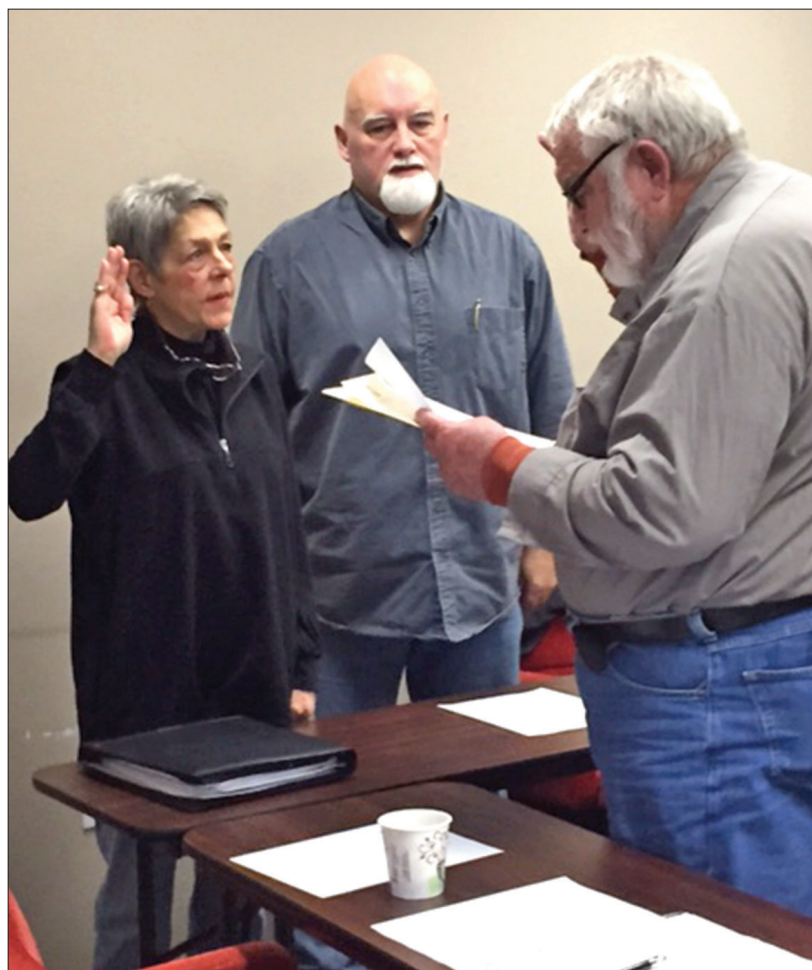




Airport Commission draws line in the sand



County Judge Sam Barr swore in new Airport Commission chair, former Eureka Springs Mayor Morris Pate (center), and new commissioner Sandy Martin, on New Year's Day. PHOTO BY NICKY BOYETTE

NICKY BOYETTE

Commissioner Morris Pate, two days removed from being mayor of Eureka Springs and now chair of the Carroll County Airport (CCA) commission, opened the first of two special meetings Friday afternoon. The second meeting adjourned after almost four hours of discussion during which commissioners decided "to draw a line in the sand," as stated by commissioner Perry Evans, regarding the budget allotted the airport by the Carroll County Quorum Court.

The first special meeting was for the single purpose of considering the nomination of Sandy Martin to sit on the commission, and the vote was quick and unanimous to seat her.

The second special meeting, described in the agenda as a "discussion of airport functions with an executive session on personnel issues," took longer. After the lengthy executive session, Pate announced they had taken no action and reopened conversation.

The dilemma drawing their attention was how to run the county airport with only \$48,000 for them in the county budget for the entire year. Pate said, "The issue is there will be an allotment monthly of \$4000, no more or less. Our expenses will exceed that certainly."

"We've got to stand our ground," stated commissioner Lester Ward. "The quorum court has no right to tell us how to run the airport." He advocated paying personnel and keeping the airport open as long as they can.

"If we can't pay the utility bills, then what

happens?" commissioner Lonnie Clark asked.

County Judge Sam Barr pointed out if CCA turns in an invoice and the money is not budgeted for it, he cannot sign the check. Pate acknowledged Barr's situation and the dilemma for everyone, saying, "We're stuck between a rock and a rock and a rock and a rock."

Evans said he urged them to run the airport as usual, continue turning in bills and invoices, and if at some point the county cannot pay to run the airport, the county will have to close the doors and face the consequences.

"But I think the FAA [Federal Aviation Administration] will help," Evans added. He asserted that federal grant money, which the airport has received, comes with assurances, and if the airport does not comply with the assurances the county would be on the hook. He said there is a county in Arkansas that had to repay a large grant because it did not maintain compliance with assurances attached to an airport grant.

"I support calling their hand," Evans stated.

Ward moved they continue business as usual until the money runs out, and then it is up to the quorum court. Vote to approve the motion was 5-1, Pate voting No.

Conversation regarding the budget dilemma continued even after the vote. Commissioner Lonnie Clark mentioned they are going to be liable for as much as \$30 - \$40,000 in matching funds for the runway rehabilitation project set to begin soon. Any other matching grant they plan to

AIRPORT continued on page 19



This Week's INDEPENDENT Thinkers

On April 2, 2013, a Tuesday, we started getting phone calls and emails from landowners who received letters from a power company notifying them their land would be used for a \$116.7 million transmission line. Large parcels of land would be clear cut and sprayed with chemicals, forevermore. Wildlife would be forced

to relocate. Giant poles would be erected - a land grab. The power company admitted this plan had been in the works since 2007, but landowners got 30 days' notice.

Locals got together and formed Save the Ozarks. The Arkansas Public Service Commission said, "Fine. But STO doesn't own the land, therefore can't speak for landowners. Stick to 'environmentalism.' Stop intervening."

Finding extra time, spilling plenty of coffee, enduring unfamiliar travel, scrapping for money, braving public speaking, and other annoyances became commonplace.

And guess what happened? See last week's paper.

Inside the ESI

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A line is a dot that went for a walk. - Paul Klee

Fire damages historic home

Eureka Springs firefighters responded at 10:30 a.m. Monday to the three-story historic district home of Roderick and Lilia Beattie, 17 1/2 Elk St., that caused extensive internal damage. The fire possibly started in a basement room that housed a masonry stove. Lilia said she was giving their two young daughters a bath when she heard a crackling noise in the wall, wrapped the girls in towels and got out.

Eureka Springs firefighters responded with two engines and a ladder truck, and according to ESFD Public Information Officer Randy Ates, 23 firefighters, including three from Holiday Island and one from Grassy Knob, responded.

Ates said multiple hoses were stretched to the three level house, but the fire spread by chase ways and void spaces into the kitchen. It took an hour to get the fire under control, and firefighters stayed until after 3 p.m.

One firefighter sustained minor burns after falling through a burned out hole that had been covered by a mattress on the first floor.

Twenty-three local firefighters responded to a house fire in the historic district Monday morning.

PHOTO BY BECKY GILLETTE



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Fluoride could run afoul of state law because of lead

BECKY GILLETTE

The Carroll-Boone Water District has found a supplier in Belgium for sodium fluorosilicate, the fluoridation chemical that CBWD plans to add to the drinking water after back ordered fluoridation equipment arrives and is installed.

For years water operators at CBWD opposed fluoridation, including having employees testify on the issue at legislative hearings in Little Rock. After a mandate was passed in 2011 requiring all districts serving more than 5,000 customers to fluoridate, water operators sent out letters to 49 fluoride suppliers without a single one responding regarding disclosure of toxic contaminants in the product.

That information, required by American National Standards Institute (ANSI) for proper certification, would give complete disclosure of the raw product, along with a list of all contaminants by weight, and associated studies pertaining to those contaminants.

The information is considered critical in light of a study published in the *International Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health* in April 2014 saying fluoridation products studied contained arsenic or arsenic in addition to lead, barium and “a surprising amount of aluminum.” The study concluded that such contaminant content “creates a regulatory blind spot that jeopardizes any

safe use of fluoride additives.”

CBWD General Manager Barry Connell said Monday the district plans to purchase sodium fluorosilicate from a Belgian company, Prayon.

“They do have a full disclosure of what is in the product,” Connell said. “When we get the product, we will send it off to be analyzed by an independent laboratory and compare it to the company’s disclosure.”

Prayon’s on-line sodium fluorosilicate product specification data sheet states the product contains an average of 10 ppm of heavy metals and up to 50 ppm.

State law prohibits introduction of lead into drinking water. Connell said he is aware lead is not allowed by state law, and said the product disclosure he saw from Prayon did not contain lead, but added that lead levels could vary batch-by-batch.

“Lead is naturally occurring, also,” Connell said, referring to the fact the fluoride is naturally occurring.

Fluoridation chemicals are no longer manufactured in the U.S. Most fluoridation chemicals used come from China, and Connell said Prayon is the only company they could find whose products don’t originate in China. “Belgium is the country of origin,” Connell said.

Local opponents of fluoridated water have protested that the fluoridation chemicals are a byproduct of phosphate

fertilizer manufacturing, and fluoridation is promoted in order to have a cheap way to dispose of fluoride that otherwise would have to be treated by phosphate companies as a hazardous waste. Prayon Group advertises itself as “a world leader in producing phosphate chemicals.”

Most developed countries have stopped fluoridation. Recently, Israel’s health ministers discontinued fluoridation due to health concerns. Most of Europe does not fluoridate, nor does China, India or Japan. The practice is widespread in the U.S., which consumes more fluoridated water than the rest of the world combined.

At the first meeting of the new city council Jan. 12, a resolution proposed by alderman Joyce Zeller would consider potential lead contamination is on the agenda.

The resolution to the Arkansas State Board of Health states that the city believes unless the fluoridation chemicals are unequivocally guaranteed

to be pure and not contaminated with other elements, drinking this medicated water, bathing in it, and using it to wash clothing could be harmful.

“On three separate referendums we asked our citizens to approve fluoridation and the matter was defeated every time,” the proposed resolution states. “This fear still exists in the majority of our citizens, who have no choice, because of this mandate, but to use this water. They are worried about other trace elements, like lead, arsenic and aluminum, commonly found in these compounds.”

Residents of Eureka Springs and larger customers of CBWD, such as Berryville and Harrison, are facing fluoridation this year when construction of a new building for the fluoridation equipment is completed and equipment installed. The \$1.2-million project is being paid for by Delta Dental Foundation, which requires fluoridation for ten years or the grant must be repaid.

NWA Master Naturalist training enrollment open

The Northwest chapter of the Arkansas Master Naturalists is now accepting enrollees for the 2015 training programs. Classes run Saturdays from Feb. 21 – May 16. The first will be held at Northwest Arkansas Community College, 1 College Drive in Bentonville with remaining classes held at various NWA locations.

More than 90 hours of expert instruction (including field studies) will be offered with only 40 hours required for graduation to Arkansas Master Naturalist status. Training encompasses techniques for observation and identifications of plants, insects, birds, mammals, mushrooms, reptiles, amphibians, fish and

non-living ecosystem features. Arkansas Master Naturalists may choose to perform at least 40 hours of volunteer service and complete 8 hours of advanced training annually within the organization’s fiscal year to remain certified.

To enroll visit home.arkansasmasternaturalists.org and click “How Do I Join” to access the application form and tentative schedule of classes. Class size is limited, spaces reserved on a first come, first serve basis. A fee of \$135, which covers cost of books, materials, and tuition should accompany the completed application. For more information email nwamnContact@mn4Arkansas.org or call (479) 301-2760.

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Achord sworn in as police chief

BECKY GILLETTE

In one of his last official acts as mayor, Morris Pate swore in new Chief of Police Thomas Achord Dec. 31 in front of an audience including retiring Chief Earl Hyatt, newly-elected Mayor Butch Berry and others.

"This is a man I trust with my back," said Pate, a former police officer who served with Achord.

Achord, who grew up in Eureka Springs, said working as a Eureka Springs police officer for the past 15 years has provided "a fulfillment that words can't describe."

Achord said he intended to follow on the course of positive community engagement set by Hyatt.

"The path for the police department Earl has set for the past 19 years has resulted in a well-oiled machine," Achord said. "I look forward to using my close ties in the community to move the department forward in the best interests of the town

and the people. Earl has done such a good job having a community-oriented police department. I will continue with that and make improvements where we can working with the schools, uptown and downtown merchants, and others to meet the needs of the economy and public safety. I think one of my strong suits is working with people."

Achord managed the water and wastewater systems at the Holiday Island Suburban Improvement District prior to becoming a police officer.

After the swearing in ceremony, Achord got choked up when presenting an official card indentifying Hyatt as a retired police officer. Hyatt said he was delighted to be turning over the reins to Achord.

Present at the swearing in ceremony were other Eureka police officers and Achord's mother, Norma Achord, his wife, Becky, and stepdaughter, Emily Lovejoy.



Bro-mance – ESPD Chief Thomas Achord hands retired Chief Earl Hyatt over to his perpetual biking buddy, ex-Mayor Morris Pate. *PHOTO BY BECKY GILLETTE*

STO Community Celebration Jan. 11

The public is invited to a Save the Ozarks Community Celebration Sunday, Jan. 11, at 3 p.m. in the Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center. Doors open at 2:30 p.m. A program beginning at 3 p.m. will include remarks by the Save the Ozarks Board, questions from the audience and social time ending at 5 p.m.

With the withdrawal of the SWEPCO application, there are plenty of thanks to go around; both from STO for the community's support and from the communities along the proposed

transmission line to STO for their tireless work.

Guests are asked to bring room-temp-edible finger foods for the hors d'oeuvres table, as there will be no capacity to keep foods cold or warm. Save the Ozarks will have a celebratory cake to share along with tea, coffee and water provided by the Inn of the Ozarks. There will also be a cash bar.

STO tee shirts, all sizes, will be on sale for a minimum donation of \$5 each to Save The Ozarks. For more information, see www.SaveTheOzarks.org.

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STO v. SPP – ‘a bit of David and Goliath’

BECKY GILLETTE

From the early days 20 months ago when American Electric Power (AEP)/Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO) filed an application with the Arkansas Public Service Commission (APSC) for a high-voltage transmission line, opponents protested that commission rules are stacked in favor of large utility monopolies like SWEPCO.

Landowners who would have been traversed by the 345-kiloVolt Shippe Road to Kings River line were allowed 30 days to establish their right to have a voice in their fate of their land. They had to petition the APSC for the right to take part in the agency's decision-making process. In 30 days, they had to get up to speed on APSC rules and regulations and Arkansas laws governing the APSC and electric utilities. Landowners also had to find attorneys, a transmission line planning expert, and the money to pay them.

In January 2014, SWEPCO received approval for the line from an administrative law judge with the APSC. Six months later, the three-member commission determined that SWEPCO had failed to prove the project was needed, revoked the earlier approval, and ordered SWEPCO to reevaluate need for the project. On Dec. 30, 2014, SWEPCO withdrew its application for the project stating a need no longer existed.

Opponents have said the APSC is too industry-friendly and doesn't provide enough support to citizens who can

be adversely harmed by a project that takes property by eminent domain. But commission Executive Director John P. Bethel said Monday the outcome of the case shows the commission acted correctly.

"I think the record of the case will speak for itself," Bethel said. "In this case, the commission directed SWEPCO and the Southern Power Pool [regional transmission organization that directed SWEPCO to build the line] to conduct additional analyses. To the extent that circumstances warrant, when the commission has a need for additional info, it can, as it did in this case, direct parties to provide additional information and conduct additional analysis.

The commission carefully considered the evidence in this case and took its responsibilities seriously."

Save the Ozarks had contended from the outset that there was no need for the transmission line. STO Director Pat Costner said getting the APSC and business interests to agree that this was a bad business decision is excellent news.

"I am so glad for all the work done by concerned people in our community, STO members, the STO board and our legal team," Costner said. "This is a victory to savor – a bit of a David and Goliath moment we can all enjoy."

Doug Stowe of the STO board said that while STO was proven right by expert witness testimony that the line was not warranted, victory came at the expense of not just tens of thousands of

dollars in legal fees, but long hours of work and sleepless nights from people who feared environmental degradation, damage to property values and major impacts to the area's tourism economy.

Stowe said if not for the work of STO, the real situation as to actual need would never have been admitted.

"They claimed in all published accounts and throughout the hearing and testimony that the power line was for growth and reliability, and implied that the growth was local growth," Stowe said. "They pointed to local examples of possible overload, but told us nothing about the huge amounts of power they were hoping to transfer through our local wires in order to push the system to that point."

In withdrawing the request, Lanny Nickell, vice president of engineering for SPP, said, "Recently, there has been a cancellation of several large, long-term transmission service reservations. This resulted in the removal from SPP's models of 665 MW of transmission service that previously contributed to the

need for the project."

"In that brief statement, Nickell suggests the possibility that the power line was proposed on a speculative basis to serve an anticipated sales opportunity, not to serve local area growth and reliability as they had insisted throughout the ordeal," Stowe said. "This project was probably intended from the outset as a means of meeting an anticipated need from outside the area of Northwest Arkansas."

As Stowe argued earlier, the 345-kV power line would quintuple locally available power, and with the second circuit added, it would supply in excess of eight or nine times current usage in Carroll County.

Stowe said that SWEPCO dropping the proposal is not just a victory for STO and for Northwest Arkansas and Southwest Missouri, "It is also a victory for ratepayers throughout the SPP area who would have shared the costs of an unnecessary \$116-million dollar project that should never have been proposed."

"This is a victory to savor – a bit of a David and Goliath moment we can all enjoy."

– **STO Director Pat Costner**

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A three-day, hands on professional investigation of paranormal activity at the 1886 Crescent Hotel and its sister hotel, the 1905 Basin Park, puts the tools used by paranormal investigators in your hands Jan. 9 – 11.

Starting with an introduction to ghost hunting, the Eureka Springs Paranormal Weekend features speakers, sessions, entertainment, tours, readings and more. Included is an unprecedented private investigation of the Basin Park Hotel, which will be empty of guests at night and open for exploration by registered participants.

See schedule of events and speakers in the January *Fun Guide* and register at www.americasmosthauntedhotel.com.

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INDEPENDENT Art & Entertainment

Birds invade city auditorium

Eureka Classic Movies' first classic film will be *The Birds*, one of Alfred Hitchcock's most popular horror movies. Released in 1963, the cast included Tippi Hedren, Suzanne Pleshette, Rod Taylor and Jessica Tandy. Join other horror flick lovers for this haunting and scary story Sunday, Jan. 11 at 7 p.m. at the auditorium. Adult tickets \$3, 16 and under free.



Krazo King's Day kicks off 10th Eureka Gras

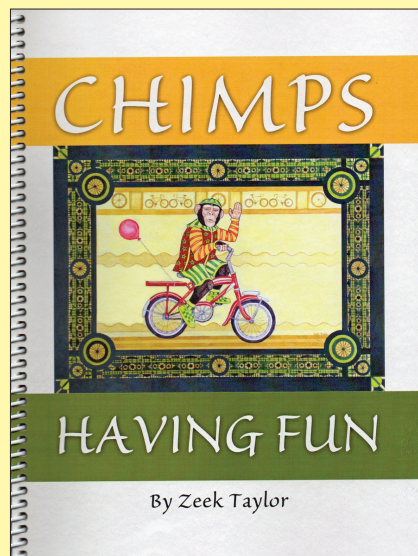
Who will be the King and Queen of Mardi Gras 2015? The Krewe of Krazo cordially invites the public to find out at the King's Day kickoff party Saturday, Jan. 10, 5 p.m., at the Rowdy Beaver Tavern. Details on four masquerade balls, the Night Light and Sound Parade, the Day Parade and Mardi Gras Day will be announced. Members of the Royal Court will be formally introduced and King Krazo X and Queen Eureka X will be revealed,

followed by a gala party.

Come pass a good time with entertainment, merriment, complimentary munchies and King cakes with Happy Hour drink prices. Don't forget your decorated umbrellas for second line celebrating! Plenty of parking at Rowdy, US 62E, about a mile outside of town. www.rowdybeaver.com (479) 253-8544. More info on Mardi Gras at www.Krazo.Ureeka.Org, or email mpopovac@cstonebank.net.

Chimps just wanna have fun

Especially those created by local watercolorist, Zeek Taylor. Zeek will be in the Crystal Bridges Museum Store in Bentonville to sign copies of his new book, *Chimps Having Fun*, on Saturday, Jan. 17 from noon – 4 p.m.



The book features reproductions of some of the artist's more popular fun-loving chimps, along with the stories behind them. Zeek's prints will also be available for purchase during this event. For details or directions, phone (479) 657-2335.

Planning and Plotting

The Village Writing School kicks off the new writing year on Jan. 10 with a workshop on planning and plotting the novel or short story, from 1 – 4 p.m. with Dr. Pat Carr at the school, 177 Huntsville Road. For costs and to register see villagewritingschool.com, email alisontaylorbrown@me.com or phone (479) 292-3665.

Poetluck Jan. 15

Poetluck is a potluck dinner and literary salon held on the third Thursday every month, year 'round, at the Writers' Colony at Dairy Hollow, 515 Spring St.

You never know what famous or emerging writer might be in residence reading from their next book! Bring a dish to share for a potluck at 6:30 p.m. and settle in to hear from resident writers followed by four-minute readings from the public – bring your own work to read if you like! www.writerscolony.org (479) 253-7444

Northwest Arkansas gets the Blues

The Ozark Blues Society of Northwest Arkansas, in collaboration with Downtown Bentonville, is holding a blues concert fundraiser Saturday, Jan. 17, at 7 p.m. at the 21c Museum Hotel in Bentonville. The event will include live music, a silent auction and great giveaways.

All proceeds go to raise funds to send the 2014 Blues Challenge winners to the 2015 International Blues Challenge in Memphis. Performers include The Downtown Livewires with high-energy electric blues/rock and legacy blues, along with our reps going to Memphis – Buddy Shute, 2014 solo blues challenge winner; and Amanda Rey & West Street Blues Band, 2014 Band challenge winners.

General admission is \$12 at the door or online. See more at www.ozarkbluessociety.org.

Rolling out history, one float at a time

DAN ELLIS

February marks the 10th anniversary of our local Eureka Gras/Mardi Gras celebration, and wait to see what new float will roll out this year for the “Carnival Around the World” theme!

Eureka Springs had its start with float design when Jack Miller sketched the first ones to paper and various people stepped up to make them real. One by one throughout the early years, artists and craftsmen created a magical float.

Former New Orleans artist, Jack Miller, now deceased, took full charge in the design and construction of the first float – the “Land of OZ.” With more than a thousand hours and 100 cans of Busch, he carved the complete framework of a six-foot red shoe atop a four-foot high float platform. After he constructed the shoe of plywood and metal mesh, he cocooned the shoe with fiberglass coated with Bondo.

His decorative objects included the Tin Man, Lion, and Scarecrow surrounding a miniature Emerald City. Seated in the heel of the shoe through the years, various damsels have made the float come alive. The float is now incarnated as the Red Shoe Float.

Some floats were later remade into new designs after their initial parade. Artist Zeek Taylor was in charge of the “Alice in Wonderland” float in 2011 – a sprawling 17-foot green caterpillar towering over “Alice” (Alex Marohn), who charmed the crowds with her warm smiles. The Float was decorated with Disney-like flourishes of butterflies, flowers, and even a smoking Hookah for a naughty Caterpillar.

In 2012, the float had a Mayan Theme with a jaguar seated in front of the temple. Following another make over, the “Chariot of Fire” was created with

the jaguar pulling a rolling chariot. The theme floats are usually ridden by our “Eureka Show Girls.”

Then the 12-ft. high, 24-ft. long Cavalier’s Float was rolled out. Again designed by Jack Miller, but with a team of Cavaliers to make it happen. Now named the Krazo Float, it has been ridden in every local parade since its inaugural Mardi Gras ride while Krewe members toss out beads and trinkets.

For 2013, Miller designed and constructed the “Aquarius Eureka” float with a large rotating waterwheel pouring into a basin representing Basin Spring, and the motif of the float appears to be drifting by on waves topped by three beautiful water nymphs.

The Royal Monarchs are well suited by the King Float and the Queen Float. Each King and Queen have stepped forward to tweak the floats to their liking before their majestic ride in the two Eureka Gras parades.

The floats were made possible by funding sponsors of the Eureka Gras Mardi Gras Extravaganza. It is to the credit of the Crescent and Basin Park Hotels, the Rowdy Beaver Tavern and Restaurant, and Cornerstone, First Community and Arvest banks – supported by volunteers – that our Eureka Gras parade is coming to maturity.

Since 2007, the Krewe has sprouted an inventory of colorful capes and magnetic signs that provide a brilliant display showing members of the Royal Court and past Kings and Queens in full array as they pass in revue atop convertibles.

This colorful motorcade leads the floats for the two parades, the Light and Sound night parade and the colorful day parade that includes many other floats and units in the merrymaking.

Sunday at EUUF

All are welcome at the Eureka Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 17 Elk St., Sundays at 11 a.m. for a program followed by refreshments.

On Jan. 11, Bryan Manire and Jean Elderwind will share the DVD about Waitstill and Martha Sharp, whose 1939 relief mission to Czechoslovakia served as the seed that grew into the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

The organizations for this year’s Guest At Your Table program will also be introduced. Childcare is provided. Extra parking at Ermilio’s Restaurant, 26 White Street.



I do solemnly swear – With his wife, Lynn, at his side Butch Berry takes the oath of office administered by Circuit Court clerk Ramona Wilson at midnight on New Year’s Eve to become the new Mayor of Eureka Springs.

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Community activism a winner

Editor,

Save the Ozarks has defeated SWEPCO's plan to deface our part of the Ozarks with their giant power line. Congratulations too all who came together and actively opposed SWEPCO. We need to blow the trumpet of victory so that all will know we did it and encourage others that they can do it, too!

There are so many good things to be accomplished just by being active, organized, and persistent. I hope in the near future we can harness this type of popular energy to do some things that are progressive and good for our community rather than having to fight to prevent something bad. Let's all move forward, together we can!

Ivan Thompson

Many steps to preservation

Editor,

Susan Pang's assertion that "The largest crop grown in America is turf grass" is grossly misleading. According to the EPA and USDA, the biggest crop grown in the U.S. is corn, which the primary U.S. feed grain for animals sent to slaughter to be consumed. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Americans eat 270.7 pounds of meat per person a year – only people in Luxembourg eat more.

A United Nations report from 2006 states that animal agriculture is "one of the top two or three most significant contributors to the most serious environmental problems." U.S. forests have lost 260 million acres to factory farming and, according to scientists

at the Smithsonian Institution, "the equivalent of seven football fields of land is bulldozed every single minute to create more land for farming animals" (emphasis mine).

Perhaps equally disturbing is the fact that all that grain could be used to feed people, instead of feeding animals to feed people. The USGS concludes it takes, on average, 11,000 gallons of water to produce one 1/3 pound hamburger. Yes, you read that right. In sharp contrast, the USGS concludes we use about 2½ gallons a minute in the shower. Therefore, we would have take 880 five-minute showers to amount to the water usage to make that one burger.

To best save the planet, we must first begin considering our plates.

Rachel Brix

Not attacking aldermen is refreshing

Editor,

As you may recall, four years ago there was substantial outcry from a group of local citizens when Janet Alexander and I, as well as Butch Berry, all having run unopposed, were sworn to our aldermanic terms. The city attorney ran unopposed, as well.

This outcry was directly connected to the fact we were elected having run unopposed, which was undeniably and absolutely no fault of our own (and not uncommon in politics), and it continued throughout the 2011-2012 term. It was accompanied by vicious outright lies regarding my history and character by certain city commissioners, and a Planning commissioner assaulted me on the courthouse steps during recess of a city council meeting. After those experiences, it is quite clear to me why Eureka Springs

has so few citizens willing to run for public office.

Fast forward to 2015. Five members of the current city council, as well as the mayor and city attorney, have taken office after having run unopposed. This time, there has been little to no outcry. I am pleased to know that the portion of local citizens who four years ago were appalled by and very vocal about the very same situation have matured enough to, if not actually understand the vagaries of politics and elections, at least refrain from attacking council members and the mayor and the city attorney for being sworn in after running unopposed. Congratulations, sheeple!

Lany Ballance, former alderman

Being open on Christmas gets rave review

Editor,

I get my Mom, June Owen, every Thursday and take her to breakfast in Eureka Springs. Last Thursday just happened to be Christmas but our routine did not vary, except I could not find any place to take her for breakfast. I know it was Christmas and everyone wanted to be home, but I really needed to feed her before I took her to my place as Christmas dinner was hours away.

I sincerely thank the Grub and Pub Club for being open on Christmas Day and served us a lovely breakfast and my hamburger (a staple for me) with courtesy and professional service. The food was excellent and the smiles were genuine. We will be back.

Peggy Feltrope



WEEK'S TopTweets

@PraxisUniversal: Her: "Do you wear boxers?" Me: "What kind of sick person would wear dogs, anyway?"

@SubsistingPasse: If pi is 3.14, then I think .99 is a good deal for 2 doughnuts.

@cabel: Oh no! I forgot to refrigerate this German sausage! Now it's totally become a spoiled brat.

@Stellacopter: Did you know that there is a little lonely man inside automatic towel dispensers that gives you a towel because he's happy you waved to him?

@brookeperrin: Do you ever order a club sandwich just to

feel like you're a part of something?

@robfee: My son laughed at a ceiling fan for 45 minutes in case any studio execs are wondering how to reach his demographic.

@JerryThomas: Twitter provides the technology for my thoughts to be ignored by far more people than ever before.

@sucittaM: I'm thinking of a number between 1 and 10. I hope it's thinking about me too.

@Molly_Kats: Don't forget to wish that one bottle of salad dressing in your fridge a happy 2nd birthday!

@rachow: I have a chest cold, or, as they used to call it in the 17th Century, four days to live.

Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot...

In his wonderful story, *The Lorax*, Dr. Seuss tells us how to save the world. It is up to people like you and me.

Nothing will happen, it won't

This is how my friend Terry Tremwel explains it: "While public officials are important, individuals can take personal responsibility. In Arkansas, we have a strong net metering law. Electricity we generate on site can feed back into the grid and offset our retail bill the next time we draw electricity from the grid. Even without net metering, energy efficiency measures reduce your bill and your footprint from that moment forward. The most likely reason your neighbor would consider solar energy or an electric car is if you set the example.

"The largest two sources of greenhouse gases individuals control are their homes and their vehicles. Start by saving money using less power, increase your home efficiency, buy solar PV and solar heat collectors, and then buy an electric vehicle. These are simple and cost effective steps, which would provide full-time jobs, too.

"When we act, our neighbors consider acting. Eventually, momentum mounts as is happening in California and Georgia and Colorado. Then, with enough people involved, there is demand for public charging stations. Then, there is demand for clean energy. Then all political parties jump on board. It all starts with you and me."

The awesome power of small improvements

What Terry suggests is similar to what aerospace, automotive and other industries have done to become market leaders: low-cost focused improvements. Win-win small changes, done every day by all associates have transformed companies. Change happens when there is an urgent need, a short time to get results, and dedicated people with a wide range of experience. Saving 100 kwh per month in every household would save 100,000,000 kwh per month for Arkansas!

Eureka Springs Climate Action Plan

On June 25, 2012, when city council voted unanimously to approve the Eureka Springs Climate Action Plan, the city took a major step forward in local efforts to deal with climate change. Jerry Landrum holds monthly meetings, inviting Carroll Electric Cooperative and SWEPCO experts to find simple ways to save energy.

Eureka Springs Citizens Climate Lobby

We are in the process of recruiting members for the new Eureka Springs Citizens Climate Lobby, an affiliate of the national organization, Citizens Climate Lobby. The goal of ESCCL is to have Congressman Steve Womack introduce legislation for a Carbon Fee and Dividend program, a market-driven approach to save our planet: polluting companies pay a fee and the funds go to all the people. Poor and middle class people benefit the most. For example, if CF&D causes gasoline prices to go up, people will have the funds to pay for the increase. The recent drop of oil prices from \$100 to \$50 per barrel provides a unique window of opportunity for the CF&D.

As Dr. James Hansen, a renowned authority on Global Climate Change stated last week in *Assuring Real Progress on Climate*, "If you want to join the fight to save the planet, to save creation for your grandchildren, there is no more effective step you could take than becoming an active member of the Citizens Climate Lobby."

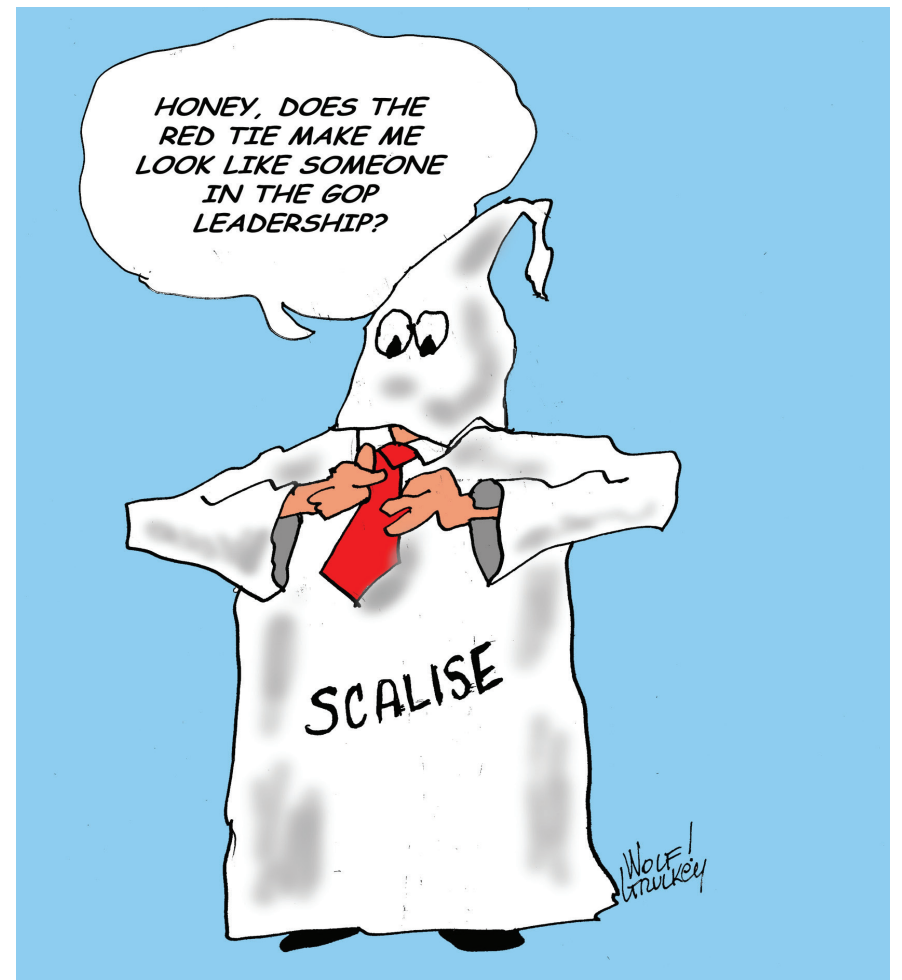
We have few seeds left and little time

Creative people see complex problems as opportunities. Global climate change has multiple causes, and solutions require collaborative efforts. What if we found a way to work with CECC and SWEPCO on common goals?

Everyone has ideas of what needs to be done; we are blessed with an abundance of talent in our community.

What if Eureka became known as a self-sustaining, zero-carbon community with awesome farmers' markets and ecology centers for water, landscaping and solar power? What could be more compelling than saving our planet?

— DR. LUIS CONTRERAS



The Pursuit Of HAPPINESS

by Dan Krotz

Who are the people to watch in 2015? They're Bill Noonan and Nita Holley, newly-elected commissioners to the Holiday Island Board of Commissioners; Butch Berry, our new mayor, and Randy Mayfield, the new sheriff of Carroll County. Each faces special challenges – and each possesses special gifts that prepares them to handle what comes their way.

Holiday Island has been uncharacteristically fractious of late. Whether this is due to the broadly observable decline and fall of civilization as we know it generally, or to lingering aftereffects of a sour real estate market particularly, is unknown. What is known is that both Holley and Noonan appear to be good listeners, haven't been unraveled by the Golf Wars, and have business experience that may be helpful in solving Holiday Island's predictable and not insurmountable problems. We wish the best of luck to Holley and Noonan, and to the entire HI BOC.

Everybody knows and likes Butch Berry. As a near lifelong resident of Carroll County, Butch understands our history, culture, and community standards. He can use what he knows to help city leaders find that balancing point between making Eureka Springs a good place to make a living, and making it a good place to live. His training as an architect, and experience with historic preservation at the State Capitol, should also be valuable in helping to both safeguard Eureka's Victorian heritage, while preparing it for a future that depends on inter-government coordination, systems consolidation and technology investments. Butch assumes office in receipt of our confidence – and with the hopeful expectation that he will keep it.

It is entirely wrong to assume that the communication and coordination problems between the Carroll County sheriff's office and county prosecutors – problems with tragic results – have solely been the fault of former Sheriff Bob Grudek. Well, Bob's gone and there's a new sheriff in town, Randy Mayfield. We know Mayfield to be an honest, approachable and hardworking cop, and we wish him the best. What remains to be seen is if the rest of Carroll County's justice system can handle its obligations. Let's hope so – and keep an eye on it.

A little help from our friends:

- **24-hour Crisis Line for Women** – NWA Women’s Shelter serving Carroll County – “Empowering families to live free of violence.” (800) 775-9011 www.nwaws.org
- **Cup of Love free soup lunches** – Hearty soup lunch Fridays from 9:30 a.m. 2 p.m. in front of Wildflower thrift shop (yellow building next to chapel) on US 62E. Cup of Love also provides soup lunches at Flint Street Fellowship Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. (479) 363-4529
- **Flint Street Fellowship food pantry, lunch, free clothing** – Pantry open 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Free lunch Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Free clothes/shoes closet, books and household items. (479) 253-9491 or 253-4945. Leave donations in barrel at entrance if facility is closed.
- **Free Sunday Night Suppers** at St. James Episcopal Church, 28 Prospect, 5 – 6:30 p.m., are once again available to the community, especially those who are out of work during the winter. Suppers will continue Sunday nights through March 29.
- **Wildflower food pantry, furniture bank and clothing** – Wildflower Chapel (US 62E) free food pantry 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. on Fridays. Thrift store and used furniture bank (now in big blue barn only) Wednesday – Saturday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Friday 1 – 6 p.m. Drop off donations Thursday – Saturday 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- **Celebrate Recovery** – Soul Purpose Ministries, 801 S. Springfield, Green Forest, 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday. Potluck meal followed by 12-step Christ-centered meetings for those suffering from addiction, habit, hang-up or hurt.
- **No high school diploma?** Take free GED classes in the Carnegie Library Annex every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 9 a.m. - noon with study and tutoring for the GED test. Open to ages 18 and up. GED classes also in Berryville at Carroll County Center. Some open to ages 16 and 17 per educational requirements. For info: Nancy Wood (479) 981-0482, Carnegie Library (479) 253-8754, Carroll County Center (870) 423-4455. Offered by North Arkansas College with Carnegie Library support.
- **Coffee Break Al-Anon Family Group Women** – Tuesdays, 9:45 a.m., Faith Christian Family Church, Hwy. 23S, (479) 363- 9495.

Meetings at Coffee Pot Club behind Land O’ Nod Inn:

- **Alateen** – Sundays, 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. Email alateen1st@gmx.com or phone (479) 981-9977
- **Overeaters Anonymous** – Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. Barbara (479) 244-0070
- **Narcotics Anonymous** – Fridays, 5:30 p.m. (903) 278-5568
- **Al-Anon Family Group (AFG)** – Sundays, 11:30 a.m., Mondays and Tuesdays 7 p.m.
- **Eureka Springs Coffee Pot AA Groups** Monday – Saturday 12:30 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m.; Sunday – Thursday, Saturday, 5:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Friday, 8 p.m. (479) 253-7956
- **Al-Anon** Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. All other meetings: See www.nwarkaa.org

INDEPENDENT Constables On Patrol

DECEMBER 29

11:22 a.m. – Constable responded to a report of someone stealing inventory from a landscape supply business. He arrested an individual for theft of property.

7:48 p.m. – ESPD got word of a reckless driver headed to town from the east but never encountered the vehicle.

11:05 p.m. – Somehow something triggered an alarm at a restaurant, but the constable who responded found everything secure.

DECEMBER 30

9:52 p.m. – Passerby reported a vehicle had backed up to a vacant building and people were walking around with flashlights. Constable found out the flashlight bearers were the owners.

DECEMBER 31

11:05 a.m. – Constable intervened in a dispute between a landlord and a tenant. He advised them of their rights.

12:46 p.m. – Tenant from the previous call called again and claimed the landlord had threatened her and her children. Constable returned to the scene and advised the landlord to have no further contact with the tenant until she has been served with papers from the sheriff’s office.

1:59 p.m. – Constable stopped a vehicle for crossing the center line. The driver passed all field sobriety tests, so she was released with a warning.

2:51 p.m. – The tenant from before called again claiming the landlord had stolen a laptop computer from the residence. Constable took the report.

3:23 p.m. – Animal Control made a welfare check on chickens in a coop.

4:22 p.m. – Constable spoke with the driver of a vehicle that had been lingering near a restaurant, but everything was okay.

9:28 p.m. – Traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the driver for driving on a suspended license.

10:56 p.m. – Tenant from the same dispute called again. The husband said his wife was trying to pack up and move out but the landlord had turned off the power. Constable

again went to the scene and spoke with all involved.

JANUARY 1

12:31 a.m. – Traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the driver for speeding and DWI.

1:43 a.m. – Constable responded to the scene of a private property backing accident in a downtown lot.

2:49 a.m. – Constable went to speak with a person regarding her possibly missing boyfriend.

4:29 a.m. – Passerby reported a vehicle had run off US 62 just west of town. Driver was out of vehicle and okay. Constable went to the scene and waited for a deputy to arrive.

JANUARY 2

11:20 a.m. – Alarm was triggered at a residence, but constables found the windows and doors secure.

1:18 p.m. – Constable filed a report on a break-in at the old high school property.

10:44 p.m. – All constables responded to the site of a suspected prowler near a business. Witness reported a figure dressed all in black and wearing a black ski mask. Constables searched for but did not find the subject.

JANUARY 3

3:30 p.m. – Constable on patrol took a report regarding an ex-employee causing trouble and bad-mouthing his former place of employment.

6:46 p.m. – Van got stuck in a spot downtown and needed a tow truck.

9:04 p.m. – Constable on patrol picked up a stray black Lab and took it to the kennel for safekeeping.

9:13 p.m. – Constable arrested an individual on an ESPD warrant for Failure to Appear.

JANUARY 4

3:00 a.m. – Alarm company alerted ESPD to an alarm going off at an address above downtown. Constable found a basement door open, but nothing looked amiss inside. Owner said he would inventory items during the day.

10:27 a.m. – Apartment dweller asked for constable assistance with a landlord dispute.

PEACE Hotline is now live

The community-based Carroll County Safety Network hotline (CCSN) went live on Jan. 1 with its own number for women, children and families experiencing domestic violence and needing assistance.

The number, 844-24PEACE, (844) 247-3223 is answered by trained advocates at area shelters. Survivors needing transportation, information or assistance in Carroll County will be referred by the advocate to the local CCSN contact who will arrange for transport to one of seven partner shelters: Peace At Home/Fayetteville, NW AR Women’s Shelter/Rogers, Serenity/Mountain Home, Sanctuary/Harrison, Casa/ Pine Bluff, Safenet Services/Claremore, Okla. and Domestic Violence Intervention Services/Tulsa, Okla. and/or other services.

More than 20 community volunteers attended a training session conducted by the Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence. All volunteers undergo an independent background check and have a valid drivers’ license and insurance. Additional trainings deepen

understanding and expertise in addressing the issues surrounding domestic violence.

An awareness campaign including stickers, posters and other media alerts will begin in early January to let the community know Carroll County will not tolerate domestic violence and survivors will have the support they need to make decisions about their future.

Partnerships with law enforcement, prosecutors, attorneys, judges and more are being explored to ensure a system that is responsive to the needs of survivors and their families. Churches, civic groups, arts organization, businesses, tourist stops and more are all encouraged to participate.

The CCSN was initially made possible by a grant from the Carroll County Community Foundation. The Purple Flower at 7 N. Springfield St. in Berryville will also have resource information. Current hours are Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

For more information on CCSN, email themourglias@gmail.com.

New sheriff in town – New County Sheriff, Randy Mayfield, was sworn in at the Carroll County Courthouse in Berryville as the New Year began. Circuit Clerk Ramona Wilson was earlier sworn in by County Judge Sam Barr, and in turn swore in the circuit judge, the mayors of Green Forest and Eureka Springs, and other elected and appointed officials. *PHOTO SUBMITTED*



Happy ending – After a 20-month struggle Save the Ozarks and supporters opposed to high power transmission lines being constructed across the Ozarks ended 2014 on a note of victory when application for the work was withdrawn. There will be a celebration party and program Sunday, Jan. 11 at the Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center. Doors open at 2:30 p.m. Please bring finger food.

PHOTO BY BECKY GILLETTE



New year, new line – Kerusso hosted Miss Arkansas, Ashton Campbell, and Keynote Speaker Joe McGee at The Berryville Community Center in December to celebrate another year as a leader in Christian apparel and gifts. Kerusso's new apparel line releases this month and the gift line in February. Also pictured are Kerusso founder Vic Kennett, left, and keynote speaker Joe McGee. *PHOTO SUBMITTED*



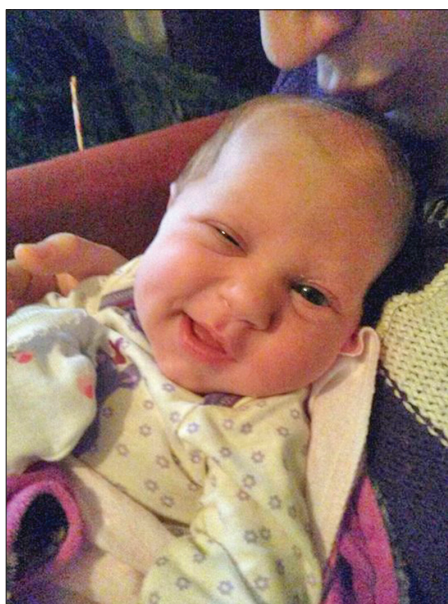
Another happy ending – Fred and Sherry Siebert (center) of Garfield dropped by Turpentine Creek on New Year's Eve to present refuge president Tanya Smith, right, and curator Emily McCormack, left, checks totaling \$23,000 toward an onsite veterinary clinic. The public is invited to the groundbreaking Saturday, Feb. 21, at 1 p.m.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

It's official – Below right, retired police chief Earl Hyatt shows off the "officially retired" identification card presented to him by Chief of Police, Thomas Achord, who looks on.

PHOTO BY BECKY GILLETTE

Grand finale – Below center, as one of his last official acts as mayor, Morris Pate swears Thomas Achord in as chief of police in the last hours of 2014. *PHOTO BY BECKY GILLETTE*



Welcome to 2015 – Newborn Dicia Mirage Idamae Edgar finds something to wink and smile about in this photo taken by her grandmother, Paige Perry. Dicia was born to Keaira Perry and Jason Edgar on Dec. 8.



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



My partner and I have been planning our wedding. Initially I was really excited but now I'm having serious doubts. I don't know if I just have cold feet or if I'm making the biggest mistake of my life. How can I tell?

Most of life's major decisions provoke considerable anxiety and marriage is at the top of that list. Anxiety and increased relationship tension are actually the norm when wedding plans are underway. There's a lot to plan and the pressure is on.

As opposed to anxiety, however, doubt may signify a much larger problem. At this point thinking with your head and not your heart is imperative. Diligently examine your own thoughts and feelings, being ever mindful of the cognitive distortions inherent in the throes of romance.

Do you still have deep feelings for an old flame, fantasies of reuniting or even fantasies of being single? Do you find yourself disengaging from the

wedding planning, leaving your family, friends or partner to follow through? Do you consistently ask others if you're making the right decision? Are there sexual issues you've been too uncomfortable to address? Are you finding your partner's quirks suddenly so annoying that you avoid spending time together?

Are you engaging in self-destructive behaviors like overindulging in alcohol, drugs or food? Are you ignoring work deadlines or self-care behaviors that you previously took pride in? Do you feel responsible for your partner's feelings and successes? Do you feel pressured to marry by family and friends' repeated affirmations about what a blessing you've been to your partner? Being proclaimed someone's savior is flattering but it will not sustain a marriage.

Examine your partner's patterns with honesty. Does your partner depend upon you for happiness, entertainment and connection to others? Are your life goals, achievements and hopes ignored, minimized or met with negativity? Does your partner

engage in name-calling or verbally or physically demean or berate you? Is your partner secretive or been involved in sexual affairs but refuses to take responsibility? Does your partner make promises or set goals that predominately fall by the wayside?

If any of these red flags permeates your relationship, Take Heed. The embarrassment of cancelling a wedding pales in comparison to the disaster awaiting those whose first step down the aisle is Laden with Regret.

Questions? Email leslie@esindependent.com. *Leslie Meeker, M.A., L.P.C., is a psychotherapist who has specialized in relational and sex therapy, sexual compulsivity and sexual trauma for the past 15 years, after receiving extensive training in human sexuality at the Masters and Johnson Institute in St. Louis, Mo.*

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- Island Ice Cream Parlor
- Island Pizza and Pub
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- Ozark Kitchen
- Roadhouse
- Smiling Brook Cafe
- 1886 Steakhouse
- Sparky's
- StoneHouse
- Sweet n Savory
- Thai House
- The Coffee Stop

Part II

Biodiversity and the whole picture

SUSAN PANG

Inert plants provide little or nothing on the biodiversity scale. The plants we have in suburban plots are inert because they are in a constant state of doing nothing. Biodiversity is the degree of variation of life in an area. If we look at urban lots that surround our homes and call each lot an ecosystem, what do we have living on our property?

I just visited a neighbor recently to assess her property to see about planting a pollinator garden. While standing

on the porch, I noted that the front yard had turf grass, a Japanese maple, Korean boxwoods and Hydrangea Paniculata. None of these plants has the chemical compounds in their leaves to support a diverse or abundant caterpillar or insect population. There is no opportunity for songbirds to survive in that ecosystem. Many of us don't like the natural world even though we are part it. We are the same, in most respects, as every other creature on this planet when it comes right down to it.

If our lawns require large quantities of water, pesticides, fertilizers, chemicals and gallons of gasoline and oil to maintain, week in and week out, is this ultimately a sustainable way to care for our surroundings? We walk on our land and we breathe the air around it. It is time to look at the whole picture. If one looks at my subdivision as the whole biome made up of all the small ecosystems contained on each of the 100+ lots in the neighborhood, what's there and how does that affect me?

What should be there are the native maples to our area, including Red, Sugar, Black and Silver maples. Yet, the most prevalent maples being asked for, recommended and planted today are Japanese and Norwegian maples. Doug Tallamy, Professor of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, in his study comparing and measuring native red

maples biodiversity with Norwegian maples, found that even though they are similar species with similar leaf chemistry, and even when planted side-by-side in an experimental setting with branches touching, far more butterflies and moths preferred the native maple over the Norwegian. Only one fourth of the specialists found the Norwegian maples to be acceptable hosts, according to Tallamy's study. The Norway maples usurp the space for native maple that would support all 297 Lepidoptera species. Multiply that space taken by the many offspring that one Norway maple would produce.

This is just one example of why our Ozark fauna are struggling.

(Susan Pang is a landscaper/gardener/advisor, with an emphasis on native flora, at the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis, and habitat advisor for St. Louis Audubon.)

If it's about beer ...

... You'll find it at the Beer Can & Breweriana Show Sunday, Jan. 11 from 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at the Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center. If it's ever had beer in it or advertised on it, it's collectible! (Your old sweatshirts with beer stains don't count.)

Come see antique and rare breweriana from signs to cans, trays, church keys,

coasters and more at this show said to be a collector's heaven. Have some stuff to show or swap? Phone (479) 531-8583 or email erinjbrew1002@aol.com up to the morning of the show – or just show up with it.

Free admission and appraisals. See pictures and details in the January *Fun Guide*.

CCBRM in Phase II

Carroll County Bible Reading Marathon committee begins Phase II to plan the 2015 6th annual event. All volunteers are invited to attend Jan. 12 in Green Forest at the Depot, 802 Broadway. Volunteers will gather beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Phase 1, "Pray," will continue for all those who will pray for Carroll County residents, businesses and churches Friday

mornings, 7 a.m., at the Berryville Senior Center.

CCBRM is part of the 64th National Day of Prayer, and the committee encourages all to be a part of the marathon in 2015 on the Square in Green Forest May 3 – 7. For details contact Carroll County coordinator, Bonnie Roediger, (870) 350-0865.

HI Ladies Fellowship – vision for 2015

Holiday Island Ladies Fellowship will meet Monday, Jan. 19, in the HICC Fellowship Hall (188 Stateline Drive). The speaker will be Roxie Breaux who will share her vision for the Ladies Fellowship for the coming year.

Music and singing will be led by Laura Nichols and Tooley Martin. Light refreshments will be served. All are welcome and encouraged to bring a friend. For details contact Roxie Breaux (337) 513-9346 or Eula Jean McKee (479) 253-8021.

Chocaholics, rejoice!

The 11th annual Chocolate Lovers' Festival is only 5 weeks away. This year it falls on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, making this one sweetheart of a weekend. This is also the date for the Mardi Gras day parade, so town will likely be packed with fans of fun and confection.

If you can volunteer or would like to enter one of the contests and participate in the cocoa fest, you can find the needed forms online at www.eurekachocfest.org. For details email toni@eurekaspringschamber.com or phone Toni Rose at (479) 253-8737.

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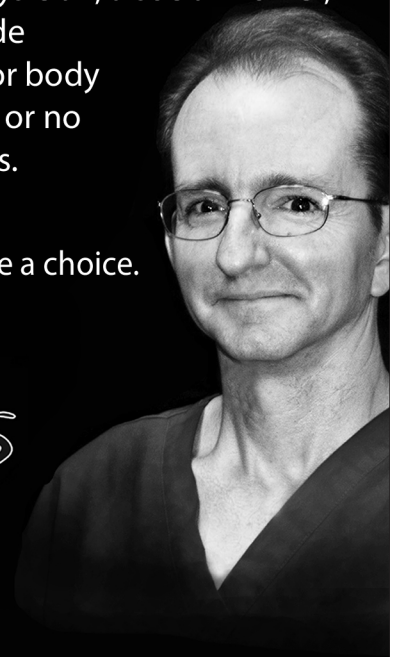
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The Unicorn

All 12 astrological signs have glyphs and symbols. The higher intuitive mind understands concepts through symbols. Symbols capture the story and essence of a subject. Capricorn's glyph represents the signature of God (hidden). Most of the astrological signs have animal symbols. Capricorn's are crocodile, mountain goat and unicorn. Unicorn, spiritual symbol of Capricorn, inspires disciples, indicates one-pointedness, a continued upward movement into divinity and purity. The unicorn moves slowly, never forgetting what is gained through experience. It reaches unreachable heights. On its ascent the unicorn never slips, reaching its goal (Sagittarius) of the mountaintop, standing within Capricorn's light.

Unicorn is a divine and mythical creature; one horned, a single spear emerging from the forehead (the Ajna Diamond Light Center of Direction). We imagine ourselves as white unicorns climbing the mountain, alone, at peace, silent. Silence prevails around us. Discipleship requires the qualities of a unicorn – strength, willingness, stable, tolerant through time, one-pointed, working toward noble goals, accomplishing slowly and gradually, reaching heights through inner contemplations and outer labor, experiencing silence within and all around, ever expanding into higher states of consciousness.

In the zodiac we encounter the ram (Aries), bull (Taurus), goat (Capricorn) and unicorn (Capricorn).

Ram and bull have double horns. Unicorn a single horn. Ram and bull's horns are curved, unicorn's one horn juts straight outward, like a sunray. Ram and bull double horns indicate duality in our world. Unicorn's single horn indicates nature/reality beyond duality. Like lion, unicorn lives alone, is much more solitary than lion, living in the heights of mountains. In the same way the peacock signifies Master Moria (head of all Esoteric schools), the unicorn (appearing in mythical art & stores) signifies a Teacher and/or Master of Wisdom's Presence. May the light of Capricorn bring forth within each of us the spirit of the unicorn. Note: Mercury retrograde Jan. 21.

ARIES: In the next three weeks issues with groups, friends, hopes, wishes, dreams all blend your professional and spiritual life with the future. Everything concerning these realms, if incomplete and unforgiven, will re-appear seeking explanations, forgiveness, re-assessments, review. You will feel like you're on a precipice. Maintain poise like the mountain goat. But really like the unicorn.

TAURUS: There's a quiet stillness you possess which often translates

into reticence (not speaking much). This is good. However, sometimes the time comes when you must share the information your illumined mind has received. Soon it will be one of those times. If you are Mercury retro (at birth), now's the time. If not, then next week. You above all understand life's earthly rhythms (music, too).

GEMINI: Your eagerness to understand the present time and to have knowledge that can impart information to others is dependent upon you studying the correct materials. Much new age information is not only incorrect, but judgmental. A new level of discrimination begins to appear in your mind. This is most important for you must put all the puzzle pieces together now and act on them.

CANCER: You will move into deeper thoughts and contemplation. You will perhaps think about your own and loved ones' deaths. It's important to understand death is actually liberation and the "Great Adventure." When loved ones have died we recite Ohm Mani Padme Hum (mantram). This directs them (and ourselves) to the "Love underlying all events in our worlds" here and hereafter.

LEO: You review relationships, their importance and meaning. Do you need to consult someone about a situation, a need, repair, or for assistance? Another's responses to your ideas, thoughts and problems offer you perspective, clarity and clarification. Should there be difficulties in any area of your life an inner review and reassessment over the next month lead to greater understanding of reasons and intentions.

VIRGO: The combined themes of health and daily life's work continue in coming

weeks. Your excellent attention to detail will be called in to plan carefully in these two areas of life so that the outcomes have your signature on them and so you feel a greater sense of purpose. You know that it's only you who can accomplish what's needed properly. This isn't a compliment. It's a Virgo reality.

LIBRA: A mental withdrawal occurs in the next weeks so you can ponder upon choices made within and concerning family. Soon it will be a time of deep reflection, evaluating emotional needs of self and others. You will both focus on the past as it affects your present/future. Separations created outwardly create inner separations. Communication with family is important. Cultivate Love.

SCORPIO: You want to communicate with others. Your activated intelligence wonders about many things especially future companionship. It's not time to externalize your thoughts and ideas yet, except in writing. Let them work themselves out naturally. Allow yourself to consider all possibilities, reaching no conclusions. Listen to others. They have the other half of the information you hold.

SAGITTARIUS: You're internally working how you value yourself. Perhaps you define your resources and values based others. We need others to reflect our goodness. That's how we learn. You may have to explain yourself to another so they understand you better. It may be that some financial and/or business affairs need tending. Future life's planning is occurring quietly within. Patience.

CAPRICORN: You're experiencing multiple thoughts at once, jumping here, there and everywhere. Others may be confused by this seeing you as constantly

changing. Your thoughts influence others. Explain you're redefining yourself. Relax in the coming weeks doing what is most creative. Our thoughts create templates for the future that later appear in form and matter. What in your future is most important?

AQUARIUS: You're examining yourself, ideas, intentions and present state of being, reviewing past year accomplishments. You realize what more you want to accomplish. In coming weeks wherein you reflect on your life, write down all that you hope to fulfill in the New Year. This anchors your thoughts and ideas. There's much to do this year for Aquarians. They are to initiate the love central to the new culture and civilization.

PISCES: We find you quietly in solitude for the next several weeks, withdrawing to study and think on the future. You're encountering many non-rational elements reflecting the changing times. Peace and quiet are beneficial for you. Hidden areas of your character, goals, hopes, wishes and dreams are revealed. You may be thinking about death and mortality. It is a good time to write down how you want your death handled. It's practical and spiritual.




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Risa – writer, teacher, founder & director Esoteric & Astrological Studies & Research Institute a contemporary Wisdom School studying the Ageless Wisdom teachings. The foundations of the Teachings are the study & application of Astrology & the Seven Rays and meditation in service to the world in need. Email: risagoodwill@gmail.com. Web journal: www.nightlightnews.com. Facebook: Risa's Esoteric Astrology for daily messages.

Open house features area collectors

The Shiloh Museum's 7th Annual Cabin Fever Reliever open house is Saturday, Jan. 10 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the museum. The event will feature displays by some 24 local collectors. Among collections to be shown are sad irons, *Gone with the Wind* collectibles, baseball cards, antique Japanese fishing equipment, hand tools, glass figurines, Civil War miscellany, chalk dogs, Flow Blue china, postcards, pencil sharpeners, frogs, gorillas, tatting, invalid feeders, hand fans

and cameo jewelry.

Visitors will also have the opportunity to view "Settling the Ozarks," the museum's new permanent exhibit focusing on the 1820 – 60s era. Marie Demeroukas, museum photo archivist and exhibit curator, will be stationed in the exhibit to discuss that period in Ozark history.

The Shiloh Museum is located at the corner of Johnson and Main in downtown Springdale. For more information, call (479) 750-8165.

Amateur Radio Club meets

The Little Switzerland Amateur Radio Club will meet Thursday, Jan. 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the physicians building at the Mercy Hospital in Berryville.

The club meets at noon on the second Thursday and at 6:30 p.m. on the third Thursday each month. They also have a new 440 repeater, frequency 444.250 (+) 100.0 PL, which is available to use.

Anyone with an interest in amateur radio is welcome at meetings. For details see lsarc.us or contact gmjar@outlook.com.

Sycamore[©] – Chapter 12, cont.

Sycamore, written by Constance Wagner and published in 1950 by Alfred A. Knopf, is the story of a sophisticated New York girl who marries a boy from Arkansas. The Wagners and their daughter lived in Eureka Springs while the novel was written. In addition to five novels, Constance Wagner wrote numerous articles and stories published in *The New Yorker*, *Atlantic Monthly* and *Collier's*.

She set down the beer bottle and looked at Fenton, for the first time, with complete awareness, recognizing a dynamic force under his impassivity. This excited her. She related it to certain screen characters and situations that had moved her: hard, tough men who struck their women across the face or hurled them to the floor, as if brutality were concomitant with love. Fenton, she thought, staring at him moodily, would never be soft or kind – qualities for which she had nothing but contempt. *He'd* never crawl before a woman. No poetry, no presents, no nylon stockings, none of the gestures that she had accepted from other men, despising the givers even as she reached with both hands for what they had to give.

"How come," she asked suddenly, her dark eyes, perceptive, on his face – "how come you're still hanging around the pool hall, dumps like this, looking for a fight, shacking up with any little tart

–?"

He said she could shut her God damn mouth, and she sat wondering if she'd ventured onto this dangerous ground so that he might fulfill her new-found concept of him by reaching over the table and hitting her across the face with his lean hand. She felt a sense of deflation, however: What a rotten break, that the one man in whom she could see a potential master should be a no-good bum like Fenton Sayre!

"Listen." He looked at her, too, alertly now, giving back her awareness. "I got plans," he said. "Man from St. Louis is here now – Jaffray. We made a deal. He's got money and he can get more. You got to have some money at first. Then I'm goin' ahead. It's workin' out. Already it's workin' out."

Her blood pounding, Clytie reached for the whisky and took a long drink. "You'll show 'em," she said intensely, staring at him. "Reckon you'll show 'em

all, Fenton."

He eyed her sullenly, a trace of suspicion in his face. "You don't need," he told her, "to give me no pep talk. Nor to go rubbin' me with your leg, neither. D'you figger I'm like Walter Knowles?"

"Ah – why bring that up?" she complained. "I've been around a lot since then." She took another drink, and he sat looking at her, remembering a winter day when he had pounded his knuckles till they were bruised, on a boy's face, and wondered why all the brawling and slugging he had done since had not blotted it out. The woman across the table had been his, Walter's. His imagination touched contemptuously on their mating (a thin, wishy-washy coming together, as he saw it) and he felt a strong desire to have her, to show her that he, at least, was a man, and potent and dangerous.

Clytie watched his face, recognizing the peremptory male hunger, but seeing also a quality she had not met before.

No love. She knew now that she had always despised love. Love was soft, but the hatred in the face of Fenton Sayre was rock-hard and indestructible, and this, she knew, was what she wanted. Her own resentment, even her mother's, appeared watered down and insignificant when set against the corrosive purity of his.

"Don't ever love me," she said thickly. "Take me, but don't love me, Fenton... I'm not drunk," she added. "Not really. I've got two dollars. We can get one of the cabins."

"No." He stood up, pushing his hat farther over his eyes. "No. We'll go in your car." He felt compelled to possess her out of doors, on the hard ground, violently, as if in observance of some private ritual, and she got up without question, and followed him out to the car.



CONSTANCE
WAGNER

NOTES from the HOLLOW by Steve Weems

My wife, Diane, grew up where the Pig Trail Kart 'n Golf (formerly The Fun Spot) is located on Highway 62 East in Eureka Springs. If you go back to the early 1980s, it was still a beautiful family home place, with an abundance of flowers, bushes and large old trees around a house with a big yard.

There was some pasture and Duane O'Connor sometimes ran a few cows. Diane and her brother, Doug, would play in the front yard and periodically a car would pull up and tourists would ask for directions to the Passion Play. After being given directions, the

tourists would sometimes ask how many blocks away it was. Diane didn't know how to answer that.

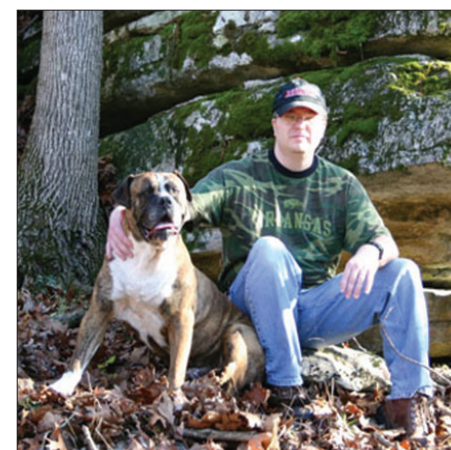
Thirty years ago, we kept my Uncle Don Sisco's mare, Lulabell, at our place and I spent many a happy hour riding across the countryside. I wanted to go to my grandparents' farm, but didn't want to ride down through the curves on the shoulderless highway. (I'd done that before and didn't want to repeat it.)

My Grandpa Jack McCall knew all kinds of shortcuts, so I asked him for directions. He suggested I take the old road over the mountain and through the woods. Turns out his definition of

a road and mine were different (mine undoubtedly influenced by living in East Coast suburbia.)

I still remember his directions. I was to turn left at the red oak snag. I found it. I was to stay straight at the giant dead elm. I found it. I was to watch for the dogs at the house where the hippies grew dope. Those dogs found me before I found them. Lulabell and I made it through that section pretty quick. Looking back, I realize that she and I did a lot of trespassing without a second thought.

Speaking of Grandpa and hippies, he told me once that he'd heard that



there were hippies in Eureka that didn't get out of bed until nine in the morning. He was incredulous.

I'm glad he didn't know what time I got up.

Local Bluegrass favorites bring heat to cool town

Amazing local bluegrass favorites kick off our New Year with sweet harmonies and stringed emotion. Blues-up with two all-female groups – *The Camptown Ladies* play Chelsea's Thursday and *Ozark Mountain Maybelles* play the Cathouse Saturday, then back to Chelsea's Sunday. What fun treats for this otherwise cold and quiet time of year! If heavier fare is desired make sure to catch local boys *SX REX* playing Chelsea's on Saturday. The Bower brothers have a great, driving groove.

THURSDAY, JAN. 8

CHELSEA'S – *The Camptown Ladies*, Bluegrass, 9:30 p.m.

GRAND TAVERNE – *Jerry Yester*, Grand Piano Dinner Music, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

LEGENDS SALOON – *StarSeed*, Rock 'n Roll, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, JAN. 9

CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *Isayah Wayford*, Singer/Songwriter, 8 p.m.

CHELSEA'S – *Mountain Sprout*, Bluegrass, 9:30 p.m.

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

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

LEGENDS SALOON – *DJ and Karaoke with Kara*, 8 p.m.

NEW DELHI – *Dance Party*, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.

ROWDY BEAVER – *Karaoke with Tiny*, 7-11 p.m.

ROWDY BEAVER DEN – *Karaoke with DJ Goose*, 8 p.m.

THE STONE HOUSE – *Jerry Yester*, Artist's Choices

SATURDAY, JAN 10

CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *Ozark Mountain Maybelles*, Bluegrass, 8 p.m.

CHELSEA'S – *SX REX*, Rock 'n Roll, 9:30 p.m.

EUREKA LIVE! – *DJ & Dancing*, 9 p.m.

GRAND TAVERNE – *Jerry Yester*, Grand Piano Dinner Music, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

LEGENDS SALOON – *JAB the Band*, Rock 'n Roll, 8 p.m.

NEW DELHI – *Dance Party*, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.

ROWDY BEAVER – *TBS*, 5-9 p.m.

ROWDY BEAVER DEN – *John Harwood*, Singer/Songwriter, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, JAN. 11

CHELSEA'S – *Ozark Mountain Maybelles*, Bluegrass, 7:30 p.m.

EUREKA LIVE – *DJ, Dancing, and Karaoke*, 7-11 p.m.

OZARK MOUNTAIN TAPROOM –

Service Industry Sunday, 2-9 p.m.

MONDAY, JAN. 12

CHELSEA'S – *Sprungbilly*, Bluegrass, 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, JAN. 13

CHELSEA'S – *Open Mic*

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14

CHELSEA'S – *Brian Martin*, Singer/Songwriter, 9:30 p.m.



SX REX plays Chelsea's Saturday, Jan. 10

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Fri., Jan. 9 • 9:30 P.M. – **MOUNTAIN SPROUT**

Sat., Jan. 10 • 9:30 P.M. – **SX REX**

Sun., Jan. 11 • 7:30 P.M. –
OZARK MOUNTAIN MAYBELLES

Mon., Jan. 12 • 9:30 P.M. – **SPRINGBILLY**

Tues., Jan. 13 • 9:30 P.M. – **OPEN MIC**

Wed., Jan. 14 • 9:30 P.M. – **BRIAN MARTIN**

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Julie Shackelford from Fayetteville caught this nice 28-in. ten lb. Rainbow trout on a outing to the river with her husband, Larry. They released this big fish back and called me to do a replica for the wall. Great timing since I have not been out this week to get any fish or pics.

Well, the stripers on Beaver are still hitting the top from Prairie Creek to Point 12. They will stay in this area till after the spring spawn. Shad and brood shiners

are the best baits. Run some down 30 ft. and some free-lining with no weight for surfacing fish, where you find big bait balls on your fish finder.

Here at Holiday Island not a lot of people are getting out except a couple of the local walleye anglers who have been pulling in a few males moving into the river to wait on the bigger females that are on their way to lay their eggs in just a few weeks.



Purley Worship meets Jan. 10
Singin' all day and dinner on the grounds

Special speakers, music and a potluck highlight the Purley Worship meeting Saturday, Jan. 10, at Rock Springs Baptist Church, 1898 CR 211 in Eureka Springs.

Speakers include Nomie and Craig Mills, Ken Rensink and Al and Margo Pryor. Singers are Acra Turner (host

church pastor), Tom & Debby Lakin, and Beth Severe – with congregational singing and more singers to be announced.

The sung and spoken word begins at 1 p.m. with a potluck at 4 p.m. and more singing and preaching at 5:30. Cost to attend is a dish for the potluck. For details phone (870) 423-9399.

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Bass and crappie can both be caught from 12 – 30 ft. deep slow. Big shiners will work well for the bass, and jigs or small minnows will work for the crappie. Well, that's it for this week, hope

you all had a Happy New Year and a great year ahead.
Robert Johnson, Johnson Guide Service. www.fishofexcellence.com (479) 253-2258.



INDEPENDENT
Crossword

by Bill Westerman

Solution on page 18

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
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49					50					51		

ACROSS

- 1. It gives a hoot
- 4. Celebration
- 8. NASA destination
- 12. Fish eggs
- 13. X or Y in algebra
- 14. Operatic solo
- 15. City planning science
- 17. Skillful
- 18. Minor quarrel
- 19. Make bubbly
- 21. Cattle hip joint
- 23. Wildcat
- 24. Cautious
- 25. Ecstatic
- 29. Pub pint
- 30. Rub out
- 31. Anger
- 32. Dregs
- 34. Sketch
- 35. Bound up
- 36. Brandish

- 37. Knight's tunic
- 40. Red and Black
- 41. October gemstone
- 42. Deem perfect
- 46. Scope prefix
- 47. Void's partner
- 48. Mother rabbit
- 49. CEO or CFO
- 50. Emasculate a horse
- 51. Long time span

DOWN

- 1. Raw mineral
- 2. Stir fry vessel
- 3. Unemployed
- 4. Deadly
- 5. Way out
- 6. Spasm
- 7. Charles Lamb, e.g.
- 8. Indian fabric
- 9. Part of town
- 10. Fissure
- 11. Satisfy

- 16. Lively
- 20. Old Gaelic
- 21. "_____ the night before..."
- 22. Hearty
- 23. African antelope
- 25. Upbringing
- 26. Hearth
- 27. Russian range
- 28. Lascivious
- 30. Arab commander
- 33. Slanted type
- 33. Forest
- 34. Clock face
- 36. Forest
- 37. Get crocked
- 38. Top
- 39. Naked
- 40. Vend
- 43. Unsettled
- 44. Animal house?
- 45. Smither ender

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INDEPENDENTClassifieds

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Boom Boom – here they come!

A call for floats, bands, costumed groups, individuals and convertibles for day and night parades has been announced by the Krewe of Krazo in preparation for Mardi Gras. This year's theme is "Carnival Around the World" – and the first parade is only a month away! The fourth annual Night Parade will roll out Saturday, Feb. 7, at 6 p.m. Floats and walking groups participating in the night parade should be lighted.

The Day Parade steps off Saturday, Feb. 14, at 2 p.m. The "Krewe of Krazo" will also roll out its seven permanent theme floats followed by other corporate and business floats. The Annual Cavalcade of Royal Chariots, consisting of convertibles carrying Dukes, Duchesses, and past Kings and Queens of the Realm draped in colorful parade capes will be followed by costumers and other units.

Come "pass a good time" and let the good times roll! Contact the Krewe now and be in that numbah: TonyPopovac@yahoo.Com, (225) 405-9673 or (225) 405-9672. Details and updates at www.Krazo.Ureka.Org. Parade applications at www.Parade.Ureka.Org.

For a calendar of Eureka/Mardi Gras events, pick up a copy of the *Fun Guide*.

AIRPORT continued from page 1

pursue, such as funds for finishing perimeter fencing, would have to be on hold.

Airport Manager Dana Serrano pointed out they use money generated at the airport to cover the matching amounts. Taxpayer money is used only for airport operations.

Martin volunteered to work with Serrano to compile a list of all operations at the airport so the quorum court would have a clearer picture.

Evans again stated there are assurances the county and the quorum court are bound by, and the Justices of the Peace need to acknowledge their responsibilities.

Getting it right

Evans also mentioned the FAA expects the airport to strive to correct any inconsistencies with the assurances, and stated the start of a new year is a good time to start.

One complication Evans mentioned is that Tri-State Airmotive, a fixed-base operation that leases space on the airport property, would be considered competition because it sublets some of its space. The FAA could see the competition as a violation.

Clark pointed out it is also a requirement that all activities occurring on airport property must be aviation-related, and the commission does not know what happens in the hangars. Evans suggested they initiate an inspection schedule so they can see inside every hangar. "It puts everyone on the same page," he said.

Commissioners eventually settled on quarterly inspections of all hangars.

Meeting time change

The commission voted to move its meeting time each month to 12 p.m. on the third Friday of each month.

Next meeting will be Friday, Jan. 16, at noon.



New year for old films

KENZIE DOSS

Eureka Springs Classic Movies is a local non-profit dreamed up in March of last year as a lighthearted, nostalgic way of supporting Eureka nightlife. Locals and visitors are encouraged to come experience the often-elusive joy of seeing a classic film in a complete theatre setting two Sundays a month at the Auditorium.

The organizers chose Sunday so as not to conflict with weekend events in the hopes of encouraging local attendance as well as visitors.

"It's an artistic experience to come to the Aud; classic films are art and we're supporting the arts," John Speed, ESCM president, said. "We're trying hard to choose films people of all ages can enjoy and may even have never before seen on a big screen."

John attributes his inspiration as coming from the Memphis Orpheum. The theatre has an ongoing classic film series, and John noticed many other cities boast the same to show off their older theatres. Seeing these pearls of cinema, John determined to inquire about a classic film group in Eureka.

"The City Advertising and Promotion Commission administrated it all and many places in town immediately stepped up as sponsors," John said.

ESCM offers the full movie theatre experience complete with concessions. The organizers are proud to think of the movie nights as

one way of supporting Eureka.

"Owning a bed and breakfast in town, I sometimes have guests ask me 'what can we do?' This is an affordable and fun thing they can do in the evenings; and sixteen and under are free!" John adds.

Each month ESCM has a unique cinematic theme to the films it shows and is excited to promote community, comfort and nostalgia. During February, in honor of the 60th anniversary of James Dean's death, ESCM is having an extra screening and will show three James Dean films over the course of the month in homage to the beloved actor.

The group is also considering offering soup or chili on the second screening of each month to give a 'dinner and a movie' feel to the evenings. Friends and guests are welcome to fill their bellies and enjoy a comfortable night out.

"We want the experience to be rich and wonderful in this historic theatre," says Enid Swartz, sponsor/chair of ESCM.

The classic film group clearly demonstrates the resolve to provide just that. Their hard work and cinematic efforts urge attendance and appreciation of so many films that already live in our hearts.

Films are at 7 p.m. on Jan. 11 (The Birds) and 25 (Psycho). Tickets are \$3 adults, 16 and under free. Check the paper's Independent Art section for details and upcoming films.

January eagle watch tours

Hobbs State Park conservation area is offering eagle watch tours on Beaver Lake through February. January tours will take place on January 10-11, 17 – 19, 24 – 25 and 31.

Tickets must be purchased in advance. Adults \$10 + tax, children 6 – 12 \$5 + tax. Tours depart Rocky Branch Marina promptly at 3 p.m. For more information and to make reservations, call (479) 789-5000.

THANK YOU

Join us for a

Save *d* the Ozarks

Community Celebration



**Sunday, Jan. 11
at the Inn of the Ozarks
Convention Center**

(Same place we told it to the judge)

**Doors open at 2:30,
remarks from STO board at 3**

Celebratory cake and coffee/tea provided.

Bring finger food to share.

Cash bar, t-shirts on sale.