29

• **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** *Vertical Slide*
• **CHELSEA'S** *Whistle Pigs w/ Chucky Waggs*, 9 p.m.
• **EUREKA LIVE!** DJ & Dancing
• **EUREKA PARADISE** DJ & Dancing
• **GRAND TAVERNE** *Jerry Yester*

Thur. Dec. 27 OPEN MIC MUSICAL SMACK-DOWN featuring BLOODY BUDDY & Friends STEAK NITE Top Sirloin Dinner NO COVER 11am-2am Mon.-Sat. 11am-12am Sun. 479-253-7147 37 Spring St. / 10 Center St. EUREKA SPRINGS, ARKANSAS www.squidandwhalepub.com	Fri./Sat. Dec. 28 & 29 3¢ GENIUS From FORT SMITH INDIE • ALTERNATIVE FISH FRY FRIDAY SEAFOOD SATURDAY NO COVER a Piratical Place... the SQUID and WHALE NFL PACKAGE WIDE SCREEN TV	Sun. "Local King" LOCAL TALENT Showcase CHEF SPECIALS NO COVER	- NEW YEAR'S EVE - SLAM BOXX FREE PARTY FAVORS & CHAMPAGNE at Midnite NO COVER FOOD 'TIL LATE Steaks • Seafood • Chicken • Mouthwatering Mexican • Bodacious Burgers • Soups • Salads • and more! SMOKE FREE 22 N. Main St. Eureka Springs, AR use table separately	Tues. Jan. 1 - Join Us For - Brunch & Bloody Mary's! starts 11 am Holiday BOWL GAMES Sandwich Buffet NO COVER
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Grand Piano Dinner Music, 6:30–9:30 p.m.

• **JACK'S CENTER STAGE** *Chad Emmert*

• **LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON** DJ & Karaoke, sing & dance

• **NEW DELHI CAFÉ** *SpringBilly*

• **PIED PIPER CATHOUSE**

LOUNGE *Fear the Beard*, 8 p.m.

• **ROWDY BEAVER** Karaoke with *Tiny*

• **ROWDY BEAVER DEN** *John Harwood*

• **SQUID & WHALE PUB** 3¢ *Genius Indie - Alternative*

• **VOULEZ VOUS** *Ruby Revue Burlesque Show*, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY – DECEMBER 30

• **CHELSEA'S** *SpringBilly*, 8–11 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**

SpringBilly, afternoon

• **SQUID & WHALE PUB** "Local Kine" Local Talent Showcase

• **VOULEZ VOUS** *Big Bad Gina*

MONDAY – DECEMBER 31

• **BASIN PARK HOTEL BAREFOOT BALLROOM** *The Ariels*

• **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** *Ozark Thunder*

• **CHELSEA'S** *Lil' Slim Blues Band*, 9 p.m. Happy New Year

• **CRESCENT HOTEL CRYSTAL DINING ROOM** *Swing and A Miss*

• **EUREKA LIVE!** New Year's Eve Blacklight Masquerade Ball

• **JACK'S CENTER STAGE** *Chad Emmert*

• **NEW DELHI CAFÉ** *SpringBilly*, evening

• **PIED PIPER CATHOUSE**

LOUNGE New Year's Party with *Handmade Moments*

• **ROCKIN' PIG SALOON** New Year's Eve Bash with live music by *Bryant*, 9–Midnight

• **ROWDY BEAVER** New Year's Eve Party with *Rockhouse*, 9 p.m.

• **ROWDY BEAVER DEN** New Year's Eve Party with *Jesse Dean*, 8 p.m.

• **SQUID & WHALE PUB** *Slam*

Boxx New Year's Eve Party

• **VOULEZ VOUS** New Year's Eve Bash with *Jerod Goodman & The Stringbreakers*, 6:30–9:30 p.m. and *Big Bad Gina*, 10 p.m.–1 a.m.

TUESDAY – JANUARY 1

• **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** Game Night

• **CHELSEA'S** Open Mic

• **LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON** Pool Tournament, 6:30 p.m.

• **SQUID & WHALE PUB** Brunch & Bloody Marys, 11 a.m.

WEDNESDAY – JANUARY 2

• **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** Sing and Dance with *Tiny*

• **CHELSEA'S** Drink & Draw w/ Bob Norman, 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 – JANUARY 3

• **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** Taco & Tequila Night

• **CHELSEA'S** Jazz Night

• **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

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ROWDY BEAVER DEN DOWNTOWN
RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH THE BAND
JESSE DEAN @ 8 P.M.
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PLANNING continued from page 6

the more I see we need more,” Blankenship told commissioners about outdoor sales. Rundel also noticed a problem with the law. He pointed out the definition in the ordinance included the phrase “not more than three consecutive days,” which in his estimation means that a sale continuing for five or eight days is not even governed by the ordinance. First, he suggested, define an outdoor sale and then place limitations on it.

Another complication was the situation of a movable drive-by kettlecorn and lemonade stand that does fit into any category but is popular with tourists.

Morris said he does not want Eureka Springs to be a city of street vendors again, but he cautioned the commission to be careful how it proceeds. He does not want to be too restrictive.

Blankenship told Planning they were on the right path but they must continue to try to be fair and thorough.

- Planning approved a tree cut of a large historic tree towering over the Penn Baptist Church after hearing the advice of arborist Chris Fischer and Building Inspector Bobby Ray.

Fischer said he was against the cut at first, but after closer inspection he found the tree to be a hazard. “It was quite a heartbreak for me to accept this tree is a candidate for removal.”

He encouraged the city to prevent situations like this by implementing an urban forestry assessment and management program so that trees like this one could be saved in the future by intelligent pruning, thereby “conserving and preserving our wonderful streetscapes.”

Sept. 11

- Blankenship presented a request from council that Planning do the research to find out what city properties are being encroached upon. According to her research, she found out the request might take four or five years and cost \$100,000. “Anybody know a reasonable way?” she asked. She added she doesn’t know how much of a problem this is.

Commissioner Mickey Schneider asked what specifically council was looking for, and Morris asked, “First of all, what’s the problem?” He questioned whether the city was being adversely affected. “It’s a motion without legs – they gave us no funds, no process or timeline,” he observed, and wondered why someone on council would send this project to Planning to all the research. “You do your job and we’ll help if we can,” he said.

Rundel remarked, “If we don’t have the money or know what they want then I move

we send it back to council for clarification.” Which is what they did.

- The season for discussing outdoor sales was not over yet. Commissioners studied the old ordinances as well as what they were proposing so far. They stood by their proposals for a three-day limit to a sale as well as the limits for duration and number of sales per location per year.

Blankenship said it was almost time to send their work to council.

- It was time for Planning to submit a budget request to council, so Blankenship proposed these requests:

- \$7500 to complete the zoning map
- \$50,000 for the Master Plan
- \$25,000-50,000 for a City Planner
- \$6000 for a part-time arborist.

Sept. 25

- Rundel advocated reviving attention to the city Master Plan. “Plan your work and work your plan,” he said. The existing plan is called Vision Plan, and Blankenship said it was a lengthy document with history and other extraneous commentary, but the last ten pages or so constitute the plan. She urged commissioners to take the document home and return to the next meeting prepared to begin work on it.

- Planning finally settled on changes to the law regarding outdoor sales and voted unanimously to send it on to council.

- Commissioners approved the application for the beginning of Phase Two construction at the Eureka Springs Tree House property at 3018 E. Van Buren.

- Blankenship said council had requested a written report from Planning regarding its request for a study of encroachments on city properties, so she sent them the minutes of the September 11 Planning meeting.

Oct. 9

- Parks Director Bruce Levine presented the Lake Leatherwood Master Plan to Planning. “The plan focuses heavily on education,” Levine said, “and the number one goal is to further an appreciation of nature.” He explained the tax initiative on the upcoming ballot would fund exclusively implementation of the Master Plan.

“I move we give our blessing,” commissioner Melissa Greene said, and the unanimous vote to approve her motion was followed by applause.

- Blankenship presented a summary list of items from the Vision Plan, which she said had been created 18 years ago. Rundel suggested they tackle a development opportunities plan, a parking and open space plan, and a multi-year action plan with timetables for achieving their goals.

In their agenda setting, commissioners agreed the Master Plan would be a recurring theme with one item at a time getting its due attention.

Oct. 23

- Rundel moved to recommend that council draft an ordinance for placing all utility lines underground for new construction. Morris observed the city does not have the money to target all utility lines but the process of getting utility lines underground has to start somewhere. Commissioners approved Rundel’s motion.

Nov. 13

- As the Queen Anne Mansion moved toward becoming a fractional ownership property, Planning was faced with how to fold this new kind of category into City Code.

Blankenship said, “They must pay into the infrastructure while they use the infrastructure,” however City Code does not yet have a mechanism for collecting the same taxes as other part-time dwellings.

More complications than solutions surfaced, and as the crosstalk was bandied about, Blankenship commented, “So you can see we have a lot of work to do on this.”

She presented the timeshare ordinances from three other cities to help them identify what is lacking in City Code and they agreed to do further research and continue the discussion at the next meeting.

Dec. 11

- Chuck Easterling and Mark Beasley of SWEPCO attended the meeting to answer questions about underground utility lines. Easterling pointed out underground lines would not be vulnerable to an ice storm, for example, yet service distribution to the point service goes underground would still be at risk which would put the entire line, above ground and below, going forward at risk. Also the customer must pay for trenching, conduit and lines between the SWEPCO service and the house whereas SWEPCO covers the expense of overhead lines up to a house or building.

Beasley explained costs for trenching would vary depending on terrain, and around Eureka Springs trenching might be difficult.

Schneider thought the initial expense would be worth it in the long run.

Regardless of complicating factors involved, Rundel thought an ordinance requiring new construction to put utility lines underground was “doable, reasonable,” and a step they need to take.

The commission voted to approve a motion for creating an ordinance requiring new construction to place utility lines underground with exceptions for terrain difficulties.

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.

Around the bend in the trail, two teen-aged girls ran toward him, both carrying buckets.

“There’s a bear after us!” they told him.

“You might a-saw a bear, but I doubt that he was after you. Not in broad daylight an’ at this time of year,” he comforted them, “but you go on wherever you had started an’ I’ll tend to the bear.”

“We had gone out to the spring to get some water,” one of them explained. “The bear came right out of the cave where the spring is. Ma needs the water for the cookin’ and dish washin’. Our mother and us have got a camp set up around the hill. We cook meals for men that are workin’ on some houses down there.”

“You come on back an’ I’ll help you get the water. You can take it to your Ma an’ I’ll try to locate th’ bear an’ take care of him,” the old hunter tried to console the frightened girls.

“But there’s more than one,” one of

the girls told him and asked, “Ain’t you afraid of bears?”

“Yeah, I’m afraid of bears. I reckon that anybody with good horse sense is afraid of bears, but if a body knows how to handle ‘em they ain’t so bad. I’ve got Ol’ Bull and Ol’ Thunder here. Them two dogs can handle any bear they ever saw. Of course, I’ve got a gun, too, an’ I’ll use it if I have to help ‘em out a little.”

They had reached the spring. Gaskins took the two buckets and went into the opening of the cave. He walked toward the back where the spring was located. He dipped both buckets into the water and returned to where the girls waited.

“Thank you, sir,” one of the girls said. “Will you tell us your name and who you are so we can tell our mother who was so kind to us?”

“My name is Johnny Gaskins and I’m a bear hunter. I reckon that’s all I am. I’ve got a couple of girls that’s about your age and I wouldn’t want a bear scarin’ th’ daylight out of them.” Then he asked,

“Why don’t I help you take this water to your Ma and get acquainted with her? I like to meet as many of the new people as I can. Maybe I can help them some way.”

“Oh, thank you, Mr. Gaskins. You have all ready helped us. Ma will be glad to meet you. Maybe there will be some food left and a cup of coffee.”

“Sounds good to me,” he accepted. After their arrival at the crude camp he met and talked with Mrs. Hickman, the woman who was running the improvised restaurant. He sat at one end of the long table and talked with her while the girls washed the dishes. She confided in him her reason for being there.

“My husband died two years ago. We lived up near Aurora. It was pretty hard to make a livin’ fer me an’ the girls on the little rented farm. One of our neighbors has got rheumatism and can’t hardly walk. They heard about this healin’ spring and wanted to come and try it for him. When they decided it was helpin’ they went back home to get the rest of the family and their things. They told me about how much work there was down here and that there wasn’t hardly any place for the workin’ men to eat. I’ve always been called a good cook. They wanted me to come down here and try to fix up some kind of a place where I could cook meals fer ‘em. They was sure I could make some money to take care of

the girls and me.”

“An’ how is it workin’ out fer you?” he asked.

“It would be fine, Mr. Gaskins if it wasn’t fer the pesky bears. I guess they live in th’ back of that cave. They scare the life out of my girls every time they go after water. If they don’t see one they are afraid they will. Then they run and spill the water before they get home with it. I jest don’t know what I’m goin’ to do, Mr. Gaskins. But... if it wasn’t fer the bears I’d have a pretty good thing goin’ here.”

“Well now you just put your mind at ease. It looks like me an’ my dogs has got a job all cut out fer us. It jest won’t be any time a-tall before there won’t be a bear left around here. We’ll kill the most of ‘em and we’ll raise such a ruckus that we’ll scare the rest of ‘em clean out of the country. Some of ‘em are goin’ to wind up on our dinner table.” They all laughed at his little joke.

“Mr. Gaskins, I think the Lord must have sent you to us today. You don’t know how much better I feel, just talkin’ to you. I was about ready to pack up and go back to Aurora, but now I’ve got some hope that we can stay here.”

Gaskins reassured her again, picked up his big black hat, whistled to his dogs and started back around the mountain.

It was a week before he showed up again at the Hickman camp.

CRIME continued from page 1

statement conflicted with Osborne’s and included the fact that a female subject known to him as Tabatha Jorns had taken the money from Osborne’s car and approached Alburdis asking for a ride, and that she and another woman were with him the entire time of the chase. The women confirmed this with Handley by phone, according to his report.

Handley reported he also talked with Sibley who said she had radioed for help after being flagged down by Osborne, who said Alburdis had fled into the woods, and six CCSO deputies responded and began searching for Alburdis.

In an interview, this time with ESPD Det. Thomas Achord, Alburdis reportedly said Jorns had him pull into the pharmacy and buy her some needles and when he came out, Osborne was there and she hopped into Osborne’s car and they chased Alburdis. The report mentions a second car with two other people in it following the chase. Alburdis reportedly said Jorns later came to his house and gave him some money, and that the two had cooked up the entire plot to rip off

money from Osborne in a faked drug sale.

Interviews with Osborne on Dec. 20 were just as confusing, and led to Osborne’s arrest for filing a false report when he decided to drop charges after Alburdis had been arrested.

Reports from both ESPD and CCSO contain conflicting stories from both Osborne and Alburdis, but after review of surveillance cameras on the scene of the original alleged confrontation and audiotape from Dec. 18, charges against Alburdis were amended to Terroristic Threatening and Theft of Property. He was given a citation and released on his own recognizance from Carroll County Detention on Dec. 21. He is to appear before a judge on those charges.

Alburdis told the *Independent* “there was never a knife” and said all charges had been dropped, conflicting with release records on file at Carroll County. “All I did was give someone a ride and it got me in a world of trouble,” he said.

The whereabouts of Jorns are unknown at this time and the case is still under investigation.

Veterans on parade

— Joel Wren, center, from Aurora, Mo., pipes a skirling military march in the Veteran’s Day Parade on Nov. 10. It was the city’s fourth annual Veteran’s Day Parade, beginning at the library and descending down Spring Street through the middle of town.



PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

Capricorn Solar Festival, Last Full Moon of 2012

Friday, sometime after midnight, is the last full moon of 2012. It's the Capricorn solar festival. This full moon of Initiation concludes both the Festival week of the New Group of World Servers (NGWS) and the long awaited year of 2012. A full moon occurring during or at the close of the Festival Week (Group Impact) provides the NGWS with a greater potency of Light (revelations), opportunities to aid and assist humanity for the next seven years. In turn, the cosmic events of this last week will

accelerate the intelligence, love and evolution of humanity. Light (from stars, suns, planets, Earth, etc.) contains information which translates into intelligence and love within humanity.

During this full moon our Earth will absorb the great cosmic light, overshadowing the sign of Capricorn, released throughout the past week. This light/information will be anchored into the hearts and minds of humanity. It contains the seeds and vision of the future, a new creation built of constructiveness,

love, intelligence, harmony, inclusiveness and synthesis. Every one of us can share this vision, a working out of the Plan forming the foundation for Right Human Relations and World Unity.

Let each of us enter 2013 with this imagined vision. Let none of us be swayed from our focused dedication to create a new world. *Let us think in terms of the one family, one life and one humanity.* There's hard work ahead in 2013. Let us stand strong together. Happy New Year, everyone.

ARIES: Your ability to communicate with more and more people becomes possible as you see the importance of expressing your ideas so others can understand and help you. This is the year for stabilization. If traveling, make sure the vehicle is safe. Don't assume more than you're able. Make time for friends, join a group, and focus on using resources to bring forth the new culture and civilization.

TAURUS: This coming year will test the bonds you have in relationships (all types). There are needed lessons to be learned. Most important is your communication. It's easier to be solitary, study, read, tend to chores, garden, visualize the future. These can be obstacles to communication. All of a sudden everyone's gone. You must learn to listen. Not walk away. This will be a hard lesson. You will be challenged. You will learn.

GEMINI: You have visions to pursue, abilities to try out, freedom to get used to. Along with restlessness and a new sense of confidence you may gain weight (Jupiter in Gemini). This is natural. Jupiter expands all levels. Knowing this allows you to understand all events within an inner causal (esoteric) framework. Although freedom calls, you must maintain previous responsibilities. Allow nothing to hide your humor. It saves everyone.

CANCER: So many things from

the past are reviewed. We grow in relationships to how much the past is loosened from the present. Our past always serves us well. Then it's no longer useful. You will experience a caring protective time. Some of your life will be lived behind the scenes. Tend daily to each responsibility that appears. Ask yourself what you have faith in. And what supports you. Keep these close. Allow no glammers.

LEO: Whatever you say to others will plant seeds of thought within their minds, providing ideas that become ideals within them. Your vision and optimism are needed for those around you who will adopt them as hope and a sense of promise. Everyone interacting with your life also needs inspiration. That is a fiery word. It's a Sagittarian word. One that allows people to see a future filled with new direction. These are your tasks in the New Year.

VIRGO: All your hidden talents, skills and gifts you tend to so carefully come forth in the New Year. They are recognized as you stand in a clear light. Everything in our lives is astrologically planned. Choose your thoughts, ideas, plans and agendas very carefully. Be aware that any gossip, judgments and criticism will be magnified and turn on you. Make everything good. God is good.

LIBRA: Seeking new understandings in the New Year you will perhaps study, travel, learn a new language,

prepare new foods, discover cultures you're unfamiliar with, write a book (or blog), find a publisher or agent. All of these will be adventurous. Your optimism senses a larger picture of reality concerning life, family and relationships. Forgiveness is a major factor. Careful with money, schemes and any type of gambling. You won't win.

SCORPIO: Notice your conversations. They will deepen. An inner transformation comes about; you feel a sense of power with others and a sense of empowerment. Remain in present time realizing thoughts create the future, now or later. You assess your many resources and inheritance, physically and spiritually. You work with others, combining resources. You see that you are rich with possibilities.

SAGITTARIUS: You will assess how you relate to others, personally and impersonally. Your ability to negotiate and compromise expands. You will sense a greater joy. New partnerships are offered. Previous partnership wounds dissolve. This makes you happier, with a sense of true personal success. Blessings come your way. You consider being a coordinator, consultant, planner, coach. Or you see someone in this capacity. Be warm with everyone. Be true.

CAPRICORN: In the New Year, you find new friends and a group that

fulfills your search for happiness. People, hearing your ideas and plans, respect and are inspired by you. Your teaching abilities emerge. You'll be in neighborhoods, downtown, out and about, all around. As you expand into the community, home life will need tending in different ways. Do not overextend yourself. Eliminate sugar, then gluten. You will connect mind and body with health and holism. The Yoga of daily life.

AQUARIUS: Your mind will be filled with ideas, thoughts, hopes and wishes that are part of a long held dream. A friendship becomes something more (or less). You'll be more playful, less serious, taking more risks. Is there something somewhere that needs cleaning out? Eliminate items you're not using. This will free up non-moving energy. Things may feel dramatic, up and down, emotional. Use your feelings to radiate loving kindness.

PISCES: You will want to change your domestic situation, expand it, create an addition, move, decorate, re-design. This is your external reality. Internally you seek deeper confidence and personal security. The last years have been difficult with family and home. Emphasize art and having fun in the New Year. To offset long held grief and sadness. In the New Year you will be realistic and practical, setting your life in complete order.

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Tigress doing just ducky after rescue – Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge president and founder, Tanya Smith, spends time with Ducky, a blind 16-year old tigress adjusting to her new home at the refuge.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY



New semester, new school – Eureka Springs School District Superintendent Curtis Turner Jr., prepares to lead a group of reporters and photographers on a tour of the new 88,000 square-foot Eureka Springs High School on Nov. 13. Students are scheduled to move into the new school Jan. 3.

PHOTO BY
DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

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new materials available for flat roofs, and she should do some research and reapply. Her application was denied.

- Following Romano was Mike Fitzpatrick, applying to replace and relocate a damaged door at 21 Linwood. Fitzpatrick said the door did not keep wildlife out or in, and he wanted to make the portal usable again. He had chosen as its replacement an old-style French door to match the front door.

Grinnell asked him if the door was visible from the street. Fitzpatrick replied it was from some sightlines, but obscured by trees.

Grinnell again pointed out that since the house was more than 50 years, guidelines apply and they state not to relocate doors visible from the street.

Fitzpatrick questioned how visible the door was, and Moon suggested they make a site visit.

It was Nov. 20 before Fitzpatrick made it back on the agenda. Even though he wanted to install the door on a secondary façade, against the guidelines, and it would still be visible from the street, against the guidelines, Chair Dee Bright pointed out it would not be visible straight on. Hebert mentioned it would be visible only when coming from the dead end part of the street. Both Bright and commissioner Susie Allen said they saw no problem with where the door

would be, and it matched the front door exactly.

Even though the application challenged the guidelines, commissioners voted unanimously to approve the project.

- On Sept. 5, Rachel and Ryan Brix presented their plan for fencing for a dog park in Harmon Park. Rachel passed around samples of the fencing she and Ryan are considering. She began by acknowledging, “I realize this is not historic material,” referring to a black plastic-coated wire grid. However, she showed a photograph of the fencing at 15 ft. and it had disappeared from view.

Breitling said the wire she was presenting looks similar to other wire fencing, so he considered it was within the guidelines, and Rachel exclaimed, “Great!”

Other commissioners had no issues, so other dog park plans will be presented on a later agenda as they are developed.

- Hugh Logsdon’s house had a rotting wooden front door. He wanted to install a new steel door already hung in a new frame, and presented his application for 155 N. Main at the Sept. 19 meeting. Logsdon’s structure was built in the ‘50s and was once a garage. However, because of its age, it is considered a contributing structure, so historic district guidelines apply.

Grinnell said the guidelines say to

try to stay with the original materials. Hebert pointed out they actually don’t know what was original.

Breitling asked Logsdon if he would be amenable to using a sturdy wooden door instead of the metal one. Hebert asked about the other door of the house, and Logsdon said the side door was a steel door.

Breitling went back to guidelines that say the door needs to be compatible with the style of the building, and said he would like to see Logsdon install a wooden door.

Seeing where the decision was headed, Logsdon said, “Then a wooden door it is.”

- Faryl Kaye had converted a garage space at 3 Armstrong into a workshop and then into a sanctuary for a needy cat. Her problem was the only access to the space was through a garage door. Adding a window for sunlight and ventilation and a door for access seemed like a good solution.

She described her house as a hodgepodge of different kinds of windows and doors, so adhering to guidelines was going to be a challenge.

Bright pointed out that the front of Kaye’s house actually faces away from the street, so the area Kaye wanted to alter was on the side of the house.

Nevertheless it was visible from the street, and that is what Grinnell felt obligated to point out. Guidelines are

clear about improvements visible from the street regardless of the hodgepodge aspect of the rest of the house.

Kaye said she had visions of how to unify the eclectic nature of the architecture, but for the moment, she needed ventilation and access for her downstairs sanctuary.

Breitling studied the photos of her project and suggested two smaller windows might satisfy her needs and the guidelines.

Kaye was willing to compromise, and the vote on approving her amended application was unanimous.

- Rachel Brix appeared again to see if a sturdier type of fencing might be approved. The fencing she asked about this time was black vinyl-coated chain link fencing. She acknowledged that traditional chain link fencing is not allowed under the guidelines, but she showed photos of the product and said it looks very similar to the fencing already approved.

Hebert said he had used the same fencing for his yard in another town and it seemed to fade from sight as one walked away.

Grinnell acknowledged the park was not strictly in a residential area, although houses were just up the street, and the choice of fencing would not be encroaching on neighbors. He suggested screening the fence with a hedge or ivy, and commissioners approved the application unanimously.

QUORUM COURT continued from page 3

benefit in delaying. The court agreed.

August

The court approved an ordinance banning tobacco use within 25 ft. of the entrance of all county buildings, plants or related facilities, including county vehicles.

- Flake reported that Insight had conducted a preliminary audit of the telephone bills of county departments, and based on early inquiries, Insight figured they could save the county \$30,000 the first year by restructuring the phone billing system. JP Joe Mills said if the county could save money this way, then why not?

County Tax Collector Kay Phillips asked if the phone company would not also provide an audit of the system. Flake answered that so far they had not volunteered to save the county any money.

In the end, the JPs agreed they should continue with the phone study.

September

Hankins from Insight spoke again to the court about phone bills. He said the county might have overspent as much as \$7000 since he first spoke to them by not allowing his company to find redundancies and inflated rates.

Opinions varied in response to his overtures. Grudek said he could do his own phone study, and Mills said he knew someone who did just that and cut his bill in half. Hankins still insisted he could do better.

Flake said, "I can't believe we haven't already started this." He said he understood Grudek's point, but the county should not delay with letting Insight do its work. "It's money in our pockets every month," he said.

Comments on both sides of the issue continued, and eventually Flake said the court should consider phone bills when they prepare the next budget. He suggested Hankins could deal with each department separately.

- Richie said he was disappointed that Judge Barr had not signed the salary study contract yet. The court had voted 8-2 to approve this action at its July meeting.

Flake agreed. He said the court had passed an ordinance authorizing

Barr to sign the contract. Flake said he could not agree to give raises until he sees the study. He told Barr, "I wish you would respect our wishes."

Judge Barr responded, "I don't recall asking for the salary study, and I think it is a bad idea." He recalled an incident in Boone County where the City of Harrison hired a company to do a salary study that recommended raises for staff. Raises were not given and city employees sued the city and won.

"I am trying to protect the county. I took an oath to do my best and I don't want us to be sued," Barr said.

October

Richie said he felt blindsided by Barr's reluctance to begin the salary study the court had approved. He said the Harrison case did not parallel their situation. Flake agreed. He pointed out the county's budget is about \$10,000,000, and payroll is 60 percent of that amount. He said he expects revenues to go down, but they cannot reduce salaries. In addition, retirement payments to the state system and health insurance will increase which means they will have less money to cover salaries.

He commented he is not sure the different departments are on an even playing field. It has been too long since the county knew if persons doing similar jobs but in different departments or offices are being paid equitably. "We have no idea if our pay scale is fair," Flake claimed.

JP Larry Swofford said he has had more citizen input on this topic than almost any other issue, and almost all were against it. Deaton also said he had had been "hammered" about it.

Richie squarely disagreed, and stated, "I will not vote for a budget without a study!"

JP Dan Mumaugh pointed out the study, even if it were begun immediately, would not be ready for the 2013 budget.

- Mumaugh also told the court the 2013 budget will reflect a decrease in revenue but he does not know yet how much. There will also be an increase in expenses, so the budget committee asked all departments to plan for ninety percent of the 2012 budget in their 2012 budget

requests. Some did and some are still working with the committee.

November

Mumaugh presented the proposed 2013 budget at the Nov. 16 meeting. Flake said he was disappointed the budget committee had reduced the library board requests since their funding is completely separate and library boards ought to be able to create their own budgets. Richie pointed out an Attorney General's opinion that altering the request of the library board might even be unconstitutional.

After more discussion, Mumaugh said he would prepare a new budget based on suggestions and present it at the next meeting.

Flake pointed out only a few departments had attempted to reduce the telephone line item on their budgets even though the court has seen savings are achievable. He suggested forcing some savings by insisting on lesser amounts in the budget for phones.

"I will not vote for a budget that does not include a reduction in phone bills," Flake stated.

Other concerns surfaced, but Mumaugh said the court should not hold up passing the budget. He said they could solve the problems given enough time.

Flake did not want to kick the can down the road and Mumaugh reiterated the need to pass a budget. He said he would incorporate all suggestions into the budget and bring it to the December meeting.

The court agreed to hold its next meeting on Dec. 14 so they would have time for another budget discussion if necessary before the end of the year. At that point, they voted to table further discussion of the 2013 budget.

Grudek again told the court he thought the salary study would be beneficial. He said he thinks his deputies are paid too little based on his own informal research and sorting out the salary situation will only get more difficult the longer the court waits.

Joanne Whisenhunt of Insight reported she had been working with some county departments to reduce their phone bills. She said she was able to get the county clerk's phone bill from \$8500

annually down to \$4600. She said another department tried to do it on their own and she was able to find even further savings.

December

Because of how the calendar unfolded in 2012, there will be 27 pay periods for county employees, an event that happens every eight years or so. The budget planning for 2012 did not account for this anomaly. The court approved an ordinance appropriating funds to cover the additional payroll for hourly county employees but not for salaried employees. Flake pointed out the additional check for salaried employees could be construed as a raise which the county would be obligated to carry forward until the 2014 election.

The court approved the budget ordinance without much discussion.

Richie introduced a proposed ordinance to set the number and compensation of all county employees. The last such ordinance had been passed in 2008, and since then employees had been hired for positions not even on the chart and some for salaries above the maximums listed. He said it had been a daunting task to prepare this document, but passing it would mean they were in compliance with state law.

Mumaugh commented, "It's always a good thing to be in compliance with state law."

Nevertheless, the JPs were not sure what to do with the document since it conflicted in some parts with the budget they had just passed.

Deputy Prosecutor Devon Closser commented this was just the first reading of the ordinance, so the court could send the proposed salary chart to all department heads and get input before the next reading. She also pointed out the ranges in the ordinance need to reflect the budget.

Flake was frustrated they had just passed a budget which included salaries "outside our own ranges."

After further observations around the table, JP Don McNeely said this discussion points to the need for a salary study like the one they wanted from the Johanson Group.

The vote to approve the first reading of the ordinance was 8-1, Swofford voting No.

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SCHOOL BOARD continued from page 7

her research into options for a phone service provider the new high school and the elementary school, the district office and transportation department. She also presented her findings on security systems for the schools. The board voted unanimously to approve her recommendations.

At the November meeting Turner announced the construction phase of the high school project was almost completed. Punch list items were getting attention, always a sign major construction is complete. Lockers and desks were in transit to be installed and auditorium seating was being put in place. Turner proudly announced, “It won’t be perfect on January 2, but it’s going to knock your socks off.”

Turner had appeared at the recent city council meeting asking the city to pay the approximately \$30,000 needed for widening and resurfacing Lake Lucerne Road. The road is only 19 ft. wide, which is not wide enough to allow school buses to go in opposite directions at the same time. Council agreed to instruct the Public Works director to work with Turner on preparing the spec document to accomplish the work, and council subsequently held a special meeting to approve an ordinance paying for the improvements.

Charles Templeton resigned from the board, and the board chose Al Larson to replace Templeton as president. They then chose Chris McClung as the new board member.

The district learned in late November that the Arkansas Supreme Court announced it had agreed with the Eureka Springs and Fountain Lake School

Districts that the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) had incorrectly withheld property tax collections that exceeded state-mandated school funding levels rather than returning the funds to the district where they were collected.

“I haven’t come down off the ceiling!” Superintendent Curtis Turner said. “I found out at 9:48 this morning. This is a landmark case for Arkansas, not just for the districts. It is a major win.” The district had withheld more than one million dollars in reserve pending the court’s decision. Even though the court decided in its favor, the district must wait a bit longer to see if there will be an appeal, Turner stated, “I can sleep better now.”

Lavender reported Keegan Wilbur has been selected out of more than 100 applicants as one of nine finalists in the state for the Youth Senate Program. Winners will spend a week in Washington D.C. attending sessions of Congress and meeting with government officials and get a \$5000 scholarship.

David Parkman, coach of the cross-country team, appeared with four of the six team members to show off the trophy they won as 2012 Class 2A runners up. Team members are Jake McClung (junior), Nathan Andress (sophomore), Alex Cisneros (junior), Matthew McClung (freshman), and Robert Lefever (freshman).

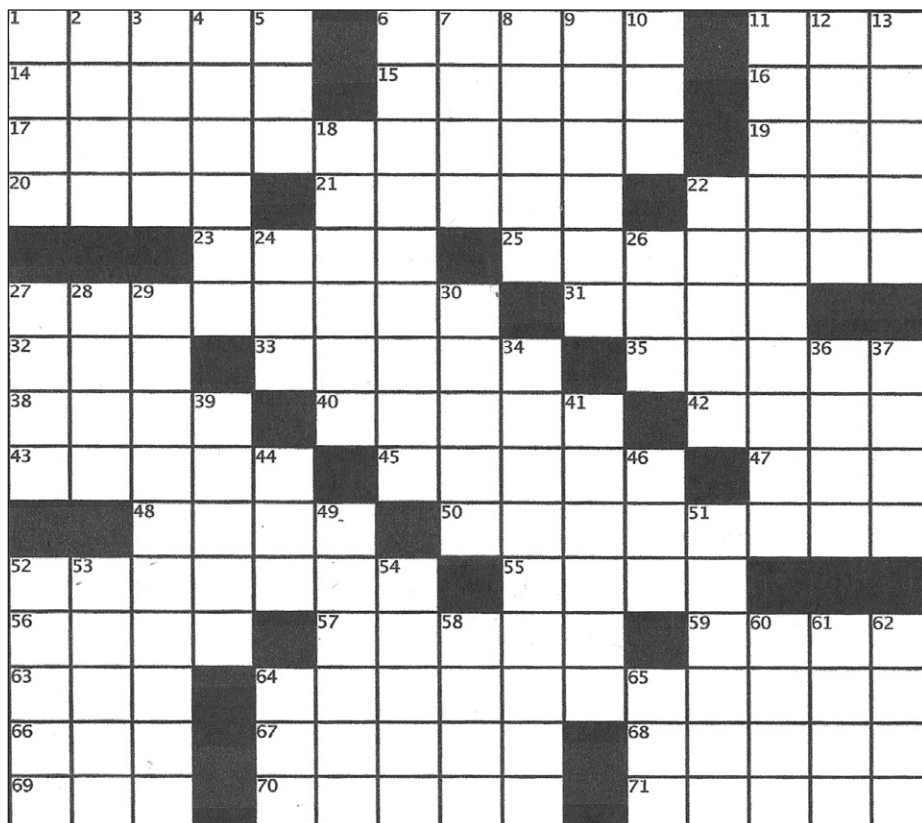
During early December, the move indeed began. Some students took exams early so they could help the teachers pack up and move items across town to the new facility.



INDEPENDENT Crossword

by Chuck Levering

Solution on page 35



ACROSS

1. Ebon
6. Erect
11. Ewe’s honey
14. Villain
15. Wading bird
16. The self
17. Fear of public places
19. Little bit
20. Robe
21. The start
22. Capital of Peru
23. Large mackerel
25. Many
27. Scottish broadsword
31. Arabian fruit
32. Debt marker
33. Twilled silk
35. Makes insensitive
38. Old salts
40. Snakebite remedy
42. Persian fairy
43. Corrects prose
45. Pardon, cancel
47. Nothing
48. Addicts crave it
50. Left alone
52. What Eureka thrives on

55. Adorable
56. The enemy of my enemy
57. Sections
59. Used in many lotions
63. Mountain on Crete
64. Study of human history
66. Obtain
67. Lorelei
68. Bachelor’s last walk
69. Exist
70. Brown ermine
71. Standard fees

DOWN

1. Sitter’s nemesis
2. Trademark
3. Eagerly anticipating
4. The office of a parish priest
5. New Zealand parrot
6. Parasite or beggar
7. Greek god of Love
8. Emaciation
9. What the states are
10. Pod vegetable
11. What IRAs are for

12. Old world lizard
13. Cellulose textile; verb mood
18. Full of holes
22. Ease
24. 13th letters
26. Large closed truck
27. Quote
28. Burden
29. Having ears
30. Like some seals
34. Moistening agent
36. Soft cheese
37. Young herring
39. Tale or yarn
44. Snow or water conveyance
46. Vietnamese New Year
49. Group pride
51. 3D object in the library
52. Russian forest
53. Longer in the tooth
54. Enlarged
58. Cousin of an ostrich
60. Came in second
61. Eye rudely
62. Poetic orbs

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NOTICE OF FILING

NOTICE OF FILING APPLICATION FOR RETAIL BEER PERMIT ON PREMISES

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has filed an application with the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division of the State of Arkansas for a permit to sell and dispense beer at retail on the premises described as:

4022 Mundell Road,

Eureka Springs, Carroll County

Said application was filed on November 21, 2012. The undersigned state that he/she is a resident of Arkansas, of good moral character; that he/she has never been convicted of a felony or other crime involving moral turpitude; that no license to sell alcoholic beverages has been revoked within five (5) years past; and, that the undersigned has never been convicted of violating the laws of this State, or any other State, relative to the sale of controlled beverages.

Name of Applicant: **Deanna Womack**

Name of Business: **Starkey Harbor**

Sworn to before me this 13th day of December, 2012

Wilsie Sherman, Notary Public

My Commission Expires July 1, 2020

12377407 Dec. 20, 27, 2012

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MAIL continued from page 10

Jim Fain equating protest with war. Mr. Fain you shame all those people who have won liberties through protest – Rosa Parks, the civil people of color, women, gays, apartheid in Africa, independence for India, workers’ rights to name a few.

Fain says we should just live in peace rather than protest, well it’s hard to live in peace when you’re hanging by your neck or burning on a cross because of the color of your skin or being a witch or being beaten to

death because you’re gay, the right to vote because you’re the wrong gender or fair wages and working conditions because of some greedy corporation.

Yes, it is a good thing to imagine and dream of peace. And it is that image and dream that has led loving brave people to make a better world for all of us, as Martin Luther King said “I have a dream” and he took action and protested and helped make us a more compassionate society. Mr. Fain what it comes down to is you are making a protest against protest.

Allan Margolies



Passion Play goes dark after 44 years.



Adieu Dan Ellis –
About one hundred musicians, wailers and dignitaries braved chilly weather to march in the city's first Jazz Funeral for the

undead Dan Ellis Friday, Dec. 21. The procession began in front of the Pied Piper Pub and slow-marched to the New Delhi Café for a Viking funeral and a "resurrection," then back to the Rowdy Beaver to celebrate.

CBWD continued from page 5

and endangering nearby Carroll-Boone water lines. Large rocks and riprap were positioned to direct the flow of water, and willows and sycamores were planted to anchor the creek bed.

At its October meeting, plant manager John Summers told the board how he has been saving money for the district by monitoring electricity usage on a computer and going offline during peak usage times. He uses diesel generators for power during the offline

periods. He reported they have saved as much as \$12,000 a month over the past year by employing this strategy.

The board passed its 2013 budget which included no increases in payroll.

The board also voted to give \$5000 to the Beaver Watershed Alliance. The group educates residents about issues important to protecting the lake, such as the effects of using lawn fertilizers near the lake. It also advises residents on how to stabilize deteriorating shoreline areas.



Memories are made of this – School board member Gayla Wolfenbarger, left, laughs with English teacher Kathy Remenar during an alumni tour of the old high school Friday, Dec. 21. Remenar has taught in the same classroom for 36 years. In that time she collected pictures that cover the walls of the classroom. Art teacher Jessica Cummings plans to make a collage of the photos with help from her students. When finished, in perhaps two years, the collage will be displayed in the new Eureka Springs High School.

PHOTOS BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

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SOLD! SOLD! SOLD! SOLD!

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