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## This Week's INDEPENDENT Thinkers



PHOTO FROM TEDX

Youth continues to give our planet hope.

Nineteen year-old Boyan Slat of the Netherlands figured out how to attach seawater processors to the seabed by using floating booms attached to solar and current powered platforms. Already rotating currents would deliver plastic waste to the platform where it would be put in containers and collected.

Yes, we don't understand it either, but what if the ocean could clean itself? And the recycled plastic could be sold to pay for the technology?

And what if we didn't dump any more crap in the rivers? It all just gives us the flutters.

**Into the mist** – The end kites on Cat Gabrel's 60-kite train disappear into the fog during the 23rd Annual Eureka Springs Kite Festival at Turpentine Creek March 23. Gabrel, from Stillwater, Okla., has flown kites at events in Brazil and Denmark and plans to fly for the first time in Germany this year. In spite of foggy, cold weather a surprising number of kite flyers turned out for the event.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY



## Merchants nix Spring Street fair

NICKY BOYETTE

Sandy Martin, Chair of the Eureka Springs Arts Council, and Marsha Havens, owner of Eureka Thyme, spoke at the March 25 city council meeting explaining a proposed event on Saturday, May 25, in which the downtown portion of Spring Street would be blocked off to most traffic, and artists' booths and food vendors would be set up.

"We want to create a fresh, high-end event to bring people to town," Martin said. She explained details were still being worked out, but the idea had come from a public meeting of the Arts Council. An event to close out May Festival of the Arts grabbed everyone's attention and her group has been trying to make it happen, she said.

Mayor Morris Pate said it was his idea to close the street during the day, and Marsha Havens has canvassed merchants downtown to gauge interest and found support.

However, the idea had its detractors. Four people spoke against the idea, including Darlene Schrum, who passed

around copies of a petition with 44 signatures urging council not to close the street. She said such an event would limit parking on a busy weekend. Delivery trucks would not be able to deliver goods to businesses and she claimed downtown merchants had not been contacted about the idea.

Mel Shipley, owner of Silly Chili on Spring Street, said the event would prevent trolleys from running, and he "can gauge when the trolleys roll by simply by the increase in foot traffic, and stopping trolleys takes away customers."

Bob Jasinski said he was opposed to the idea of bringing in vendors to compete with local merchants. Kamal Attwal said simply, "Whenever you take our parking, we're done." He thought closing the street would not work, and suggested using the parking lot of the old high school instead. He said he was not speaking just for himself but other merchants, and "if you take our Saturday and Sunday, we will never be in business."

COUNCIL continued on page 29

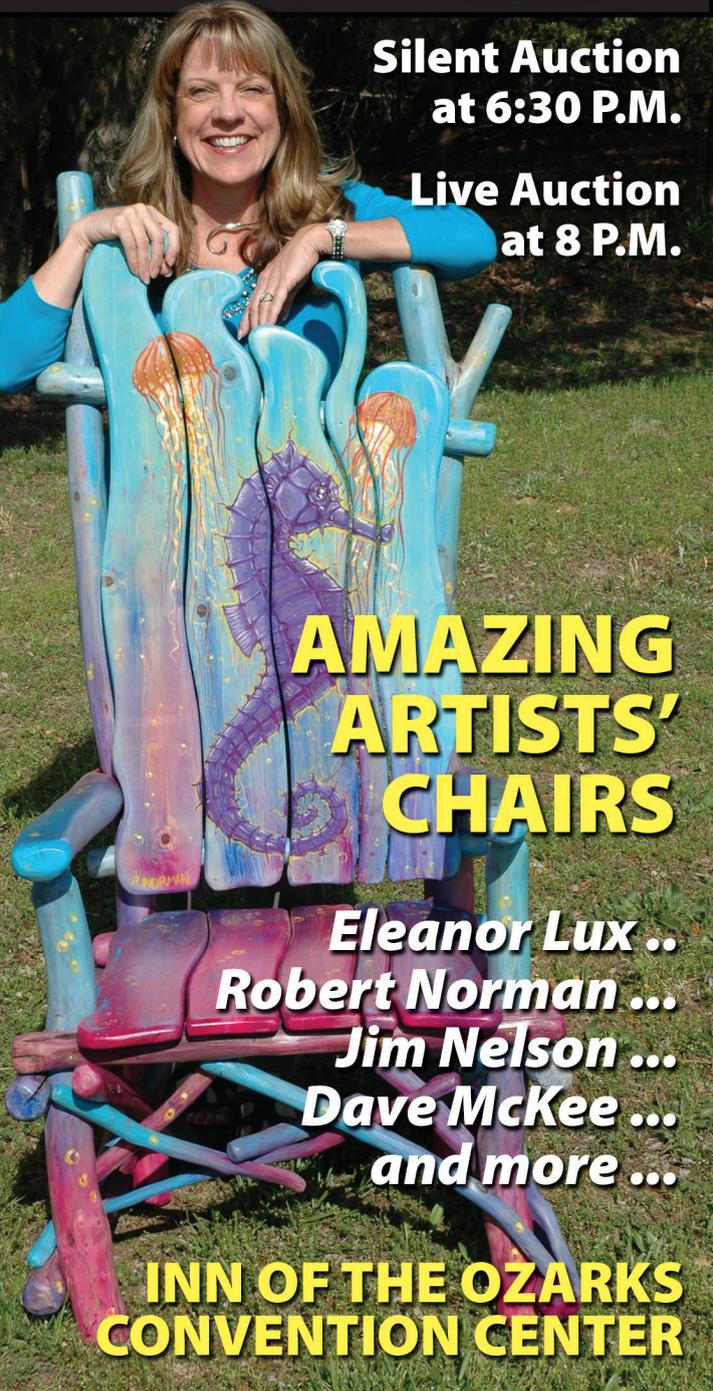
Happy Easter to all you wild hares.

EUREKA SPRINGS SCHOOL of the ARTS

# Monday, April 1 **ESSA**



**CHAIR-ity Re-Art**  
silent & live auction fundraiser



**Silent Auction  
at 6:30 P.M.**

**Live Auction  
at 8 P.M.**

**AMAZING  
ARTISTS'  
CHAIRS**

**Eleanor Lux ..  
Robert Norman ...  
Jim Nelson ...  
Dave McKee ...  
and more ...**

**INN OF THE OZARKS  
CONVENTION CENTER**

## INDEPENDENTNews

### Berryville council reprimands animal control officer

HARRIE FARROW

About 10 protesters were outside Berryville's regularly scheduled council meeting Tuesday night carrying signs with a photo of a dog named Fritz's dirt covered body after he'd been dug up by the pet's owners – Darrin and Deb Hatfield – from a ditch used for disposing of dead animals at the Berryville Animal Control Facility. Under the photo it says, "Justice for Fritz and every animal Chuck Stubbs has willfully slaughtered." Chuck Stubbs is the Berryville animal control officer.

A small crowd packed itself into the tiny chambers at Berryville City Hall. After briefly attending to regular council business, council turned to the matter of discussing Charles Stubbs's actions in regards to the Hatfields' dogs. Comments from the public were allowed, but only three minutes per person. Darrin Hatfield spoke briefly about how Stubbs had lied to him for days saying he didn't know where the dogs were when he actually knew they had been killed and buried. Hatfield said after the meeting he was upset he hadn't had more time to explain everything that happened.

David Shupe, who started an on-line petition to get Stubbs terminated from his job, told council of strong public response to the petition. Tracellen Kelly asked council how each one of them could stand behind this employee (Stubbs).

Council went into executive session, which lasted less than 15 minutes, and then quickly moved, seconded and voted unanimously to place a disciplinary letter in Stubbs's file. The meeting was then adjourned.

Comments by the crowd as they filed out of City Hall included: "Bulls\*\*t." "Good old boy system." "We'll remember when they come up for election." "Slap on the hand."

Groups gathered outside to discuss what happened made similar comments: "That's one step; we need to step it up." "He's going to continue to do what he's doing." "They should be ashamed." Sarcasically, "Good Christian Folk."

Outside the meeting, Deb Hatfield gave background on the incident. According to her, the dogs are kept in a fenced yard with "hot-wire" across the top but apparently the gate had accidentally been left unsecured on the night of March 10. Early on the morning of the 11th, her husband noticed the dogs were missing and contacted authorities. Later in the morning he spoke with Stubbs.

The family searched for days for the dogs and put up flyers. Her husband spoke with Stubbs every day, she said, and Stubbs said each time that he'd not seen the dogs. On March 15 the family got a call from someone who said they knew someone who'd seen two dogs get killed that might be theirs. They called the woman who said she lived next door to Vaughn Farmer whose goat had been attacked by dogs.

The woman said she had witnessed what happened. Hatfield said the woman told her that Farmer had shot the smaller dog, Egon, when he found the dog attacking one of his goats. Deb Hatfield said it wasn't clear how the bigger dog, Fritz had been killed, but that he'd been standing over Egon and then began pacing when shot at by Stubbs. Deb Hatfield said a family friend, Misty Baker, had gone with Darrin Hatfield to the Farmers to get more information.

Baker said they went to Farmers' on Saturday, about two miles from the Hatfield residence. According to Baker, Farmer was not aware the dogs' owners had been looking for them, and Stubbs had never mentioned it to him. Baker said Farmer told them he'd heard a commotion and gone down to the goats and found the dogs attacking one of them. He shot the smaller dog, and left the bigger one in the pen. He knew Stubbs would pass by in a couple of hours on his rounds and approached him then to tell him what had happened.

According to Baker, Farmer said the goat attacked had not been killed; Hatfield offered to pay Farmer for the vet bill and Farmer said it wasn't necessary and

**BERRYVILLE COUNCIL** continued on page 30

## Two arrested again on meth charges

Two alleged drug manufacturers who were arrested by Eureka Springs Police and Carroll County deputies on March 12 for possession of drug paraphernalia with intent to manufacture and possession of a mobile methamphetamine lab, were arrested again March 25 in Eagle Rock, Mo., for manufacturing meth.

According to a Eureka Springs Police report, ESPD Det. Brad Handley, who is also a Carroll County Sheriff's Office deputy, was looking for Jason Randall Edmondson, 41, and Brittney Hope Collett, 28, last Friday regarding questions about illegal drug activity. The pair had been freed from Carroll County Detention Facility March 13 on \$5000 bond each.

Barry County (Mo.) Sheriff's Office said they were contacted Friday, March 22, by Handley, who said he was at 29844 Farm Road 1190 in Eagle Rock, just over the Arkansas state line, and had seen a man and woman in a garage with the "door open two or three feet." Handley reported the pair saw him and ran into the house.

Sheriff Mick Epperly and Drug Task Force agent John Luckey responded. According to their report, the two knocked on the door and there was no response.

Luckey reported he noticed an acid generator and a burn barrel with other components for a meth lab outside. He obtained a search warrant, and once officers entered the residence they found Edmondson and Collett on a bed.

Owner of the house, Richard Decker, 59, was not at home but arrived later and was also taken into custody.

While searching the residence, Luckey discovered two meth acid generators, and numerous syringes and burnt spoons that field tested positive for meth.

The three suspects were taken to the Barry County Jail and charged with Conspiracy to Distribute/manufacture a Controlled Substance.

Decker is being held on a \$75,000 cash only bond; Edmondson on a \$50,000 cash only bond; and Collett on \$25,000 cash only bond.

## Fresh veggies for seniors – sign up April 2

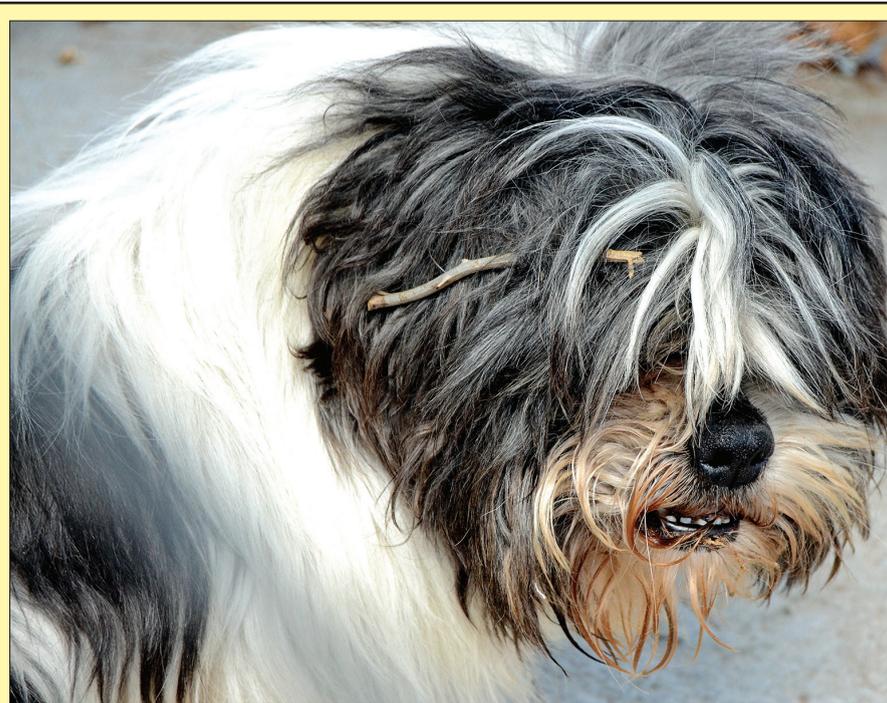
Seniors are invited to sign up for the Senior Voucher Program (\$50 worth of vouchers which can be used at participating farmers' markets) at the Community First

Bank on US 62 between 1 – 3 p.m. on April 2. Please ask for Nadine. There's no cost to sign up for this opportunity to add fresh produce to your diet.

## Attention business/ attraction managers

The Chamber of Commerce has had several large groups contact them for discount coupons for their goody/welcome packets and items for door prizes.

If you have discount coupons or items you would like to donate for a door prize, please bring them to the Chamber of Commerce office at the Village at Pine Mountain. Please contact Donna (479) 253-8737 with any questions.



**Do you know me?** – I was captured Tuesday, March 25, near the intersection of Pivot Rock and Dairy Hollow Roads after people tried for a month to catch me. I'm being held in detention at the Eureka Springs Police Department for five days and I really hope you come to pick me up before my time expires! Please call 253-8666 if you want me or if you know who my owner is.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

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# Bonnets of Eureka Springs



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Easter  
Parade



Easter Sunday  
12 Noon  
Gavioli Chapel  
to  
Crescent Hotel



**NEW MOON**  
DAY SPA \* SALON



## Sewer backup all over again

NICKY BOYETTE

Brian and Lil Hostick operate Sherwood Court, a tourist lodging on W. Van Buren, and told city council Monday night they were recently surprised by an extensive sewer backup. The cause appeared to be a clog in the main city line that the Hosticks learned was only a six-in. line where City Code calls for an eight-in. line. He has also learned the previous owner had three such clogs even with a backflow preventer.

Mr. Hostick said he had two concerns: "We've been damaged, and what sewage sorrows are lurking beneath the streets."

Asked what the long-term fix would be, Mr. Hostick replied the city should get the line up to code. Another issue is a 90° turn in the main line very near the junction with their line that exacerbates every other difficulty.

The Hosticks do not think the problem has been solved. A plumber snaked the line for more than 150 ft., but the line is too small and there is not enough of a decline to encourage the effluent to continue on its way, not to mention the nearby 90° turn. Mr. Hostick said Public Works is familiar with the situation.

Mrs. Hostick commented that if the backup were to happen again, it might put them out of business. They are already opening for spring visitors later than usual.

Alderman Dee Purkeypile said he witnessed the "surprise visit" experienced by the previous owners of Sherwood Court, and he wanted to know if Public Works had inadvertently caused this problem. He was concerned the sewer lines were not up to code, and he said, "I'm not sure the city doesn't owe the Hosticks," adding that the city needs to address this.

Mr. Hostick said the backup came through a line they did not know existed. They have since upgraded the line and installed a backflow preventer on it. He said it took two pieces of machinery to clear the line, and he and Lil must be vigilant to prevent another incident. So far, they have spent \$5,000 to clear this up.

Alderman Joyce Zeller asked if the previous owners knew about the "unknown" line, and city attorney Tim Weaver said the Hosticks could have an action against the previous owners for not disclosing a known problem.

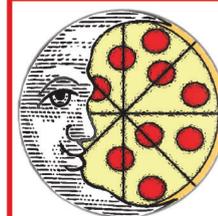
Alderman David Mitchell said

he had put the item on the agenda to make council aware of it, and expected to resolve it at this meeting, but the situation should be weighed carefully.

Purkeypile reiterated Public Works needed to be involved in the discussion. He wanted to be clear about what had caused the problem. He said the Hosticks might have to reroute their line to the main, but the city might need to change its line as well. He also pointed out the previous owners were paid by the city for their damages.

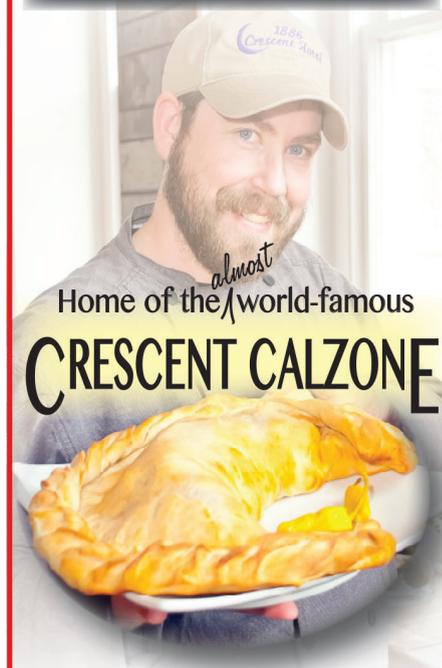
Weaver quickly commented the city is not obligated in this case just because of a past case.

Zeller said she felt an ethical obligation to the Hosticks if indeed the city caused the problem. Alderman James DeVito moved to postpone further discussion until the next meeting and have Public Works participate.



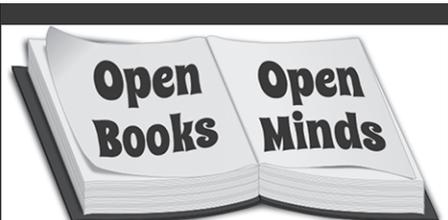
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### Fund set for Keith Hutchison

Keith Hutchison, known as "Country Keith" or "Louisiana Keith," is dying of stage 4 melanoma. He is being cared for by his family and needs help to defray medical costs. An account has been set up at Community First Bank in his name. Keith, friends and family extend a thank you "from the bottom of our hearts."



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479.253.8987

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\*On Monday, April 8th from 4pm - 8pm

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support!



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## CAPC volleys budget and bonuses

NICKY BOYETTE

The City Advertising and Promotion Commission had an honest, earnest and productive discussion of its first quarter budget challenges, including a hard look at the bonus plan at Wednesday's workshop.

The bonus plan in place has been to take the amount of increase in tax collections from the previous year and put half of it into the CAPC account. A quarter of the increase would go to the executive director and the remaining quarter would be split equally among staff.

Commissioner Robert Schmid observed an easier way to budget would be to pay staff commensurate with their positions and productivity and not depend on bonuses.

Commissioner James DeVito stated they should watch the budget better in the first place, but added that last year staff did so well it will be tough to top it this year. He pointed out even if the staff did an excellent job, circumstances beyond anyone's control, like weather or gas prices, could affect tax collections and staff might not get bonuses. The commission should work with staff to create reserves for next year and look at offering raises or cost of living adjustments instead.

"I would feel more comfortable paying fairly than striving for something unattainable," Schmid said.

"What does staff think?" asked commissioner Terry McClung.

Finance director Rick Bright said he is not underpaid and other staff are not looking for big raises. Bright said Executive Director Mike Maloney is the one who is underpaid.

Schmid suggested they scale the bonus plan for staff way back. Once the commission hits the budget target, then feed the bonus plan.

DeVito said he has questioned the bonus plan all along. There are too many factors about which they have no control. He suggested they give Maloney a raise and not depend on the bonus strategy.

Commissioner Bobbie Foster commented they put the bonus plan in place to lure Mike in, and they got him. Now she thinks they should do away with bonuses and pay everyone what they are worth.

Chair Charles Ragsdell said the question would be what is equitable among staff and with Maloney. He suggested they need a comprehensive salary study. Put the right numbers in place to start with, then incentivize. He said they should not start the year with end-of-the-year bonuses established. First, get through the year.

McClung said staying under budget could be a

reason for a bonus as well as meeting goals and being efficient. Nevertheless, he agreed the end of the year was the time to hand out turkeys and hams.

DeVito posited they seemed to be moving away from bonuses, and he thought that was a good direction.

Commissioner Lynn Bridwell asked Maloney about the bonus plan he had been offered, and Maloney responded the bonus was the reason he had taken the job. He said he wouldn't have otherwise. He also said, "Regardless of a bonus plan, the commission cannot overspend. Period." He pointed out they have a much better accounting system now and cost controls are in place. They are in much better shape in this regard this year, plus a year of experience to build on.

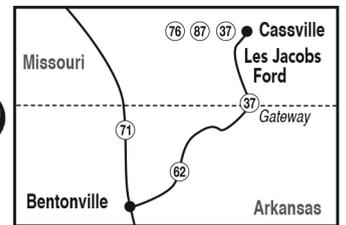
Bright also stated bonuses are taxed "fairly hard." He thought Maloney might be better off getting a higher salary throughout the year than depending on an end-of-year bonus.

As for managing the budget, Maloney told commissioners they could trim almost \$50,000 if they had to by dropping a large chunk from print advertising line, capping marketing support at its present number and cutting some from Auditorium equipment and operations.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, April 10, at 6 p.m.

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'13 Farm Bureau eCertificate..... \$500

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Retail Customer Cash..... \$1,500  
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# INDEPENDENTNews

## Around the block with limousines, Planning and outdoor sales

NICKY BOYETTE

Alderman James DeVito spoke at the March 25 city council meeting about regulating limousines, saying there is a limousine service in town acting as a taxi. He said there are two taxi services already in town besides the third entity, so sooner is better for council to address this.

Alderman David Mitchell responded he agreed one hundred percent, and suggested council have a workshop to tighten up ordinances and make sure there is enforcement. Alderman Joyce Zeller commented they must distinguish taxis from limos before they can regulate them.

City Clerk Ann Armstrong said a company called Allure is operating with a Line 199 license, a license for businesses not otherwise listed.

Alderman Dee Purkeypile said right away the third company needs a proper license, and alderman Terry McClung added that allowing this third entity to operate this way is not fair to the two who are doing so properly.

Discussion circulated regarding defining response times for limousines and separating taxis and limousines in the ordinance, and DeVito moved to ask city attorney Tim Weaver to draft an amendment to the existing ordinance with specific requirements of a limousine service.

Purkeypile countered with having a workshop to work out details as Mitchell had suggested, and DeVito withdrew his motion.

The mayor's office will set up a workshop on limousines, time and date to be determined.

### Finding commissioners for Planning

Mitchell said he did not want to impede citizens from applying to be on the Planning Commission, but Planning is having difficulties

recruiting so he urged council to consider allowing a limited number of persons from other commissions or city positions to sit on Planning.

Purkeypile said there is a small pool to draw from as it is, so he agreed. He said State Code mandates at least two-thirds of Planning commissioners must not sit on other commissions or be in city offices, so two from the restricted group would be allowed. "I like it," he said.

After discussion, Weaver recommended no more than two from the restricted group but no more than one alderman allowed on Planning. Alderman Mickey Schneider made the motion, and the vote was 5-1, McClung voting No.

### Outdoor sales

Second reading of the ordinance to amend laws regarding outdoor sales was on the agenda, and DeVito moved to approve it, but Mitchell said he was concerned they do not restrict business in town.

Planning Chair Beverly Blankenship said the intent was to limit an inordinate number of sales on private property. Zeller asked what if she wanted to sell birdhouses on the weekend, and Blankenship said she would be limited to three weekends per year, to which Zeller asked if they were being too restrictive. When it was pointed out Zeller could get a business license and sell birdhouses from a commercial location, she was assuaged.

Purkeypile said the goal was to prevent open-ended accumulations of "trash heaps" in the front yards of neighborhoods.

Armstrong pointed out garage sales on weekends are an opportunity for neighbors to be neighbors and she thought the ordinance was too restrictive. She said the ordinance was designed to fix a problem in one

**COUNCIL - LIMOS** continued on page 29

## A little help from our friends:

(Please email your ongoing community service announcements to [newsdesk@eurekaspringsindependent.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 5:30 p.m. Phone (903) 278-5568 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](http://www.nwarkaa.org) (click Eureka Springs AA)

## Syrian doctor tells torture victims' story

BECKY GILLETTE

A young Syrian doctor who fled the country after providing health care to hundreds of people wounded in the grassroots uprising told his story for the first time in early March at a gathering of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (UUF) in Eureka Springs. For people in the audience, it was one of the most powerful – and disturbing – talks they had ever heard. It brought into personal focus frequent news stories about the conflict that has caused worldwide concern for the estimated 70,000 deaths and four million people displaced and homeless.

Taymour Karim was a fifth-year medical resident in oncology when the uprising began two years ago after government soldiers started shooting pro-democracy protesters. He started his presentation with a summary of the complicated political and ethnic situation leading up to the uprising, trying to convey how different it is from the United States. For example, he grew up having only ever had one president of his country. Hafez al-Assad was president of the country from 1970 until he died in 2000, after which his son, Bashar al-Assad, took over.

Syrian has been a dictatorship ruled by the Ba'ath Party for 50 years, and many people wanted a change. But Taymour said no one he knew wanted war. "We just wanted respect,"



TAYMOUR KARIM

he said. "We just wanted freedom."

Taymour never expected to speak out against the government. His passion was for practicing medicine, not politics. He spoke of the beginnings of the Arab Spring, how the pro democracy movement came to Syria starting with graffiti by schoolboys in the small town of Daraa. In March 2011, after Syrian Army protesters opened fire on unarmed demonstrators who were seeking to topple the regime, peaceful demonstrations spread across nearly all of Syria.

As a healer, Taymour faced a difficult choice day by day. Thousands of people were being wounded, but those showing up at the

*Taymour spoke again and again of the estimated 70,000 people who have been killed, and more than 100,000 people who are imprisoned or missing – including some of his friends and fellow medical workers.*

state-run hospital were often arrested and tortured. That led Taymour into joining protesters to provide medical care in hidden places, sometimes in caves, with only handful of supplies for thousands of patients.

"For the first time in my life, when I was thirty, I finally said 'No' to the government," he said.

Although he was giving life-saving care under difficult conditions, his work put his life at risk from the government. When he became aware security forces were looking for him, he moved out of the apartment he shared with his wife, Sirin Duman, a dentist from Turkey.

One of the more moving parts of his presentation was his arrest by government forces, Taymour showed how he was blindfolded and his hands tied behind his back, several of his ribs broken, and then being handed his cell phone. To stop the torture, he was to call comrades working with him and ask them to meet him – so they could also be arrested.

But Taymour dialed the number and told his friends he had been

arrested. It was extraordinary for a detainee to do that while under interrogation.

Taymour left the podium a couple of times as it was so difficult to tell his story. And it was something he had earlier never imagined, to be free to speak out about the atrocities that will haunt him and millions of other Syrians for their lifetimes. Speaking freely would never have been allowed in Syria before the uprising.

Several times he spoke of the 4,000,000 people who are homeless and displaced as a result of regime violence. Conditions in refugee camps in neighboring countries are very difficult with inadequate food and shelter, yet thousands more refugees are pouring out of the country daily. Taymour spoke again and again of the estimated 70,000 people who have been killed, and more than 100,000 people who are imprisoned or missing – including some of his friends and fellow medical workers.

He showed photos of the cave

SYRIAN continued on page 32

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## The scoop on excavation in South Carroll County

HARRIE FARROW

The environmental impact of a dirt and clay surface-mine along Hwy. 21, just north of Metalton (about 15 minutes south of Berryville), is raising concern from local residents. Approximately 40 acres were purchased by Carroll County last fall, and although the site had been leased by the county and used for extracting soil for some years, the magnitude of the operation greatly increased after the land was purchased. In recent months a large area has been completely stripped of trees, not leaving a buffer along the roadway. Residents are upset that there isn't even an erosion silt fence between the massive expanse of bare dirt and the highway.

Kathy Kiraly, who lives on property directly across the highway from the dirt extraction site on Basswood Rd., said that during heavy rains, dirt and even large rocks wash into the highway. Lisa West, who also lives on Basswood Rd., said the road gets washed out because of runoff from the project and that once she was stuck for five days. When she called the road department she was told they were short-handed and gave no help. Kiraly said that there is no culvert at the egress where trucks pull in and out.

According to Judy Griffith, an environmentalist, "The logging and dozing have contributed to severe erosion in heavy rains, especially during the historic spring floods of 2011, washing unimaginable quantities of gravel and silt across the highway, wiping out the entrance to Basswood Road..."

Asked about this problem, Carroll County Judge Sam Barr said, "I don't think it's hardly that away," and Devoe Woodworth, Carroll County road foreman, said dirt and mud, "never ever" washed into the road. Both men said that the only dirt that gets on the road is when it's muddy and trucks track dirt onto the highway with their tires. Woodworth said the state highway department has checked on it several times and never found any problems.



Logging and dozing let heavy rain have its way with Basswood Rd. near Metalton.

Steve Lawrence, district engineer at the Arkansas Highway Department (AHD), said he was unfamiliar with this particular site but was going to look into it and "get to the bottom of this." He said normally counties are very cooperative to work with, and if there is debris of any kind on a state highway, it's the state's responsibility to make sure a cleanup is done immediately, but if a county were responsible for the problem they would be contacted to take care of it.

On the other side of Hwy. 21, running parallel to the road, is Cedar Creek, which residents say runs into Piney Creek and eventually the Kings River. According to Griffith, "The rock bottom of the stream and the once deep pools where locals fished for smallmouth bass in Piney Creek are gone, buried in gravel that washed in from the mine." Kiraly said Cedar Creek gets stopped up in heavy rains.

Woodworth said the creek was only a "dry wash" and did not know anything about where it fed into.

Both Barr and Kiraly said the acreage was purchased for \$75,000. Although Barr agrees with Kiraly that the going rate in the area is less than

\$1,000 per acre, the smaller number is if it's farmland. He said dirt, clay and gravel mixture on the site is what's needed for county road maintenance, and this kind of dirt runs up to \$1.50 per yard, "so looking at it that way it's a good deal." Woodworth brought up the same figure, saying, "Think how much it's already paid back. You can't get that product just anywhere. It's really good material." He said they wouldn't have purchased the land if it weren't. Woodworth said dirt from the mine is used all over the county and has been brought as far as Eureka Springs.

Kiraly said when she spoke to Barr he told her he did not intend to reseed the site, claiming there was no money for that. Griffith said that there "was no effort to save any topsoil."

In August 2012 the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission adopted Regulation 15: The Arkansas Open-Cut Mining and Land Reclamation Code. Purpose of the code is to protect public health and safety, and the environment, during and after, among other things, surface extraction of soil. Regulation 15.301, F. referring to County Governments;

1 (a) states that the topsoil has to be removed and stored on site, and in 1 (b) it's required that the top soil be "respread" and that the site be "revegetated."

Initially, when asked what had been done with the topsoil, Barr said that it had probably been pushed into the ravine but that some of it might have been used for roads, but it's usually not suitable for that. However, when the ADEQ guidelines were brought up and he was asked if the topsoil had been set aside for revegetation, he said it might have been, he hadn't asked the crew what they'd done with it.

Woodworth said there "isn't hardly any topsoil," that it's all "gravelly-based." He also said it needs to be, and that he'd like to see it reseeded with grass, adding, "Trees never grow up to block anything in a lifetime."

Katherine Benenati, Public Outreach and Assistance Division Chief at Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) said, "We're still gathering information on the site you mentioned. The department intends to visit the site as soon as possible, and after the inspection the technical staff will make a determination on the permitting requirements and any necessary erosion control measures that will be needed. Erosion controls can include silt fences, hay bales, proper grading, vegetation and more."

Griffith said there were "plants of special concern at the site... native to Arkansas and important enough to be tracked by the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission. Now they too are forever gone..."

Jane Jones-Schulz, Education and Information Coordinator for the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, said, "I did confirm with our Heritage Program data manager that we do have a record of an occurrence of royal catchfly (*Silene regia*) in Carroll County, south of Berryville, west of Hwy. 21 at Basswood Road."

**DIRT MINE** continued on page 30

# Easter Events

**March 30:**

**Annual Egg Hunt at Withrow Springs State Park** – 11 a.m. in the Ham Pavilion on Hwy. 23 in Huntsville. Activities according to age, prizes in each group. Scavenger hunt for kids over 10. Register early for more activities and enjoy Withrow Springs State Park following the event. (479) 559-2593.

**Celebrate Jesus Parade** – 11:30 a.m. through historic downtown, ending in Basin Park where there will be gospel, contemporary, folk and brass music interspersed with Scripture readings. For more information find “Celebrate Jesus Parade” on Facebook.

**Easter Day, March 31:**

**Sunrise Service at the Passion Play** – 7 a.m. Easter morning outdoor service at the Christ Statue is followed by breakfast on donation basis. In case of inclement weather, service will be held in the Great Hall. (479) 253-9200.

**Resurrection Celebration** – 9:30 a.m., Grace Lutheran Church, 179 Holiday Island Drive, Holiday Island. Easter breakfast follows the service; all are welcome.

**Easter Celebration at Christian Science Church** – 10 a.m., tradition of biblical teachings with spiritual interpretations of Mary Baker Eddy. 68 West Mountain. (479) 253-8104.

**Eureka Springs Easter Belles Easter Parade** – 11:30 a.m. Easter Belles parade through upper Historic Loop from Gavioli Chapel to the Crescent Hotel.

**Crescent Hotel Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt** – Easter Brunch 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., reservations required. Free egg hunt for kids at 1 p.m. Easter Bunny will be available on the boardwalk for photo ops. (479) 253-9652.

**War Eagle Mill Easter Egg Hunt** – 1 p.m., 25 miles south-east of Eureka (11045 War Eagle Road). Family event, crafts, activities for children, family-casual Easter buffet and music. (479) 789-5343.

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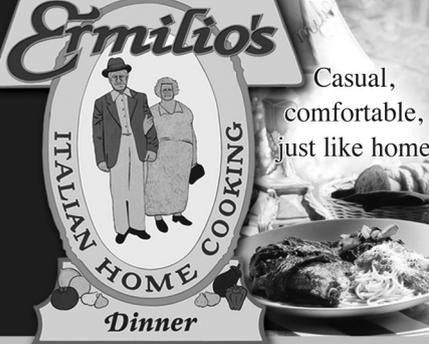
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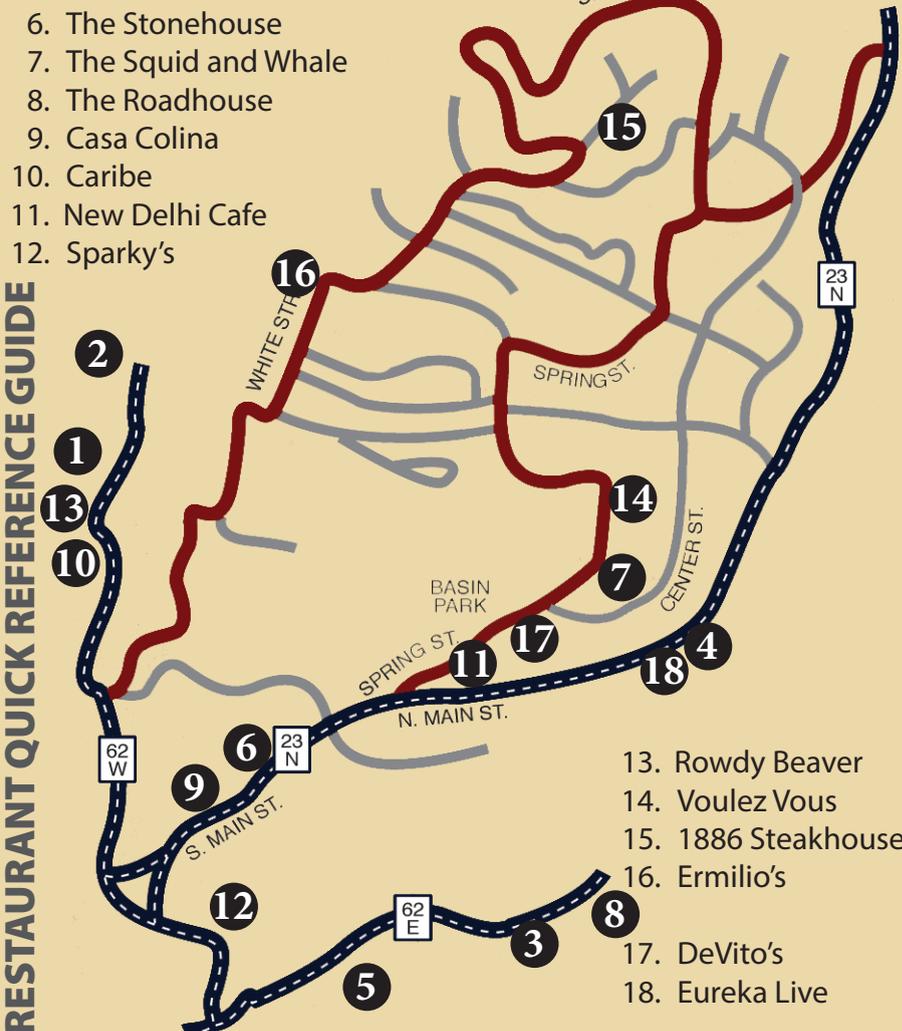
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## An UnNatural State

Editor,

When I moved from north to south Carroll County almost 20 years ago, Hwy. 21 was a scenic drive, and the half-mile stretch curving south from the bottom of Crystal Mountain was one of the most beautiful and park-like portions.

There, Cedar Creek runs along the east side of the highway and eventually into Piney Creek, a tributary of the Kings River.

In around 2008 the east side of the highway was brutally logged by a man who then leased the property to Carroll County Road Department for dirt and gravel extraction. A little over a year ago the entire 40 acres was sold for \$75,000 of our tax dollars to the county and the remaining woodland has been bulldozed into ravines, with no effort to save any topsoil as regulations usually dictate.

Boulders and large rocks roll onto the highway. Trucks pull out onto the curve and into traffic. The logging

and dozing have contributed to severe erosion in heavy rains, especially during the historic spring floods of 2011, washing unimaginable quantities of gravel and silt across the highway, wiping out the entrance to Basswood Road, inundating Cedar Creek, then Piney Creek and ultimately the Kings River. The rock bottom of the stream and the once deep pools where locals fished for smallmouth bass in Piney Creek are gone, buried in gravel that washed in from the mine.

In addition, there were Plants of Special Concern at the site of the dirt and gravel mine, native to Arkansas and important enough to be tracked by the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission. Now they too are forever gone, and this formerly beautiful portion of Hwy. 21 is now an eyesore.

What regulations were ignored and what agencies looked the other way during this destruction? When over one or two acres of land are disturbed, should there first be an environmental impact study, a buffer zone of vegetation

left along the highway, and should there be a silt fence in place? What are the responsibilities of the State Highway Department, the Carroll County Road Department, and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality? Mitigation efforts need to be applied to this site soon to avoid more collateral damage to the ecology of the watershed.

We all appreciate having good roads, and we all need jobs, but hopefully we can perform our jobs with enough intelligence, grace and respect for the beauty of "The Natural State" to preserve and honor Creation instead of consuming and destroying everything in our path.

*J Griffith*

## New high school equals top notch education?

Editor,

Do you and other citizens really believe that new high school will allow

**MAIL** continued on page 35



## WEEK'S Top Tweets

**@CultureMapATX** --- Whole Foods to become the first grocer to label all genetically modified products.

**@Zen\_Moments** --- If everybody loves you, something is wrong. Find at least one enemy to keep you alert. ~ Paulo Coelho

**@LoISnaps** --- Electile Dysfunction: The discrepancy between what politicians promise and what they actually deliver.

**@childhoodruiner** --- I'm pretty sure that if Walt Disney watched Disney Channel today, he would cry.

**@Foodimentary** --- "How come we live in a world where lemonade is made from artificial flavors & furniture polish is made from real lemons?"

**@badbanana** --- Apparently, when they say 'black tie' they expect you to wear more than just a black tie. Like I'm a mind reader.

**@LoISnaps** --- OK, so when is this "Old enough to know better" thing supposed to kick in?

**@jasonmustian** --- It's amazing how many pedestrians confuse "Right of Way" with "Immortality."

**@strobegold** --- We are probably the first generation that will have our user names on the headstone.

**@joannemcmorrow** --- I'm wearing red today in support of my mommies and the love they share.



## Not in MY town!

As Las, the suggestion of every company the city has paid hundreds of thousands of dollars to over the years is still being ignored. Although each of these city planning consultants has included in their reports one thing sure to boost our economy, some still don't want it to happen.

The various consultants suggested closing Spring Street (or downtown, in one case) to vehicle traffic. Permanently. Like so may other successful tourist towns doing better than ours have done. Unfortunately, this recommendation will probably be forever ignored as we doggedly continue battling parking problems, congestion and other infrastructure obstacles preventing tourists from having a better experience.

Even trying this for part of one day apparently won't be tolerated. A few folks avidly want to block an event that would close Spring Street to all but trolleys and delivery trucks (though not that many deliveries occur on Saturdays, we wager) for just part of one day – an event that could bring more, not less, business into their shops and restaurants.

Talk about shooting oneself in the foot.

The Arts Council worked extremely hard to create a community-and-tourist-participation event expressly to bring in people who may never otherwise have taken a walk through town. We've been in a meeting full of people (including Spring Street merchants) planning and willing to spend time, energy and money creating a May Fine Arts event with an economic impact favorable to the community. If the merchants who don't want this to happen could have been there and heard the positives they may be thinking differently right now.

But, instead of contacting someone and asking questions, 44 people signed a petition presented to council opposing the event. So what is it that makes people jump to sign a petition? Fear? It makes one wonder if they really were aware of all the details, since there were Spring Street merchants at the planning session looking out for brick and mortar interests and providing input.

Arts Council Chair Sandy Martin's proposal to create a fresh, high end European-style event bringing people to town and into the doors along Spring Street apparently fell on some deaf ears.

Some seemed worried about artists or vendors competing with businesses along the street. Martin explained the shops could claim the space in front of their place and sell their own stuff. One problem solved.

Another complaint was a business's parking spots being taken up. First of all, where are the parking spots on Spring Street that "belong" to these businesses? In 33 years as a Eureka Springs resident we've rarely gotten to park in front of or even near a Spring Street business we were actually visiting. That duck don't fly.

So, let's see ... we want to stop an event that would make Spring Street accessible and fun with tons more room for extra people to walk around and explore the shops while enjoying a street festival. Hmm.

A couple of suggested solutions have been to move the fair to the old high school or to Pine Mountain Village (you can bet *those* merchants wouldn't complain!). Seriously? Move the festival to the old high school facilities with fun, food, music, interactive art and food – and take the entire crowd *away* from downtown on a Saturday?

What the deuce are you thinking?

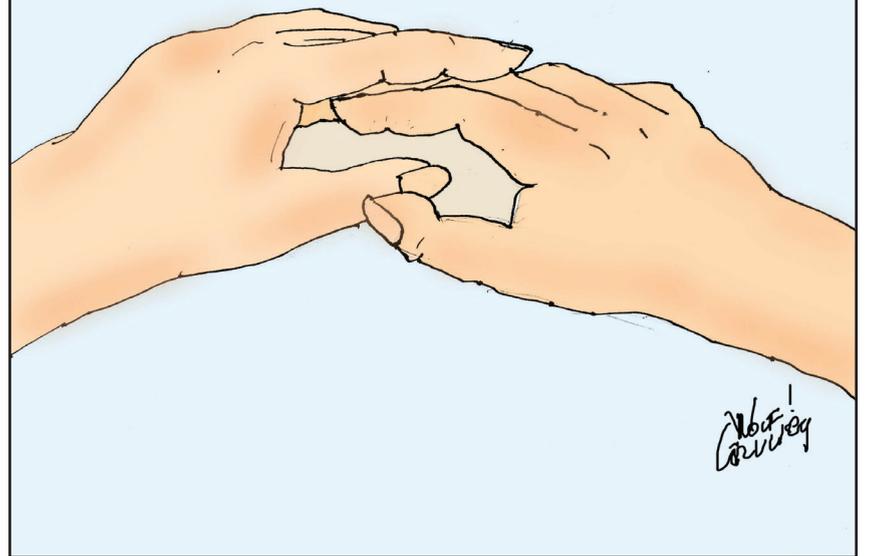
It's time to stop obsessing about our own little sliver of the pie and who else might get some and think about what we would gain as a community. When we all do well, we each do well.

Mayor Pate got that when he agreed to close the street in the first place. Come on folks, let's support our city and give it a try. If it doesn't work, we never have to do it again.

Believe this: nothing ventured, *nothing* gained.

~ CDW

## IT'S SIMPLY ABOUT LOVE



## The Pursuit of HAPPINESS

by Dan Krotz

A guy named Daniel Quinn has written a short chain of pretty good novels. The one I find most interesting is *The Story of B*, which argues that mankind has forgotten its hunter-gatherer history and will, consequently, be destroyed by its dependence on production agriculture. Quinn defines production agriculture primarily as production eating, that odd situation where half the world consumes Big Gulps and processed corn derivatives while the other half goes hungry.

A theme in *The Story of B* is Quinn's notion that production agriculture began about 10,000 years ago, and his fascinating question is, "What was life like before 10,000 years ago, before we began earning everything by the sweat of our brow?" John Wesley provides an answer – especially satisfying to religious fundamentalists who say that mankind is about 10,000 years old – in his notes on Genesis 3:19:

*"His business before he sinned was a constant pleasure to him; but now his labour shall be a weariness. Unto dust shalt thou return – Thy body shall be forsaken by thy soul, and become itself a lump of dust, and then it shall be lodged in the grave, and mingle with the dust of the earth."*

Both Wesley and Quinn – about as far apart on the ideological scale as possible – describe production agriculture principally as the wages of sin and, in Wesley's case, the product of Original Sin. Once we lived in Paradise, and now, in a Tom Waits' lyric, "we are monkeys with guns and money."

I don't have an argument against all production agriculture: our rate of population growth demands vast, increasing, and worldwide production. But there are limits. One breached limit is the plan to construct – without public notice – an industrial scale hog confinement operation in the Buffalo River Watershed – a point of destination for many visitors to the "Natural State."

I'm not sure what we can do to stop this no longer original sin – it is a waste of time to ask our legislators to sin no more – but I guess we could stop eating pork. Headline: A few old sinners reform and save the world.

## Planning grapples with verbiage; sticks to five-unit B&Bs

NICKY BOYETTE

The Planning Commission moved quickly through its Tuesday evening agenda as Chair Beverly Blankenship pointed out Ordinance 1816 regarding variances and waivers requires an applicant to have a public hearing and give public notice, but nowhere in current Code is there an explanation of what constitutes proper notice. Commissioners agreed with Blankenship they should upgrade their application for a variance and send suggestions to council for approval.

### Vacating green space

Commissioners also discussed the ambiguous nature of language in City Code regarding procedures for vacating city property. Blankenship noticed that even though the Parks Commission has important responsibilities in present-day vacating protocol, Code does not mention Parks as being part of the process. In an earlier version of Code a \$200 fee accompanied an application for vacating a green space, but it seems to have been dropped along the way in the codification process.

Commissioner James Morris observed a need for clearer guidelines explaining what the process entails and what council must consider once it gets the application. Commissioner Ed Leswig added there should be clearer delegation of responsibilities.

“It needs a lot of work,” Blankenship said, and she will put together an outline for what must be done going forward.

### Revision of Code regarding B&Bs

Leswig made clear his opposition to the request by Doug Breitling, owner of Arsenic and Old Lace, to change City Code regarding the allowable number of units in a B&B. Breitling had asked Planning to consider allowing more than five units.

Leswig stated, “Conditional use shall be granted only when the use is in harmony with the neighborhoods. We have limited commercial intrusions to five units only.” He said it does not make sense to destroy the residential nature of a neighborhood just to add two or three more B&B units.

Morris added most of the B&Bs in

town could not handle the extra parking required or they are just not big enough to expand beyond five units.

Commissioner Melissa Greene agreed the city should not change Code to accommodate one applicant.

Blankenship pointed out Planning already granted the applicant permission to build living quarters on the property with the understanding he would not add another unit to the B&B.

Morris said he wished Breitling were present to state his case, but regardless the request would amount to spot zoning and he would not approve it.

Leswig moved they drop the item from their agenda, and commissioners unanimously agreed.

### Studios

Blankenship said she put the topic of adding studios to the list of properties permitted on the list for a Conditional Use Permit – not to require a person to have a CUP in order to have a studio – but in an attempt to find a way to make good use of small, unused buildings in town.

Greene pointed out she could purchase a building and go there and sew, and she should not need a CUP to do so. She said anyone is allowed to conduct home-based activities.

Leswig stated they do not need to add this to the CUP list. If a person turns the activity into a business at the location, the city is already covered, and the delineation is the word “business.” He moved to take the item from their agenda, and commissioners agreed.

### New construction review

Commissioners approved a breakfast addition to the Travelodge at 110 Huntsville Drive. Architect Butch Berry presented the application and he said the project just filled in a corner of the existing structure, and would not make the footprint of the building any closer to the front or side property lines.

Commissioner Denys Flaherty said it looked good to her, moved to approve the application, and other commissioners agreed.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, April 9, at 6 p.m.

## Kilt tiltin' fun back in session

Scottish dance lessons have resumed at Enthois Dance Studio, 215 Greenwood Hollow Road, and will be held April 3, 10, 24 and May 1 from 7 – 8:30 p.m. Beginners are welcome and may join at any time. People are asked to bring soft-soled shoes or dance in socks or bare feet.

Scottish Country Dancing is probably the precursor to Contra dancing and square dancing. Come have a lot of fun while getting some good aerobic exercise and meeting new friends. The first session is free – after that, cost is \$35 for the series or \$8 per session. Get away from those computers and remember how people used to entertain themselves before modern technology.

“Downton Abbey” fans will be glad to know there may be an interest in learning the dances featured at the end of the series’ third season. For more information contact Melissa Clare, 253-8252.



**Now you see it ...** Lizzie Sharp, a young magician from Benton, works at pulling the wool over the eyes of a room full of fellow magicians during the 42rd Annual Cavalcade of Magic at the Inn of the Ozarks March 23. For information on next year's show, email [kzelnick@suddenlink.net](mailto:kzelnick@suddenlink.net).

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

## WCCAD sending EMRs to Hot Springs conference

NICKY BOYETTE

Lynn Palmer, Alliance Coordinator for the Western Carroll County Ambulance District, reported to the board March 26 that approximately 150 people, including 30 WCCAD Emergency Medical Responders, attended the Midwest First Responder Conference held in Eureka Springs February 22–24.

She also said other EMR trainings are either in progress now or are planned through the summer. Holiday Island Fire Chief Jack Deaton has planned a Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support class for this summer.

Palmer requested funding for 12 EMRs for an upcoming conference in Hot Springs. Cost to the district would be as much as \$1000 per attendee. This cost per student requires carpooling, doubling up in rooms and other cost-saving measures. Chair Chuck Olson said the district has the money now but might not next year, so he advised they fund as many as 12, and the board voted to do so. So far only 11 have signed up to go.

### Accounting software

Commissioner Ken Mills recommended the

district purchase Quicken software to handle accounting needs. He said he used it successfully for other organizations.

Olson pointed out anything they do regarding accounting software must be simple and easily transferable because the next treasurer must be able to handle it.

Commissioner Joe McClung, Jr., pointed out their accounting is very simple and he was wary of adding any level of complexity to it. Also, he suggested they buy a laptop computer for the district that would be passed on from treasurer to treasurer. The district could purchase a software package for both accounting and word processing. Olson observed they would also need a printer, and Mills said ink jet printers are affordable.

McClung moved that Mills find an affordable and easy-to-use software package with a word processor and spreadsheet in addition to a laptop computer and printer for the district and report back to the next meeting. The board agreed.

### Next commissioner

Discussion arose about who should sit on the board

of the district after Palmer mentioned Sam Ward and Jim Simmons expressed interest in serving.

Ed Thompson, commissioner of the Inspiration Point Rural Fire Protection District, pointed out Ward is an EMT and his experience would be helpful. Simmons also serves with Thompson on the IP board. Thompson noted there has never been a WCCAD board member from Inspiration Point.

Regarding qualifications, McClung said, “My opinion goes the other way. We are here to manage the contract,” by which he meant board members were not there because of emergency response experience. He noted with interest, however, Thompson’s point about the board never having had a member from Inspiration Point.

Olson explained whoever comes forward as a prospective board member in the next couple of months will be added to a list which Olson will submit to Judge Sam Barr, who will present it to the Quorum Court for the final determination.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, May 21, at 4 p.m. at Community First Bank.

## TheNATUREofEUREKA by Steven Foster

### Planning for summer

Since we’re in the last week of March, and spring wildflowers are waiting for temperatures to reach normal for this time of year – average daily readings above 60°s – let’s forget about spring and jump into summer. Nurseries, garden centers and farmers’ market sellers hope you will be searching for annuals for your garden. May I suggest the Madagascar periwinkle (*Catharanthus roseus*)? Once

called *Vinca rosea*, it should not be confused with its evergreen (and now blooming) commonly grown cousins, lesser or smaller periwinkle (*Vinca minor*) and greater or larger periwinkle (*Vinca major*).

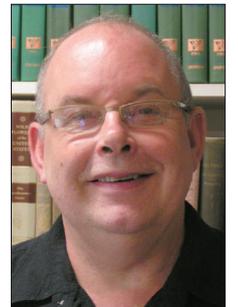
Although perennial in tropical climates, in our climate Madagascar periwinkle is a tender annual. It sports flowers ranging from white, salmon, mauve, pink, lavender, rose or purple (or in color combinations). It’s easy-to-grow with a long summer blooming period, thriving in heat, humidity and drought.

Besides being beautiful and easy-to-grow, it has a fascinating story. Native only to southern Madagascar, in the 1750s a French diplomat at the remote outpost of Fort Dauphin in extreme southeastern Madagascar collected seeds of the plant and sent them to Europe. By 1757 it was grown in England. Garden patrons sent seeds to their European brethren in remote tropical outposts. By 1794 it was a common weed in Calcutta, India, and

in Jamaica. In a few short years, the plant became a weed throughout the tropics. Some cultures adopted this ornamental and toxic plant as a folk remedy, especially to treat diabetes.

In the late 1950s, two research groups (unknown to one another), one at the University of Western Ontario and one at Eli Lilly in Indianapolis, studied the plant’s potential antidiabetic activity. Both observed that it didn’t lower blood sugar, but the plant’s alkaloids had a unique effect on white blood cells. Serendipity led to the deduction that isolated active alkaloids in the plant may have anticancer potential.

By the mid-1960s, alkaloids they isolated and purified, vincristine and vinblastine, became “magic bullet” chemotherapy treatments for forms of childhood leukemias and Hodgkin’s disease. The new drugs flipped survival rates from less than 10 percent to over 90 percent. They are used in chemotherapy treatments for various cancers today.



# INDEPENDENT Constables On Patrol

## MARCH 18

8:30 a.m. – Caller told ESPD he thought someone had broken into his apartment and poisoned his dog.

10 a.m. – Resident of another apartment complex reported someone stole her notebook of personal writings.

3:43 p.m. – In a third apartment house, someone tampered with an electrical box.

4:20 p.m. – Observer saw a vehicle being driven in a reckless fashion on its way toward town from the south. Constable on patrol never saw the vehicle.

9:05 p.m. – Central dispatch reported a vehicle on a wall by a city street, and the driver might be intoxicated. Constables arrested the driver for DWI and careless driving.

## MARCH 19

2:33 a.m. – Sheriff's office apprised ESPD of a male who had threatened two individuals with a handgun. He is known to live south of Eureka Springs and was headed that direction from Berryville. Constables watched for but did not encounter the vehicle.

6:34 a.m. – Constable on patrol discovered a person sleeping in her vehicle at a motel. He woke her up and sent her on her way.

10:06 a.m. – Central dispatch received a call from a 12-year old female staying at a Eureka Springs hotel. She was reluctant to talk and would not give the phone to an adult. The occupants had checked out and left the scene before constables arrived, but authorities in the area watched for the vehicle.

12:52 p.m. – Passerby found drug paraphernalia lying in a parking lot. Constable collected the evidence.

1:26 p.m. – Kids were above the bandshell in Basin Park throwing rocks. They were gone before a constable arrived.

2:07 p.m. – A black Lab ran loose on a road in the northwest part of town, but Animal Control did not see it.

3:07 p.m. – Two people were going door-to-door trying to sell gold chains. A constable encountered them, apprised them of city ordinances, and they left town.

3:42 p.m. – Passersby noticed a dog lying by the water at Black Bass Lake. Animal Control responded and took the animal to the kennel at his home. The animal appeared to be very old and in ill health.

3:54 p.m. – Three teenage girls reportedly shoplifted property from a shop downtown. Constables took them into custody and discovered items from at least four stores. They were cited and released to an adult.

## MARCH 20

1:25 a.m. – A vehicle was suspiciously parked in the parking lot of a restaurant. Constable on patrol discovered the occupants were using the Wi-fi and they said they would soon be on their way.

3:47 p.m. – Dog dragging a leash ran loose in a motel parking lot. Its owner had collected it before Animal

Control arrived.

7:51 p.m. – Caller told ESPD she has a protection order against someone yet continues to get harassing text messages.

8:23 p.m. – Someone damaged a rock wall at a church.

9:16 p.m. – A young adult was reportedly driving a scooter with no lights or signals. Constable who responded did not encounter the rider.

10:48 p.m. – Resident complained of lots of vehicles coming and going at a nearby house at all hours of the day and night. Constables will patrol the area.

## MARCH 22

12:34 a.m. – A boyfriend told ESPD he and his girlfriend had gotten separated at a bar earlier and she should have returned to their room by that time. After word went out to authorities in Carroll and Boone Counties, the sheriff's department informed ESPD the girlfriend had been arrested earlier.

2:32 a.m. – A gas station/convenience store reported they were having problems with an intoxicated person who had tried to purchase a sandwich without enough money. Constable arrived, and the person called his mother who came and paid for his sandwich and took him home.

3:22 p.m. – The wife called to report her husband, for whom she is the primary caretaker, had walked away from their home. Constables searched the area but the wife called back to say he had returned.

5:59 p.m. – Constables responded to an altercation downtown involving three males and a mother. Two juveniles were arrested for public intoxication and disorderly conduct, and one of them was also charged with resisting. One was released to his parents and the other was transported to the county jail pending pickup by juvenile detention.

6:39 p.m. – Resident reported being harassed by phone and by text messages.

8:19 p.m. – A large dog ran unaccompanied at the Auditorium. Nearby business owner held the dog until a constable arrived. He took the dog to the kennel where the owner later retrieved it.

10:39 p.m. – Another incident of a resident being harassed, this time on Facebook by ex-relatives.

11:39 p.m. – The first person who reported harassment called again and ESPD added to her previous report.

## MARCH 23

1:26 a.m. – Taxi company reported a strong gas smell coming from a restaurant being renovated. Constables responded and called ESFD, who stayed at the scene until the gas company arrived.

1:53 a.m. – Observer reported a vehicle had run into a pole at a downtown intersection. Responding constables found the vehicle to be abandoned. They discovered the driver had gone for help. She had run out of gas and had rolled backwards into the pole. Constables helped her get gas, and a tow company pulled the vehicle to a

level surface so she could get it started.

9:44 a.m. – Someone hit a parked vehicle overnight on a street near downtown.

10:58 a.m. – Constable fixed a parking meter.

12:19 p.m. – Driver bumped a wall in a parking lot.

3:31 p.m. – Individuals were having a disturbance at Lake Leatherwood Park ball field involving a disabled vehicle. Constable arrived to resolve the situation.

4:52 p.m. – Local business owner reported she had a shoplifter detained at her store. Constable recovered property from the alleged perpetrator, and she and her daughter were told not to return to the store. No charges filed.

8:15 p.m. – Intoxicated customers tried to start a fight outside a bar on U.S. 62. They left and constables did not encounter their vehicle.

## MARCH 24

9:27 a.m. – A resident reported vandalism to his house.

12:17 p.m. – Traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the driver for driving on a suspended license.

2:26 p.m. – Witness identified an individual whom he saw keying a shuttle van. Constable happened to have a visual on the suspect at the time the call came in. Suspect ducked away but constable quickly encountered him and filed a report.

## MARCH 25

3:38 a.m. – Sheriff's deputies pursued but lost contact with a vehicle near Berryville. ESPD kept a lookout but did not encounter the vehicle.



**Park bark** – I like riding in the car but I prefer going for walks, so every time I get in the car I hope mommy is taking me to the dog park ... hopefully that'll be really soon. I'm Sophie, and, yes, I'm cute ... but I say get your tails over to Eureka Paradise on Thursday, April 18 for Cocktails for a Cause to help support the dog park. My daddy and some other folks are building a small memorial garden inside the dog park and you can support it by buying a brick! Call Rachel (479) 244-9151 for more info. The next meeting is Wednesday, April 3, 6 p.m. at the library annex – please come!

# HIGHLANDER GIRLS TRACK



Front row, from left: Kierra Taul, Rachael Adams, Sarah Bloch, Gabby Bloch, Savannah Sipes, Jordan Henley

Middle row, from left: Nicole Morrison, Corinna Green, Kennedy Cash, Terra Winfrey, Justice Bogue, Callista Audet, Emma Rorick

Top row, from left : Heidi Kirk, Sara Address, Samantha Grat, Jazmine Urioste, Izzy Young, Coach Parkman

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

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Ah, life in a small town. It got back to me that some “friend” had called me “the male Crescent Dragonwagon” due to my shameless self-promotion.

Compliment taken.

I love Ms. Dragonwagon and consider my autographed copy of her *Passionate Vegetarian* my cookbook Bible. I also admire Crescent's fierce devotion to her work and the fact she became a hit international writer and started the Writers' Colony way before the advent of social media.

I'm the first to admit this column is self-serving. It's been obvious from day-one I've used it to promote myself as an artist, to comment on community issues (there are some who think I should just stick to art) and to further a personal agenda.

It is all about “me,” because in all honesty, I don't know how to write any other way. I've tried writing in second and third person and it just didn't work.

One has to have a fairly healthy ego to publish a weekly opinion piece you hope people are reading.

I've had total strangers come up to tell me how much they enjoy my writing, and good friends, who for their own reasons, never mention, good or bad, my column at all.

I've learned to not take it too personally either way.

Occasionally you get an evening phone call from a local, prominent businessman thanking you – for saying things he agrees with but can't publicly voice for fear of losing business.



Rankine at the center of his Universe.

PHOTO BY JEREMY MASON MCGRAW

Having an opinion in a small town does have its price.

There are people who will never set foot in my antique store or climb the stairs to The Space or purchase a piece of my art because of my mouth.

Having an opinion will land you on Facebook

or a Geekfest thread where total strangers and people you know, (some who you thought liked you) viciously attack not just your humble opinion, but your character as well.

And I'll also take it as a compliment when an editor from another paper uses 1,300 yawn-worthy words to criticize my column, completely missing the point – yet again.

But enough about poor me – let me tell you about my FABULOUS new art exhibit that opens this Good Friday at The Space with an opening reception from 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. and that continues through Easter weekend from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. All are invited.

P.S. – A reminder of ESSA's “Chairity” event at the Inn of the Ozarks, April 1. This is one of the non-profits main fundraisers of the year. Some great chairs from Eleanor Lux, Jim Nelson, Bob Norman and Danny Coy to bid on. Hope you see me there.

P.P.S. Another self-serving, shameless plug for the Creative Energy Project's video launch promoting its two new events timed for the May Festival of the Arts. I've only been privy to a little raw footage of Jeremy Mason McGraw's promotional videos of Robert Norman's, *Spheres* and the artist MUGS portrait series – but what I've seen is really great. Rumor has it that little Oen Evans and Larry Mansker steal the show. Everyone is invited to Caribe, Wednesday, April 3 at 7 p.m. to view both these classic shorts.

## INDEPENDENTArt

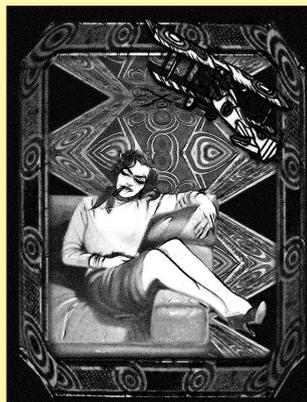
### Artists – get your MUG shot

If Tom Cruise can do it, so can you. Come on down to The Space where 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.



This will help publicize and sell your art, so please 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. Deadline is fast approaching, so don't miss out!



EMELDA WAITS IN THE AIRPORT LOUNGE WHILE CURTIS MAKES HIS MAIL RUN

### One-night collage exhibit April 9

Seventeen new collages by Chaffyn will be on exhibit at The Space, 2 Pine St. (kitty-corner from the Post Office), Tuesday, April 9 at 7 p.m. After the exhibit, Chaffyn's prints will be offered by Ken Foggo at Eureka Art Gallery on North Main.

### Drew Gentle solo exhibition

April 5 – 7 at The Space gallery, “A Singular Humanity,” an exhibition of Drew Gentle's art, will feature 28 new works in oil. Gentle's notable 40-year career



as an animation artist included studio work for Disney & Hanna-Barbera. In 2007 Gentle relocated to Eureka Springs and the beauty of the Ozarks inspired a second career in fine art.

Gentle's work focuses on highly imaginative abstract representations captured in oil on various surfaces. “Brad,” an oil on canvas, was chosen for the 53rd Annual Delta Exhibition of painting and sculpture (2010).

The Space Gallery on Pine Street is across from the Post Office. Artist reception and exhibition hours are Friday, April 5, from 6:30 – 10 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday from 10:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

For further information call (479) 253-4949, email [drewgentlestudio@gmail.com](mailto:drewgentlestudio@gmail.com) or visit [www.drewgentleart.com](http://www.drewgentleart.com).

## P.A.P.E.S. – Dreaming in paint

What do you call a town that has luminous light, dogwoods in the spring, green hillsides in the summer, flaming fall foliage, tree-canopied pathways, limestone outcroppings, natural springs, waterfalls, narrow streets lined with Victorian houses and a meticulously preserved historic downtown? Eureka Springs, a plein air painter's dream come true.

There's an opportunity to participate in living the dream with the Plein Air Painters of Eureka Springs (P.A.P.E.S.), a group that welcomes painters from anywhere, at any level, anytime. The group meets on Wednesday mornings from 8 – 10 a.m. (weather permitting) at designated locations throughout Eureka Springs and surrounding areas. Just pack your paints and join in the fun.

P.A.P.E.S. has been meeting, painting and exhibiting together for 8 years. Recent exhibitions include the Ralph Foster Museum in Hollister, Mo., the Fayetteville Underground and Main Stage during the 2012 May Fine Arts Festival. There will be an encore group exhibit during the 2013 May Festival at Main Stage with an opening reception May 3 from 6 – 8 p.m. The show can be viewed on weekends through May.

P.A.P.E.S. includes: Jody Stephenson, Bill & Dixie Westerman, Julie Kahn Valentine, John Robert Willer, Paul O'Neill, Carol Dickie, Carol Saari, Wen Norton, Carl Petering, Larry Mansker and Jae Avenoso. Ron Lutz of Studio 62 is the photo-documentarian of group painting activities and outings, and organizes exhibition opportunities.

For a schedule of the 2013 season of painting locations, click on [www.studio62.biz](http://www.studio62.biz).

## Sign up now and spring into classes at ESSA!

**April 19 – 21:** Spruce Up Your Mountain Getaway with Robert R. Norman. Learn to build your own rustic chair in three days under the guidance of ESSA instructor Robert R. Norman. Students will be shown how to scout out local wood as well as learning the proper use of tools and techniques. Designing for longevity, usefulness and artful appearance will also be covered. Bob designed chairs for ESSA's ReArt Chair-ity fundraiser for three years. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from a nationally known artist. See more on his work at [www.robertnorman.com](http://www.robertnorman.com).



**I DREAM OF THE STANDING ONES**  
BY PAULA JONES

**April 25 – 27:** Oil/Acrylic Mixed Media Painting with Paula Jones. Paula recently completed a course of study with nationally known contemporary abstract and figure artist Jean Bessette. Paula's unique style involves several layers with glazes applied between each. Each glaze becomes a window for light to come inside of the heart of the painting. Learn to have a conversation with your painting with Paula's guidance and expertise! Catch Paula on Facebook – "Paula Jones Fine Artist."

**May 2 – 3:** Split Oak Basket Weaving with Billy Owens. Second generation white oak basket maker Billy Owens selects, cuts, and prepares his own white oak for beautiful authentic Ozark baskets. Take away this Ozark tradition with a basket that will last a lifetime. A second basket will be available to make for those who excel at this craft. Billy has taught workshops nationwide and thoroughly enjoys sharing everything concerning white oak with his students. There's more at [www.owensoakbaskets.com](http://www.owensoakbaskets.com).

Register for these great workshops at [www.ESSA-ART.org](http://www.ESSA-ART.org) or by calling (479) 253-5384.

# INDEPENDENTSports

## Soccer Scots glad to see Bergman

**NICKY BOYETTE**

Prior to spring break, the Lady Highlanders soccer team faced not only inclement weather but more experienced opponents. The highly-skilled Fayetteville and Springdale junior varsity teams dealt Eureka Springs tough 8-0 and 9-0 defeats respectively.

Head coach Shreya Smith called these games "a sharp learning curve" after which his squad responded with a determined defense against the Huntsville Lady Eagles JV team. Lady Highlander defenders, led by Kyla Boardman, allowed only one goal. Brittany Yesmont narrowly missed a close-in chance toward the end that would have tied the game,

but Huntsville held on for a 1-0 win. Nevertheless Smith called it a "fine Eureka Springs performance."

The next game against the Decatur Lady Bulldogs was postponed because of the soggy field.

The final game before the break was against Bergman. "The Eureka girls pressed the Lady Panthers right from the get-go forcing corners and goal scoring chances," Smith said. Haley Comstock was steady minding the goal, and Jazmin Urioste and Abbey Moore controlled midfield.

Relentless pressure resulted in a free kick opportunity for Manon Gros that the goaltender did not hold, and Naomie Floyd scored on the rebound for the first goal of the spring for the

Lady Highlanders. Eureka won 1-0.

### **Boys slaughter Panthers, 2-1**

The Highlander boys team also had a rough start to their season against Fayetteville and Springdale, losing both games 6-0. Smith said both opponents were "fast well-drilled teams that allowed few chances to counterattack."

The Highlanders also lost their first conference game against the well-organized Subiaco Trojans 7-0. Dalton Kesner came close to scoring for the home team but was denied.

Smith saw a "renewed determination" in the next game against the Bergman Panthers. The defense was tighter and the goal-seekers were hungrier. Goalie David Tapia made big

saves to keep the game close. Schuyler Worley and Keegan Wilbur made plays in midfield, and eventually Nick Walter found a loose ball at the edge of the box that he converted for the first score of the season for the Highlanders.

The Panthers fought back to score a tying penalty kick, and then, as Smith described, "Oscar Mendez drove a hard left shot to the bottom of the right-hand corner of the Bergman net as the clock ran out." The Highlanders earned their first victory 2-1.

Next games will be Friday, March 29, at Lake Leatherwood fields. Girls will play the Clarksville JV at 5 p.m. and the boys will play at 6:30 p.m.

Concessions are available and admission is free.

## CC airport taking wing

NICKY BOYETTE

Danny Hendricks has been operating Flight School of the Ozarks out of the Carroll County Airport (CCA) for nine months, and he has drawn so much interest he is looking to add two more planes if he can find the right instructors to help.

Hendricks told the Carroll County Airport Commission at its March 21 meeting he has logged 400 hours of instruction, including at least 70 hours a month during the winter.

“It’s been unbelievable,” he said. He has 18 full-time students, half of whom are women, from all around the area, including students from the Fayetteville-Rogers area who prefer to fly out of Berryville.

Hendricks was involved from the beginning at Summit Aviation, a flight school in Bentonville, when they started out with three employees in FEMA trailers. The demand was there, and the business grew far beyond FEMA trailers to two locations, and they are continuing to add more hangars.

Hendricks sees CCA similarly ripe for an expansion. He knows pilots in Rogers who would prefer to be in Carroll County because the area is less congested, plus Eureka Springs is an attraction. Executives who fly in bring their wives who want to visit Eureka Springs.

Commissioner Lonnie Clark asked Hendricks about starting a charter business because of the potential of bringing businesspeople for meetings in Eureka Springs, and Hendricks agreed the opportunity is there as more people learn about Eureka Springs and attractions in the area. However, the charter business has different rules and he would need to get a different license. Also, some types of charter planes would require CCA to extend its runway another 450 ft. to a length of 4000 ft.

Airport manager Sheila Evans said pilots tell her they fly in for the first time because of the fuel prices, “but when they get here, they’re blown away with what the area has to offer, and they all say they’re coming back.”

She added if other towers nearby

close, as had been rumored, more airspace would open up making CCA even more attractive. (On the day after the meeting, the Federal Aviation Administration announced Drake Field in Fayetteville would be closed during a four-week phased closure of 149 control towers around the country beginning in April.)

### Size matters

Clark pointed out with the ever-increasing amount of advertising for Eureka Springs being seen in Houston, Kansas City, Memphis and other cities, more executives will be wanting to fly in so it was imperative they get going on expanding the runway to 4000 ft. Commissioner Ron Rupe agreed with Clark and said the area is more and more a weekend destination.

Evans told commissioners one contractor estimated they would conservatively need 20,000 yds. of dirt to fill in the drop-offs and to add to the ends of the 75-ft. wide runway to extend it from 3554 to 4000 ft. Commissioners were surprised at the amount of fill required, but were no less determined to go after the expansion.

Chair Dave Teigen explained they are pursuing federal grant dollars to fund the runway expansion. Clark added he has lined up a group of people ready to write letters to legislators to encourage them to help with procuring funds.

### Other items

• Evans reported she had made the first deposit of \$4650 from a federal grant to assist CCA in constructing a fence around the perimeter of the property.

• She also mentioned there has been a disagreement with Arkansas Department of Highways about putting up “Learning to Fly” road signs along U.S. 62. The signs are standard road signs and they inform passing motorists there is a flight school at the airport, yet the Highway Department told her the signs were a distraction. Evans said airports all over the state put up identical signs. She insisted they are providing a service, and what is fair for one airport is fair for all. Teigen agreed, and he said they need an action plan to address this.

• Wings of Hope, a nonprofit humanitarian organization, had asked Evans if they could get a reduced price for fuel prices when they fly in to CCA. Evans told them they already keep prices as low as possible. Clark added CCA is a county facility dealing with taxpayers’ money and there are legal considerations as well.

• Evans got a message during the meeting they should receive state grant funds from the Arkansas Department of Aeronautics in May to assist in building eight new hangars. CCA will have to cover \$60,000 of the \$400,000 cost of the project.

• Teigen explained the airport received a gift of a collection of 124 expertly crafted model airplanes, and they intend to build display cases to exhibit them at the airport. Clark found a prospective local supplier for the wood south of Berryville.

• The tractor/brush hog used to mow grass at the airport needs replacing,

and Teigen reported on prices and information he had found from a local dealer. Justice of the Peace John Reeve said he would seek authorization from the Quorum Court for up to \$35,000 for the purchase of the equipment. Teigen then will seek bids.

• Clark told the commission there should be a fine for driving on the runway. Part of the issue is the poor condition of County Road 3084, which provides access to hangars. People sometimes use the runway to get to hangars instead of the county road. Reeve said he would talk to Judge Sam Barr to see if something can be done about improving the road.

• Clark suggested CCA could stage airshows like it had done in the past. Evans said she thought an airshow or a fly-in would be more likely to attract pilots if it centered on a particular cause, such as Wounded Warriors.

Next meeting will be 12 p.m., Thursday, April 18, at Carroll County Airport.

## Register now for annual Herbal Field Trip

The annual Herbal Fieldtrip will take place at the Ozark Folk Center State Park in Mountain View, Friday, April 5, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Eureka Springs’ own Steven Foster, along with Rosemary Gladstar, Sasha Daucus, Susan Belsinger (Committee of 100 Herb Garden Chairman), Jennifer Blankenship and OFC herbalists, Kathleen Connole and Tina Marie Wilcox will teach on the hike.

Participants will divide into small groups and rotate through several different hikes in order to experience the expertise of each teacher. Light rain or shine, bring a sack lunch, water, walking stick and weather-appropriate apparel. This year the hikes will be excursions in the Heritage Herb Garden and explorations of trails on Ozark Folk Center State Park land.

On April 6, from 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. enjoy Rosemary Gladstar, hosted by the Committee of 100 for the Ozark Folk Center. Hear Steven Foster’s *Enjoying the Spirit of Herbal Science*, see Susan Belsinger’s *Favorite Homegrown & Homemade Herbal Remedies* and learn about *Hawthorn—A Humble Native Shrub for the Heart and Circulation* by Tina Marie Wilcox. P h a r m a c i s t Jennifer Blankenship will present *Chinks in the Armor* and Sasha Daucus will provide a sensory experience entitled *Herbal Imagination*.

An herbal lunch is included on Saturday. The fieldtrip and workshop fees are: field trip only, \$45; workshop only, \$75; both days \$100. See full schedule and fees at [www.ozarkfolkcenter.com](http://www.ozarkfolkcenter.com), or call (870) 269-3851 for more information. Call (800) 264-3655 for lodging reservations and ask for the special herb weekend room rate.

*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.

It was late in the afternoon when Tom left for his home across the hills. He swung into his saddle with a new vibrance and sat a little straighter after he had mounted. He was a different man now. He was full of hopes, dreams, questions and a lot of Johnny Gaskins philosophy about life in general. Life looked rosy. He had the promise of the girl he loved and the knowledge that the Lord was on his side.

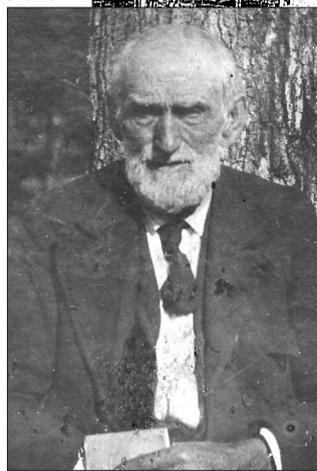
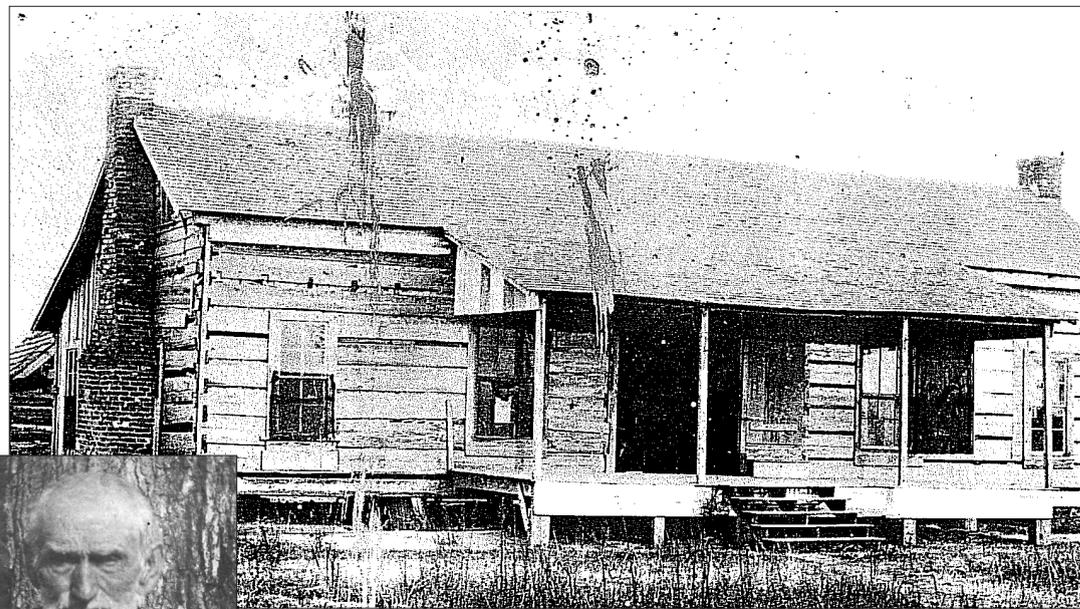
After supper was over in the Gaskins house, Johnny and Susan sat before the fire and discussed the happenings of the day. Nancy and Mary went into the bedroom for girl talk and wedding plans. Within three days the news was out. There would be a wedding at the Gaskins house at Christmas time instead of the usual dance.

Susan carefully planned the bride's trousseau. It was the first of her girls to be married and she wanted the wedding to be a nice one. Her loom stood in the corner with a piece of lindsey cloth almost ready to be taken out. She showed the material to her daughter and said, “It'll be real pretty when I make it with mutton-ham sleeves and a gored skirt.”

“I know it will, Ma, and I'm so glad you can sew and make pretty things. I'll probably have the purtiest weddin' dress in the whole country.”

Nancy had something on her mind that she wanted to discuss with her father. She had two reasons for the discussion. One was a very selfish reason. One was that she wanted to go into Eureka Springs and buy a pair of “factory made” shoes for her wedding. A luxury she had never owned. To date, her shoes had all been made by Tom Beaver, the only man in the country who could do the job right. She had something else on her mind. Her father had not been too happy with the idea of omitting the Christmas dance. Maybe a trip with him over to Eureka Springs would change his mind a little.

“Pa, there's something I want to ask you.”



“What is it this time? You want me to give that young whippersnapper a piece of land? Is that it?”

“No, Pa. I hadn't even thought about, that.”

“Ain't that jest like a addlebrained girl? You want to marry but you ain't even thought about how you are goin' to live or even where. Hells Bells, honey. Can't you even see four inches in front of your nose?”

“We've been a-thinkin' about that Pa, and we have made some plans but that ain't what I wanted to ask you this mornin'. I wanted to know if you would take me over to Eureka Springs and buy me a pair of shoes for my weddin'. I ain't never had no shoes but the ones that Beaver made. I ain't complainin'. They was good enough 'til now. A girl's weddin' is somethin' kinda special.” She knew how to strike while the iron was hot. She knew that her Pa took great pride in providing the best for his family. She continued while the time was right.

“I'm a Gaskins and you know you allus want your family to have the best you can afford, you said so yourself. Pa, would you take me to Eureka Springs and buy me a pair of shoes?”

“I reckon so,” he promised and

added, “it's probably the last pair of store bought shoes you'll ever have. If you get hooked up with that preacher he probably won't never buy you nothin' a-tall. He'll probably set at his own table without a bite of meat on it and thank the Lord for his blessin's. I've knowed preachers before an' I can't say that I ever knowed one that I cared too much about,” her father explained, still determined to have the last word.

The promise of the trip to Eureka Springs made up for his remarks about her forth-coming marriage to Tom. She combed her long hair, put on her best dress and applied bear grease to her rough, black shoes while her father hitched the team to the wagon.

Mary came into the room, “I wish I was a-goin' too,” she told her sister. “Just because you're getting' married is no reason for you to have everything you want. I'd like to go, too. I've heard so much about what's goin' on over there, I'd like to see for myself.”

Nancy looked at her sister with surprise showing on her face.

“I've been selfish. I guess I just never thought. I'll run out to the barn and ask Pa if you can go, too. You start getting' ready. I know he'll take you, too. Hurry now.”

When Nancy returned, Mary had combed her long, black hair as fast as she could. Nancy brought the can of bear grease and said, “Stick your feet

out. I'll grease your shoes while you get your clothes changed. We don't want Pa to have to wait for us.”

“What did he say? Was he mad?” Mary inquired.

“No, I think he was glad we thought about it. You know Pa. He grumbles about a lot of things, I guess just to stay in practice and to be sure that the wimmen folks don't rule the roost. Nancy laughed at her own joke.

As the wagon rattled along the rocky road to Eureka Springs, the girls and their father talked about the sights along the way.

“Pa, do you know that I ain't never been no further from home than the Hyde house except the day we buried Sam? We went all the way over to Leatherwood that day.”

“Yes, I remember that day an' I guess it wasn't much of a day fer seein' the country. I hadn't ever thought that you girls hadn't been very far from home. You ain't had no reason to be anywhere. You've allus had plenty to eat, good warm clothes to wear and a house to bring your friends. You could have music and dancin' any time you wanted it. What on earth would you want to go any place else for?”

“Well, you have told us so much about Eureka Springs that we want to see for ourselves. What will we do when we get there, Pa?” Mary wanted to know.

“Well, we're goin' there to buy a pair of shoes, ain't we? I reckon we'll do that first. Mary ain't said nothin' about it, but I reckon we will just buy her a pair, too. Then after we've done that I'm goin' to take you up to Mrs. Hickman's place. That's the woman I told you about that has got two girls about your age. She cooks and feeds workin' men. I thought if we was goin' to make a day of this, we might do it right. I'm goin' to buy your dinner at Mrs. Hickman's.”

## The Spirit of Resurrection, Holy Week, Passover and Easter

**M**any this week are preparing for Easter Sunday (or the Easter bunny). Easter celebrates the Spirit of Resurrection – a fire resurrecting all life everywhere on Earth.

On Thursday the Sun, Venus and Uranus conjunct (join) in Aries (initiating all things new). The Sun illuminates, Venus carries the Ray of the Aquarian Age, and Uranus rules the Aquarian Age. There is an illumination of things to come, things bright, revolutionary and startling. These new energies falling to Earth reveal to us that a new

culture and civilization is imminent – the Culture of the New Era Community. New energies no longer support that which does not build the new world era. Spirit (the Will of God) anchors into matter; the Will-to-Good manifests; and a “new phase of the Plan” is initiated.

There’s immediacy, a fusion, the Light quickens, opposites fuse and a bond is created for some greater goal. It is the goal of building the world anew.

During this Easter week Uranus in Aries, combined with Venus and the Sun, birth into the

collective new archetypical ideas from the Mind of God – fiery “pulses of life” emerging into our world, anchoring as seeds, resurrecting as a “new order in the world.” We are thus called to develop balance and Right Relations. Established social order is rebelled against. The personal becomes transpersonal.

During this time it is also Passover. Easter Sunday has (appropriately) a Pluto (death, resurrection) flavor. The moon’s in Sag. There will be heights and depths of feelings. Let there also be sweetness. In our Easter baskets.

**ARIES:** It’s time for so many things. Celebrations, a birthday, creating your new appearance, a better way of communicating, beautifying your outer environments, harmonizing your inner environment. And calling forth a greater sense of balance in all parts of your life. You can do this simply by having the awareness and intention. It’s a new year for you. Make it novel, innovative and original.

**TAURUS:** Your life seems secluded and hidden. Even though you’re out and about in the world at times, you really live behind the veils of an ashramic or monastic reality where you help those in need. Only a very few who know you well know this about your life – how you serve and help others. You teach others to be sympathetic, understanding and compassionate. You look within for spiritual guidance.

**GEMINI:** People notice that you express greater kindness and consideration to everyone in your group. You realize it’s important to invoke Right Human Relations with friends. It’s a good time to organize and lead a group. Because you inspire others. Should there be difficulties between you and another, talk things through with the guidance of your Soul. That is our spiritual mediator. You are to be the harmony in all relationships.

**CANCER:** You will experience

harmony with those outside your family. They may actually ask to visit you to talk and rest and sit a while. There will be harmony also with those you work with, meeting people at the very moment on the very right day. Your timing is aligned with the world clock, the heaven’s natural timing. Follow all guidelines for gardening by the stars, planets and moon. Grow kale, collards, cilantro, parsley and beets.

**LEO:** You need to be far away from home. You almost need to flee, to run away, to break away and for this you need a triptych, an escape route. Perhaps you need to walk a long distance and find those “two roads diverged in a yellow wood... to where it bent in the undergrowth... grassy and wanting wear.” Which road would you take? It makes all the difference. You need an adventurous romance.

**VIRGO:** There are several areas that need your deep thought. One is relationship and the other is money. Often they go together. The greater question is what is your relationship to money and finances? Ponder upon this carefully. It’s time now for greater trust within relationships and greater security financially. Be sure to create harmony with those you hold money in common. Consider giving gifts unexpectedly to those you love.

**LIBRA:** It is good to think about

kindness. Especially with your partner, close intimates and work associates. Kindness deepens harmony and creates balance. When discussing any imbalances, kindness allows you to accomplish with ease what may be difficult. Kindness creates a mindful heart. The Dalai Lama said, “Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible.” And it always returns.

**SCORPIO:** You will take special interest in your appearance (clothing, shoes, hair, health) and all daily personal habits to make yourself more beautiful, healthy and attractive. People will notice the difference. You discover something special about yourself not known before. That you want to beautify, care for and heal humanity, too, and all the kingdoms. You must also care for those you work and live with. They love you. You are the steward.

**SAGITTARIUS:** All Sags will want to go home again. Major planets are in your fourth house which is home, mother, nurturing and all you were taught as a child. You need the love of your parents, especially your mother. If you can’t go home, then make your home a home and refuge for others. Have intimate chats with the women and men in your life. Beautify your home a bit more. And then call home.

**CAPRICORN:** You’re deeply considerate, caring and thoughtful toward those you love, especially

family and parents. Sometimes you need mother. Something is occurring with your home situation making your home a sangha, place of refuge and beauty. Gardening is also a source of beauty and a refuge. There’s a need for more love to be shown in relationships, one in particular. They must be able to trust you.

**AQUARIUS:** Do you have brothers and/or sisters (siblings)? It’s good to contact and make things right with them. Write or phone and talk with them. Communicate ideas, thoughts and feelings. If siblings are not available then be with those who feel like family, reaching out to them, discovering what you have in common. You need intelligent friends. Have tact and diplomacy when interacting. Short trips will ease your need for change.

**PISCES:** Your relationship with resources, money and finances will be a major focus for a while. This is good. You will either purchase lots of things (herbs, medicine, seeds), buy for others, or feel a lack of resources and be tested concerning your money. Using money for others is returned ten-fold. Do not purchase what’s unneeded. Art is most important at this time. Is there an artist you like? Obtaining a piece of art for beauty and investment would be favorable now. Art and beauty are part of the “popsicle index.”

*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*

# GUESTatorial

## Big River Steel or Big River steal?

I am astounded that the State of Arkansas – which has no expertise in the steel industry – is proposing to spend \$125 million in taxpayers' money for the Big River Steel Mill at a time when some of the biggest steel companies in the world are losing money hand over fist. The new ThyssenKrupp steel mill in Alabama (that almost located in Arkansas) has lost billions and is for sale, and the world's largest steelmaker, ArcelorMittal, lost \$4 billion in the last quarter.

Nucor Steel Arkansas, located in the same county as the proposed Big River Steel Mill, has been employing people and paying taxes for many years. Last Sunday Nucor ran a full-page advertisement in the *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*, Steel in Trouble: "We're still recovering from the worst recession since the Great Depression. So why is the state now proposing to gamble \$125 million Arkansas tax dollars on a start-up steel company? The steel mills we already have only operate at a fraction of their capacity. If demand for steel existed, these mills would be running full-time."

Legislators don't want to be seen as being against jobs. But should the state put taxpayers at risk to favor a new company over an existing company? Most likely there won't be a net gain of jobs at all, just a swapping of government-subsidized jobs for jobs previously provided by private industry.

Is it a legitimate function of government to provide one segment of an industry a huge competitive advantage over another one in the same industry? One pays taxes; the other one doesn't, and instead gets huge sums of taxpayer money for free. One has to buy its own land; the other gets it free, along with infrastructure. One has to pay to train its employees; one gets its employees trained free by the government. This is patently unfair even if taxpayers did have an extra \$125 million, to gamble this way. This isn't about being against jobs. This is about being against unfair government intrusion in private enterprise that puts taxpayers at risk for losing more than a hundred million dollars. Mississippi no longer backs startup companies because too many new companies receiving state incentives have gone bankrupt leaving the state tens of millions in debt and no jobs to show for it.

You know what amazes me the most? If you or I had been fired several times from the businesses we were running, could we then go talk state government into loaning us millions of dollars? John Correnti was fired from Nucor and fired from Birmingham Steel. He was replaced as head of SeverCorr in Columbus, Miss., after it was purchased by the Russians.

What a great revenge Correnti will have if he is able to put a huge dent in Nucor's profitability. Is this what we want our taxpayer funds invested for?

In Arkansas, we have more than the \$125 million at risk. Arkansas Teachers Retirement System Executive Director George Hopkins claims they will get a 40 percent return on investing \$60 million in Correnti's scheme. It is incredible that anyone could legitimately expect returns that high, and we should call into question the credibility of the man making these Bernie Madoff type promises.

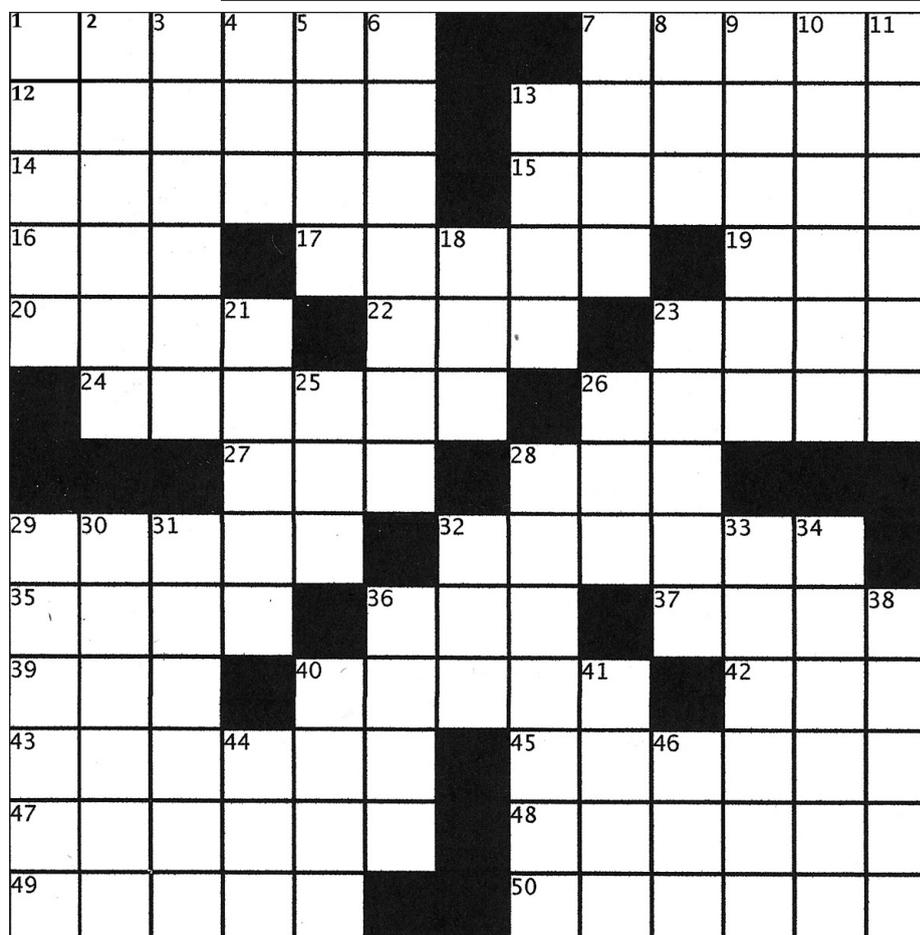
*Becky Gillette*



# INDEPENDENT Crossword

by Chuck Levering

Solution on page 35



### ACROSS

1. Skinny?
7. Acted with fury
12. Breathe out
13. Bristly
14. Parts of an act
15. Soap ingredient; medicinal ointment
16. Word with mess or press
17. Composition
19. Drink like a kitten
20. Greek portico
22. A full grown acorn
23. Grab with the teeth
24. Quick trip
26. Wet behind the ears
27. Greyhound, e.g.
28. British restroom
29. Silk-cotton tree; mattress filler
32. Having six square faces
35. Beneficiary
36. Chip off the old

### block

37. Heat meas.
39. Rainbow shape
40. So everyone can hear
42. Before, to the bard
43. Complete failure
45. Capital of Zambia
47. Willing, enthusiastic
48. Words to live by
49. Make very happy
50. Make amends

### DOWN

1. Office fixtures
2. Arouse
3. Orator
4. An isle between Ireland and England
5. Out of the weather
6. Instructions
7. Depend on
8. Noshed
9. Soccer defenseman
10. Landed property
11. Dredge
13. Saturate
18. Morose
21. Shady spot
23. Small stream
25. Diving bird of cold seas
26. Slang for sailor
28. Crescent shaped
29. Builder of the second pyramid at Giza
30. Rooftop antenna
31. Woman rogue
32. Sound made by a dove
33. Time of the mammoths
34. Make gloomy
36. Tiring walk or hike
38. Minimum
40. Teenager's bane
41. Weekend rancher
44. Pose
46. Doofus; sucker

## This week's Community Datebook

### Ongoing events:

**Every Wednesday:** 10 a.m., Early Literacy program for preschoolers at Carnegie Library with 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

#### APRIL

**Monday, 1:** 6:30 p.m., ReArt Chair-ity (ESSA) fundraiser, Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center, auctions, food, music, 253-5384

**Tuesday, 2:** 6 p.m., Goddess Gala, Basin Park Hotel ballroom, women only, bring dish, \$15

#### Wednesday, 3:

- 7 p.m. Creative Energy "Sphere" kickoff party, Caribé, facebook.com/CreativeEnergyProject
- 7 – 8:30 p.m., Scottish dancing, Enthois, 215 Greenwood Hollow Road, 253-8252

#### Saturday, 6:

- 10 a.m. – noon, Firearm/home defense class, ES Police Dept., Passion Play Road, 253-8666
- 12:15 – 1:45 p.m., Child loss bereavement support group for parents/grandparents, St. Elizabeth Parish Center, Passion Play Road
- 7 p.m., World champion juggling and wonderment in city auditorium, \$10 adult, \$5 child.

## Creatives collect at Caribé April 3

Join the 2013 Creative Energy Project (CEP) kick-off party Wednesday, April 3 at 7 p.m. at Caribé restaurant. Videos promoting the project will follow steaming media interviews of local artists Robert R. Norman, John Rankine and photogrpaher Jeremy Mason McGraw conducted by Melodye Purdy, host of EurekaSpringsChannel.com.

The goal of the Creative Energy Project, sponsored by Eureka Springs Downtown Network, is capturing the essence of downtown Eureka Springs through photography and other visual

art forms – this year featuring the mysterious "Sphere."

The unique art initiative is the brainchild of Eureka Springs Postcards & Photography owner Jeremy Mason McGraw, winner of the 2012 May Festival of the Arts poster contest. The CEP event takes McGraw's 'lights and energy' theme from the winning poster and extends it to other visual mediums to broaden input from artists worldwide.

For details on this and more Sphere events, visit facebook.com/CreativeEnergyProject.

## Astrology and mythology star topics at ESMS

The Eureka Springs Metaphysical Society will meet Monday, April 1, in the Christian Science church basement at 68 Mountain Street from 7 to 9 p.m. Melissa Clare will host the meeting as a tribute to her mother, Olivia Barclay, a 20th century horary astrologer whose work has been honored by the international astrology world.

Four local astrologers including Barbara Harmony, Sally Williams Gorrell, Ginger Crump and Robert Blackthorn will discuss astrology and its potent applications. The evening will begin with a brief introduction on



BARBARA HARMONY

the history of western astrology and mythology. For more information contact Marsha Havens at (479) 363-9600.

## AUDacious by Ray Dilfield

I mentioned last week that bringing the *WoodSongs Old-Time Radio Hour* here in October will be huge. At the risk of devolving into a Johnny Carson sketch, here's a few ways we'll achieve hugeosity:

The WoodSongs' broadcast reaches more than two million listeners every week just through radio affiliates and podcasts. The video version of the show is broadcast twice each week reaching an additional 71 million homes, and every one of those listeners and viewers is not just going to be entertained by some great performers; every one of them is going to get a positive impression of Eureka Springs.

The estimated media value of sponsoring one WoodSongs remote broadcast is \$700,000. We'll be taping two shows on the afternoon and evening of Oct. 26 and in the process effectively double the



value of our total annual advertising budget. Eureka Springs is going to be seen, quite literally, on a worldwide stage.

I also mentioned last week Michael Jonathon's credo "You don't have to be famous, you just have to be good." That's not by any means meant to imply that being famous is a detriment. Artists appearing on the show just last season included Peter Yarrow, Richie Havens, Michael Martin Murphy, Emmy Lou Harris, Hot Tuna, Blind Boys of Alabama, Iris Dement,

## How big is it?

Joan Osborne and Judy Collins, as well as dozens of unknown acts that received international exposure to millions of listeners and viewers.

It's especially worth noting that the international exposure is all they got, too. Since beginning in 1999, the WoodSongs' operation has produced more than 700 shows with an entirely volunteer staff, crew, cast and performers. No one makes a dime. Everybody's working for the love of the music. The exposure is a nice side effect. They don't even get payment from the media outlets that carry the show; it's distributed at no charge. Just for the exposure of the artists and the art form.

And this year, Eureka Springs gets to go along for the ride. Everybody wave.



## Independent contributor running for national Sierra Club board

Becky Gillette, a freelance reporter in Eureka Springs, has been nominated to run for election to the Sierra Club Board of Directors.

“Sierra Club is one of the oldest, largest and most effective grassroots environmental organizations in the country,” Gillette said. “The club is making a huge difference with protecting wildlife, wilderness areas and the health of people. I consider it an honor to have been nominated.”

Gillette is one of seven candidates for five positions on the national board. The election is underway with ballots having been sent to the club’s

600,000 members.

Gillette is best known for heading a campaign after Hurricane Katrina to test FEMA trailers for formaldehyde after many residents became ill with breathing difficulties, bloody noses, fatigue and other health problems. That campaign led to government testing that confirmed high formaldehyde levels in FEMA trailers and residents being moved to other housing. She also worked to help pass congressional legislation to strengthen regulations on formaldehyde outgassing from wood products.

Gillette was chair or co-chair of Mississippi Chapter Sierra Club for five years, and has been active locally with the Coffee Party and Occupy Eureka Springs groups. Her top goals as a director would be to work on corporate accountability and campaign finance reform so the 99 percent can take back the government from the one percent. She also advocates increased training of members to carry out effective campaigns to combat climate change, protect people and communities from toxic pollution, and preserve wild places and endangered species.



### Goddess Gala April 2

Women of Eureka, celebrate your goddess energy at the Fourth Annual Goddess Gala Tuesday, April 2, 6 p.m. in the Basin Park Hotel ballroom. Tickets for this women’s-only event are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door, and are available at Annie’s Boutique, Eureka Market, Fire Om Earth Studio, Gazebo Books and from Valerie Damon.

Organizers expect a sold-out event so get your tickets early. Please bring a gourmet potluck dish to share (labeled for those with dietary restrictions), drinks for the evening (tea, coffee and water will be available), a drum or rattle for the drumming and seeds to bless if you desire.

All profits from this event will benefit the Merlin Foundation’s Grandma’s House abused children’s medical needs. Last \$1,700 was donated to the foundation after spending only \$250 in expenses. Come join the many women who donate time, energy, and money to create this celebration.

Live entertainment begins at 6:10 p.m. with a brief blessing ceremony followed by the feast while Rachel Fields entertains. At 7:45 there will be a brief presentation from the Merlin Foundation with a short film about Grandma’s House.

Live music continues at 8 p.m. with Propolis followed by drumming and ending with keyboard and vocals by Lany. Other entertainment includes the sensuous hoop dancers performing onstage all evening.

Bring dancing shoes and wear artful or outrageous costumes. There will be a face-painting table with mirrors, paint and brushes, so come express your inner goddess!

### Raid the garage and attic for Springtime Yards of Yard Sales

Get ready for the first-ever Eureka Springs Chamber of Commerce Springtime Yards & Yards of Yard Sales event, Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27, from 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. The sale is a new spring version of the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Eureka Springs Yards & Yards of Yard Sales coming up August 2 and 3.

Sign up at Chamber of Commerce office in

The Village at Pine Mountain center by 5 p.m., April 16, for guaranteed placement on the official Springtime Yards & Yards of Yard Sales map and receive an OFFICIAL YARD SALE PARTICIPANT sign.

Registration is \$15. For details, contact the Chamber of Commerce at (479) 253-8737, visit [www.eurekaspringschamber.com](http://www.eurekaspringschamber.com) or email [donna@eurekaspringschamber.com](mailto:donna@eurekaspringschamber.com).



### Don’t miss season’s last house concert April 7

Small Potatoes have a big sound – from Celtic to cowboy and everything in between. Catch them at 17 White St. for a great potluck (bring a dish) at 5 and music at 6 p.m. The duo of Jacquie Manning and Rich Prezioso bring an impressive mastery of detail to each genre.

For more information, go to [www.eurekahouseconcerts.com](http://www.eurekahouseconcerts.com), phone (479) 244-0123 or email [nlpaddock@gmail.com](mailto:nlpaddock@gmail.com).

## Downday at Rowdy Beaver

**D**ownday was formed when Rocky Don Jones, lead vocals, and Christian Dean, lead guitar, left the country band SingleTree to find their own sound. Adding Jason Waterson on bass and Mike Martin on drums, they have signed with Render Records and will release a new album this summer. Accurately described as the perfect mix of hard rock and country, Downday has the hard-rock guitar sound of great '80s bands mixed with well-written vocals that you can understand. Perfect harmonies, a down-to-earth message and superb rockin' guitar are getting this band noticed. Playing at Rowdy Beaver on Friday, March 29 at 8 p.m., they will be ready to rock.

### .... and Ratliff Dean at New Delhi

Ratliff Dean Thiebaud plays

outlaw country blues, which means he blends rock, country, blues and jazz to take you on a musical journey you won't soon forget. He has been at it for 20 years and shared the stage with Willie Nelson, David Allen Coe and Splitlip Rayfield. He has one of those voices that was made to sing the blues, a rich baritone that can convey deep-felt emotions. His last name may be familiar if you are a fan of Mountain Sprout, little brother Blayne is their head-banging fiddle player and Dean sits in with the Sprouts when he can. Hear him at New Delhi Café on Sunday, March 30 from 1-5 p.m.

### FRIDAY – MARCH 29

- CHASERS BAR & GRILL *Bad Jack Wicked*
- CHELSEA'S *The Homewreckers*, 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
- PIED PIPER CATHOUSE LOUNGE *Chooch*, 8-midnight
- ROWDY BEAVER *Downday*, 8 p.m.

- ROWDY BEAVER DEN *Jon Dooley*, 9 p.m.
- SQUID & WHALE PUB *Dayton Waters, Intense 12-String Guitar*
- VOULEZ-VOUS *Smokin' Joliet Dave & the Mighty Mudhounds*, 9 p.m.

### SATURDAY – MARCH 30

- CHASERS BAR & GRILL *Kickin' Kountry*
- CHELSEA'S *Ice Cold Fatty*, 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 *Downtown Strangers*, 9 p.m. – closing
- LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON DJ Karaoke, 8 p.m.
- NEW DELHI CAFÉ *Ratliff Dean*, 1-5 p.m., *Bourbon Highway*, 6:30 – 10:30 p.m.
- PIED PIPER CATHOUSE LOUNGE *Chooch*, 8-midnight
- ROWDY BEAVER *Lil' Hoojin*, 8 p.m.
- ROWDY BEAVER DEN *Jon Dooley*, 1-5 p.m., *Pieces of Dreams*, 9 p.m.
- SQUID & WHALE PUB *The Matt Reeves Band, Rock-a-fied Country Music*
- VOULEZ-VOUS *Smokin' Joliet Dave & the Mighty*

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Sat., March 30 • 9 P.M. ICE COLD FATTY	Wed., April 3 • 9 P.M. Drink & Draw with Bob Norman CHUCKY WAGGS
Sun., March 31 HAPPY EASTER!	Thurs., April 4 • 9 P.M. JAZZ NIGHT
Mon., April 1 • 9 P.M. SPRINGBILLY	

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- **CHELSEA'S** *Happy Easter!*
- **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
- **SQUID & WHALE PUB** Annual Peel 'n Eat Easter Egg Contest

**MONDAY – APRIL 1**

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

**TUESDAY – APRIL 2**

- **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 – APRIL 3**

- **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** Beer Pong
- **CHELSEA'S** Drink and Draw w/ Bob Norman, *Chucky Waggs*, 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 – APRIL 4**

- **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.



**Downday** will rock the **Rowdy Beaver** on Friday, March 29 at 8 p.m., these guys are good!

- **LUMBERYARD RESTAURANT & SALOON** Taco and Margarita Night

- **SQUID & WHALE PUB** *Open Mic Musical Smackdown with BLOODY BUDDY and friends*

**Voulez Vous Lounge**

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**APRIL 26+27**

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23 SOUTH FOR 61 MILES TO A LEFT ON HWY 215 FOR 6 MILES

TICKETS : \$60 FOR THE WEEKEND OR \$35 FOR SATURDAY ONLY  
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## 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Freedom Rally & Ride April 5 – 7

Friends of NRA (National Rifle Association) is holding this year's 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Freedom Rally and Ride in Eureka Springs at the Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center April 5 – 7. Planned activities include a gun show, parade, Pig Trail poker run (open to motorcycles and passenger vehicles), the Friends of NRA fundraising banquet and a concert by the George Bothers.

Registration is Friday, April 5. There will be banquet night games, raffles and drawings on Saturday. Prizes include guns, hunting gear and more. Join friends, fellow riders, freedom lovers and gun owners in support of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment, youth shooting sports, Women on Target, Eddie Eagle and shooting range development in Arkansas.

Banquet tickets are \$35 at the door or \$25 in advance. For schedule, ticket packages and registration information check out [www.friendsofnra.org/2ndAFR](http://www.friendsofnra.org/2ndAFR), phone (870) 545-3690 or email [ajwilhelm@ymail.com](mailto:ajwilhelm@ymail.com).

## Firearm/home defense class April 6

The Eureka Springs Police Department is hosting a free firearm/home defense class at the Police Department on Passion Play Road Saturday, April 6. The class will consist of one hour of classroom time at the police department followed by one hour of firearms/range time at Elk Ranch.

Class begins at 10 a.m. and should finish approximately at 12 noon. Class participants should own a firearm or plan to own one in the future, and should bring their own firearms

if possible – including handguns, rifles or shotguns. Participants must be 18 years old or be accompanied by a legal guardian.

Class is limited to 20. Another class may be scheduled if there is more interest. The class is free but participants are responsible for bringing their own weapon and ammunition. For more information or to get on the roster, contact Chief Earl Hyatt or Asst. Chief Thomas Achord (479) 253-8666.

## Institute of Juggology hosts world champion jugglers

The Sacred Earth Gallery and Institute of Juggology will host a night of juggling and wonderment at the Aud on Saturday, April 6, at 7 p.m. Featured performers include Doug Sayers, Peter Irish, Ethan the Juggler, Kitty

Kaos, Connie Leaverton, Lilly Steele, Jared Davis and MC Biz the Clown. Tickets are \$10 adults, \$5 for children under 12. Preorder tickets and see more at [www.ozarkmountainmystique.eventbrite.com](http://www.ozarkmountainmystique.eventbrite.com).

## PASSAGES

### Lorena J. Durland, March 29, 1916 – March 21, 2013

Lorena J. Durland, a resident of Coffeyville, Kansas, was born March 29, 1916 in Beaver, Arkansas, a daughter of Henry James and Alice Bell (Pendergraft) Beaver. She departed this life Thursday, March 21, 2013 in Coffeyville, Kansas at 96.

Lorena was a member of the First Christian Church in Eureka Springs since 1964.

She was a one time member of the Eastern Star in Kansas and a member of the Emblem Club of the



DURLAND

Elks Lodge #1042. She loved gardening, sewing and catfishing.

Lorena is survived by one son, Charles Durland of Coffeyville, Kan.; Linda Clark Ford and husband, Bob, of South Coffeyville, Okla.; six grandchildren: Lloyd Gene Clark, Jr., Christina Clark, Charles Merrit Durland, Jr., Mary Katherine Durland, Michael Durland and Rebecca Durland; eight great-grandchildren; and several other relatives and friends.

On August 1, 1936, Lorena was united in marriage with Henry Merit "Bud" Durland who preceded her in death on September 26, 1977. She was also preceded by her parents; four brothers,

Clarence, Harold, Fred and Willie Beaver; and two sisters, Mary Burnett and Maye Owens.

Visitation will be held from 5 – until 7 p.m. Thursday, March 28, 2013 at Nelson's Chapel of the Springs in Eureka Springs. Funeral service will be 11 a.m. Friday, March 29, 2013 at the First Christian Church in Eureka Springs with Reverend Phil Wilson officiating. Interment will follow the service in the Beaver Cemetery under the direction of Nelson Funeral Service. Memorial donations may be made to the Beaver Cemetery Fund, c/o Mabel Walden, 6005 Hwy. 187, Eureka Springs, AR 72631. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [nelsonfuneral.com](http://nelsonfuneral.com).

### Claudia J. Blankenship, July 21, 1934 – March 23, 2013

Claudia J. Blankenship, a resident of Eureka Springs, was born July 21, 1934 in Hugoton, Kansas, a daughter of Earl S. and Ruth Marian (McKenna) Greenwood. She departed this life Saturday, March 23, 2013 in Eureka Springs, Arkansas at the age of 78.

Claudia was of the Christian faith. She worked as a hospital transporter.

Claudia is survived by four sons: Joe Stephenson Blankenship and wife, Suzy, of Port Aransas, Texas; Dale Blankenship of Beeville, Texas;

Johnny Blankenship and wife, JoNell, of Tyler, Texas; and David Blankenship and wife, Beverly, of Eureka Springs, Ark.; seven grandchildren: Cindy Walker, Christy Fowler, Brian Blankenship, Laura Blankenship, Lacey Blankenship, Amanda Blankenship and Travis Blankenship; two great-grandchildren: Cayden and Conner Walker; and several other relatives and friends.

On October 16, 1950, Claudia was united in marriage with Joe Stephenson Blankenship who

preceded her in death. She was also preceded by her parents.

There will be no visitation. Memorial service will be 2 p.m. Saturday, March 30, 2013 at the Holly House, 100 Ridgeview Road, Eureka Springs, AR 72632. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Nelson Funeral Service. Memorial donations may be made to the Flint Street Food Bank, P.O. Box 323, Eureka Springs, AR 72632. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [nelsonfuneral.com](http://nelsonfuneral.com).

## Carroll County Crappie Tournament pre-registration open

Break out the rods and reels for fun and a good cause at the Carroll County Crappie Tournament Saturday, April 13, at Table Rock Lake. Participation is \$30 Per Boat. There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place combined weight.

Call Christy Smith (870) 577-0587 to pre-register for this event or for additional details. Otherwise, official registration is 7 – 8 a.m. April 13 at Kings River Marina in Shell Knob, Mo. Take off at 8:30 a.m. Weigh in at Kings River Marina at 2:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided for all participants following weigh in.

Proceeds will benefit Carroll County T.R.E.K.S. (Teaching Responsibility and Environmental Knowledge and Stewardship) 4-H Club, a group of Carroll County kids dedicated to promoting Environmental Stewardship.

## Lights, camera ... renovate!

Producers of the NBC series *Renovation Nation* are scouting Arkansas communities to feature in the popular new show; ideally two properties in close proximity to each other and on the same block. Each property will be completely renovated by separate design teams working around the clock for five days. Upon completion the homes should provide a lasting positive impact on the neighborhood.

While residential properties are the main focus of the show, producers

also consider renovating storefronts, loft spaces, hotels, roadside motels, houseboats and theaters. If you know of any properties, Realtors, local organizations dedicated to historical and architectural preservation or neighborhood revitalization groups that may be interested in providing or donating properties, please share this information with them.

For details, contact Christopher Crane, Arkansas Film Commission, at [ccrane@arkansasedc.com](mailto:ccrane@arkansasedc.com).

### COUNCIL continued from page 1

Pat Lujan, local artist, said he liked the idea because he thinks it will bring more visitors downtown.

Martin tried to correct misconceptions, saying the Arts Council never planned to stop trolleys or delivery trucks. She presented a conceptual drawing of the street detailing where vendors and artists could be, and she pointed out all merchants were offered the opportunity to claim the space in front of their businesses. She also said she had explained the event in local newspapers.

She said they were just trying to implement an idea that came from a public meeting and she was not there to dispute those who opposed the plan.

Alderman James DeVito said he had put on a successful festival for nine years, and was shocked Center Street was not considered instead of Spring. He said Center Street is flat, has high visibility, traffic would not be impeded and had worked before – a perfect solution.

Martin said they would consider it, but they wanted to use Spring Street.

Havens spoke up to point out part of the vision was to have as many people walking along Spring Street as possible. Normally motorists cannot even look into windows as they pass through, and merchants say they lose business by the cluttered atmosphere. She acknowledged the Arts Council might have chosen the wrong week-

end, but she would love to see it work.

Alderman Mickey Schneider, a downtown merchant, pointed out other merchants had concerns about the choice of Memorial Day weekend to close the main street in town to traffic. Merchants also did not want to lose precious parking spots along Spring St.

Alderman Joyce Zeller said there must be a compromise somewhere. She acknowledged the 44 signatures on the petition and said council should not ignore them. She liked either DeVito's suggestion of Center Street as an alternative or possibly a different weekend.

As Schneider tried to describe her disinclination to choose one side or the other, Martin said, "Let me make

it easier for you. We'll move it." She said they would appeal to the school administration to see if the old high school parking lot would be available or find another location.

Havens acknowledged they had heard all the observations and suggestions by saying, "Your seeds have been planted and they will not go unwatered." She said she felt an event like this could be a success on Spring Street, and she would love to see it happen one of these days.

At the end of the meeting, Pate said he had not expected so much opposition and was disappointed with the outcome. He said the Arts Council was just trying to bring some customers downtown.

### COUNCIL – LIMOS continued from page 8

specific location, and the city did not need a blanket ordinance that limits everyone.

DeVito countered that people have been having perpetual yard sales at the inconvenience of neighbors, and it has become a problem.

Mitchell observed a cohesive neighborhood could band together and have garage/yard sales at different addresses on the street throughout the year if it wanted to.

Vote to approve second reading of the ordinance was 6-0.

#### Other business

Council unanimously approved the third readings of these ordinances:

- Ordinance 2174 – Placing

utility lines at new construction sites underground or at the rear of the property

- Ordinance 2175 – Allowing the Cemetery Commission to pay water and electric bills by EFT

- Ordinance 2176 – Levying the sales and use tax for four years to fund implementation of the Lake Leatherwood Master Plan

- Ordinance 2177 – Purchasing new accounting software for the Finance Department

- Mayor Morris Pate announced SWEPCO has decided to close its office in town as part of budget cuts. This move would leave the SWEPCO representative in town without any office space except his vehicle. Pate had offered to rent the bottom of the

Public Works building to SWEPCO, and DeVito moved to allow the mayor to enter into negotiations with SWEPCO for rental of the bottom floor of the Public Works building. Vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

- Mary Ann Pownall, Chair of the Cemetery Commission, told council the commission had earned \$11,263 in the sale of 25 cemetery plots in 2012. The commission is going through boxes of scraps of paper from the 1960s and '70s on which cemetery records were written. They are looking for any information regarding donations they still hold in CDs. Commissioners want to clear up confusion about how donors intended funds to be used.

She said they are planning a

community workday on Saturday, May 11. Refreshments will be provided. They will also have a Memorial Day event on May 27 featuring music, hamburgers and hot dogs along with memorials for those who served their country.

- Pat Lujan cautioned council to carefully consider what they will restrict in the outdoor sales ordinance. He said he purchased a piece of property on which he intended to allow artists to display and sell their work, and did not want council to restrict the sale of art in town. He encouraged council to clear up the definition of an outdoor sale.

Next meeting will be Monday, April 8, at 6 p.m. There will be a workshop to discuss council priorities Tuesday, April 2, at 6 p.m.

that it meant a lot to him that Hatfield had come to talk with him. Baker said that Hatfield, upset to learn that Stubbs knew what had happened to his dogs and had been lying to him, decided to then go to Stubbs's home and confront him. Baker did not go with him, but said that later Darrin Hatfield told her that Stubbs again said he knew nothing of the dogs' whereabouts, but when Hatfield said he'd talked to Farmer, Stubbs admitted that the dogs had been killed and said he'd not told him about the dogs being killed because he thought it would upset him.

Baker said Hatfield had not gotten a satisfactory answer to why Fritz had also been shot. He then asked where his dogs were and was told in the burial pit used by Animal Control. Baker said both the Hatfields then went to the facility and dug up their pets.

Shupe's Change.org online petition, which had 1,228 supporters as of Tuesday night, reads in part: "We the people of Berryville and it's [sic] entire surrounding area demand change and the immediate termination of Animal Control Officer Chuck Stubbs. We seek required mandatory on-site animal behavior/encounter training and continuing education training for all local Animal Control Officers."

Shupe said although most of the petition's signers are local, it's also gone national and even global. He said there are signers from Spain, the UK, Australia,

Argentina and Canada as well as other countries.

Shupe said prior to Fritz and Egon's deaths, he did not know the Hatfields or anyone connected to them. He heard about what had happened to their dogs on a Berryville On-line Yard Sale Facebook page. He said it got his attention partially because he'd been already wondering about Stubbs. When Shupe moved to Berryville from Minnesota several months ago, he said, he began to notice Stubbs driving around, and wondered why when there were dogs running loose around Stubbs' truck, with no owners insight, Stubbs did nothing. Shupe said his girlfriend, a long time Berryville resident, told him that's just the way it was – people call Stubbs and he does nothing. When he heard what Stubbs had done in regards to the Hatfields' dogs, and then found out that the Mayor Tim McKinney had only given him a letter of reprimand, he got angry.

There is also a Facebook page Justice for Fritz and Egon, which had 523 "likes" as of Tuesday night.

When reached by phone Stubbs said, "I have no comment. Talk to the mayor. Goodbye."

When asked why just a letter of reprimand, McKinney said council had been looking at the entire time Stubbs has been on the job and his performance over the last six years. He said Stubbs perhaps has the most stressful job in the city. He also said that not being forthright with the Hatfields was wrong and there is no ex-

cuse for that. Council does not want that to ever happen again, he said, and this is made clear in the disciplinary letter. He also said Stubbs has taken quite a beating from the public on this, including comments that Stubbs should be shot.

McKinney reiterated what one council member said at the meeting, that they all had at least one dog themselves and they all love them and do what they have to properly restrain them. McKinney said the Hatfields have a history of letting their dogs get out and warnings from animal control go back to before Stubbs was on the job.

The Hatfields could have been given about six citations, McKinney said, for this recent incident, but were not. "Mr. Hatfield is as responsible as anybody else for those dogs getting shot," he said, going on to explain, "Nobody wants to see a dog get shot but if you have an animal with a propensity for killing other animals you have a responsibility to keep them penned up." McKinney said that on the same day that the dogs attacked the goat, they brutally killed a cat named Thumper and the dogs barked at the cat's owners while they were on their own porch. He said perhaps there should be an Internet page, "Justice for Thumper the cat." According to McKinney, Farmer had wounded Fritz – McKinney said Farmer told him this himself – and when Stubbs showed up the 160 lb. dog would not respond to commands, and was covered in blood from the goat he'd attacked.

McKinney said he was first notified

of Stubbs's failure to notify the Hatfields by Stubbs himself who called him and said, "I've messed up." McKinney feels that if Stubbs had just notified Hatfield when the animals were killed that would have been the end of it.

Deb Hatfield said after the council meeting that if Stubbs had been honest with them, then perhaps it wouldn't have gone any further, but she also said, "If he can just shoot dogs, what else can he do?" She said that a lot of people have stories about Stubbs but are afraid to come forward.

She admitted the dogs have gotten out before, and said once they had gotten into Price Cutter. That time, she said, Stubbs called her husband and said, "You better come get your dogs before I do." She said at the time they hadn't thought much about it, but now she wonders. She said she saw Stubbs at Wal-Mart the other day and asked him if he was proud of himself. Deb Hatfield also said the mayor just wanted to sweep everything under the rug because he's got his own problems.

Asked if she has any other dogs, Hatfield said they had another dog that was inside the night the two dogs got out, but they gave her away. She said she'd once watched as a dog of theirs died from grief after their other dog died, and she could not stand to see that again. She said the dog was doing well with friends.

Darrin Hatfield said after the meeting that he's not sure what he's going to do now; he's considering his options.

"The occurrence was reported to us in the summer of 2009, from an amateur botanist in the area who regularly provides information to our staff," she said. The report was from the roadside, i.e., the public right-of-way, so no trespass occurred and no landowner was contacted by our office. We do not have any specific or official report of the plants being destroyed. One of our staff was on the highway after the initial report and observed that the county had some type of gravel and/or dirt operation there, and that he did not see any plants and did not know if any were still there."

According to Jones-Schulz, Royal catchfly has a global rank of G3, meaning: "Either very rare and

local throughout its range or found locally (even abundantly at some of its locations) in a restricted range... or because of other factors making it vulnerable to extinction throughout its range; in terms of occurrences, in the range of 21-100. The state rank is S2, which means very rare. Typically between five and twenty estimated occurrences or with many individuals in fewer occurrences, often susceptible to becoming extirpated."

Kiraly and West expressed concern for the safety of drivers in the area, as trucks pull out onto a curve. Kiraly said there is only one warning sign for drivers, and West wondered if "it will take someone getting killed to get something done."

Woodworth responded, "You can always find everything wrong, but all

I can say is, we've been doing this for eight to ten years and there's never been an accident."

Griffith said, "almost twenty years ago, highway 21 was a scenic drive, and the half-mile stretch curving south from the bottom of Crystal Mountain was one of the most beautiful and park-like portions."

Randy Ort, public information coordinator of AHD, said the Metalton stretch of Hwy. 21 is designated a "Scenic Highway" but there are no laws protecting what is done on these highways nor any criteria for such a highway to maintain its status – which is originally designated by the state legislature.

Woodworth said of the acreage, "It wasn't a beautiful stand of timber long before the county bought it." He

said the former owner logged it as a "private land owner trying to use his property responsibly. The roads department is trying to do what's best for the taxpayer in the county, and that's the truth; there's nothing personal in this. What's the world coming to if a handful of people can tell you what to do with your property? That's just un-American."

Barr said the project "helps the majority of the people – why complain?" He said he wanted people to be able to go on county roads without tearing up their cars.

West and Kiraly said they understand a need for the work to be done but that they want there to be regulations. Kiraly said people need to ask, "At what cost? What are we sacrificing?"

## Get the blues in the Natural State April 5, 6

The Ozark Blues Society of Northwest Arkansas's line-up for the 11th Annual Blues in the Natural State Music Festival on Friday, April 5 and Saturday, April 6, features two-dozen performing acts on six Fayetteville stages. Festival goers will be treated to a blend of local, regional, national and world-stage artists, according to Roger Plourde, President of the Ozark Blues Society of Northwest Arkansas.

Headlining on Friday evening is James "Super Chikan" Johnson, a Blues Music Award-winning American blues musician, artist and guitar maker hailing from Clarksdale, Mississippi – birthplace of the delta blues.

New this year is Afternoon Blues – a special performance of blues storytellers at Walton Arts Center's Starr Theater featuring three master musicians performing a combination of original and traditional American music. Ray Bonneville, 2012 International Blues Challenge winner, will headline Afternoon Blues.

Son of the legendary John Lee Hooker, John Lee Hooker, Jr., represents a new style of contemporary blues. Currently on World Tour promoting his latest CD *All Hooked Up*, this two time Grammy nominee will close out the festival on Saturday evening.

Artists will also perform at the following Fayetteville locations: Smoke and Barrel Tavern, Kingfish, Rogue, Walton Art Center's Starr Theater, and both stages at George's Majestic Lounge.

Wristbands are now on sale at [www.ozarkbluessociety.org](http://www.ozarkbluessociety.org). Cost is \$45 for both days; \$20 for Friday only and \$30 for Saturday only.

## GPP cast registration April 7

Cast registration for the 2013 season of The Great Passion Play will be Sunday, April 7. Those interested in being a member of this year's cast may apply between 2 and 3 p.m. for the season, May 3 through October 26. Men, women, and children five years and older as well as families with children are needed, particularly men between the ages of 20 and 45 to play the parts of apostles, priests and soldiers.

More than 170 actors are hired annually to bring the story to life in a huge outdoor setting under the beautiful Ozark night skies. If you have ever wanted to be a cast member of a world-class

theatrical production, let this be your year to apply.

Those who have an interest in joining this wonderful cast but are unable to come to the April 7 cast registration should call the Play before April 7 at (479) 253-8559 between 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. to be considered.

In conjunction with cast registration, applications will be received and interviews conducted 2 – 3:30 p.m. for the following positions: ushers, parking attendants, bus drivers, docents, food service and reservations clerks. Once on the Play grounds, simply follow signs to the registration area.



### Hardy spokesmen

– Their colors brighten a gloomy March 23 as four cyclists pedal through fog and cold rain south of Eureka Springs on Hwy. 23.

PHOTO BY  
DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

## From the **GROUNDUP** by Andrew Schwerin

### The only constant is change

“[The myth is that] natural resources and the ability of the earth's habitable regions to absorb the impacts of human activities are limitless.” – DR. C.D. KEELING, Father of Climate Change Research

I watch the weather forecasts a lot. Our crops depend on the weather and I base many decisions on what weather is predicted. For example, last week we spent a good eight hours covering our vegetable transplants with row covers and ventilated plastic pulled over metal hoops and held down by bags of creek gravel – because the forecast said it was going to get cold

and it did.

I haven't yet found the website where they issue apologies for getting the forecast completely wrong. Some of you might remember our not-so-white-Christmas. So, noting that sometimes weathermen can't even get the weather right two days in advance, let's talk global-warming.

The facts are: humans are adding more carbon dioxide to the air primarily through the burning of fossil fuels and deforestation; CO<sub>2</sub> increases warming through the greenhouse effect; and the earth is currently getting warmer.

If we can and do continue burning energy at the current rate, your grandkids may see average temperatures rise 7° higher than last year. Even then, we are far from the warmest times in human history – around 1100 BC, the age of the Roman Empire, and medieval times were as warm or warmer than the present. Although there have been cycles of warm and cold throughout history, changes in solar radiation and volcanic activity can change the picture very quickly.

Climate simulation has 500 times the computer power of weather

forecasts.

There's a ratio there that shows why forecasters can't predict our snowfall two days in advance. Each year the federal government appropriates \$8.8 billion of resources to studying climate change. How much global warming does that cause?

There is no magic technology that will change this picture. As the human population is more active, the heat of the earth rises. We can slow down, or future generations will have to adapt to a different climate.



## Workshop for cancer survivors April 13

Cancer survivors can explore the writing process in a free one-day workshop at The Writers' Colony at Dairy Hollow in Eureka Springs on April 13. The workshop is open to all survivors and/or family members. The only requirement is a desire to strengthen the will to live and explore healing through writing about their experiences.

The workshop will be led by Laura Castoro, author of 39 published books in a variety of genres, including romances, westerns, sagas, young adult nonfiction and mainstream fiction. Her book *Icing on the Cake* was the 2012 *If All Arkansas Read the Same Book* selection, and she is a 2005 inductee into the Arkansas Writers Hall of Fame. Laura is also an experienced creative writing workshop

leader.

Sally Gorrell will lead a morning session on the value of being creative for positive mental health. Sally is a Licensed Certified Social Worker with a Masters' Degree in Social Work and has been in practice since 1989.

Survivor participants will have an opportunity to share thoughts and feelings with other survivors in a confidential and supportive environment. Writing instruction and exercises in memoir for survivors, family members or the community at large will comprise a large part of the day.

For more information or to register, contact Linda Caldwell at The Writers' Colony at (479) 253-7444 or email [director@writerscolony.org](mailto:director@writerscolony.org).

## HI blood drive April 8

The Holiday Island Community Blood Drive will be held Monday, April 8, from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. at Elk's Lodge #1042 in the Park

Shopping Center across the street from the Post Office. Free cholesterol screening for all donors! Questions? Email [rdcavanah@cox.net](mailto:rdcavanah@cox.net).

## Friends of Carnegie meeting April 9

All are welcome at the Friends of the Carnegie Public Library regular monthly meeting April 9, 4:30 p.m. in the Library Annex. Whether you're interested in working at book sales, participating

in programs, or just plain love your library, please come! For more information or specific monthly meeting dates, contact the library at 253-8754, email [info@eurekalibrary.org](mailto:info@eurekalibrary.org) or visit [EurekaLibrary.org](http://EurekaLibrary.org).



**Packed house** – Popular contemporary gospel singer/musician Jason Crabb performs in an almost-packed auditorium March 22. After a spontaneous collection and passing around his own boot, Crabb collected \$5,000 which will be used to buy buses for the Holy Land Tour at the Great Passion Play. Crabb has won six of 20 Dove Awards he has been nominated for and one Grammy since 2005.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

**SYRIAN** continued from page 9

hospital where he worked, and photos of victims of torture waiting for treatment. Many in the audience had a hard time looking at these extremely disturbing photos.

Burnetta Hinterthur, a plant biology professor at Northwest Arkansas Community College, brought Taymour to Eureka Springs for the Sunday presentation. She said it was the most disturbing and moving talk she has heard anywhere.

"I think it just hit me because it is impossible to understand how human beings can be so cruel to each other, so greedy, so selfish and uncaring as the regime in Syria," Hinterthur said. "Yet, we know that our U.S. bombs hit families and kill children. We don't see these things and it is easy for them to just not be in our minds at all. But, as Taymour said, truth is often not pretty."

Hinterthur said she hopes things improve for the people of Syria. "Taymour said that people can get water every two days," she said. "It is regulated by the government. Electricity, I think, is available

only about two hours a day."

During the presentation one woman in the audience broke in and asked, "How did you escape?"

"I was released on March 4, 2011, on bail, with a court case pending against me," Taymour replied. "A few days after I was released, I learned that security forces were looking for me again and that my name was on the government wanted lists at checkpoints and at the country's borders. I felt threatened again. I became a risk for the activists in my circle and I was advised by many activists to leave the country in order to protect them, my family and myself."

He was able to come to the United States where he and his family are being sponsored by Syrian-born University of Arkansas Fayetteville professors Dr. Mohja Kahf and her husband, Dr. Najib Ghabdian, who are both activists with the uprising.

Taymour's wife gave birth to their first child, Denise Zehra Elkerim, in Fayetteville on March 5.

Kahf said it was very difficult for Taymour to tell his story; he was in a lot of pain.

"He is so anxious to return to help his fellow

country men and women," Kahf said. "Yet, now that he has a baby, he must just be in such a dilemma."

Many people listening to the presentation wanted to know how to help, and may have been a bit surprised at the answer the town of Eureka Springs – known for being the metaphysical center of Arkansas — could readily identify with.

"Send them your love," Taymour said. "The Syrian people need your love."

"Taymour was wonderful," said Dr. Jim Dudley, a member of the UUF. "It was heartfelt and emotional. He got a standing ovation. That doesn't happen often! It was a story that needed telling."

Taymour would also like people to know that not all protesters of the current Syrian regime approve of violence to accomplish goals. He and many others advocate non-violent opposition. For more information, he recommends following the English-edition page of the Syrian Nonviolence Movement on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/SyrainNonviolence](http://www.facebook.com/SyrainNonviolence).

He closed saying he and many others also don't want to see one dictatorship replaced by another.



**Not buying it –** Preacher and emcee Randall Christy tries to sell tickets for the Great Passion Play to his wife, Susie, while she signs for the hearing impaired during a Christian concert featuring The Williamsons and Jason Crabb at the Aud March 22.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY



**Seeds for the future –** Maia Larson, left, tends a table while Julie Kahn Valentine, Barbara Wagner, Sonny Smith and Sandy Smith look at some of the offerings at the Heirloom Seed/Bulb/Plant Swap in the Eureka Springs Carnegie Library Annex Saturday, March 23. The Heirloom seeds from Arkansas are all non-genetically modified.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY



## Stick it to 'em

The Creative Energy Project and Robert R. Norman, creator of the Greater Eureka Springs Chamber of Commerce Sphere, invite the community to the next several Sphere Stick events. This is your chance to participate in the creation of this year's Basin Park Creative Energy Art Installation by decorating a colored stick with your own message and/or art.

Share your hopes, dreams and thoughts with the community and visitors by decorating a stick for the Sphere at one of these events:

- Every Wednesday night at Robert R. Norman's Drink and Draw with live music at Chelsea's Corner on the corner of Center and Mountain from 7 – 12 p.m. Plunk down a \$5 donation to paint and take your masterpiece home.
- Thursday, March 28, at Eureka

Springs Downtown Network's Cocktails for a Cause benefits the Flint Street Food Bank from 5 – 7 p.m. at Chelsea's Corner. Please bring canned food for the food bank. The cover charge of \$10 plus 25 percent of drink sales will be donated to both 501c3 nonprofits.

- Monday, April 1 at the Eureka Springs School of the Arts ReART CHAIRity Fundraiser at the Inn of the Ozark/Convention Center, 6:30 p.m. Silent Auction starts 8. A live auction includes amazing art chairs by Eleanor Lux, Robert Norman, Jim Nelson, Dave McKee and more.

- Saturday, April 6 at Drumming in the Park with Angelo and the entire drumming community in Basin Spring Park from 6 – 8 p.m.

Join friends at one or more of these events and decorate a stick for posterity.

## Hawaiian chocolates, coffee and massage – grass skirt optional

Laughing Hands Massage, 121 E. Van Buren (lower level, rear, in The Quarter), will hold an open house celebration April 11, from 4 – 6 p.m. Highlights include a display of art by Patrick Ching – renown Hawaii artist,

nature environmentalist and owner of Patrick Ching Art in Waimanalo, Oahu and Princeville, Kauai. Kauai coffee and chocolates will be served. For details, call (479) 244-5954. Aloha!

**Poster girls –** Below left, Teresa DeVito, KJ Zumwalt, Cné Breaux and Ilene Powell raise a toast at the EasterBelles poster signing fundraiser at Caribé.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

**Just a little to the left –** Sara Armellini, Eureka Springs Historical Museum Board Chair, straightens one of 108 storyboards that will tell the history of the city through text and photographs. The boards cover nine topics or events that helped shape the city. Armellini is adjusting the group under the heading "The City That Water Built." The full display should be up by the end of the week and is part of the museum renovation.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FLORA ROJA COMMUNITY A C U P U N C T U R E** - providing affordable healthcare for the whole community. Sliding scale fee. \$15-\$35 per treatment, with an additional \$15 paperwork fee the first visit only. You decide what you can afford to pay! Francesca Garcia Giri, L.Ac. (479) 253-4968, 199 Wall Street

**COME TO YOUR FARMERS' MARKET THIS THURSDAY** The Eureka Springs WINTER Farmers' Market is still in full swing. We have returning and new vendors coming to our market each week. The market hours are still Thursday 9 a.m. till Noon, until our summer market opens on April 25. Same place-Pine Mountain Village Parking Lot. Free coffee and tea in the heated, sheltered "Gathering Place." You can expect to find: many GREENS, Collard, Kale, Turnip, Bok Choi, Arugula, Parsley, Spinach and Lettuce. Scallions, Mushrooms, Apples, Carrots, Turnips and Radishes. Home Made baked goods, Breads, Pies, Pie Slices, Sweet Loaves, Muffins, Fruit Bars, Gluten Free items, Candies and Jams. Fresh Beef items, Pecans, Honey and homemade soaps. Glen the pork guy comes every other week. See ya there.

**PROFESSIONAL MENTAL HEALTH** at its best: **Simplicity Counseling**, meeting needs of your friends and neighbors in this community in a relaxed, respectful atmosphere since 2010. Depression, Anxiety, Trauma, Grief, Eating, Adjustment & Relationships – perhaps "It's Your Time" (479) 244-5181

**IOTO ART BREAD, ORGANIC-SOURDOUGH** 100% Rye & Whole Wheat. Bagels, Bialys, English Muffins. At the Eureka Springs Farmers' Market, Thursday morning. Bread.LovEureka.Com

## ANTIQUES

**WONDERLAND ANTIQUES** buys/sells antiques, primitives, unique vintage items. Open 10-5. Closed Wednesday. Hwy 62 east of Eureka 3 miles. (479) 253-6900

## YARD SALES

**INSIDE MOVING-YARD SALE.** Something for everyone. 60 Wall Street, Eureka Springs. Thursday – Sunday, 9 a.m. till dark.

## LOST

**3-BLADE CASE POCKET KNIFE**, lost not stolen. It's on the ground near either the Independent or the Roadhouse. It was my dad's. And I can't cut my limes. (479) 253-6101

## HELP WANTED

### Parts Unknown,

Eureka Spring's destination for a broad assortment of fine men's and women's fashions and accessories, is hiring Store Manager and Part-Time Sales Professionals.

If you are a service driven, energetic, fashion enthusiast, we'd like to meet with you.

Please email your resume to [Santafe@partsunknown.com](mailto:Santafe@partsunknown.com), or fax to (505) 983-9360.

**FOREST HILL RESTAURANT** in Eureka Springs seeking QUALIFIED and RESPONSIBLE BREAKFAST and GRILL COOK to add to its existing kitchen team. WAITSTAFF position available as well. Apply in person and ask for Paul.

## HELP WANTED

**SALES AND TASTE ROOM** – Keels Creek Winery is looking for individuals to work in the Taste Room, Winery and Vineyard. Weekends are a must – Weekdays are flexible. 11–6. Requires minimum 21 years old. Email application: [Winery@keelscreek.com](mailto:Winery@keelscreek.com) or call (479) 253-9463 for appointment.

**FULL TIME FLEX HOURS SALESPERSON** for fun job in greatest store in town. Please apply in person at Crazy Bone, 37 Spring Street

**HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED IMMEDIATELY.** 40+ hours monthly, \$10/hr. Call (479) 253-5966 for interview appointment.

**HELP WANTED** – cooks, servers, bartenders. Apply in person. Mon. – Wed., 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Squid & Whale, 10 Center Street

**PART TIME SALES.** Computer experience mandatory. For more info please call (479) 981-0103

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

**HISTORIC BEAVER TOWN GENERAL STORE – INN – DEPOT/WORKSHOP** is for rent. 5BR/5BA inn, furnished. 1BR/1BA apartment. Waterfront lifestyle. \$2000/mo, first and last. Call (479) 981-6816

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**3/3, 1792 SQ FT** Quiet, wooded setting on large lot 20 minutes from Eureka Springs. Family room with fireplace. 72 K or best offer. MLS 659522 (10 photos) Contact Century 21, (479) 253-7321

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# INDEPENDENT Classifieds

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**LEAP INTO SPRING WITH** a Laughing Hands Massage foot treatment and one hour massage. Great way to treat your tired feet. Laughing Hands always a great location for couples massage. Also, great deals on Lomi Lomi massage. Call (479) 244-5954 for appointment.

### MAINTENANCE/ LANDSCAPE/ HOME SERVICES

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MAIL continued from page 12

Eureka students to receive the best education possible? I took Rankine's article positively, as a good warning not to be brainwashed by our local politicians. Especially in light of the fact they have campaigned on a platform that manipulates voters' emotions.

Let us be clear here, not in theory, but in fact: since Reck Wallis retired and Wayne Carr took over the superintendent's position, the school district has lost many extremely qualified teachers and principals. Some have resigned, some have relocated or retired, but whether or not this was voluntary remains to be seen. In any case, Carr no longer has the position and we have replaced almost the whole school board (sadly we already lost the professional school board president, Mr. Templeton) but we didn't pull out the weed by its roots.

The irony is we still have the entire administration that was hired by the old school board under Wayne Carr's dictation. We still have teachers on the payroll whose performance is below average and we deal with unprofessional conduct on a daily basis. We still have school employees with a history of drugs and sexual harassment and nepotism in our school system simply ignored. We have a new high school building, yet we still have charges and complaints filed.

Should I really believe that our kids will get to have a "top-notch education" simply because they have new facilities? In a school district this size with three principals, three principals' secretaries, a superintendent and his administrative assistant (who are asking to create a

new position in the superintendent's office for an additional administrative assistant, ignoring the fact that we need more teachers), we didn't put lipstick on a pig, we gave him a "million dollar makeover." A new building with the old administration will not make much difference in our children's education.

*Cindy Clark*

## Doggie supporters outdo themselves

Editor,

Dealing with the loss of the Berryville Doggie Thrift Store has made this letter long overdue. A *really* big thank you to the community for making the 2013 Good Shepherd Humane Society Calendar a great success! Including raffle ticket sales, \$4901.25 was raised for care of the animals.

Thank you to all volunteers, photographers, graphic artists, models, raffle ticket purchasers, those who donated money, those who donated services, those who sold the calendars and, of course, those who bought a calendar!

*Tracellen Kelly*

## Going to the dogs

Editor,

Most dogs and cats might not appreciate the delights of cinnamon pear balsamic vinegar drizzled on sweet potatoes, or cooking with genuine olive oil (from olives whose crush date is actually known and celebrated). But rest assured that the homeless dogs and cats at Good Shepherd Shelter in Eureka Springs *will* appreciate the benefit held for them on Monday, April 8 at the Fresh Harvest Tasting Room (Pine Mt. shopping center on Hwy. 62E). Fresh Harvest offers free tastings of over 50 highest quality olive oils and balsamics, and will donate \$2 to \$5 for each bottle purchased on Monday, April 8.

The benefit runs from 4 to 8 p.m. and will feature music, free samples of recipes made with the olive oils and balsamics, tastings galore, a special game and a kitchen-themed raffle.

Given the recent loss of the Berryville thrift store, the Good Shepherd Humane Society is even more in need of our community's generous support.

*Dave Spencer*

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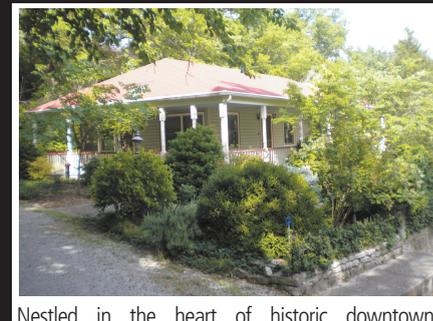
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