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This Week's INDEPENDENT Thinkers



PHOTO FROM DEUTSCHE WELLE

Thousands of protesters gathered in the cold outside Hungary's Parliament over the weekend in support of, among other issues, freedom of the press. Groups like this in 2006 convinced Hungary's government to become the first one in Europe to ban production, use and distribution of genetically-modified Monsanto corn seeds. Although at first considered temporary pending further testing, the ban remains.

In the summer of 2011 inspectors found 1000 acres of "franken-crops" and plowed all of it under even though it was too late in the season to replant. Almost 100 municipalities in Hungary have declared themselves GMO-free despite pressure from the European Union to lift the ban.

The message for Monsanto – Don't mess with Budapest.

Stick sense – From left, Kimbree Mayhall, 15, Mily Ochoa, 15, and Kamdyn Mayhall, 13, write poetry on sticks that will be used in the building of a sphere over the fountain in Basin Park during this year's May Fine Arts Festival. Creator of the sphere is artist Robert Norman who said building the sphere would require possibly 1,000 decorated sticks in a graduated color design. Friday was the first of several planned, but unscheduled, events allowing people to participate in the project by writing or drawing on the sticks, which will be permanently attached to the sphere.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY



Oak Grove pleads for help from CCSO

HARRIE FARROW

At Oak Grove's regular monthly city council meeting this week more than 50 people packed the tiny town hall to confront an ever-growing drug problem. Oak Grove is an incorporated town with a population of 376 approximately 12 miles northeast of Berryville. The mayor and city council had requested Carroll County Sheriff Bob Grudek be at the meeting, but instead two deputies showed up, Capt. Alan Hoos and investigator Charles Dale. When asked by someone in the crowd where Grudek was, Hoos said he was on vacation. Someone remarked that he's never available when he's asked to come; someone else said that the one time he did come he just said there's nothing he can do.

Another person remarked, "At least Medford kicked doors in," and another said Grudek only comes to Oak Grove to politic for re-election. It was also noted that the town constable and the prosecutor were invited but did not show up. The mayor said he also invited a state highway patrolman who said he would come but was not there.

Despite volatility, the crowd, leaders and deputies all remained mostly civil and courteous throughout the hour and forty-five minute long meeting. The mayor began by saying he and the council were trying to find solutions and asked those gathered for comments and ideas. One man said those who've been arrested don't stay in jail. "We are all guilty. The judges let them out, the council won't act. More deaths will happen. Oak Grove is a haven for drug dealers."

Others in the crowd, explaining the problem made comments such as, "I can sit in my living room and watch people buying drugs. I've pointed people out to the police and the police are scared to death, afraid of getting shot." Looking at the deputies, she added, "That's your job."

Others lamented that the situation has been getting steadily worse, especially in the last three years. Those in the crowd talked of young men frequently driving down the street at 100 mph. One man said police told him that if he tried to do something about it

OAK GROVE continued on page 23

The weather outside is delightful

EUREKA SPRINGS SCHOOL of the ARTS

Monday, April 1 **ESSA**



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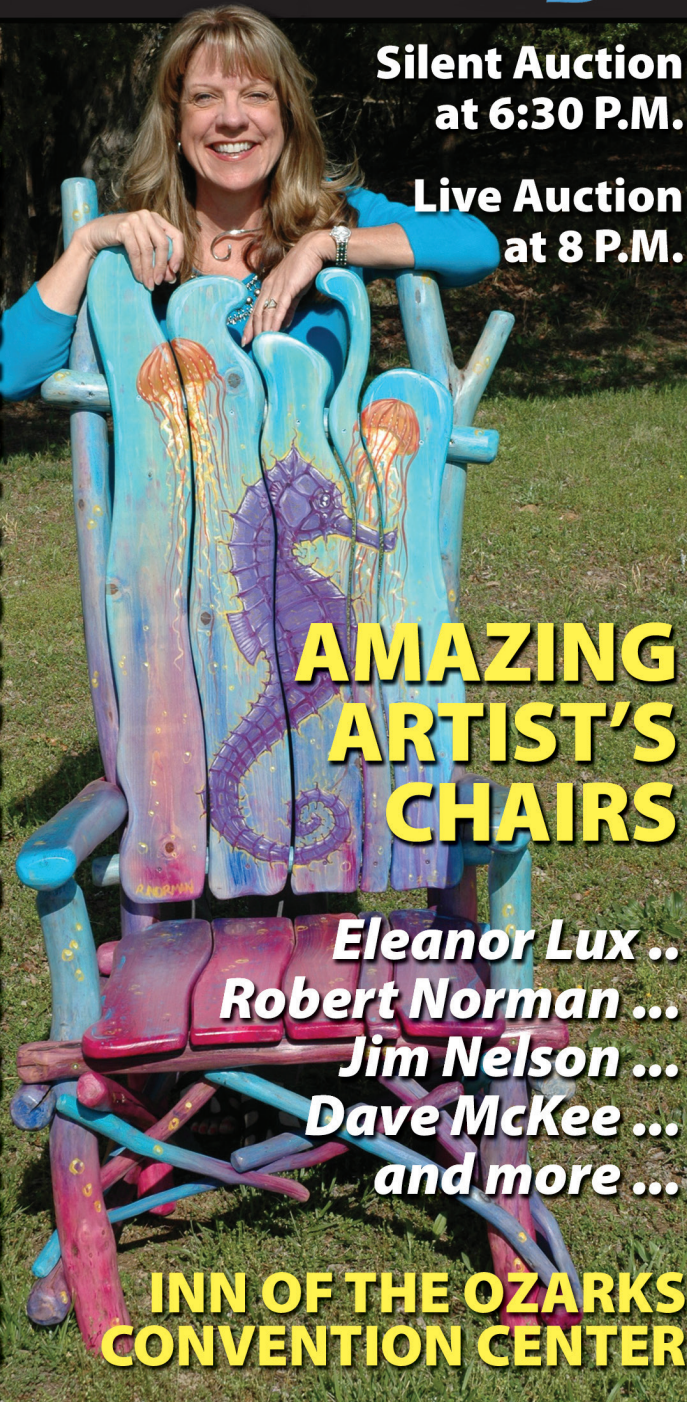
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Life goes on at the cemetery

NICKY BOYETTE

The Eureka Springs cemetery is clearing approximately two more acres of its 44-acre property, and according to maintenance supervisor Tom Rennels, as many as 120–150 plots will become available, depending on tree roots. He said presently 30 acres of the property are being used.

Near a 200-year old oak he calls “the witness tree,” Rennels has already begun clearing one acre toward the northwest corner of the property. He will prepare most of the area with a backhoe and chainsaw, but intends to find a volunteer with a bulldozer to finish clearing the area.

Mary Ann Pownall, Chair of the Cemetery Commission, said this is the first expansion of the cemetery in about 10 years, and so far the community has responded generously. Woody Acord of Acord’s Home Center offered them the best possible deal on use of the backhoe, and Jimmy Jones brought in 32 yds. of topsoil.

Rennels said he sold two plots to pay for rental of the backhoe, and Pownall said they have not had to borrow to pay for the expansion.

The expansion plan at some point calls for creating a columbarium toward the front of the property because there has been a demand for sites for cremains. Near the site Rennels had been working on was a four-by-eight ft. plot where one family planned to bury four sets of cremains. That is the limit state law has set for the burial of cremains.

Rennels said the 44 acres were

deeded to the city by the International Order of Odd Fellows in the 1960s. IOOF had received the land in the early 20th century from a family who settled there within a decade or so of the Louisiana Purchase of 1803. He said there might be 200-year old unmarked burial sites on the property.

In fact, he said more than once they have discovered remains as they dug a new grave in a plot they had sold. There are three areas in the cemetery used as potter’s fields in the past. Rennels said one was for “colored,” and the other two for indigents. During the early history of Eureka Springs, there were outbreaks of cholera and other diseases when several people were buried within a few days and scant records exist for who they were or where they were buried. Sometimes people, especially children, would be wrapped in a blanket and buried on the property without a marker.

Pownall hopes they can find someone with ground-penetrating sonar to survey unopened areas because “an area might have been used and we just don’t know. We’re afraid to sell some areas.”

Gloria Stevens, treasurer of the commission, discovered a 1918 survey map of the property that actually helped the commission identify previously unidentified plots. She found the map in a box along with other “records” of the cemetery. Pownall said there are boxes filled with scraps of paper and pieces of cellophane on which cemetery records were written. “Clark Bar wrappers,

CEMETERY continued on page 27

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INDEPENDENTNews

Bills may curtail animal abuse reporting

HARRIE FARROW

Animal rights activists are rallying against two bills that have been introduced in the 2013 Arkansas state legislature. Senate Bill 13 (SB13) and Senate Bill 14 (SB14) would make changes and additions to Arkansas Code 5-62 – the Criminal Offenses Against Animals Code. Both bills were first introduced on Jan. 14 and originally sponsored by Republican Sen. Jeremy Hutchinson, but they were amended Feb. 21 to delete his name and add Sen. Gary Don Stubblefield as the sponsor. Stubblefield, a Republican from District 6, is a dairy farmer and serves on the Farm Service Commission.

SB13 is subtitled, "Providing legal protection to animal owners and their animals to ensure that only law enforcement agencies investigate charges of animal cruelty." If the bill becomes law, seizing an animal would require a warrant issued by a court and carried out by a law enforcement official. The law would further require that allegations of abuse be verified by two veterinarians, one of whom would be selected by the law enforcement agency, the other by the person being accused of abuse. One veterinarian would be required to be a specialist in the particular type of animal in question.

Additionally, investigations of abuse will be allowed only by law enforcement officials, and these officials will be required to consult animal specialists. Owner of the animal will be responsible for the animal during investigation and will be allowed to have a veterinarian present during any testing or treatment of the animal. Also, SB13 states, "where practical" the animal should stay where it was found, and under no circumstances be moved more than 60 miles of the owner's residence.

Citizens could be prosecuted

The proposed bill would make it a class B misdemeanor for anyone other than a law enforcement official to conduct an investigation of animal cruelty, or to even collect evidence of cruelty. Class B misdemeanors carry a sentence of up to 90 days and up to a \$1000 fine. Any-

one violating this would also be liable for a civil penalty of \$5000 per incident, as well as a loss of any state-issued license to operate.

SB14 is subtitled, "Creating the offense of interference with a livestock or a poultry operation." SB14 spells out specific ways one could violate this law, including recording an image or sound from a livestock or poultry operation by leaving a recording device at the business, with the purpose to cause harm to the business; or obtaining access to such an operation under false pretenses; or applying for employment at such a business with the purpose of making a recording while knowing that the owner prohibits employees from making such recordings, and then once employed making such a recording; or making a recording while trespassing on the property of a livestock or poultry operation.

Making a recording by leaving a recording device on the property would be a class A misdemeanor. Class A misdemeanors are punishable by a maximum of one year in jail and up to a \$25,000 fine. All other offenses in SB14 would be Class B misdemeanors.

Called anti-whistleblower measure

The Association for the Prevention of Animal Cruelty (ASPCA) cites Arkansas SBs 13 and 14 on the list of bills they label as Ag-gag or anti-whistleblower bills, which they say are appearing across the country. The ASPCA claims that, "While crafted to appear reasonable, these measures are designed to prevent the exposure of troubling practices at agricultural facilities." The organization mentions a case where video taken inside a Butterball operation showed among other things, turkeys being hit with hard objects and kicked across the room. Butterball employees were charged with felonies and misdemeanor animal cruelty as a result, but according to the ASPCA, if bills such as SB13 and 14 are passed, "the person charged would have been the investigator who captured and reported the abuse." They say that, "The purpose of these bills is to criminalize acts related

SB-13 continued on page 29

A little help from our friends:

(Please email your ongoing community service announcements to newsdesk@eurekaspringsindependent.com)

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

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

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

• **"Beginning To Heal Together,"** a bereavement support group for parents/grandparents who have lost a child, is held on the first Saturday of every month at the St. Elizabeth Parish Center, Passion Play Road, 12:15 – 1:45 p.m. Please join us. For info contact Linda Maiella (479) 253-1229.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

or www.nwarkaa.org (click Eureka Springs AA)

Court considers committees, county line and car seats

NICKY BOYETTE

For the second meeting of the Carroll County Quorum Court in a row, Justice of the Peace Dan Mumaugh presented an ordinance to set up committees for the court. JP Ron Flake had tried in January, but his ordinance was voted down because he wanted to include every member of the court on each committee, and the JPs favored a more traditional structured approach.

Mumaugh's ordinance would set up a Facilities and Property Committee and a Public Water Development Committee with three to five members appointed each January by Judge Sam Barr. He said he had worked with Deputy Prosecutor Devon Closser, and he intended the ordinance to be a model for setting up other committees.

Flake asked why these two committees in particular, pointing out the court never had a facilities committee before, and there are standing personnel issues which need attention.

Mumaugh said he chose these with the intent the court could start with these and proceed from there.

Flake insisted a Personnel Committee is necessary and more compelling considering what they are working on. He said he was shocked it was not included in the ordinance.

Mumaugh told Flake, "You'll be shocked to know I agree with your sentiment." Mumaugh said he was just trying to get things started.

JP Jack Deaton observed Mumaugh had set the groundwork for the court and they could add another paragraph to include a Personnel Committee if they wanted, but he liked the language of the ordinance. JP John Howerton agreed.

After discussion of particulars, Mumaugh reiterated his ordinance is an example of what they can do if they choose to. Legal counsel approved it.

Newly seated JP Gaylon Riggs suggested they develop the list of committees they want, rewrite the ordinance and then present it. JP Lamont Richie agreed with Riggs and he moved to table the discussion.

Flake pointed out they can't discuss the topic once it comes off the table. Deaton said the ordinance will take three readings, so they could have the first reading and then discuss it.

Flake responded, "I'm discussed out."

JP Lamont Richie came back with the point that



they also need to assign a function to each committee in the ordinance and said there are samples all over the state they could borrow from. Mumaugh and Closser will try again. Richie moved to table the discussion, and the vote was 9-1, JP John Reeve voting No.

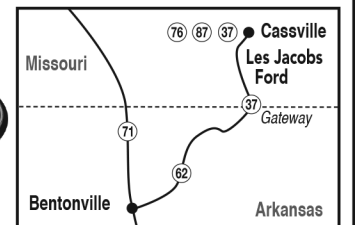
Other items

• Flake mentioned State Representative Bryan King needed to confirm the sentiment of the court regarding

QUORUM COURT continued on page 29

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It's not easy to be green

NICKY BOYETTE

The Parks Commission wants to clear up procedures for vacating green zones in town, and the first thing commissioner Rachel Brix wants cleared up is the definition of "green zone." Ordinance 1628 states green zones are "all unopened streets and alleys," but she said that does not sound

"green" to her.

At the March 18 meeting, commissioners perused the draft document written by Parks Director Bruce Levine for granting vacations of city property, and everyone, including Brix, was amenable to the document. He said it was mostly a cleaned up version of previous procedures based on input he received. Commissioner Ferguson Stewart said the document addressed all his concerns, and it would work if they just referenced the earlier ordinance regarding a green zone.

"I think of nature when I hear green zone," Brix stated, and said when she attempted to find a definition online, she found "green zone" to mean an area in central Baghdad. She pointed out ambiguity might open up the commission to problems later. Chair Bill Featherstone agreed it would be a good idea to define green zones because, if left undefined, the term would obviously mean different things to different people.

Levine speculated that authors of the original ordinance wanted to elicit an emotive response, and the intent was to indicate an unused buffer between properties.

Featherstone said in real estate nomenclature, the term means exactly that – a buffer. However, he said he would be willing to try to define the term before they present the document to city council.

Not for couch potatoes

Levine announced a new event would be coming to Eureka Springs

May 3-4. Outback in the Ozarks is a team cross country relay race which will start in Lake Leatherwood Park (LLP), traverse to Withrow State Park, then over to Hobbs Conservation Area and on to Fayetteville. Promoters bill the event as "a high-speed walkabout through the best that Mother Nature has to offer."

Teams of eight to twelve runners will run legs of two to eight miles over the 200-mile course. The event will span two days and one night culminating with a big bash at the end.

Levine said all the cabins at LLP will be filled during the event.

Then one month later, on June 8-9, the Nissan XTERRA Tour will bring its triathlon event to Eureka Springs again. The tour sponsors a series of events all over the world, mostly in the United States but also in Europe, Australia and Malaysia. Featherstone said he had heard participants voted Eureka Springs as the #1 location.

The event will happen at LLP and features a 1.5 km swim, a 30 km bike ride and an 11 km run.

Again, all the cabins at LLP will be rented during the event. Commissioners voted to allow promoters to apply for a picnic permit that gives them permission to provide beer for the participants.

Project Learning Tree

Commissioner Myrna Thaxton had mentioned before about LLP being a perfect site for educational opportunities, and said she had spoken with the Arkansas coordinator of Project Learning Tree, an award-winning environmental education program designed to help teachers of pre-K through grade 12 teach students about environmental issues. She said the PLT staff would provide the training for free, and she envisioned getting teachers to participate on a staff training day sometime next autumn.

Stewart suggested Thaxton speak with the superintendent who could direct her to a school liaison for assistance in finding the best date and in engaging teachers.

Basin Park project

Featherstone reported the Basin

Park Improvement Committee recently met with Lowell Johnson, project manager of the Basin Park Project. The purpose of the meeting was to get a better estimate of the cost of their proposed renovations.

"We're still trying to get over sticker shock," Featherstone said. Johnson told the committee they should expect renovations to cost around \$650,000, give or take \$50,000.

Featherstone said what they would get in return is an entirely redesigned, safer and better organized Basin Park surface. Also they intend to create a stairwell down to the original basin spring that drew people to this area in the first place. He said their plans call for improvements that should last into the next century.

"Now, we trudge forward with how we're going to raise the money," he said. The project is estimated to take three to four months, and construction would not begin until they secure all the funds.

Dog park progress

The Dog Park Advisory Committee continues its steady march toward establishing a dog park in Harmon Park. Brix announced the committee had secured cash and pledges totaling \$9100 to satisfy their obligation to receive a matching Community Facilities Grant from the Arkansas Department of Rural Services. She said she had worked with Economic Development Coordinator Glenna Booth to complete the grant application and submit it. Results will be announced in May.

Brix also said she had received commitments for 500 hours of labor to put up the fence and prepare the park once the funds have been collected, so the dog park has indeed become a community project.

Brix reported she and others endured a cold, rainy day recently to earn another \$400 in a parking lot fundraiser. Other fundraisers are lined up and Community First Bank committed to matching up to \$2000 in donations for a memorial garden once the dog park is completed. She said she has made presentations

PARKS continued on page 27

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Residents gear up to stop hogging on the Buffalo River

BECKY GILLETTE

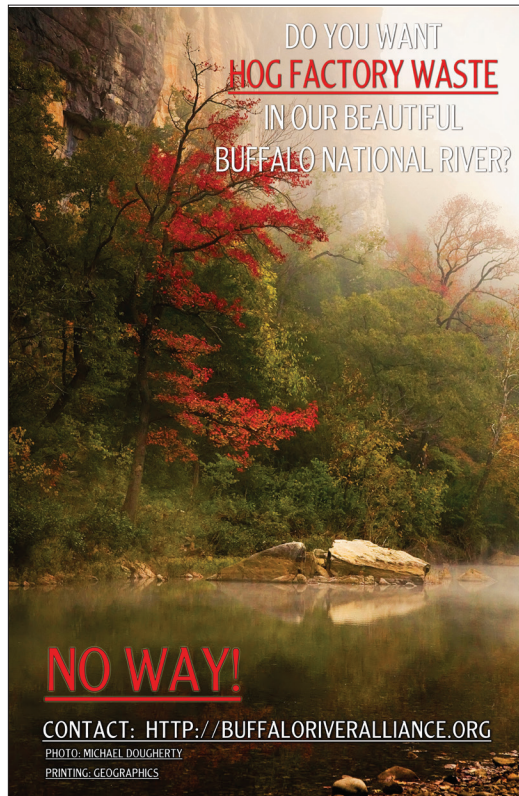
It is being called the Battle of the Buffalo II. The first Battle of the Buffalo 41 years ago was the effort to create the nation's first National River, which was opposed by some local residents who wanted to see the Buffalo dammed for development. The second battle is regarding a permit issued by the Arkansas Dept. of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) for a 6,500-head hog Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) on the Big Creek tributary of the Buffalo National River (BNR).

Local residents have joined a fast-growing grassroots campaign in an attempt to close the barn door on the proposed C & H Hog Farms Inc. factory that was permitted without notice to the BRN/National Park Service or local residents in the area. The ADEQ permit notice was only published in the legal section of the *Arkansas Democrat Gazette* and on the ADEQ website.

"ADEQ did not notify local residents nor seek local public input when the permit was being considered for this operation," said Gordon Watkins, one of the organizers of the Buffalo River Watershed Alliance (BRWA) that has launched a website, www.buffaloriveralliance.org, that includes CAFO information, documents, research papers, videos, a free newsletter and an online petition.

Watkins said they are also lobbying to change flaws in the CAFO permitting process.

The operation already under



construction includes plans for 17 separate hog waste application fields totaling 630.7 acres, and for 2,090,181 gallons of manure, litter and wastewater to be produced each per year – which opponents say is the equivalent to what the city of Harrison produces.

There are concerns about threats to the Buffalo River should a waste lagoon break. Hog lagoons in North Carolina on the Neuse River failed in 1995 sending 25 million gallons of waste into the Neuse River killing millions of fish.

In addition to the potential harm to the Buffalo River – and the tourism that surrounds it – the Alliance has raised concerns about impact to human health, stating that Mt. Judea school is only 1/16th of a mile from the

HOGGING continued on page 28

The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission will meet this Friday, March 22 at 9 a.m. at ADEQ headquarters, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock. The agenda includes a public comment period where discussion of the C&H Hog Farm permit will be discussed. Watkins said a large turnout is expected.

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Hospital commission continues to plan for new facility

NICKY BOYETTE

"The commission is at a crossroads," Hospital Commission Chair Michael Merry said. He said he sees a facility that might not last until the end of the lease with Allegiance, the Shreveport-based for-profit company which operates the hospital.

Commissioners spent their March 18 meeting again pondering options for how to proceed toward getting a new Eureka Springs hospital. Allegiance had said it would build a new hospital when it signed on to run the facility. However, there has been no progress.

Recently the commission learned of Stone-Adams Financial Partners, a company which can either find financing for building a new hospital and even provide project management, but the commission cannot go forward until it knows what to expect from Allegiance. Rock Bordelon, CEO of Allegiance, is scheduled to attend the

April 15 commission meeting.

Merry explained the commission is looking at two options. One is for Allegiance is to build the hospital. They are making money at ESH, and the lease will continue for seven more years (two more years on the contract with a five-year automatic renewal). The other option is for the commission to buy land, build a hospital and continue working with Allegiance. Merry said he has heard very good reviews about the care patients receive from the Allegiance staff.

Conversations about assistance from Stone-Adams initiated when Nick Walters, founder of Stone-Adams, attended a commission meeting and explained what his company could offer. Commissioner Anna Ahlman said Walters came highly recommended and Merry noted Walters has a good track record for accomplishing what he sets out to do. He said the commission

is considering Stone-Adams because they need guidance to know the next thing to do, and the thing after that, and after that.

However, commissioners voted to table any discussions with Walters until they learn what Allegiance has in mind, and they hope they will get clarity at the April 15 meeting.

Hospital chart

Vicki Andert, Director of Nursing at ESH, told the commission the hospital had moved the trailer housing the computed tomography (CT) scanner from the parking lot, and it is now in-house. Technicians are also beginning to run cables needed for transitioning to electronic records, and she expects they will go online in October.

Andert said Chris Bariolo, CEO of ESH, attended a Quality Conference in which hospitals all over the state

learned how they compare in quality of care, and he learned that ESH ranked in the 96th percentile.

Other items

- Merry announced he learned from Seth Ward, their attorney, that the license to run the hospital belongs to the commission, not the lessee of operations.

- Commissioner Robert Walling announced a difficulty in getting their audit completed had been resolved and they should be able to review the audit at the April 15 meeting. Merry said he would present the State of the Commission report to council at the April 22 meeting.

- Louisiana Health Care paid its annual lease fee of \$182,655 to provide home health service in this area.

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



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HWY. 62 WEST • BERRYVILLE

HDC says restore sooner, not replace later

NICKY BOYETTE

At its March 6 meeting, the Historic District Commission had deferred a decision on an application for replacing a window at 19 Elk Street pending a site visit. The owner insisted the window was too far gone to be repaired, yet historic district guidelines stipulate original windows should be repaired if at all possible.

Commissioners visited the site prior to the March 20 meeting to see condition of the window, and commissioner Doug Breitling agreed the window “had deteriorated way beyond repair.” Commissioner Richard Grinnell added the replacement window matched the original in design, and Chair Dee Bright said this was an example of why they make site visits. Commissioners unanimously approved the application.

Breitling stated, however, he would encourage homeowners to restore old windows before they deteriorate to the point of needing to be replaced. He observed the homeowner is losing energy efficiency while a window is wearing out so there is no cost savings in waiting. Bright added, “The greenest way to go is to save what we have.”

The following applications were approved unanimously:

- 79-81 Spring – new roofing

material, lap-panel steel

- 52 Wall – add roof to free-standing deck
- 61 Mountain – porch addition: replace three windows; remove window; replace door and center it; restore railings to original.

An application for 60 Crescent to change roofing materials to a standing seam roof in a burnished slate color, was denied 4-2, Grinnell and commissioner Greg Moon voting No.

Moon asked for the application for adding vintage light posts at 31 Eureka to be pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion. He pointed out some of the work had already been done without appearing before the commission and neighbors had complained. He also had issues with height of the posts, but Grinnell and Breitling did not see anything in the application that did not meet the guidelines. Commissioner Dan Hebert also said it “looked good to him.”

Breitling said if the application would have been approved before, they can still approve it now. The commission voted to approve the application although Bright said the right way would have been to appear before the commission first.

The commission voted unanimously to approve these three items on the Consent Agenda:

- 24 Singleton – change porch railing walls to match area under bay window
- 49 Spring St. – replace sign
- 17 Bridge – add removable privacy gate on porch.

Consent Agenda items are Level I applications that the City Preservation Officer Glenna Booth believes to be in accordance with the design guidelines.

Chair Dee Bright presented two Administrative Approvals:

- 11 Kingshighway – guttering
- 11 White – repaint.

Administrative Approvals are applications for repair or for work involving no changes in materials or color and applications for changes in roofing color.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, April 3, at 6 p.m.

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is the Love of Christ.
II Cor. 5:14



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Chilling discovery

Eureka Springs High School EAST Initiative members braved 27° temperatures, 22° wind chill and wind gusting to 10 – 25 mph to conduct an outside research project at Pig Trail Harley Davidson in Rogers in January. Students used an EAST After Hours FLIR thermal imaging camera and a non-contact infrared thermometer to study the insulation qualities of Harley's motorsports line of clothing thanks to clothing manager, Tina Madryga, and Emilee Hughes.

The EAST team discovered Harley Davidson's winter triple layer insulated leather riding jacket kept the model's body temperature at 98.6 – a 20° difference over a basic leather jacket. Research also found that extended exposure could lead to various injuries or health effects, which are collectively known as cold stress.

The hazardous effects of cold on the body may include dehydration, numbness, shivering, frostbite, immersion foot (trench foot), and hypothermia.

The most serious effect of cold stress is hypothermia. Once the body loses the ability to maintain its normal temperature, the core body temperature lowers, and other symptoms such as violent shivering, slow or slurred speech, confusion, hallucinations, a weak and irregular pulse, unconsciousness and death can occur. Individuals who are not physically fit, have a chronic illness, drink alcohol or take drugs (including prescription drugs), are wet or damp from work or weather, are fatigued, are exposed to vibration from tools, don't wear the right clothing or are not used to cold exposure have a higher risk from cold stress.

Manual dexterity decreases with cold stress, resulting in slowed reflexes and reaction time, each year contributing to accidents for

motorcyclist and others exposed to cold weather.

Good stuff to keep in mind when next winter rolls around!

Cold research – Left to right are EAST Initiative members Nathan Wilkerson, Bradley Lindblom, Josh McClelland, Jon Fraser, Robert Jones, Schuyler Worley, Max Drizner and Travis Ramsey. Front Row, Callista Dendler and Kennedy Cash. Inset shows temperature pattern on FLIR thermal imaging.



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CAPC clarifies credit conundrum

NICKY BOYETTE

The City Advertising and Promotion Commission discussed at its March 13 meeting that because tax collections during the first quarter of each year are notoriously slow, they are limited in what they can spend promoting the city at the time when it is important to be getting word out about Eureka Springs. Commissioners voted to authorize finance director Rick Bright to check with local banks to find the most attractive line of credit available to span the gap until collections pick up.

Bright said he first consulted the Municipal League to make sure the CAPC could even borrow the money. He learned in preliminary conversations that because the CAPC operates under the state tax code rather than the municipal code, it has more leeway than other city commissions. CAPC funds never mix with city general funds.

Nevertheless, Bright said he is waiting for a final opinion from Municipal League attorneys before setting up a line of credit.

Eureka Lions Club a possibility?

Earl Sears, a member of the Russellville Lions Club, is working to establish a Eureka Springs area Lions Club. Lions Club is the largest service club in the world and membership is open to any service-minded individual over 18 years of age. Dues are \$30 initiation fee then

about \$70 per year.

The club elects its own officers and establishes meeting frequency. At least 20 service oriented individuals are needed to charter a club. If you are interested in becoming a Lion, please contact Earl at (479) 857-3156.

Wednesdays fun for kids at Carnegie

Each Wednesday morning at 10 a.m., the little people gather to sing, dance and tell stories at the Carnegie Public Library. The fancy name for it is Early Literacy, but we just call it fun.

Free and open to all preschool children and their caregivers, this program introduces young children to books, rhymes, music and other fun activities. Everyone is welcome. For more information contact the library at 253-8754, info@eurekalibrary.org or visit EurekaLibrary.org.

Readers requested for Bible marathon

The 4th Annual Carroll County Bible Reading (CCBR) Marathon starts Sunday, April 28, at 3 p.m. at the Green Forest Town Square and runs continuously for 91 hours, ending on National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 2, at 5:30 p.m. The closing ceremony will be 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. under the gazebo on the square.

The CCBR Marathon committee recently named Deanna Palmer to fill the position of Reader Scheduler. As an evangelist she has ministered to 30 different churches and helped build 10 churches in the Ozark area. Anyone interested in reading should call Deanna at (870) 423-2048 for individual 15-minute appointments or to book groups to read in time blocks.

Buddhist Study Group meets Thursdays

The ES Buddhist Study Group meets every Thursday at the library annex at 4 p.m. for silent meditation and a lively study group at 4:30 p.m. Currently the group is exploring *Stages of Meditation* by H.H. Dalai Lama.

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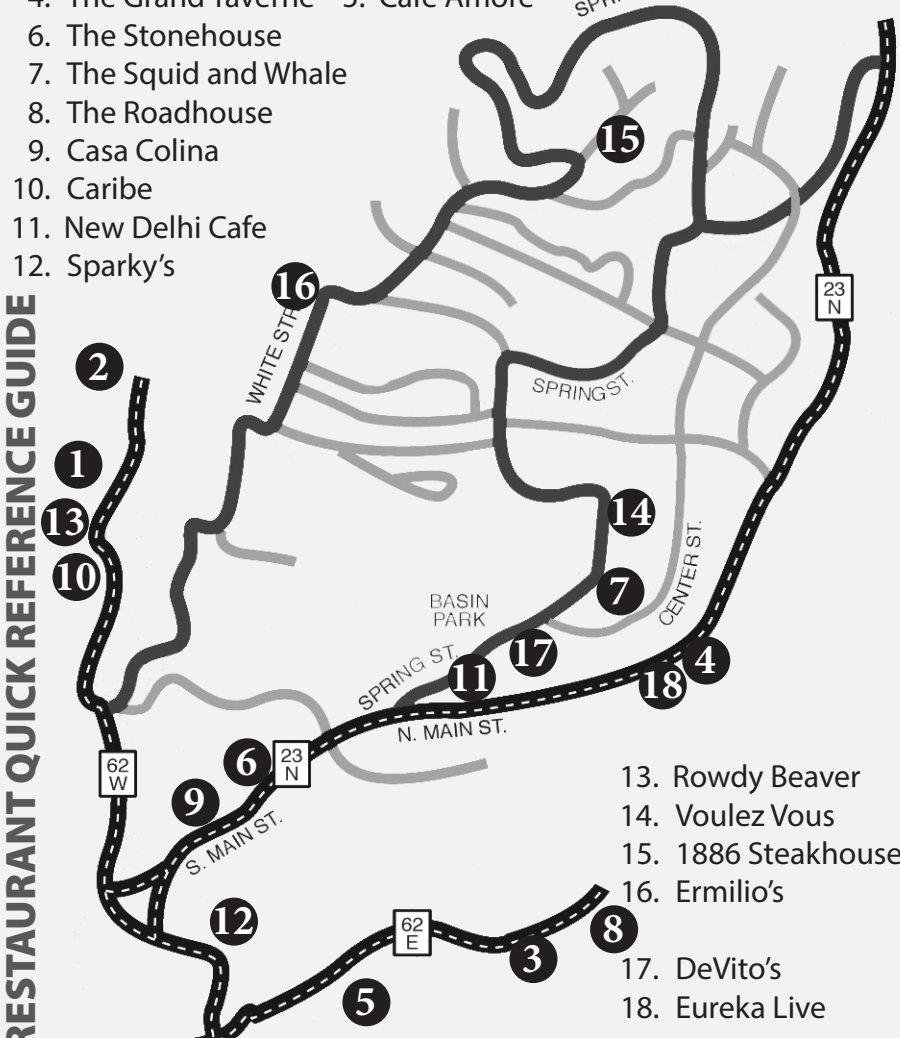
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11. New Delhi Cafe
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13. Rowdy Beaver
14. Voulez Vous
15. 1886 Steakhouse
16. Emilio's
17. DeVito's
18. Eureka Live



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Publisher – Sandra Sewell Templeton

Editor – Mary Pat Boian

Editorial staff – C.D. White, Nicky Boyette

Photographer – David Frank Dempsey

Contributors

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

Office Manager/Gal Friday – Gwen Etheredge

Art Director – Perlinda Pettigrew-Owens

Lord of the Janitor's Closet
Jeremiah Alvarado-Owens

Press Releases

newsdesk@eurekaspringsindependent.com

Letters to the Editor:

editor@eurekaspringsindependent.com
or

ES Independent

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

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

Display ads:

Contact

Mary Flood at 479.981.3556
advertise.independent@gmail.com
or Bev Taylor at 479.790.3276
bevtaylor.independent@gmail.com

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

We're doing the best we can?

Editor,

Have you ever wished others would think as you do? Perhaps you've even gone so far as to think how everything would be great if only they did! Although I make an effort to witness the world without judgment, all too often I pass sentence on someone before realizing what I'm doing. This is the type of judgment that tends to separate me from others by an egotistical proclamation that they are wrong in their way of seeing the world, and if only they understood what they were doing, they wouldn't be doing it! There's something which helps me when thinking about others' actions. I truly believe that everyone is doing the best that they can. At any given moment, they are doing what they believe to be best. No one – absolutely no one – stops and thinks, "This is going to have really horrible consequences."

I'm not writing to try to change anyone's mind about anything. But what I do hope can happen is that you listen from your heart, that you go within and listen for something deeper and larger than your human beliefs. When silently asking for guidance and then listening quietly, without busy thoughts telling you the way things should happen, you may be surprised what revelations come to you!

Be still and know. There is an inner knowing within us that has nothing to do with learned behavior and logical progression of thought. Listen to your own Self and follow that leading. When faced with a situation that seems fraught with tension and worry, suspend your usual reactions and quietly ask yourself what it is you need to know, to understand. Then ask yourself how it would be to let that knowing guide your actions. We're all in this together.

Marsha Havens

Parent schools educators

Editor,

I sent an email to every school board member Feb. 10, 2012, to inform them why I was pulling my daughter from the ES public school system. From recent letters to the editor and conversations in town, it appears nothing has improved. I am not surprised since I did not receive *one* response to my email. It is truly a sad day when the school board doesn't respond to the parent of a child they are supposed to be representing and protecting!

The reason I am sharing this is because there are *so many* parents who have children in this school who have repeatedly shared with me that they are afraid to do anything because the principal will retaliate against their child. When you as a parent stand your ground, she will target your child! Parents, I know it's hard

MAIL continued on page 28



WEEK'S Top Tweets

@Zen_Moments --- Intuition will tell the thinking mind where to look next. ~ Jonas Salk

@Pontifex --- Dear friends, I am pleased to get in touch with you through Twitter. Thank you for your generous response. I bless all of you from my heart.

@jeffreylvanclea1 --- best sunscreen ever....Xbox 360

@SmithWit --- He said the spark between us was gone, so I tasered him. I'll ask him again when he wakes up.

@FaisalAdam --- I got kicked out of the procrastinators club when I showed up for our first meeting.

@TommyKarate --- Thank you for calling. To speak with a human being, please hang up and travel back to the early 1990s.

@DjKC_117 --- I'm sorry, we can't hire you. But your background check was hilarious.

@MyHairyLife --- My kid wanted juice but I gave him water which he promptly turned into whine.

@ChaseMit --- Republicans, don't forget to set your clocks back 50 years.



@86400_breathe --- Across the street from the Westboro Baptist Church, new neighbor is painting his house to match the gay pride flag

We went to a small dinner party underneath a hackberry tree the other evening without knowing who the other guests were. After pleasantries such as, “You’re looking older than I remember,” and “When did you get out jail?” someone else simply appeared.

My God! It really was. It really was God.

How many times had we thought, “If I could just have one minute with God, I would ask...” and the list begins.

But here we were, in God’s presence, tongue-tied, hoping there would be enough God food. What does God eat? Oh. Right. Lamb.

God was gracious, making us happy in our hearts and mystified in our heads. God walked up and said, “How’s it goin’?”

Like you don’t know? We wanted to ask how things are in heaven, but couldn’t buy into this whole “We live in Arkansas and you live in heaven” thing because we couldn’t fathom there would be any difference, so we just toasted each other and looked at the sky full of diamonds.

We asked God why there was such a drug problem in Carroll County.

“You know, drugs don’t want to know your name. Drugs don’t want your résumé. Drugs don’t care if you are late or sick or depressed. Drugs don’t want to be your friend. You are the ones who place so much importance on them.”

God sounded just like Bob Dylan with an Eleanor Roosevelt, “Ohhh myyy, sooo gooood” element.

We asked why the 2001 Eureka Springs city council refused to designate our town as a Patriot Act Free Community. Wanted to know that one for years. “We allowed the government to invade citizens’ lives on a whim, trash people’s personal lives and tell us we had to adhere to new rules when they didn’t have enough sense to acknowledge terrorists that flat out warned us they were coming.”

“Oh, that. It was a misunderstanding. You thought the government was saying partisan when they were actually saying patriotism, although they really meant partisan. It was a ploy to get you to be afraid and obey. You forgot that your founding fathers were 18th century hippies who insisted on freedom of speech, press and religion, and had the gumption to tell the Brits to keep their money, keep their navy and keep their attitude – just keep it out of your commonwealth. A simple moment of memory fade. Happens all the time. Surely you noticed that it only took your government 45 days to wipe out 230 years of freedom.”

A woman who had her holding tank full of water converted to wine eyed the lamb. “Would you pass the plate, God?” She embarrassed herself with her phrasing, as is common at late winter outdoor dinner parties. She thought she would cover her faux pas by asking her own Always Wanted to Ask God question: “What’s your hesitation with forgiving sinners?”

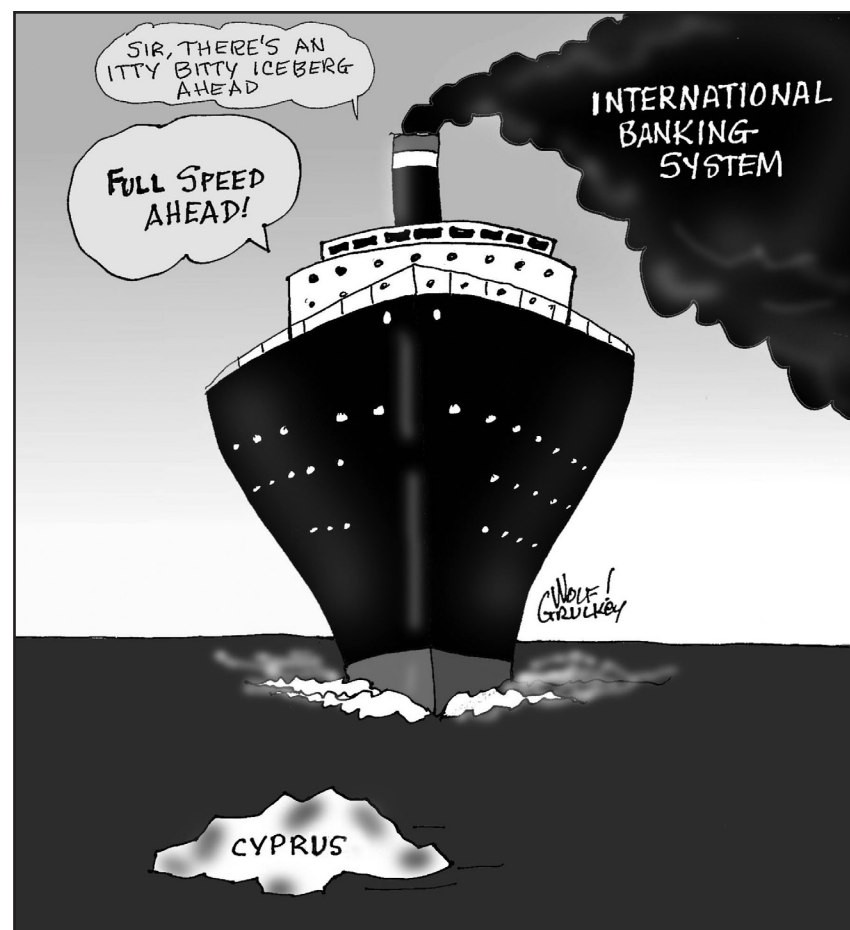
“Never said it,” God replied. “What I meant is there are no sins, there is no evil and no ignorance. You are just like me except you don’t like it as much as I do. When one of you messes up, all of you mess up. As long as there is war, each of you is responsible. Soldiers, intellectuals, babies, all of you. Until you stop killing, whether in anger or self-defense, you will be pummeled with doubt, sleeplessness and dreams you don’t understand.

“None of this is rocket surgery,” God continued. “You’ve built your lives on misunderstanding. Nothing was ever meant to confuse you. All the beauty you need is right here. I just want you to recognize it and sometimes I can only do that by making you seek it.”

“Okay, then what about those two people in the garden and the apple and the snake?”

“Snack. I very clearly said snack. Who among you is not tempted by a snack? It was an honest question and, as usual, misunderstood. Again. You all gave it way too much thought and you give history way more thought than you should. Chill.”

“Look,” God said. “It took me seven days to cremate the world. Someone, a clone of Adam, changed one tiny letter to the peril of all humans. I didn’t create this. I’m the Cremator. Just like you. Look at this lamb!”



The Pursuit Of HAPPINESS

by Dan Krotz

I have taken up painting in my old age and am working on a large picture titled “We B Natural.” It measures about four feet by five and half feet and, in a previous life, was a church bulletin board. I am (a) recycling, (b) repurposing, or (c) too cheap to buy a real canvas: take your pick.

My style is primitive, but I’m relying on the kindness of strangers to call it folk art and give it a non-technical pass. I’ll sign the picture ‘Skidmore C. Shankberry’ and trust that tourists will fall for it and pay big money, say \$30, or maybe \$26.50. Do you like the name? I hope so, because much depends on nailing down a bankable moniker right from the start, one that says “authentic old folk guy who has sincerely, truly, profoundly suffered.”

I want to capture current events and local Arkansas culture in “We B Natural.” The big thing in the picture is an old flatbed truck with stock rails. It is blue and pretty. There are three passengers on the flatbed: Jesus is there in His Jesus robe; he is smiling and giving us the peace sign. (Thank you, Jesus). Next to him is Elvis. I don’t know yet if he is Fat Elvis or Skinny Elvis – it is a technical problem based on available bush sizes. The third guy is Mark Pryor. Sen. Pryor is wearing a beanie and holding up a wet finger; he is trying to figure out which way the wind is blowing. Pastor Jimmy Bakker from Blue Eye is driving the truck.

Down in the lefthand corner is State Representative Crash Ballinger. Ol’ Crash has driven his truck into the US Constitution and dinged his brain up pretty good. There are angels flying around his head; they are laughing to beat the band.

Up in the right hand corner is State Senator Bryan King. He is standing on the steps of a little white church, packing heat and looking fierce and manly. His angels are sad and cry a little.

Anyway, I hope you’ll like my picture. Cash only.

INDEPENDENT Constables On Patrol

MARCH 11

1:23 p.m. – Resident informed ESPD his home security alarm had been triggered. Constable on patrol went to the scene and found everything secure.

MARCH 12

6:50 a.m. – A dead deer lay in the middle of the road in a neighborhood. Constable moved it out of the roadway and notified Public Works.

9:54 a.m. – A rock damaged a window of a business.

12:35 p.m. – Department of Veterans Affairs asked for a welfare check on an individual whom they said might be suicidal. Constables went to the address provided and found it was a church. The pastor there directed the constables to a business in town where they encountered the individual. He was okay, not suicidal, but angry with the VA.

4:19 a.m. – Constables watched for but did not encounter a reportedly reckless driver in a van heading toward town from the west.

4:45 p.m. – Guests at a tourist lodging reported a theft of jewelry from their room. Responding constable helped them search again and found the jewelry.

6:33 p.m. – Two vehicles bumped in a parking lot.

8:23 p.m. – Guests at a tourist lodging complained of loud music at a business downtown. Constable passed the complaint on to the business even though no music was playing while the constable was at the scene.

10:01 p.m. – This time the reckless driver headed toward town was coming from the east and in a Jeep. Constable on patrol found the vehicle in a neighborhood and informed the driver of the complaint.

MARCH 13

1:25 p.m. – Delivery truck damaged the awning in front of a business.

6:04 p.m. – Desk clerk at a motel asked for a welfare check on a guest who had not checked out yet. Door to the room was secured from the inside, and there was no response except for a dog in the room. Constables who responded gained entry to the room and discovered the guest dead from a gunshot to the head. The dog was taken to the pound pending retrieval by the family.

6:06 p.m. – There was a two-vehicle accident on Hwy. 23 North. No injuries.

MARCH 14

12:11 a.m. – Central dispatch alerted ESPD to a 911 hang-up call from a female who might be in a domestic dispute. Constable checked the area of the call but found nothing suspicious.

2:27 a.m. – A motel clerk reported a domestic dispute in one of the rooms. Constable arrived to find the male gone already and the female said the dispute was verbal only.

7:25 a.m. – A reckless driver was headed toward town from the south, but constables never encountered the vehicle.

2:28 p.m. – Person downtown spotted a known suspect

in a case. Constable responded, but the individual was already gone.

3:44 p.m. – Caller reported sideswiping another vehicle on Spring Street causing only minor damage.

11:29 p.m. – Sheriff's deputies arrested an individual on a warrant from Eureka Springs for failure to appear and no insurance.

11:36 p.m. – Constables encountered two intoxicated females in the parking lot of a bar downtown and called a taxi to take them to a motel for the night.

MARCH 15

1:36 a.m. – Constable on patrol helped a motorist change a flat tire.

10:02 a.m. – Person watching out for an out of town neighbor discovered someone sleeping in the neighbor's root cellar. The constable who responded did not see the vagrant in the area but the next shift will check again.

12:24 p.m. – An extra-long RV having a tough time on Spring Street was disrupting the traffic flow. Constable in the area had to help out.

1:17 p.m. – There was a two-vehicle accident on U.S. 62, and there were no injuries.

3:14 p.m. – Concerned observer near the schools saw a vehicle with four children in the back seat not secured in child seats, and the driver was picking up more kids. Constables searched for but did not find the vehicle.

4:11 p.m. – Someone allegedly stole personal checks and a computer from a vehicle parked at a vehicle repair shop.

MARCH 16

1:22 a.m. – Security guard of a hotel saw an individual passed out beside a street. Responding constable found the person up and walking and gave him a ride to his home nearby.

1:28 a.m. – Observer reported seeing someone with a flashlight inside an abandoned house on Hwy. 23 N, then leave and walk north along the road. Constable encountered an individual with a flashlight in the area. He said he was working on signs for the parade and he had been near the abandoned house but did not go inside.

1:45 a.m. – Call came in to ESPD from a motel in which the constable heard a small scream, then silence and then a hang-up. Soon afterward there was another hang-up call from the same number. Constables responded to the scene and talked to folks who were up and around, but they had not heard anything. Constables walked around the property but did not hear anything suspicious.

7:12 p.m. – A friendly dog walked into the lobby of a hotel. Animal Control picked up the animal.

8:18 p.m. – Two callers reported fire dancers in Basin Park. Constables went there but did not see them.

10:24 p.m. – Constable picked up a lost purse at a downtown business.

10:57 p.m. – Caller asked if anyone had found her dog.

Animal Control had encountered it earlier and had taken it home for the night. He will make contact with the owner in the morning.

11:07 p.m. – Passerby reported persons in front of a bar on U.S. 62 were yelling at passing vehicles and a male was in the road directing traffic. Responding constable did not find anyone in the road but he advised the employees to keep customers on the property.

11:14 p.m. – Resident in a neighborhood complained a bunch of people on a front porch nearby were being very loud. She said it had been the same during the previous night. Constable who went to the scene found four individuals sitting on a porch and advised them to keep their noise down.

11:30 p.m. – Concerned witness saw two persons who seemed to be very intoxicated walking up the middle of a roadway. When the constable arrived, they were not in the roadway any longer, and he gave them a ride to their motel.

MARCH 17

1:54 a.m. – A guest at a motel reported two apparently intoxicated females banging on all the doors. Constable discovered they were lost, and he found a room for them. He asked EMS to check out one of them because she could not stand up. EMS found she did not need medical attention.

2:32 a.m. – While on the scene of the previous incident, the constable arrested another individual at a nearby establishment for public intoxication and disorderly conduct.

2:44 a.m. – Proprietor of another motel reported a female passed out possibly from a drug overdose. Constables and EMS responded and discovered the person was just very intoxicated.

3:09 a.m. – Same motel proprietor said other guests had threatened him and he asked for immediate assistance. Responding constables broke up the argument and took two individuals to another motel.

8:21 a.m. – Manager of a motel reported individuals who had been evicted the previous night were back in the room this morning. Constable sent them on their way.

9:23 a.m. – Traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the driver for driving on a suspended license.

9:33 a.m. – A male and female were seen pushing each other on a downtown sidewalk. They told the responding constable nothing had been physical and neither had wounds.

2:07 p.m. – A suspicious vehicle had been parked in front of a business a long time, and the proprietor wanted constable assistance. Vehicle was gone when the constable arrived.

9:58 a.m. – Two persons were sleeping a vehicle in a parking lot. Constable encouraged them to move along.

2:53 p.m. – Constables found a vehicle parked across

CONSTABLES continued on page 21

HIGHLANDER BOYS TRACK



PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

Top left to right:
Avery Drennon,
Josh Premeau,
Tanner Allee,
Jake McClung,
Coach Parkman

Middle: Jacob Brown,
Nathan Andress,
Mathew McClung,
William Balentine

Front: Stormy Tilford,
Brandon Ray,
Alex Cisneros

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*I'm just a girl who cain't say no
I'm in a turrible fix
I always say, "come on let's go"
Just when I orta say nix*

OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN

I knew I would be overwhelmed, and I am.

I knew when Jeremy Mason McGraw approached me to do a large-scale photo installation for the May Festival of the Arts I couldn't say NO, even though I knew it would collide with and disrupt another photo project I was working on as well as the large art installation I had just set a date for at the end of March.

That damn Muse. It's hard to say no when things excite you.

And it's hard to say no because as an artist you also know that this passion and excitement are often elusive, fleeting, and at times, just plain not there.

It's creative feast or famine – and it's likely every artist or creative person reading this knows exactly



Our one week old spring babies.

PHOTO BY JOHN RANKINE

what this term means.

It seems you're either busting with creative ideas or desperately trying to paint, sing, sculpt, perform or write about something – anything.

So, here I am, juggling three art projects simultaneously and trying to

write a weekly column. And that's not counting those things like running a full time business, having a social life or performing the everyday mundane tasks like vacuuming, checking email or trimming toenails.

I'm not bitching – I'd much rather

feel alive, inspired and overwhelmed than face the discouraging void. But it's a beautiful spring day, the garden is calling and I could easily shut down this over-stimulated mind and spend the day taking snapshots of our five new baby goats.

P.S. In an effort to help my stress reduction, could all the artists who have agreed to be part of the MUGS portrait series please show up this week at Sweet Spring Antiques between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. any day except Tuesday. I promise the photo will be fast and painless. Deadline approaches.

P.P.S. A reminder and an invitation to all to come out to my new exhibit "Graven Images" on Good Friday, March 29 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at The Space. The installation can also be viewed the following Saturday and Sunday between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

INDEPENDENTArt

ES Artists – please get mugged!

John Rankine is doing a photo series of local artists (Eureka Springs artists only, please) making a face or mugging for the camera. The black and white photos will be enlarged and plastered on walls around town to show everyone how "serious" we are about art in Eureka Springs. On May 25, artists (and the public) will be able to further "enhance" the portraits with colorful markers. There will also be a poster of all photos on which the public can collect autographs.

John requests that you come by The Space any day, other than Monday or Tuesday, between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. and make a silly mug for posterity.



PHOTOS BY JOHN RANKINE

Street festival needs YOU

The ArtRageous Street Festival is now accepting applications. Spring Street will be the site of this first-time event on May 25 where our downtown will be turned into a peaceful yet exciting walk of art and fun. We are also looking for numerous volunteers to help out, so please contact Sandy Martin, Nancy Paddock or Marsha Havens to volunteer or obtain an application. You may also email: ArtsCouncilEureka@gmail.com.

Art is just a bowl of chair-ies



The ReArt Chair-ity Fundraiser for the Eureka Springs School of the Arts will begin at 6:30 p.m. April 1 at the Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center. The free admission event will feature a live auction of Chair-ity chairs designed by popular local artists Eleanor Lux, Jim Nelson, Robert R. Norman, Dave McKee, and Daniel Coy. In addition, there will be food and live music by Magic Mule and an awesome silent auction of previously owned artwork. Call (479)-253-5384 for more information or to donate art.

Want to be in the May Arts Fun Guide?

Send your pictures of art, galleries and May Arts-related events to editor@eurekaspringsfunguide.com for inclusion in the May Festival of the Arts publication. Deadline is March 30. Phone 253-6101 for details.

Free tax preparation program available through April 11

A nationwide, free tax preparation service sponsored by AARP and IRS provides free tax preparation, free electronic filing and answers tax questions. This program is intended to serve low- and middle-income taxpayers with special attention to those ages 60 and older.

The service is provided locally by Carroll County AARP-Tax Aide Program at Holiday Island Community Church, 188 Stateline Drive, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. through April 11.

IRS-provided software is used for all tax returns. All counselors are certified and all information is strictly confidential. Please contact Anne Dray (479) 253-7611 or Lou Brockman (479) 253-9198 for answers to questions about the program.

Poster Party Sunday at Caribe

The Eureka Springs EasterBelles will gather at Caribe Cantina y Restaurant on Sunday, March 24, 5 – 7 p.m. to autograph their Easter Parade poster and raise money to supply chemotherapy patients with soft, cotton “bonnets” of their own. The event precedes the EasterBelles parade coming up on March 31.

The EasterBelles are putting a twist on Sunday’s Chalupa Night at Caribe. Each Belle will have an 8 x10 photograph of their individual poster picture next to an Easter basket. Party-goers will vote for their favorite pictured bonnets by leaving money in the basket next to the photo. The money will go to supply area clinics, hospitals and cancer non-profit organization with soft cotton hats that keep chemotherapy patients’ heads warm during treatment.

Past recipients of EasterBelle funds are Womenade from Holiday Island and Brave Woman, an organization to bring domestic abuse to the political forefront.

EasterBelles will step out in style Easter Sunday,



March 31 at 12 noon, parading from the Gavioli Chapel to the Crescent Hotel. All are invited to participate with membership in the EasterBelles. Membership is simple – make a donation of any amount to this year’s charitable cause, and dress up in best Easter fashion – men included. For more information, phone (703) 400-6090 or email ipowell@live.com.

TheNATUREofEUREKA by Steven Foster



The late Billy Joe Tatum kept Ozark traditions alive. Making hominy in 1982.

Honoring an Ozark legend

It has been nearly a year since an Ozark legend was gathered to the Elysian Fields. Wild foods expert, epicurean, herbalist and author, Billy Joe Tatum, passed away on March 26, 2012, at the age of 80. Billy Joe won a reputation as successor to Euell Gibbons (1911-1975) who generated popular interest in wild foods with books such as *Stalking the Wild Asparagus* (1962). Tatum’s 1976 bestseller, *Billy Joe Tatum’s Wild Foods Cookbook & Field Guide* (Workman Publishing Company) elevated wild edibles from survival food to gourmet cuisine. After her book was released she became one of Johnny Carson’s favorite TV guests.

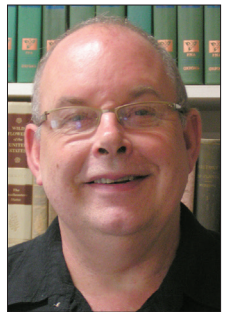
Arriving in Izard County in 1958, Billy Joe with her husband, Harold “Hally” Tatum, M.D., opened a rural medical practice and raised five children. Back then Ozark home remedies were normal fare. He noted more than 2,500 folk remedies on patients’ charts. Carroll County’s own, Craig Milam, M.D., (Mercy Clinic, Holiday Island) practiced with Dr. Tatum after graduating from medical school in the 1970s.

Billy Joe Tatum brought Ozark traditions to life.

Interviewed in a 1983 book *Herbal Pathfinders* (by Robert Conrow and Arlene Hecksel, Woodbridge Press), Billy Joe recalled,

“One of my first remembrances of learning remedies from a patient is the day I trekked into Harold’s office with four kids in tow. I was just absolutely worn to a frazzle by having a houseful of kids with colds and runny noses... that day, feeling so frazzled, I decided I would try a trick of the doctor’s wifery; I would just go and sit in the front of the office and wait for an appointment.

“And that was the day I happened to meet up with Aunt Tenny. This little old lady started talking to me and invited me to her house and made me a wonderful cup of soothing tea. Before long, she had convinced me that I should drink calming teas, give the children catnip [*Nepeta cataria*] for sleeplessness and dittany tea [*Cunila origanoides*] to lower temperature... but Aunt Tenny made me realize that it was very important to put children’s tea in a beautiful, little china cup with a pretty picture on it. She knew all the secrets.”





Jacob George, third from left, will perform music and stories from his new recording, *Soldier's Heart: Songs of War, Peace and Healing*, March 25 at Sky Ridge Pavilion.

Soldier for peace performs March 25

Jacob George, three-tour veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom turned peace activist, was a speaker and volunteer at all three of the Healing Path Expos and now has an album coming out. He'd like to share it with the people that helped him on his journey, and will be performing at the Retreat at Sky Ridge, 637 CR 111, on Monday, March 25, 6–9 p.m., at the Pavilion.

Soldier's Heart: Songs and Stories of War, Peace and Healing is a collection of music and story by Jacob George and Adam Cox composed over the winter to help shine light on the often dark and misunderstood nature of war. "Soldiers' heart" is a reference to the American Civil War term for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. The album focuses on PTSD and how we are all touched by it. The musical platform of folk/bluegrass in combination with storytelling explores the overall impact of war on Afghans, U.S. soldiers, U.S. citizens and our

"enemies."

George served as a paratrooper in the United States Army Special Operation Command and was honorably discharged as sergeant. He is a cofounder of A Ride Till The End, a veteran-led perpetual bicycle protest of the Afghan War based out of Fayetteville. The ride began on May 1, 2010 and has covered more than 8,000 miles in the U.S.

George returned to Afghanistan in the summer of 2011 with Voices For Creative Nonviolence to work with and hear stories of Afghans struggling for peace, and has been sharing those stories with music and poetry while riding his bicycle around the country.

There's more information on Facebook by typing in "Soldier's Heart: Songs and Stories of War, Peace and Healing," and at www.operationawareness.org. For directions to Sky Ridge, phone (479) 253-9465 or email marie@newearthhealing.com.

First Celebrate Jesus parade March 30

The Western Carroll County Ministerial Association invites all to join in a celebration of faith and joy with the first annual Celebrate Jesus parade, 11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 30. The parade will feature floats, walkers, clowns, Christian bikers and horses and many exciting entries from the Great Passion Play. It will travel along Spring Street starting at the library and ending at the courthouse.

Music in the park starts at 10 a.m. and pauses for the parade, then continues through the afternoon. There will be performances by local churches, praise teams, band, soloists and more; all giving praise to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. There is limited seating in the park, so you may want to bring a folding chair.

There will also be a Sunrise Service Easter morning at the Passion Play's Christ of the Ozarks statue at 7 a.m., followed by breakfast.

High dollar rifle – K.G. Parman is shown here with part of his rifle collection at the Spring Antiques Show. Yes, the price tag is correct. The original Henry rifle was a .44 caliber rimfire, lever-action, breech-loading rifle designed by Benjamin Tyler Henry in 1860. By the time production ended in 1866, approximately 14,000 units had been manufactured. Although the Union Army never officially adopted it for service, many soldiers purchased Henrys with their own funds. The brass framed rifles could fire at a rate of 28 rounds per minute when used correctly. Most of Parman's other rifles were priced at a trifling \$40,000 in comparison.

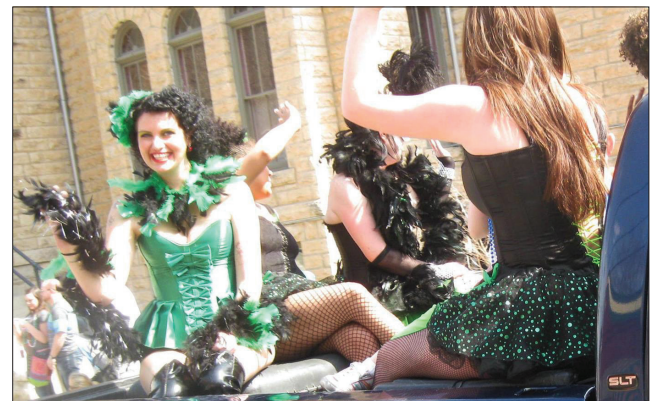
A rose between two thorns – Krewe of Blarney Kaptains Charles Templeton, left, and Rod McGuire pose with the 2013 Colleen, Shelby Clark, at Rowdy Beaver before the Krewe departed to participate in the St. Patrick's Day Parade March 16. Native Eureka Shelby is the daughter of Travis and Misty Clark.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY



Junebugs II – The Junebugs are at it again. June Hegedus, left and June Owen celebrate Owens' recent 87th birthday at the St. Patrick's Day Parade March 16 as Owens fans out the lovely blue dress she made for the occasion.

Winners all – A variety of judges voted by ballot to place the following winners from St. Paddy parade contestants who submitted application forms: Third place – Burlesque Troupe from Springdale, Ark., (shown lower right), Second Place – Rockin' Pig Saloon submitted by Suzi Carter and First Place – the All Star Kazoo Marching Band submitted by Joe Easton. All paraders were in high spirits, the crowds were larger than ever and everyone had a great time. The Krewe of Blarney Halfast Walkin' Klub and its Kaptains thank everyone who participated and took the time to come out on a wonderful sunny day to enjoy the green. Eureka go Bragh!



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

“I have not asked her, sir. We wanted to ask you first. My Pa told me it was fitten’ and proper that I talk to you first. I want to do what is right, sir.”

The conversation was interrupted by the entrance of Susan, Mary, Little Jimmy and two of the neighbor girls.

“You kids go out in th’ kitchen and help yourselves to the fried ham and cornbread that is on th’ table. Your Ma and me has got something to talk about with Tom and Nancy here.”

“I’ll bet I know what it is,” Mary fired the parting shot over her shoulder as she disappeared in the direction of the kitchen followed by the children.

“Tom here, has jest told me that he wants to marry our Nancy. I’ve not give him my answer yet. I want to know if he’s thinkin’ about marryin’ her an’ makin’ her a livin’ or jest marryin’ her. I won’t have no young man a-marryin’ one of my girls that don’t take marryin’ seriously. Any young man that gets one o’ my girls is goin’ to have to prove to me that he can take care of her.”

Susan, thinking it was better not to let her husband get on one of his lengthy speeches about responsibility, spoke up, “Johnny, I’ve seen enough of this young man in these last few months to know that he is a good Christian boy. I believe that he would take care of our girl. I reckon

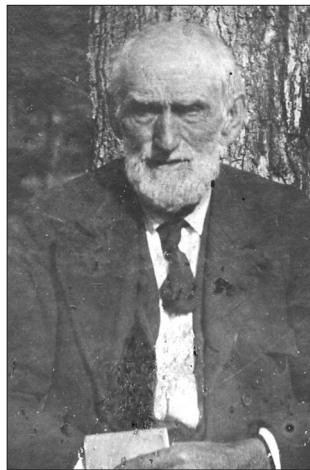
I’m tryin’ to say I’m givin’ them my blessin’.”

“I know what you are sayin’, Susan, an’ I reckon I agree with you up to a point. I think Tom’s a good boy but it ain’t because he’s got religion that I think it. It’s because he showed respect fer her an’ fer us by askin’ us fer her instead of persuadin’ her to run off and marry him. Nancy is sixteen years old and that ort to be old enough fer a girl to have a mind of her own. If you are what she wants, then I reckon I’ll have to say it’s all right with me.

“Thank you, Mr. Gaskins. I promise you and her and God that I will take good care of her.”

“You just promise her, an’ if it makes that much difference to you, you can promise God, but you don’t have to make me no promises. I’ll make you one, though. I promise you that I will never have anything to say about your life with her. I’ll let you two work out your own problems. But if I ever hear of you mistreatin’ my girl, I’ll hunt you up an’ whup you so much like a yaller dog that you’ll run rabbits fer a week.”

Then turning to Nancy, he said, “an’ you, young lady, are makin’ your own



bed. Iffen it’s hard, you sleep in it anyway. That’s all I’ve got to say about the matter.”

Nancy walked over and hugged her father, “Pa, you’re an old bear but everybody knows that your bark is worse than your bite.”

“That’s because I ain’t never bit nobody,” he grinned at her.

“Let’s go in the kitchen and get some hot coffee an’ see if the kids left any of that ham I fried this mornin’,” Susan suggested.

“You can all drink coffee that wants it,” Gaskins said, “but right now I think I need a good stiff drink of whiskey an’ I’m goin’ to take it.” Suiting his actions to his words, he took the bottle from the cupboard and took a long swig from the contents.

“Now, you can bring of the coffee,” he suggested.

“Ma, I’d like to talk to you about the weddin’,” Nancy said. “Tom and I have talked about it and kinda’ made some plans. It’s like this. We’ve allus had a big dance at Christmas time. I heard you say that somehow you just couldn’t feel right, havin’ a dance so soon after Sam

died. Couldn’t we just have a weddin’ instead?”

“I think that’s a fine idea, Nancy. It would give the neighbors a chance to all get together for the holidays and still not be celebratin’ in such a rowdy fashion,” Susan went along with Nancy’s suggestion.

Nancy brought up the subject that they had not yet mentioned. “You know, Ma, that, Tom bein’ a preacher and leadin’ Sunday services, he don’t go along with dancin’...”

“Wait, jest a minit, Nancy,” Johnny interrupted. “Let’s get this thing straight now and then we won’t have to quarrel about it later. Religion hain’t catchin’. It’s all right with me if Tom’s got religion but that don’t mean the whole family’s got to have it, too. He can’t come into this house and start runnin’ the whole shebang. Iffen he don’t want to dance, that’s his business, but the rest of this family is goin’ right on doin’ just like they’ve allus done. Everybody has to make up their own minds about what’s right and wrong in this world. As fer me, I’ll go right on doin’ as I damn well please. I’ll have a dance or I’ll get drunker than a hoot owl any time the notion strikes me. I don’t care what Tom likes or don’t like.”

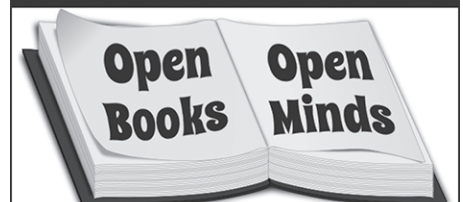
“That’s the way families should live, Mr. Gaskins. I would never think of telling you what I think is right or wrong.”

“Nobody tells Johnny Gaskins what is right or wrong,” the bewhiskered man answered. “I had made up my mind what was right or wrong long before your head was as big as a grape. I ain’t about to change it now.”

Loud pipes on Spring St.

– Joel Wren pipes revelers through the streets during the St. Patrick’s Day Parade March 16. Bagpipes and men in kilts. Gotta love it.

PHOTO BY
DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY



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Aries Spring Festival & the Spirit of Resurrection

We are in the first week of spring. It is a very potent week with many world conferences, potent astrological alignments and a solar festival with the Spirit of Resurrection and the Forces of Restoration beginning to flow into the earth during the first full moon of the season.

Thursday (World Poetry Day) Venus enters Aries joining the Sun, Mars and Uranus in Aries (four fiery fields to bring forth “all things new” this springtime).

Friday (World Water Cooperation Day), Mars/Uranus in Aries create explosive, life-changing

energy and change. Saturday (Earth Hour, turning off lights/electricity for one hour) Jupiter/Saturn intersect. We must expand our discipline in order to create the new world and civilization.

Sunday (Palm Sunday), Christ rode a young colt into Jerusalem. For a few moments among the few who could “see,” He was recognized as the Pisces World Teacher.

Tuesday (Passover begins) Mars in Aries squares Pluto in Capricorn. Mars/Pluto – the transformation continues, the breakdown must go forward (Pluto in Cap) so “all things new” (Mars

in Aries) can emerge. However, not without a battle of the old forces resisting the new. Jupiter and Chiron inform humanity they (we) must make a choice between the two.

Wednesday (Spring’s first full moon) is the Aries solar Festival when the Love of the Father for His children and the Forces of Restoration flow into the Earth (the Mother). They will help humanity in so many ways – restoring moral and psychological health and uplifting humanity, bringing about the emergence of the new civilization and the new spiritual materialism.

ARIES: Everything changed for you when Mars entered Aries. Your energy listed and became more available. You also felt more impatient, wanting to move forward, engage in new enterprises, make new impressions in the world. You might feel the need to assume leadership over everyone and everything. Careful. Be kind. Be a leader, but understand you move more quickly than others.

TAURUS: You tell everyone you’d rather remain at home and research and not go out and about for a long time. You want to catch up on tasks not tended to the past many years. Needing to maintain reserves of energy to get through each day, you need privacy and solitude. Many previous behaviors may arise. Observe them. Consider if they are useful? You may dream more. Record them. Overtime they tell you a story.

GEMINI: You need to participate in your group of friends a bit more, seeking their cooperation in either working on a project with you or listening to you with care and intention so you can clarify your thinking. If you lead a group, teach cooperation, organize them as a team to achieve a particular goal. Ask each member their hopes, wishes and desires for the future. You’re achieving Aquarian goals. You’re a humanitarian.

CANCER: You want to be recognized for your knowledge, abilities, and what

you accomplish each day. It’s good to want this recognition for it stimulates your ability to share and provide information to others. Many are in need of real and true information. You always ask the question, “What is real and true?” When we ask, what’s needed is always given. For those seeking new work or a job, after this week step forward into the world.

LEO: You may feel a hunger for things far from your usual life and ways of living. Other culture, people, places and things seem to be summoning you in subtle yet persistent ways. You’re restless for a new reality, a new adventure. You want new activities, conversations, new goals, new subjects to study. An outer fire blends with your inner Leo fire. Everything you seek will appear. Careful legally.

VIRGO: You may be called to be more cooperative and this may be a challenge. But you can do this. Relationships will be the challenge and perhaps you will need to consult with someone concerning how to be a bit more dynamic yet loving, how to settle difference and allow everyone to be heard. Careful with impatience and ending things too quickly. Reconcile with those you have had differences.

LIBRA: Life seems to be accelerating, moving faster each day. Sometimes those around you move too quickly and you feel left behind. Perhaps you’re

working too hard and too long. Even though you may have abundant energy, tend to your health, make tending to your health a harmonious daily practice. Careful with inflammation and infections. Slow down on glutens, grains and all sweets, gluten. Handle you and co-workers’ frustration, restlessness and anger calmly.

SCORPIO: Intimacy is important for you at this time. There are many types of intimacy – from friendship to lovers, intimacy of the mind, the heart and physical intimacy. Things held in common with another is an intimacy. Knowing your values is an intimate level concerning the self. Sometimes, intimacies end and sometimes a new intimacy begins, both affect you deeply. Be aware of your subtle feelings. Realize what you need. Ask for it. Intimates will help you.

SAGITTARIUS: There’s so much energy flowing through your body and mind you simply can’t find any self-discipline. That’s OK if you use that unbounded energy for creative activities. You could also find children, or those who are child-like, to play with. Romantic things are good, too, and your love life may sense a deeper level of passion. Make sure you get enough sleep. Don’t risk anything by gambling. Just play (innocently) more.

CAPRICORN: Much of your energy is focused at home or where your

domestic self resides. You’re highly instinctual at this time and protective. It’s important that you feel secure because you are called to make important decisions concerning family and the home. When feeling unusually moody or frustrated, tend to home repairs and arrange family activities. Step back if arguments begin. Old emotional issues may resurface. They’ve arrived for review.

AQUARIUS: So many ideas and plans in your head that you feel a bit overwhelmed and scattered and so you try to share these ideas with others but so many errands and tasks come in between you and sharing with others that you feel frustrated and can move into arguments if you’re not careful. Realizing you could feel impatient and impulsive be careful driving and when using machinery, scissors or knives (while cooking). Your passionate mind works overtime.

PISCES: It’s a good time to create a notebook or journal of values, past, present and future. Often we can ascertain values by deciding what we need. Tend to monetary issues – savings accounts, taxes, insurance, inheritances. Is something occurring with your bank? Do you need to change banks from large corporate to local? If so, do this immediately. Don’t impulse buy. It’s important to acknowledge your worth.

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

Dog park committee meets goal for matching grant application

Could mean dog park by mid-summer if awarded

Thanks to the generosity of area individuals and businesses, the Eureka Springs Dog Park Advisory Committee (ESDPAC) was able to raise \$13,500 in cash donations and pledges to apply for a matching grant from the Arkansas Rural Development Grant Program, which awards grants to rural communities with a population of fewer than 35,000.

In addition, a total of just under 500 volunteer hours were pledged which should be more than enough to complete construction once all funding is raised. The Eureka Springs Dog Park will be located in Harmon Park and measure just over an acre.

The initial project cost is expected to be \$27,000, substantially less than most dog parks in the country that typically see budgets in excess of \$100,000, usually because land must be purchased.

These funds are expected to buy fencing and appropriate gates for a small dog area and large dog area, poop bag stations, garbage cans, benches, a kiosk and water fountains. Parks & Recreation will be building a culvert to make the parking lot off Grand more accessible, which has been in the Master Plan for Harmon Park for some time.

ESDPAC hopes they will receive the grant. However, they will continue to fundraise even if awarded the grant because other phases are planned that include building an events area and a pavilion, adding agility equipment and other fun amenities such as doggie pools.

A complete overview of the project and more information can be found on ESDPAC's Facebook page at "Eureka Springs Dog Park." The link to the proposal booklet is pinned to the top of the page. Anyone who wishes to donate time or money please contact ESDPAC Chair, Rachel Brix, via email – rachelmrbrix@yahoo.com.

Jason Crabb Band here March 22

Grammy winner Jason Crabb and his band will be at the City Auditorium for a one-night-only performance at 7 p.m. Friday, March 22. Tickets are only \$10 advance or \$12 at the gate.

The performance has been

moved to the city auditorium because of weather. Check for updates at www.greatpassionplay.org, and also take online advantage of a special low ticket price for the Great Passion Play's opening weekend May 3 and 4!

CONSTABLES continued from page 14

a driveway and called for a tow truck. The owner flagged down the tow truck as it drove through downtown, and the vehicle was released back to the owner.
3:20 p.m. – A controlled burn south of town sparked complaints and suspicion.
4:20 p.m. – Vehicle on U.S. 62 at the western edge of town ran out of gas and blocked the roadway. Constable came to the rescue.

4:44 p.m. – A restaurant reported a customer left without paying for a meal.
8:59 p.m. – EMS and two constables responded to a two-vehicle accident near downtown. Constables arrested one individual for possession of a controlled substance, possession of

drug paraphernalia, open container and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. They arrested a second person for DWI, possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, reckless driving, drinking on a public highway and possession of alcohol by a minor.

9:54 p.m. – Restaurant owner reported a suspicious vehicle outside her business. Constable learned the vehicle was waiting for an employee to get off work.

MARCH 18

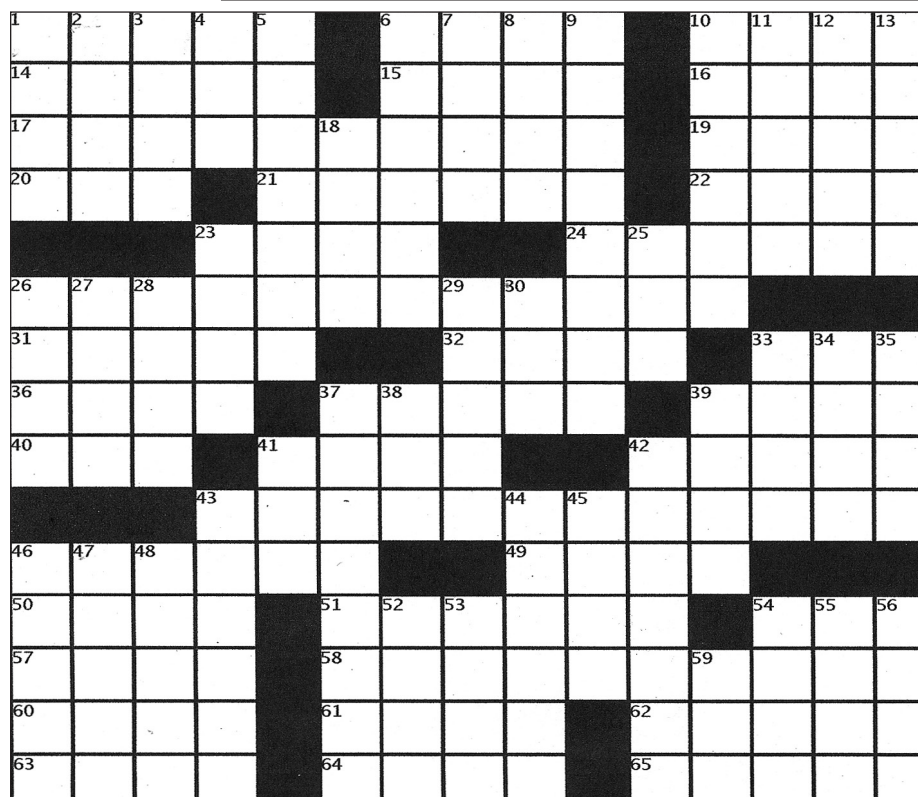
5:04 a.m. – Paper delivery person asked for a welfare check on an elderly person whose papers were beginning to pile up, which was unusual. Constable did not find anyone at home.



INDEPENDENT Crossword

by Chuck Levering

Solution on page 31



ACROSS

1. Short wooden match
6. Brag or boast
10. Expression of anger or surprise
14. Standard of perfection
15. Not there
16. ___-do-well
17. Branched like a tree
19. Show empathy
20. Finale
21. Sign up
22. Kringle's first name
23. A Roman censor
24. Dissertations
26. Using an assumed name
31. Full of vigor
32. Assistant
33. Herd of whales
36. Egyptian cobras
37. Manly (*Sp.*)
39. Nod off
40. Vote No
41. Snack
42. Physical exertion
43. Essential
46. Hotel or inn (*Sp.*)
49. Fries are one
50. Gorillas
51. Got the soap out

54. Orchid necklace
57. Closely confined
58. Lack of sunshine
60. Jason's ship
61. Employ
62. Absolute
63. Den
64. Sweet potatoes
65. Follow as a consequence

DOWN

1. See
2. Eve's home
3. Remit
4. Iota
5. So soon?
6. Centaur who taught Achilles
7. Makeover
8. One type of exam
9. Rich (3 wds.)
10. Comet named for German astronomer
11. A car has several of these
12. Eagle's nest
13. Apply bandages
18. Aware of
23. Slices
25. Color or tint
26. Operational necessity
27. Capital of Elam
28. Catch sight of
29. A pleasure cruising vessel
30. Russian space station
33. Asian desert
34. North arm of the Black Sea
35. Small or slight
37. Government ruled by a king
38. Vain, self-important person
41. Silent agreement
42. One who opposes mechanization
43. Medicinal bean
44. Editions
45. Laced up
46. Relating to Francis
47. Dramatic musical performance
48. Elephant shrew
52. Mother of Romulus and Remus
53. Standard
54. Leases
55. Isaac's eldest son
56. An ait
59. Negation of a word

This week's Community Datebook

Ongoing events:

Daily until March 24: 3 p.m., Attractions ticket giveaway sign up, Basin Park

Every Wednesday: 10 a.m., Early Literacy program for preschoolers at Carnegie Library; books, rhymes, music, fun activities. 253-8754

Every Thursday:

• 9 a.m. – Noon, Farmers' Market, Pine Mountain Village.

• 4 p.m., ES Buddhist Study Group, Library Annex

Coming up

Friday, 22:

• Daytime, Eureka Street Market with artists, crafters, buskers – Main Street.

• 5 – 7 p.m., Eureka Circus, DJ, fun in Basin Park. Free event.

• 7 p.m., Jason Crabb Concert, Passion Play amphitheater, \$10 in advance, greatpassionplay.org

Saturday, 23:

• Daytime, Eureka Street Market with artists, crafters, buskers along Main Street.

• 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Heirloom

Seed/bulb/plant Swap, Carnegie Library, 253-6963

• 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., 23rd Annual Kite Festival; music, contests, activities, Turpentine Creek. Free

Sunday, 24: 5 – 7 p.m.,

EasterBelles charity poster autograph party, Caribe Cantina

Monday, 25: 6 p.m., *Soldier's Heart: Songs of Love, Peace and Healing* with Jacob George, Sky Ridge Pavillion, 253-9465

Tuesday, 26: 3 p.m. HI

Photography Guild open meeting, HI clubhouse, lower level

Wednesday, 27:

• 3:30 – 5 p.m., Foundation Farm's *Caging and Trellising* (hands-on, at farm), (479) 253-7461 to register.

• 6 p.m., Dog Park committee meets, open meeting, library annex

Thursday, 28: 9 a.m. – Noon, Farmers' Market, Pine Mountain Village.

Saturday, 30:

• 11:30 a.m., Celebrate Jesus Parade; parade, music, activities and more. Lower historic loop.

Community charrette scheduled April 9 – 11

The Eureka Springs School District will continue the process of looking at a community-based redevelopment of the old high school building after considering input at the public meeting Feb. 22 facilitated by the University Of Arkansas Extension Office Department of Economic Development Breakthrough Solutions.

The positive tone of participation at that meeting encouraged the district to consider using the facility to solve local challenges and needs of the community in a continued collaboration toward community-based redevelopment.

Although many ideas from the meeting will need to be pursued, two broad areas were defined: 1) potentially utilizing the main building for civic organizations or municipal offices, and 2) using the building that includes the gymnasium as a community center. Potential participating entities included the City Advertising & Promotion Commission, Eureka Springs School of the Arts, the Greater Eureka Springs Chamber of Commerce, the Visitor Center, and the Eureka Springs Farmers' Market.

Although the ultimate organization of the redevelopment effort is to be determined, any fiscal transaction or redevelopment the district participates in will require demonstration of direct

benefit to the students of the district and approval by the Board of Education as required by statute.

Currently this effort is being led by a District Subcommittee consisting of Curtis Turner, Superintendent; Al Larson, school board president; Mike Bishop, President, Greater Eureka Springs Chamber of Commerce; Diane Murphy, Century 21 Woodland Realty; Jack Moyer, general manager, Historic Hotels; Randy Wolfenbarger, general manager, Inn of the Ozarks; and Sam Kirk, chair, Eureka Springs school board.

The subcommittee is forming a Finance Study Group and a Community Center Study Group.

They have scheduled a three-day charrette (collaborative session) open to the public April 9 – 11 at the Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center facilitated by Mark Peterson, Professor, Community Development and Breakthrough Solutions and Edwin Levy, of Cromwell Architecture and Engineering.

"We've scheduled sessions through the day and into the evening so as many people as possible can take part," Kirk said.

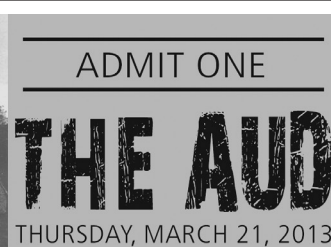
For more information call Sam Kirk at either (479) 244-5201 or (479) 253-8136 or Mike Bishop, (479) 253-8737.

AUDacious by Ray Dilfield

...that are popping out all over town. We've had a busy few days with new shows sprouting up on the calendar.

Monday started off with a call from the folks at the Great Passion Play wondering if the Aud might be available this Friday. Seems that the weather forecast would be somewhat less than conducive for their planned Jason Crabb show in the amphitheater. So, we've now got preparations underway to host a performance from a Grammy nominated and Dove award-winning ensemble. Doors and box office will open at 6 p.m. and the show starts at 7. For ticket information, contact the GPP at (479) 253-9200.

Next up will be a bit of a departure for us. On Saturday, April 6 we'll be presenting "Ozark Mountain Mystique – A Night of Juggling and Wonderment." Starting at 7 p.m., the auditorium's stage will be filled with juggling, magic, unicycle dancing and more. Wonderment indeed. Among many others,



performers include Doug Sayers, a 4-Time Juggling World Champion and the Institute of Jugglology, 2012 International Silver Medalists. Advance tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12 and are available online at www.ozarkmountainmystique.eventbrite.com. Tickets will also be available at the door beginning at 6 p.m.; \$13 adult and \$7 children under 12.

Perhaps the most exciting development, we have reached an agreement to bring *Michael Jonathon's WoodSongs Old-Time Radio Hour* to the auditorium as the headliner for this year's Original Ozarks Folk Festival. WoodSongs, despite the "Radio Hour" in its

name, is an international broadcast on radio, television and webcast which currently airs on 509 radio stations (soon to be 510 as KUAF will be

picking up the show), reaches 91 million homes on PBS, the Bluehighways television networks, and the Armed Forces Radio Network broadcast to 173 countries and every US Naval ship at sea.

WoodSongs will be taping two live shows on the afternoon and evening of Saturday, Oct. 26 and one ticket will get you in for both shows. In addition to presenting some stellar performers (Michael Jonathon's credo is "You don't have to be famous, you just have to be good") this show will be promoting Eureka Springs as a tourism destination. To say that this is *huge* stretches the bounds of understatement. Look for more information on tickets and performers in the coming weeks.



himself he'd be thrown in jail. Another man said that he has pulled "drug people" out of a car and told them to quit driving so fast. He added, "Used to be their dads would beat their ass."

Others said that the "young kids" are terrorizing the older people, that they can't sleep, and there is screaming going on throughout the night. Several spoke of meth being cooked in rental houses and cars coming and going – staying no more than five minutes – throughout the day. One woman said that drug dealers shot her dog inside her yard. Another said, "Someone is going to get hurt, shot." There was a remark that, "They twirl their guns and shoot into the air, because they're high."

"Families can't go on vacation together because they are afraid to leave their homes unattended," one man complained.

Others spoke of nosebleeds, an inability to breathe, and stinging eyes due to the fumes of meth being cooked. An older gentleman said that he'd had \$200,000 worth of things stolen from him in the last six months. "I'm not too fast on my feet," he said, "but my gun is. I've got a trap set up." He went on to say, "I didn't work at a chicken plant for thirty-one years to have someone steal all my stuff."

A woman on the council who said she'd lived in Oak Grove for thirty-five years, said she is hoping to move because of the situation, but she doesn't know who would want to buy a house in a town with these problems, except drug dealers. She added, "All the hardworking people are going to be run off."

One man referred to Oak Grove as being Disneyland for drugs.

The group complained about a lack of response from the sheriff's department. Some said that they have turned in lists with license plate numbers and nothing happened. Others told of calling the sheriff's department when they smell meth cooking and no arrests resulted. One person said that when they call in the dispatcher is very rude. They also wanted to know why there weren't deputies patrolling the area. Someone said that there was a question of honesty in the sheriff's department and that people are scared.

One man recounted that he once punched a deputy in the stomach when he refused to go across state lines after a drug dealer.

Those present also turned to the deputies several times throughout the meeting with questions and comments such as, "Tell us how we can help you?" and "We're not here to pick on you but to solve the problem," and "We are trying to do this peacefully." Several thanked the deputies for coming. One man addressing the deputies, council and mayor said, "We're not saying you're not doing your job," to which the mayor responded, "Well, we know we aren't."

Hoos said a lot of the problem is lack of manpower. He said the funding just isn't there to have more deputies available. When he explained how few deputies were on duty – sometimes three plus investigators in the day and only one at night for the whole county – someone said, "That's ridiculous, don't you think?" and Hoos responded, "Yes." He said staffing is up to the Quorum Court.

A man from the crowd identified himself as being a member of the court and said he was there mainly as a native of Oak Grove. He pointed out that the court had helped the sheriff's department grow quite a lot over recent years, but there was no funding to grow further. Hoos said that yes, the department has grown a lot but that the drug problem has grown, too, and keeping ahead of it was the problem.

Hoos also explained the reason why they have so little success in making busts of meth labs is that the technique for making meth has changed. It now can be made at one time, in one container, in 45 minutes; it's not four to five hours anymore, and the lab is easy to move. By the time law enforcement shows up, the lab is gone. Hoos also explained that while cars coming and going is suspicious, it's not probable cause. Law enforcement needs more evidence to be able to get a search warrant or call in a drug dog. One man asked in apparent frustration, "Should we buy it and bring it to you for proof?"

During the course of the meeting, a couple of alleged drug dealers were mentioned by name by the crowd and even the deputies who admitted, "We all know who they are."

Addressing concerns about those getting arrested being released so quickly, Hoos explained the law requires that those being arrested for misdemeanors be offered bond right away, and those arrested for felonies have a bond hearing within 48 hours. They can't be held

until they have been sentenced in court. He also mentioned that new laws regarding overcrowding in prisons mean more people are being let out unless they are a violent offender.

A board member said to Hoos, "It's not easy, is it?" Hoos responded, "No, sir."

Dispatcher conversations are recorded, Hoos said, so anyone with a complaint about how a call is handled should call him and he'll look into it.

There was a question about the sheriff's department's authority to enforce town ordinances. At first Hoos said that they could not, but then said he'd check into it.

Hoos mentioned that a new STEP grant for child safety seats and seatbelts has allowed them to have more officers on patrol and that stopping cars for traffic violations is a very useful tool. Dale said he has a list of names that are known to be "dopers" and that if one of them is stopped for a traffic violation they are looked at more carefully. "We want to get them just as much as you do," Dale said.

The crowd, deputies and city officials did come up with several ideas to help with the problems. Someone said that the town of Maple successfully dealt with its drug dealers using a Neighborhood Watch program. Hoos promised to help Oak Grove set up such a program. He also promised to set up a meth-lab awareness class. Asked about undercover work being done, Hoos said, "Yes, we can try."

In regards to comments that people on probation who are not supposed to be getting together, yet are seen openly gathering, Hoos said to call the probation office – they can do a home visit anytime.

It was agreed by the citizens and deputies alike that drug dealers were likely listening to police scanners and that's why when deputies arrive there is no evidence. Hoos said when a person calls dispatch and has sensitive information they should ask to speak to a deputy by cell phone to solve this problem.

The idea of volunteer reserve deputies was discussed at length. Hoos explained that anyone able to pass evaluations can volunteer and be trained to be a deputy. Other than no pay, they would be a deputy with the authority to make arrests, etc., as any other deputy. Unless there are special circumstances, a reserve deputy would be able to patrol any area

they want, but would still have to respond to calls elsewhere. He said there is usually a class in September, but if there was enough interest, an early class might be able to be held. Someone from the crowd said, "Here's your class; we're all here."

Dale said homeowners should do background checks on people before renting their houses. "Don't let them move in," he said of drug dealers. Someone in the crowd warned those renting to drug dealers that if the house is contaminated, cleaning it is expensive and required by law before re-renting.

Hoos said Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) posts houses known to be contaminated on the Internet.

It was also mentioned they could request Arkansas State Police for more patrols in the area.

Hoos said if there are children in a home suspected of cooking meth, it should be reported to the child abuse hotline, and that this would, "get us in the door to do an investigation."

It was pointed out the town constable has the authority to make arrests, and a council member mentioned that the constable ran unopposed and that council members usually run unopposed, too. It was suggested that those present be more active if they are so concerned and it was pointed out almost no one normally attends the monthly meeting.

Someone asked if there were any arrests made in an old murder investigation and the deputies said, no, but the investigation is still open. The murders happened on July 31, 2011. A couple, 19 year-old Rebecca Sisk and 25 year-old Jason Johnson were found shot dead in their trailer home at 918 CR 433 off Hwy. 21 in Oak Grove. Murder-suicide was ruled out. Grudek told the press in July 2012 that his department had interviewed more than 100 witnesses but there have been no arrests. He said he believes the murders to be drug related.

During the meeting Hoos said, "Please let me know if you want to speak to us, we will come by." He added that a lot of times when they knock on someone's door they are being told, "We don't know what you're talking about."

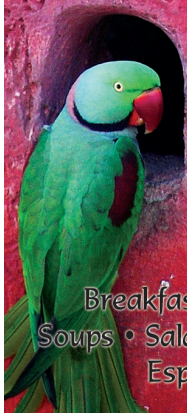
Hoos had a notebook passed through the crowd so people could write their names and numbers. When he asked for it at the end of the meeting, there was nothing written on it.

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Moonshine Mafia at Squid & Whale

Hailing from Hot Springs, Moonshine Mafia has a blues/rock sound that will make you sit up and take notice. Strong, soulful vocals backed up by a band that has it all – from rockin' lead guitar, thumping bass line, a tight drummer and smokin' keyboards – this mob is not organized crime, but an organized blues machine. On vocals is Anna Jordan-Williams, an Arkadelphia native who, at the age of 19, sang The National Anthem for then Gov. Bill Clinton as he was announcing his bid for the presidency in 1991. Her voice is sweet and powerful, conveying the strong emotions of the blues.

On drums Darin Williams, Anna's



Moonshine Mafia Friday at Squid & Whale – Perry Johnson, Grayson Goff, Anna Jordan-Williams, Brian Batterton and Darin Williams are the mobsters playing the blues.

partner in crime, provides a solid beat. He has opened for such acts as The Moody Blues & Jefferson Airplane. Grayson Goff on lead and rhythm guitar has been hailed as a prodigy and compared to Stevie Ray Vaughn and Kenny Wayne Shepherd. After a year of being the guest guitarist, he has added his phenomenal skills to the band permanently. Perry Johnson is keyboardist and sometimes trombonist. With a deep love of music that started in church, he has traveled far and wide performing, even on American Idol. On bass guitar is Brian Batterton, a.k.a. Babyface, a versatile talent who can play it all. It's no wonder, he is the son of legendary blues harpist Brad Batterton. Together they form Moonshine Mafia and create blues music that would definitely be the Godfather in mobspeak. Hear them at

the Squid & Whale on Friday, March 22.

FRIDAY – MARCH 22

- **CHASERS BAR & GRILL**
Polecat Swagger
- **CHELSEA'S** *Vine Brothers*, 9 p.m.
- **EUREKA LIVE!** DJ & Dancing
- **EUREKA PARADISE** Ladies Night – Free Pool
- **EUREKA STONEHOUSE**
Jerry Yester, 5–8 p.m.
- **GRAND TAVERNE** *Arkansas Red* Guitar, 6:30–9:30 p.m.
- **JACK'S PLACE** *DJ Goose* Karaoke, 8 p.m. – midnight
- **LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON** DJ Karaoke, 8 p.m.
- **NEW DELHI CAFÉ** *Magic Mule*, 6:30 – 10:30

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MOONSHINE MAFIA
BLUES • ROOTSROCK

Sat. MARCH 23 NO COVER
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Sat., March 23 • 9 P.M. MATT SMITH GROUP	Wed., March 27 • 9 P.M. Drink & Draw with Bob Norman MAGIC MULE
Sun., March 24 • 6-10 P.M. BLACK OUT BOYS	Thurs., March 28 • 9 P.M. JAZZ NIGHT
Mon., March 25 • 9 P.M. SPRINGBILLY	

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- **PIED PIPER CATHOUSE LOUNGE** *Richard Burnett & Friends*, 8–midnight
- **ROWDY BEAVER** *One Way Road*, 8 p.m.
- **ROWDY BEAVER DEN** *Effron White*, 9 p.m.
- **SQUID & WHALE PUB** *Moonshine Mafia, Blues-RootsRock*
- **VOULEZ-VOUS** *SPiNRad*, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY – MARCH 23

- **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** *Act a Fool*
- **CHELSEA'S** *Matt Smith Group*, 9 p.m.
- **EUREKA LIVE!** DJ & Dancing
- **EUREKA PARADISE** DJ and Dancing
- **GRAND TAVERNE** *Jerry Yester Grand Piano Dinner Music*, 6:30–9:30 p.m.
- **JACK'S PLACE** *Ozark Thunder*, 9 p.m. – closing
- **LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON** DJ Karaoke, 8 p.m.
- **NEW DELHI CAFÉ** *Vine Brothers*, 12 – 4 p.m., *Dennis Groves, Rachel Hewitt and Jeremy Miller*, 6:30 – 10:30 p.m.
- **PIED PIPER CATHOUSE LOUNGE** *Richard Burnett & Friends*, 8–midnight
- **ROWDY BEAVER** *One Way Road*, 8 p.m.
- **ROWDY BEAVER DEN** *Philbilly w/Phil McGarrah*, 1 p.m., *Jesse Dean*, 9 p.m.
- **SQUID & WHALE PUB** *Interstate Buffalo, Blues*
- **VOULEZ-VOUS** *SPiNRad*, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY – MARCH 24

- **CHELSEA'S** *Black Out Boys*, 6–10 p.m.
- **EUREKA LIVE!** Customer Appreciation Night, 5 p.m.–close
- **LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON** Free Texas Hold 'Em Tournament with prizes, 6 p.m.
- **ROWDY BEAVER** Free pool
- **ROWDY BEAVER DEN** *Philbilly w/Phil McGarrah*, Noon

- **SQUID & WHALE PUB** “Local Kine” Showcasing local talent

MONDAY – MARCH 25

- **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** Pool Tournament, 7 p.m.
- **CHELSEA'S** *SpringBilly*, 9 p.m.
- **SQUID & WHALE PUB** Disaster Piece Theater

TUESDAY – MARCH 26

- **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** Dart Tournament
- **CHELSEA'S** Open Mic
- **LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON** Pool Tournament, 6:30 p.m.
- **NEW DELHI CAFÉ** Open Mic Poetry Reading
- **ROWDY BEAVER** Hospitality Night
- **SQUID & WHALE PUB** Taco Tuesday \$3 Margaritas til 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY – MARCH 27

- **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** Beer Pong
- **CHELSEA'S** Drink and Draw w/Bob Norman, *Magic Mule*, 9 p.m.
- **LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON** Ladies Night–Happy Hour all night
- **NEW DELHI CAFÉ** Open Jam
- **PIED PIPER CATHOUSE LOUNGE** Wheat Wednesday *Draft Beer Specials*
- **ROWDY BEAVER** Wine Wednesday
- **SQUID & WHALE PUB** Pickled Porpoise Revue

THURSDAY – MARCH 28

- **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** Taco & Tequila Night
- **CHELSEA'S** Jazz Night, 9 p.m.
- **GRAND TAVERNE** *Jerry Yester Grand Piano Dinner Music*, 6:30–9:30 p.m.
- **LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON** Taco and Margarita Night
- **SQUID & WHALE PUB** Open Mic Musical Smackdown with *BLOODY BUDDY and friends*



Friday, March 22nd **Saturday, March 23rd**
9 P.M.-12



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Heirloom seed (and more!) swap March 23

Conserving Arkansas's Agricultural Heritage will sponsor a free Old-Timey Ozark Seed Swap Saturday, March 23, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Carnegie Library on Spring St.

The public is invited to come share open-pollinated (heirloom) seeds along with bulbs, plants and stories to swap with other seed savers. If you have no seeds to swap but want to get started, come mingle with gardeners and farmers who can help. Bring along some small envelopes or plastic bags for seeds.

For more information about the local seed swap, call 253-6963. For more info about CAAH visit www.arkansasagro.wordpress.com.

HI Photo Guild meets March 26

Professional photographer David Bell returns to the Holiday Island Photography Guild meeting Tuesday, March 26, at 3 p.m. in the HI clubhouse, room A, lower level. All interested photographers are invited to attend.

For more information phone (479) 383-6052 or email hiphotoguild@gmail.com.

Holy Week at Grace Lutheran

All are welcome to celebrate the Easter season at Grace Lutheran Church, 179 Holiday Island Drive in Holiday Island. Maundy Thursday Service is 7 p.m. on March 28, Good Friday Service at 7 p.m. March 29 and the Easter Resurrection celebration is at 9:30 a.m. on March 31, followed by Easter breakfast.

Making waves

The Coast Guard Auxiliary will be conducting a free boating safety course in the lower level of the Shell Knob Library on Saturday, March 30, from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (with time out for lunch). If participants would like to purchase a book the cost is \$20.

Anyone born after Jan 1, 1984 must have attended a boating safety course to operate a motorboat in the state of Missouri. Most insurances companies offer a 10% discount on boat insurance. For details, email info@shellknob.com.

Socc it to 'em – Line referee Angel Portillo watches as the Lady Highlanders' Raven Harbour keeps a ball away from the sidelines during their 1-0 victory over the Bergman Lady Panthers at Lake Leatherwood March 14.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

Dressed to win – The Highlander teams and friends show off their new uniforms, courtesy of the Eureka Springs Booster Club, between games against Bergman at Lake Leatherwood March 14. The scoreboard behind the team was donated by Community First Bank.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY



Family escapes blaze – Firefighters battle a residential house fire in the early morning hours at 14923 Hwy 187 near the KOA Campground Friday, March 15. Sean Collins, his wife, a mother-in-law and four children escaped the fire unhurt after a child was awakened by the smell of smoke and alerted the family. According to Grassy Knob Fire Chief, Bob McVeigh, an arcing electric receptacle on a back deck started the fire.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

LISTENING to the SPRINGS by Kate Cooper

It's time to celebrate the springs again. Mark your calendars: the second annual event sponsored by the Springs Committee and the Parks and Recreation Department will be April 27 and 28. It features a workshop on *How to Build a Rain Garden* by Dr. Delia Hauk of the Illinois Watershed Partnership and a hands-on planting project in Harmon Park led by Becky Roark. A church choir processional and spring blessing on Saturday and a guided walk with geologist Jim Helwig on Sunday are activities returning from last year.

During the first Celebrate the Springs, June Westphal and I were honored to introduce *Eureka Springs: City of Healing Waters*. It is now available as an e-book for your Kindle, Nook or iPad. We've entered the digital age! The book focuses on the importance of the waters in every era.

We can take pride in our part in the National Blueway System. The White River with its entire watershed was recently recognized as a National



Blueway, the second (after the Connecticut River) to be so designated. Watersheds are chosen because they are nationally significant and valued for their recreational, economic, cultural and ecological assets. According to Helwig, who attended a conference at the NWA Non Profit Center in Rogers last month, "The implications of these initiatives

have broad political consequences for the way we live, act and manage our communities and economy."

Chris Fischer designed Cardinal Spring Wetland Demonstration Project. The Arkansas Forestry Commission funded the project that incorporates low impact development (LID) design elements. LID is a storm water management approach that moves from conventional pipe-and-pond facilities to biotic systems like rain gardens and wetlands. Our springs are recharged by rain, and almost our entire town is a recharge zone for our springs. The city had to be a Tree City USA. No problem, we've held that designation longer than any town in Arkansas.

For general information see *Rain Gardens a How-to Manual for Homeowners* at cleanwater.uwex.edu/pubs/puff/rmanual.pdf. For information and reservations for the Rain Garden Workshop call the Parks office at 253-2866.



Where Does Your Food Come From?

The average American diet is composed of 70 percent of one crop. It is processed into the majority of supermarket products and the majority of restaurant meals, especially fast food. The same product is in the burger, bun, soda, ketchup, cheese and French fries. It is in most processed food products.

This food crop is being grown on over 90 million acres in the US. Every square foot of Arkansas and Oklahoma wouldn't be enough space for this crop. It's not that this much space is needed for the food we eat. Only 12 percent of this crop is used as food. About 60 percent goes to animal feed. 28 percent more is used to fuel our vehicles.

We are talking about corn. And soybean products total another 10 percent of our diets, and much of livestock's diets.

Every eight calories of corn a cow eats is converted into one calorie of meat. Funny thing is, cows don't have to eat corn. They love to eat grass. Grass grows with very few inputs. Our industrialized model has become so efficient – and with government subsidies so weighted towards corn – it is often more profitable to raise beef without grass. There is such a surplus

of corn we are now burning food to drive vehicles. I can tell you that if it takes a gallon of gas to produce a gallon of ethanol it is not a "green" product.

Our planet *does* have finite resources. Some resources, like the sun, are infinite. Soil will always be available with good conservation practices. Water is adequate in some

areas and sparse in others. Oil and gas are not infinite.

The combustion engine is a wonderful technology, but the more we use it the more it will cost to extract the petroleum that powers it. It would be wise to use finite resources conservatively.

Industrial Corn Production Inputs		Small Vegetable Farm Inputs	
Petro- and Agrochemicals	43%	Straw and Manure	8%
Monsanto Seeds	22%	Seeds	3%
Machinery	16%	Tools and Machinery	3%
Other	10%	Other	5%
Farm Labor	7%	Farm Labor	80%
1 acre = 630 lbs. pre-processed corn = \$1,200		1 acre = 15,000 lbs. fresh veggies sold locally = \$30,000	

andrewschwerin@gmail.com

CEMETERY continued from page 2

cigarette cartons, whatever was handy – those are the cemetery records from the seventies," she said.

Stevens has been trying to organize this mess because the commission hopes somewhere in there is a key to the status of donations they received before more organized records were kept. The commission has in an account CDs totaling approximately \$100,000, but confusion hovers over whether the funds are available to use for expansion or ongoing operations. In recent years, the commission has spent only the interest on the CDs because that has been the prevailing understanding passed along from one commission to the next. However, the commission cashed in one CD in 1995

for \$5000 and another in 2004 for \$20,000 seemingly in contradiction to the understanding of using only the interest.

The commission has been cautious, Pownall said, because they want to honor the intent of those who donated the money. Nevertheless they would like a final answer because they have plenty of uses for the funds.

In the meantime, they are frugal. They have also been fortunate to receive what Pownall called "an outpouring of gifts and donations." She said citizens have given them shrubbery, flowers, topsoil and materials for their street signs. Stevens said she planted at least 55 bushes along with perennials and other plants, and almost all were donated.

Pownall set up a Friends of the

Cemetery Fund at Community First Bank where folks can make donations to help with ongoing maintenance. She said there is no confusion about the availability of these funds. Since the Cemetery Commission is autonomous, it was able to qualify as a not-for-profit, so donations are tax-deductible.

She is also looking for grants because the cemetery does not get any funding. She said it might help if this 150-year old city treasure were recognized as a historic site. They also asked the city for help in establishing a voluntary tax for the cemetery.

Pownall announced they would be having a community workday on Saturday, May 11. They will provide refreshments for volunteers who help

them clean up the place.

The commission will again put on a Memorial Day event beginning 11 a.m., May 27, to observe the true meaning of Memorial Day. Attendees will have a chance to express sentiments about those who served or are serving their country. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided and there will be special music. Pownall said the event was well received last year.

Stevens said anyone with extra plants or grasses for the cemetery can call her at 253-8206, and she will pick up your donations. "Anybody got a backhoe to donate?" she asked.

Pownall wanted the public to know the cemetery offers a payment plan for purchasing plots, and Rennels at the cemetery can explain the details.

PARKS continued from page 6

to civic groups to get the community further involved.

The next committee meeting will be Wednesday, March 27, at 6 p.m., at the Library Annex.

Other Parks business

- Levine announced the Springs Committee would have its second Celebrate the Springs event April 27-28. Activities begin at 9 a.m. Saturday with a

blessing at Crescent Spring followed by a rain garden demonstration in Harmon Park. Since the event is the day after Arbor Day, there will be a tree planting in a sparsely-forested area of the park. Levine said they would plant 49 trees, including maples, poplars, black gums and dogwoods.

Other activities planned include a Sunday springs walk guided by geologist Jim Helwig.

- Parks landscaper DonE Allen spoke at a Master Gardeners conference.

- Stewart announced he sees the need for a hiking club in Eureka Springs. He said he would get word out on the website about hikers meeting at a certain time in LLP and see what happens.

- Featherstone applauded the new Eureka ZipLine. He said the activity is well-designed and persons young to old will enjoy it. Since the lines are over

the tree canopy, the rides will provide a different experience every season.

- Levine said the new soccer scoreboard became operational just in time for the match of the season.

Next workshop will be Tuesday, April 2, at 6 p.m., at Harmon Park, and discussion will focus on topics related to LLP.

Next regular meeting will be Monday, April 15, at 6 p.m.

waste application fields.

“Studies show a 12.4 percent increase in children’s asthma in those living a half mile from a CAFO,” Watkins said. “The toxic wastes containing neurotoxins as well as the other dangerous substances can have adverse and irreversible effects on brain and nervous system development. The public in general is exposed to more drug resistant bacteria. The rural life, prized for outdoor activities, is threatened when homeowners need to protect themselves from air and manure from a CAFO.”

There are also concerns about health impacts to workers as some studies have shown 25 percent of employees at CAFO facilities report serious respiratory problem, nausea and headaches.

Local residents have donated money to produce a poster to be distributed throughout the area that has a photo of the Buffalo with the question: “Do you want hog factory waste in our beautiful Buffalo National River?”

BNR Chief Park Ranger Karen Bradford said Monday that while she can’t comment at present on official actions the BNR is taking regarding the CAFO, “we are working diligently

to get some better understanding of the process that occurred for these people to get a permit. It is very much a concern to a lot of people, the possibility of 6,500 hog farm going up on a major tributary to the Buffalo River. The BNR is the first national river that the U.S. created in 1972, and one of Arkansas most beautiful natural resources. We’re here specifically to protect this area.”

A letter from BNR Superintendent Kevin Cheri to the Farm Services Agency (FSA) dated Feb. 27 states that the Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) were subject to an extensive review by Cheri’s staff and found to be “very weak from an environmental point of view. We also believe your agency did not follow its owner regulations in developing the EA, particularly related to the public communication standard.” The letter contained 45 objections to the permit including failure to provide adequate public notice, the potential to impact endangered species, and that “the FSA utterly failed to consider the impact of the swine waste on residents of Mt. Judea, the people living downstream on Big Creek, or people recreating in the BNR. We feel the FSA statement is

totally false because ‘Public Health’ was not adequately analyzed.”

ADEQ Director Theresa Marks said the permit issue was part of a “general permit” for CAFOs that the state held public hearings on and which became effective Nov. 1, 2011. ADEQ received only 13 comments. Under the general permit, the only notice required for a CAFO was publication in a newspaper of statewide circulation. A 30-day public comment period began in June 25, 2012, no public comments were received and a Notice of Coverage was issued by ADEQ.

“The CAFO permit contains numerous provisions which are designed to protect surface and ground waters, including the development and implementation of a site-specific nutrient management plan,” Marks said. “The CAFO general permit requires facilities to design manure storage ponds to provide adequate storage to prevent an overflow during a 25-year, 24-hour rain event.”

In response to questions from the *Eureka Springs Independent*, ADEQ spokesperson Katherine Benenati said this was the first CAFO that applied under the general permit. She said even if the public had known about the permit and responded with opposition, that

would not have been grounds to deny the permit.

“The plan filed by C & H Hog Farm met all applicable state laws and regulations,” Benenati said. “ADEQ did not have any legal, regulatory, statutory, or technical grounds to deny the notice of coverage to C & H Hog Farm. ADEQ values public input and we carefully review comments on any proposal, but opposition alone would not result in the reversal of a permit. ADEQ cannot deny a permit to a facility that meets the conditions and requirements of a permit and undergoes the permitting process.

“ADEQ has two water inspectors in the Jasper field office who will periodically monitor C & H Hog Farm. The owner is also required to monitor and report any discharges of wastewater from the ponds. Such a condition is found in these types of permits not only in Arkansas, but throughout the country. In addition, please keep in mind that C&H Hog Farm is located on private property near Big Creek. This property is not managed by, operated by or owned by the National Park Service. To avoid any such dischargers being permitted in the Buffalo River Watershed would likely take new legislation enacted by the General Assembly.”

but you need to stand up for your children because we are their only champion. Lord knows the school board and administration aren’t going to do it... they *are* the problem!

On January 25, she attended Clear Spring School for the day to be evaluated. She called me at the end of the day so excited and said it was the first time in two years she felt heard and respected by her teacher(s). She has been at Clear Spring for a few weeks now and I can tell you that I have a completely different child. In this short span of time her stress level as decreased to the point that her health has improved tremendously!

I actually had a huge concern before school started this year with how things were going when I applied for the job of high school

secretary. I am not the least bit upset about not getting the job, let alone an interview, when I finally digested what Mr. Carr’s secretary told me when I dropped off my résumé. She stated they would not hire anyone they felt would not show loyalty to [Kathy] Lavender and [Wayne] Carr and could not stay out of the “politics” of the teachers. My understanding was that job was to ensure that privacy was upheld for all and that loyalty should be to the students in addition to being Lavender’s assistant.

Jo-Rita Dewey

The entire text of this letter can be found at www.esindependent.com

Cursing greed

Editor,

When it was announced that alternative voices would be heard through the *Independent*, I cheered.

However, (sorry to say this) I find little real difference between you and that other one. I understand you have to cover Eureka’s events and our charm, but why not do some real investigative journalism?

I am referring, to the scandalous issuing of permits for hog factories to be built on the watershed of our beautiful Buffalo National River. This is important to Eureka, Carroll County, Arkansas, our dear Mother Earth and this national treasure. All of the Arkansas regulatory agencies and also the EPA’s Region 6 said, Yes Sir, Mr. Cargill, Mr. Tyson and Mr. C&H Farms with \$\$\$ going... where?

No public notices of the only hearing in Jasper, no opportunity for us “Tree-Huggers” to speak against this assault on “The Natural State.”

No matter what PR propaganda

the hogists pay for, it is true that the run-off containment ponds eventually do leak (in this case into Big Creek, then the Buffalo), the stench is terrible for many miles around, there is no real cleanliness, and the unnecessary cruelty to hogs is awful (sometimes stunned hogs are not really stunned and are thrown right into the boiling water, alive; dead hogs are cast aside on the floor; mother hogs are kept immovable in small pens their whole lives); and these rich men exploit the poverty and lack of “green” jobs in our rural counties, offering nasty jobs at minimum wage.

I am just a concerned Arkansan. I love the Buffalo and the clean, fun, wonderful canoe/camping trips I have been on. I cry for the Earth and I curse greed.

Trella Laughlin

altering county boundaries so Cricket Creek Marina in the extreme northeast corner of Carroll County could be in Boone County, assuming Boone County agreed. It was his understanding the court gave King a voice vote of approval at the February meeting, and other JPs agreed. Flake said they could send King a copy of the minutes so he could proceed.

- The first item of new business on the agenda was an ordinance authorizing the funding of two dispatcher positions in the Carroll County Dispatch office to be funded by the Berryville and Green Forest Police Departments. Flake

moved to table the issue since neither JP Larry Swofford, sponsor of the ordinance, nor Sheriff Bob Grudek was in attendance. Vote to table the ordinance was unanimous.

- Captain Alan Hoos of the Carroll County Sheriff's Office told the court Berryville Police had recently conducted a car seat safety swap in which the state furnished new kids' car seats in exchange for defective ones. Hoos said the turnout was better than they expected, and they gave away 85 new car seats. Value of the giveaway was around \$5000, and the seats were paid for by fines issued all over the state for car seat violations.

SB-13 continued from page 4

to investigating the day-to-day activities of industrial farms... such investigations have previously formed the basis of animal cruelty prosecutions and spurred reforms to protect the safety of our food supply."

Jake Hillard, executive director of Arkansans for Animals, a nonprofit "dedicated to the welfare of Animals," said the requirement of these bills that law enforcement officials are the only ones who can investigate possible abuse will alert abusers to the fact that a warrant may be served on them, giving them time to hide evidence before being searched. Hillard says that SBs 13 and 14 are "citizens' rights abridgements" of the First Amendment rights to free speech, and that, "Any private person could be held criminally liable for even documenting abuse to report it." She said that the bills would take away workers' or reporters' freedom to go into a facility to investigate. Hillard is also involved in Arkansas Animal Protection Coalition (AAPC), a group formed specifically to fight the bills.

Investigators, veterinarian weigh in

Linda Renoe, a rancher and certified county cruelty investigator who says she is called in by the Carroll County Sheriff's office and the humane society as needed to check on abuse situations, claims if the bills are passed, she would be fined if she tried to do her job. The same would be true, she says, of a humane society that tried to investigate an abuse allegation.

Renoe also takes issue with SB13's stipulation that one of the vets in any abuse case must be a specialist. It's her understanding that 98 percent of vets are not specialists, so finding a qualified vet would be difficult. She also said that

finding a place to put an abused animal within 60 miles of the owner's residence is often impossible as shelters are few and far between. Renoe said corporations are behind the bills and have "big bucks" and think they can do whatever they want. She also said ranchers and farmers are backing the bill because they don't like anyone telling them what they can or can't do, but they are not the problem because they do take care of their animals because that's where their money is.

Eagle Rock, Mo., veterinarian Kathleen A. McCune said SB13 appears to provide legal protections specific to accused animal abusers. "I am not a lawyer, but I don't understand the point of this legislation other than to make it harder to rescue the vulnerable and assure maximum difficulty for anyone attempting to do so. The section limiting the distance that rescued animals can be relocated could certainly be problematic for a small shelter suddenly deluged with impounded animals. Usually it is a scramble to find any one willing to help and now there would be a mileage limitation. Very impractical. SB 14 appears to attempt to discourage individuals from going undercover to expose the horror that sadly constitutes our mass production of meats. That said, it is only a misdemeanor so it wouldn't stop me if that was my intent. I have been in chicken houses, huge California cattle feedlots and dairies. No one will ever convince me that it wasn't animal cruelty that I witnessed."

Horse Council and humane society

The Arkansas Horse Council is pro SB13 and 14. President Betty Jones of Kingston said there are too many cases where animal humane groups have raided

- Sherri Plumlee is administrator of the Berryville Local Health Unit, an office of the Arkansas Department of Health. She told the court that later this year, date to be determined, her office would celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the Arkansas Department of Health. She also announced they will be converting to digital records beginning August 6, and for two weeks, her office must scale back services. The first week they will only be able to issue death certificates and WIC checks. The next week they will be closed for training. She said they would make referrals during that period to nearby counties.

horse operations and confiscated horses and put them out of business where there were no abuses taking place. She referred to the Humane Society of the United States, (HSUS) as "the mafia of the human world," and accused them and other national humane organizations of taking on only bigger cases for the purpose of generating publicity and donations.

"This is a huge criminal operation right in our country," Jones told the *Independent*. "The HSUS is the biggest money laundering entity in America. Even their name is misleading – they are not a government agency, they are a 501(c)(3). They are taking credit for the work of small humane societies. They 'raid and run,' and get publicity so they can get donations. They target people systematically, those who make their living raising cattle, horses, dogs and hogs. They are not interested in ethical animal treatment, it's about fundraising. Follow the money." Jones said she has been in animal rescue and an animal cruelty investigator for 30 years.

Desiree Bender, the Arkansas public policy consultant for HSUS who is also involved in AAPC, said HSUS focuses on the national level in raising awareness on issues of animal cruelty and only gets involved in state cases when the cases are too big for anyone on the state level to take on. They work with law enforcement she said, doing what they are told to do – aiding in gathering evidence and taking care of the animals. They help on these kinds of raids to expose abuse and gain awareness with the hope of changing policy on a state level. Bender says Jones was not present at these raids and that 99 percent of the kinds of allegations Jones has made about HSUS are untrue.

- Richie mentioned the public libraries in Berryville and Green Forest had transferred into their general fund monies from a two-mill library tax that by law should have remained for repairs and maintenance only. Flake observed the transfers were the result of a misunderstanding. The mistakes were not done maliciously but need to be corrected. He suggested voters could decide what to do about capital improvements for the libraries.

- Mumaugh announced he and his wife are moving and he would be resigning from the court as of June 1.

Next meeting will be Friday, April 19, at 10 a.m.

It is Bender's opinion that SB13 and 14 are designed to protect people who are abusing animals.

Sponsors won't respond; bills could be amended

SB 13 and 14 have been referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary. On March 13, according to Hillard, 50 to 60 people representing animal welfare, animal control and law enforcement, who oppose the bills showed up at the Senate Committee's regularly scheduled meeting. They were told the committee was not going to discuss the bills and that Stubblefield is going to talk with the Attorney General about amending them. Bender said Hutchinson said to look for "dramatic" changes to the bill.

Meanwhile, on March 11, the last day to file new bills, SB 1016 and SB1032 were filed. These bills currently have titles and no content. SB 1016 is subtitled, "To prohibit out-of-state transfers of animals seized by law enforcement in a criminal investigation." SB 1032 is subtitled, "To provide for an enhanced penalty for impersonating a law enforcement official when the impersonation leads to seizure of an animal." Hillard believes the intent is to use these new bills to write less restrictive legislation to replace SBs 13 and 14. Although she also said activists are concerned that legislators may try to pass strong legislation when the anti-bill publicity has quieted.

Also filed on March 11 was House Bill 2079, subtitled, "To protect livestock and poultry operations from interference." This bill also currently only has a title and no content.

Neither Stubblefield nor Hutchinson replied to requests for comments on the bills.

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INDEPENDENTNews

Vet honored

— Bill Summers, Sr., (left) of Eureka Springs was honored March 9 at American Legion Post 39 as Lt. Col. (Ret.) Steve Gray, presented him with service medals on behalf of Sen. Boozman's office. Summers is being presented with medals he has earned including the United Nations Service Medal, Korean War Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct and the Combat Infantry Badge.



New PT clinic opens — The Eureka Springs Hospital celebrated the opening of their new physical therapy facility in the lower level of Walden Plaza on Passion Play Road with a community Open House and Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting March 13. Hospital staff, pictured from left, are: CNO Vicki Andert: Administrative Assistant, Jodi Smith: Physical Therapy Assistant, Brook Logan and Clinic Director, Daniel Warren.



New season, new show — Pine Mountain Theater opened a brand new show for an enthusiastic crowd to kick off its 2013 season Friday, March 15. Onstage from left are bassist David Ponder, guitarist Buster Sharp, drummer John Walter Morrison, singers and Pine Mountain owners Dale and Mike Bishop, and pianist Andy Oberg. The show ranged from rock to country to pop with a little blues thrown in and a touch of comedy for good measure. "The Village People" number might be worth the price of admission for those who love a hilarious sendup.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

INDEPENDENTDirectory

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P	E	N	T		C	L	O	U	D	I	N	E	S	S
A	R	G	O		H	I	R	E		T	O	T	A	L
L	A	I	R		Y	A	M	S		E	N	S	U	E



AL HOOKS – SELLS EUREKA...

FOR INFORMATION ON ANY HOME IN EUREKA, CALL 877.279.0001

HOOKED ON EUREKA – Al, Cheryl and Paul



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

AL HOOKS 479.363.6419
alhookseureka.com – alhooks@me.com



Very well maintained, 2 Bedroom, 1 bath home sits on 2 city lots with Great privacy factor! Wrought ironed fencing, stamped concrete patio/motor court, electronic gates, wrap around balcony/porch. Below Appraisal. Owner agent. Addtl guest house & studio & garage available see mls 661098. **\$199,900.**

AL HOOKS 479.363.6419
alhookseureka.com – alhooks@me.com



Prime location on Spring St across from Harding Spring & next door to landmark Palace Hotel. Perfect combination of retail space, living quarters or rental income. All levels have private entrances, decks, & green space vistas. Currently operating as successful day spa & retail gallery. Loads of amenities, prime condition. **\$350,000.**

AL HOOKS 479.363.6419
alhookseureka.com – alhooks@me.com



A Wonderful opportunity to own your own office space for your venture whether it's in the medical, dental, optical fields or for an office environment that meets the public such as tax, law or general office. The space is light and bright with a nice floor-plan. Located on HWY 62 provides a convenient location with plenty of parking. **\$190,000.**

AL HOOKS 479.363.6419
alhookseureka.com – alhooks@me.com



Just minutes to Beaver Lake & close to town. 2 Levels 3 bedroom /2 bath, huge family room & bonus room. Radiant heated floors on 3 zones. Great privacy on 11.71 acres. Large yard with fenced garden area & fenced backyard. Driveway + parking area large enough for boat or RV. **\$210,000.**

PAUL FAULK 479.981.0668
eurekasprings-realty.com – pbfault@cox.net



Totally Renovated Victorian boasts over 2400 sq. ft. of living space w/ formal area, studio, bedrooms both up & down. Great rear & front porches all nestled in a fabulous downtown location. OFF STREET PARKING. Awesome backyard with raised beds, storage building & great views. Fenced side yard, under porch storage. Attention to detail & quality throughout! A MUST SEE! **\$219,900.**

AL HOOKS 479.363.6419
alhookseureka.com
alhooks@me.com

Lovely lake home w/AMAZING VIEWS. The leaded glass door beckons you into a world of wonder. Once beyond the entry your breath is taken away by the grand open living space w/brazilian cherry floors, massive stone fireplace, cathedral ceilings, oversize windows. Custom beech wood cabinets, granite counters, marble vanities, coffered ceilings, crown molding add to the custom touches throughout. 4bed/3.5 bath. **\$499,000.**

CHERYL COLBERT 479.981.6249
eurekaspringsrealtor.com
cjceureka@yahoo.com



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

PAUL FAULK 479.981.0668
eurekasprings-realty.com – pbfault@cox.net



Freshly updated duplex offers income potential. Both units have 2beds/2baths, woodburning fireplaces, open kitchen/dining big closets & laundry room, large treetop deck to enjoy the lake views! Holiday Island marina & lake just down the road. MUST SEE! **\$149,900.**

CHERYL COLBERT 479.981.6249
eurekaspringsrealtor.com – cjceureka@yahoo.com



This 5,000 SQ FT building on 1 acre offer an incredible opportunity to house several different business ventures or as a unique home. Additional unfinished building also on property. Conveniently located minutes from the Hwy 62 & Hwy 235 junction. **OWNER FINANCING AVAILABLE! \$169,900.**

AL HOOKS 479.363.6419
alhookseureka.com – alhooks@me.com

HOOKSREALTY.COM

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877.279.0001 • 479.363-6290

All information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

