

ESI

Happy New Year

December 28, 2016 Vol. 5 No. 27

eureka.news

ESI is your INDEPENDENT news source covering Carroll County, Arkansas

This week’s Independent thinkers

2017 is bound to be interesting if 2016 was any indication of how things are going. We’re looking at fresh leaders all over the world – Republic of the Congo, Madagascar, Jordan, Laos, Lebanon, Myanmar, The Philippines, Taiwan, Vietnam, Austria, Croatia, Iceland, the United Kingdom, Bermuda, Guatemala, Brazil, New Zealand, Peru, United States – that’s just some of the countries that have shaken things up.

In order to maintain order and dare hope for worldwide peace, it’s looking like we would serve ourselves well by paying extra close attention to those around us. Acknowledge them, laugh with them, rely on them, and generally assume that we are among each other for a super good reason.

We know that sounds like an opportunity instead of a catastrophe – lemons and lemonade – but you know what we mean.

INCREDIBLE NEW YEAR to all of us from all of us.



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2016 Wrap: The way we were

Reefer: Symptoms do not include madness – And Arkansawyers know it. The Arkansas Medical Marijuana Amendment passed in the Nov. 8 election. Alcoholic Beverage Control was given 120 days from Nov. 8 to create rules and regulations to govern the process of applying and obtaining permits to run either cultivation facilities or dispensaries. What those regulations look like we don’t know but that’s what 2017 is for. That and realizing that marijuana is for human health, not making money.



CHINESE HEMP.
Growing for seed at Staten Island, New York.

Budget woes dog council all year

NICKY BOYETTE

Eureka Springs City Council began and ended the year concerned about the city’s budget and looking for ways to chart a more positive financial direction for the city. At a Jan. 4 workshop, Mayor Butch Berry introduced the idea of a one percent tax with a ten-year sunset to provide funds for fixing aging water and sewer lines plus provide a revenue stream for the Auditorium.

At the Jan. 25 meeting, Steve Beacham, chair of the Planning Commission, represented two ordinances regarding Home Occupations he had championed through from concept to ordinance. Council approved the third readings of both at the Feb. 22 meeting.

On March 14, council first heard murmurs of discontent

in the world of Bed & Breakfasts. Alderman David Mitchell insisted some B&B operators were sidestepping the law because there was not adequate Code enforcement. Berry said city hall checks to see who is licensed for a B&B, who advertises for overnight rentals and if the owners are operating within the law. If they are not, the city sends them letters. Berry said letters went out.

Also in March, Beacham reported his commission was set to explore finding a way to fit food trucks into City Code. Council held a workshop on March 11, and while no one spoke against food trucks, how to get them in compliance with Code sparked a heated discourse. The ultimate decision was to authorize Berry to name a committee of three to sort

COUNCIL continued on page 2

To 2017: Full of things that have never been!

COUNCIL continued from page 1

through the details and report back to council with a recommendation.

Council convened early for a budget workshop before the March 28 meeting. They would continue to meet early to discuss the budget at least once a month for the rest of the year. Finance Director Lonnie Clark pointed out city reserves continue to diminish because the city must subsidize water and sewer operations.

At the April 11 meeting, Berry introduced his plan for a two percent retail tax. Revenue from the tax would go specifically toward repair and maintenance of the water and sewer systems, and to repair and operate the Auditorium. Accomplishing these two goals would allow the city to begin replenishing its reserves. Again, he recommended a ten-year sunset on the tax.

Also in April, council voted to approve Resolution #678, which established Eureka Springs as the first city in Arkansas which "accepts the designation and commits to the standards of Bee City USA."

On April 25, Berry announced he had imposed a spending freeze on all non-operational essential expenditures.

Tumult regarding B&Bs surfaced again. Several folks spoke in opposition to the application by Gary Toub and Kathy Martone for a one-bedroom B&B at 23 Elk.

The Planning Commission had voted down their application, but opponents wanted to pre-empt an appeal to council by Toub and Martone.

Toub and Martone did appeal at the May 9 meeting, and the application was sent back to Planning.

At the June 13 meeting, Toub and Martone were back with their appeal because Planning again voted to deny their application. Aldermen pointed out that several biased factors swayed the original denial, and council approved the application 5-0.

Berry presented recommendations from the Food Truck Committee and commented the next step would be to prepare an ordinance, but instead a workshop was scheduled.

During the meeting, Berry announced alderman Joyce Zeller had died unexpectedly.

At the June 27 meeting, council imposed a six-month moratorium on issuing new licenses for Bed & Breakfasts in all residential zones in the city. The decision was prompted by confusion caused by what Planning commissioners and aldermen had both called language in City Code vague.

Council approved Resolution 685 authorizing Interim Fire Chief Nick Samac to submit a grant request to the Arkansas Rural Economic Development Commission

for securing \$50,000 in state funds to purchase additional breathing devices.

Berry announced the lowest bid for the new Public Works building came in at \$360,000, far more than council had budgeted. He said he would consider a new strategy.

During the July 5 workshop, Berry announced he had revised his retail tax proposal from two percent to one percent. Upgrades and repairs for the water and sewer systems would get 75 percent of the tax revenue and 25 percent would go for upkeep, repair and operation of the Auditorium.

To fill the vacancy at the table, council seated Kristi Kendrick at the July 25 meeting.

At the August 8 meeting, council approved the third readings of the two ordinances that put Berry's proposed one percent retail tax on the November ballot.

Solar advocate Jerry Landrum explained how the city could set up an array of solar collectors on a clear hillside location and feed the electricity back into the grid, and this strategy would effectively pay for the power used at the water treatment plant. Alderman Terry McClung urged Berry's office to look into it and report back to council.

Berry said he had chosen interim Nick Samac to be permanent Fire Chief.

At a workshop on food trucks on August 8, rancor and squabbling prevailed although everyone was in favor of having food trucks in town. Berry said he would have the ordinance prepared.

Craig Hull of the Osage Group had completed a Hazard Mitigation study for the city, and one of the priority hazards was the aging tunnel under the Auditorium and buildings north of it. Hull's suggestion was for citizens to create an Improvement District. Affected landowners would agree on an equitable tax to pay for the repair. August 10 was the date when some of the affected landowners met with Hull and Alan King of Improvement Districts, Inc., but sentiment was against another tax, particularly since there were so few affected landowners.

On August 22, Parks Director Justin Huss mentioned even though Parks has a No Smoking policy for Basin Park and Harmon Park, there was no ordinance to back it up. He also mentioned policing a smoking ban at Lake Leatherwood City Park would be impractical.

At the Sept. 12 meeting, Kendrick introduced a plan to streamline the vacation process to ensure the city does not lose money. Also Mitchell said he was concerned that public opinion was souring on the

COUNCIL continued on page 3



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CAPC adds dexterity to profit

NICKY BOYETTE

After a fruitful year in 2015, City Advertising and Promotion Executive Director Mike Maloney announced in January 2016 that he and Kent Butler of the Chamber of Commerce were collaborating on ways to deliver group travel leads to properties requesting them, and in a change of direction, told CAPC commissioners he planned to move away from print advertising toward more digital marketing, saying "Facebook might be the single best investment we make."

In February, John Rankine encouraged the CAPC to sponsor artists in the same way it sponsors musicians for the Second Saturday concerts in Basin Park, suggesting the upcoming May Festival of the Arts as a place to start. Rankine said unusual art events like individual viewfinders for people to assess art, and yarn-bombing by Gina Gallina, would enhance the Eureka Springs experience.

In March, commissioners agreed to provide \$1628 for Books in Bloom, but they were conflicted over a request for \$10,000 for the Eureka Multi-Sport event in August. Commissioners decided to include the event in their overall

marketing plan, but not chip in any funds.

The commission voted to fund the first ever Plein Air Festival in May with \$1000, and add another \$1000 toward the May Festival of the Arts. They approved \$2400 for printing the updated Parks trails brochure, and to fund monthly Drumming in the Park at \$200 per performance April through November.

Maloney announced four representatives of *Bike Magazine*, the quintessential periodical for mountain bikers, rode the trails at Lake Leatherwood City Park in March and told him they wanted to do a story on biking trails LLC, including video footage posted on their website. Maloney said similar exposure in the magazine was a boon to a town in Vermont.

In April, Sandy Martin, speaking on behalf of the Eureka Springs Indie Film Festival, asked commissioners for \$3000. She said Arkansas Parks and Tourism offers a mini-grant in which Eureka Springs must put up \$3000, but Parks and Tourism would give \$2000 back. Funds would be used for advertising the event, August 5-6. On a similar note, Maloney reported the Northwest Arkansas Film Association was in the

final steps of becoming a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Eureka Springs is the only member city so far which offers incentives to prospective film producers. Request was approved.

Blues master John Hammond entertained the crowd in Basin Park for the first Second Saturday Music in the Park event. Other Second Saturday entertainers during the year included Brave Combo, the Cate Brothers and Brewer & Shipley.

In May, Maloney pointed out that ten percent of the CAPC ad budget went specifically toward weddings. He said gets a "big list" of specific and current data about people interested in information about weddings through *Arkansas Bride* magazine, and this information could be shared with the Chamber of Commerce. Commissioners were divided on whether advertising the wedding market was still a worthwhile investment.

Maloney commented geofencing provides an opportunity to connect with smart phone and iPad devices in very

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COUNCIL continued from page 2

proposed tax because part of the revenue would go to the Auditorium and citizens were convinced funds would somehow go to the CAPC. Mitchell therefore challenged the CAPC to clarify its goal toward the Auditorium over the next ten years.

An Oct. 17 workshop focused on Kendrick's idea for changing the city's vacation process. She committed to preparing a draft of two ordinances simplifying the process.

The food truck workshop on October 24 again got spicy. Schneider was certain the city would be sued for discrimination because the proposed ordinance required food trucks to operate at least 100 feet from a bricks-and-mortar restaurant. Berry said a revised ordinance would be ready for the next council meeting.

In the Nov. 8 election, voters rejected Berry's one percent retail tax and elected Peg Adamson to a seat at the council table over incumbent James DeVito.

The ordinance regulating food trucks and trailers made its first appearance at the Nov. 14 meeting. The same arguments resurfaced, but council approved the first reading 4-1, and the second reading with the

same 4-1 vote on Nov. 28.

In a budget workshop before the Dec. 12 regular meeting, Transit Director Ken Smith said he had been awarded a federal grant for the purchase of bike racks. A requirement of the grant was a match of \$48,300, and Smith said he would not ask the city to pay that amount. He said Transit would cover it.

As the year waned and the one percent tax idea was settled, Berry mentioned trying for a tax one more time, maybe three-fourths of a cent and focusing on revenue only for the repair and upgrade of the water and sewer systems. He also brought up the inevitability of raising water and sewer rates, and aldermen embraced the idea as well.

Also at the Dec. 12 meeting, council approved the third reading of the food truck ordinance by a 5-1 vote.

NOTICE

The *Independent* will be closed from Dec. 22 to Jan. 2, just so you know. Time to celebrate, relax, and be glad we live here. That shouldn't take more than 10 days, right?



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CAPC continued from page 3

specific areas and deliver short messages on any topic, such as the local wedding opportunities or a music event in Basin Park. The CAPC typically targets a five-mile radius around the University of Arkansas during home football games, around the Promenade in Rogers, Crystal Bridges in Bentonville, and the entire city of Branson.

Maloney announced the International Mountain Biking Association world summit would occur in Bentonville in November. In June, Parks Director Justin Huss told commissioners the trails at LLCPC are becoming “a known attraction.” In July Huss asked the CAPC for \$20,000 to have a big presence at the IMBA event, and commissioners approved of his enthusiasm but not at the \$20,000 level. They agreed to provide \$10,500.

Maloney said he could not explain a sudden spike in the number of views of Eureka Springs videos on YouTube. He said there were 33,000 visits to videos about Eureka Springs from mid-April to mid-May, noting videos on social media is the way to reach millennials.

The July 27 workshop was held at the Auditorium, and Kiesha Doss of 121 Digital explained how digital advertising

works in general and what she does to promote Eureka Springs. She said CAPC ads have been getting impressive click-through rates.

In August, Maloney stated recent articles about Eureka Springs in various media from California to West Virginia were the equivalent of \$70,000 in free public relations.

The August 24 workshop was a two-hour back and forth about marketing strategy and what to do about festivals with a declining attendance. Newly-seated commissioner Susan Harman mentioned the Auditorium is part of the story-telling about the town, however, there had been fewer things going on.

One unknown at the time was the fate of a one percent retail tax on the November ballot, which if passed, would set up an Auditorium Commission with a steady revenue stream to repair the facility and pay for operating it. That would mean the current management contract between the city and CAPC would have to be reworked. Commissioners agreed to let the contract auto-renew, and if the commission were formed, they would rework it later.

Discussions were deep regarding how much money to devote to festivals as things were not the same as in years past, including participants in the Folk Festival. Finance Director Rick Bright said the CAPC had inherited these festivals from promoters who did not want them anymore, and commissioners agreed they needed a way to evaluate the success of a festival.

On Sept. 28, commissioners heard from Blair Johansen of the Johansen Group who had conducted an internal operations audit of CAPC. He suggested they fine-tune vision statements and find ways to work more closely with its tourism stakeholders. He said the organization should continue its effort to stay up-to-date with marketing strategies but also look for ways to make sure the

community sees the positive effects of the marketing. Johansen suggested a more robust effort to go after the small meetings market and find ways to attract millennials.

At the Oct. 12 meeting, commissioners OK'd \$2000 for promoting the Tour of Homes. Dee Bright said the event brings regulars to town from as far away as California, and proceeds go toward a variety of restoration and repair projects around town. They also approved the \$2,500 request from the Great Ozark Beard Off, a fundraiser benefitting men's health programs.

The next meeting was the day after the election in which citizens voted down the one percent tax. At that meeting, Maloney presented his Made in Eureka Springs campaign. He commented a million people come here annually to take home something from Eureka Springs, so Made in Eureka Springs is a campaign with limitless possibilities, “and the best part is everyone participates,” he said.

He then showed several 15-second ads focused on the theme of Made in Eureka Springs, and said he wants to budget funds for making at least two dozen and as many as 40 of these ads to run online. He said this strategy works well for other communities.

Bright announced collections for the year through September were \$80,000 more than they expected, and the total does not include a very good October. Harman wanted to use some of the extra for promoting new acts. Commissioner Charles Ragsdell reminded the group their mission is to market events, not produce them, but commissioner Dustin Duling countered, “But nothing is going on. People ask and there's nothing.”

In December, John Walker of Deadhead Productions said his events northwest of town attract a younger demographic. The commission agreed to have a workshop with Walker early in the new year to see how they could work together.

Emma Ulibarri proposed adding Dancing in the Park as a regular event on the fourth Saturday of every month from April through October. The commission left it up to Maloney to negotiate a price and agreed to have a decision for Ulibarri in January.

Also at the Dec. 7 workshop, commissioner James DeVito suggested the CAPC help the cash-strapped city budget by agreeing to cover utility bills of about \$40,000 at the Auditorium for 2017. Commissioners designated \$43,000 from their budget to make that happen.

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INDEPENDENT2016 Wrap

January



And we continue to remember – The POW-MIA flag was re-raised on the top of Planer Hill by members of American Legion Post 9 last January after being replaced over the Christmas season by a tree that needed the pole. Shown are Vietnam veterans Sonny Smith (l.) and Post Adjutant Roy Tronnes. Vietnam veteran Chuck Irvin bugled "Taps." The flag is always to be displayed on its own pole directly below the United States flag and is the only flag ever displayed in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda. The U.S. government lists about 1,600 Americans Missing in Action in N. and S. Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia between the Gulf of Tonkin incident in 1964 and surrender of the Republic of Vietnam to the People's Army of Vietnam in 1975.



Keep our reindeer dry – Eureka Springs Christmas decorations were stored in the building next to the Parks building on Dairy Hollow Rd. in January. The building had been renovated to hold the festive decorations during their off-season(s). *PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ALVARADO*



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Mayor's Task Force stays on course

NICKY BOYETTE

January

• Mike Maloney, executive director of the City Advertising and Promotion Commission, announced 2015 was another banner year for collections. He said he will continue to engage the digital process in advertising the city.

• Chair Sandy Martin said the promotional toolkit she developed will be ready to present to businesses in an effort to entice them to move to Carroll County. She suggested they get creative with incentives to pull businesses to the area.

• Health services and the mountain biking industry were mentioned as possible niche markets to pursue.

• Dan Hebert announced he had spoken with Phillip Stafford of the Technology Development Foundation of the University of Arkansas, also known as the business incubator program, and had invited him to a Task Force meeting.

February

• Martin reported she, Hebert and Eureka Springs Mayor Butch Berry visited the UofA incubator program in Fayetteville. She said two business ideas hatched at the incubator had been bought by international companies, and Hebert mentioned the incubator has spun off businesses to cities along the I-49 corridor. Stafford conjectured that Eureka Springs was better suited to expanding from within than bringing in businesses from the outside. He questioned whether Eureka Springs had the workforce available for certain businesses.

• Martin announced she would stage a G60 event, which is an opportunity for entrepreneurs to pitch their ideas in 60 seconds before a panel of judges. The events had been successful in other venues around the state. May 24 was picked as the date.

• Kent Butler said a group from the CAPC, the Chamber and the Great

Passion Play collaborated on a way to improve the dissemination of leads of potential customers to businesses, such as tourist lodgings, which can use them.

• Woodie Acord said he had spoken with several local residents who work from home to see what brought them here. Included among his interviewees were a professional screenwriter and a software engineer for a large computer company. He learned some of them came here for various reasons such as vacations or following a love interest, and they liked the town so much they never left. He pointed out these individuals could afford to buy homes here, and the city could use their testimonials to attract others who want an easier lifestyle.

March

• Lawrence Blood, district manager of Holiday Island Suburban Improvement District, attended the meeting, and discussion turned toward thinking of the county as a whole and strengthening communication between cities.

April

• Martin reported that she completed a week long training conducted by the International Economic Development Council in Little Rock where she learned from business leaders and people in all levels of city and county government, "There are lots of broke cities. We're not the only one." She said those at her conference view Eureka Springs as a place ready to grow.

• Much was made about the dearth of full-time 12-month employment as a reason families do not move here. This situation adds to the perception of a limited workforce here. Also, foot traffic compared to cost per square foot turns away investors and merchants.

June

• Martin announced the Task Force had a presence on the Internet at eurekaspringsliveworkplay.us. On the site is the toolkit she developed as a tool for guiding someone through the process of moving to town. The site features tabs to history of Eureka Springs, what you need to know to start a business here, local incentives and a thorough list of important contacts.

• Martin also reported the board and staff of the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation held their June meeting at Keels Creek Winery in Eureka Springs.

She commented the Foundation board was impressed with the local creative economy, the collaboration among agencies and the regional approach to economic development.

• Jacqueline Wolven, executive director of the Eureka Springs Downtown Network, suggested the city needs to develop a city-wide campaign "to tell our story differently." She said all the stories she hears from citizens refer to the past. She said the story should shift toward entrepreneurship and opportunity, not just stories for tourists.

• Martin reported the G60 entrepreneur challenge event went well, and sponsor Startup Junkie wants to put on another one. Twenty-five aspiring entrepreneurs pitched their ideas, and Raymond Ulibarri and Christi Brown each won a \$1000 prize.

October

• What does Eureka Springs produce that could be part of a statewide effort to establish trade relations with other countries? Martin mentioned local art might find a market somewhere and pointed out Asia has manufacturers but might need designers. The short list of ideas for locally-produced items possibly in the export conversation included coffee, wine, salsa, clothing, bath products, herbal products drums and canoes.

• The group discussed why a brewery should make it in Eureka Springs and the impact mountain biking could have on the local economy.

November

• Martin and others noted that for some shops and restaurants, October might have been the best month they have ever had. The Great Passion Play had its best month in 15 years.

• Tammy Thurow, president of the Chamber of Commerce, distributed data her staff had been collecting since May 1 about visitors who came through the Visitor Center, indicating clusters of visitors' home addresses matched well with where the City Advertising and Promotion Commission places its ads. Discussion eventually wended its way toward how to get even better data on visitors, and the group developed a plan, which Martin said would cost nothing and would be an example of the CAPC, the Chamber, the Task Force and the community collaborating.



February



McDonald's gets a little toasty – Back in early February McDonald's employees had to act quickly to tackle a brush fire next to their restaurant as a cigarette started a fire in the row of bushes next to the drive-through. Engine 1154 arrived and soaked the bushes and flammable materials. *PHOTO SUBMITTED*

County expenses up, spending wary

NICKY BOYETTE

At the Jan. 18, 2016, Carroll County Quorum Court meeting Justice of the Peace Jack Deaton announced plans were being developed to finance 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 was for the county to pay for new equipment through a grant. He said the total price tag for the complete changeover will be 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." During the year, JPs allocated funds into specific line items for the project.

In February, JPs heard two proposals from an Oklahoma City-based correctional facility health provider. One proposal, which included management of medical services for inmates plus pharmacy services, would cost the county just under \$100,000 annually. The proposal not including pharmacy services would cost \$78,000.

Sheriff Randy Mayfield told the court the jail spent about \$120,000 in 2014 to cover these services, and pointed

out non-medical staff at the jail are often in the position of making medical decisions. "We are absolutely in favor of this," Mayfield commented. "It is the trend." However, at the March meeting, JPs voted down the idea.

Also in February was discussion of setting up an ambulance district for the eastern part of the county. JP John Reeve presented a proposed ordinance that would allow the Ambulance Service Citizens Advisory Board (ASCAB) "to request proposals relating to ambulance service in the eastern district." He said getting this information would allow the court to know whether a millage would be needed to fund the ambulance district. All three readings of the ordinance were approved.

In March, JPs approved a resolution requesting and authorizing County Judge Sam Barr "to pursue a contract with the Harris Corporation for upgrades to the radio portion of Central Dispatch at a cost of no more than \$239,880." Also, JPs appropriated \$212,000 for purchase of the property housing the Prosecuting Attorney's office.

QUORUM COURT continued on page 8

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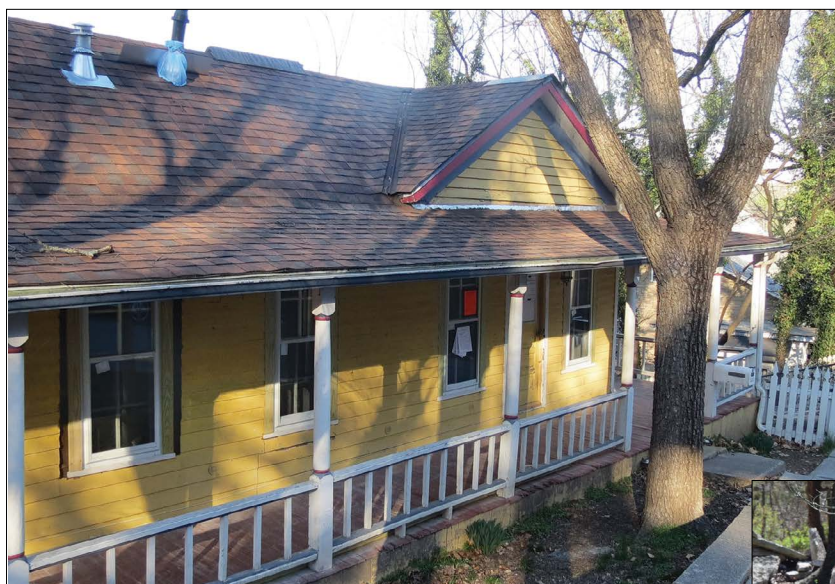
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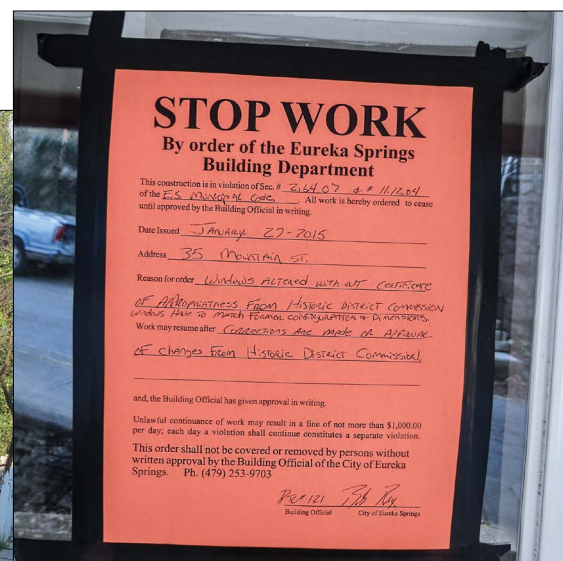
INDEPENDENT2016 Wrap

March



HDC sued over windows – Paul Minze filed a lawsuit against the Eureka Springs Historic District Commission in March after receiving a stop work order that was posted due to one of the three windows that had been replaced was four inches shorter than it should have been. The lawsuit challenged conflicting Certificates of Approval for the same work at the property. *PHOTO BY BECKY GILLETTE*

Parking it – Justin Huss was appointed as the new city Parks Director in March and people were able to gather in Harmon Park for a meet and greet. *PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ALVARADO*



QUORUM COURT continued from page 7

At the June 20 meeting, JP Lamont Richie presented “an ordinance regulating unsanitary conditions on real property.” He and Deputy Prosecutor Devon Goodman had prepared the ordinance in response to a situation on Greenwood Hollow Road in Eureka Springs where neighbors claimed a property within a quarter mile of the elementary school was unsightly, unsanitary and hazardous with trash and rubbish piled up, homeless people staying in ramshackle trailers, and stray dogs foraging. Some JPs agreed with the intent of the ordinance but others saw it as possibly pitting neighbor against neighbor or taking away property rights. JPs voted down the ordinance but agreed there was a legitimate issue worth discussion.

At the August 15 meeting, JPs passed the second and third readings of an ordinance that would let voters in the eastern district of the county decide whether they supported establishing ambulance service improvement and assessing a 2.5 mill tax. There were opinions for and against, but JP John Reeve commented the ambulance service was critical, and no ambulance service had succeeded for long in that part of

the county. However, the ordinance established the ambulance district and provided a funding stream.

There was also a vigorous debate whether the county should enter into the National Flood Insurance Program. Counties entered into the plan would not only receive insurance at lower cost, but disaster relief during an emergency and grant opportunities. Non-member counties would not be eligible for these benefits. Some JPs thought the plan might unduly restrict the activities of landowners. Another comment was property owners not affected by it would be required to pay, and some people eligible for the plan might not be covered. JPs voted to table the discussion until the next meeting, but it did not return to the table by the end of the year.

As a result of the Nov. 8 election, voters approved the 2.5 mills tax to set up the ambulance service district in the eastern part of the county. Also voters elected Noreen Watson and Craig Hicks to fill the seats of retiring JPs Joe Mills and John Reeve.

At the Nov. 21 meeting, residents just south of Green Forest told the court about a situation in which one of their neighbors hordes as many as 20-40 dogs in an area

of 30 homes. The speakers claimed there is the constant smell of feces plus barking and fights at all hours, which has created a contentious atmosphere. JP Don McNeely said he had visited the scene and did not dispute the claims made by those who spoke to the court. He said he would follow up to see what could be done.

Also in November, Richie announced the unfortunate news that in preparing the 2017 budget, the budget committee encountered two significant expenses it did not expect. The health insurance premium for county employees would be increasing by 37.7 percent. Also, Richie said the committee discovered some county properties were underinsured, and the premium would maybe double from \$46,000 to more than \$90,000.

Richie said no county employees would receive raises in 2017, but the county will cover the increase in health insurance and not pass on the increase to employees. The budgets for all county departments except the road department would be cut, although Richie said the committee would consider midyear requests for adjustments if the funds were available.

JPs passed the budget at the Dec. 19 meeting.

Parks: New director, new trails, new cabins

NICKY BOYETTE

Chair Bill Featherstone of the Parks Commission began 2016 by acknowledging the Ozark Off Road Cyclists for contributing 426 hours of volunteer labor building and maintaining trails in the county. Work they accomplished in 2015 included the Spring Garden Trail and the rehabbing of trails after spring rains at Lake Leatherwood City Park without which the Fat Tire Festival and the Xterra events would have been in jeopardy. There are 25 miles of trails at LLCP, two miles by Black Bass Lake and about three miles of trails throughout the town. This year they completed a beginner bike trail at LLCP. Nate Griffey chaired the local chapter of OORC/

Interim Director Donna Woods reported on the past year's accomplishments including receiving a grant of \$63,724 to build a paved pathway from Harmon Park to Clear Spring School. She also stated the cabins at LLCP had their most lucrative year ever in 2015.

Featherstone said he received 79 applications for the permanent director position. He and the commission first had phone interviews with 13 applicants and then five face-to-face interviews before choosing Justin Huss of Jonesboro as the new director. He began work March 23.

At the Feb. 16 meeting, Woods announced the grant originally intended to fund the construction of a pavilion at Lake Leatherwood City Park (LLCP) would need to be reallocated because all bids for the project came in higher than expected. The grant is a 50-50 grant, meaning the state would provide \$82,955 and Parks was expected to match that amount, but Woods said that total would not be enough to complete the project.

She said the grantor allowed reallocating for a playground, a campground accessible according to Americans with Disabilities Act requirements and costs associated with burying utility lines. She also got the deadline extended to December 31, 2016.

Feral hogs first appeared on the agenda in February, and commissioners agreed some kind of mitigation would be necessary at LLCP before there were a bigger problem.

Jim Helwig, chair of the Springs Committee, reported his group was focusing on low impact development, in particular, strategies for slowing down storm water runoff to reduce flooding and

contamination of the springs.

At the March 15 meeting, Woods urged the commission to plan for renovating the cabins and RV sites at LLCP because they are income producers. She contended if the one-eighth cent Parks tax is not renewed upon its sunset in September 2017, improvements at LLCP would slow considerably

Eagle Scout Justin Ermert proposed constructing bleachers beside the LLCP soccer fields as his Eagle Scout project. He finished the project in August, and bleachers now accommodate 100 soccer fans.

In April, Huss started his tenure as director with big plans. First on his list was replacing all the rental boats at LLCP, begin renovating the cabins and finding an online reservation system for booking overnights stays at LLCP. He maintained all these projects would be revenue generators. He also stated he wanted the

cabins in good shape for rental during the winter.

Commissioner Jay Fitzsimmons wanted a more specific picture of expected revenues and use of the funds Huss was asking for. Huss replied the marina fleet—the boats they rent out to visitors—was full of holes. Commissioner Steven Foster moved to spend \$13,075 from LLCP reserves for replacing equipment at the marina, and commissioners agreed.

Huss delivered at the June 21 meeting his five-year Capital Improvement Plan along with a 17-page addendum with details for 49 projects he identified for LLCP. His Main Priority list includes a new septic system, Wi-Fi and a reservation system, a kiosk in the day-use area, main road signage, repair of the cooking pavilion, improvements to the concession toilets, trail rest areas, cabin renovations, additional camping sites, additional

PARKS continued on page 10



The Pursuit Of HAPPINESS

by Dan Krotz

Dictionary maker Merriam Webster has named “surreal” as 2016’s Word of the Year because it was the most looked-up word in the last 12 months; “post-truth” and “xenophobia” ran second and third.

“Surreal” doesn’t mean “awesome” or “amazing” (and please resolve to stop using the words “awesome” and “amazing” in 2017), but it connotes a similar heightened condition or emotion: disbelief that a fantastic and irrational thing or event could be real.

America’s public intellectuals – columnists, pollsters, party professionals – found and still find Donald Trump’s election to be a precise definition of surreal. And truth be known, even the President-elect couldn’t believe his lying eyes. So what happened?

What happened is that people living in discreet units of government voted to *Make America Great Again* in a landslide. Yes, Clinton won the popular vote, but Trump carried 3,084 counties to Clinton’s 57. Top to bottom, Democrats not only lost, but got slaughtered, banished, and humiliated nearly everywhere. No political party has seen a defeat of this magnitude since FDR bushwhacked Alf Landon in 1936.

What may be surreal is that the Democratic Party looks a lot like the Republican Party of 1955: folks with good jobs, good educations, and lifestyles that may not include church going but which certainly evokes the “work, save, and deny the flesh” conventions of the Protestant Ethic. Meanwhile, the GOP runneth over with billionaires superintending the hopes and dreams of a populist multitude who believes that if it wasn’t for bad luck they’d have no luck at all.

We’ll find out in 2017 how that works out.

A little help from our friends:

- **Carroll County Domestic Violence Hotline:** 1-844-247-3223 (844-24PEACE) is available 24/7. The Purple Flower Domestic Violence Resource and Support Center of Carroll County is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at 103 West Church St. in Berryville. (479) 981-1676. The Purple Flower will also have free and confidential Domestic Violence Empowerment Support Group on every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the Month at the Berryville Community Center from 6 – 7:30 p.m.
- **24-hour NWA Crisis Line for Women** – NWA Women’s Shelter serving Carroll County – “Empowering families to live free of violence.” (800) 775-9011 www.nwaws.org
- **A Cup of Love Ministries offering free soup** – A Cup of Love Ministries provides soup lunches at Flint Street Fellowship on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 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 Tonyglen, a practice of love and compassion on all beings. The meetings will alternate these two practices so that one is the focus on each Monday with coffee and tea afterward. Call Alece at (479) 244-6841 or Gary at (479) 244-6840.
- **Celebrate Recovery** – Soul Purpose Ministries, 801 S. Springfield, Green Forest, 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday. Potluck followed by 12-step Christ-centered meetings for those suffering from addiction, habit, hang-up or hurt.
- **Grief Share**, A Bible-based, 13-week program for those who have lost a loved one will begin on Sunday, Feb. 21 from 1 – 3 p.m. at Faith Bible Church, Suite C, 3 Parkcliff Drive, Holiday Island. Share with others experiencing similar circumstances in an informal, confidential setting. Call (479) 253-8925 or email lardellen@gmail.com.
- **Overeaters Anonymous** – Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. Barbara (479) 244-0371 • **Narcotics Anonymous** – Fridays, 5:30 p.m. (903) 278-5568. Meetings held at Eureka Springs Coffee Pot Group behind Land O’ Nod Victorian Inn.
- **Coffee Break Al-Anon Family Group Women** – Tuesdays, 9:45 a.m., Faith Christian Family Church, Hwy. 23S, (479) 981-1686. • **Al-Anon Family Group (AFG)** – Sundays, 11:30 a.m., Mondays and Tuesdays 7 p.m. • **Eureka Springs Coffee Pot AA Groups** Monday – Saturday 12:30 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m.; Sunday – Thursday, Saturday, 5:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Friday, 8 p.m. (479) 253-7956 • **Al-Anon** Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. Meetings held at Eureka Springs Coffee Pot Group behind Land O’ Nod Victorian Inn. All other meetings: See www.nwarkaa.org
- **St. Vincent De Paul Thrift Store** – First Tuesdays – provide assistance with medical help, utilities, clothing, emergency shelter, shoes, etc. Annual charity Christmas Gift & Food Program. Mon-Sat 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. 1844 Hwy. 62W Berryville.
- **St. James’ Community Suppers** – Held Sunday from 5 – 6:30 p.m. Meals provided by local restaurants and are free to all. St. James’ Episcopal Church is located at 86 Prospect Avenue on the historic loop and meals are served in the undercroft.
- **Support Group** – for those with **Parkinson’s** and their caregivers, first Wednesday of each month, ECHO Community Room at 10 a.m. For questions email Sally at sarahg@arkansas.net or call (479) 9810-1587. Next meeting Dec. 7.

INDEPENDENT2016 Wrap

Hospital holding onto funds

NICKY BOYETTE

The Hospital Commission learned at its Jan. 18 meeting the new Eureka Springs Hospital clinic in the Eastgate Center on US 62 was settling in well. Chris Bariola, CEO of ESH, said that Dr. Christopher Baranyk had set up a family practice at the clinic as an adjunct to ESH. Catherine Pappas, community liaison for ESH, said the clinic was seeing an average of eight-to-ten patients per day, proving this was a much-needed service.

Commissioner Anna Ahlman announced retirement from the commission.

In February, the commission decided it would begin meeting quarterly after the March 21 meeting. Also at that meeting, Chair Michael Merry stated they had waited too long to see movement from Allegiance, the company leasing operation of Eureka Springs Hospital, toward construction of a new hospital.

At the March 21 meeting, Vicki Andert, Chief of Nursing, announced Bariola was resigning as CEO in early April. Peter Savoy from Mamou, La., was subsequently hired to replace him.

At the June meeting, Merry announced commissioners Pam

Crockett and Jack Pritchard were resigning. Barbara Dicks and Dr. John House were seated in their stead.

During autumn, ESH bought new digital X-ray equipment and a 32-slice CT scanner. Director of Radiology Amy Brandt commented their images were as good as a patient could get anywhere in the area. ESH also began offering MRI services once a week.

Commissioners spent much time discussing the best strategies for managing their funds, which at the end of October totaled \$2,355,500. Commissioner Robert Walling expected the total to increase by \$30,000 by year’s end.

Commissioners have been operating with the understanding their funds can be used only for the health care needs of citizens of Eureka Springs. They have said funds would be ready in case the management company left ESH employees in a lurch and the commission would have to meet the payroll until a new management company is on board. When Merry presented the commission’s year-end report to city council, Alderman Kristi Kendrick told Merry she intended to see for herself what state law stipulates regarding Hospital Commission funds.

PARKS continued from page 9

enhanced camping sites, bike repair/air stations and bike huts and yurts.

Huss estimated these 13 items would cost \$255,700. He speculated the improvements would attract more visitors and generate more income for Parks. He said the new marina fleet was already a big hit with visitors.

Commissioners approved Huss’ Capital Improvement Plan and authorized him to implement them as he sees fit given the needs and cash flow.

At a town meeting at the old high school property on June 30, Diane Murphy, chair of the Community Center Foundation board, broke the news the Foundation had met its initial fundraising goal of raising \$200,000 which would enable it to “launch the lease,” take over possession of the property and turn it into a community center.

The 18th Fat Tire Festival was held at LLCP July 15-17.

In August, Huss commented revenue from boat rentals was up more than 300 percent so far because of the investment

made by the commission.

Huss announced in September he was preparing cabins for use during the winter, and the second and third camper cabins would be in place within a month.

On Oct. 12, a modest crowd gathered at the Community Center for a town meeting on feral hogs. Huss said he wanted to create a way for residents to report feral hog activity so that traps could be used at the hot spots. A representative of the company that makes BoarBuster corral traps gave demonstration of the 18-ft. circular trap that can be remotely activated to drop down around a sounder of a dozen or more hogs. Huss told the group he intended to purchase at least one of the \$6000 traps if his budget allowed.

For the first time, the National Interscholastic Cycling Association (NICA) staged a mountain bike race event for high school and junior high-aged students Oct. 23. At least 120 students participated.

At the Nov. 29 meeting Huss commented that revenue at LLCP was 39 percent over projections for this year.

Planning on food trucks and B&Bs

NICKY BOYETTE

The Planning Commission began 2016 considering the application by David and Carrie Marry to build a 16-unit Planned Unit Development on East Mountain. The Marrys presented what they considered an environmentally-sensitive, aesthetically-coordinated plan.

Commissioner Tom Buford pointed out the Marrys' plan did not comply with City Code regarding a PUD in that they had not specified the sizes and locations of each unit in their application. Other commissioners wanted to allow leeway, and the plan was approved 5-1.

Commissioner Steve Beacham took over as chair at the Feb. 9 meeting, and first on his menu was food trucks. Beacham mentioned one important point would be to define food trucks, and quickly other particulars surfaced such as proximity to restaurants and hours of operation. Commissioners agreed to look around town to see where food trucks and trailers might fit in, then figure out what to with City Code.

At the following meeting, commissioners discussed the topic with alderman James DeVito, and suggested council create an ordinance permitting food trucks and trailers to operate on private property in the C-1 and C-2 zones and with a special permit in any zone during a special event.

At the March 8 meeting, the commission denied a request for a Conditional Use Permit for one-unit Bed & Breakfast at 6 Hazel and a variance to the 200-ft. rule.

The April 12 meeting had standing room only because of the application for a one-unit Bed & Breakfast at 23 Elk. Seventeen letters and eight speakers stated opposition because there was a tourist lodging nearby, and speakers were adamant the B&B would irreparably damage the

neighborhood by increasing traffic.

One letter was in favor of the application, and applicant Gary Toub pointed out he and his wife, Kathy Martone, had complied with everything they had been told at city hall. Nevertheless, the vote on the application was unanimous to deny it.

On a related subject, Beacham said City Economic Development Officer Glenna Booth was compiling a list of all B&Bs in town in an effort to determine if any were operating contrary to City Code. He said Booth had identified a few scofflaws. There was consensus that besides lax enforcement of existing laws, there were parts of Code that needed clarifying.

Beacham said because of concerns voiced by citizens regarding tours, some of which were reportedly late at night and on properties not identified as tour homes, Planning would include tour homes in its review of Code along with B&Bs, tourist lodgings and the 200-ft. rule.

Also at the April 12 meeting, Beacham announced the passing of long-time commissioner Ed Leswig.

The April 26 meeting was the venue for more B&B debate. Jaclyn Cross and Stephen Scott Dobbins applied for a CUP for a one-unit B&B behind their house at 5 Kirk. There were speakers for and against the application, but the prevailing sentiment was to deny.

At the May 10 meeting, for the third meeting in a row, Planning dealt with a request for a CUP for a B&B, and this one was within 200 ft. of other B&Bs. Henry Branstetter and Tom McCoy wanted to restore the large structure at 8 Washington, and to help pay for the renovation, they wanted to open a two-unit B&B. They also needed a waiver of the 200-ft. rule. Vote to approve the CUP and the variance was unanimous.

The application for a CUP at 23 Elk returned to Planning because council city council chose not to make a decision on the appeal by Toub and Martone. Beacham explained the appeal process for Planning and asked Toub and Martone to return to the May 24 meeting to make their case. On that date, Planning denied the application again.

Tour operators Steve Arnold and Charles Mowrey responded to comments made at previous Planning meetings regarding activities associated with their Haunted Eureka Springs tours. Mowrey said he would fire tour operators who allowed what some of the neighbors have claimed.

Susan Harman was seated to fill the vacancy on the commission. However, Steve Beacham resigned from the commission in June following a vote by city council to approve the application for the CUP at 23 Elk after Planning had voted it down twice. Commissioner Pat Lujan was voted in as the new chair.

At its June 27 meeting, city council imposed a six-month moratorium on issuance of new licenses for B&Bs to allow Planning time to come up with its recommendations.

At the June 28 meeting, commissioners held Show Cause hearings for five properties that appeared to be in violation of City Code.

In July, Ann Tandy-Sallee was seated to fill the vacancy on the commission.

On Sept. 13, Jim von Tungeln, attorney for the Municipal League, shared observations about issues Planning had been facing. He told commissioners to decide if the city wants only single-family homes in neighborhoods or if B&Bs are allowed.

Lujan announced at the end of the Oct. 25 meeting he was resigning.

April



Keeping a clean community –

Volunteers gathered 21 full trash bags during the Holiday Island Hospitality Association's semi-annual roadside cleanup.

PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ALVARADO

A new spring to a step –

After receiving an \$36,000 Arkansas Historic Preservation grant the Eureka Springs Carnegie Public Library begin the project to replace steps entering the library from Spring Street in early April. The original steps lasted more than 100 years, as they were completed when the library was built in 1912. PHOTO BY BECKY GILLETTE



Carroll-Boone expands water lines

NICKY BOYETTE

Plant manager Barry Connell announced the Carroll-Boone Water District crew was called upon in April to repair a large leak in the transmission line south of Berryville. A person walking his dog noticed the leak, and Connell said they were able to repair the damage without shutting down the flow of water beyond the leak, which would have meant loss of water for Berryville, Green Forest and Harrison.

Connell also reported that winter weather eroded a stretch of land along Keels Creek putting another section of the transmission line in jeopardy if the erosion continues. Consulting engineer Chris Hall applied for a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for funds to stabilize and restore the creek bank. At the October meeting, however, Hall told the commissioners FEMA had considered the transmission line was not in imminent jeopardy yet, so the grant application was denied. He will continue to look for funding.

Hall also announced the first phase of the parallel transmission line project had moved beyond residences and was entering rough terrain on its way toward Hwy. 23, south of Eureka Springs.

Office Manager Cathy Klein reported the project for moving a section of the transmission line because of the widening of US

62 near Green Forest was complete, and it came in under budget.

At the July meeting, Hall told commissioners it had taken a perfect storm of events, but that is what caused a joint in the transmission line between the plant and Eureka Springs to separate. The repair, which involved cutting back one of the pipes, extended beyond the time threshold established by the Health Department for these events, so a precautionary Boil Order was initiated. Eureka Springs Mayor Butch Berry complimented the Carroll-Boone team for its quick repair work but asked for a contingency plan for better, more effective communication during emergencies like this one. All parties noted shortcomings in the way communication flowed during the event, and the commission acknowledged Berry's concerns.

In October, Hall announced the first 36-in. section of the parallel transmission line project extending from Beaver Lake to Hwy. 23 was almost operational. Another part of the project had not fared as well. Several attempts to bore a tunnel under the Kings River were frustrated in a variety of ways. Hall said the team eventually decided, since the water level would be at its lowest before winter rains, to lay the pipe in an open cut, which would put the pipe three – five ft. below the river bed. Klein said by early December the crew had the pipe in place.

May

Quite a splash – Cornerstone Bank stepped up to fund multiple stages of the Eureka Springs Community Center project through matching grants, making an immediate gift of \$5,000 towards the trail hub. They also looked into getting multiple matching grants to give a total of \$50,000 to the project.



Small images, big scope – John Rankine's viewfinders were a big hit during the opening of his 'On my Morning Walk' exhibit in Basin Spring Park in May. (L.-r.) Charlie Phaneuf and Elaine Phaneuf take a peek through some of the viewfinders that were in Basin Park throughout May.

PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ALVARADO

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Airport flying high

NICKY BOYETTE

The Carroll County Airport Commission began 2016 with a change in leadership when Morris Pate announced he would step down as chair. Commissioners voted in Chase Tresler to replace him.

Consulting engineer Dan Clinton passed around a list of projects at CCA paid for by grants in the past 35 years, and recent projects included perimeter fencing, rehab of the fuel dispenser area apron and taxiway lighting system repair. Clinton suggested as future projects for grant requests, the commission consider purchasing more property to make way for more hangars, rehabbing the runway and expanding the south apron.

In January, Manager Michael Pfeifer announced the most recent once-a-month fly-in breakfast event attracted about 50 guests. He said 15 planes flew in.

In February, Tresler discussed the arrangement CCA has with the Carroll County Special Operation Rescue Team. SORT uses on the building on the south end of the property for storage and meetings, but there had never been a signed lease agreement, required by the Federal Aviation Administration. There were also the question of who pays the utility bills, but by the end of the March meeting, all issues were sorted out to the

commissioners' satisfaction.

Pfeifer got an electrician to repair the runway end identifier lights, so they were functioning for the first time in 25 years.

Clinton arranged for the taxiway rehab to occur during June, a traditionally slow month for CCA. The project called for milling off 2.5 inches of surface and putting three inches back. A crown down the middle of the runway was created so runoff drained toward the sides. French drains were installed along each side to collect the runoff and direct it away from the taxiway.

At the June meeting, Pfeifer announced he had a waiting list for hangars, so the commission should plan for building new ones. Clinton suggested he could pursue a state 90-10 grant for extending the south taxiway apron behind the new hangars on the south end of the property and in front of an existing 60x60 hangar. Clinton projected this addition could serve an eight-bay hangar to be constructed in the future. Commission voted for Clinton to pursue the grant.

Also at that meeting, Pate said a businessman from Florida who flies in for business in Berryville said he wanted to duplicate the design of CCA for his airport in Florida.

In July, Clinton presented a preliminary plan for what could happen

in the south part of the property once the new apron extension was in place. The plan included where new hangars and tie-downs would be. He promised to send in the grant request in September.

Negotiations began in the summer for leasing the 60x60 hangar in the south part of the property, but they stalled during autumn and remained uncompleted by year's end. However, another businessman expressed interest in building another 60x60 hangar in that area.

On October, Pfeifer mentioned flight instruction has 13 students in three different classes.

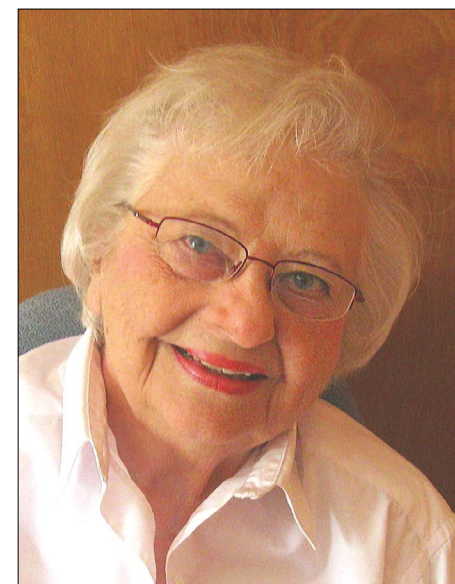
There was good and bad news at the November meeting. Commissioner Sandy Martin announced the Quorum Court had to cut all county departments, and the CCA budget was cut from \$60,000 in 2016 to \$40,000 in 2017.

The good news was the Arkansas Department of Aeronautics approved the grant proposal to extend the south taxiway behind the newest hangars. The commission was responsible for ten percent, or \$12,657, which commissioners had already earmarked in the budget. Clinton suggested they get the dirt work done during December and finish the asphalt work in the spring. Initial attempts to start moving dirt around were delayed

by rain and winter weather.

Also, Pfeifer announced the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department agreed to install two signs on US 62 indicating directions to CCA, and he installed a regulation horseshoe pit and a fire pit near the terminal at his own expense.

June



Alderman Joyce Zeller died at 84 on June 12. She was elected to city council twice and ran twice for Mayor of Eureka Springs.

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

I love my family but the big holidays aren't what they should be. There's always tension and every year some big drama occurs. I'm over it. How do I deal with it or how can I change it?

Though Christmas has passed, New Year celebrations are on the horizon, followed by numerous holidays, family birthdays, baptisms, weddings and funerals. The ability to maneuver family functions unscathed is a skill-set worthy of year-round mastery.

My advice: *Give Up Hope*. Pessimistic, non-therapeutic or otherwise, Let's be Real.

You've accumulated a library of self-help guides, spent years in therapy and you're diligent in your daily meditation practice. Yet, less than 20 minutes into a family holiday event you find yourself ensnared in the dreaded dance of dysfunction.

History repeats itself. Always.

Your alcoholic uncle is likely once more to relieve himself in your neighbor's backyard. Your

grandmother will pester your brother about marriage and children. Clueless still that he's gay and already married to that buddy of his from college that he brings to every family event.

Should you meander toward the dessert table, Grandma is certain to ask if you're not still dieting. Mother of course intervenes on your behalf, explaining that such comments are detrimental to your sustained recovery from those adolescent eating disorder issues. Boundary violations are a given.

Dad will ask if you've gotten a real job yet, provoking you yet again to defend the field of social work and child welfare. Great grandfather's still truckin' along with his foul, discriminatory verbiage that makes you cringe and run for cover, thanking God none of your friends are present.

Your on-and-off again narcotic addicted aunt will once again be born-again. She'll insist that you too would benefit from the cult-of-the-month, fire and brimstone bible studies and sermons that now consume her life. She'll certainly inform your divorced sister

about the Virginity Pledge and the importance of becoming, as she has, a born-again virgin.

Bottom line, never attend family events in search of validation. Know your truth and hold it. Let go of your differences and focus on your similarities. Almost anything is tolerable when time is limited. Plan for a later obligation, two or three hours out.

Bring a friend, an outsider usually pushes family to be on their best behavior. If not, detach and witness the shenanigans through your friends' eyes. Comedic relief will set you free.

Questions? Email leslie@esindependent.com. Leslie Meeker, M.A., L.P.C., is a psychotherapist who has specialized in relational and sex therapy, sexual compulsivity and sexual trauma for the past 17 years, after receiving extensive training in human sexuality at the Masters and Johnson Institute in St. Louis, Mo.



July

Summer Second Saturdays a hit – The summer months featured great music in the Basin Park with Nikki Hill, The Cate Brothers, and Brave Combo, pictured in the bandshell. *PHOTO BY JAY VRECEKAK*



Read for another adventure – Five brave companions formed a party of personas during free-time at the Carnegie Library Lock-in in July. (L-r.) Ian, Man of Many Names, Tyrone the Over-Charismatic, Emily the Careful, BrimbleBanks the Wacky, and Meinhart the Experienced. Together they traversed the realm of Dungeons & Dragons in a mission to derail the story as much as possible. The Library Lock-In is held once a year where kids get to spend the night inside the library partaking in activities provided by the librarians and volunteers.

PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ALVARADO

August

Off to the races – The hot August afternoon didn't stop people from showing up to take part of The Eureka Triathlon.

PHOTO BY JAY VRECEKAK



September



New paint job – The Christ of the Ozarks statue received a new coat of paint in September in time for Bikes, Blues, & BBQ. *PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ALVARADO*



Helping the voices of protest – Farmers' market customers gathered on an autumn Tuesday morning around provisions donated to support Standing Rock Sioux who are objecting to construction of an oil pipeline under their land and water source in southwestern North Dakota. John Two-Hawks delivered a trailer of donated goods. *PHOTO BY BECKY GILLETTE*

Noah's Ark Sails into the New Year

Our new year begins with a Mercury retrograde in Capricorn and Mars in Pisces. On January 3, Venus joins Mars in Pisces. All of us will be quite reflective, imaginative and dreamy. Most of the time. Venus will retrograde (March 4 – April 15) during 2017. Venus retrograde every eighteen months for 40 – 43 days. With Venus retrograde let there be no intense love Instagrams sent. And no weddings! Instead, assess self-esteem and how to “save the world.”

The stock market shifts during Venus retrograde. With Uranus in Aries, we understand liberty with

more clarity. And the importance of freedom. Our world accelerates forward unfolding the Aquarian Age.

The year of the Fire Monkey ends and the year of the Fire Rooster begins. We will continue to see activism, new arts awakening and new frontiers forged. “Put a little love in the heart (first)” is Jupiter in Libra's theme. Before sex happens (Jupiter in Scorpio). Soon everyone will return to the Truth of what matters. Justice and equality, too.

And so the Noah's Ark (humanity) is set to sail into a new year. We sense excitement for what's to

come. Each year an envelope of new experiences opens. We enter into a celestial boat – the Ark. We are transported, like seeds, into a new world, given another chance at purpose and the accomplishment of the Divine Plan on Earth. Each year a profound wisdom is given to humanity. In the present cycle of time. We travel in the ark in pairs navigating the waters of a new world. Noah's Ark sets sail.

As we enter a new year, the months overseen by the zodiac, it's good to learn the gifts (purpose, tasks, surprises, nature) of each sign, Aries to Pisces. Then we have understanding of each other.

ARIES: Creates the beginnings of things, has a fiery, quick thinking mind, does not exhibit patience (especially for slower signs Pisces, Taurus, Scorpio, Cap), is filled with enthusiasm (filled with God). Using the “I” word constantly, Aries is developing a sense of self-identity, amidst being decisive, competitive, aggressive, proving themselves as impulsive risk takers. The Hierarchy looks on to see if you're a good risk for them. Can you change the world?

TAURUS: People often call Taurus stubborn, but that's not the reality. Taurus people must think deeply before responding to questions. Their mind is based upon sensibility and practicality. Give them time to ponder on all aspects of a question before answering. Taurus loves gold and beauty (Venus). Gold is valuable, and like Taurus, a serious, long lasting investment. Taurus is to illuminate the minds of humanity. Beginning with themselves first.

GEMINI: Your eyes are special, different than the other signs except for Aquarius. Your eyes “see” things, gather information in order to disperse that information to others. Gemini's the messenger (Mercury), quite imaginative, sometimes a gossip, can be charming when it's important and absent when it's not. Your purpose, after dispensing information, is to love beyond everyone else's capacity. Sirius is your guiding star. Become acquainted.

CANCER: Truly a crab, circling whatever interests them, never moving in a straight line. You're circuitous in order to assess safety and well-being. When safety is assured, you nurture and nourish all beings – people, kingdoms, babies, animals, gardens, the broccoli deva, etc. Shy and evasive publically, you're lively and talkative with intimates. And very opinionated! Following moon cycles and oceans' tides, you're sensitive, moody, refined. Neptune summons you.

LEO: The proud lion, the world's their jungle. They have strong will, great intelligence, a high forehead, often big hair, can be generous, intense, over- confident, and at times a pain to everyone. You're a leader, must be in charge, very creative, inspiring others and sensitive like Cancer. Your purpose is to awaken, cultivate your gifts, then offer them to humanity. You are a “fire child.” That fire is God (Agni).

VIRGO: Known as a perfectionist, you're to bring order and organization into the world.

However, before understanding this task, you're often critical, judgmental, opinionated and silently unappreciative. But this is just a stage. Later you become trustworthy, exploratory, appreciative. Your purpose is to gestate new realities and realize that “love underlies all the happenings of the times.” Archangel Gabriel is your protector.

LIBRA: Libra likes to play, have fun, be social and cooperate. With their sense of beauty and justice Libras seek to bring balance to everyone's life. Libras have many relationships.

In each one, they are learning how to be in relationships, how to choose and discriminate how to share and love and extend themselves so they can learn and radiate Right Relations in all interactions. Librans are mediators, servers and always beautiful.

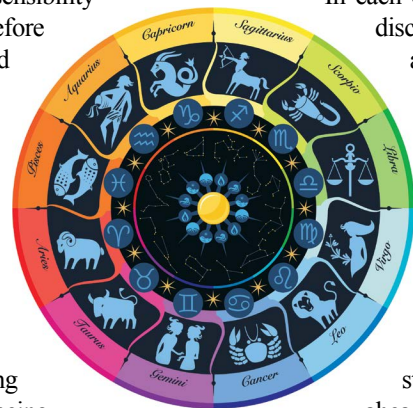
SCORPIO: The sign of potent and emotional feelings and desires, Scorpios also have strong powerful wills. Serious, deep and extraordinary researchers, they're always somewhat in a Halloween situation. Always facing death and rebirth, Scorpios ask others to walk with them. As everyone declines the invitation and withdraws, Scorpios never show weakness. They can be harsh and undiplomatic. Often they suffer and we find them deeply and unequivocally admirable.

SAGITTARIUS: The truth sign. Sags are like an arrow of light – straightforward, uncomplicated, undemanding, focused upon what's ahead, eyes ever on the mountain top, riding over the plains toward a goal almost unreachable. They're adventurous, cultural, journeyers, publishers, filled with music, love of food, the need for freedom. Their companion is Jupiter, which suggests Joy. But sometimes, for little moments, they can also be sad at the injustices in the world.

CAPRICORN: The sign of self-reliance, like Taurus but different, Caps never ask for help for they must prove to themselves they're responsible, accountable, dependable and trustworthy. Often, no matter how much Caps accomplish, they feel unworthy & undeserving, judging themselves as not having done enough. Caps need help understanding they are always on the Path, having earned a starry place among their serving brothers and sisters. Caps need to know they are the “rising sun.”

AQUARIUS: Honest and sincere, understanding brotherhood and seeking freedom, bringing the future into the present, always different and slightly revolutionary, Aquarians are comforted by knowing everyone in town. They love parties and groups. They're loyal and sympathetic. These “waters of life” star children, quirky and eccentric, sometimes very determined, learn by being both alone and in groups and consider their work with deep seriousness. Aquarians are the “light that shines on Earth, across the sea.” They are the future.

PISCES: Very sensitive (like Cancer), a delicate fish (actually two), most comfortable in water (ocean, pools, river, lakes, rain), Pisces can suffer tremendously, not understanding life in form and matter. Sometimes the fish finds themselves in places and positions not quite right, sometimes with broken feet and bones. This is frightful for them. The Talmud says, “Every blade of grass has its angel bending over it, whispering, ‘Grow, grow.’” Pisces has their angel, bending over them, too. It's just invisible to everyone else.



OLIO
OF THE OZARKS
RADIO

o•li•o (ō-lē-ō), n., 1. a dish of many ingredients.
2. hodgepodge. 3. a medley or potpourri.

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Risa – writer, teacher, mentor, counselor, astrologer, esotericist. Founder & Director – Esoteric & Astrological Studies & Research Institute, a contemporary Wisdom School in the Ancient Mysteries tradition. Email: risagoodwill@gmail.com. Website: www.nightlightnews.org/ Facebook: Risa D'Angeles Note: My FB posts are now on my website each day under Daily Studies.

HDC reflects on roofs, demolition, gutters

NICKY BOYETTE

The Historic District Commission began its year with one application on the Jan. 6 agenda. Debbie Davis was renovating the 19th century structure at 4 Summit, and wanted to build a porch where one had stood before and change out a window with rotten sashes with a door because a door had originally been in that spot. Commissioners approved the porch, and in May they approved Davis' choice of doors.

Roof materials

Metal roofs have been controversy for HDC in recent years, so commissioners convened two workshops during the year to discuss roofing reflectivity.

At the Feb. 17 meeting, two different metal roofs were approved. A standing seam roof of a burnished slate color was approved for the residential structure at 6 Hazel, and a lap panel steel roof was approved for three

of the Joy Motel buildings because it was a commercial property and buildings were mostly hidden from the road.

As a result of their workshops on Roofing Reflectivity, commissioners approved at the August 17 meeting this addition to their guidelines:

"Historically, structures in Eureka Springs were roofed with materials made of wood on sloped roofs and tar products on flat roofs. These historic materials were darker colors ranging from a light brown to much darker colors. Today's roofing materials come in a rainbow of colors. However, the darker shades are more in keeping with the historic look of roofs and are recommended.

Guidance: It is imperative that qualified roofing contractors be consulted when considering roofing materials. The products available today and in the future allow the use of historic colors and greater energy

efficiency."

New family residence

Bill King first appeared at the April 6 meeting with his new construction project on Point Street. He planned to build a single-family three-level residence with a 16x26 footprint. The commission approved the footprint and agreed to consider other elements of his design as they were presented. They were not favorable to his request for a lap panel steel roof because the property was in a residential zone. King observed that decisions on allowing lap panel steel roofs seem arbitrary.

At the June 1 meeting, King returned with a revised plan. This time, he wanted to build a two-story structure with an 830-sq. ft. footprint, maintaining preference for a burnished slate lap-panel steel roof. He commented the design guidelines allow for this roof in new constructions. Chair

Dee Bright reminded commissioners the property in question is not visible from the main street.

Commissioner Doug Breitling said he had no problems with King's plan except for more specifics about the doors. King agreed to return with more on the doors and the paint colors at another meeting. The vote to approve the revised plan was unanimous.

New development

At the May 4 meeting, the commission also approved the first two new constructions at the Corley Loop development on East Mountain.

Demolition saga

Al Larson and Glenn Crenshaw represented the Eureka Springs School District and the Community Center Foundation at the June 15 meeting to ask for an extension on the Certificate

HDC continued on page 19

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New Year's Eve celebrations ringing, singing, bringing in 2017

2016 has been a doozie! We've lost some good ones and more beautiful ones have been introduced. New Year's Eve is packed full of live music events all over town. Dime Trip, a

band of local boys, reunite for a special show at Chelsea's. Crescent City Combo, the choicest jazz we have, will be blowing *hot* air at the Crescent Hotel. Be careful out there!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *George Brothers*, Rock, 6 – 8 p.m.
EUREKA LIVE! – *Green Screen Karaoke*, 9 p.m.

GRAND TAVERNE – *Jerry Yester*, Singer/Songwriter, 6:30 p.m.
LEGENDS SALOON – *Another Turn*, Rock, 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30

BREWS – *The Lark and the Loon*, Americana, 6 – 9 p.m.
CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *Jesse Dean*, Singer/Songwriter, 8 – 11 p.m.
CHELSEA'S – *Soapbox Congregation*, Americana, 9 p.m.
EUREKA LIVE! – *DJ and Dancing*, 9 p.m.
GRAND TAVERNE – *Arkansas Red*, Guitar Dinner Music, 6:30 p.m.
LEGENDS SALOON – *DJ Karaoke with Stan*, 8 p.m.
ROWDY BEAVER – *2 Dog 2 Karaoke*, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

BASIN PARK HOTEL – *Red Ambition*, Rock, 7 p.m.

CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *Septembers End*, Rock, 8 p.m. – 12:30 a.m.

CHELSEA'S – *Dime Trip*, Rock, 9 p.m.

CLUB E – *DJ and Dancing*, 9 p.m.
CRESCENT HOTEL – *Crescent City Combo*, Jazz, 5 p.m.

EUREKA LIVE! – *Felicia Blackheart and Friends*, Rock, Open at 5 p.m.

GRAND TAVERNE – *Jerry Yester*, Singer/Songwriter, 6:30 p.m.

LEGENDS SALOON – *JAB the Band*, Rock, 9 p.m.

LE STICK – *Pete Maiella*, Singer/Songwriter, 7 p.m.

ROWDY BEAVER – *Dr. Nola and the*

Soul Shakers, Rock, 8 p.m.

ROWDY BEAVER DEN – *Blew Reed and the Flatheads*, Blues, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2017

EUREKA LIVE! – *Green Screen Karaoke*, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 2

CHELSEA'S – *Sprungbilly*, Bluegrass, 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *Los Roscoes*, Blues, 6 p.m.

CHELSEA'S – *Open Mic*, 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *Jimmy Wayne Garrett*, Singer/Songwriter, 6 – 8 p.m.

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Sat., Dec. 31 • 9 p.m. –
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Mon., Jan. 2 • 9 p.m. – **SPRUNGBILLY**
 Tues., Jan. 3 • 9 p.m. – **OPEN MIC**

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Jimmy Wayne Garrett

THURSDAY, DEC. 29 • 6-8 P.M.
George Brothers

FRIDAY, DEC. 30 • 8-11 P.M.
Jesse Dean

SATURDAY, DEC. 31
 8 P.M.-12:30 A.M.
Septembers End

TUESDAYS • 5-7 P.M. *Los Roscoes*

October

A little duct tape wouldn't hurt – Ken Bernet (working in the hole), Daniel Conley (holding sign) and Kris Yandell work to repair a waterpipe break at Hillside and King Sts. Water was turned off for a short time and drivers were not hindered while repairs were made.

PHOTO BY BECKY GILLETTE



Trails on Trails on Trails – The Crescent Trail Spur opened up in early October. The spur leads from the top of Crescent Mountain down to Harmon Park and is part of the Harmon Park Loop, which incorporates multiple trails. The spur is across the street from the entrance to the Crescent Hotel. Just look for the big wooden sign. It's easy to find.

PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ALVARADO



HDC continued from page 17

of Appropriateness to demolish B-100 on the old high school property because unexpected property line complications had slowed down progress. Commissioner Virgil Fowler suggested a three-month extension and Bright asked for reports and photos showing progress on the project.

At the Sept. 7 meeting, Larson and Crenshaw announced a new complication. Engineers had realized that the front corner of the building, which was a stack of glass blocks, would not stand by itself without the other walls and the roof. Commissioners extending the COA three months, but asked Larson and Crenshaw to return with a clearer visual.

By the Oct. 5 meeting, the asbestos had been removed from B-100. Larson and Crenshaw brought a new architect's rendering what the stage area with the

glass blocks might look like. The vote to approve the new rendering failed 3-2 but commissioners encouraged Larson and Crenshaw to return with a different rendering showing clearly the use of the glass blocks.

Two weeks later, Larson and Crenshaw were there with another rendering of their vision for the use of the glass blocks as the backdrop of a stage. Commissioners were assured they could inspect glass blocks while they were being stored and finally approved the revised plan. The school board approved a bid for demolition at its October meeting.

Ask first

In July a project already underway came before the commission. Commissioners were dismayed. The word to the contractor was, "Please ask them to come to us before they start you on a project."

Need to fix it

In November, Chris Fischer applied

for a "fairly dramatic repair" to his gutter system and soffits at 33 Ridgeway. Fowler mentioned the guidelines call for gutters to be repaired if possible. Fischer acknowledged it was possible, adding that such a repair would only set up the same difficulty for someone else down the line. The commission approved Fischer's plan.

At the Dec. 7 meeting, Fischer applied to take down one chimney and shorten the other. The commission approved removing the secondary chimney but asked Fischer to maintain the height of the primary chimney and repair it.

Summary

During the year, HDC reviewed 12 new residential applications plus five garages, studios and additions. There were also projects that saved blighted properties such as 8 Washington and 4 Summit.

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Elisabeth Miket Phillips June 15, 1954 – Nov. 27, 2016

Elisabeth Miket Phillips passed away Nov. 27, 2016 after an eight-year battle with cancer.
Born June 15, 1954 in Paris, France, to Werner Miket and Elisabeth Biere Miket, she died at home in Weymouth, Nova Scotia, Canada.
She had an early career in Human Resources with an international company

in Montreal, Quebec, prior to her marriage and relocation to the United States. She was co-founder of the original 5 Ojo Inn in Eureka Springs, Ark., and River Rose Inn in Elizabethtown, Ill.
She was a gifted linguist, fluent in French, German and English, and socially skilled in Spanish. She became an avid gardener in later life and always had little

four-legged friends to share her day with.
She is predeceased by her parents. She is survived by her husband, C. Don Phillips of Weymouth, Nova Scotia, her daughter, Monica Phillips Graff of Polebridge, Mont., and sister, Gitti Kalkuhl of Redwood City, Calif.
No services are planned at this time. Please support cancer research.

A warm adios to those off on a new adventure

Caroline Francis Alexander, 81, Jan. 1
Louis Comer Smith, Jr., 87, Jan. 4
Leonides, Jan. 7
C.D. Wright, 67, Jan. 12
Mildred Lois Bradshaw DeWeese Tharp, 95, Jan. 13
Robert Richard Reed, Jan. 13, 2016
Lawrence “Larry” Jacob Sieg, 92, Jan. 24
Judy Kay Marohn, 72, Jan. 26
Robert Edwin Tharp, Jan. 29
Juanita “Nita” Shephard (Strock) Towry, 94, Jan. 29

Nancy Sutcliffe, Feb. 12
Kenneth R. Fugate, 66, Feb. 19
Gladys (“Gus” “Gussie”) Thompson, Feb. 21
Maxine Mildred Campbell, 93, Feb. 23
Gregory Eugene Crocker, Feb. 27

James Edward “Tubby” Watson, 84, March 2
Amanda Brandy Rose Dodge Wade, 27, March 3
Jimmie L. Miller, 86, March 4
John Edward Gutierrez, 60, March 8
Leland Wayne Stewart, 75, March 21
Edmund John Leswig, 80, March 27
Shirley Jean (Johnson) Brown, 65, March 28
Richard Luciani, 69, March 28

Michael Wayne Anderson, 40, April 2
Jaqueline “Jackie” Babcock, 92, April 6

Wilburn “Corky” Eugene Comstock, 76, April 21
Aubrey “Jake” Clevenger, April 21
Donald Ray McGuire (Cap’n Don), 73, April 28
Brenda Kay Ingle, 72, April 29
Garry McCoy, 73, April 29, 2016

James Oscar Nuebel, 78, May 7
James Woodleigh Short, Sr., 96, May 7
Joanne Marie (Hayes) Miller, 62, May 18
Shelby Diane Miley, 12, May 24
David Graham Moffett, May 25
Mary Francis Gage, 68, May 28
Robert Quinn Sullivan, 62, May 29

Sheila Georgean Seratt, 67, June 1
James William Hunter, 68, June 3
Juanita Margaret Mears, 94, June 9
Joyce A. Zeller, 84, June 12
Dorothy Lee Bowers, 87, June 13
Gerald (Jerry) Wesson Dupy, 71, June 15
Merlin Leach, 71, June 15
Daniel “Fig” Elliott, 66, June 28
Martell Lewis Petermann, 61, June 30

Danna Jean Owen Shook, 86, July 3
Kathy Fornof, 63, July 4
Michael “Mike” William Jarvis, 66, July 2
Clementine Moncravie, 54, July 8
Kay A. Mann, July 14
Harold Elliott, 93, July 19
Jane Elizabeth Hudson, July 13

Steven Mark Endris, 62, Aug. 4
Margie Ann Butera, Aug. 11
Eileen Arnold Isenberg, Aug. 20

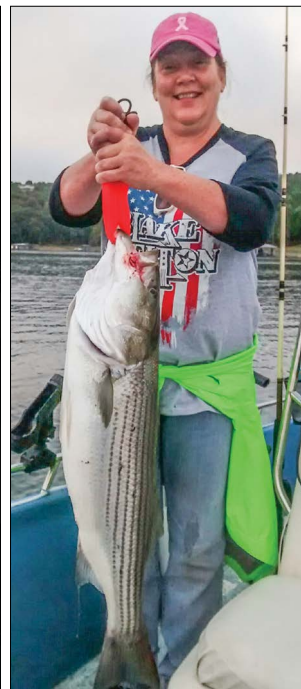
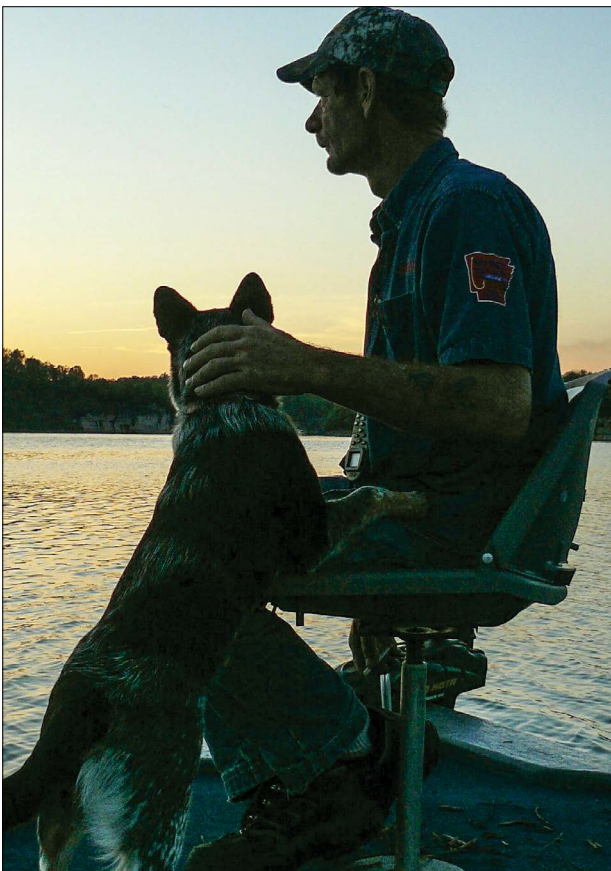
Bill Earngey, 73, Aug. 21
Shirolyn Ruth Moffett, M.D., 64, Aug. 22
Steven Gary, Aug. 29

Artie Oleeta Carter Jones, 83, Sept. 4
Christina Marie Lee-Grogan, 2016
CH “Tex” Martin, 82, 2016
Helen Baker Brashears, 93, Sept. 8
Gracia Irene Richardson Stewart, 2016
Crissy Prysock, 35, Sept. 8
Baxter, Sept. 16
Alise Luana (Shook) Wilkinson, 87, Sept. 17

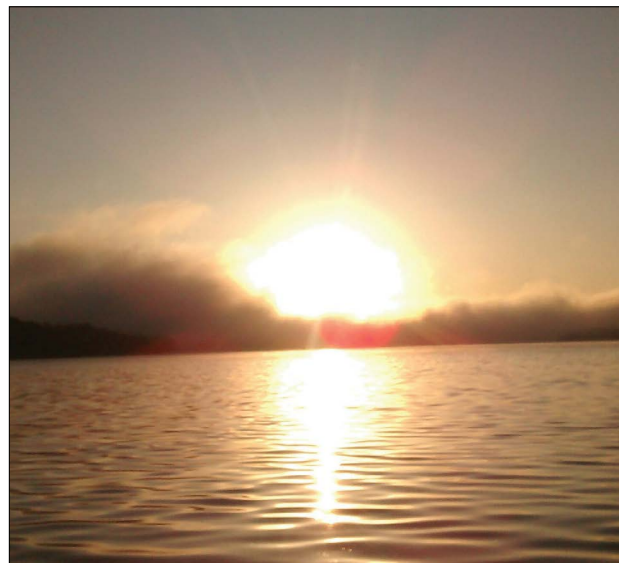
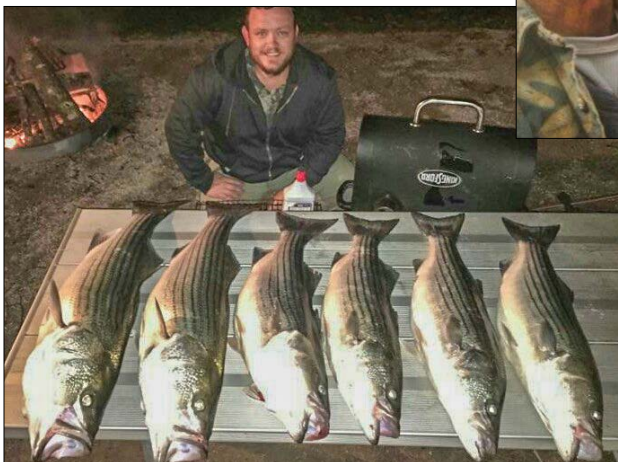
Derrick Wade Turley, 20, Oct. 1
Gregory Warren Wilson, 59, Oct. 4
James Faye Gage, 77, Oct. 6
Ralph Dever Stuck, 81, Oct. 11
Shirley Mae Kilgore, 81, Oct. 17
Dr. Thomas Michael “Miko” Hayde, 66, Oct. 16
Gary Burleson, 70, Oct. 23
Vernon Belford Greer, Oct. 28

Edwin Russell Kasner, 77, Nov. 3
Benita Flores, 71, Nov. 11
Jordan Streeter Maxfield II, 65, Nov. 14
Lawrence “Larry” Joseph Schoenhofer, 91, Nov. 14
Eric Zayn Welch, 5½ months, Nov. 16
David Shane Bolerjack, Nov. 20
Gail Marie Pierce Larimer, Nov. 19
Leo, Nov. 29

Helen Marie (Stoppel) Moses, 94, Dec. 2
Gerald John Pettigrew, 68, Dec. 7
Lonnie R. Fanning, 71, Dec. 10
Elisabeth Miket Phillips, Nov. 27



Well, it was a good year so for the last report for 2016 I thought I would let the pictures talk. Thanks for taking an interest in our beautiful hills and waters of our Ozarks. Merry Christmas and safe New Year. — *Robert Johnson*



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Classes, Trails, Nursery, Workshops,
TaiChi, Yoga, Bellydance

It's A Mystery BookStore
the gently-used book store featuring
vintage, modern & classic reads on the
Berryville Sq. www.itsmystery.net.

PERSONALS

Dear parents,
Crazy Cousin Carol will be throwing you a party at the farm. It's sure to be a wingdinger! I'll have your Mexican chicken casserole heated and ready to go. Hope you can make it with rings on your fingers and bells on your toes.
I'll be waiting.

HKP – The Elf thing is really creepy. Watch your back.



HELP WANTED

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

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

REAL ESTATE

HOMES FOR SALE

CUSTOM BUILT HOME FOR SALE. Three bedrooms, office, beautiful kitchen, great room, vaulted ceilings, well insulated, passive solar, radiant heat, two Jacuzzis, steam sauna, two car garage, large deck, on 15 acres ten minutes south of Eureka, expansive views in winter, \$325,000. (479) 981-0382.

NEW CONSTRUCTION – 2 exceptional homes overlooking historic downtown. Low maintenance, beautiful porches, hardwood floors, central VAC. (479) 253-2383 or (479) 253-7874

LAND FOR SALE

2 PARCELS – 43 ACRES AND 53 ACRES. Partially cleared. Both border County Road 207. 5 miles from Eureka Springs city limits. High elevation, very good vistas. Paved frontage and electric. (479) 650-1012.

RENTAL PROPERTIES

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

HOLIDAY ISLAND VILLAS & TOWNHOUSES near lake and marina. Peaceful and quiet, ample parking. From \$400/mo. (479) 253-4385

RENTAL PROPERTIES

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

HUGE STUDIO APARTMENT with kitchenette for rent. \$450 plus electric. Parking, lovely country setting 10 minutes south of Eureka Springs. (479) 981-6049

THREE STUDIO APARTMENTS, Passion Play Rd., electric, water, trash, cable, gas paid. \$450 or \$500 for furnished. Amenities include pool, basketball court, BBQ pavilion, discounted gym membership and two minutes from downtown. Contact Christina (479) 253-5071.

HOLIDAY ISLAND ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT. \$550 for single. Includes utilities, cable. No Pets. No smoking inside. F/L/S. Local References. (479) 244-6746

COMMERCIAL FOR LEASE

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

CAFE OR RETAIL BUSINESS with deck overlooking creek on North Main. Beautiful location! All utilities paid but electric. (479) 981-9811

HOMES FOR RENT

HOUSE downtown near Post Office with parking space. Cozy 1 BR, 1 bath. Call (479) 253 9481 or email dan@twilight.arcoxml.com

ONE BEDROOM, 1 1/2 bath, cozy, furnished cottage on 10 acres. Near Beaver Dam. \$650/mo. includes utilities and washer/dryer. References. First/last/ deposit. (479) 981-2777

WINTER RENTAL

WINTER FURNISHED RENTALS – Nov. 15-May 15, 2017, \$575-\$695. Includes utilities, WiFi, cable, parking, patio. Four to six month commitment. victorianserenity@yahoo.com. No smoking/pets.

SERVICE DIRECTORY

MOVERS

D-HAUL MOVERS – Call for all your moving and trash hauling needs. Very reasonable prices. Day or night moving. **CALL DWAYNE, (479) 981-9492**

SERVICE DIRECTORY

MAINTENANCE/ LANDSCAPE/ HOME SERVICES

TOM HEARST PROFESSIONAL PAINTING AND CARPENTRY Painting & Wood Finishing, Trim & Repair Carpentry, Drywall Repair & Texturing, Pressure Washing (479) 244-7096

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

FANNING'S TREE SERVICE Bucket truck with 65 ft. reach. Professional trimming, stump grinding, topping, removal, chipper. Free estimates. Licensed. Insured. (870) 423-6780, (870) 423-8305

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

PERFORMANCE PLUMBING – Free estimates, bonded, insured, Master Plumber lic. MP6242. All plumbing services, water heater specialist, background checked and drug free. Cell (479) 244-5335. "When you call us you will talk to a licensed plumber not a machine."

SENIOR SOLUTIONS

SENIOR SOLUTIONS GERIATRIC CARE MANAGEMENT – Licensed social workers guiding families in the care needs of loved ones. Assistance with Medicare enrollment. Piper Allen (479) 981-1856, Susan Hopkins (479) 253-9381. www.seniorsolutionsar.com

UPHOLSTERY

UPHOLSTERY-RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, CUSTOM BUILT. Furniture repair, antiques, boats, caning. Fabrics & Foam. Free Estimates. No job too small. Call Aaron (479) 212-2875 or abunyar@sbcglobal.net

November



Taking on a new name – Community First Bank changed its name to Equity Bank in November. Equity Bank of Wichita, Kan., merged with CFB on July 15, 2016

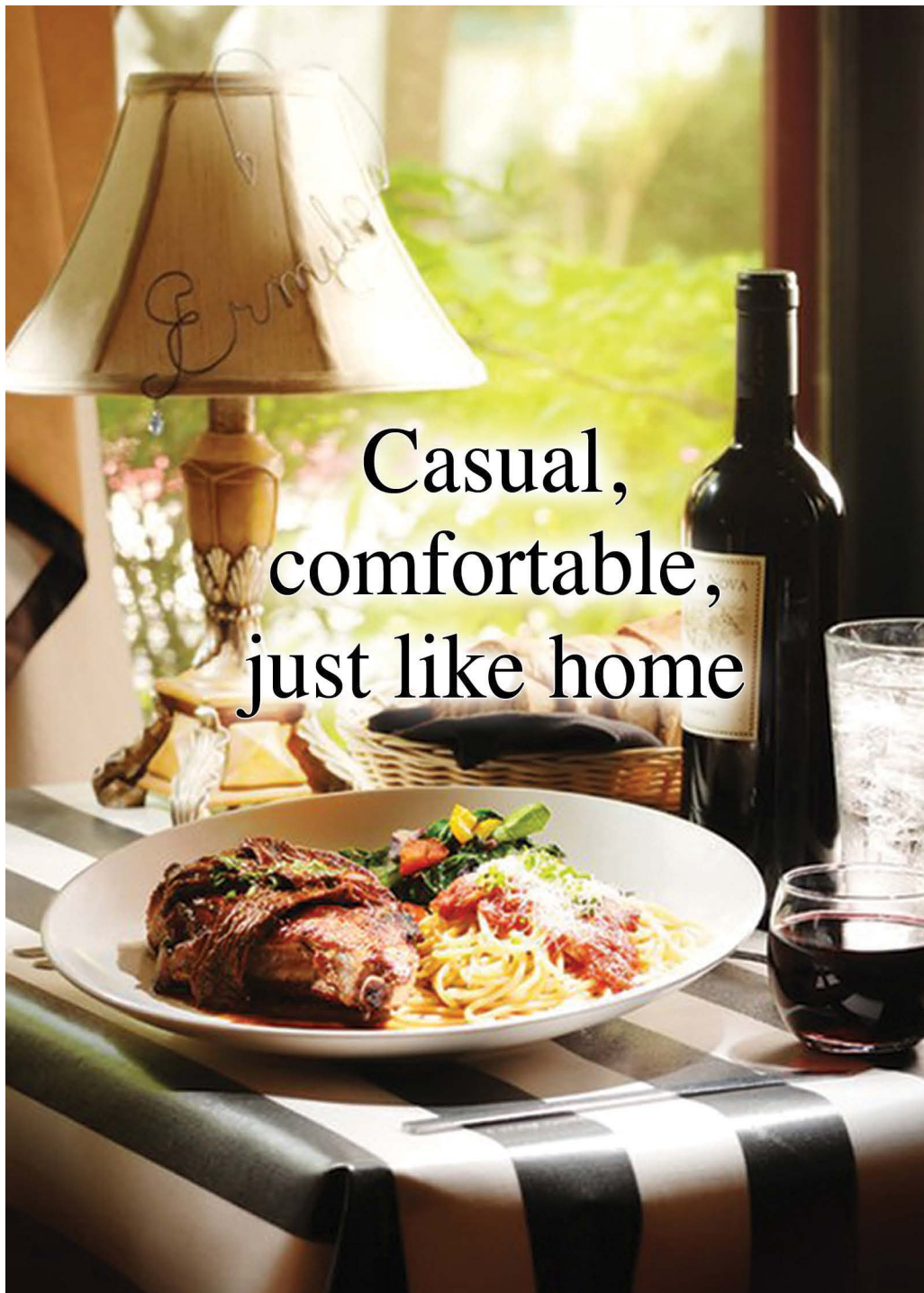
PHOTO SUBMITTED

What a wonderful Republic – The lead-up to November elections can only be described as tense in Carroll County for both local and national elections. The Carroll County courthouse was busy Nov. 8 with vote counters and political analysts awaiting election results. The 1 percent sales tax in Eureka Springs failed by a wide margin. Randy Mayfield and Sam Barr remained in office for sheriff and county judge respectively. Peg Adamson took James DeVito's spot on City Council in Eureka Springs. Oh, and Donald Trump is our next President. Because in our democracy "rule of majority" doesn't mean that. *PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ALVARADO*

December

Warm Welcomes – Local business leaders welcomed Yuliya Sergeyevna Krivonosova, Sergey Yevgenyevich Polukarov, Ivan Svyatoslavovich Kulyaytse, Yelena Grigoryevna Sobinova, Sergey Aleksandrovich Takhtamyshev and Anna Valentinovna Avinskaya to Eureka Springs from Russia. These emerging leaders visited to gain exposure to the US system of democracy and free enterprise.





Casual,
comfortable,
just like home



Starting January 2017

Winter Hours

Friday & Saturday 5 – 9 P.M.

Sunday 5 – 8 P.M.

Closed New Year's Day



No Reservations Required | Free Parking
26 White Street on the Upper Historic Loop
479.253.8806

