

Foundation board sheds light on center plans

NICKY BOYETTE

A robust and vocal crowd of more than 100 showed up on a chilly last Sunday afternoon at the Inn of the Ozarks for a public meeting conducted by the Eureka Springs Highlander Community Center Foundation. Before the meeting, foundation members conducted tours of the old high school property to explain their vision for the site.

The building with the gymnasium will become the community center, according to Diane Murphy, chair of the foundation board. She expects the gym to become the multi-purpose facility the town needs. With a rollout floor option to protect the gym floor, even the farmers' market could open there in inclement weather.

Board member Jack Moyer said the foundation wants to create a space where the town can gather. The community center would become the hub of the urban trail system. The building has a small commercial kitchen and plenty of meeting space. The former band room will be remade to accommodate fairly large events. Moyer said the room could host traditional community center activities such as yoga classes or senior activities, and the former EAST lab could continue its technical history and become a satellite center for technical training.

Al Larson of the board told the tour group B-100, the building closest to US 62, will be razed except for the front corner, which will remain as a tribute to former students and function as the backdrop for a stage facing the outdoor space. With the building gone, the space will be transformed into an outdoor plaza for

FOUNDATION TOURS continued on page 2



And over here where some of you studied Algebra there will be a plaza – Highlander Community Center Foundation board members gave tours and presentations to about 100 people Sunday afternoon to clarify plans for the former Eureka Springs High School property. A trail system hub, farmers' market, events venue, office space and aquatic park were all mentioned in the \$2.5 – 5,000,000 project that could start in April.

PHOTO BY NICKY BOYETTE

This Week's INDEPENDENT Thinker



PHOTO CREDIT: EARTHFORM

Jonathon is the world's oldest living land creature, but he was starting to feel his age. He was losing his senses and verve and just wasn't at himself. The 183-year-old tortoise was dragging, couldn't see or smell, and kept eating twigs and leaves and anything he bumped into. His vet on St. Helena Island (remember where Napoleon died?) in the South Atlantic Ocean simply changed Jonathon's diet.

Now the herbivorous turtle is eating apples, cucumbers, carrots, bananas and guava, and feels great. He has recaptured his senses and is gaining weight and acting the way a tortoise should act, messing around with his friends in the neighborhood where he has lived since 1882.

The vet is the real independent thinker, but he's publicity shy.

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This isn't just a pile of words. It's base camp.

FOUNDATION TOURS continued from page 1
community events.

Glenn Crenshaw, also on the foundation board, explained B-200 will be converted into Class A office space. The foundation is counting on B-200 to be the revenue stream to pay for the convention center. He said three parties are ready to sign up for space already.

Board member Bill Featherstone commented the last thing done at the community center would probably be adding the aquatic park. The first thing will be to roughly identify where there could be a paved, lighted walking trail one-third of a mile in length around the property. He said the central location of the site makes it the logical hub for the proposed urban trail system, and mentioned developing trails from the community center to downtown, to Black Bass Lake and eventually to Lake Leatherwood City Park.

Public meeting

Murphy told the packed room the original discussions about what to do with the vacant property happened in the school board's Facilities Committee with Sam Kirk as chair. Breakthrough Solutions was called in as advisors, and they brought in Cromwell Architects Engineers of Little Rock. The consensus after several public meetings was the town wanted a community center, and a

core group continued to meet with the goal of turning the property into a community center. Last year that core group created the Highlander Community Center Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

Chris East of Cromwell Architects Engineers gave an overview of the project including the plan for each building. He observed the location is the gateway to the historic loop and the importance of the location cannot be overstated. He described the architectural design for the renovated buildings as "a traditional historic look."

He said next for the project would be to begin the design process and implement a fundraising strategy. The foundation needs to raise \$200,000 by April. At that point, site improvements can begin.

Crenshaw told the audience the price tag for the total project including the aquatic center would be \$5-6 million. However, just the community center, the outdoor venue, the office park and the trails would cost approximately \$2.5 million. He said they anticipate the office complex will generate from \$100,000 – \$150,000 annually.

As Murphy was getting ready to open the floor up for questions, a voice toward the back asked, "Are donations tax-deductible, and where do we send them?"

Murphy replied donations are deductible and she pointed out the

eurekaspringscommunitycenter.com website has clear instructions for how to donate.

Comments and questions

Following is a smattering of comments and questions:

"This project could be a model for using renewable energy. Our town has a chance to make a mark."

"Encourage the use of native plants and trees; make it uniquely Eureka."

"Use some of the office space for solar panel conversion; build it green! Show the world a better way."

"Your vision should consider the future; use the principles of low impact development to moderate the recharge into the springs."

"Why not fruit trees?"

"Excellent way to bring the community together. An opportunity for a public-private partnership."

"The renderings we have seen look awfully regular. Great attention should be given to replicate the Ozarks, not a parking lot."

"It's exciting. You might consider recurring donations. I want to support it but I won't remember to support it every month."

"Plans show a coffee shop in the office space. Why not also open a space for art studios... a place for all our arts?"

"Looking at the longer-term, put in a business incubator which would bring innovative people to town. Also make the facility year-round for residents."

"B-200 could have other uses. It could be used right away with minor renovations as artists' studios. Also urge the school district to give the property to the city."

"Someone mentioned a coffee shop. No franchises!"

"The library plans to use the facility as auxiliary program space for library events."

"So far, renderings don't look suburban or mallish. People want to see Eureka Springs, so it should have lots of rocks."

Outside perspective

Murphy introduced David Wright, director of the Bentonville Parks and Recreation Department, which opened a community center six months ago. He said he never had as much community support for his project as he saw in the room at that moment. He described the activities available at his center, but advised the city "to create a program base unique to Eureka Springs." Wright said based on what he had seen at the meeting, "You're on the right track."

Murphy stated, "This will not be the last community meeting, just the next one," although no date for another public meeting was announced.

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Ragsdell steps down as CAPC chair

NICKY BOYETTE

The first order of business at the Jan. 13 City Advertising and Promotion Commission meeting was to elect the chair for 2016. Chair Charles Ragsdell announced he wanted to step down as chair, so commissioner Terry McClung nominated commissioner Ken Ketelsen. Vote to approve Ketelsen as chair was unanimous, so he and Ragsdell switched seats.

Ketelsen acknowledged Ragsdell's passion for trying to find a solution to support for the Auditorium.

Building a reserve

Maloney suggested the commission consider setting aside as much as \$75,000 in a reserve account because the stellar year in collections produced a surplus. McClung moved to put \$70,000 into reserves, and vote to approve his motion was unanimous.

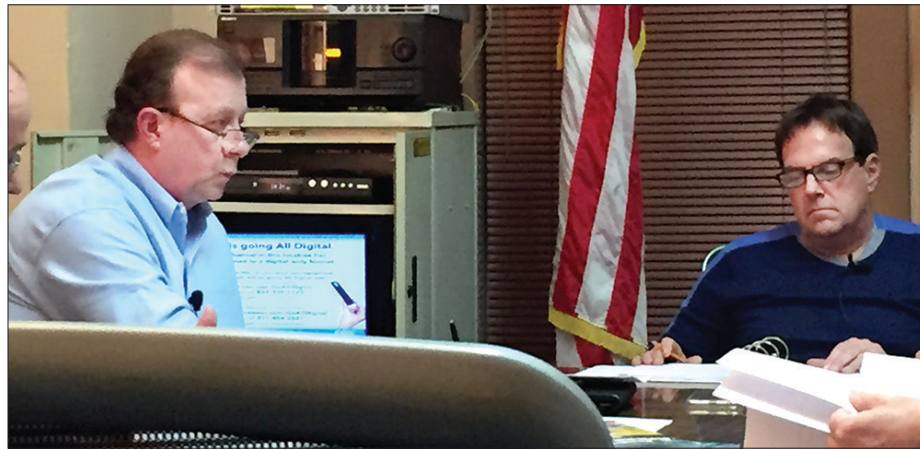
Maloney announced state tourism collection figures show October was an especially good month for Carroll County, primarily Eureka Springs, and the county consistently is ranked in the top five in tourism dollars collected. "We're an important county in Arkansas," Maloney commented.

Finance Director Rick Bright reported collections through the end of November showed year-to-date collection up 7.1 percent compared to 2014 collections for the same period.

Director's report

Maloney announced Eureka Springs had been named the Google e-commerce City of the Year in Arkansas. He pointed out the CAPC was not the only place in town marketing through the Internet. "We have many businesses in town aggressive on the web. This was truly a city-wide award," Maloney said.

He urged commissioners to look at Gina



The gavel passes – Newly-voted in chair of the CAPC, Ken Ketelsen (r.), presides over the Jan. 13 CAPC meeting as Executive Director Mike Maloney gives a report. Ketelsen replaced Charles Ragsdell who still sits on the commission. PHOTO BY NICKY BOYETTE

Rambo's blog on the eureka Springs.org site. He said Rambo keeps the etherworld up-to-date on what will be happening all over town and has attracted a following.

KOLR 10 TV from Springfield came to town and interviewed locals and shot video that aired in Little Rock and Oklahoma City, which Maloney said was good free public relations for Eureka Springs.

He said he would be attending the Governor's Conference on Tourism in Springdale March 13–16, and encouraged commissioners to join him. He will also be attending Arkansas Parks & Tourism meetings this year. He said there is a meeting every month at sites around the state.

The CAPC would be refining the landing pages viewers choose, such as weddings, culinary and arts, and ensure everything the viewer might want to see is available. He will also be working with their digital marketing consultant to expand the Internet presence of Eureka Springs, and called the ads "rifleshots" delivered to very specific audiences.

Maloney stated that mobile traffic has now eclipsed desktop, and social media continues to be a reliable marketing tool. "Facebook might be the single best investment we make," Maloney remarked. He plans to reduce print advertising by thirty percent and move the money to digital.

CAPC continued on page 8

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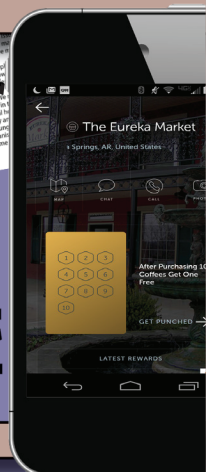
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INDEPENDENTNews

ESH says clinic a hit

NICKY BOYETTE

Chris Bariola, CEO of the Eureka Springs Hospital (ESH), joined the Hospital Commission meeting by speakerphone at Monday afternoon's meeting and told commissioners ESH is in great shape, volume has increased, and the hospital continues to add services so locals will not have to drive out of the area for care.

Bariola said it was a good investment to create the position for Dr. Christopher Baranyk, who opened a family practice clinic in the Eastgate Center on US 62 as an adjunct to ESH. Catherine Pappas, community liaison for ESH, said the clinic sees an average of eight-to-ten patients per day, which proves this is a much-needed service for the community. She said Baranyk has been in practice long enough to have repeat patients.

Bariola told commissioners he is looking to add a new CT machine at ESH. His goal is to make the existing facility financially viable and more efficient, and he continues to look for services locals need.

He said he had no news from Alliance regarding progress toward a new facility.

Other items

• The commission voted to keep the slate of officers: Michael Merry, Chair; Suzanne Tourtelot, Secretary; Robert Walling, Treasurer.

• Walling announced the commis-

sion's accounts had topped the \$2 million mark. He and Merry will pursue getting the best deal they can for their assets.

• Commissioner Anna Ahlman announced her resignation effective at the end of the meeting.

Next meeting will be Monday, Feb. 15, at 1 p.m. at ECHO Clinic.

INDEPENDENT Art & Entertainment

Julie Kahn Valentine and Rhonda Dixon featured artists at Main Stage

From Jan. 22 – Feb. 21, Julie Kahn Valentine and Rhonda Dixon will be the featured artists at Main Stage Creative Community Center.

A public reception for the artists will be held Friday, Jan. 22 from 6 – 9 p.m. Dixon will show several of her stained glass works including two 6 foot square, antique windows each with 30 panes forming an Ozark landscape of spring wildflowers. Valentine will show several of her Eureka Springs buildings, some Valentine and Mardi Gras works, and her recently released Eureka Springs Coloring Book.

Main Stage is located at 67 North Main. Main Stage will be open Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. during the exhibition.



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Planning affirms 'wobble room' in Code

NICKY BOYETTE

David Marry presented an application for a Planned Unit Development (PUD) off East Mountain to the Planning Commission at the Jan. 12 meeting. Marry and his wife, Carrie, intend to build 16 units on the property according to an environmentally-sensitive, aesthetically-coordinated plan.

Marry told commissioners he and Carrie have been talking to Public Works Director Dwayne Allen as well as staff of the Fire Department and utility company to make sure their plans are satisfactory.

Plans call for a loop to enter the property off East Mountain with all lots nestled along the outside of the loop. Inside the loop will be a park. The Marrys intend to build all the homes though they would allow a buyer to build as long as the design meets the covenants.

Marry wants all roofs to be metal, and the design will employ rain gardens to control rainwater runoff. All properties will have two off-street parking spaces



David and Carrie Marry present the Planning Commission with a plan to build 16 environmentally-benevolent small houses on East Mountain.

PHOTO BY NICKY BOYETTE

PLANNING continued on page 23



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Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center
- Feb. 5 • 6 p.m.**
Coronation Ball
Crescent Hotel
- Feb. 6 • 2 p.m.**
Eureka Gras' Day Parade
- Feb. 6 • 6 p.m.**
Mayor's Ball
6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. ball
Basin Park Hotel
- Feb. 7 • 11:30 a.m.**
Jazz Brunch
Crescent Hotel
- Feb. 9 • 6 p.m.**
St. Liz Cajun King Cake Ball
St Elizabeth Parish Hall

For more info see
EurekaSpringsMardiGras.org

The art of promoting the city

NICKY BOYETTE

Almost 30 citizens attended a City Advertising and Promotion Commission workshop on Dec. 16 to hear a discussion of how the CAPC and lodging and attractions industries could figure out a more effective information-sharing strategy. Contrary sentiments expressed at the workshop focused on group travel efforts of the CAPC.

Karen Pryor, sales director for the CAPC and the person responsible for group travel promotion, took a moment to meet with the *Independent* in her office to explain what she does to promote group travel. She is one of seven Certified Travel Industry Specialists in Arkansas, licensed after a 16-month course administered by Purdue University and the American Bus Association specific to the motor coach and group tour industries.

Pryor said six years ago, former director Jim Williams charged her with creating a group sales position. She took on the challenge without training or tutelage, knowing it would involve travel and consume evenings and weekends.

Pryor said she attends many trade shows with her peers from Fayetteville, Bentonville, Ft. Smith and Mt. Magazine. At the events, each person represents the whole state as well as their home turf. Trade shows she attends are not consumer fairs or expos, but planned one-on-one encounters. She gets a list of trade show attendees six weeks in advance and studies their profiles. If a name

seems like a likely prospect, she makes an appointment to meet. She also gets calls from attendees who want to know more about Eureka Springs.

These one-on-one sessions are where Pryor gets leads. At an event, the booth is set up and appointments begin to arrive. Each meeting lasts seven minutes, and she commented, "That day, I could have fourteen or I could have forty."

She said both parties already know what they will discuss. "It's a networking opportunity," she said, "and sometimes they work very well." The people she meets are decision-makers among promoters and operators in the group travel industry, and they plan far ahead. She spoke earlier that day with a woman bringing her group to town in 2017.

The group asking for information could be five people in a van or a full motor coach. She said she has those seven minutes to convince the person to look at a video and take a promotional package. The conversation can get to the point of providing the prospect's contact information to local lodging properties in town that have requested it. That is the lead. Pryor sends this information back to Eureka Springs as soon as possible, and she and Executive Director Mike Maloney are working on an even faster strategy.

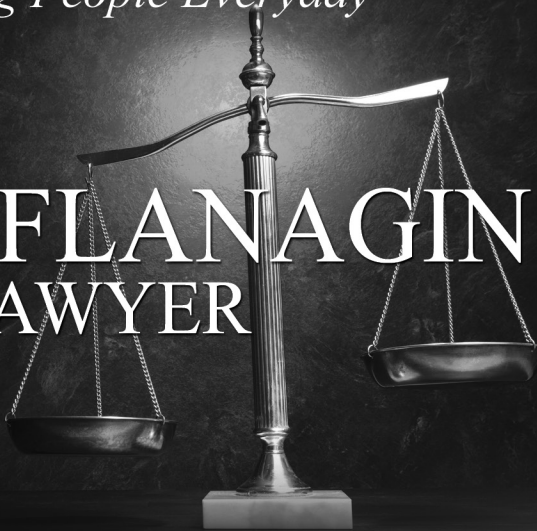
Pryor said the group travel industry has shifted a bit

PROMOTING continued on page 23



PHOTO BY GINA RAMBO

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Mayor's task force making contacts

NICKY BOYETTE

Mike Maloney, executive director of the City Advertising and Promotion Commission (CAPC) announced at the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Development meeting Wednesday morning that 2015 was a "banner year in overall collections." He said collections hit \$1.3 million, and he's projecting \$1.5 million in his 2016 budget.

He said this year he plans "to really engage the digital process." He has identified a dozen niche markets such as weddings, bicycling or food, and is refining delivery of information about Eureka Springs so viewers get more and fresher content.

Chair Sandy Martin told the group she has been working on a collaborative calendar with Crystal Bridges, Bentonville and Branson so that different destinations can reduce competing events. She also mentioned a third movie project will be coming to Eureka Springs during 2016, plus a documentary filmed in Eureka Springs will be shown at the Sundance Film Festival.

Martin mentioned she had to redo her promotional toolkit, but once it's finished, they are ready to pinpoint prospective businesses and pitch Carroll County and Eureka Springs. She emphasized, however, it will be more difficult to have that conversation without incentives

to entice a company to move here. She distributed a page showing incentives cities around the country employ, such as a rate break on utilities, industrial revenue bonds and infrastructure improvements.

Kimberly Clark brought up the fine art of health. She said the trend for living healthier lives fits in with Eureka Springs and its environs, claiming there is a market for folks who want to live here part-time to get away from city life. The city could promote real estate investing in the rural parts of the county and make it easier for prospective buyers to find their dream hideaway. Plus there are plenty of small business opportunities associated with the art of health.

Alderman Terry McClung mentioned the mountain biking industry is another niche that fits well with Eureka Springs. He suggested the group identify its targets and develop incentives based on what the interested parties need.

Dan Hebert told the group he had spoken with Phillip Stafford of the Technology Development Foundation of

the University of Arkansas, also known as the business incubator program. Hebert invited Stafford to attend a task force meeting to see what connections they can develop.

Mayor Butch Berry pointed out revenue for the city comes from sales tax, and a new industry adding jobs to the area would mean more money in town. He said the city could consider creative incentives such as Sandy had mentioned.

Hebert stated, "If we bring in a business, the city can give a tax holiday for three years, for example. It is a short-term investment for a long-term gain, and it doesn't cost anything."

He added a need for some new business owners is advice on managing their working capital. It could be an incentive to provide this kind of assistance. Martin said this kind of support could be an opportunity for local banks to help the task force, and promised to follow up.

Next task force meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 10, at 10 a.m., at the Auditorium.



Warming up a cold morning – A two-story private residence on Table Rock Dr. caught fire early Monday morning. According to Capt. Kelly Trahan of the Holiday Island Fire Dept., two people and two cats escaped the fire, and the fire marshal will investigate the cause. *PHOTO BY JIM NETHERTON*

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Corporate rise has been a long time coming

Editor,

The purpose of a multinational corporation is to generate profits for investors. It has no other purpose. It acknowledges no higher value, moral or ethical. Starting in 1886 the Supreme Court has declared that corporations will be considered “persons” with all of the constitutional rights that implies. But they are super-persons under the law, having powers that actual persons don’t have – immortality, ability to be many places at once and the ability to avoid liability. They privatize profits but socialize liabilities (the public pays).

With the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) pushed by Obama and multinational corporations, begins a world-wide corporate takeover. Written by more than 600 corporate executives from 16 industry trade advisory committees in collusion with 11 Pacific Rim countries, it is touted as a trade pact, but trade is only a very

small part of its content and intent. Of its 29 chapters, only five deal with traditional trade.

All national democratic laws in all participating countries are nullified and superseded by its provisions. All national court systems are trumped by its laws. Corporations are allowed to sue any participating country for any real or *anticipated* profits lost by them due to democratic action taken by citizens to protect their own country’s superstructure, food, transportation, energy or social programs, [The \$20 billion suit now brought against us by the Trans Canada Corporation Keystone XL pipeline, for loss of *anticipated* profits, is a perfect example of what the future holds. This is a foot in the door]. No wonder TPP deliberations and content are kept absolutely secret. Not even elected government legislators are allowed to see them. [Jim Hightower’s *Lowdown* Vol. 15, No. 8, Aug. 2013]

Check out Bernie Sander’s election platform. It counteracts many of the serious problems we now have due to the multinational-corporate rise to power.

Rand Cullen



WEEK’S Top Tweets

@bruceforce: Reminder to anyone who received a book from me at Xmas; they’re due back at the library today.

@dshack8: Told my wife I was gonna lay on the couch and watch football all day and

yadayadayada this tweet is coming to you from Bed Bath & Beyond.

@Buckylisotope: [stranded on desert island] *spells out message in rocks* WHAT’S THE WI-FI PASSWORD

@9to5Life: I’d write a book on parenting but it’d probably just end up being full of cocktail recipes.

@Smethanie: Hey Moms! Here’s a fun game to play: When your kid gets home from school, be lying on the floor screaming in pain, “YOU STEPPED ON A CRACK!”

@DamienFahey: Ever had to force a smile while someone takes

forever trying to figure out how to use the camera? That’s how teenagers feel 24 hours a day.

@luckyshirt: I just bought a round of shots for everybody, but they’re being totally ungrateful and saying they don’t even have tetanus.

@slappnuttz: I figured out that if I have my kids hold on to my cell phone I will never forget them anywhere again.

@kumailn: Who decided smiling would be the default expression for pictures?

@donni: Took a whole week for my neighbor who only watches the Discovery Channel to realize thieves had replaced his TV with an aquarium.

@havingfunfunn: Why do they call it a free gift? Aren’t all gifts free?

CAPC continued from page 3

Another new player in digital marketing is native advertising in which editorial commentary leads a viewer to information about Eureka Springs. He said this method works well because there are hundreds of topics to write about in Eureka Springs.

He added geofencing produces a tremendous response.

Commissioner Damon Henke asked if Maloney could produce a chart or map showing how much advertising money goes to which areas. Maloney liked the idea and said he had informally done just that earlier in the day. He said he would provide the commission with such a chart.

Special events coordinator

Maloney reported he had received ten applications for the position of special events coordinator, and had been underwhelmed. One application might have been good but most of the applicants were “disappointing.”

He said he would redirect his search toward someone with connections in the music business who can coordinate festivals. He will offer a contract labor position for up to 160 hours per month.

There was a brief back-and-forth about offering more money to get a more qualified person to run the Auditorium and manage special events. Bright reminded the commission they had so far budgeted \$36,000 for the position, and the hiree would get less than that. Maloney said he planned to interview three people the following week and report back to the commission at the next workshop.

Other items

• Ragsdell announced John Hammond would be the entertainer at the Second Saturday event on April 9. He also announced Gordon Lightfoot will be appearing again at the Auditorium on Thursday, June 23.

• Ragsdell announced 66 nights are

already booked for the Auditorium so far. Rumors of its demise, he said, are overstated.

• Commissioner Damon Henke urged locals to tweet #eurekaafterdark and #onlyineureka to find information about things going on in town.

• During Public Comments, citizen Susan Harmon asked Maloney why it was worth the money and time to build a Eureka Springs app, as he had suggested in previous meetings, when the priority is getting information to the viewer quickly and easily and the current website can do that. She asked if the app would not be just another site to maintain.

Ragsdell replied the data on the app would come from the website, and Maloney invited her to drop by his office for a more complete explanation.

Next workshop will be Wednesday, Jan. 27, at 4 p.m., at the CAPC office. Next meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 10, at 6 p.m.

Our time has come

The effort to create a community center in town opens up a myriad of opportunities for the community to center, to gather the resources available, to participate if the idea presented by the Community Center Foundation is going to work. The fact the city is at this point is remarkable, but here we are at that point.

At the public meeting Sunday afternoon, one person asked the foundation to set up recurring donations so she did not need to remember each month. The overall tone was positive and wholesome with an eye on creating a model facility. Solar panels. Native plants and trees. Plenty of rocks. Make it very Eureka. One person told me she was inspired enough to offer her help fundraising because the foundation would need help getting money to pay for all the ideas the public suggested.

The building with the gymnasium will be the town's convention center for typical city center activities like meetings, events or when the governor comes. The gym might have leagues. Groups from out of town could conduct retreats in the meeting rooms. The mystery is how the history of the community center will play out once it is ready. What will happen there? What an opportunity!

The razing of B-100 will be an historic event. If the foundation's plan works out, that day will come soon. An outdoor venue would take its place. A plaza like the one in the architectural renderings would put Eureka Springs on the map and in the news, and is bound to draw a few curious onlookers. Sounds good so far. And native trees in an open area where lounging citizens watch entertainment on the stage. The town already has a picturesque, historic stage, but the new setting changes the event, and it's more intimate than the ballfields at Lake Leatherwood. But somebody has to pay for the native trees and the pavers in the pathways and everything else.

The other building is scheduled to become Class A office space in plans offered by the foundation, and the plan is for this building to pay for everything unless somebody gives the foundation a boatload of money. A voice at the public meeting suggested the school district should give the property to the city. That would change things. The District could, in return, have a space for technical training classes.

This building is the biggest mystery and the linchpin of the plan. Board member Glenn Crenshaw said during Sunday's tour that three parties have already stated interest in space when it is available. Audience members at the public meeting observed the spaces, with only minor modifications, could become art studios fairly quickly. There were other comments about spaces for local artists, but this building, according to the plan, is going to sustain the project. I'm just noticing.

Also a culinary school or a satellite campus for technical training has been mentioned. It could house an adjunct to Eureka Springs Hospital as it adds new specialists.

Whatever goes into B-200, there will be bills to pay. Somebody will need to sweep up the leaves under the native Ozark trees in the plaza. A significant investment in solar panels on B-300 right away would pay for itself and two or three leaf rakers over time. Picture the Eureka Springs Community Center with a full stack of solar panels, an environmentally-sensitive landscape designed by a collaboration of local talent and architecture which pulls everything together. First of all, there will be something new in Eureka Springs for visitors to photograph, plus it will make marketing the town even easier. Second of all, somebody has to pay for all this.

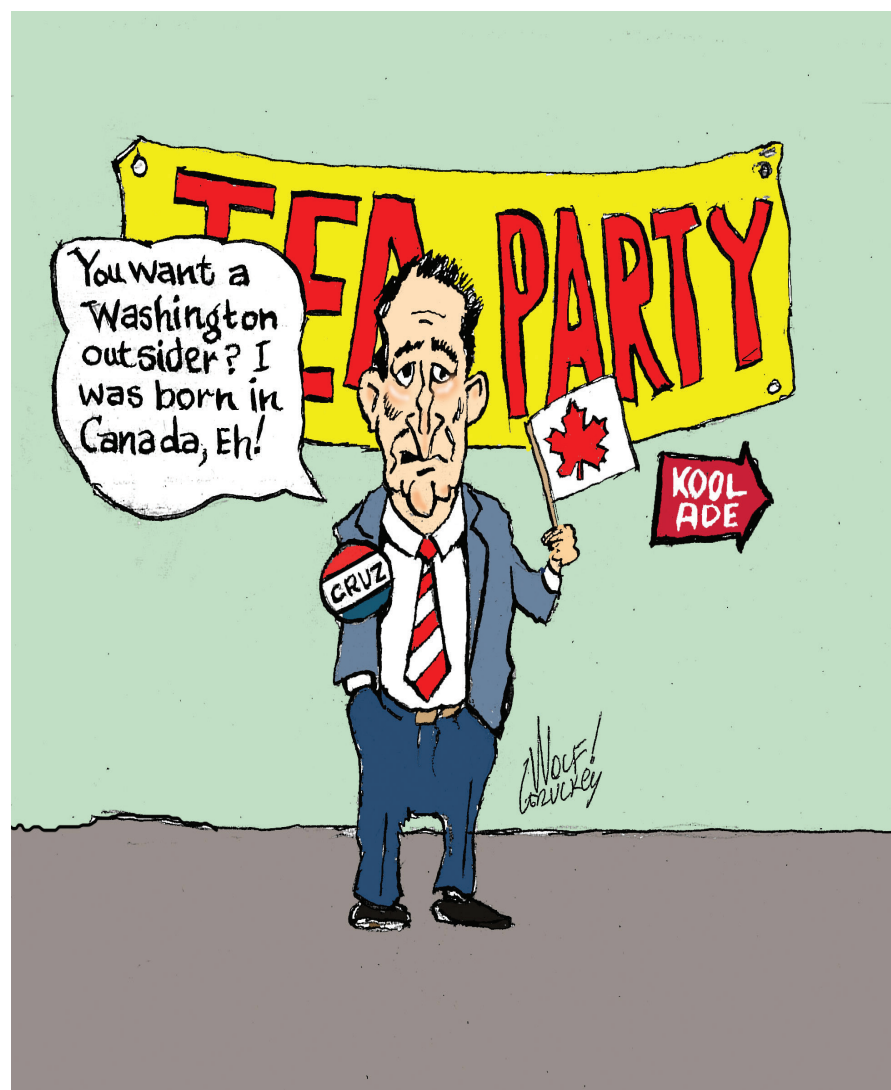
Also, the facility will have a lighted walking track around the property, and it becomes the logical hub of the urban trail system as it is developed.

A common theme at the public meeting was making the property into a model for others to aspire to. Why not! Great idea, but the foundation needs a bunch of money to get things rolling.

I'm not being negative, only objective, when I notice this is not a done deal, and for that reason the moment is propitious. It's game on right now for the foundation board and supporters of the plan. Who's going to help?

I look forward to reporting on the process and standing in the plaza to watch the grand opening.

Nicky Boyette



The Pursuit Of HAPPINESS

by Dan Krotz

I got some Tibetan prayer flags for Christmas and hung them on New Year's Day. These aren't flags in the strict sense, but are colorful squares of ten by twelve-inch cloth stitched together on a string like links in a chain. I strung the flags between two old pecan trees in my backyard. Each square has a prayer, written in Sanskrit, silk-screened onto it. The prayers are fairly universal and say stuff like, "Don't be a dick" and, "What goes around comes around."

The first time I saw prayer flags was on the outskirts of Lhasa, in Tibet. They were strung absolutely everywhere, from public buildings and backyard privies, and in and around every yard and beer garden. The noise of prayer flags flapping in the wind was so constant that they drowned out the bus and truck traffic of rush hour. And when I looked up into the sky it was like watching confetti raining down during a 5th Avenue parade. It was a lot of fun to see.

When the Chinese took over Tibet they destroyed much of everything having to do with Tibetan culture and religion. Prayer flags were discouraged but not entirely eliminated. Most of the traditional prayer flags today are made in Nepal by Tibetan refugees, or by Nepali Buddhists from Tibetan border regions. The flags I fly are made in Nepal.

A good friend, who is also a good Baptist, is uneasy about these flags. She's pretty sure they're symbols of a demonic cult, and that I fly them because I'm naive and have failed to notice the devil hiding behind the pecan tree on the left. I explained to her that each flag represents a person in my life who I pray for. When I see the first blue flag I'm reminded to pray for my daughter; the red one is for my daughter-in-law; the green one for our son... and so on. My friend is puzzled, but nods. She can't quite think of a reason how praying can be wrong.

So there it is: evangelizing the world, one Baptist at a time.

A little help from our friends:

- **Community Suppers at St. James:** St. James' Episcopal Church, 28 Prospect, will hold Sunday community suppers, from 5 – 6 p.m., through March 20. Supper will be provided by local restaurants. The suppers are free and all are welcome.
- **Carroll County Domestic Violence Hotline:** 1-844-247-3223 (844-24PEACE) is available 24/7. The Purple Flower Domestic Violence Resource and Support Center of Carroll County is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. on North Springfield St. in Berryville. (479) 981-1676.
- **24-hour NWA Crisis Line for Women** – NWA Women's Shelter serving Carroll County – "Empowering families to live free of violence." (800) 775-9011 www.nwawomen.org
- **Cup of Love free soup lunches** – Cup of Love provides soup lunches at Flint Street Fellowship Mondays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. and at First Baptist (Penn) Church on Fridays, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. (479) 363-4529
- **Flint Street Fellowship food pantry, lunch, free clothing** – Pantry open 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Free lunch Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Free clothes/shoes closet, books and household items. (479) 253-9491 or 253-4945. Leave donations in barrel at entrance if facility is closed.
- **Wildflowers one-dollar, furniture barn/thrift store** US 62E across from Hill County Hardware. One-dollar store in the yellow building every Friday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Thrift store, furniture bank in big blue barn behind the chapel open Wednesdays – Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Donation drop offs Thursday – Saturday between 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Healing and delivery outreach in chapel Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.
- **Shamatha and Tonglen meditations Monday** – A meditation group will meet every Monday at 6:30 p.m. to focus on Shamatha, learning how to focus to achieve peace of mind, and Tonglen, a practice of love and compassion on all beings. The meetings will alternate these two practices so that one is the focus on each Monday with coffee and tea afterward. Call Alece at (479) 244-6842 or Gary at (479) 244-6840.
- **Celebrate Recovery** – Soul Purpose Ministries, 801 S. Springfield, Green Forest, 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday. Potluck followed by 12-step Christ-centered meetings for those suffering from addiction, habit, hang-up or hurt.
- **Coffee Break Al-Anon Family Group Women** – Tuesdays, 9:45 a.m., Faith Christian Family Church, Hwy. 23S, (479) 363- 9495.
- **No high school diploma?** Free GED classes in the Carnegie Library Annex every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 9 a.m. - noon with study and tutoring for the GED test. Open to ages 18 and up. GED classes also in Berryville at Carroll County Center. Some open to ages 16 and 17 per educational requirements. For info: 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.
- **Grief Share**, a Bible-based, 13-week program for those who have lost a loved one, is held Sundays from 2 – 4 p.m. at Faith Bible Church, Suite C, 3 Parkcliff Drive, Holiday Island. Share in an informal, confidential setting with others experiencing similar circumstances. Call (479) 253-8925 or email lardellen@gmail.com. Meetings at Coffee Pot Club:
- **Alateen** – Sundays, 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. Email alateen1st@gmx.com or phone (479) 981-9977 • **Overeaters Anonymous** – Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. Barbara (479) 244-0371 • **Narcotics Anonymous** – Fridays, 5:30 p.m. (903) 278-5568 • **Al-Anon Family Group (AFG)** – Sundays, 11:30 a.m., Mondays and Tuesdays 7 p.m. • **Eureka Springs Coffee Pot AA Groups** Monday – Saturday 12:30 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m.; Sunday – Thursday, Saturday, 5:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Friday, 8 p.m. (479) 253-7956 • **Al-Anon** Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. All other meetings: See www.nwarkaa.org

INDEPENDENT Constables On Patrol

JANUARY 11

5:20 p.m. – There was a domestic dispute at a business on Hwy. 23 South. Constables spoke with both parties who insisted everything had been verbal only, and they went separate ways.

JANUARY 12

12:20 p.m. – A small dog reportedly scampered in the grass near a roadway east of downtown. Animal Control never came across it.

2:12 p.m. – Apartment dweller told ESPD a male was violating a protection order by being on the property and refusing to leave. There was also a warrant out for his arrest. When constables arrived, the male asked for medical help because of low blood sugar. He was transported to ESH. He walked away later against medical advice and constables arrested him on the warrant.

JANUARY 13

8:16 a.m. – Employee triggered an alarm at a business. 8:29 a.m. – A moving van pulling a trailer was parked so that it blocked the view of oncoming traffic. Constable asked the driver to move the vehicle. After another complaint, the constable asked a second time, and the vehicle was reparked.

10:57 a.m. – Resident above downtown captured a small dog running loose and brought it to the station. The owner later came to retrieve it and paid the impound fee.

7:10 p.m. – Constable complied with a request for a welfare check and discovered the subject had a warrant out, so he arrested her.

JANUARY 14

1:34 a.m. – A vehicle hit a parked van downtown and left the scene but did leave a contact note. Constable took a report.

11:58 a.m. – Staff of a care facility asked to file a

report of possible theft of prescription medications.

1:22 p.m. – A medium-sized mutt ran loose near Black Bass Lake. Animal Control did not encounter it.

7:10 p.m. – Constable performed a welfare check on an individual and found everything okay.

JANUARY 15

1:33 a.m. – Witness reported a male trying to stop vehicles on US 62. Constable advised him to return to his room for the night.

11:13 a.m. – Two dogs were running loose and unsupervised in a neighborhood. The owner arrived to corral the dogs just before Animal Control got there, and the owner was apprised of leash laws and warned another violation would mean a citation.

4:52 p.m. – There was a two-vehicle accident on Hwy. 23 South. No injuries.

JANUARY 16

9:40 a.m. – One driver alerted ESPD to another driver behaving erratically. Constable found the vehicle parked and the driver inside the building already.

2:59 p.m. – Central dispatch transferred a call regarding a domestic dispute. Constables responded and arrested the male for domestic assault and interfering with an emergency communication.

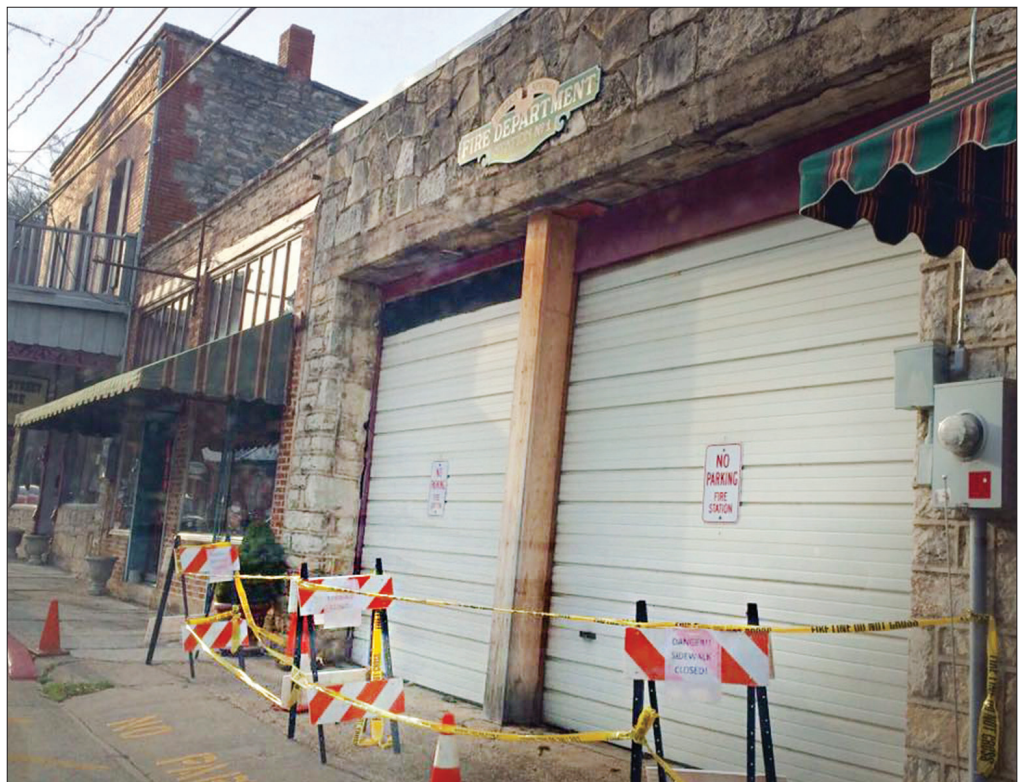
3:30 p.m. – EMS asked for assistance gaining entry to a residence. Constable went to the scene, but entry was no longer needed.

3:54 p.m. – Resident told ESPD two males were walking on his property. Constable learned the two were surveyors checking the property.

4:54 p.m. – Clerk at a store asked for constable assistance because a patron would not leave the premises after repeated requests. The person's ride had come to get him before constables got there.

11:08 p.m. – Traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the driver for DWI and driving left of center.

Why's the fire station closed? – The fire station down on South Main Street has been experiencing deterioration of the patchwork concrete above the doorways, creating a hazard to passersby. The department is obtaining quotes for repairs and the fire station should be back in service soon.



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

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

Part Three – Transportation Difficulties of the Early Days

For some years the supplies for the town that were not available nearby had to be hauled over those rough hills in wagons. Long trains of freight wagons rolled up and down the valley below our home. Our stable was built to house four mules and feed for them. Our brother Charlie was hauling freight before he was seventeen years old. Some of the other teamsters were George Groves, George Martin and Jack Rippetoos.

Our father, S.C. Mills, had made a bad guess as to where the town would build up; he tried to establish a lumber yard – that had been his business at Oswego – but it was not a success; Woodruff’s mill was at the other end of town. Eventually Pa secured the job of hauling express. He drove our big mules, Dick and Jen. He carried a gun but he never used it but once and that was to shoot a wild turkey. But express must be well guarded. He sometimes carried valuable cargo. I have heard him tell of one night when he was compelled to seek shelter in a mountain hut, because of rain

and early darkness. I have no doubt the family were honest. But Pa had a box of silver coin in charge. The woman of the house fixed him a pallet on the floor, the best extra bed she had. Pa could not leave the silver in the wagon, so, as an excuse for carrying a small box, he said he had a box of horseshoe nails, and wouldn’t risk their getting wet. He slept with the box near his head, and carried the valuable consignment safely to its destination the next morning.

The difficulties of transportation limited the variety of products for sale at the stores. Few things but staples such as salt, sugar, soap, dried fish, canned salmon and sardines, matches, kerosene (necessary for lights), flour, meal, tea and coffee, and such products were always to be obtained. Flour came from Pierce City and Marionville. How many remember the Pierce City flour – Diamond Patent and Golden Crown?

Passenger stagecoaches came every day. They were drawn by four horses; some of them were slow, heavy vehicles,

but there was one fast stagecoach, the Nine Hour Stage. It came from Pierce City in nine hours; Goodspeed says the fare was three dollars! We children played in the street, but we knew we must always be out of the way when that coach came. We knew what time it was due, dashing up the street with its galloping horses. Mr. Lehnhard, father of the Lehnard Brothers, for many years bankers in Monett, owned and managed that stagecoach. The four horses were changed every hour, fresh horses ready to keep up the scheduled speed. Nor were these horses burdened with luggage as most of the heavy coach horses were. We have seen those heavy coaches pass with the boot in the rear and all available space on top filled with trunks, bags and boxes.

There was little outlawry in these hills. I heard of but one stage hold-up. “Nigger” Bill was the driver of that coach, and managed to secret some valuables. The bandits were captured later.

One evening two men in a plain farm wagon, drawn by two horses, camped in



the street directly in front of our house. The next morning, after the campers had made an early departure, Mr. McDowell told our father that those men were Frank and Jesse James, that he knew them well by sight. Whether Mr. McDowell was one of the many sympathizers of the James brothers, or whether he did not wish to alarm us, it was best he kept his knowledge of the outlaws to himself while they were there. Certainly there was nothing in our cozy house to tempt them, but our mother would have spent a wretched weekend.

NOTES from the HOLLOW by Steve Weems

There have been several different unrelated Ratliff families live in the Eureka Springs area since the founding of the town in 1879. One such family consisted of John and Christena Ratliff and their two sons, Amos and

Charlie. They arrived in Carroll County in the late 1890s from Lawrence County, Ohio. The marriage dissolved soon after and John Ratliff returned to Ohio, leaving Christena to raise the two boys.

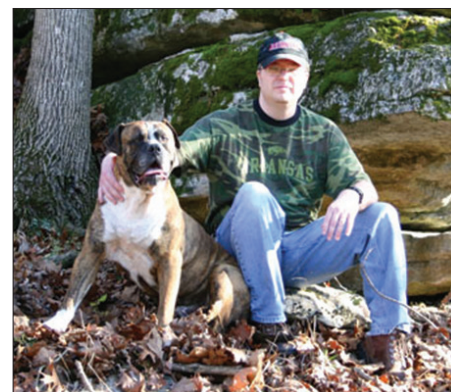
At the age of 20, son Amos married

Beulah Jones of Eureka Springs, but the union was not a happy one. They separated about the time that Amos was jailed for robbery, reputedly to raise money for gifts for his wife.

When he was released from jail on September 20, 1920, he found Beulah in a buggy with prominent local farmer John Berry. Amos shot them both in the back. Mr. Berry, age 25, died, but Beulah survived. John Berry was buried in Beulah Union Cemetery south of Eureka Springs in an unmarked grave. Records show that a veteran’s tombstone was later acquired for Mr. Berry, a WWI veteran, by Congressman Claude Fuller.

While awaiting trial for murder, Amos Ratliff was released on bail and had the idea he could regain his now ex-wife’s affections if he had money to yet again buy her gifts.

Winifred Frazier lived south of Eureka Springs on 40 acres she’d purchased after moving to Arkansas from Kansas. It is believed that Amos Ratliff thought that Miss Frazier was going to withdraw a



large amount of money from the bank on the day he robbed and murdered her. She had been to the bank that day, but had only withdrawn enough money to cover her small farm’s expenses. I’m told by a local old-timer who remembers hearing about the murder that so much blood had soaked into the wooden floor of Winifred Frazier’s house it had to be chipped away with an axe.

Amos Ratliff eluded the law for a time, but the fugitive was finally captured and stood trial for the murder of Frazier. He was sentenced to death and electrocuted October 14, 1921 in Little Rock.

Query the write way at the Writers’ Colony

Laura McHugh will teach you how to find a reputable literary agent and write an effective query letter to publishers at the Writers’ Colony, 515 Spring Street, on Saturday, Feb. 6. The four hour class, from 1 – 5 p.m. will cover:

- How to find and research agents
- How to choose the right agents to query
- How to write an effective query letter
- How to navigate the query process

Laura McHugh is the recipient of the My Time Fellowship at the Writers’ Colony at Dairy Hollow for 2015. She is a guest of the Colony for two weeks where she is working on her third novel.

The class is \$25 and limited to 20 participants. Email director@writerscolony.org or call (479) 253-7444 to register.



A tribute to MLK, Jr. – The Lark and the Loon played at Heart of Many Ways Monday morning as part of a tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr. An evening celebration of King's life was cancelled due to bad weather. *PHOTO BY HILKA ZIMMERMAN*

Move to digital in the works at CCSO

NICKY BOYETTE

Justice of the Peace Jack Deaton told the Carroll County Quorum Court at its Jan. 18 meeting work is progressing toward finding financing for an upgrade of the 911-dispatch system at the Sheriff's Office. Deaton said all radio equipment must be upgraded to digital within about seven years. Deaton's goal is for the county to pay for the new equipment through a grant.

The new equipment will be a combination analog-digital so dispatchers can talk with everyone during the transition to digital because not everyone will be changed over at the same time. Deaton said this would be an important first step in the overall shift toward digital.

Next step, he said, "Work on the towers."

Deaton said the total cost of the complete changeover will cost Carroll County as much as \$7 million. As for paying for it, Deaton said, "It's like eating an elephant. You do it one bite at a time."

Next meeting will be Monday, Feb. 15, at 5 p.m.

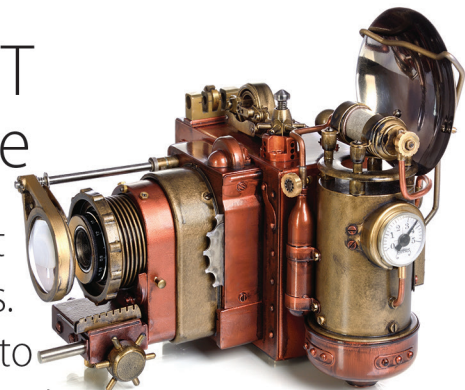
Meditation and reading at Heart of Many Ways

The Eureka Springs Buddhist Study Group will gather for 30 minutes of meditation followed by reading and discussion on Thursday, Jan. 21 at 4 p.m. at Heart of Many Ways, 68 Mountain Street. All are welcome.



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Eureka Springs, AR 72632,
can get that done.



Pate stepping off Airport Commission

NICKY BOYETTE

After a short Executive Session at the Carroll County Airport Commission meeting last Friday, Chair Morris Pate announced he would be stepping down as chair after the meeting. Commissioner Chase Tresler will fill in as interim chair and Pate will continue to sit on the commission.

Pate became chair in January 2015 just as the commission learned its budget would be cut significantly. Tresler commented, "If Morris had not been here five days a week, this place would have been locked up." Commissioner Sandy Martin acknowledged Pate for turning around the commission's relationship with the Quorum Court.

More hangars on the horizon?

Consulting engineer Dan Clinton urged the commission to consider purchasing more land because at some point it will need more hangars. He said he could apply for a federal grant to fund it, and encouraged commissioners to include expansion in its Master Plan.

Clinton explained there is a Federal Aeronautics Administration (FAA) rule that limits CCA from receiving a grant for a particular project, such as rehabbing the runway, to once every ten years. Clinton distributed his Capital Improvement Plan that showed the next grant targets could be rehabbing the runway, expanding the south apron and purchasing more land.

Clinton distributed a list of grants CCA has received since 1989, and recent projects included perimeter fencing,

rehabbing the fuel dispenser area apron and taxiway lighting system repair.

Fuel system

Manager Michael Pfeifer said the updated fuel dispenser "is tested and working," and the new equipment works much faster than they have been accustomed to. Pilots attending the meeting voiced their endorsement, and someone commented, "Even the receipts print faster."

Clinton secured a grant to fund the fuel system replacement.

Hangar as a carrot

Tresler told commissioners a deal had fallen through regarding rental of one hangar because it is against FAA regulations for non-aviation related items to be stored in hangars. This rule precluded

storing a large recreational vehicle, which became a deal-breaker for the tenant.

Commissioners decided this was an opportunity to find a good use for the hangar. Commissioner Dane Mulligan pointed out CCA is looking much better than it did a year ago and word is out that CCA offers loaner cars, rare at small airports. He suggested using the hangar as an overnight or short-term rental might be another reason pilots would stop by, fuel up and see the local sights.

Other items

- Pate announced the Quorum Court had agreed the commission could use \$30,446.14 toward reducing a prior debt of \$77,000.

Next meeting will be Friday, Feb. 19, at 12 p.m.

Pancakes for all Jan. 23

The Good Shepherd Human Society will hold a pancake breakfast at the Berryville United Methodist Church on Jan. 23 from 8 a.m. – noon. Bring the family to feast on pancakes, bacon and sausage, biscuits and gravy and a choice of coffee, orange juice, or milk. There will also be baked goods for sale and a 15

item silent auction.

Tickets are \$5 for all you can eat. Kids under 5 eat free. To-go orders are also available and all proceeds go to the care and feeding of the homeless dogs and cats of Carroll County. The Berryville United Methodist Church is located at 400 Eureka Avenue in Berryville.

Cynthia Sample at Poetluck

Writer-in-residence Cynthia Sample will read "Proof," a short story about to be published in the online journal *Blue Five Notebook*, at Poetluck on Jan. 21 at the Writers' Colony, 515 Spring Street, starting at 6:30 p.m. with a poetluck dinner.

Local writers and musicians are invited to read from or perform their work for up to four minutes. Poetluck takes place every third Thursday of the month at The Writers' Colony. All are welcome and bring a dish to share.

Ribbon cutting at Stone Financial

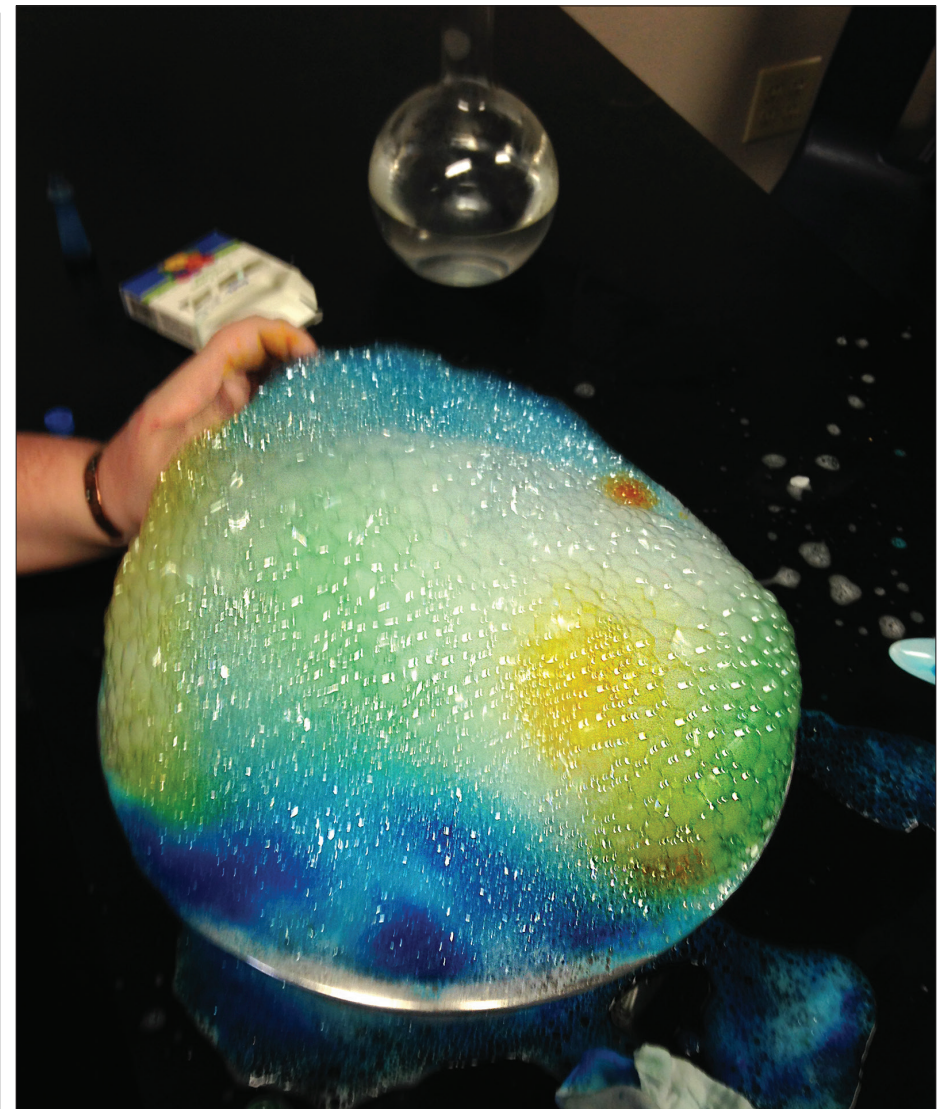
The Greater Eureka Springs Chamber of Commerce will host a ribbon cutting for the Wealth Management department of Stone Financial on Monday, Jan. 25 at 2 p.m. at 105 W. Van Buren #A. The community is invited. For more information about Stone Financial call (479) 253-7892.

Volunteer appreciation dinner Jan. 23

Soldier on Service Dogs will host a volunteer appreciation dinner from 5 – 11 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 23 at their headquarters, 2378 W. Moor Ln. in Fayetteville. The event is free and will include food, carnival games and fun prizes as a way of saying thank you to all

the hardworking Soldier on Service Dogs volunteers. There will be a short awards ceremony.

It is suggested that those planning to attend RSVP by going to eventbrite.com and typing into the search bar "Solider on Service Dogs" and register.



Creating a wacky reaction – Students in Sam Dudley's Chemistry class at Clear Spring School mixed dry ice, liquid dish soap, food coloring and water to create this reaction of colorful proportions.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Metafizzies on spiritual topics

The Jan. 25 meeting of the Eureka Springs Metaphysical Society will feature a group discussion on spiritual topics. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at the Heart of Many Ways, 68 Mountain Street. All are welcome.

Theatre auditions Jan. 24 and 25

The Holiday Island Theatre Guild will be holding open auditions for their coming production of *The Hallelujah Girls*, a two act comedy by Jones, Wooten and Hope on Jan. 24 from 2:30 – 5:30 p.m. and Jan. 25 from 6:30 – 8 p.m. Auditions will be in Room “A” at the Holiday Island clubhouse. Cast will consist of six women and two men and no experience is required. For more information call (479) 081-2638 or (347) 852-5389.

Discussing happiness at the Carnegie Library

The Carnegie Library invites you to challenge your own assumptions about happiness by joining on Monday, Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. in the Library Annex to watch and discuss Rory Sutherland’s, *Life Lessons* from an *Ad Man*, Daniele Quercia’s, *Happy Maps*, and Barry Schwartz’s, *The Paradox of Choice*, TEDtalks. For more information contact the library at (479) 253-8754 or info@eurekalibrary.org.

HIFDA luncheon at the Clubhouse

The Holiday Island Fire Department Auxiliary will hold a luncheon on Tuesday, Jan. 26 at noon in the Clubhouse ballroom at 1 Country Club Drive. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. for social time. Cost is \$8 and reservations must be made by Friday, Jan. 22 by calling Peggy Arnhart at (479) 363-6235. The auxiliary holds several fund-raisers to pay for equipment, training and supplies for the Holiday Island district and rural fire departments and membership is open to men and women. Dues are \$12 per year and may be paid at the meeting.

Love to sew, knit, crochet or cross-stitch?

The Holiday Island Quilters Guild is hosting *Stitching Therapy* on the fourth Thursday of each month, beginning Jan. 28 at the Holiday Island Clubhouse, 1 Country Club, lower level (Room A). All are welcome to bring their projects to sit and stitch anytime between 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. For additional information call Suzanne at (479) 363-6416.

Sip and support the library

Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge and the Eureka Springs Community Center tied to be the January winner of Cocktails for a Cause benefits. The next Cocktails for a Cause will be on Feb. 4 from 5 – 7 p.m. at the Lucky 7 at Basin Park Hotel to help support the local library.

9th annual Chili Supper Feb. 5

The United Methodist Women of the First United Methodist Church of Eureka Springs will host their 9th annual Chili Supper Friday, Feb. 5 from 4 – 7 p.m. at the church, 195 Huntsville Rd.

Proceeds from tickets go toward the church’s local mission work. In the last eight years, over \$9,000 has been given to local organizations including People

Helping People, Flint Street Food Bank, ECHO, OARS, the Boy Scouts, Jeremiah House and Purple Flower.

Tickets costs are \$8 for adults, \$4 for children 5 – 10 and children 4 and under are free. Reserve or purchase tickets in advance from any UM woman or by phone from Janet Rose (479) 253-7051 or Shirley Lykins (479) 253-8812.

Fundraiser for new disaster service equipment

The Mennonite Disaster Service Search and Rescue team will be serving a home cooked meal on Jan. 29 at 5 p.m. at the Mennonite School on Cicso Rd., 849 CR 601 in Berryville. This fundraiser is for the MDS-SAR to acquire the latest sonar equipment and donations will be accepted.



Code yellow alert for all blood types

The next are blood drive from the Community Blood Center of the Ozarks (CBCO) will be at the Inn of the Ozarks, Hwy. 62 West on Wednesday, Jan. 27 from 1 – 6 p.m. Each donation will be awarded LifePoints as a part of CBCO’s donor rewards program. LifePoints may be redeemed online for a variety of gift cards or points may be assigned to other meaningful causes or charities.

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

Morning brew with the Prez

Chamber members are invited to meet with Chamber President, Tammy Thurow at the Chamber of Commerce office on Jan. 27 from 9 – 10 a.m. Network and share information in a group setting and members can learn about happenings at the Chamber and the community. Attendees have the opportunity to share information about their business and coffee and doughnuts will be provide.

Mountain bike through the Ozark hills

The Ozark Off-Road Cyclists will host its annul marquee mountain bike ride Jan. 29 – 30 at the Buffalo Headwaters Challenge. The Challenge follows trails that have been designated an Epic Trail system by the International Mountain Bicycling Association.

Activities for the Buffalo Headwaters Challenge kicks off Friday evening with a campfire jam at the Headwaters School in Red Star in Madison County. The

main Challenge rides start Saturday at 9:30 a.m. The ride will take place on and around the Upper Buffalo Mountain Bike trails. Free camping will be available on the school grounds both Friday and Saturday nights.

For directions to the Headwaters School, to join Ozark Off-Road Cyclists or to learn more about the Challenge, visit www.ozarkoffroadcyclists.com or go to their Facebook event page.

Chocolate lovers rejoice for the 12th annual Chocolate Lovers Festival

A complete world of chocolate decadence awaits at the Chocolate Lovers’ Festival and Emporium on Saturday, Feb. 13 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Best Western Inn at the Ozarks Convention Center. Candy, cakes, cookies, ice cream, chocolate novelty items and body products will be on hand. Vendors will showcase and promote their products while offering chocolate take-home samples for attendees.

General admission is \$5. For \$20 get a VICL (Very Important Chocolate Lover) pass with a VIP section that will include true chocolatiers, multiple dipping fountains, wine pairing and tasting with wine provided by Arkansas wineries. A commemorative wine glass is included in this package.

Sponsorship opportunity and booth space is available and volunteers are also sought for. Contact Tammy at president@eurekaspringschamber.com or Terri at terri@eurekaspringschamber.com for more information.

Registration open for MOA annual conference

The Missouri Organic Association is gearing up for its 2016 annual conference on Feb. 4 – 6 at the University Plaza and Conference Center in Springfield, Mo. The MOA conference will consist of more than 54 lectures and hands-on workshops focused on organic sustainable production including: grain, livestock, and vegetable production, culinary and medicinal plants and the opportunity to meet and learn from more than 70 vendors.

To find the 3-day MOA annual conference agendas or to register go to www.moaconference.org. The conference price is \$175 for all three days and a single day pass is \$75.

Sunday at EUUF

Jami Crocker will present a topic regarding the modern Sufi movement on Jan. 24 at 11 a.m. at the Eureka Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 17 Elk Street. Childcare is provided and there is extra parking at Ermilio’s Restaurant, 26 White Street.

Holiday Island resident a descendant of both Mayflower pilgrims and Cherokee tribe

BECKY GILLETTE

Carl Petering of Holiday Island has a unique position to see American history from opposite viewpoints. His years of research into his ancestry have led to him discovering that he is a descendant of one of the first families to settle in America, John Alden and Priscilla Mullins, who came over on the Mayflower and were the third couple married in the New World. And he is also a member of the First Families of the Cherokee Nation through his fourth great-grandmother, Nancy (Gos-A-Dui-Sga) Thornton, who was half Cherokee.

Petering can empathize with the difficulties of the first European settlers in the U.S., who came over in a long and difficult passage in a small ship not even intended to carry passengers. Of the 120 people, only half were still living a year later. He can understand why the settlers thought it was a gift from God when they found stores of corn at Plymouth.

And he can sympathize with the Native Americans who were upset to find that these new people had stolen the corn they had been storing to plant the next year. And he feels great empathy that European colonization turned out very badly for Natives who were decimated by disease, treated badly and murdered. Those who survived were forced to relocate after their ancestral lands were stolen.

Nancy Thornton received a square mile of land in Tennessee from the U.S. government following the Revolutionary War. Later, that land was stolen by whites leaving her in a very difficult position to raise 10 children.

"It is saddening and sickening how Native Americans were treated at the time," Petering said. "Native Americans were viewed as less than human by whites. The early settlers made peace with the Native Americans at Plymouth. But as the westward expansions occurred, the whites just kept pushing the Native Americans farther and farther away."

He sees some irony in the situation.

"It was the greed of the white people that gobbled up Native lands throughout the country," he said. "Now the Native Americans through the casinos in Oklahoma are making money off of white people's greed."

It is very unusual in ancestor research circles for someone to be descended from both the first European settlers and the First Families of the Cherokee Nation. Also unusual is how Petering combined his passion for ancestry with his considerable skills as an artist. Petering has done a number of paintings to illustrate research he has compiled on both sides of his ancestry including a portrait of Nancy, a rendering of the Mayflower crossing the Atlantic that he composed after spending two years building a model of the Mayflower, paintings of other ancestors, and a scene depicting early life in Plymouth.

"Paintings make history come alive," Petering said.

Petering had to use intuition to interpret what his ancestors looked like. He was in Tennessee on a research trip that he saw a housekeeper and had a connection. "I

Carl Petering is shown with a painting he did depicting the early life of his ancestor settlers in Plymouth, Mass.

PHOTO BY
BECKY GILLETTE



realize she looked like what my ancestor Nancy must have looked like," he said.

His mother started the ancestry search in 1975 and he started in about 2005. It has taken him to places where his kin once lived including within a half mile of the property stolen from Nancy, which is now underwater because of lake developments.

"It is fascinating to find stories in one's personal history, but it can also be frustrating when information can't be found," he said. "It takes perseverance. At times I've made a weekend trip to fill in one link, and within an hour realized I had hit a dead end."

Petering has traveled to Tennessee, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Oklahoma and Virginia in search of information. But he has also found considerable help at the Eureka Springs Carnegie Public Library.

"I went through the library's membership to www.ancestry.com to fill in some important gaps in the information," said Petering, who is pastor of the Community Lutheran Church in Eagle Rock, Mo. "You can go into the library and use it without having to buy a membership. Using the library's resources enabled me to complete the application for membership in the Alden Kindred of America. Anyone interested in ancestry research should know about these great tools available at our library."

Petering has filled several large binders full of information about not just names of his ancestors, birth

and death dates, and names of children, but also stories. The binders include maps, historic photos and his original artwork. He has traced 14 lines of his family and the family of his wife, Ginger, back to their immigrant ancestors.

Some of the stories came from his mother, whose great-grandmother, Tookah, lived in his mother's home until she was 15, and who heard many stories about Cherokee traditions. One story was about hiding slaves under their beds when marauders came through trying to free slaves.

"My Cherokee ancestors owned slaves," Petering said. "The English didn't think Indians were fully people and the Cherokee didn't believe blacks or other Indians tribes were fully people. I don't like that these things happened, but that was the way they thought in those days. Thankfully, we don't think that way these days."

Petering also has an unusual small world story about his research. His ancestor John Alden was the seventh signer of the Mayflower Compact, one of the first attempts in the world at representative government. The next person to sign was Samuel Fuller, an ancestor of Petering's daughter-in-law.

"How unusual is that?" he asks.

For people interested in the artistic side of Petering, he is one of the planners, presenters and judges for the Eureka Springs School of the Arts Plein Air Festival that will be held May 22-26. He has previously taught painting at ESSA and Holiday Island.

“To Change Something, (we) Build a New Model” (Aquarius)

The Sun enters Aquarius on Wednesday, Jan. 20. The energies shift and change in our unpredictable world. From the concretion (earth, mountains) of Capricorn (Cardinal initiating sign) to the air of Aquarius – humanity’s sign of freedom, the future and the new age. Aquarius is ruled by Uranus. This means Aquarius works with Uranus, which offers humanity revelations, revolutions and “all things new.” Aquarius calls humanity to create the New Culture & Civilization, bring forth the New

Education (based on astrology and the Ageless Wisdom Teachings), create the New Economy (the Sharing Economy), feed the world differently (Biodynamic Gardening, Steiner’s work), and come to the aid of suffering humanity. There are quotes we can ponder upon this month as the Sun in Aquarius streams into the Earth bringing with it the changing, new world Aquarian energies.

From Buckminster Fuller (on creating the new world), “You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change

something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete.”

From Ryokan (Zen Buddhist monk/hermit, poet) on serving suffering humanity, “Oh, that my priest’s robe were wide enough to gather up all the suffering people in this floating world.”

From Antero Alli (writer, astrologer, illuminator) on our present dislocated identity, “We know who we are. We are the dispossessed, the outcasts, and the outsiders, rebels with a cause... we renunciate dominator culture’s status

quo... wavering in the fog of dislocation. Free-floating between old worlds and new, guided only by the shining paths of mother evolution... we have passed the point of no-return and since there is no turning back, we celebrate the momentum lifting us on the wings of perception, grace, and whatever skills we have earned... Only when we are over, does our real life begin. (The Eight-Circuit Brain). **Notes:** Full moon (Saturday) & Mercury stationary direct (Monday). See my daily Facebook page for more information.

ARIES: As the world continues its shift from one age to the new (Pisces to Aquarius), you’re called to be a server of humanity, focusing your will(ingness) and abilities toward initiating the new culture and civilization and discovering like-minded groups who will assist you in this historical, era-changing task. This is what you’ve been called here to do in this present lifetime. Begin with intentions. Be dedicated.

TAURUS: You’re called to bring forth ideas that will activate and then support the work Aries (and the New Group of World Servers) will do as they initiate the new economic order (the New Sharing Society). The past months (if not years) you’ve known your job was to gather information for the times to come, which you know will be difficult. Even if only a few listen, carry on.

GEMINI: Your mind reverses itself into thinking about previous goals that did or did not manifest. You assess the education you did or did not complete. You think of travel and adventures, philosophies and religion, all these in order to sort out what you believe in. From your conclusions new goals, travels, adventures, ways of life emerge. A new mind is then formed for the new times.

CANCER: The next weeks uncover deep and unrecognized feelings. Careful. Don’t be too secretive about what you’re doing. You’ll want and need people around to share your thoughts and feelings, ideas and plans. Your heart’s missing people these days. You often have information valuable to other’s well-being. Say yes more. Say yes to what’s offered. Then offer more.

LEO: You assess your everyday work, how to care for yourself on a daily basis, and the best ways to be effective and efficient with all responsibilities. Is more communication needed in certain relationships? There’s a need to share your values and to set time aside for special moments. Write down your values. The focus on values will continue.

It’s a mirror into your future.

VIRGO: You’ll accomplish tasks and then redo them. You’ll think you’ve completed something and find it’s completely incomplete. You’ll find odds and ends from the past showing up seeking something or other. You’ll be busy, productive, at times impatient, look backward, backpedal when necessary, review, renew, and in the midst of it all this reorganization, you’re happy.

LIBRA: Daily life rhythms seem to have been interrupted. There’s a wound or pain or an inability to do what you are used to be doing. You need new tools to navigate. You’ve experienced a slow down. This is the time when creativity can express itself more fully. Recapture an art form you did from the past. Begin again. Think about home, family, growing up, and everything related to art and culture.

SCORPIO: You ponder upon questions of security and what determines emotional safety. You think about home, wondering where it is. You consider living in other areas and regions, consider ordering an astro-cartography (geographical astrology) chart. What you need to include in your thinking is community, because in the future you can no longer be alone all the time. What would home in a community look like for you?

SAGITTARIUS: It’s good to explore neighborhoods, neighbors’ yards, downtowns, gardens, town squares and to have social contact with others. Focus on things local, consciously spending money that supports community endeavors. Also consider what’s of value to you, investing in the values you believe in. Stay steady. Information at times seems all mixed up. Feelings, too. Be silent for a while. Sag is the sign of silence.

CAPRICORN: Careful with communication. It may be missing here and there in the retrograde. Focus on defining your values. Try not to spend on non-essentials, depleting your financial resources. Do you have a monthly budget yet, to assess expenditures at month’s end? You will not lack money. It’s simply a time to value and be consciously careful with money and resources. You are valuable.

AQUARIUS: More and more people will be attracted to what you do, say and think. You will find yourself especially brilliant in terms of new ideas. A new self-identity dawns upon you. You’re more than you’ve ever thought yourself to be. It takes many years, lots of life experiences, many ups and downs for us to value ourselves. Your words are important. People listen. You’re more than you know.

PISCES: We see you struggling to flourish and maintain yourself. It’s a struggle of identity, geography, place, groups, leadership and of things constantly dissolving away. New opportunities and contacts eventually emerge out from the shadows. Each day you become more and more practical. A future plan is coming into form and matter. It loves you. Prepare each day for it. With hope and faith and prayer. Pisces’ tasks.



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Risa – writer, teacher, founder & director, Esoteric & Astrological Studies & Research Institute, a Contemporary Wisdom school – studying the Ageless Wisdom Teachings Based on Astrology (the New Psychology) & the Seven Rays. Email – risagoodwill@gmail.com. Web – www.nightlightnew.org/. FB – Risa D'Angeles FB page

Put your best mask on!

The final date for Mardi Gras Umbrella Decorating is Jan. 27 at 5:30 p.m. at Eureka Live! Get a Taste of N'Awlins at The Grand Central Hotel and Taverne on Jan. 23 from 1 – 3 p.m. Meet the Mardi Gras Royal court, enjoy hot beignets and café au lait and line dance with the umbrella you have been preparing.

The Light and Sound Night Parade will be 6 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 30 following the usual parade route from the Carnegie Public Library, down Spring Street to the Courthouse on Main Street. After the parade there will be Second Line Dancing at 7 p.m. and a Black Lite Ball at the Grotto Wood Fired Grill and Wine Cave at 10 Center Street at 8 p.m.

The Jokers Masquerade Ball will be Thursday, Feb. 4 at 6 p.m. at the Best Western Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center at 205 W. Van Buren with music, a

buffet and a cash bar. The year's theme is *Hooray for Hollywood* with prizes awarded for best costume.

The Crescent Hotel will host the Coronation Masquerade Ball on Friday, Feb. 5 featuring a Champagne buffet dinner and live music. The Crystal Dining room will be full of tables decorated in Mardi Gras style and the king, queen and their royal court will promenade around the ballroom. Reservations are required and may be made by calling (225) 405-9672.

Rolling downtown on Saturday, Feb. 6 is the second Mardi Gras parade led by the Krewe of Krazo. That night the Mayor's Ball will be hosted by the Basin Park Hotel with cash bar at 7 p.m. and DJ Testube, at 8 p.m., featuring live vocalist Opal Agafia, plus performances by Melonlight Dance Ensemble.

Those who are up to it after all the parties can hit the

New Orleans-style Jazz Brunch at the Crescent Hotel at 11 a.m. on Feb. 7. Reservations are required and may be made by calling (479) 253-9652.

The final event is the Saint 'Lizbeth King Ball and dinner on Fat Tuesday, Feb. 9 at 6 p.m. at the St. Elizabeth Parish Center, 232 Passion Play Road. For more information call (479) 253-4503 or (479) 253-2222.

For more information on the Night Parade and second Mardi Gras parade email nlpaddock@gmail.com or call (479) 244-0123. Applications can be downloaded at www.eurekaspringsmardigras.org.

Tickets for the Black Lite Ball and Mayor's Ball may be bought at www.reserveeureka.com. For more information on all events visit www.EurekaSpringsMardiGras.org.

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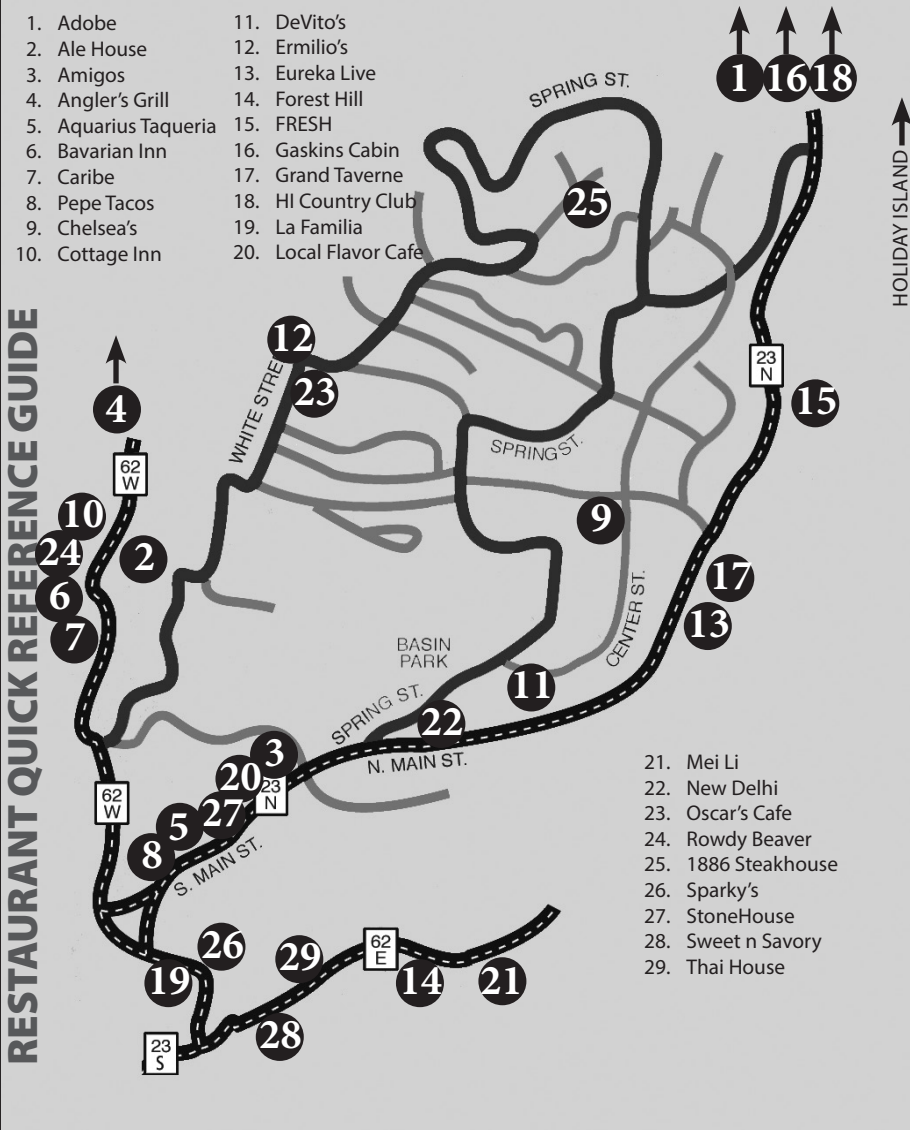
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Third Annual Ozark Mountain Music Festival brings beat, heat to Basin Park Hotel

The Basin Park Hotel, in the heart of Eureka Springs is hosting the Third Annual Ozark Mountain Music Festival, celebrating bluegrass, folk and American roots music. There are shows in different rooms on different floors beginning Thursday with Friends of the Phamily's Grateful Dead tunes, Chucky Waggs Saturday and finishing Sunday with Jimmy Wayne Garrett's Bloody Mary Show. Some new artists are appearing as well as some old friends. For schedule information visit: ozarkmountainmusicfestival.com

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21
**BASIN PARK HOTEL – Ozark
Mountain Music Festival 3**, Friends
of the Phamily, American Rock, 8 p.m.

**EUREKA LIVE! – Green Screen
Karaoke**, 9 p.m.
GRAND TAVERNE – Jerry Yester,
Grand Piano Dinner Music, 6:30 –



Chucky Waggs plays Ozark Mountain Music Festival at Basin Park Hotel Saturday, Jan. 23 at 7 p.m.

PHOTO BY REILLOT WESTON

9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22
**BASIN PARK HOTEL – Ozark
Mountain Music Festival 3**, Haunted
Windchimes, 11 p.m.

BREWS – Maia Archote and Kat,
Female Acoustic Duo, 7 – 10 p.m.
CATHOUSE LOUNGE – Johai Kafa,
Folk, 8 p.m.
**CHELSEA'S – TK and the Right
Pieces**, R and B/Funk, 9 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.
**ROWDY BEAVER – Michael Tisdale
Duo**, Rock, 7 p.m.
**ROWDY BEAVER DEN – Karaoke
with DJ Goose**, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23
**BASIN PARK HOTEL – Ozark
Mountain Music Festival 3**, Kansas City
Bear Fighters, 9 p.m.
CHELSEA'S – The Squarshers,
Americana, 9 p.m.
EUREKA LIVE! – DJ & Dancing, 9
p.m.
GRAND TAVERNE – Jerry Yester,
Grand Piano Dinner Music, 6:30- 9:30
p.m.
ROWDY BEAVER – 2 Dog 2 Karaoke,
7 p.m.
**ROWDY BEAVER DEN – Michael
Tisdale Duo**, Rock, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24
**BASIN PARK HOTEL – Ozark
Mountain Music Festival 3**, Jimmy Wayne
Garrett Bloody Mary Show, 12 p.m.
**BREWS – Cards Against Humanity/
Board Games**

MONDAY, JANUARY 25
CHELSEA'S – Sprungbilly, Bluegrass,
8 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26
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Music Festival returns for third year

The Ozark Mountain Music Festival returns to the Basin Park Hotel Jan. 21 – 24. OzMoMu3 will focus around an Ozark Mountain fusion of bluegrass, folk and American roots music with bands such as The Haunted Windchimes, Opal Agafia & The Sweet Nothings, Chucky Waggs and many others.

Room bundles for two attendees include two-nights lodging and two “All-Access” passes. Festival “All-Access” passes and simple daily passes are also available. For further information or online room sales visit ReserveEureka.com. General festival information may be found at OzarkMountainMusicFestival.com and on Facebook.



Preparing for Mardi Gras celebrations –

(l.-r.) Duchess Dianna Ray Sturtz, Captain Mary Popovac and Queen Pam Davenport pose for a royal photo at the Umbrella Decorating party that took place at the Grassy Knob Community Center on Jan. 17. Show off your Mardi Gras umbrella at Taste of N'Awlins at The Grand Central Hotel and Taverne on Jan. 23 from 1 – 3 p.m. and enjoy hot beignets and café au lait.



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

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DEPARTURES

Mildred Lois Bradshaw DeWeese Tharp July 23, 1920 – Jan. 13, 2016



Mildred Lois Bradshaw DeWeese Tharp of Berryville, Ark., was born July 23, 1920 in Arlington, Calif., a daughter of Thomas Martin and Emma Josephine Ward Bradshaw. She departed this life Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2016 in Fayetteville, Ark., at age 95.

Mildred was a high-spirited woman who in her free time loved gardening, quilting, cooking and socializing at the Senior Center, but most of all spending time with her family. In the late 1980s, she was crowned Ms. Senior Carroll County and

again as Ms. Senior Northwest Arkansas.

She is survived by one son, Bill DeWeese and wife, Gail, of Berryville; two daughters, Rebecca Harris of Rogers and Brenda Bowlin and husband, Philip, of Fayetteville; former husband, Clay Tharp of Green Forest; seven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews; and a host of other family, friends and loved ones.

On Sept. 17, 1940, Mildred was united in marriage with Troy Clifford DeWeese who preceded her in death. She was also preceded by

her parents and 14 siblings.

Funeral service was Jan. 15 with Brother Kevin Robertson officiating. Interment followed in the Gobbler Cemetery under the direction of Nelson Funeral Service.

Memorial donations may be made to the Berryville Senior Center, 202 West Madison Avenue, Berryville, Arkansas 72616. Online condolences may be sent to the family at nelsonfuneral.com © Nelson Funeral Service, Inc. 2016

C.D. Wright Jan. 6, 1949 – Jan. 12, 2016

Arkansas native and beloved, award-winning poet C.D. Wright died unexpectedly at home in Barrington, R.I. last week. She was 67.

Her death occurred early Wednesday morning and was announced by her longtime publisher, Copper Canyon Press, which said no cause had been determined. A former poet laureate of Rhode Island, Wright served as professor of English and Literary Arts at Brown University since 1983.

Carolyn Delores Wright was born

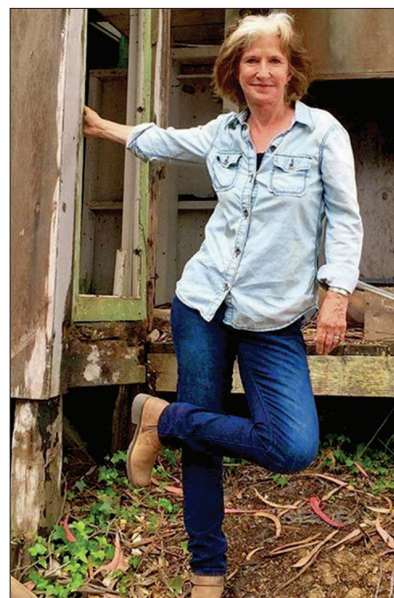
Jan. 6, 1949 in Mountain Home, Ark. The daughter of a chancery judge and a court reporter, she received a BA in French from Memphis State College in 1971 before earning an MFA from the University of Arkansas in 1976. In 1977, Lost Roads Publishers, founded by the late Frank Stanford, published Wright's first collection, *Room Rented By a Single Woman*.

After Stanford's death in 1978, Wright assumed editorship of *Lost Roads* and later moved to San Francisco where

she met poet Forrest Gander. Wright and Gander were married in Eureka Springs, Ark., in 1983, and co-edited *Lost Roads* until 2005. In Eureka Springs, the couple lived with their three-legged dog, Karl Barx, in a small house on Owen Street stuffed with cardboard boxes full of *Lost Roads* books. "That's the downside to being a small publisher," Wright said. "Every time you change addresses you have to move your entire inventory."

A 2004 MacArthur Foundation "genius grant" recipient and finalist for the National Book Award, Wright won the National Book Critics Circle Award for her 2010 collection, "One With Others," a book-length poetic documentary based on the true story of her mentor, V; a white, bourbon-swilling mother of eight who joins a group of black men marching from West Memphis, Tennessee to Little Rock, Arkansas in the summer of 1969.

Over the course of her career, Wright published more than a dozen books including *Rising, Falling, Hovering, One Big Self, Steal Away*, and *Lost Roads: a Walk in Book of Arkansas*, a collaboration with photographer and longtime friend,



Deborah Luster. Three weeks ago Copper Canyon Press released *The Poet, The Lion, Talking Pictures, El Farolito, A Wedding in St. Roch, the Big Box Store, the Warp in the Mirror, Spring, Midnights, Fire & All*. This April, readers can expect yet another volume of poems from Wright titled, *ShallCross*,

A poet of extraordinary depth and astounding acuity, her work was marked by innovation and a singular

love for the written word. According to her Jan. 16 obituary in *The New York Times*, "In an autobiographical prose poem in her 2005 collection, 'Cooling Time: An American Poetry Vigil,' Ms. Wright wrote about her vocation with the wanton verblousness to which perhaps only a poet is entitled."

"I poetry," she wrote. "I write it, study it, read it, edit it, publish it, teach it... Sometimes I weary of it. I could not live without it. Not in this world. Not in my lifetime. I also arkansas. Sometimes these verbs coalesce. Sometimes they trot off in opposite directions."

She is survived by her husband, Forrest, their son, Brecht, and her brother, Warren Wright.

"We wish we had known about you sooner."

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Storing Christmas for next year

Eureka Springs Parks will be hosting an open house of the newly-created Christmas storage area on Jan. 26 from 2 – 4 p.m. at 530 Spring Street in Harmon Park. All are invited.

DROPPINGA Line by Robert Johnson

Well, we got our striper trip in last Wednesday afternoon before this last cold spell came in. Air temperature was 52° and water temp was 49°, not a bad day fishing in the Rocky Branch area due to that was where the mudline started clearing out.

We got into some good white bass up in Rambo Creek, and I got Mike Dorst to hold up a couple of the bigger fish. Stripers were hard to find, but we did get into some when we were about to call it a day – rods started going down and we missed a couple big fish right in front of the Rocky Branch docks, but we did get a couple in the boat just long enough to get the hooks out because they were just under 20 inches long, then they were gone and so were we and so was the sun.

We did notice the active bait and fish, we were running about 20 ft. deep and the inactive were running closer to 40 ft. deep. All said and done, it was not a bad day for putting meat on the table.

Here at Holiday Island the high water has kept most in, but one of our local guys has been doing pretty good working a jig off the bottom. Crappie should also stay active after the rest of the warm water species slow down and go deep in the trees. Bass are hanging out off the deeper shorelines with ledge rock and full of crawdads.

Looking like a nice weekend coming up so go get some fresh fish, and if you have no boat to get to lake fishing, go hit the shoreline tailwaters for some trout and you might even hook into one of those big stripers that came over the dam



when the gates were open. I hear they're swimming somewhere between Beaver and Houseman. Dress warm, stay warm.
Robert Johnson, Johnson Guide Service, (479) 253-2258

INDEPENDENTCrossword

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

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
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- ACROSS
1. Fertility god

5. Write

8. Anatomical mesh

12. French cleric

13. Water closet

14. Throw vigorously

15. Significant

17. Piccadilly Circus statue

18. Edible lilac mushroom

19. Press is the fourth

21. Floating in the Caribbean

23. Familiar name for beleaguered American comedian

24. Aper

27. Celestial hunter

30. Important period

31. External

33. Tropical American cuckoo

34. Concealed, obscured

36. Select a jury

38. Hallow ender

39. Fiberhincty from coconuts

40. Snobbish

43. Soup vessel

47. Smidge

48. A cordial

50. Cygnus, e.g.

51. Title for a priest (abbr.)

52. Stubby hare tail

53. NaCl

54. Lamb's mom

55. Not that

10. Moderate running pace

11. "Surrender or ____!"

16. Nobility level above baron

20. Constellation containing Antares

22. Storage area

24. Brand of compression socks

25. Mining goal

26. Kind of rights or permission

28. Single

29. Zero goals in soccer

32. Expressing contagious feeling

35. Pour slowly without disturbing sediment

37. Restrict movement

40. Reptile warning

41. Primary site

42. Nimble, quick

44. Engrave with acid

45. Needle case

46. Profits, after expenses

49. "Happy ____ Year!"
- DOWN
1. Cutting remark

2. Victim of a jealous brother

3. Can do

4. Room to maneuver

5. Tableland

6. Extremely long time

7. Brief missive

8. Orator

9. Sired by French Chinese parentage, e.g.

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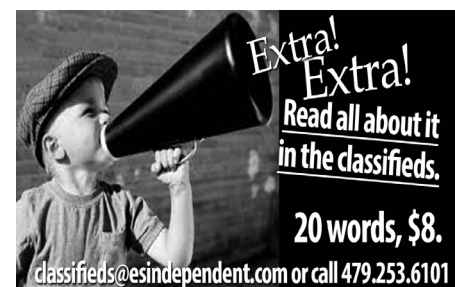
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PROMOTING continued from page 6

from fewer large motor coaches to more groups like BIG (Boomers in Groups) a loose association of folks who travel together, such as in a convoy of RVs. Recently she enticed a group of mountain bikers to come to Eureka Springs. She also mentioned a group of six brothers from Cleveland who take a trip together once a year, and come to town to buy jewelry for their wives.

Pryor also related another experience she has. After speaking with a contact for a while, she might ask, “What can I do to get you to visit Eureka Springs?” and the person might say, “Oh, we went there last year.” She said this comment is an example of the disconnect between the CAPC and lodging industry. The successful interchange of information is a project Maloney and Chamber of Commerce board member Kent Butler are working on, and having more information about who came to town would definitely help her refine promotional efforts.

“Lodging properties have to help us help them,” she said.

Prospects often need help arranging a

visit to see all the attractions and Pryor can assist, but once she sends the leads to the lodging properties it is up to the properties to pursue the leads. She makes follow-up calls to see if all questions have been answered, but does not book rooms.

“I am responsible for the entire zip code,” she said, and insisted all local businesses are promoted equally. Interested groups get follow-up promotional packets, but the entire area is included and promoted.

Pryor is also responsible for familiarization tours, called fam tours, in which she conducts a tour for those deciding whether to bring a group here. Last year there were half a dozen operators who called from Branson, Little Rock or Bentonville and wanted to see what Eureka Springs has to offer, so Pryor escorts them on a red carpet tour of town including attractions, galleries and historical sites.

She is including in her schedule this year the market for smaller, mid-week business meetings and will attend seven trade shows by the end of February, starting with staff of Arkansas State Parks to the International Progressive Insurance Motorcycle Show in Dallas.

PLANNING continued from page 5

with no parking on the street. They want to preserve as many trees as possible although some will be removed to make way for the street. Three streetlights will illuminate the area.

Commissioner Tom Buford pointed out in the second paragraph of the Municipal Code Book regarding a PUD, it states one requirement is specifying “dimensions and locations of proposed structures.” He said the Marrys’ application did not do so.

Carrie explained they had not intended to do so until each structure was ready to be built, and they intend to abide by all setback requirements so location of the structures would be in some way defined.

Buford insisted Planning could not approve a PUD “with what you say you’ll do down the line. Code lays out the requirements very plainly.”

Chair James Morris claimed the Marrys have some leeway because the first paragraph of the same section of Code also states, “Also included in this definition are such building groups whose layout would make it impracticable to apply the requirements of this chapter to the individual buildings of the group.”

Commissioner Melissa Green suggested approving the concept, then approve location of individual structures when the Marrys are ready to build.

Morris stated the commission

could put conditions on their approval that would accomplish the intent of the Code, but Buford remained steadfast the application was incomplete without precise location of the structures.

“We’re letting them get by,” Buford claimed.

Morris maintained the commission had leeway for discretion in reading the Code, to which Buford replied Code requirements for a PUD are not as flexible as in a residential zone.

Commissioner Steve Beacham remarked the Marrys cannot plan that far in advance, and he did not want to hold them to something they could not do, therefore he agreed with Morris. Commissioner Woodie Acord also concurred with the suggestion they approve the application subject to provisions.

Morris said he was in favor of the project, and liked the idea someone was doing something with forethought and concern for its potential impact.

Greene made the motion to approve the application provided parking requirements and setbacks were consistent with Code and maintenance of the park area was written into the covenants. The vote to approve the motion was 5-1, Buford voting No.

There was also an accompanying application for a tree cut to clear the way for the street. Again the vote to approve was 5-1, Buford voting No.

Rezoning request

Sylvia Schlegel, representing SBS Properties, applied for her property at 120 S. Main to be rezoned from R-1 to C-1. Commissioner Pat Lujan reminded commissioners they had at one time wanted to rezone the entire section of Main Street but there had been difficulties finding and notifying all the owners, so Planning must consider one case at a time.

Morris stated Schlegel had been told her property would be rezoned to C-1 when she bought it. Vote to approve rezoning 120 S. Main was unanimous.

Food trucks – where and when?

On the agenda was the topic of food trucks because city council had asked Planning to explore the possibilities of having them in town. Lujan right away commented that food trucks are great but the city must be cautious about how to fit them in. “It would be nice for us locals to have a place we can afford to eat,” he said.

Commissioners allowed Victor Smith, owner of Catered Creations, to state the case for food truck owners. Smith said he understood there needed to be specific times of operations and limits on where he can set up, but he just wanted a chance to “show my art through food.”

Morris said food trucks might fill a need in town but the process must involve where and when they would be allowed. Competition with restaurants is also a

consideration.

The topic will remain on the agenda.

Home occupations

Beacham reported City Attorney Tim Weaver had completed crafting two ordinances covering requested changes to City Code regarding home occupations. Lujan moved to send the work along to city council for their consideration, and that motion passed.

Sign ordinance

Greene had asked to have the sign ordinance on their agenda, but said she had read the existing ordinance and the problem comes down to enforcement. Lujan stated citizens could fill out a complaint if they think action is required, and commissioners dropped the topic from the agenda.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 26, at 6 p.m.

CROSSWORDSolution

B	A	A	L		P	E	N		R	E	T	E
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8 p.m. – Friends of the Phamily, Rogers, AR

***10 p.m. – Group Jam!**

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Friday, Jan. 22

7 p.m. – Chucky Waggs, Eureka Springs, AR

9 p.m. – The Whole Famn Damily, Conway, AR

11 p.m. – The Haunted Windchimes, Pueblo, CO

1 a.m. – Group Jam! All bands welcome.

Saturday, Jan. 23

1 p.m. – Opal Agafia & The Sweet Nothings, Eureka Springs, AR

3 p.m. – Grazzhopper, Tulsa, OK

5 p.m. – The Creek Rocks: Cindy Woolf & Mark Bilyeu, Springfield, MO

7 p.m. – Arkansauce, Fayetteville, AR

9 p.m. – The Kansas City Bear Fighters, Kansas City, MO

11 p.m. – Calamity Cubes!, Wichita, KS

1 a.m. – Group Jam! All bands welcome.

Sunday, Jan. 24

Noon – Bloody Mary Show with Jimmy Wayne Garret, Eureka Springs, AR

Tickets & info: ozarkmountainmusicfestival.com, 479.253.7837