Dec. 11, 2013 10ebendent MADE IN THE USA



ESI is your INDEPENDENT news source covering Carroll County



Snowfly – While the snow flew last week, a lot of would-be air travelers didn't. Beautiful scenes like this ended in not-so pretty icy roads and slush here and across a lot of the country. Meanwhile, we're thankful the lights stayed on!

PHOTO BY MELANIE MHYRE

National Park Service slams SWEPCO; 'deeply troubled' by insufficiencies

BECKY GILLETTE

The National Park Service (NPS) sent a letter to the Arkansas Public Service Commission (APSC) Dec. 3 that strenuously disagrees with the staff's conclusion that NPS concerns about the American Electric Power/Southwest Electric Power Company (AEP/SWEPCO) Shipes Road to Kings River power line proposal have been addressed, and that the project would have no significant impact on the Pea Ridge National Military Park and the Trail of Tears.

"The NPS additionally requests that the APSC take no action on selecting a route due to insufficient historical resources information from which to base a decision," stated the letter from NPS Regional Director Michael T. Reynolds. "We believe that SWEPCO should be required to amend their environmental review with the important information that was referred to in our letters, which we believe would aid the APSC's decision-making process, and that the APSC take no action until Section 106 consultation, which is required under the National Preservation Act (NHPA), is initiated."

SWEPCO continued on page 21

This Week's INDEPENDENT Thinker

There aren't words left. All around the world, people have had something to say, something that tugged at their spirit and came out their mouth, something wonderful about a man who touched them.

The words have been said, written, thought, and we know no new ones. And no more will come from the man who made us stop and think about how we treat each other.

The world is full of good people, but few achieve the notoriety of Nelson Mandela. Few understand that a commitment to social justice starts with forgiveness. His mother can be proud of her son.



Inside the FSI

inside the Est			
Council	2	Constables on Patrol	14
Donna and Debbie	3	Independent Art	15
911 Mapping	4	High Falutin' Society	16
Sweet Christmas	5	Nature of Eureka	18
Chocolate bark recipe	5	Notes from the Hollow	19
New & rescheduled events	6	Exploring the Fine Art of Romance 21	
ndependent Mail	12	Indy Soul	22
ndependent Editorial	13	Astrology	27
Sycamore	14	Crossword	29

I want to look away but I can't.

Council: "intimate theater" allowed; Brixes not giving up

Eureka Springs City Council met for the last time this year on Dec. 9 in spite of the weather, but minus the presence of city attorney Tim Weaver and alderman Dee Purkeypile. Council tackled a lengthy agenda by first tabling or postponing several items due to the fact either the agenda item representative or city attorney were not present for discussion.

Items moved forward to begin the new year's business included: a vacation request for portions of Hartman and McCune, the amended Land Bank ordinance, business licenses for multifamily dwellings, the Auditorium Commission ordinance (pending review of state ordinance), hours of operation and animals in C-3 zones, the Clean City ordinance, CUP for farm animals (pending action by the Planning Commission) and the film industry tax incentive.

Council unanimously passed the ordinance for an additional permitted use in a C-3 zone on its third reading.



The ordinance, No. 2129, establishes permitted "quiet uses" of structures in the zone, an issue originally raised by use of the Gaviloi Chapel at 80 Mountain St. as a small theater. At the request of alderman David Mitchell, the title of the ordinance was corrected to read "Additional Permitted Use" to replace "Additional Conditional Use" in line with a vote taken in September. Minutes from that meeting were read into the record for clarification.

When it came to discussion of

Planning Commission for vacating property, alderman Terry McClung asked for procedures to be redone. He again noted that there was "not an equitable solution" for processing fees to be paid to the city and eventually going to the Parks Commission. He suggested the city attorney rewrite the ordinance using a flat fee to make it equitable and then get it on the agenda. Council agreed.

Hoping to get an answer to their 16-month quest to unencumber their property at 1 Magnetic from any possible city claims in order to develop it, Rachel Brix made a presentation on behalf of her and husband, Ryan.

She briefly gave the table a chronological summary of events since the summer of 2012 when she first asked for a vacation of what she assumed was a city street on the property. "But I'm no longer asking for a vacation," Brix commented. "I'm asking council now to determine whether or not the city has any rights to this strip of land that bisects our property."

To this end, Brix told the *Independent* she provided city attorney, Tim Weaver, with 22 documents in August, proving the city doesn't own it. "I left them right there on the table in front of him, but he didn't read them and the council took no action."

"In addition Planning's to unsubstantiated denial, both the Parks director and chairman of the Parks Commission have gone on record several times in recent months expressing their

COUNCIL continued on page 26





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Debbie and Donna will be missed

C.D. WHITE

Donna Shepard and Debbie Coleman have been fixtures at the Chamber of Commerce since 2002 and 2005 respectively, and both have recently retired. Those of us who frequent the Chamber and enjoy the special events it organizes for the community will certainly miss their special touch. Just becoming aware of all these two ladies did behind the scenes gives us a glimpse into all that goes on in our local Chamber.

Donna started out part-time at the front desk and later assumed the responsibility of Visitor Center Manager and most recently Director of Membership and Special Events. Over the years, she has played an off-and-on part at the Chamber.

"I guess you might say I 'semi-retired' along the way," Donna said. She moved to Benton County then came back and also worked at the CAPC for a year.

"I can honestly say I have never before worked with such an awesome and inspirational group of people – and, when I say this, I am referring to past and present Chamber Directors and employees, Chamber Board members, Chamber members, Eureka Springs residents, and all of the organizations I have had the privilege and honor to work with and to be a part of," Debbie told the Independent.

"I am so thankful for the relationships that have been created with all these

wonderful people and am certain that many of these friendships will endure a lifetime."

Donna's favorite part of her job, as one might guess, was seeing the smiles on the faces of all the visitors just arrived in Eureka Springs on vacation. Donna added "experiencing the excitement of new business owners at their ribbon cuttings, the smiles and hearing the laughter of Chamber members networking and socializing at Business After Hours and Open House and receiving a phone call from a visitor who just wanted to let the Chamber know how much they enjoyed their visit and how they are looking forward to their return trip," to that list.

"I think Maya Angelou said it best -'I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel,' Donna said. "To me, Maya's quote says it all. I know this might sound a little corny, but I feel that life is so precious and so fragile - just knowing that I may have brought a smile to someone's face and added a little sunshine to someone's day was definitely the best part of my job at the Chamber.

"I don't think that I will ever retire – just change direction and re-invent myself. I have more years behind me than in front of me, and I want to check off some of the

DEBBIE & DONNA continued on page 23

Debbie Coleman and Donna Shepard

Town hall meeting scheduled in Holiday Island Dec. 16

In the Class Action Suit filed by David Bischoff on behalf of all owners who have paid annual assessments of benefits to the Holiday Island Suburban Improvement District, Legal Notices have been mailed to Class Members. This Notification was/is also being published in a statewide Arkansas newspaper three times and the Notice also appears on the Holiday Island website. The above notification process was approved by the court at the October 21, 2013 hearing.

The Attorney for the class will hold a Town Hall Meeting on Monday, Dec. 16, in the ballroom of the Holiday Island Clubhouse on Holiday Island Drive at 6 p.m. Attorney Hutchinson will discuss the impact of the Settlement Agreement on owners and answer any questions owners may have regarding the settlement itself or the notice that was received by them as class members.

The court date for the hearing on the Settlement agreement is scheduled for January 21, 2014, 9 a.m. at the Courthouse in Eureka Springs.



911 mapping coordination explained

NICKY BOYETTE

The Carroll County Quorum Court voted in November to approve a budget that defunded the 911 mapping coordination office at the end of the year and switch duties over to the office of Countv Assessor Jo Ann Harris. Harris said she and her staff are still not sure what their new assignments will be, but has spoken with other assessors in the state who already handle mapping duties.

The original assignment for the mapping office was to handle the switchover from rural route addresses to the number-and-road system, and continue to keep current county records for addresses. As 911 was established and technology advanced, gathering and communicating large amounts of information between law enforcement agencies and responders became almost instantaneous, and someone needed to accumulate and coordinate the information efficiently and accurately. Those duties went to the mapping office.

"This office is the backbone of the 911 system," Candy Bawcom, current 911 mapping coordinator, said. Bawcom is retiring at the end of the year.

Justice of the Peace and Holiday Island Fire Chief, Jack Deaton, said the mapping office keeps track of the boundaries between different fire districts so correct departments get

the call. The 911 mapping office is the intermediary between all parties in gathering information to make sure the names and addresses on a dispatcher's screen are correct. If information turns out to be wrong, mapping makes it right.

Sheriff Bob Grudek said that office inputs all data and keeps it current. His dispatchers use the information it provides.

He said when a 911 call gets to

his dispatcher, that person sees a map on the monitor with the origin of the call identified and everything about that location displayed: the number of residents, which fire department has responsibility, phone numbers, etc. all the information a responder would

Harris said she would get someone in her office trained for the new duties as soon as possible.



New faces, new year - Linda Graves and David Makidon were seated on the Holiday Island Suburban Improvement District Board last Wednesday, the day after winning election Dec. 3. Graves, in her second term on the board, garnered 365 votes, and was elected Chair. Makidon, who tallied 317, was elected Secretary for the new board. Ken Brown is Vice-Chair. Shown (l. to r.) are Ken Brown, Greg Davis, Linda Graves, Ken Ames and David Makidon.



Take a holiday break - with lunch

... Make that a break from the holidays. The public is invited to leave the whirlwind behind and come to a quiet retreat at St. James' Episcopal Church, 28 Prospect, on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The event will feature a series of meditations led by The Rev. Anne Carriere, retired Episcopal priest from Mountain Home, alternating with times for quiet reflection through such responses as praying, walking, reading and journaling, etc. The time of silence will conclude with a service of Holy Communion followed by a light lunch. For more information or to RSVP to the lunch, call (479) 253-8610.

Dances for peace

Dances of Universal Peace will be held Dec. 13, 7 – 8:30 p.m. in the church building at 17 Elk St. All are welcome to participate in this meditative movement.

White elephant sale postponed

The HI Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary White Elephant Sale scheduled for Dec. 7 has been postponed due to inclement weather. The sale will be rescheduled after the first of the year.

Sunday at UUF

On Dec. 15, Dr. Chuck McNeal presents 21st Century Unitarian Universalist Thought: a Christmas Message. All are welcome at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Sundays at 11 a.m., 17 Elk Street, for a program and refreshments. Childcare is provided. Extra parking at Ermilio's, 26 White Street. For program information phone Ron (479) 981-9781, or see www.euuf.org.

Candy canes, Christmas cookies and the sugar blues

BECKY GILLETTE

Are you overloading on sugar during the holiday season? People love to bring their favorite sugary treats to holiday parties, and this can be a time of year when people feel it's okay to indulge a little... which can turn into a lot.

Health coach Carrie Marry doesn't want you to feel bad if you struggle with eating too much sugar, and has some great information to

share.

First, sugar is seriously addictive.

"When you get a little, you want a lot more," Marry said. "The most dangerous thing is how refined sugar spikes up our blood sugar. In response to a sugar overload, our body puts out a massive amount of insulin to bring our blood sugar levels under control. Insulin is a powerful hormone and the level of insulin in our blood determines how efficiently our body

insulin in the blood (which happens when we consume excessive amounts of sugar or refined carbohydrates) and our cells saying, 'We have enough sugar for now,' causes the excess sugar to be stored in fat cells, especially the fat cells around our bellies

"We also tax our liver as it tries to handle this sugar overload in our bloodstream. Remember, everything we consume is filtered from our blood by the liver. Sugar is a terrible burden for our livers."

People who eat a lot of refined sugar have short periods of feeling happy or energized because it provides a burst of energy that's a brain high.

"Then your body crashes because there is so much insulin in the bloodstream," Marry said. "You get tired, and often will eat more sugar to

burns stored fat for energy. Too much recover. When you eat a lot of sugar, you set yourself up for discomfort. It's a roller coaster cycle that's hard to break out of. Sugar is an addictive substance."

> It can be difficult to make good food choices when sugar is added to so many different products in the store.

> "Although everyone mentions personal responsibility, the deck is stacked against us," Marry said. "About twenty-five percent of the average grocery store is devoted to selling sugar. There are lobbyists working to make sure that sugar production receives subsidies to keep it inexpensive. There are no regulations in our country to exert any control over how sugar is marketed, especially to children. Children have been led to believe that they must have special children's food. A red **SUGAR** continued on page 28

Dark Chocolate Bark

While experimenting with melting chocolate for the bark, I came upon instructions for "tempering" the chocolate for a superior bark.

Tempering results in a chocolate that has a better "snap," is shinier, and when handling the bark you don't have the oily feel from the cocoa butter. I also experimented with various cocoa percentages. The higher the cocoa percentage, the more health benefits you receive.

- 1 9 oz. bag of Sunspire Organic 65 percent chocolate chips
- 2 3.5 oz. Green and Black's 85 percent dark chocolate bar

1 cup toasted almonds coarsely chopped (I chopped and then toasted in a dry skillet)

1 cup dried sweet cherries coarsely chopped

8 discs of candied ginger, slivered

½ tsp. of coarse sea salt

Have chopped nuts and fruit ready before you start melting the chocolate, (salt is separate)

Line a cookie sheet (11x17 or bigger) with foil

Melt the bag of chocolate chips and ½ of one of the bars (broken into pieces) in a double boiler over barely simmering water. You want to melt the chocolate

Chop the remaining 1 and ½ bars into very small pieces.

When the chocolate has melted completely, remove from heat and dry the sides of the double boiler.

Now you are going to add the remaining 1 and ½ bars that you chopped up, but in 3 batches.

Be sure that each addition of chocolate melts completely before adding the next. Stir to help melt evenly.

If the chocolate cools down, place back over the hot water for several seconds. Test the temperature of the chocolate on your lower lip. It should feel just barely warm.

Once all of the chocolate is melted, quickly pour onto foil-lined sheet and quickly spread thinly.

Sprinkle with the chopped fruit and nuts and press into the chocolate. Sprinkle the salt over the top.

Let cool at room temp for several hours or in the fridge for 30 minutes. Break into uneven pieces.





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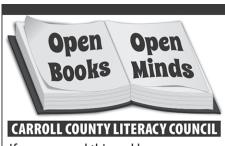
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INDEPENDENTNews

New & rescheduled holiday events

Ol' Man Winter threw us a curve (snow)ball last week, but hey, this is Eureka Springs - and the show will go on! Er, weather permitting. See December's Fun Guide for event details.

All month: Bling in the Springs. City streets, businesses, Basin Park and neighborhoods all decorated for the holidays. Take a drive and enjoy!

Nightly through Jan. 3: Christmas Forest at the Crescent Hotel, a sparkling outdoor Christmas tree forest raises funds for area non-profits. Donation.

Thursday, Dec. 12

11 a.m. – noon – Christmas Music from Aurora High School, Crystal Ballroom, Crescent Hotel. Live holiday dining music.

6 - 8:30 p.m.- Experience the Light, Drive-through light display at Great Passion Play. Donation.

6:30 p.m. – Ozarks Chorale "Sounds of the Season" and Holiday Dinner, Crystal Ballroom, Crescent Hotel. www.christmasatthecrescent. com. (479) 253-9652. Reservations suggested.

Friday, Dec. 13

11 a.m. – 2 p.m. – Holiday Open House at Arvest Bank, 151 Van Buren.

1:30 – 3:30 p.m. – *St. James Annual* Silver Tea, Crescent Hotel Crystal Ballroom. Donation.

5 – 7 p.m. – *Snow Train Christmas* Village, Carnegie Library Annex. \$5 adult, \$2 child.

6 - 8:30 p.m. - Experience the Light, Drive-through light display, Live Nativity (6:30 and 7:30 performances), Christmas sing-along with chocolate, Nativity set display and more. Great Passion Play grounds. Donation.

Saturday, Dec. 14

10 a.m. - 7 p.m. - Snow Train Christmas Village, Carnegie Library Annex. \$5 adult, \$2 child.

1 - 3 p.m. – Santa in the Park plus Reindeer Games, S'mores and more. Basin Park.

1 – 6 p.m. – Annual Sweet Treats B&B Tour, nine B&Bs serving yummy treats, recipes to take home and a chance to win \$100 gift certificates. \$20, selfguided. (479) 253-8916.

3 - 5 p.m. - Living Windows and the Jingle Bell Stroll, Basin Park and downtown.

3 – 8 p.m. – Preservation Society Tour of Homes, nine historic homes dressed for the holidays. Music, refreshments and more. Tix \$20 at the Chamber or at the door. (479) 253-8737.

4 – 9 p.m. – Doug Stowe/Eleanor Lux Christmas Show and Open House (Do-Over), 18 White St. (479) 253-

6 - 8:30 p.m. - Experience the Light, Drive-through light display, Live Nativity (6:30 and 7:30 performances), Christmas sing-along with chocolate, Nativity set display and more. Great Passion Play grounds. Donation.

7:30 p.m. - Ozarks Chorale Christmas Concert and community "Hallelujah Chorus," city auditorium. \$10 at the door.

Sunday, Dec. 15

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Snow Train Christmas Village, Carnegie Library Annex. \$5 adult, \$2 child

Noon - 5 p.m. - Fire Om Earth Holiday Open House, 872 Mill Hollow Rd. (479) 363-9402.

2 p.m. – *John Two-Hawks Christmas* Concert with Gravette Jr. High Youth Choir. Tix \$15 at johntwohawks.com or \$20 at the door. Free admission age 15 and under. City auditorium.

6 - 8:30 p.m. – Experience the Light, Drive-through light display at Great Passion Play. Donation.

Monday, Dec. 16 (Parade Day!)

10 a.m. - HI Community Church Ladies Fellowship Cookie Exchange. Guest Ellen Foncannon Stephenson, composer and pianist, will entertain and discuss her music and career. Her CD. Winterwood will be available for purchase and Christmas giving. Bring three dozen cookies and take home a different three dozen! HI Community Church, 188 Stateline Drive. (479) 253-9398.

5 – 7 p.m. – Snow Train Christmas Village, Carnegie Library Annex, now daily through Friday, Dec. 20 from 5 -7 p.m.; then Saturday, Dec. 21 from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., Sunday from 10 a.m. - 5p.m. and the final day - Monday, Dec. 23, from 5 - 7 p.m. \$5 adult, \$2 child

6 p.m. – Christmas Memories Parade, Annual Chamber of Commerce lighted parade. Grand Marshals, "The World Famous Platters - a Tribute to Excellence" will lead the parade of bands, floats, walking characters, horses, Santa Claus and more. Join the Party in Basin Park after the parade. Park and ride on the trolley system beginning at 4 p.m. Pickups from the old high school, Transit Welcome Center, Pine Mountain Village parking lot (and trolley stops in between) to the downtown depot until just before parade time. Fare is a non-perishable food item each way for Flint Street and Wildflower food banks, or \$2 per boarding without a food item. Trolleys will run back to pickup points for about an hour after the parade.

Thursday, Dec. 19

7 p.m. – Eureka Springs Elementary School Christmas Show, city auditorium. An "aww"-some Christmas show for, about and by children. Free admission.

All aboard for the Polar Express Party!

The Eureka Springs Carnegie Public Library will host a free Polar Express Party for young children on Tuesday, Dec. 17, from 5-6:30 p.m. in the Library Annex at 192B Spring Street. Guests will enjoy milk and cookies, crafts for small hands - and will be treated to a visit to the Snow Village and Train Exhibit! The evening will wrap up with songs and a reading of the Chris Van Allsburg classic, The Polar Express. Contact the library at (479) 253-8754 or info@ eurekalibrary.org.



Top Scots – Highlanders sophomore guard Mathew McClung jumps for a layup against Green Forest in Eureka Springs Tuesday, Dec. 3. Trevor Lemme dropped in a lucky 21, Ryan Sanchez added 20, including 9 of 11 from the foul line, and Dalton Johnson was good for 18, including four threes. The Highlanders crushed the Tigers, 85-48, and are now 9-2 for the season.

Is it time for a change?

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Park Bark - I'm Bones and outright begging just doesn't suit me (but this festive collar sure does), so I'll wait patiently ... and I'm being patient for the Dog Park to open, too. Know what else I'm tryin' real hard to be patient about? A furever home! I'm waiting at Good Shepherd for you to make me part of your family – that would be the best

Christmas gift of all! The humans tell me they're ordering the Dog Park fence this month and will be putting it up after the Year. I'd New love to romp there with a new owner. Wanna help have the park open for springtime? to the meeting Wed., Dec. 18 library at the annex at 6 p.m. Questions? Call Rachel (479)244-9151.

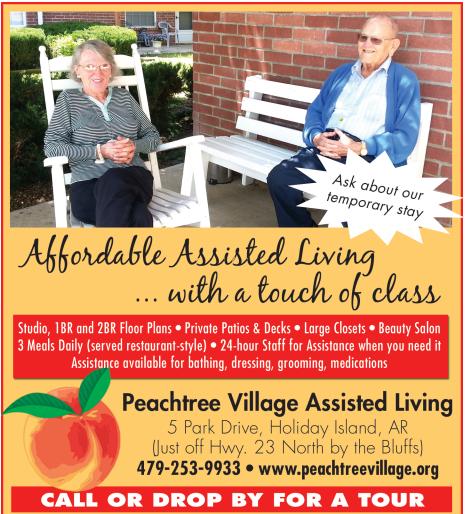




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Chains, chains - These chains fooled Jason Simmons of Reliable Trucking by spinning loose while ascending Planer Hill on Saturday. Eighteen-wheelers cannot pull over onto the shoulder safely in this area so Simmons, like many other truckers this past weekend, was forced to stop on US 62 to make adjustments and tighten the chains on his rig.



News from the Chamber

Please send all notices for the Chamber's Member to Member newsletter to holly@ eurekaspringschamber.com from now on.

Wheee - After a walk to the Post Office, Jeff Gray gives his daughter, Emryn Aurora, 4, a push along a deserted stretch of Spring Street Saturday, Dec. 7. Roads were a little busier by Monday thanks to road crews working hard to clear icy slush out of the way.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY





Student of the Month - Dallas Galyen, daughter of Jay and Jill Galyen, is Eureka Springs Rotary's November Student of the Month. Dallas is a sophomore at Eureka Springs High School where she carries a 4.0 GPA. Her honors classes include Advanced Placement Biology, Algebra II and English 10. Dallas is a member of the National Honor Society and has served as Freshman Class secretary and co-president of the Future Business Leaders of America. She is also a Young Citizen Award recipient and a member of the Eureka Springs Teen Network and Skills USA. Dallas plays volleyball and enjoys barrel racing. She intends to go to college and take courses in the medical field.

PHOTO BY JILL GALYEN, WWW.JILLSPHOTOGRAPHY.COM.



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Get hooked on independent films

2014 brings the first-ever Eureka Springs Independent Film Festival to the city auditorium from January 23 -25. Whether you love making them or watching them, this three-day festival of digital film is likely to become a habit - and who knows? - a future famous filmmaker may be discovered!

This not-for-profit event is dedicated to the talent of filmmaking both as an art form and a medium of information and education. Its mission is to inspire, encourage, recognize and promote the work of established and emerging filmmakers.

Filmmakers are invited to submit their digital work until Dec. 31 (late deadline with surcharge, Jan. 9) in several categories: Documentary, cause-related documentary, art film, drama, animation, comedy and young filmmakers. Films can be shorts (5-40 minutes) or feature length (40-120 or more minutes).



Will all movies really be made in digital format by 2015? There will be a workshop and panel discussions with two pioneers of traditional film distribution who've transitioned to the digital marketplace. This is a not-to-be-missed panel dealing with the next frontier of indie film distribution.

For those of us who just like a good film, screenings will be held Thursday night, all day Friday, and Saturday until 3 p.m. in the auditorium. On Saturday at 6:30 p.m. the excitement of the first-ever Indie Awards Ceremony begins! The award show will be followed by the Indie After Party at Voulez-Vous Lounge, 63 Spring St. at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Tickets are only \$25 for all panel discussions, all screenings and the awards ceremony; \$10 for one day of discussion and screenings and \$5 for the awards ceremony.

Awards in each category include cash prizes and the Indie Award Statue.

Special awards include the Loretta Young Foundation "Innovative Women in Film" and Young Filmmakers Award.

Come join fellow lovers of a good story and party for three days with the folks who make it happen. Films continue to come in, so check in at www.esindiefilmfest.com for the latest information.

See you at the movies!











Walking or snowshoeing? - Some might wonder whether snowshoes might be in order if winter continues like this. Leatherwood was beautiful but a little tricky to walk.

PHOTO BY MELANIE MYHRI



Volkscheck -

Denis Dodson and Claudette Tripp of the Volksmeisters Volkswagen Club presented Flint Street Fellowship Food Pantry and Lunchroom with a check for \$3000 from their Eureka Springs Tourcade held August 23 – 25. The generous donation was made in memory of the Volksmeisters' good friend, Bob Dean.

A little help from our friends:

- Food pantry, furniture bank and used book store - Wildflower Chapel Food Pantry is open 10:30 - Noon on Fridays. Thrift Store and Used Furniture Bank open Monday – Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. (479) 363-6408. Service times: 253-5108.
- Coffee Break Al-Anon Family Group Women - Tuesdays, 9:45 a.m., Faith Christian Family Church, Hwy. 23S. (479) 363-9495.
- First United Methodist Church offers free Sunday suppers 5:30 - 7 p.m. Hwy. 23S. Night Church at 6 with short message and music. (479) 253-8987
- St. James' Episcopal Church hosts community Sunday Night Suppers **from 5** - 6:30 p.m. at St. James' Church, 28 Prospect, until March. The suppers are for the community, especially those who are out of work, and are provided at no charge by area restaurants and others. (479) 253-8610.
- GRIEF SHARE 13-week grief recovery program begins Oct. 13. Sundays 2 – 4 p.m. HI Community Church Fellowship Hall library (188 Stateline Drive). Join at any time. \$15 workbook fee required. For details phone (479) 253-8925, or e-mail lardellen@gmail.com.

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

- *Alateen* Sundays, 10:15 11:15 a.m. Email alateen1st@gmx.com or phone (479) 981-9977.
- Overeaters Anonymous Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. Barbara (479) 244-0070.
- Narcotics Anonymous Fridays, 5:30 p.m. (903) 278-5568
- Al-Anon Family Group (AFG) -Sundays, 11:30 a.m., Mondays and Tuesdays 7 p.m.
- Eureka Springs Coffee Pot AA Group

Monday - Saturday 12:30 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.

Sunday - Thursday, Saturday, 5:30

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

All other meetings: See www. nwarkaa.org



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Reduce, Reuse, RECYCLE

Novel noise solution

Editor.

There has been a lot in the press lately about overt, unwanted noise. Someone suggested that the noise abatement policy not only apply to motorcycles, but extend to things like lawnmowers, weed eaters, leaf blowers, etc. As I understand it, originally the complaints were about tourists deciding not to return to Eureka Springs because of the noise. I have yet to hear of a tourist deciding not to return because he/she was bothered by someone mowing a lawn or blowing leaves off a sidewalk.

INDEPENDENTMail

Getting back to motorcycles, it's a shame that the relative few who decide to remove factory exhaust equipment and install straight pipes cast a shadow over all the other riders. The argument that loud pipes prevent accidents is specious at best. Bikes coming toward you are not the problem. It's those passing by and, particularly, those going away from you, especially in the concrete canyons of downtown Eureka Springs.

I have a novel idea on how to manage the noise. On days when we are expecting an unusually large influx of

bikers we would set up "noise stations" at all major entries into town, similar to weigh stations one sees along the interstate highways. Bikers would have to stop and pass a noise test. If one failed the test he would have to leave his machine at the edge of town and ride the trolley or hitch a ride into town. Remember I said this was a novel idea, not a practical one.

All INDEPENDENT Mail must be signed and include address and phone number for confirmation. Letters to the Editor should be limited to 200 words or so. We reserve the right to edit submissions. Send your INDEPENDENTMail to:

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

The truth of the matter is, as I see it, is that there is no practical way to control motorcyclists who insist on irritating people. As to the other power devices mentioned. I could imagine a noise abatement law that would restrict using such machines on Sundays, giving us a true day of rest.

By the way, I never mow or weed eat my lawn on Sunday, just as a courtesy to my neighbors. And I ride a quiet twowheeler (Yamaha Vino scooter).

Bill Westerman

Call to action

Editor,

In our struggle against SWEPCO's unwarranted and destructive power line, it seems that Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is our best friend. It protects valuable historic properties from wanton destruction by

governmental agencies or corporations if what they plan to do requires permits to cross government lands or waterways. It seems that if the US Army Corps of Engineers does its job properly, it must be in compliance with Section 106, and cannot, except in the most dire necessity with no reasonable alternatives, allow the power line to be built where it would damage the Trail of Tears or imperil the future of the National Battlefield Park at Pea Ridge.

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) asks that where there are concerns, citizens should contact agencies and ask that Section 106 be enforced. Contact Jason V. Gramlich at the US Army Corps of Engineers today! His email is: Jason.V.Gramlich@usace.army.mil

Ask the status of the US Army Corps of Engineers' review of the Shipes Road to Kings River project and insist that, if the Corps of Engineers has not done a Section 106 review, it must begin that review now. Then ask that the SWEPCO project not be allowed. Insist that it is not needed. Inform them that it would be overly destructive of our natural environment, and that under Section 106 of the National Historic MAIL continued on page 28



WEEK'STopTweets

@Daddy dougie --- I buy all my guns from a bloke called T-Rex... He's a small arms dealer.

@Twylaredsun --- Sending a second cup of coffee down to check on the first one to see why it's not doing its job.

@NeinQuarterly --- The NSA walks into a bar. Bartender: "Got a new joke for you." NSA: "Heard it."

@postcrunk --- I wish humans were as excited to meet each other as dogs.

@TravLeBlanc --- The internet was down at work today. I got about 7 months worth of work done out of boredom.



@maurilOpez --- I have a horrible sleeping disorder where I have to wake up every morning and go to work.

@Zen Moments --- Watch the little things; a small leak will sink a great ship. ~ Benjamin Franklin

> **@UnFitz** --- Her idea of extending an olive branch was to sharpen one end first, then extend it REALLY hard.

> @beingtheo Big deal, McDonald's. We're all here for a limited time only.

> **@MelanieMc23** --- @Earth Pics: Squirrels use their tail as an umbrella to protect from snow.

INDEPENDENTE ditorial

"It always seems impossible until it's done." NELSON MANDELA

e came into his own at 72. It's a time when many people are already retired and having morning coffee at the convenience store talking about neighbors, hemorrhoids and the government.

When he was 75 he was elected the first black President in South Africa in a free and democratic election. When he was 81 he retired from that, never stopping to lick the wounds of being arrested repeatedly and spending 27 years in prison. He was a lawyer, but that's a designation that falls to the end of his résumé because of everything else he crammed into a rich life. He was a revolutionary who espoused violence as a path to peace, and for that was declared an enemy of the state and sentenced to life in prison. He was allowed one censored letter, to send or receive, every six months.

Hard to keep up with the family that way.

He endured. He swung a sledgehammer in the hot African sun, pounding rock into gravel, day after day. He slept on the floor, night after night. He had every reason to resent his predicament.

It seems he realized that if he allowed anger and rancor to dictate his life, hatred and brutality would thrive. So he changed tactics. He carefully chose what he read, thought, imagined, and hoped for. He realized that laughter kills fear, and when fear is gone, people's eyes open wide with possibility and prosperity.

What makes some people rise to the top of the pyramid? Where do we buy charisma? How do we live a life where we provide more than we require? Do we have to go to prison to find out? All we really know is that the second largest continent on Earth is singing and swaying with joy because the man lived, not weeping because he died.

It feels like Nelson Mandela managed to answer questions we didn't even ask. There have been others like him, people of greatness, ever since cavemen started chiseling To Do lists on rock walls. But it's rare that we get to see profound change that is the result of accessing what's in our heart. So many thoughts are one-note, never experiencing their full range. People like Mandela, who was as full of flaws and faults as the rest of us, jack their lives up a notch just by wondering how to make it better for the future of all.

A friend in Seattle wrote this morning about her time in Soweto:

"I lived in South Africa in 1992, smack in the middle of enormous transition - two years since Mandela's release from Robben Island but two years until he would be elected president. My six-month stint as a reporter and unofficial observer would change my life, not just because of what I saw, heard and experienced. I discovered my spiritual home, a place of extreme beauty and ugliness, where I fell in love with the people, the landscape and the passion, and where I nearly moved to be with the son of an unsung Robben Island revolutionary.

"Since that tricky time in 1992, when there was both the promise of multiracial dreams fulfilled and continuing bloodbaths in the streets, South Africa has been a major thread in my life, like an artery that pumps blood from my heart through the rest of my body. Mandela, with his extraordinary political savvy and determination to undo as much evil as humanly possible, was always there, like the furniture. Whether you liked him or not (and many did not), he was part of the air that we – white, black and "coloured" – all breathed, and for this Yankee, it was – and remains – intoxicating.

"As you may already know, Mandela was not a one-man-anti-apartheid band, as it took villages near and far to kick four decades of brutal oppression to the curb. But Mandela was the designated super hero, and he wore that cape with flying colors. And the world watched. And smiled wide. And said 'thank you'."

DEMOCRATS



UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IS LIKE A LIFE PRESERVER.

REPUBLICANS



UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IS A MILL STONE AROUND YOUR NECK

ThePursuitOfHAPPINESS

fter reading my column last week, the excellent Don Matt told me, "You make despair sound like a rational and thoughtful process of reductionist resignation. Your words are like a Chinese finger puzzle. I got to the end [of your column] and my sunny disposition had strangled me into believing my optimism was a problem."

Don is quite right. We all came here to be happy, and the smart ones among us have learned to concentrate on the moonlight and magnolia, and ignore the remorseless, studied, bizarre, vacuous, owned, inane, merciless, callous, premeditated, and intentional sleaziness of our governing political parties, the Corporate PR Department called media, and that bore two doors down who thinks Ayn Rand was a legitimate novelist and philosopher. Sincere apologies, Don (really). I promise to make amends beginning now and at least through the balance of the year.

For one, I really enjoyed last week's storm. My new Subaru behaved as goat-like in the snow as advertised, joyful children made angels in the yard, and all obligations and functions were cancelled. Saturday's Second Amendment Pep Rally was even called off.

That made me particularly happy. We now know that the President won't have to send drones up the colons of those fierce freedom fighters hiding out in our hills. He can simply order the National Weather Service to announce a Winter Storm Warning and they will lay down their arms and rush off to Wal-Mart to purchase satchels of Wonder Bread. Bloodshed will be avoided and Alice can use the extra dough to buy another picture. It is all good.

I also enjoyed watching Carrie Underwood in *The Sound of Music* on TV the other night. It reminded me of the time I gave up cussing for Lent. Every time I wanted to let one rip I'd shout "Julie Andrews!" instead. I recall that rare Lenten success with contentment and, even today, feel an uptick in my self-esteem as a result of that long ago victory.

Don, I hope this column was better. Your music always makes me happy and I want to return the favor if I can.

Sycamore, by Constance Wagner and published in 1950 by Alfred A. Knopf, is the story of a sophisticated New York girl who marries a boy from Arkansas. The Wagners and their four children lived in Eureka Springs while the novel was written.

In addition to four novels, Constance Wagner wrote numerous articles and stories published in *The New Yorker, Atlantic Monthly* and *Collier's*.

nd Mrs. Telemon, having permitted herself to stray so far down the dark alleys of the past, was unable to turn her mind back at once. For several minutes, she was quite unaware of Billy and his agony, unaware even of her own blue image, beautiful against the wide window. It was Paul Telemon she was seeing, standing with his feet firmly planted in the middle of a Chinese rug (thank goodness she'd got rid of that!) and his dark face darker with anger.

She remembered his eyes, and the way the words had broken through his tight and angry lips, words hardcut and precise, their edges sharp as stone. She had stopped up her ears, but the words had struck at her anyway.

"By God, you're a virtuous woman," he had said. "I wish I didn't have to leave Jane at your mercy. You've poisoned me and you'll poison her." (Well, he needn't have worried on that score, for she'd certainly had

very little influence on Jane, so much the worse for *her*, poor child.)

And then, just before he had slammed out the door - with his hat already on his head, mind you - he'd said, "Your heart is a mirror, and nothing in it but your own damned face." Forget it, she thought. Forget

For here was dear Billy Gordon, devoted, murmuring solace over a tea cup. What a mistake it was to look back! Destroy each year as you put it behind you – that was the only intelligent way to deal with life.

"People like you and me, Billy, must rise on stepping stones of their dead selves to higher things, as whowas-it said. One can only hope that dear Jane and Walter will come to see the truth of that. Do let me pour you some hot tea."

As she reached for his cup, the hollow between her breasts showed for an instant in the blue V of the dress. "Lemon and one lump," she said, ritualistically, bravely gay.

Billy Gordon, toiling painfully up out of Hell, circle by circle, inclined his head. "Thank you," he said gratefully.

"And to think," she pursued, handing him the cup as if she were bestowing the Eucharist, "to think that Walter is taking my poor child to that outlandish place! Why, Billy, I never dreamed that anyone actually lived in Arkansas. I thought it was like the - the Gobi Desert or something."

Billy Gordon stared in mild alarm. "Do they have to live in Arkansas?" he asked, deeply concerned.

Mrs. Telemon spread her fingers of one hand - a shrug that did not involve the shoulders. "I'm sure they don't. But I can see that Walter is going to have his way about things. Perhaps that's as it should be – though I must say, Jane has always shown an independent spirit in the past. Her attitude toward Walter really amazes me."

Billy Gordon looked a little frightened, as if here again there might be intimations of a sinister force at work. He groped toward safer ground.

"I - I understand that Mr. Knowles had a position here in New York. Advertising, wasn't it?"

"Oh, but he's giving it up the moment they're married. Simply because his father has this little country newspaper down there, and Walter must go down and take it over. I took it upon myself to warn him that Jane would be very unhappy in such a place, after living all her life in New York – except for the year we were abroad. But he didn't seem to be listening."

Her gentle smile rested on Billy Gordon, as she wrapped herself cozily in his solicitude. For some time, they sat together brooding on the remoteness of the Ozarks. At heart, however, Mrs. Telemon was not quite inconsolable, since, with Jane at such a distance, she would seldom have occasion to use that damaging line: "My daughter, Mrs. Walter Knowles."

INDEPENDENT Constables On Patrol

DECEMBER 2

8:01 a.m. – Staff at a restaurant reported that someone had broken in and stolen liauor.

8:40 a.m. - Resident just south of downtown reported she had a herd of deer in her back yard, and one of them had an arrow stuck in its back. Animal Control went to the scene and ascertained the deer with the arrow was not acting sick or injured, and then it ran away with the other deer.

10:58 a.m. – Traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the driver for a warrant out of Fayetteville.

DECEMBER 3

2:55 a.m. – Witness claimed passengers in a vehicle stopped in a parking lot, rearranged the letters on a sign and took off toward town. Constable on patrol encountered the vehicle in a parking lot. The passengers claimed they had turned around in a few parking lots because they were lost, but they did not mess with any signs.

9:28 a.m. – Individual turned himself in on a warrant for domestic assault.

10 a.m. - There was a two-vehicle accident on the eastern edge of town. No injuries, but both vehicles had to be

1:21 p.m. – Frightened caller told ESPD she was afraid people would be coming to her house as part of a scam. Constable went to the scene.

1:25 p.m. – Constable downtown fixed a change machine.

DECEMBER 5

2:27 a.m. - An alarm rang out at a closed restaurant. Constable responded and found the building secure.

8:36 a.m. – Two vehicles bumped in a parking lot.

8:39 a.m. – Concerned resident reported a semi heading toward Little Lake Eureka. Constable found the semi, but it was already turned around.

9:32 a.m. - Truck ran over a fence in

a neighborhood just east of downtown.

3:41 p.m. – Security company called in an alarm going off at a business. Constable went there and found everything okay.

7:44 p.m. – Distressed caller told ESPD her possibly inebriated ex-husband was banging on her front door. Constables arrived and advised the ex-husband to leave.

8:44 p.m. – Car drove off the road on the east side of town.

11:48 p.m. - Neighbor reported teenagers were drinking at a house above downtown. The mother just took one of them to the hospital. Constable responded and spoke with the mother.

DECEMBER 6

11:56 a.m. - A four-wheeler was reportedly pulling sleds on US 62. Constable looked for but did not find it.

DECEMBER 7

12:34 a.m. – Central dispatch transferred a domestic disturbance call to ESPD. A

neighbor said she heard shouting next door, and the woman is saying, "Stop!" Constables responded and arrested a male for third degree domestic battery. 9:51 a.m. - Constable provided traffic assistance while a tow truck pulled a vehicle out of a ditch.

11:59 a.m. - Alarm sounded at a business downtown. Constable found a back door open but there was still no access to the shop. All other doors were

2:18 p.m. - A semi got stuck in the intersection of US 62 and Hwy. 23 South. Constable helped get the vehicle to the shoulder where it waited for a tow truck.

DECEMBER 8

3:43 p.m. - One neighbor asked for a constable to mediate between her and her neighbor about the neighbor's animal. Constables gave counsel to both parties.

INDEPENDENTArt

Send in the clouds

Don't worry, they're here. Head in the Clouds, an exhibition of new cloud paintings by Jody Stephenson, continues to be on display through December at the StoneHouse, 89 S. Main from 1 - 10 p.m. Thursday through Sunday.

Come relax with a view of Cloud Nine (shown above) and enjoy sky gazing with a glass of wine and conversation



with friends. For more information, call (479) 363-6411 or see studio62.biz.

Fire Om Earth Holiday Open House Dec. 15

Come see Lorna Trigg Hirsch's private collection of Southern African Zulu and Xhosa beadwork from Noon -5 p.m. on Dec. 15. She began collecting around age 18 while traveling and working with the indigenous people of her home country. This is the first time the collection is being shown in Northwest Arkansas. The 60-plus pieces are mostly ceremonial, as tribal people of Southern Africa use beaded adornment to exhibit status in their community; and adornment is primary to their coming of age or a celebratory event.

After the open house, the beadwork exhibit will continue from 12 - 5 p.m. until Dec. 22. Studio and showroom holiday hours through Dec. are 10 a.m.



-4 p.m. There will also be 40 - 50percent discounts on holiday shopping for handcrafted works by Lorna Trigg and Craig Hirsch including flutes, ocarinas, drums, home and garden sculptural and functional clay work. 872 Mill Hollow Rd. (479) 363-9402.

Thyme for Christmas

Honoring the Mother in Nature -

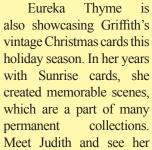
Green Women and Entwives by Judith Ann Griffith

Following a career in illustration and mischievous cats she works in her and design, and continuing a lifetime of making things by hand, Judith Ann Griffith has recently created figures honoring the Divine Spirit she encounters daily in the woods and garden. Incorporating her decadesold collections of natural materials, fin de siècle lace

and embroidery from Great Aunt Pinkey – along with

paints and papier mâché – Judith imbues these entities with her love for Mother Earth. Accompanied by good dogs

studio amongst hundreds of books, curiosities, prayer flags and helpful angels.



creations at Eureka Thyme, 10 Spring Street, on Saturday, Dec.14, from 1-4and 6-9 p.m.

Call to artists

Thea Arts Festival applications are available to exhibit in the 3rd annual festival April 26, 2014, in the Argenta District of North Little Rock. The one-day show will feature works by juried artists. For more info, email emily@theafoundation.org. more about the Thea Foundation see theafoundation.org.

The Eureka Springs Historical Museum, which has several hundred visitors a month, is offering exhibition space for artists living in Western District Carroll County. The museum

has set aside an eight-foot wall and a display case in the lobby where artists may display work and contact information. Artist's exhibitions will be changed on a monthly rotation.

All work must be "hang ready." The museum will make a print rack available if requested. Work must be available for purchase, and the artist will receive 60 percent of the selling price. Space is available on a first come, first serve basis. If you would like to exhibit please email Zeek Taylor at zeek.taylor@cox.net.

One great twofer at Poetluck Dec. 19

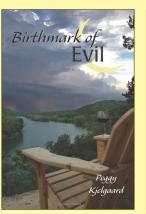
The Christmas Poetluck on Dec. 19 will host local writers Peggy Kjelgaard and Woody Barlow, who will give us sneak peek readings from their recently-published books.

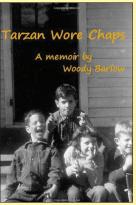
Peggy's Birthmark of Evil work of fiction delivers a message of strength and empowerment to people trapped in a high-paced, greed-oriented and powerdriven lifestyle – powerful in

particular for women embarking on a journey toward personal fulfillment and happiness.

Woody's Tarzan Wore Chaps is a coming-of-age memoir. After surviving polio and an eye operation, a 10-year-old boy escapes into a world of imagination where Tarzan rules the escarpment, and witches lurk behind shuttered windows.

Each author will read for 10 minutes and share some publishing adventures.





Local writers will then be invited to read for up to four minutes each. Peggy and Woody will also be available to sign books.

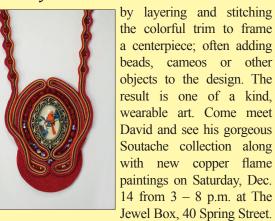
The readings follow a potluck dinner, so bring some food and writing to share! Beverages provided. Poetluck takes place every third Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at The Writers' Colony at Dairy Hollow, 515 Spring Street. Everyone is welcome

Soutache at the Jewel Box Dec. 14

Locally known for his copper flame paintings, David Rush has ventured into jewelry design with a unique style known as Soutache - a French term meaning braid used for trimming. Traditionally, the material is used as decorative trim on a variety of uniforms, but David has elevated the art into amazingly light and comfortable jewelry that

looks like expensive, heavy pieces.

He fashions necklaces and earrings



Refreshments from 6-8 p.m. (479) 253-

INDEPENDENTHIGH (Falutin') SOCIETY



Lyle and Judy Slater of Holiday Island attended the Hospital Guild luncheon on Dec. 4. Lyle and Judy are members of the Holiday Island Singers and Judy is also involved with the hospital guild.



No flames here – Flame-on-copper painter and Soutache artist, David Rush, takes a trek in the snow on the hiking trail at Holiday Island. Most of Eureka's high falutin' society was tucked away at home or white-knuckling behind the wheel this week.

PHOTO BY MELANIE MYHRE

Young models - Lily Hahn, daughter of Rebecca Hahn and granddaughter of Rae Hahn, and Alena Lux Guillory, daughter of Darren and Jessica Guillory and granddaughter of Eleanor Lux, stroll through a sunkissed field in this image entitled Annabelle And Margret as part of the new Dreamland Project by Melanie Myhre. Lily plays the role of Margret and Alena plays the role of Annabelle in this story that follows two sisters' journey into a magical dreamland world. To see more images and follow the journey please visit www.melaniemyhrephotography.com/blog.

PHOTO BY MELANIE MHYRE

The Eureka Springs Hospital Guild officers were sworn in at the annual luncheon on Dec. 4. Pictured from left; President Nancy Werbitzky, Vice President Virginia Wright, Judy Overton of the Arkansas Hospital Auxilary Association, Treasurer Norma Rix and Secretary/Treasurer Grace Wilson.

Billion year old Bowie knife?

You never know. World renowned knife maker, Lin Rhea of Little Rock, has taken a slice from a very rare meteorite once used as a prehistoric anvil, and has Damascus-forged it into a beautiful Bowie knife.

According to Steve Arnold at Arnold Meteorites and More, the original Bowie knife is rumored to have been fashioned from a meteorite, so what better knife to forge Damascus style than a Bowie knife? Because it was lost in the siege at the Alamo, history will never know for certain whether Jim Bowie's famous knife was made from a meteorite or not.

But there is no question as to the origin of the knife forged by Rhea. The irony is not accidental. A piece of a prehistoric tool, used to forge other meteorites into tools (likely for millennia) has now been turned into a tool itself.

On Sunday, Dec. 1, the knife and its maker, Rhea, reunited with the remaining uncut portion of the Gibeon Anvil from whence it came for a photo op at Arnold Meteorites and More. The story of the creation of this world-class meteorite knife and the journey of the Gibeon Anvil meteorite has gotten the attention of editors at *Blade Magazine* where a feature story

will soon appear.

There was a rumor one of the contestants from the Great Ozark Beard Off would consent to have his beard shaved off with the Meteorite Bowie Knife after the contests. However, that wasn't in the cards.

"We actually did not do the shaving of the beard," Arnold explained. "Everyone got nervous, and the knife is huge, heavy and very sharp – not like an easy-to-wield barber's razor. Plus, it would have needed to be a dry shave to keep the blade from being whetted."

The knife and its maker have returned to Little Rock, but the anvil from which it was cut can still be seen in the shop, along with some amazing other meteorites and various slices and bits of space travelers. Unique Christmas gifts, for sure.

Steve Arnold is host of Science Channel's award-winning TV Series *Meteorite Men*. Steve and his wife, Qynne, have owned and operated their shop for the last 20 months. Arnold Meteorites and More is the only "brick-n-mortar" meteorite store in The Western Hemisphere.

Check out a slice of the meteorite life at the store at 28 ½ Spring St. Open daily through Christmas. (479) 244-5999.



Knife ~ Lin Rhea ~ M.S. Image ~ Chuck Ward



A slice from the sky – Lin Rhea, left, made a visit to Arnold Meteorites and More for a photo op with *Blade Magazine* and a story on the knife he fashioned from slices of one of Steve Arnold's meteorites.

Damascus-folding a meteorite – Damascus folding is a process in which plates of steel are forged and pounded together then folded and hammered together while hot and soft. In the end the layers of folded steel show the black and silver wavy layered pattern. In this case the blade was made from slices of meteorites.



Need more seed – Don't forget your fine feathered friends when the ground is covered. These happy cardinals are loving it.

PHOTO BY JOHN RANKINE

TheNATURE of EUREKA by Steven Foster

Ozark climate not short-changed

y now we can all agree on use of the phrase "climate change." Global warming is a politically-charged phrase scorned by reality deniers to support their beliefs that have nothing to do with facts. Fortunately, all it takes is a simple flare for the obvious to look out the window and confirm that, indeed, it is snowing. No matter if you get your

information from science-based sources or it rains down upon you as revelations from unseen realms, inevitably we all seem to notice changing weather.

For the Ozarks, there is one predictable weather pattern: change interspersed with extreme weather events. That predictable Ozark weather change is not related to notions of global warming or climate change,

> as such. It is predictable from our geographical position, longitude and latitude.

First, we are in the middle of a continent. Therefore. we are predictably blessed with strong seasonality distinct periods of winter, spring, summer and autumn. Another factor predicting our weather is the lack of marked topographical barriers (such as big mountains) between us and the nearest large body of water - the Gulf of Mexico. Similarly, there is no topographical roadblock between our location and the Arctic. Our winter weather

will inevitably allow for large bubbles of dry, cold Arctic air to descend upon us. Similarly, a blast of warm moist air from heat-charged Caribbean waters may engulf us.

Extreme climate events are part of the "normal" predictable weather patterns in the Ozarks, including waves of heat and cold, ice storms, strong winds, tornados, high intensity rain or protracted drought. At least once every two years (and often more frequently) we get at least 4.5 inches of rain in a 24-hour period. The highest intensity rainfall ever recorded on Earth was not in a tropical rainforest. It was in Holt, Mo., just north of Kansas City. On June 22, 1947, Holt received 12-inches of rain in 42 minutes!

No matter what our political or religious beliefs, climate change in the Ozarks is completely predictable encompassing wide swings in temperature plus highly intense extreme climatic events. Friends from the north ask how I can tolerate the summer heat. Friends from the south ask how I can stand the cold winter weather. I smile and note that interspersed with a short summer and winter is a long, mild, beautiful spring season plus an extended glorious autumn. Change is good and we can count on it!





Dec. 13 Bereavement Support workshop canceled

Hope and Help, Bereavement Support For Those Who Have Lost A Child with Linda Maiella, MALS and Budhi Whitebear, Art Therapist, has been canceled for Dec. 13, but will continue as scheduled on Friday, Jan. 17. Classes (6:30 – 8:30 p.m.)

will offer experiences designed to rediscover sources of hope and healing in individual grief processes. Workshop offered at Flora Roja, 119 Wall St., on a sliding scale fee of 10 - 35. For more information contact Budhi (479) 790-

Partner with wellness at potluck party

Eureka Springs Partners In Wellness will hold their 2nd Annual Potluck Party Wednesday, Dec. 18, at Flora Roja, 119 Wall Street, from 6:30 – 9 p.m. The party is open to anyone interested in learning

about and supporting health and wellness lifestyle choices for themselves and the community. Bring a place setting and a dish to share. For more information, call Alexa Pittenger (479) 253-9208.

Metaphysical gathering Dec. 16

Ken Roberts will present an informal talk and discussion at the Eureka Springs Metaphysical Gathering on Monday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m. In 2009 Ken became seriously ill and had to be hospitalized. He spent three weeks in a coma and had many out-of-body experiences that changed his perception of reality. Since then he has been re-forming his reality. Ken will present aspects of his time in the coma and answer questions. The gathering meets at the Christian Science Building at the top of Mountain Street from 7 – 9 p.m. every Monday. All are welcome to join the discussion.

Home for the Holidays is back!

There will be a *Home for the Holidays* show of local talent at the auditorium on Friday, Dec. 20, so plan to get out and enjoy some home-grown talent and an evening of socializing and music. The final list of performers will be announced in next week's *Independent*.

NOTES from the HOLLOW

by Steve Weems

The snow falling now is mixed heavily with sleet and when the wind blows it sounds like someone is throwing handfuls of sand at the window. We don't usually get a lot of winter weather in Eureka Springs, Arkansas, but what we do get can be interesting. Travelling on icecovered horizontal roads is risky, but to do so on roads striving to be vertical can be treacherous.

When I attended college in the Arkansas River Valley, I finally caught on to how relative one's view of weather can be. I had just returned from Germany and had become accustomed to the occasional sizeable snow, and Russellville, Arkansas, has a noticeably milder winter than we do here in Carroll County. But one day while crossing the Arkansas Tech University campus in the spitting snow, I heard a Texan say, "When I moved to ATU, I didn't know I was moving to the Arctic."

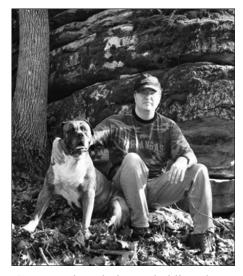
I had an uncle from Mississippi who told me that north Arkansas was the coldest place on earth. And so it goes. Retirees from Omaha, Neb., laugh at our snowfalls, while denizens of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., winter in Nebraska for the pleasant weather. (I read Sault Ste. Marie can receive 17 ft. of lake-effect snow in a single winter.)

So experience obviously colors our expectations. We've all heard people complain how a little bit of winter weather shuts down Eureka

Springs, but that attitude can backfire, too. I remember a lady being advised on the telephone to postpone an appointment, but she wouldn't. "I'm from the north," she declared. The appointment was postponed when she wrecked her car after sliding off the highway. Ice is ice.

When we first lived in the hollow, Sylvia Teague was our neighbor. She was from Malone, New York, in the Adirondack Mountains near the Canadian border, but she didn't look down her nose at our winters. She said she liked our weather here because it was a challenge without being deadly.

I never sledded in town on Benton Street or Crescent Grade like the stories I've heard from others.



I've even heard about sledding down Howell Avenue in a canoe. Can't imagine how you could ever stop.

Send your comments and stories to steve@steveweems.com or P.O. Box 43 in Eureka Springs.

PASSAGE

Beatrice G. Kaastad, Jan. 25, 1917 – Nov. 30, 2013

Beatrice G. Kaastad, a resident at Peach Tree Assisted grandchildren. Living in Holiday Island, passed away Nov. 30 at age 96. She was born January 25, 1917 in Kenmare, N. Dak., and was the son, Alan. youngest of five children who all preceded her in death.

She is survived by two sons, Kenneth Kaastad of Temecula, Calif., and Wayne Kaastad of Holiday Island; a daughter, Karen Marks of Satellite Beach, Fla.; 11 grandchildren and 17 great-

She was preceded by her husband of 55 years, Oscar, and

A memorial service for her will be held at Peach Tree Assisted Living on January 25, 2014. In lieu of flowers, pledge your donations to Peach Tree Assisted Living Village, 5 Park Drive, Holiday Island, Arkansas 72631 in memory of her.



KAASTAD





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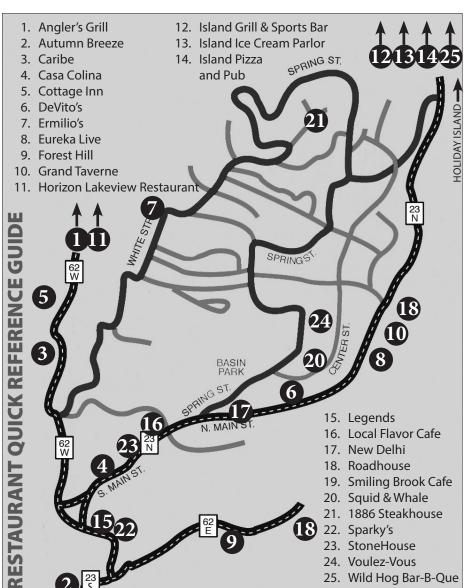
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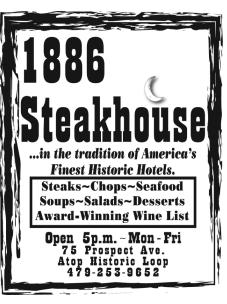






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EXPLORING the fine art of ROMANCE... by Leslie Meeker

y partner actually says I pay more attention to the L coffee maker than I do him. I do so much for him but nothing seems to count, it's never enough. I'm over it!

Or, in the words of Ms. Jackson, "What have you done for me lately?!"

The need for closeness versus the need for distance varies significantly among individuals. Partners often measure the level of closeness in their relationship by calculating their partner's acts of attentiveness, or lack thereof. Once there is a perceived imbalance by either partner, discontent sets in like a boulder and the tit-for-tatscore-keeping game is on! Right now your exchange of giving looks like

this: He complains about your lack of attention, you become irritated and pull away, he complains again, you pull further away, ad infinitum. To you, he seems like a bottomless pit of neediness. Let's not jump to conclusions yet. You would be surprised how little giving it really takes.

The proverbial Golden Rule instructs us to treat others in the manner we would like to be treated. My guess is that you both, with relative diligence, have abided by this rule in your relationship – to no avail.

Time to throw caution to the wind and centuries of wisdom aside, the golden rule is just not cutting it. Instead, love your partner as your partner would like to be loved. Try this: Exchange a list of 10 simple acts of kindness that you would like your partner to do for you. Don't wimp out! Your list must include at least ten items, none of which they already do for you, not household chores and definitely no "love me as I am" generalizations.

Examples of simple acts that communicate thoughtfulness: Meet me at the door with a kiss, bring me a cup of coffee in the morning, sextext me midday, bring home my favorite treat. Upon receiving your partner's list, commit to completing two acts every day. Keep track of what you do, not what your partner does. No more scorekeeping! In reality it's these small, consistent acts of thoughtfulness

that nourish partnerships and create the longing for reconnection at each day's end. If



you put this plan in action and see no change in your relationship, well you have my email address, use it!

Ouestions? Email leslie@ esindependent.com.

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

SWEPCO continued from page 1

The NPS asked that the APSC "take no action on selecting a route due to insufficient historical resource information from which to base a decision." It also demanded that "SWEPCO be required to append their environmental review" with important information that had been ignored throughout the application process concerning the Trail of Tears and the National Military Park at Pea Ridge. In addition, they asked that the APSC take no action until a "Section 106 consultation under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) is initiated."

The NPS said that it was "deeply troubled" that the required section 106 consultation has not been undertaken by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Section 106 consultation is meant to be conducted early in the undertaking's planning so a broad range of alternatives can be considered during the planning process for the Corps property. That means the project can be considered a "Federal undertaking" under the NHPA, and that the Corps must take into account effects of the proposed actions on historic properties.

"Accordingly, Section 106 consultation should be undertaken immediately and before any decision is made by the APSC regarding the section of a route," the NPS said.

The letter said the NPS worries that the failure to do the consultation,

The NPS asked that the APSC "take no action on selecting a route due to insufficient historical resource information from which to base a decision."

combined with the insufficiency of SWEPCO's environmental review prepared for the APSC, fails to provide the APSC with a reasonable baseline of information for this project's impacts on historic properties, especially from Route 33, the preferred route identified by SWEPCO. The NPS said SWEPCO should append the environmental review so it adequately considers historic resources.

"As stated in our August 2013 letter, the National Trail is crossed by all six routes, but was neither mentioned nor considered in the SWEPCO's Reviews," the letter said.

The NPS strongly disagreed with the APSC's conclusion that: "All the questions and issues raised by the state and federal agencies have been appropriately addressed by SWEPCO."

"For instance, the SWEPCO has not vet explained why the National Park was left outside of the 500-foot wide study area for power line segments described in its environmental review," the NPS said. "...the EIS should have included a full analysis of potential impacts to the park. This oversight is extremely concerning to the NPS."

The NPS said another issue that has not been addressed is why the National Park was excluded from consideration under the "Aesthetic Displeasure" criterion for SWEPCO's Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need application submitted to the Commission.

Copies of the letter were sent to about 20 groups including the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, the Osage Nation, the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma, the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians, historic preservation groups, state officials such as Gov. Mike Beebe and Attorney General Dustin McDaniel, U.S. Sen. John Boozman and Sen. Mark Pryor.

There is also a new letter on the issue of the power line permitting from the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation (ACHP) that is asking the Corps about Section 106 review. According to an ACHP Citizen Guide, "A federal agency must conclude Section 106 review before making a decision to approve a project, or fund or issue a permit that may affect a historic property

"Agencies should not make obligations or take other actions that would preclude consideration of the

full range of alternatives to avoid or minimize harm to historic properties before Section 106 review is complete. If the agency acts without properly completing Section 106 review, the ACHP can issue a finding that the agency has prevented meaningful review of the project. This means that, in the ACHP's opinion, the agency has failed to comply with Section 106 and therefore has not met the requirements of federal law. A vigilant public helps ensure federal agencies comply fully with Section 106. In response to requests, the ACHP can investigate questionable actions and advise agencies to take corrective action. As a last resort, preservation groups or individuals can litigate in order to enforce Section 106."

"We all knew that AEP/SWEPCO's environmental impact statement was deeply flawed and their proposal was far out of touch from the needs of Northwest Arkansas residents," said Doug Stowe, a member of the Save the Ozarks Board of Directors. "The National Park Service and Department of the Interior agree. To propose such careless devastation to a historic Civil War battlefield was irresponsible, and we are pleased to have the NPS confirming what we've known all along."

Stowe said if the Corps does its duty in the proposed Section 106 review - which it most certainly will - Route 33 is dead in the water.

INDYSoul by Gwen Etheredge

Eureka legends kick up the red dirt at Legends

andall and DaWayne George a/k/a The George Brothers have been performing at Ozark Mountain Hoe Down as Peanut and Ponytail since 1993 and bought the theater in 2001. Playing red dirt music

or as some call it "country with an attitude," the brothers have made a name for themselves with the release of Brothers. Friends and Outlaws Forever. Recorded in Berryville at Sound Illusions studio, the CD has been

endorsed by Pig Trail Harley-Davidson in Rogers, Ark., and Forman Harley-Davidson in Stillwater, Okla., the city known as the home of red dirt music. Their guitar driven country sound is reminiscent of their influences; Merle, Willie, Waylon and Cash...all music outlaws in their own right. They will play at Legends Saloon (formerly The Lumberyard), 105 E. Van Buren in Eureka Springs on Friday and Saturday night at 9 p.m.

THURSDAY - DECEMBER 12

- BLARNEY STONE Loose Mic, 7 p.m.
- EUREKA PARADISE Free pool
- GRAND TAVERNE Jerry Yester Grand Piano Dinner Music, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
- JACK'S PLACE Karaoke w/DJ Goose, 8 p.m. – midnight
- LEGENDS SALOON Karaoke
- SQUID & WHALE PUB Open Mic Musical Smackdown with Bloody Buddy & Friends
- VOULEZ-VOUS Open Mic Night

FRIDAY - DECEMBER 13

• BLARNEY STONE

Karaoke, 9 p.m.



- CATHOUSE LOUNGE Adam Lopez, 8 p.m. - midnight
- CHASERS BAR & GRILL JAB the band
- CHELSEA'S Stephen Neeper & the Wild Hearts, 9 p.m.
- EUREKA LIVE! DJ & Dancing, 9 p.m.
- EUREKA PARADISE Ladies Night, Latin Fridays, DJ & Dancing to Latin hits
- GRAND TAVERNE Arkansas **Red** Guitar, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
- JACK'S PLACE Karaoke with DJ Goose, 9 p.m.
- LEGENDS SALOON The George Brothers, 9 p.m.
- NEW DELHI Live Music, 6:30-10:30 p.m.
- ROWDY BEAVER Live Music, 7:30 p.m.
- ROWDY BEAVER DEN *Tightrope*, 9 p.m. − 1 a.m.
- THE STONE HOUSE Jerry *Yester*, 6:30–9:30 p.m.
- SQUID & WHALE PUB Live Music, 9 p.m.
- VOULEZ-VOUS The Begonias, 8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 14

- BLARNEY STONE Dirt Road Dogs, 9 p.m.
- CATHOUSE LOUNGE Adam Lopez, 8 p.m. – midnight
- CHASERS BAR & GRILL

Ozark Thunder

- CHELSEA'S Lily & the Highlifers, 9 p.m.
- EUREKA LIVE! DJ& Dancing, 9 p.m.
- EUREKA PARADISE DJ& Dancing
- GRAND TAVERNE Jerry Yester Grand Piano Dinner Music, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
- JACK'S PLACE Karaoke with DJ Goose, 9 p.m.
- LEGENDS SALOON The George Brothers, 9 p.m.
- NEW DELHI Live Music, 6:30 - 10:30 p.m.
- ROWDY BEAVER Tightrope, 7:30 p.m.
- ROWDY BEAVER DEN Brothers, 12-4 p.m., Third Degree, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.
- SMILING BROOK CAFÉ Becky Jean & the Candy Man, 5-7 p.m. - BYOB
- SOUID & WHALE PUB Live Music, 9 p.m.
- VOULEZ-VOUS The Begonias, 8:30 p.m.

SUNDAY - DECEMBER 15

- BLARNEY STONE NFL Game Day-We Have Every Game
- CHASERS Sunday Funday
- JACK'S PLACE **NFL** Football with Dylan, 1 p.m.
- LEGENDS SALOON

Texas Hold 'Em Tournament with prizes, 6 p.m.

- NEW DELHI CAFÉ Sunday Night Football – gametime food/ drink specials
- ROWDY BEAVER **Pool Sundays**
- ROWDY BEAVER DEN Open mic with Jesse Dean, 4-8 p.m.
- SQUID & WHALE PUB **NFL** Football afternoon, food & beer specials

MONDAY - DECEMBER 16

- BLARNEY STONE Monday Night Football
- CHASERS BAR & GRILL Pool Tournament, 7 p.m., NFL

Specials – Challenge the spread for free wings!

- CHELSEA'S SpringBilly, 9 p.m.
- NEW DELHI CAFÉ

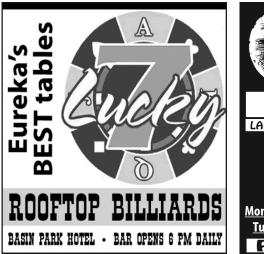
Monday Night Football – gametime food/drink specials

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 17

CHASERS BAR & GRILL

Game challenge night, NFL Specials - Challenge the spread for free wings!

- CHELSEA'S Open Mic
- LEGENDS SALOON Pool Tournament, 6:30 p.m.
- ROWDY BEAVER Hospitality Night









The George Brothers – Hear them perform "country with an attitude" at Legends Saloon on Friday and Saturday nights at 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY - DECEMBER 18

- BLARNEY STONE Game Night
- CHASERS BAR & GRILL Ladies Night – Drink specials, free jukebox
- NEW DELHI CAFÉ Open Jam
- PIED PIPER CATHOUSE

LOUNGE Wheat Wednesday Draft Beer Specials

- ROWDY BEAVER Wine Wednesday
- SQUID & WHALE PUB Pie Social & Ladies Night





DEBBIE & DONNA continued from page 3

fun and creative items that are currently outstanding on my bucket list. I want everyone to know I am only a phone call or email away. Eureka Springs and The Greater Eureka Springs Chamber of Commerce will always hold a near and dear place in my heart!"

Donna also has praise for her fellow retiree. "Debbie is truly an amazing lady! In addition to coordinating all aspects of the Vacation Guide, Wedding Guide, Retirement/Relocation Guide, Art Guide, the chamber website and producing Member 2 Member notifications and the quarterly newsletter, she was always available to help out with any emergency. Whether it might be fixing a time clock, a credit card machine, copy machines, computers, telephones or any electronic device, Debbie was always willing to help."

Word is that Debbie would help out at the front desk assisting visitors and answering phone calls even though her office desk was stacked high with priority projects and emails that needed answering. "She was a back-up for everyone at the Chamber, and she will be sorely missed," Donna confided. "I know from personal experience there were many days when Debbie never took a lunch break and would stay late into the evening finishing a project. She was the epitome of the word 'dedication'."

Debbie also started out at the Chamber front desk as a volunteer for four hours a week in 2005. In February 2006 she went on the payroll part time at the front desk with Donna Shepard as her immediate supervisor.

"I kept having days added until I was working forty hours a week at the front desk," Debbie noted. "I started helping out in other areas while at the front desk and eventually became Visitor Center Manager and starting doing the *Positively* Eureka newsletter as well as helping out with whatever Jeff Feldman, Lisa Liggett or Donna asked/needed. When Donna left the Chamber I moved to Special Events (organizing the Antique Auto Festival, Christmas Parade and Santa in the Park as well as the Mid Year Meeting and helping with the end of year banquet) and Membership. While in this position, Lisa Liggett and I did the sales for the Visitor Guide, Wedding Guide and all the other guides the Chamber produces for two years, and I helped Lisa with the internet/ website when needed. When Lisa left, I

took over the Publications and Internet/ Website and have been doing this for about a year and a half."

"I have thoroughly enjoyed working for the Chamber of Commerce and if I have to pick a favorite part of my job, it would be interacting with all the great Chamber members that we have and helping them to realize how much the Chamber of Commerce does for them. I also enjoy helping out in the Visitor Center and helping visitors find out all there is to do in our town.

Debbie is staying in Eureka Springs and has a couple projects she's wanted to do for quite a while. Now she'll have the time. But first

"Although my official last date was December seventh, I will be helping with the parade on the sixteenth since it was postponed – and will be available to help out my replacement with any questions she may have.

"I think the best improvement since I've been at the Chamber is how much more involved it has become at the local, county and state levels in issues that are important to the membership. I will truly miss working everyday with the people at the Chamber of Commerce and the great working relationship we have all shared.

Debbie also has good things to share about her mentor. "I don't think I have ever known anyone with a more positive attitude than Donna, and she always made sure everyone felt welcome at the Chamber of Commerce. She is also one of the hardest working people I know. As Director of Special Events she was wonderful with all the small details and never forgot one of them. She worked tirelessly on everything from the Mid-Winter Jam to the Mid-Year Luau to the Antique Auto Festival and always made sure all aspects came together so that everyone attending could just enjoy the outcome.

"A good analogy would be that she is like a duck on a pond – paddling furiously underneath with people just seeing the smooth sailing on the surface. As Director of Membership she always made herself available to sit and talk with current members and/or business owners coming in to find out about membership. Whatever needed to be done, Donna went out of her way to make sure it was. She is truly a gracious lady who is always accommodating with her time and will be sincerely missed by the staff and the membership."



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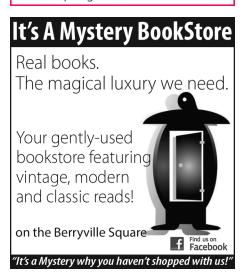


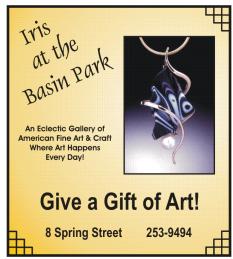




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COUNCIL continued from page 2

certainty that not only is our driveway on city property but also that they will be using it as a trail since they 'have no other option," Brix told the council,

Armed with plats, maps and documents on the history of the property back to 1885, Brix offered the case that the city had no ownership or easement onto the property.

"I remind Council that Parks, according to Ordinance 1628, has, at the City's pleasure, jurisdiction over 'unopened, platted streets as determined by public record,' and I challenge Parks' assumption that they have jurisdiction on two counts: first, not only is it not a city street, but according to the deeds tracing back to 1884, the city has never even had an easement or made any claim whatsoever to this strip of ground. What's more, the city has never maintained it. Second, it already functions as open, as it has been the only access to this home and property for more than 120 years."

After hearing her complete presentation, alderman David Mitchell felt the issue needed legal clarification and made a motion council "direct the city attorney to conduct a legal review of whether the city actually owns that piece of property or not." Alderman DeVito seconded the motion.

McClung then offered that the plat Brix brought to the table was a "subdivision plat with defined platted streets."

"The city doesn't own it but has control over it and it should be handled as any other vacation. If it's to serve other properties, I don't see how it can be closed. The street is not owned by the city, but the city has complete control over that street."

Mitchell responded, "That same argument would apply to McCune and Hartman Streets, Nut Street, Palo Pinto ... We give away, sell, whatever – other pieces of property – so I'm still missing the argument why we can't vacate Magnetic. I'm getting a little concerned about the movement of the decisions that are being applied to vacating streets, and am a little bit concerned about the consistency we are using. Now we have to complicate it with this unknown Master Plan – this whole thing is starting to bother me."

After further discussion and questions from the table, council voted on Mitchell's motion to direct the city

attorney to conduct the legal review after it was amended by McClung to include that this be done in tandem with a land attorney of Weaver's choice. All were in favor.

At this point, Brix took the floor again and asked that council expedite the legal decision as to whether or not the city has any rights to the strip of land in question.

"I ask that council proved a swift timeline for Tim Weaver's opinion with this other person's opinion, because their opinion will determine whether we or not we'll be initiating a federal case with the city; and I have a statute of limitations of one year on that since I knew about it, and the clock is really ticking on this. And you know we've been tied up with this for a long time, so I really need this to be done rather quickly, please."

Mitchell followed with a motion that the city attorney and consulting attorney of his choice give a legal opinion by February 15, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

Other business

Also passed on its third reading was Ordinance 2199 vacating 100 feet of Palo Pinto. "This is a done deal," Mayor Morris Pate commented after the vote.

As far as vacating an unopened portion of Nut Street, a legal property description has been amended and sent to aldermen for review. No vote was taken.

Resolutions were made authorizing the mayor to negotiate with Carroll County in a lease agreement for city office space in the downtown courthouse on Jan. 1 for three years, subject to renewal, as well as leasing the parking lots adjacent to the courthouse for the term of one year.

McClung asked that the next agenda include discussion of section 9.10.01 of city code being redone regarding vacations, and Mitchell asked that a 2014 budget workshop also be added.

During closing comments, DeVito lauded the effort being put out by crews trying to clear the streets. "This is an epic storm and our crews have been doing due diligence," he said.

Mayor Pate addressed the public and the family of Richard Kelley, who died November 23, and expressed his appreciation for the service Kelley gave while a member of city council.

Council will meet next on Jan. 13,

ESOTERICAstrology as news for week Dec. 12 – Dec. 18 by Risa

Countering the Darkness With Festivals of Light

t's a busy upcoming week of feast days, rituals and festivals. Rituals (of goodness, gratitude ■ and giving) counter the season's darkness, framing it in light. Each day of Christian Liturgy is a saint's day, celebrating the life of one who exhibited deep spiritual presence and actions in the world (like Nelson Mandela). Each saint's day is a day of Light. We are the saints of our present day. The new and full moon festivals are "days of light." They "counter" the present day darkness of materiality that has overtaken the world in clever and unseen ways. Rituals focus our minds, create a centripetal force, turn us inward, anchoring the Soul into our daily lives. This week has many festivals of remembrance and of light.

Thursday, Our Lady of Guadalupe. She is the "mother" of the Americas, her warm dark skin eventually the skin color of all of humanity.

Friday is Santa Lucia (St. Lucy, a Sicilian saint). Lucy/Lucia means Light. She is the saint of the solstice, of light in the darkness and also the saint of music. She wears candles on her head. walking in the dark through the village bringing forth the dawn. Later warm saffron (yellow like the sun) buns are shared.

Sunday, 3rd Sunday of Advent (something's coming!), we light the rose (joy) candle. Tuesday (full moon) is the Sagittarius solar festival. "We see the goal, we reach that goal, and then we see another." Clearly seeing the needs of humanity, these become our life goals. We reach those goals through commitment, dedication and cooperative focused service to meet those needs – our "gift" to the world. We ask each other, "Do you see what I see? Do you hear what I hear?" Listen and watch!

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Meu uczBEqM

ARIES: The life of Aries begins with a fascination with speed, things red and glittery, taking risks, living at the edge and precipice of reality. Physical experiences are most important. Then something happens. The mind takes hold. Knowledge gathering is central. You become generous, enthused with learning. Morality and spirituality, tact and diplomacy emerge. Are you at this place yet, Ari?

TAURUS: You seem to be on a secret mission researching humanity's origins. And if not researching then you're fascinated with magic, the magus and the mystical. It's different than the occult. One is faith, the other the Ageless Wisdom. One is feeling, the other is knowledge. Loyalty, trust and faith vou're your important virtues. You're the perfect partner, the lover everlasting.

GEMINI: You relate to travelers, to those who read and present different ideas. Always you're on a quest, learning and sharing with others. So the quest never ends. There's so much to learn. That's why you can't stay with one idea, one religion or one path. For now. Later on the right Path for you will appear containing all the previous Paths. May we meet there one day.

CANCER: Many come for advice realizing your depth of experience and information on many subjects. You're always available and willing to teach. You're good-hearted, generous, helpful, caring and kind. Do people tell you this? At Findhorn, when complimented, we had to say in response, "I'm so glad you noticed." Try not to be too fussy, tend to your tummy and continue to ask for nurturing in return.

LEO: Good fortune shining upon you eliminates all shadows gathered in your heart and mind about yourself. As a leader it's important when expressing vourself for your words to be filled with optimism and clear expectations. You convey the spirit of great things and of even greater achievements. This helps people to believe in themselves. But they must believe in you, first. Offer others rays of hope and light. Be always worthy

of this.

VIRGO: Home life is filled with joyful fortunate circumstances. As if feng shui had come to visit, creating the perfect balance in your home. When faced with family situations you're able to direct everyone to the best solution due to your high philosophical sense of responsibility. Books on religion, literature, philosophy, travel and government may enter your home. A new level of openness develops.

LIBRA: During these weeks you will be more talkative and expressive. Your ideas broad minded and cheerful with a touch of new spiritual values. You will

seek what's useful while decorating for the holidays. You create the usual dramatic seasonal magnificence. You might be traveling. You're organized and prepared for any situation and

emergency. However, you

must remember to rest often. To maintain health.

SCORPIO: Visualize attracting money resources to meet your specific life needs. You're able to be very effective in bringing into form and matter whatever it is you

desire, aspire to, but above all, need. You will attract what you focus upon. Money, resources will multiply. Along with visualization and focus, begin long term planning concerning the use of your resources. You experience a continued sequence of fortune.

SAGITTARIUS: You have many acquaintances and distant friends, casual and work contacts. Often you wish for deeper relationships. You feel restless these days, reflecting and observing the rapid changes everywhere in the world. It's important to think about the needs of other, to have tact and diplomacy, to surround frankness with kindness. You're ambitious with grand goals. This is good. Take nothing for granted. Know that all that you do influences others. Make this influence good, better, best.

CAPRICORN: Allow all your humor and goodwill into all your environments. Do not hold back. They help others have perspective, insight, and comedy, the needed laughter and delight. Your intuition is very accessible now. Listen to it. During Sagittarius we must be quiet and silent so inspirations from our intuition can be impressed upon us. These provide us with direction and Right Choice. You're to be a joy to others. Let this be a discovery.

AQUARIUS: You can be a funloving friend filled with enthusiasm, exploration, socializing with all types of humanity. You create your own goals and objectives, different than what others would choose. You are to inspire others with the new ways of living, reaching into future possibilities. You gather friends possessing qualities you lack. Together you all create one entire whole. This is the Aquarian Way.

PISCES: You often have many careers. Pisces is the gathering of all previous signs and gifts. Often Pisces is seen as not maintaining one reality. They can't. Their hold all realities. Everything you do is a success. Even if in worldly terms it looks like failure. Everything's a stepping stone, a place of learning. You must learn everything for you are to save the world. It's a big task. Eventually you're prepared enough to accomplish this. Keep acquiring knowledge and learning. The Temple Gates open.

Risa D'Angeles, founder & director, Esoteric & Astrological Studies & Research Institute, a contemporary Wisdom School studying the Ageless Wisdom teachings - the foundation of the teachings is Astrology. Email: risagoodwill@gmail.com. Web journal: www.nightlightnews.com. Facebook: Risa's Esoteric Astrology for daily messages.

SUGAR continued from page 5

flag is that most products marketed towards children are full of sugar, and often dangerous food dyes as well."

Sugar is added to so many products that it takes a vigilant label reader to avoid it. It's found in bread, peanut butter, tomato sauces and especially breakfast cereal, even those advertised as healthy.

"The average person gets up every day, gets the children fed, and goes to work," Marry said. "They aren't thinking about how much sugar is in the food they are consuming."

Sugar is listed in grams on the label. Five grams of sugar is approximately one teaspoon. The average soda has 35-40 grams of sugar, which is a quarter cup.

"When people say they don't eat a lot of sugar, they may not realize they are drinking a lot of sugar," Marry said. "And now we have all those supersized drinks. It's no wonder we have skyrocketing rates of diabetes in this country. America's leading degenerative disease, heart disease, diabetes and cancer, are all fed by sugar."

Marry said fat doesn't make you fat. Sugar makes you fat. With the average American breakfast of sweetened yogurt, a banana, and toast with jelly, people can consume 200 grams of sugar without ever really trying. Even energy bars marketed as health food can contain as much sugar as a donut.

"Too much sugar causes our blood cells to clump together making it impossible for our red blood cells to bring oxygen to our tissues to give us energy," she said. "Starting your day

with a sugar overload will cause you to have an energy crash before your day has gotten off to a good start."

Getting out of the sugar rut starts with reining it in and making better choices. It is natural to want a sweet flavor, but make choices like berries - which are low in sugar and high in fiber and antioxidants. Celery sticks or apple slices with real peanut butter (not sweetened) keep blood sugar more level. There are better alternatives than refined cane sugar.

"I'm not suggesting people give up the flavor of sweet, but make better choices," Marry said. "Make little changes over time. You can stop cold turkey, but with most people it works better to make slow, gradual changes. A low glycemic palm crystal sugar is full of nutrients and vitamins. Use a little bit of maple syrup. Sweeten

with whole dates, which are full of vitamins, minerals and fiber. Have a green drink right now with a beet in it. That is totally sweet."

Her favorite way to satisfy her sweet tooth is dark chocolate with a minimum of 72 percent cacao content.

"Not only is quality dark chocolate superbly delicious, I love knowing that with this indulgence I am doing some nice things for my body," she said. "It is also loaded with antioxidants which can provide protection against many types of cancer and slow the signs of aging. Dark chocolate contains several chemical compounds that have a positive effect on mood and cognitive health."

For information, more Marry's website. weaving-vourwellness.com or call (479) 253-7874.

MAIL continued from page 12

Preservation Act, it should not be allowed to damage the Trail of Tears or the National Military Park at Pea Ridge or the rest of Northwest Arkansas.

Doug Stowe

History shouldn't repeat itself

Editor,

[Troy Johnson], thank you very much for taking the time to write such a well-researched and short editorial rebuttal to Congressman Womack's attack on Affordable Health Care.

Your editorial is a welcome and succinct response. You shine the light of truth on his factless propaganda.

This approach was popularized by Senator Joseph McCarthy in the 1950s and currently is being used politically to confuse a very busy citizenry who don't have the resources or time to deal with the volumes of technicalities that are altered daily by the corporate insurance industry.

Michael and Faith Shah

Run it up the flag pole...

Editor,

U.S. flag etiquette: The flag should be flown between sunrise and sunset. Is the city going to pay someone to lower the flag at sunset and put it back up at sunrise?

The flag should be flown only in good weather; not rainy weather. Same point. The flag should always be illuminated. If the flag gets tattered or worn, it should be removed with ceremony. And burned. Depending on the direction it is to be hung (north/ south, east/west), the Union part must be flown in a certain direction.

Is the city going to pay to honor these historic points of etiquette?

False patriotism is a dishonor to the flag. And, bashing people in Eureka who object to this proposed display of false patriotism is an example of "creeping fascism."

Let's eradicate racism, end child hunger and poverty, celebrate diversity, stop domestic abuse, and protect the beautiful Carroll county environment. *Real* patriotism.

Trella Laughlin

Zero Waste adds up to big savings

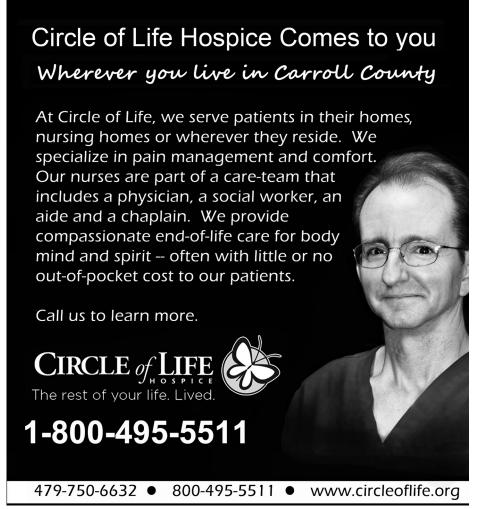
Editor,

In the Nov. 18 issue of Fortune magazine, I read a piece outlining how Seattle, Washington, aims to follow in the footsteps of San Francisco and Portland, Ore., to aim for ZERO WASTE that will reduce the negative impact of landfills.

Everyone is pitching in, according the article, even restaurant customers are happily sorting items themselves, and companies like Boeing, Starbucks and Amazon are taking on the challenge. One property manager is quoted as saying that he saves \$10,000 to \$15,000 per building per year saying that composting and recycling cost about one half as much as garbage collection and landfill option.

Unfortunately, Arkansas is more like New York where only 16 percent of the trash is recycled. This is unacceptable, especially since we are The Natural State. Let's live up to our name and aim for Zero Waste. Let's modernize.

Susan Pang



Winter weather impacting blood supplies

The winter storm has caused some blood drive cancellations during the past few days. Since the need for blood is constant, it is very important to give at the upcoming blood drive. For an updated listing of drive changes or cancellations, please see www.cbco.

Currently there is a Code Yellow Alert for O negative and A negative blood types. There is currently less than a two-day supply of this type on hospital shelves and donations are needed immediately. You can help by giving this week at the Eureka Springs Hospital, 24 Norris, on Friday, Dec. 20 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For the 19th year, Community Blood Center of the Ozarks invites blood donors to participate in the Miracle of Giving Blood Drive. Donors will receive 50% more LifePoints when they give.

LifePoints is CBCO's donor rewards program. Each time you give, vou're awarded points which can be redeemed online for a variety of gift cards. LifePoints may also be offered to other charitable causes. Donors must create an online account at www.cbco. org to collect LifePoints. If you do not have internet access, call (417) 227-5006 to be enrolled in the program.

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

DROPPINGA Line by Robert Johnson

arlin, tarpin, redfish and sea trout are all hitting the top and filling up live wells in the Florida Keys, but here in the Ozarks we are just now starting to get back on the water. Tried to get the boat out but could not even get the truck off this mountain until Wednesday.

Beaver Lake striped bass are liking this cool water and hitting the top with white bass. They are all hitting small bait with the birds feeding on them too, to help you find them. On a sunny day it can be fun this time of year without a lot of boat traffic. Small bait and lures will work now from the surface to 20 ft. deep.

Trout from the dam to Houseman Access off the shoreline are also a good fish to catch during the winter months as they are a cold water species. Just bait up 6-lb. line with power bait, night crawler, or a combination of both, and float off the bottom. If they're generating, try throwing a rooster tail, spoon or rapala.

Here at Holiday Island, or any other warm water lakes, the best presentation is a minnow and spoons. Think slow, they still have to eat but they don't want to waste a lot of energy doing it. Walleye are also a cold



water fish and can be caught like this throughout the winter from Holiday Island to Houseman Access.

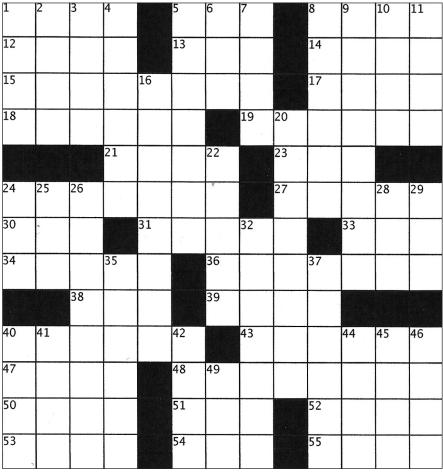
Well, that's it for this week. If you do decide to do some winter fishing, dress warm and think safe and remember we are selling discounted gift certificates for 2014. Fishofexcellence.com.



INDEPENDENT Crossword

by Wayne Levering

Solution on page 31



ACROSS

- 1. Young beef
- 5. Place for reiuvenation
- 8. Prepare to travel
- 12. Therefore (Latin)
- 13. Possesses
- 14. Botanical burn therapy
- 15. Stuck up
- 17. Central business district of Chicago
- 18. Small sea snails
- 19. Saudi's neighbor
- 21. Allows
- 23. Sixth Hebrew letter
- 24. Skillful maneuvering
- 27. Upright
- 30. Lyrical stanza
- 31. South of Egypt
- 33. Regret
- 34. Hebrew religious leader
- 36. Type of psoriasis

- 38. Baseball score
- 39. Greek goddess of discord
- 40. Spray or sprinkle
- 43. Bring out
- 47. ...n' Boots
- 48. To remove air or gas
- 50. Actress Chase
- 51. Fly speck
- 52. Does not exist
- 53. Close by
- 54. Single
- 55. Neptune's realm

DOWN

- 1. Waistcoat
- 2. Sea eagle
- 3. Dumbfounded
- 4. Small anatomical division
- 5. Massage style
- 6. Pops
- 7. Pale
- 8. Belizean village in

- Orange Walk 9. Plant that soothes
- hurns
- 10. Masked critter
- 11. French military hat
- 16. Godsend
- 20. Twilight
- 22. Marsh plant
- 24. In favor of
- 25. Lupino
- 26. Land of Lincoln?
- 28. Piece of the action
- 29. Capital of Tibet?
- 32. Gilded
- 35. College treasurer
- 37. Aggravation
- 40. To rotate
- 41. Whimper
- 42. Poi source
- 44. Legal matter
- 45. Volcanic Italian mountain
- 46. Complete
- collections
- 49. Long period of
- time

INDEPENDENT Classifieds

The INDEPENDENT Classifieds cost \$8 for 20 words, each additional word is 25¢. **DEADLINE - Monday at noon**

To place a classified, email classifieds@esindependent.com or call 479.253.6101

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FRESH CRACKED ARKANSAS **PECANS!** (479) 253-7030. Across from Palace Hotel.

EUREKA SPRINGS PARTNERS IN WELLNESS will hold their 2nd Annual Potluck on Wed., Dec. 18 at Flora Roja, 119 Wall St. from 6:30-9 p.m. The party is open to anyone interested in learning about and supporting wellness lifestyle choices for themselves and our community. Bring a dish to share and place setting. For more information call Alexa Pittenger (479) 253-9208

ROJA COMMUNITY FLORA ACUPUNCTURE-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, 119 Wall Street

ISLAND NAILS IS NOW OPEN at 3 Parkway Dr., Ste G (near HI Subway.) Mention this ad for \$5 off your first visit. Featuring in December: Spa Pedi, Mani with OPI gel polish-lasts 2 weeks (compare to Shellac) Call (479) 981-9556 for info on other services and appointments.

LAUGHING HANDS MASSAGE announces it is winter special time. Three one hour massages for \$120 or a 75 minute hot stone for \$65. Laughing Hands always a great location for couples massage. Call (479) 244-5954 for appointment.

WITH **DAWN** OR ZUMBA AMANDA Classes offered Monday-Friday, morning and evening. Join the Latin dance fitness craze. Have fun while getting fit! (479) 366-3732 (Dawn) or (870) 654-2998 (Amanda)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pumpkins, sweet potatoes, apples, carrots and beets. Goat cheese, grassfed beef, pasture-raised chicken. Plants, baked goods, candy and much more at EUREKA SPRINGS WINTER FARMERS' MARKET. Thursday mornings from 8 a.m. to noon at Pine Mountain Village.

BREAD - LOCAL ORGANIC SOURDOUGH Ivan's Art Bread -Thursday all winter at Farmer's Market. Pumpernickel Rye! Long Italian and Onion Poppy Bialys. Every week a surprise! Check: bread.loveureka.com My cookbook is here - Winter BBQ Rub coming soon! Special requests entertained; call me! (479) 244-7112

BEST BLING FOR THE BUCK! Holiday Costume Jewelry Collection Sale. Featuring NY Designer Bill Schiffer, Nov. 20 - Dec. 20, (479) 363-

ESTATE SALES

VIRGINIA BOWEN'S ESTATE SALE-QUALITY, UNUSUALITEMS Dec. 13 & 14, 8 a.m.-4 p.m and Dec. 15, 1-4 p.m. 57 Cloud Dr., Eureka Springs (Hwy 62E, take Thunder Dr. which is across from Auto Spa Car Wash.) Antiques, beds, sofas, tables, butcher block, cane bottom chairs, architectural columns, rugs, framed art, china, silver serving pieces, mirrors, washer/dryer, kitchen items, Christmas, tools, large beading collection, quality fabric pieces, jewelry, vintage lapel & hat pins, evening bags, hats... "A Must See Sale" No large purses or totes permitted. Dottie Hill.

ANTIQUES

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

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

BEAUTIFUL BLACK LAQUER baby grand piano, Campbell-Nelson. New cost \$7,000, will sell for \$3,500. Great condition, beautiful tone. (870) 847-1934

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

DERKSEN PORTABLE BUILDINGS for sale or rent-to-own. Hwy 62 West, across from WalMart, Berryville. No deposit or credit check. Free delivery. (870) 423-1414.

HELP WANTED

THE CITY OF BERRYVILLE **POLICE DEPARTMENT** is accepting applications for the position of Reserve Police Officer. Applicants must meet minimum standards, and be capable of passing a physical and psychological exam. Applications and job descriptions are available at the Berryville Police Department. Applications must be received by Dec. 31, 2013, at the Berryville Police Department located at 303 E. Madison, Berryville, AR 72616. For more information please call (870) 423-3343. Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

HELP WANTED: BAR, KITCHEN & WAITSTAFF. Apply in person after 6 p.m. at Legends Saloon, 105 E Van Buren, Eureka Springs

HELP WANTED: RETAIL SALES experience required. Part-time/Fulltime. (479) 366-6096

MYRTIE MAE'S CAFE is looking for part-time waitstaff. This position has year round job opportunity with Vacation Pay and Holiday Pay. Please send resume or application to: Myrtie Mae's Cafe c/o Best Western Inn of the Ozarks, P.O. Box 431, Eureka Springs, AR 72632. Phone: (479) 253-9768

REAL ESTATE

COMMERCIAL SALES

EUREKA OPPORTUNITY Operating bar/restaurant. location. Numerous options and growth potential. Lease, buy – with or without real estate. (479) 903-0699

CABIN. BEAUTIFULLY REMODELED. Located near Wal-Mart & Country Club. Features: living quarters, must see. Perfect for law office, beauty salon, dog grooming, you name it. \$189,000. Call (870) 847-1934

REAL ESTATE

COMMERCIAL SALES

PROFITABLE*NO RISK*TURNKEY Adorable Gift Shop in PRIME LOCATION, LOW OVERHEAD. Unlimited potential. \$35,900 includes inventory. (479) 244-6681

RENTAL PROPERTIES

HOMES FOR SALE

FOR SALE AT NEW LOW PRICE 2700 SQ FT (+-) Ranch Style w/mostly finished basement. 9 rooms, 3BR/2BA, A/C with Natural Gas Furnace. New roof, fenced back yard, single car port w/paved parking. Plus 40' parking for RV w/elec. & water. Has current VA Loan. (479) 253-7253 Eureka Springs. \$139,500. Must come in to appreciate.

LAND FOR SALE

GREAT LOCATION. REDBUD VALLEY, 2 acres M/L. 10 minutes from downtown Eureka Springs. \$11,500 (870) 847-1934

RENTAL PROPERTIES

APARTMENT RENTALS

LARGE STUDIO APARTMENT located downtown Eureka Springs. \$450/mo plus deposit. (479) 981-0103. Available Jan. 1

ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT on Elk Street, \$525/mo plus deposit. Includes water/trash pick-up, TV, gas. No dogs, no smoking. (479) 244-9155.

NEWLY RENOVATED CONDO, recently updated kitchen, 1 car garage. private deck, tile floors, central heat/ air, located in Eureka Springs. \$750/ mo includes exterior maintenance & pest control. Deposit and references required. (479) 244-5750.

HOLIDAY ISLAND VILLAS & **TOWNHOUSES** near lake and marina. Peaceful and quiet, ample parking. From \$375/mo. (479) 253-4385

INDEPENDENT Classifieds

RENTAL PROPERTIES

HOME RENTALS

HOLIDAY ISLAND EXECUTIVE 4BR/3BA house with 2 car garage. Zillow.com 1A Fairway. Upsale. \$1200 per month. (479) 981-0035 (12/4-12/11)

4 BEDROOM HOUSE CLOSE TO MARINA on Holiday Island. \$800/mo with \$500 deposit. (479) 253-4277

LIVE IN THE WOODS close to Eureka Springs & Holiday Island. Comfortable, furnished 1BR/1BA with central heat & air. \$650/mo includes water, refrigerator and washer/dryer. No smoking. Deposit and references. (479) 981-3807

DUPLEX RENTALS

SMALL 2BR, ENERGY EFFICIENT, clean duplex. Off-street parking. No smoking. References required and checked. \$525. (479) 253-9728

SERVICE DIRECTORY

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UPHOLSTRY-RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, HEIRLOOMS, RECLINERS. **Furniture** restoration. There's still time to get things done before Christmas. Free estimates. (479) 363-6583

HOUSEKEEPING

TAYLOR-MAID TO THE RESCUE! Clean freak has openings. References. Call Angie (479) 981-0125

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PETSITTING, HOUSESITTING. Holiday Island, Eureka Springs and surrounding areas. 25+ years experience. Reliable, references, insured. Call Lynn (479) 363-6676 or Emily (918) 409-6393

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

PIANO TUNING SPECIAL \$60. Senior Discount. Get tuned up for the holidays. Serving Eureka Springs, Berryville and the surrounding area. Call Chuck at (479) 244-7102

SERVICE DIRECTORY

SEASONAL

HANDSOME HOLIDAY HEROES "Your Local Christmas Light & Décor Installation Professionals" Serving Eureka Springs & the Surrounding Areas. Call (479) 244-7932. We offer free quotes! www. handsomeholidayheroes.com

HEALTH SERVICES

OVER-WORKED? UNDER-APPRECIATED! Are they driving you crazy? Free attitude adjustment with every session. Call Alexa (479) 253-9208. Eureka!! Massage and Wellness Therapies, 147 W. Van Buren.

SEWING/ALTERATIONS

ALTERATIONS. DESIGN **CUSTOM SEWING.** Now at Melange, 95 B Spring Street, B.S. in Fashion Design, 40+ years experience. Stop in or call Connie (479) 981-0220.

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HEAVEN SENT HANDYMAN-Professional carpentry and painting. Some plumbing and electrical. Creative and artistic solutions for your remodeling or repairs. Call Jerry (479) 981-0976.

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



It's all downhill from here – Bailey Grat, Samantha Grat, Marcello Gros, Jake Hager and Baxter Hager linked up to make a sled train to try out Benton Street's downhill action. The caboose came loose but all made it to the bottom safely. The street was closed due to weather.

PHOTO BY GWEN ETHEREDGE

