



**Orange "juice"** – Anti-SWEPSCO protesters marched en masse in the Fourth of July Parade in downtown Eureka Springs. The group won the support of onlookers and first place in the walking group division. A decision by the Arkansas Public Service Commission should be coming soon.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

## 2013 dominated by threat of SWEPSCO's massive industrial power line

BECKY GILLETTE

The year 2013 could go down in many people's memories as one of the more stressful ever experienced in the Eureka Springs area. Never before had so many home and business owners faced such a serious threat. Many people had difficulty sleeping at night, wondering if they would lose not just the value of property they had spent a lifetime paying for, but a way of life tied to love for the special natural environment rich with caves, springs, clear flowing rivers and scenic mountains.

The year 2013 was the year SWEPSCO (Southwestern Electric Power Company, a subsidiary of American Electric Power) became a dirty word. Shock waves ran through the region in April as hundreds of property owners received notice that their property was on one of six proposed routes for a massive 345 kilovolt (kV) power line 49 to 56 miles long with poles 150 to 160-ft. tall – three times taller than most conventional power poles – requiring the clearing of a right-of-way 150 ft. wide from SWEPSCO's Shipe Road substation to a proposed new \$20-million King's River substation

SWEPSCO continued on page 14

### This Week's INDEPENDENT Thinker

Nancy Salgado raises a seven-year old daughter and a two-year old son with what she makes working at a Chicago McDonald's. She has worked there for 10 years and still makes \$8.25 per hour. She struggles to get by, so she first called McResources, the employee hotline, to see what McDonald's could do for her, and was advised to apply for federal assistance.

When she confronted Jeff Stratton, president of McDonald's USA (which showed a \$5.5 billion profit last year) about the plight of loyal employees she was arrested for interrupting his speech. "He needs to know... we're struggling," Salgado said.



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### Inside the ESI

Council – 2013 wrap	2	Hospital – 2013 wrap	11
CAPC – 2013 wrap	3	Independent Mail	12
Quorum Court – 2013 wrap	4	Independent Editorial	13
Airport – 2013 wrap	5	Constables on Patrol – 2013 wrap	17
School Board – 2013 wrap	6	TWIT – 2013 wrap	18
Parks – 2013 wrap	7	Departures – 2013 wrap	21
Carroll-Boone – 2013 wrap	8	Indy Soul	26
Planning – 2013 wrap	9	Astrology	31
HDC – 2013 wrap	10	Crossword	33



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## City Council's year

NICKY BOYETTE

Cast of Characters: Mayor Morris Pate; Aldermen James DeVito, Terry McClung, Joyce Zeller, Mickey Schneider, Dee Purkeypile and David Mitchell; City Attorney Tim Weaver.

### January – in our CUPs

Only alderman James DeVito returned to the Eureka Springs council table in 2013. New aldermen were Dee Purkeypile, Terry McClung, Joyce Zeller, Mickey Schneider and David Mitchell.

No sooner were they seated than they found themselves facing a hot issue, as Joe and Melissa Greene applied to the Planning Commission for a Conditional Use Permit for a tourist rental at 10 Alamo, a rental unit on the cusp of where residential meets commercial. The Greenes had been denied at Planning. However, there had been only four voters at the Planning table so the lone No vote from commissioner Ken Rundel, who had wanted more time to consider the impact on the neighborhood, meant denial.

So the Greenes went before council. People from both camps said their peace – the Greenes were described as good property managers, and “it would be another commercial incursion into our neighborhoods.” In the end, McClung said he thought Planning vote had been skewed because there were so few voters.

Other aldermen were also sympathetic,

and vote to approve the CUP was 5-0.

In other matters, council agreed to set up a town hall meeting as a way to speak to and hear from the public. The end of March was set as the time for it. They also agreed to develop a set of specific achievable goals and get to work on them.

### February – Taxi! Taxi!

Council heard from proponents for allowing another taxi service in town. Glenn Brown of Abundant Transportation said the wedding capital of the South has 2500 rooms for visitors and Eureka Springs Taxi is the only taxi service. “All we want is a chance to operate legally,” he said. Cody Steussy, also of Abundant, passed around pamphlets with his business plan.

Council and city attorney Tim Weaver discussed what it would take to allow another taxi service, and Weaver said a good first step would be an application for the certificate from the applicant, though Weaver added there might not be one.

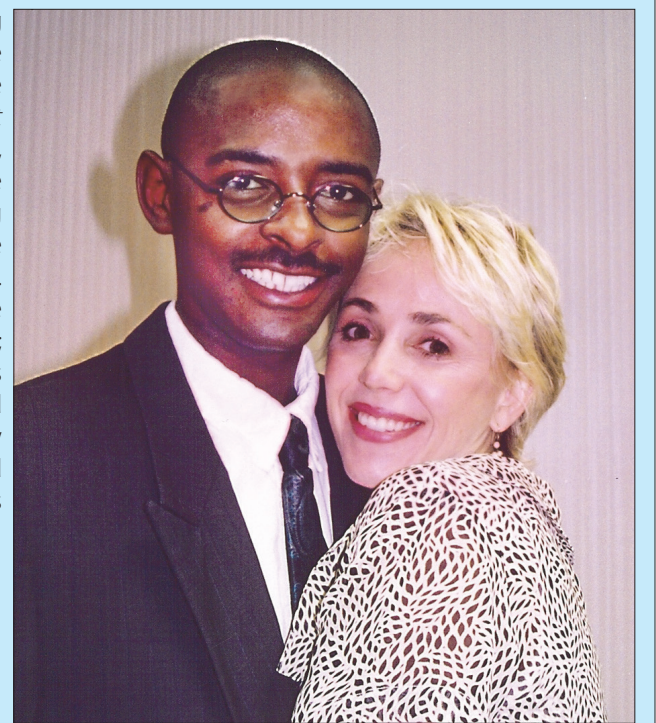
Purkeypile thought the pamphlet Steussy had passed around satisfied the requirements for an application. Zeller insisted Abundant should get a chance to operate. Council voted to accept Steussy's pamphlet as an application for the certificate and set aside the first hour of the March 11 meeting for a public hearing.

Council also voted to have Weaver

**COUNCIL** continued on page 22

### An even 20 coming up

– Long-time business owner Debbie Clarke and *Independent* circulation manager, Dwayne Richards, pose for the shutterbug while celebrating more than 19 years together. “Love Shack” by the B-52s was on the radio; the Jacksonville Jaguars were born; AOL offered anyone access to a new concept, the world wide web; and gas was \$1 a gallon when they got together in MCMXCIV.





## Taut budgeting gets CAPC a surplus to start 2014

NICKY BOYETTE

The City Advertising and Promotion Commission began the year with the daunting task of following up 2012, a banner year for collections. Executive Director Mike Maloney told commissioners that Eureka Springs, a town of 2200 residents, “collected tax on approximately \$110,000,000 in sales during 2012.” This was possible because approximately 733,000 visitors came to town and spent an average of \$150 per day each.

Finance director Rick Bright said collections were up

9.64 percent over 2011 in spite of severe summer weather.

### January

Commissioners divided up \$15,440 in marketing support funds for 11 events throughout the year.

Jackie Wolven, executive director of the Downtown Network, pointed out advantages of the CAPC working closely with her because they work toward a common goal. She said one of her other goals is to get the CAPC to fund some ESDN events.

Ron Sumner, technical director of the Auditorium,

suggested the possibility of getting Little Feat for a performance at the Auditorium. “They pull them in from everywhere,” he said. He also suggested they focus on building up festivals like JazzEureka.

Chair Charles Ragsdell said he wanted to bring Michael Johnathon and his WoodSongs Old-Time Radio Hour to Eureka Springs as part of the folk festival. There would be a \$40,000 investment, but he saw the event as “a shot in the arm for the Folk Festival, the longest-running single-location folk festival in the world.”

Maloney said organizers of the recent Food & Wine Weekend were already discussing this year’s November event.

### February

Bluegrass was the hot topic during February. Joe McClung met with commissioners to discuss his vision of this year’s Bluegrass Festival. He has run the event many times before, said he would do it again, and mentioned he prefers traditional bluegrass over newgrass. “There is a place for those other groups, but not at my festival,” he said.

McClung wanted Jesse McReynolds, veteran of the Grand Ole Opry, to be his featured artist on Saturday night. He said he expected there to music all around town during

CAPC continued on page 29

## Sufi meeting space dedication Jan. 2

Jan. 2 from 7 – 8:30 p.m., there will be a celebration of the life of Noor Inayat Khan and a dedication of the Sufi Meeting space at 68 West Mountain St. Everyone is welcome.

Musician and author Noor-un-Nisa died

in Dachau was awarded the George Cross posthumously for her outstanding courage. She is beginning to be well known as the Princess Spy and has been honored with a memorial statue in London’s Gordon Square.

## All are welcome at HICC service

Please join Holiday Island Community Church worship service at 4:30 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 12. The Community Church Praise Band will feature the music of the Gaithers. Enjoy refreshments and

fellowship following the service in the Fellowship Hall at 188 Stateline Drive, Holiday Island. For additional information phone Debbie Cosens (479) 981-1881.

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# INDEPENDENT 2013 Wrap

## Quorum court faced dispatching issues, SWEPCO, rural water systems and more

NICKY BOYETTE

The first order of business in 2013 for the Carroll County Quorum Court was to figure out how to form a committee. Justice of the Peace Ron Flake sponsored an ordinance in January establishing six standing committees and making every JP a member of all committees. That idea did not catch on.

The court voted unanimously to appropriate \$165,000 to cover the purchase of a piece of property near downtown in Berryville to house the prosecutor's offices. There were zoning issues subsequently with the City of Berryville and the deal fell through.

In February, Flake continued to push the strategy of more open and informal committees. JP Dan Mumaugh preferred "a more structured approach. Someone should be responsible for certain duties, like calling the meeting." JP Jack Deaton agreed there will be times when the court needs a committee, but "when you have everyone running in and out, you won't get the work done. You need a set number on the committee." The JPs agreed they need committees, and deputy prosecutor Devon Closser said she could help write an ordinance.

JP Larry Swofford announced he and state senator Bryan King had discussed moving the county line to place the Cricket Creek Marina area in Boone County. He said Carroll County would be giving up about \$9600 revenue in taxes and fees, but Flake responded, "We're not providing them the services they are paying for." Vote was unanimous to allow King to introduce the bill and details would be smoothed out later.

In March, Mumaugh returned with an ordinance for setting up a Facilities and Property Committee and a Public Water Development Committee with three to five members appointed each January by Judge Sam Barr.

Flake insisted they needed a Personnel Committee.

Mumaugh said he was just trying to get things started. Deaton agreed the ordinance was a good start and they could add a committee if they wanted to.

They discussed and discussed until Flake declared, "I'm discussed out." In the end, the court handed the ordinance back to

Mumaugh and Closser for one more try.

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

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

In April, Sheriff Bob Grudek asked the court to pass an ordinance establishing two new dispatcher positions at the sheriff's department. He was asking for the City of Berryville to fund one of them and Green Forest to fund the other. He pointed out 911 dispatch is separate from central dispatch, but county officials who are no longer involved made verbal commitments back then that the sheriff's office would handle both even though the ballot title said only "central dispatch."

He also mentioned other unreimbursed administrative and prisoner duties his office performs. The court mentioned adding more in the budget for the sheriff, but the other issue was figuring out who should be doing which dispatch services according to the law.

Many observations were shared until Mumaugh suggested Judge Sam Barr, the mayors involved and the sheriff should get together and find a solution.

Also in April, the court voted to pass an ordinance setting up the same three committees mentioned March, and the first anti-SWEPCO murmurings rippled through.

In May, however, there was a storm of SWEPCO opposition. An august lineup of 14 Carroll County residents spoke out opposing the proposed SWEPCO plan to clear a 48-mile swath 150-feet wide and erect towers for 345kV transmission lines through the county. The speakers implored the Justices of the Peace to join with them in opposing the plan by passing a resolution in opposition to SWEPCO's plan.

Mumaugh announced one of the proposed routes would erect three towers on his property. He wanted the court to go on record opposing the project.

JP Lamont Richie asked, "Can you imagine what it would look like if the power lines go through Inspiration Point?"

He continued, "Who wants to buy land in the country with a 150-foot herbicide-sprayed swath cut right through it?" He said he strongly opposed the project in its entirety.

Deaton added "If there's a need for this project, there's bound to be a better way."

When it was time to vote, JP John Reeve abstained but the other ten JPs voted to approve the resolution in opposition to SWEPCO's project, and they were greeted with generous applause from citizens in attendance.

The court approved the second and third readings of the ordinance establishing the three committees. They also approved the first reading of an ordinance creating a Finance Committee and a Library Committee.

Mumaugh, who retired from the court after the meeting, noted his appreciation for those he had worked with while on the court, and JPs commented on Mumaugh's exemplary public service.

In June, Berryville Mayor Tim McKinney stated regarding Grudek's plans to curtail dispatch services for parts of the county, "I don't know what the game is, but we don't want to play it. I will not allow Berryville officers to be out there blind," he said.

The controversy regarding the separation of dispatch duties still was unresolved. Closser pointed out it might be difficult to describe completely what central dispatch is supposed to do, but she also asked what voters thought they were voting on when they approved a sales tax to fund dispatch. She said her understanding was voters thought central dispatch covered all calls to the sheriff, not just 911.

Richie said it was not efficient to split 911 from central dispatch. Flake suggested a JP committee go with Barr to talk to Grudek to sort it out.

Barr agreed. "The only honorable thing to do is for me and the court to visit with the sheriff and discuss it with him," Barr commented.

Reeve asked Closser to draft an ordinance defining the duties of central

**QUORUM COURT** continued on page 28



## Airport commission lands on runway extension

**NICKY BOYETTE**

Commissioner Lonnie Clark of the Carroll County Airport Commission pointed out a sustained increase in visitors flying in from Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma to Carroll County Airport (CCA), and encouraged the commission to put on its front burner the project of extending the runway another 450 ft. to reach 4000 ft. This magic number makes it possible for more aircraft to land here.

Danny Hendricks, who runs Flight School of the Ozarks at CCA, told commissioners his school is so busy he is looking to add two more planes if he can find the right instructors. He said he saw the airport in Bentonville go through a significant expansion, and CCA is prime for similar growth.

Airport manager Sheila Evans said more and more pilots are hearing about this area and flying in for the first time because she keeps her gas prices competitive, but they return because of what they find here.

Clark asked Hendricks if a charter business would be feasible here, and Hendricks agreed there would be a possibility if business continued to increase in the area, but he would need a different license and the airport would need to extend the runway.

Evans said she had deposited the first check from a federal grant to pay toward fencing the entire perimeter of the property. The fencing is for security and safety since it might keep deer off the runway.

Evans also announced they had received a grant from Arkansas Department of Aeronautics to help pay for a new eight-bay hangar.

Chair Dave Teigen mentioned the airport had received a donation of 124 expertly-crafted model airplanes, and they intend to build display cases to exhibit them at the airport.

### April

Evans announced she had already leased five of the eight hangars to be constructed this year.

Clark again reminded the commission of possible benefits to the county of extending the runway to 4000 ft. Evans suggested they invite local politicians to an Open House and explain to them what an economic benefit the runway expansion would be to the entire county. Teigen said he had spoken with local business people who understood “the financial latitude this would

bring to the area.”

Dan Clinton, engineer and consultant, suggested they build the perimeter fence ten feet inside the actual property boundary to avoid any boundary disputes.

### May

The tourist season landed at CCA. Evans said courtesy cars went out 23 times in the past month.

Prep work for the new hangars got underway.

### June

Clinton gave Sept. 1 as a “suggested completion date” for the new hangars. He also said he would alter the fencing project so the airport can avoid having to install lights on the fencing.

Commissioners expressed concern for the condition of the taxiway and damage caused by non-airport traffic. They agreed to tighten their rules, make signage prominent and step up enforcement.

Evans said she lent out the courtesy cars 46 times in May, and pilots ask her “all the time” when the airport is going to extend its runway. She said a Tyson executive landed recently, and borrowed the courtesy car for only 45 minutes before he flew off again. She said this kind of visit is becoming common, that it’s not just about day trips to Eureka Springs. Fuel sales went from \$9006 in April to \$13,372 in May.

### August

Footings for new hangars were poured.

Commissioners agreed to seek funding from local banks and businesses to pay for cabinets to house the donated model airplanes.

### September

CCA held its fourth annual Cajun Fly-in. More than 40 planes flew in to participate, including one pilot who flew all the way from Lufkin, Texas. A sizable crowd enjoyed Cajun cuisine and a flour drop contest in which bombardiers dropped sacks of flour from 100 ft. toward an inner tube on the runway.

The Arkansas Airport Operators Association held its annual convention in Eureka Springs Sept. 15-17.

Clark presented copies of a resolution he plans to present to the Eureka Springs city council in support of extending the runway. He said the commission should also get support from Berryville and Green Forest.

Teigen stated, “Four thousand feet

would be a whole new ballgame.”

Clark added that if they had a 4000-ft. runway and county water at the airport, they could have Forest Service aircraft based there. If there were ever a major disaster in the area, the airport would be an important hub for disaster relief.

He also a 4000 ft. runway would open the door for economic development in the area. He knows of businesses looking to relocate to rural areas if they could only fly their executives in and out easily.

The fencing project, funded by federal dollars, began near existing buildings on the property, and Evans announced state money would pay for paving a road on the south side of the runway.

Evans also announced Hendricks had started the Carroll County Flying Club, one of only three in Arkansas.

### October

Evans announced she would retire at the end of the year because of family reasons. The commission hired Dana Serra-

no to succeed her. They also hired Lana Fletcher as a part-time office assistant.

Evans said she had 76 fuel transactions during September. She also recommended the commission make plans to replace their fuel pump. She will get advice from a Shell representative.

She sold a business user license to KC Copters, a Kansas City helicopter business that wants to market helicopter rides around Carroll County.

Foundation for the hangars was completed.

### November

Evans announced CCA had been selected as one of 10 airports worldwide for an article in *Departures* magazine called “High Design Airport Terminals.” CCA stood alongside airports from Marrakech-Menara in Morocco, to Dubai, to Denver International and LAX.

“You can’t pay for that kind of public relations,” Evans commented.

**AIRPORT** continued on page 35

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## School district wins lawsuit, gets new superintendent

NICKY BOYETTE

“We won!” said fatigued but delighted Curtis Turner, superintendent of Eureka Springs School District, at its Jan. 17 board meeting. He was referring the decision announced earlier in the day that the Arkansas Supreme Court had denied the petition for rehearing the long-running case in which the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) claimed excess local tax revenue above state-determined amount of \$6023 per student belonged to the state.

Turner said attorneys for Eureka Springs have now filed papers to get the Arkansas Department of Education to pay for attorney fees and court costs, and they will be issuing briefs asking for withheld funds of more than \$824,000 to be released.

Turner said the other big news was the new high school on Lake Lucerne Road. He said added traffic in the area had not been a problem, and thanked Mayor Morris Pate and city council for paying for widening Lake Lucerne Road.

Boardmember San Kirk announced interested citizens would be meeting to discuss what to do with the old high school.

Turner also announced middle school principal Cindy Holt’s plan to reroute the entryway at the middle school by replacing a window in the principal’s office with a door so everyone must enter through the office.

### February

The school board held several town meetings to hear what the public thought should be done with the old high school property. Ideas ranged from moving city offices there, to creating a community center, to tearing it down. Consensus was

there was huge potential for the property and they should seize the opportunity to do something great for the city

### March

Clare Lesieur, principal of Eureka Springs Elementary School, told the school board the elementary school had received the Bronze Level Award of the Healthier United States School Challenge (HUSSC) Program sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture

Turner said, “This is a big deal, folks. I’ve never known a school to receive an award like this.”

### April

The board voted to reinstate health insurance for staff beginning July 1, and also voted to remove Public Comments and board member Comments from its agenda. The district had taken away insurance benefits in 2011 when the lawsuit with the State had begun.

Board member Gayla Wolfenbarger wanted to clear up that the district was reinstating only what staff had lost.

Parent Jamie Gregg again spoke to the need for the district to step up its commitment toward English language learners in the schools. He encouraged the board to make Eureka Springs a model program for smaller school districts.

Board member Karen Gros stated that pursuant to recommendations from attorneys for the Arkansas School Board Association, she moved to remove comments from the agenda, saying, “The meeting is open to the public but is not a public meeting.”

Vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

When asked following the meeting how the public can express its opinions, Gros said through phone calls to the district office or through e-mail to the board.

### May

Turner announced his resignation effective June 30 at the end of the May 16 meeting. He divulged he would be taking the same position for a financially-distressed school district near his hometown of Murfreesboro. “This move is for family reasons, and I can’t say enough good things about those I have worked with here,” he stated.

The board agreed upon a format for hearing public comments, and decided anyone with a desire to address the board should give notice to either the superintendent or board president by Friday of the week before the board meeting. The topic must be identified, and it will be up to the superintendent or board president to decide if the item makes it onto the agenda.

Kathy Lavender, high school principal, told the board the high school had been named Number 8 out of 347 high schools in the state. She mentioned the success of students in Advanced Placement classes, but she also announced Jake McClung had won a gold medal in the 800-meter dash and Nathan Andress had won the one-mile and two-mile races at the state meet at Ft. Smith Southside High School.

Elementary school principal Clare Lesieur told the board she and her teachers have been setting goals for next year, and the focus will be “the whole child.”

### June

The board selected David Kellogg to succeed Turner as superintendent. Kellogg

had been an administrator at several sites in southern Arkansas, and would be leaving his position as superintendent for the Cossatot River School District in Polk County.

Kellogg’s first meeting was July 18. That night the board voted to pay attorney Eugene Sayre \$14,000 for his labors toward getting the ADE to release funds it owes the Eureka Springs School District. Board president Al Larson said, “The funds are being held hostage.” District treasurer Pam McGarrah said the State has withheld \$270,000 over three years, and Kellogg stated, “We have a very good chance” at getting it settled.

Kellogg also cautioned the board it must be aggressive in watching its reserves because the recent successful lawsuit guarantees the building fund for the district “is funded by us only – no state support.” He pointed out the district needs to prepare for replacing the other schools at some point. “We have to take care of our own business.”

### September

Cindy Holt, principal of the middle school, stated her school is implementing the Common Core curriculum for the first time, and “there is an elevated rigor in reading and writing assignments, and there was a bit of an outcry at first.” Elementary school teachers had trainings on Common Core because “we’re trying to stay ahead of the curve,” Lesieur commented.

### October

Kellogg warned the board at the October meeting about SB 360, another attempt in Little Rock to capture any excess

**SCHOOL BOARD** continued on page 21



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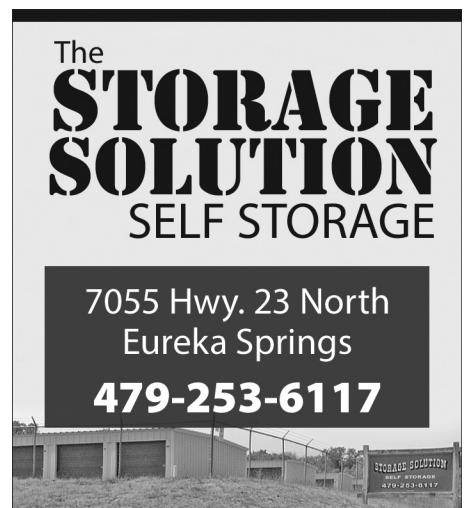
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## Parks – glowing orbs, too many geese and difficult vacations

NICKY BOYETTE

Chair Bill Featherstone reported to the Parks Commission at its Jan. 23 meeting the Basin Park Improvement Committee had met with Lowell Johnson, project manager of the Basin Park Project, who had come up with a cost of more than \$600,000 for the remodeling project they have in mind.

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

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

Commissioner Rachel Brix announced the Dog Park Advisory Committee had been working on potential fundraisers and learning about grant opportunities. Her committee meets monthly at the library annex.

Commissioners began discussion of their rules for vacating a property. Brix, who had already applied for a vacation, said there is confusion in what the existing rules actually mean and should say, and her concern was that the city gets the rules right.

They agreed to continue this discussion at the next workshop.

### February

Featherstone passed along a new idea from conceptual artist Jeremy Mason McGraw to the commission in February. McGraw wanted Parks to remove the

fountain hardware from Basin Park during May so he could install a large orb in that spot.

McGraw and his collaborator, Robert Norman, provided a model of the orb they envisioned, but the only other detail they would divulge was that glow-in-the-dark would be involved.

They wanted the community to be involved in a creative and collaborative way. Commissioners liked what they heard and gave McGraw and Norman the go-ahead.

### March

In March, commissioners continued to labor over vacating procedures, and they agreed to tighten up some language.

Brix announced the Dog Park Committee would be applying for a grant with the help of Economic Development Coordinator Glenna Booth.

### April

Featherstone told the group he had been attending meetings regarding what should be done with the old high school property. He said it might be time to focus on the “recreation” part of Parks and Rec. One of the buildings has a gym and another large space, and some people conjectured it could become a community center, something citizens have said for many years they wanted.

He said the concept would be a self-sustaining facility with the gym and “room for karate classes or zumba or whatever.” The commission voted to approve the concept of the Parks Commission being involved with the management of a possible community center.

Parks Director Bruce Levine first brought up the idea of refurbishing the area

around Calif Spring, which sits beside the Historical Museum. Part of the expense would be paid for by the Preservation Society. The design called for raised flower boxes of cut limestone, flagstone walkways and other features. Everyone agreed the small area has been underutilized. Levine said he would be ready to begin in early May.

He also reported Parks received \$40,000 from an 80-20 grant from the Arkansas Highway Department for building a handicapped-accessible trail paralleling Spring Street.

### June

The meeting was dominated by a presentation by Rachel Brix supporting the application by her and husband, Ryan, for a vacation of part of an unmaintained easement called Rock Street which runs within six ft. of their front door. Lee Krowell and Pat Lujan, neighbors, spoke up on behalf of the Brixes’ request. Attorney Wade Williams spoke up for the owners of Marble Flats, a four-acre tract adjacent

to the Brix property and whose owners claim they use Rock Street as access to their property, although neither the Brixes nor their neighbors has seen anyone else use Rock Street.

Commissioner Ferguson Stewart tried to push for a time out period so the owners of properties along Rock Street might work out the issues themselves. Brix said that had not worked so far.

After further debate among the commissioners, they voted 4-0 to deny the request.

Levine announced he had heard from Arkansas Game & Fish that the Parks grant request for funds to assist with repaving the Lake Leatherwood Park road “has risen to the top of the pile.” He expects an announcement soon.

He also announced that because of recent water samplings at Lake Leatherwood, the swimming area had been closed. A colony of geese spend too much time near the swimming area, and Levine

**PARKS** continued on page 25

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## Two large projects underway at CBWD

NICKY BOYETTE

The January meeting of the Carroll-Boone Water District had a somber undertone because of the unexpected passing of office manager, Jim Allison, in December. Allison had worked at the facility for 20 years and, according to co-workers, was well-respected by all and a steadfast opponent of fluoridating the water. John Summers, plant manager of the Freeman-Raney Water Treatment Plant, told the board that in January the plant pumped more water in 2012 than ever before. He said 2,280,000 gallons passed through the facility, 80,000 gallons more than the previous year.

Brad Hammonds of the engineering firm McGoodwin Williams & Yates (MWY) reported the five-year Master Plan has not been reviewed for five years, and suggested the board revisit it since water use patterns have changed. Harrison and Green Forest both are using more water than expected, and "CBWD must consider if it will need to replace existing pipes with larger ones or if increasing the pumping capacity will handle the new demands."

Chuck Olson, training officer for the Grassy Knoll Fire Department, asked the board to reconsider decommissioning a hydrant on County Road 116. He said 40-50 residents live in that area, and the next closest hydrant is much further away. Olson said the hydrant worked as recently as only two years ago. Several residents were present and spoke up in support of his request.

Staff of the water plant seemed to remember the line to the hydrant might have cracked and the valve was inoperable now. Chair Jim Yates said he would send

his engineers to investigate.

Dan Bowers, attorney for CBWD, told the board in April, "The duty of the board is to take care of the assets of the district." He had found nothing in the law that allowed the Grassy Knob Fire District to have its own access to CBWD water lines.

"The health department said they would not allow it," added Summers.

"It would be another risk we shouldn't take," Yates commented, "we owe it to our members to watch our lines." Bowers summed up their sentiments into a motion that the district would not grant permission for any non-district personnel to use the district's hydrants.

Hammond reported that demands on the system have reached the point of planning for improvements.

Chris Hall, also of MWY, said, "Less demand on the front end of the transmission line causes pressure in the line to increase, which in turn decreases the amount of water that can be pushed through the line."

The board authorized consultants to do a Preliminary Engineering Report to analyze alternatives and recommend improvements to the transmission capacity of the District.

At the **July** meeting, Hammond reported he had received a letter from the Arkansas Department of Health reminding him a district as large as Carroll-Boone is required to add fluoride to its water system. He said, "The legislators have made their decision. It would be against the law if we don't proceed."

The board voted to authorize MWY to move ahead with preparing the complete set of plans for the fluoride-feed system buildings at the two plants.

Yates replied, "I don't think we have a choice."

Hammond said the project would be paid for by a grant from the Delta Dental Foundation for \$763,000. His initial estimates indicate the construction costs would be near \$650,000 plus design costs of another \$70,000. He will present the detailed plans at the Oct. 17 meeting, and construction could begin in early 2014.

In a PowerPoint presentation, Hammond displayed charts demonstrating the need for a parallel 36-in. line to accompany the existing 30-in. line to keep the flow of water steady, predictable and inexpensive on its way from Beaver Lake to Harrison. The additional line would extend the life of the existing pipeline, and eventually enable the district to retire the booster station in Green Forest.

Phase One would be to start at the Freeman-Raney treatment plant on Beaver Lake and run the first section of parallel line 37,740 ft. to just south of Eureka Springs. This phase would also include boring a burrow under the Kings River where a line will go in Phase 2. Fifty-four easement parcels would be involved. The cost of Phase 1 might reach \$17 million and it would be completed by 2018.

The final phase would take the parallel line into Harrison around the year 2033. The board agreed to move forward on developing the plans.

Hammond also said plans for the two fluoride-feed stations were complete pending one last lookover by plant operators. He expected to begin taking bids before Thanksgiving. He suggested the board hold a special meeting toward the end of November to choose a contractor.

Office manager Cathy Klein told the board they had sold 114,000,000 gallons more than they had budgeted, which was very good. However, they also had to spend more than expected on equipment upgrades and maintenance. She said the end-of-year bottom line was \$153,000 to the favorable.

The board convened a special meeting **November 26** to consider bids for construction of the two fluoride-feed stations.


Hammond presented seven bids, only one of which came in under \$1,000,000, for \$894,000. The Delta Dental grant was for \$763,000, but Hammond was confident their board would increase the amount and extend the deadline past October 2014.

The board, therefore, decided to table the decision until the January meeting when they would know more.

He then reported MWY is ready to "go to work next week" on the transmission line project. The first step would be selecting an agent to negotiate getting easements on the 54 properties along the route.

Commissioner Gene Bland moved to accept the bid for the transmission line project from MWY subject to Bowers' final scrutiny, and vote to approve his motion was unanimous.

The board also voted to rebate the following amounts to the four member cities: Berryville – \$36,642; Green Forest – \$48,174; Eureka Springs – \$19,716; Harrison – \$81,468.



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**Eureka Gras – let's get rollin'**

Don't miss King's Day annual Kick-Off by Krewe of Krazo on Saturday, Jan. 11, 5 p.m. at Rowdy Beaver Restaurant. Greet the new King and Queen of Eureka Gras and members of the Royal Court. There'll be King Cake servings for everyone!

**Ham it up in 2014**

The Little Switzerland Amateur Radio Club will meet Thursday, Jan. 9, at noon at the Eureka Springs Pizza Hut, 2048 E. Van Buren, for lunch and monthly meeting. Anyone with an interest in amateur radio is welcome.



## Planning finds ways to stick to history and plan ahead

NICKY BOYETTE

The Planning Commission found itself with a sticky wicket to start the year when commissioner Melissa Greene and her husband applied for a Conditional Use Permit for a property they rented out as a short-term rental. Because of controversy over short-term rental in residential zones, the Greens, who believed they were acting legally, wanted to appease the discontent by getting a CUP for the property.

The property sat at the cusp of where the residential part of Alamo meets the commercial aspect at the end. Greene said if the property had been further into the residential area she would not have applied for the CUP.

People spoke on behalf of the Greens as property managers, but there were also comments about commercial incursion into a residential area. Commissioner Ken Rundel was not satisfied he had heard from enough neighbors. He said granting the CUP would affect more people than just those within 200 ft., which is the notification zone. He wanted to table the discussion so he could gather more input. Rundel mentioned the Greens had already been operating against the intent of City Code through what he said had been called a loophole.

Greene disagreed that she was acting illegally, and commissioner James Morris said he saw no reason not to approve the application.

Chair Beverly Blankenship pointed out that Greene would be recusing herself, so only four voters remained. If Rundel voted No, the application would fail. Therefore, she seconded Rundel's motion to table the discussion, but the vote to table was only 2-2, then the vote to approve the application was 3-1, Rundel voting No, so the application failed.

Rundel resigned from the commission before the next meeting, leaving only four commissioners. They decided to appeal to council to pass an ordinance allowing people sitting on other commissions or

in city offices to sit on Planning, even if temporarily.

Commissioners began reviewing commercial construction applications, and the first applicant was Elaine Harden representing Eureka Springs Tree Houses. They approved her application to build six more 24x24 cabins for tourists, three of which would be built this year.

### March

Planning convened as the Board of Zoning Adjustment to consider the request by Paul Minze for a zero-lot variance. He wanted to put a split-level 37-ft. wide home on a 40-ft. wide lot. Gina Fiore, whose tourist lodging A Journey's End, was next door, asked, "Is this even possible?" She was concerned Minze's foundation would jeopardize her stonework, not to mention the invasive roofline.

The vote to deny the variance was unanimous.

They also decided not to increase the number of units allowed in a Bed & Breakfast. Newly-reseated commissioner Ed Leswig stated, "We have limited commercial intrusions to five units only."

### April

Pam Ensminger represented her application for a CUP for a one-unit B&B at her residence at 8 Drennon. One person whose vacant lot is within 200 ft. of the property spoke in opposition to a B&B in the neighborhood. Blankenship read a letter also opposing the application.

Ensminger thought some of the points raised were inaccurate. Morris also disagreed with some of the opposing statements, however, the vote to approve the CUP was 2-2, Flaherty and commissioner Ed Leswig voting No, so the application failed.

Architect Butch Berry represented the city's plan to install public bathrooms in the southwest corner of the city parking lot on North Main. Berry said his plans are for a 16x24-ft. building slightly elevated because the area is in a flood zone, but it would still be ADA-compliant. The building would not

take away any parking spaces and would provide much-needed accommodations for visitors. Vote to approve the application was unanimous.

Commissioners also approved a new construction application for O'Reilly's Auto Parts to build a store at 109 E. Van Buren, which is the corner of Wall Street and US 62.

### May

Patrick Brammer and his brother John own eight lots totaling 25,600 sq. ft. along South Main where Planer Hill descends into downtown. In May, they asked Planning to rezone the property from R-1 to C-1. Blankenship said it was her concern that approving this request would effectively create an isolated district contrary to the surrounding areas, and it was her recommendation they consider rezoning the entire swath of land along Planer Hill rather than rezone it piecemeal.

Newly-seated commissioner Pat Lujan pointed out, "Most everything is commercial near there already."

The commission grappled with particulars for a moment but all agreed the area seemed more appropriately zoned C-1. When it was time for a vote, the commission voted 4-1, Blankenship voting No, to approve the request, which was sent along to council.

Commissioners also struggled with what they saw as vague definitions in City Code of "tourist lodging" and "Bed & Breakfast." Morris thought the wording in Code did not fully describe the intent of the law.

### June

The first hot topic of the long June 25 meeting was the request by Joe and

Dani Joy for a CUP for a one-unit bed and breakfast at 30 King Street. There had been controversy concerning whether application of the 200-ft. rule should have denied the Joys a chance for a CUP because there were other B&Bs nearby, but both the Building Inspector and the Fire Chief had found no problem with the Joys' application. Other residents did object, however, claiming the Joys were circumventing the law, and Planning heard plenty from them.

Blankenship pointed out the applicants had met all requirements in Code. The vote to approve the CUP was 5-1, Blankenship voting No.

The second big debate focused on whether small entertainment venues should be added to the list of accepted uses for the C-3 zone. The particular issue was the present use of the Gavioli Chapel at 80 Mountain. Whereas it had been a church in the past, for two years it had been the venue for Intrigue Theater, a performance by illusionist Sean-Paul and his wife, Juliana Fay. However, small entertainment venues had not been added to the list of accepted uses in the C-3 zone.

Many neighbors had opinions, some seeing attempts to rework City Code as spot-zoning to accommodate one business. Others liked the opportunity to walk to an entertainment venue nearby. Others complained about the extra traffic and noise.

Sean-Paul said the venue is perfect for his performances, and he was willing to work with neighbors to make it work.

Jack Moyer, who manages the Crescent Hotel and Gavioli Chapel, said keeping the building active would help

**PLANNING** continued on page 30

### Sunday at UUF

Jan. 5 at the Eureka Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 17 Elk St., the DVD *Two Who Dared*, will be shown. In Feb. 1939, Waitstill and Martha Sharp went to Czechoslovakia putting themselves in peril on a dangerous mission to save human lives. They became the seed that sprouted the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. Program at 11 a.m., followed by refreshments. Childcare is provided.

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## HDC protects history one application at a time

**NICKY BOYETTE**

The year started slowly for the Historic District Commission, but construction and winter chores soon picked up due to mild winter.

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

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

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

way to go is to save what we have.”

**April**

Commissioners approved the application by the City of Eureka Springs to install bathrooms at the N. Main parking lot.

Also in April the commissioners refused to allow modification to the front of a historic building which involved removing two windows.

At the April 29 meeting, John Wiley represented his application to replace his old worn-out fabric awning at the New Delhi Café with a galvanized metal one. He pointed out there are metal awnings all around town. After brief attempts at negotiation, commissioners voted to deny the application.

Wiley appeared at the next meeting again seeking approval of galvanized metal for the awning. He showed the commission photos of several other metal awnings downtown, and he stated, “It is not historically incorrect to do what I propose.” He said he was looking for an awning that would look neat and do the job. The vote to approve his application was 3-2, Breitling and Grinnell voting No, so the application was approved.

**September**

In September, commissioner Melissa Greene announced she and other

commissioners had received a spate of calls they felt are unfair. She said callers disagreed with a recent decision by HDC to approve an application for work that had already been completed. Greene stated, “Regardless of the circumstances, we are not the enforcers. We consider applications by following the guidelines.”

Chair Dee Bright said, “If there are complaints about perceived violations, take them to the Building Inspector or the mayor’s office.”

**December**

Roofer Denny Alexander represented an application to replace an existing roof with burnished slate lap-panel steel. Alexander had been turned down at HDC in the past when asking for this material, and had told his client the material was not allowed by the guidelines, but he asked anyway. He also knew that a similar product, standing seam panels, were allowed but more expensive. Again an application for lap-panel steel roofing was denied.

Commissioners approved the concept presented by Bill King to remake the front of 2 Pine into storefronts with two alcoves with plenty of windows.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 p.m.

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

All other meetings: See [www.nwarkaa.org](http://www.nwarkaa.org)

## March

### Into the mist –

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

PHOTO BY DAVID DEMPSEY





## Quest for new hospital continues

NICKY BOYETTE

The Hospital Commission began 2013 with an interchange with Chris Bariola, CEO of the Eureka Springs Hospital, at its Jan. 21 meeting. Commissioners had previously expressed frustration that Allegiance, the Shreveport company which manages the hospital, had said it would build a new hospital in Eureka Springs when it signed a five-year lease, which had already expired.

Bariola's response was to identify several components of the hospital that could expand in a new facility, but presently there was simply not enough room for expansion. He acknowledged he had spoken with Allegiance regarding a new hospital, and they told him they had looked at two hospitals in Louisiana and Mississippi as likely prototypes for what Eureka Springs would need.

Commissioners pointed out they had been waiting for years for a commitment or any kind of movement from the management of Allegiance, and so far had seen no action and found it difficult to even have a conversation.

"I'm pushing for it," Bariola said. He called the idea a growth project, and saw it would be profitable. He said he was disappointed to hear people turn away from ESH because of the appearance of the building. He also acknowledged an urgency for a new hospital he had not

realized before.

In **February**, commissioner Pam Crockett said, "Our facility must be replaced within the contract period with Allegiance, but it doesn't matter who's running it."

Attending the meeting were architects Charley and Laura Morrison, and they estimated the commission should expect a completion date for a new hospital no sooner than three years after the planning and drawings begins, and that would almost coincide with the date for the next Allegiance contract renewal if it began soon.

In **April**, commissioners discussed building a new facility with Rock Bordelon, CEO of Allegiance.

Bordelon had discussed building a new hospital in Eureka Springs when he first contracted to run the facility in 2007. Though preliminary plans had been drawn for a 50,000 sq. ft. facility, discussions waned and disappeared. Commissioners became progressively more concerned as the facility continued to deteriorate.

Bordelon said he was in a position to buy property for the new facility, and would get his staff to begin identifying a location. He said he had in mind a modular hospital, although acknowledged this might not be the best description. Regardless, he wanted a

hospital they would all want to go to.

Commissioner Mary Jean Sell asked Bordelon about his time frame, he replied, "If we can make some agreements, we're ready to start now." He said he would pursue securing land, and attorneys of the two parties would need to sort out how they would be cooperating. "I'm excited about it," he commented, and he said he would attend the June 17 commission meeting.

Chair Michael Merry said to Bordelon, "It sounds like we're on the same page." Nevertheless, financial details remained nebulous, the site still needed to be determined, and plans to fit the site remained undeveloped.

At the **May** meeting, Bariola announced ESH had been rated as not only the number one-ranked hospital among 29 Critical Access Hospitals but also the top-ranked hospital among 75 statewide. The data was collected from discharges from the third quarter of 2012.

He also said no site for a hospital has been chosen, but Bordelon had said he would attend the June meeting. It turned out Bordelon was too busy to attend the **June** meeting, and Bariola had no news to announce regarding the new hospital. He also had no news at the **July** meeting.

In **October**, Bariola did bring news, saying there was a proposal circulating through the halls of Congress that might

affect 850 critical care access hospitals in the nation, and it definitely has put on hold any progress toward building a new facility in Eureka Springs.

The proposal would limit critical care access hospitals from being nearer than 15 miles from each other. Bariola said his odometer read 14.5 miles between ESH and Mercy Hospital in Berryville. He said the proposal is one of many proposals in the mix as Congress gets ready to vote on a budget. He did not think it would pass but it could not be disregarded.

Allegiance had told him it still intended to build a new hospital in Eureka Springs, but, according to Bariola, for now progress would be on hold. When asked why Allegiance did not just pursue suitable property more than 15 miles from Mercy and proceed, he replied, "We're just making sure."

He said the questions should be answered no later than early in the year because a budget would be in place.

There were also comments about the condition of the current building. Mayor Morris Pate said he wanted the commission to ask Allegiance for an up-to-date inspection of the building. He does not want the town to lose its hospital. Pate said he is just watching out for the best interests of the citizens.

The commission ended its year awaiting word from Allegiance.

## ESPD winds down a busy 2013

It's been a busy year for constables on patrol, to say the least. Officers have responded to 2033 calls for service to date. They've also issued 1243 citations, 288 written warnings and arrested 263 people as of Dec. 20.

In addition to law enforcement services, Eureka Springs Police Department started 2013 off in January by participating in the Polar Plunge fundraiser for Special Olympics in Beaver. They also held the annual fourth grade homemade soapbox races in April.

In May the department sponsored a day of teacher appreciation by grilling hamburgers and hotdogs for elementary school teachers and support staff.

After that it was hotdogs for pre-K and kindergarten graduation and more hotdog grilling for first-graders during a field trip to Harmon Park.

The annual Gang Resistance Education and Training program for youth was held in the summer with games and fun along with serious discussion. The officers also continued ongoing anti substance abuse, bullying and violence programs in the schools, including Better Choices, Better Chances classes.

In November, ESPD supplied Thanksgiving dinner to 14 deserving families and then geared up to help with the Angel Tree program which provides Christmas presents for needy kids.

## Fire & EMS

### *Help was at hand with nearly 1,600 calls in 2013*

Eureka Springs Fire Department was busy in 2013, responding to 119 fire calls as of Dec. 19, down slightly compared to 132 in 2012.

Most of the dispatches involving an actual fire were in response to vegetation, grass, forest and brush fires – a total of 21. Following this were 16 calls related to gas leaks and 11 responses to false alarms/calls. Equipment was also dispatched to 9 building fires. In all, there were tone-outs in 42 incident categories covering everything from vehicle fires to smoke detector activation and standby status requested by police.

As of 8 a.m. on Dec. 19, Emergency Medical Services had 1,395 ambulance calls with 1,465 patient contacts. Based on 4.16 calls per day, Randy Ates, Public Information Officer, estimates finishing 2013 with 1,519 patient contacts.

Of the runs made by EMS, 893 were listed as "Transported, no lights and siren," 12 were transported with lights and siren, and 31 were treated at the scene with no transport. EMS preliminary 2013 report also shows responses to calls in nine other incident categories, including 16 "dead on scene."



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## Silver belles, silver tea

Editor,

Three cheers for Eureka Springs! With the ice and snow, the Silver Tea had to be postponed *twice*. That it finally happened, and was absolutely glorious, is a testament to this community.

The first cheer is for the media who got the word out each time with lightning speed. The *Independent* was so helpful, as were KESA and KTHS radio stations. In this regard, others were also stunning, especially the Chamber of Commerce and every business with a marquee.

The second cheer goes to Elise Roenigk and the staff of the Crescent Hotel, with special thanks to Linda Box. Diligently, they found a day and way to push the Tea forward.

And a rousing cheer goes to our citizens, both those 250 who attended and the hearty crew that served. For those who made cookies and sandwiches, and then made them *again*, applause is due. That many of the early ones went to Peachtree, AA, Echo, Wildflower and many churches, just shows that one good deed can become two.

And Clear Spring School, this year's beneficiary, was a wonderful, flexible partner and also an integral part of the event. Students arrived as Eureka historic characters, such as Carry Nation, Alvah Jackson and Richard Kerns. Obviously, learning can also be delightfully social.

As the sun shone on the Dec. 18 gathering, the assembled crowd was joyous and buoyant. On behalf of the Episcopal Churchwomen at St. James, I want to thank everyone for making

this great tradition a shining one.

**Lucilla Garrett**  
*2013 Silver Tea Chair*

## Park it

Editor,

I have lived around here long enough to know that 1) the town depends on visitors for survival and 2) there is hardly anywhere for the visitors to park. The sons and daughters of Kansas and Oklahoma love to visit our quaint historic town, but even quaint historic towns need parking. Maintaining historicity and staying within historic district guidelines matter, but we could build a historically appropriate parking garage in the downtown vicinity. Other towns have done it. Visitors would drive here just to park in it. I applaud city council for allowing this unmet need to get at least a discussion.

**Ned Boboni**



## WEEK'S Top Tweets

**@joeldanger** --- Every birthday is a surprise party after you turn 80.

**@Zen\_Moments** --- He who angers you conquers you. ~ Elizabeth Kenny

**@wife3kidsnodog** --- How come an extremely angry woman can pack everything she owns in an hour, but it takes her a week to pack for vacation?

**@BBCBreaking** --- Photo taken inside plane evacuating foreign nationals from Juba, South Sudan.

**@DukeSlothington** --- The sweats say I've given up. The Nike logo says "but not entirely."

**@English\_Muffin** --- But officer, I put the phone down as soon as I saw you see me using it ...

**@smalmightysam** --- I don't know why Coca-Cola and Pepsi are fighting over what Santa drinks, everybody know that big fat belly can only come from beers.

**@osigat** --- I told my doctor that my back was bothering me. He said, "Get a bar & hang." Now I'm hanging out in a bar & I admit, my back feels better.

**@LOUD-Thoughts** --- The best way to teach your kids about taxes is by eating 30% of their ice cream.

**@RitleySammich** --- I do my best proofreading right after I hit Send.



Dave Stanley



## Happy Same Old, Same Old!

**R**eally, the only new thing about the New Year is the date, right? We wake up in the same old bed in the same old place (well, depending on how we spent New Year's Eve) and engage in the same old morning routine.

We slide into the same old car we had on Dec. 31 and eventually go to the same old job and see the same old faces. The city and CAPC will deal in the same old way with the same old items that were on the agenda at the close of the old year.

Life goes on as if the date never changed.

So, in the words of the old song: "Pardon my asking, 'what's new?'"

Eureka Springs as an entity is traditionally not a fan of "new," as proven by the number of professional studies done over the years suggesting how we can improve tourism and our local economy – suggestions which have been roundly ignored; not because they weren't good, but because they called for change.

On the other hand, some individuals and groups within the city *are* willing to embrace something new – and not only embrace but create it. Hence we had the amazing Sphere project, the Music Park and the efforts of the Downtown Network and the Arts Council bringing new events.

But these efforts are to be expected. After all, we have a town full of artists and artists live to create.

So what's new? Has anything really *changed*?

What is it about the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve that inspires so many resolutions to be different or to do things in a new way? Surely it's true a lot of us see the need for change or we wouldn't make ourselves promise to do and be better. A heck of a lot of us make an attempt, but how long does it last?

Nonetheless, the mere idea of a New Year always carries the premise of a fresh start. We long for it, we crave it – the elusive "do-over." And then we do just that – the same old thing over again. What we need is a new experience, not a do-over of old ones. Maybe we're just too cowardly to open door number whatever and step over the threshold. We don't *want* to let go of what's familiar.

Perhaps this is why education and health reforms have been such a mess. They're not new experiences, they're do-overs of the old ones – new programs built on old concepts and old traditions. Maybe it's time to throw it all out and start over fresh.

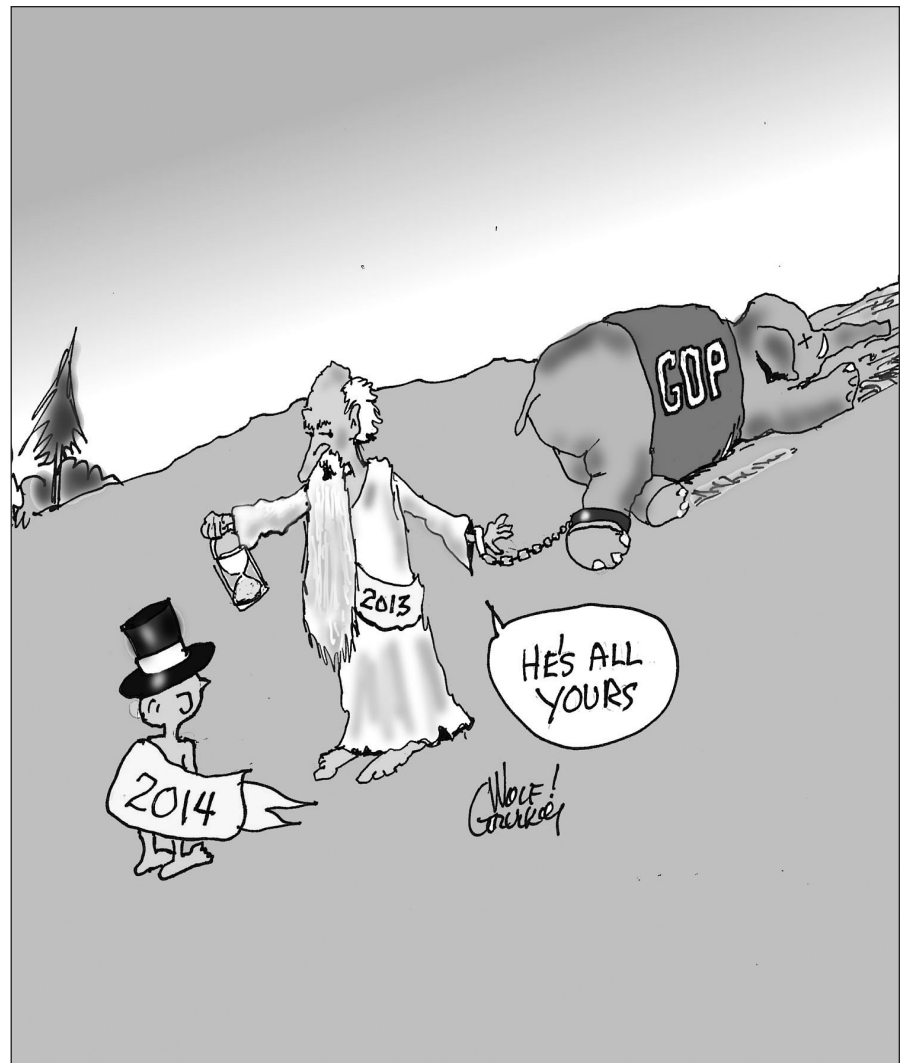
As a nation we *could* have clean air and water, we *could* feed the hungry (all of them), we *could* have health care for everyone, we *could* have better schools and we *could* live in peace on a global level and workers *could* make a decent wage – it's all within the realistic realm of possibility right now.

Except so many things controlled by governments and corporations would have to change first. It's profoundly sad that world economy is based on greed, so none of the good things can happen until *that* changes – which would take a major shift in reality too enormous for any of us to grasp outside of a worldwide catastrophe.

So, maybe we can begin to effect change now with our voices and votes and resolve in 2014 not to be so impressed by buzzwords and what other people tell us; to do our own research and actually talk to people with opposing opinions – and be very, very careful about to whom we hand power over our lives as individuals, as community and as citizens of a great nation.

Happy New Year and *Viva La Revolucion!*

~ CDW



## The Pursuit of HAPPINESS

by Dan Krotz

**A**pap of mine has prostate cancer and is having three weeks of daily radiation treatments to snag errant malignancies. The treatments are at a clinic in Fayetteville and I'm one of several people who drive him back and forth. These trips are enjoyable – lots of aimless chit chat about football, church politics, and the mind-body fandango – and they are always instructive: you see firsthand how the human body responds to the insult of radiation, and you learn the bald truth of Nietzsche's idea that what does not kill you makes you stronger.

Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in American men; only lung cancer is more common. One man in six will get it, and one in 36 will die from it; the good news is that most men treated for prostate cancer don't die from cancer. In fact, more than 2.5 million men in the United States who have been diagnosed with prostate cancer are still alive today.

The common diagnostic tool used to detect prostate cancer is the Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) Test. If you score zero, you're aces; if you score a higher number you may not be, but the only sure way of knowing is to have a colonoscopy. The PSA is a simple blood test, but a colonoscopy involves a team of people rooting around in your netherworld with a camera, and possibly a knife. It is also expensive.

For those reasons I resisted my physician's insistence that I have one. After all, my PSA tests always came back zero, and my "stuff" was still working pretty well. But I gave in and begrudgingly set aside a morning for the ordeal.

Despite my zero PSA scores the Colon Calvary found that my prostate was piggy-backed by a highly malignant, fast spreading tumor. The rest of the story involves recovery, good prospects for long life, etc.

So: by all means resolve to become thin, rich, and handsome in the New Year. But if there is one resolution to make and keep, especially if you're over 50, it is: get a colonoscopy. It could save your life.



## A thousand pictures are worth one word ...



**SWEPCO** continued from page 1

located near Berryville.

The SWEPCO application filed before the Arkansas Public Service Commission (APSC) in early April was for the largest electric line ever proposed for Carroll County, a line that SWEPCO planned to build through some of the most scenic and environmentally sensitive areas of the region. The proposal caused alarm for the immediate impacts of cutting down that many trees and the destruction that would be caused by excavating holes seven to ten ft. wide and 30-40 ft. deep for foundations for the large monopoles. And there have been grave concerns about the spraying of herbicides on the right-of-way for the power line in a region where the sieve-like karst topography allows whatever is sprayed on the ground to enter groundwater, contaminating wells and water bodies important to people and wildlife, such as the White River.

The year 2013 was a year of unprecedented citizen action to protect their homes, the environment and the tourism economy. Hundreds of orange “No SWEPCO” signs appeared around Carroll County and in eastern Benton County. The citizen group, Save The Ozarks (STO), quickly emerged as the leader in opposing the project, including organizing what was likely the largest turnout for an APSC hearing in the agency’s history. For two long days in mid-July, the hearing room at the Inn of the Ozarks in Eureka Springs was filled with hundreds of people who came armed with passion, determination and knowledge about the local environment largely missing from SWEPCO’s deeply flawed, boiler plate Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that, it was learned, was largely copied from the EIS of a similar SWEPCO project elsewhere. A total of 229 people gave comments out of 327 who signed up to speak, with many not being able to speak because of time constraints.

The SWEPCO issue dominated this newspaper’s coverage for the year with more than 200 news articles, editorials and letters to the editor on the subject. The issue was also covered by daily newspapers and television stations in the region.

On July 15, an article in the *Joplin Globe* said, “Several who testified called the controversy a ‘defining moment’ for Eureka Springs and Northwest Arkansas. Others referred to a line having been drawn in the sand between the people and corporate America.”

STO leaders, including Director Pat Costner, STO board member Doug Stowe, and Jeff Danos, dug into the details of the applications including the very most critical factor: Did SWEPCO prove that the power line was truly needed? STO said no, and provided critical expert witness testimony before the APSC in Little Rock that underscored numerous deficiencies in the application – including SWEPCO’s failure to establish need for the project estimated to cost \$119 million – without the major cost overruns STO felt were unavoidable because SWEPCO failed to factor in the higher costs of construction in a karst region.

Stowe said one of the biggest failings was not considering the cumulative impacts of the project.

“Allow one big power line like that and they’ll insist on another and since the land is already been decimated, you’ve lost already,” Stowe said. “The cumulative effects that the power companies and the APSC claim are not to be considered are enormous.”

SWEPCO said the proposed facilities “will provide increased reliability and overload relief in eastern Benton County and Carroll County.”

Costner said the justification given by SWEPCO for the project was to prevent power overloading of two lines – Beaver-Eureka 161 kilovolt (kV) and East Rogers-Avoca 161 kV – if there is a future outage of the Flint Creek to Brookline 345 kV line that goes to Springfield, Mo.

But STO expert witness Dr. Hyde M. Merrill said in APSC testimony that the planning studies conducted by Southern Power Pool (SPP, a nine-state regional transmission organization that SWEPCO said told it to build the line) are out of date, and failed to establish the need for the proposed project in 2016 based on what is known today.

“SPP’s current model shows that the problem does not exist,” Merrill said.

STO Attorney Mick Harrison said in filings before the APSC that SWEPCO originally proposed to rebuild 161 kV transmission lines rather than building the much larger line, an option that would have cost far less and been much less damaging to the environment, property values and tourism.

“SWEPCO’s lack of candor in its application to the commission, regarding which party really wants a 345kV line and why, is sufficient reason for this application for a Certificate of Environmental Computability and Public Need (CECPN) to be denied,” Harrison said.

Further evidence that the line was not needed

came from SWEPCO itself when, at the very end of hearings before the APSC in August, SWEPCO filed a motion to re-do its application. Costner said that showed that SWEPCO realized it had failed to prove the project was necessary, and now wanted to put forth a different rationale. STO has opposed that motion stating that it wouldn’t be proper for APSC to rule on a different application than the one for which property owners were given a legal notice for.

Late in the year opponents of the project were heartened by a letter from the National Park Service (NPS) 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 asked that the APSC “take no action on selecting a route due to insufficient historical resource information from which to base a decision.”

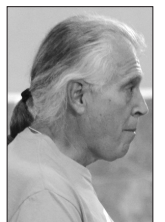
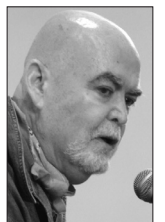
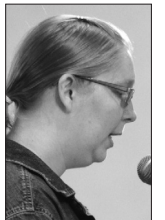
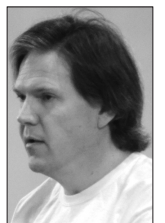
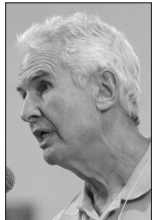
The SWEPCO project generated nearly 6,000 opposing comments to the APSC, and oral testimony from hundreds of citizens opposed to the project generated a transcript 1,166 pages long. The project was opposed by all the cities in or near the power line, by the Carroll County Quorum Court and by the Eureka Springs Chamber of Commerce, which named Costner as its “Woman of the Year for 2103.”

Costner said the most important thing regarding the SWEPCO issue is the countywide consensus that this project is not wanted or needed.

But in a stunning display of deafness to public concerns, in October the staff of the APSC brushed off all concerns and recommended that the project be approved.

“The recommendation by the APSC staff shows either overwhelming incompetence or unabashed determination to get SWEPCO’s project approved despite all evidence to the contrary,” Costner said.

Costner said SWEPCO has completely failed on numerous counts to meet legal requirements for receiving a CECPN. Costner remains hopeful Administrative Law Judge Connie Griffin will be fair and balanced in making a recommendation to the commission. Griffin’s decision is expected by January 20, 2014. Her recommendation and that of the ASPC staff will be considered by the three-member appointed APSC that has final say on the matter.





# INDEPENDENT 2013 Wrap

... "No."





A thousand pictures are worth many ... "No's."





## Year in Review – Constables on Patrol

### JANUARY 9

Animal Control encountered a woman driving alongside her dog to give it some exercise. He pointed out some of the laws she was breaking besides being a traffic hazard. He warned her strongly never to do this again.

### JANUARY 16

Central Dispatch alerted ESPD to a possibly intoxicated person in her apartment being very loud. Constable who arrived at the scene found a woman, not intoxicated, and her daughter venting. They promised to vent quietly.

### JANUARY 16

Witness first reported a huge fight involving several people in front of a house on US 62. One person drove away, then a female left with kids and things settled down.

### JANUARY 19

Constable notified Stone County, Mo., authorities about donkeys on one of their roadways.

### FEBRUARY 2

Resident reported to ESPD someone with a foreign accent told her on the phone she had won the Publishers' Clearing House prize of \$900,000 and a Mercedes. She said the caller was going to bring \$60,000 and the car to her house, but first she was to go to Walmart and purchase specific scratcher tickets in return for the car and money. She did not live in the city limits, so ESPD told her to call CCSO, in case the person showed up at her house, and the Attorney General's office.

### FEBRUARY 7

A small television appeared in front of a place of business, and no one knew where it came from. Everyone decided to leave it there to see if someone claimed it.

### FEBRUARY 8

A percussionist in a neighborhood drummed up a noise complaint. He told responding constable he was just about ready to finish for the night.

### FEBRUARY 9

Employee at a business wanted to report a robbery that occurred five years ago. She will speak to a constable on Monday.

### FEBRUARY 23

Witness reported seeing four glowing lights, possibly UFOs, in the sky west of town. Constable told her there had been no other reported sightings but he would be on the lookout.

### FEBRUARY 24

ESPD got a call reporting one car had run into another on Planer Hill but then the

caller hung up. Constable then got a call from a towing company about someone who had been sideswiped by another driver and needed a tow. However, the tow truck driver said the person with the vehicle was intoxicated and it appeared he had driven into the wall on his way down the hill. When the constable got to the scene, he arrested the driver for DWI and careless driving.

### MARCH 7

Individual was hitting windows and doors at the elementary school with a baseball bat. She fled to Berryville where she was arrested.

### MARCH 7

Resident in a neighborhood just east of downtown reported a female came to his house purportedly selling magazines. She asked to use the bathroom, and then she left after the resident caught her going through the medicine cabinet. She fled in a green van carrying other passengers. Constable initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle and identified all the occupants. Berryville police asked for an interview because of an earlier theft of medication in Berryville. The individuals were escorted to the Berryville police department for an interview.

### MARCH 8

A wife told ESPD she was following her husband's girlfriend who was driving with a suspended license. The girlfriend drove to ESPD with the wife following her, and the girlfriend was arrested for driving on a suspended license. The wife was also arrested for driving on a suspended license.

### MARCH 16

Two callers reported fire dancers in Basin Park.

### MARCH 22

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

### APRIL 5

A 96-year old female with a walker was flagging down vehicles on U.S. 62. She wanted a ride to the airport.

### APRIL 5

Distressed merchant downtown reported "five to ten wild Indians" yelling and screaming in front of her business. She said they were headed down Main Street. Constable on patrol did not encounter them.

### APRIL 8

Three cars with flashing lights were driving around near Black Bass Lake. Resident spoke with one of them and discovered someone had gotten lost. Constable responded and found a female and two children who had gotten stuck. He gave them a ride to the station.

### APRIL 8

Individual came to the station to report he had been threatened with a gun at Black Bass Lake. He said a female and two kids had been at a nearby convenience store saying their vehicle had gotten stuck and he and another person went to help. His vehicle broke down during the attempt, and he said the female threatened to shoot him. He and the other person walked away and found a ride to the police station. Since the events happened outside city limits, a deputy came to get reports from everyone.

### APRIL 14

Resident reported a nearby dog had been barking for the past hour. Constable responded to the location and discovered two males who did not live at the address with a moving van. The two males said they would contact the owner about the barking dog.

### APRIL 26

Caller asked for a constable at her address as soon as possible. Constable arrived to find there was no emergency.

### MAY 7

Individual told ESPD a friend had seen someone who looked a lot like her brother who had been missing since 2012. Detectives will follow up.

### MAY 8

The business that had reported thefts over the weekend called to say there was video evidence of the event and an identification of the vehicle. Responding constable encountered the vehicle in a Eureka Springs parking lot and arrested the driver on an ESPD warrant for failure to appear and felony parole violation out of Benton County. Stolen merchandise was returned.

### MAY 12

Juvenile told ESPD his mother had beaten up his stepfather and trashed the house. There were two other siblings present. Constables arrived to find the juvenile caller had run away because the mother said she was taking his computer away from him. He was found nearby. Constables arrested the mother for third degree domestic battery.

### LATE MAY

Report came in about a man in his underwear playing a green ukulele and causing a commotion. Constables arrived and saw the person was wearing shorts at the time and everything else was okay.

### LATE MAY

Individual came to the station to report her six-foot tall purple homemade trailer had been stolen.

### JUNE 12

Individual left his shop unattended and unlocked and was walking down the middle of the street. Constable who responded found his conduct disorderly and arrested him.

### JUNE 13

Guest at a motel told ESPD about a wild party below his room. People were reportedly yelling and throwing bottles. Instead of a riot, responding constable found a group of friends sitting calmly in front of the room chatting. He asked them to continue being quiet.

### JUNE 14

Two constables went to the scene of a reportedly irate man yelling and cursing on his cell phone. They learned he had gotten a little carried away talking to his mother.

### JUNE 15

A flame-twirler twirled flaming things downtown, and a constable had to tell her she was violating a city ordinance by twirling flaming things downtown. So she stopped.

### JUNE 15

Constable told four individuals with open containers in the middle of a street in the middle of town it was against the law to drink in public.

### JUNE 16

Fire alarms sounded at the old high school cafeteria. ESFD discovered two alarms had been pulled but the building was secure. ESPD got word of three young males running in the area with shirts pulled over their faces, but searches were for naught until the camera in Basin Park captured their images and constables were able to encounter them downtown. They confessed to pulling the alarms at the school.

### JUNE 28

A mother asked ESPD for help. Her son is in Carroll County jail. He had left his pickup with his girlfriend, but another person drove away in it while the girlfriend was in the shower. The other person was refusing to bring the truck back. The constable who

**COPS** continued on page 32



# INDEPENDENT 2013 Wrap

## This Year's INDEPENDENT Thinkers



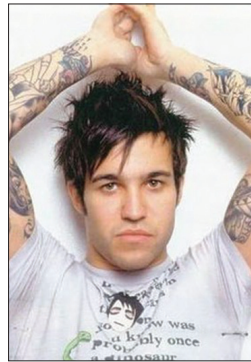
1-3-13  
Andrew & Madeleine Scherwin



1-10-13  
Richard Nixon



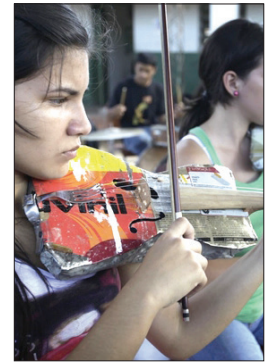
1-17-13  
Aaron Swartz



1-24-13  
Pete Wentz



1-31-13  
Dolphins



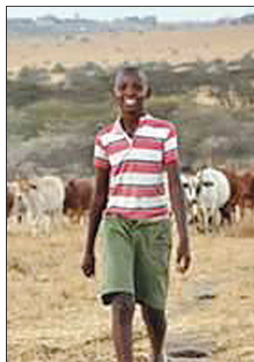
2-7-13  
Favio Chavez



2-14-13  
Daniela Holmqvist



2-21-13  
Michael Warren



2-28-13  
Richard Turere



3-7-13  
Montville, Maine



3-14-13  
Lynne Osterman



3-21-13  
Budapest Protestors



3-28-13  
Boyan Slat



4-4-13  
Joyce Elliott



4-11-13  
Temple Grandin



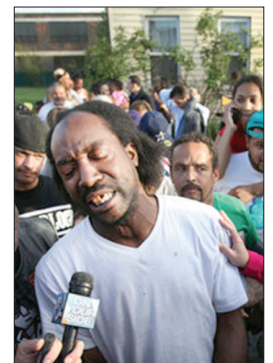
4-18-13  
Ethiopian Lions



4-25-13  
The people of Eureka Springs



5-2-13  
Mark Miller



5-9-13  
Charles Ramsey



5-16-13  
Greg Karber



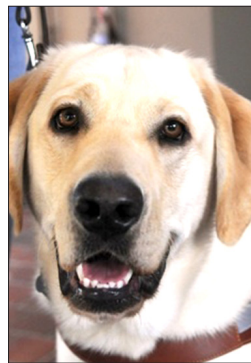
5-23-13  
Portland, Oregon voters



5-30-13  
Eleanor Fairchild



6-6-13  
Birke Baehr



6-13-13  
O'Neil



6-20-13  
Jane Kleeb



6-27-13  
Wendy Davis



# INDEPENDENT 2013 Wrap

## End of Year Review



7-4-13

Save The Ozarks



7-11-13

Fanny Armstrong



7-18-13

Lina Attalah



7-25-13

Helen Amelia Thomas



8-1-13

Whitechurch High School boys



8-8-13

Matthew Mahoney



8-15-13

Paul Quinn College



8-22-13

Antoinette Tuff



8-29-13

William von Scheneidau



9-5-13

Ruth Bader Ginsburg



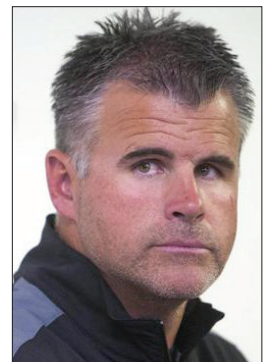
9-12-13

Bolivians



9-19-13

Dr. Janis Orlowski



9-26-13

Matt Labrum



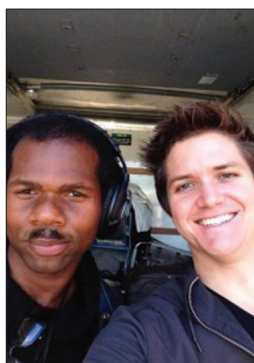
10-3-13

Gumi, South Korea



10-10-13

Malala Yousafzai



10-17-13

"Journeyman" Leo & Patrick McConlogue



10-24-13

Pope Francis



10-30-13

Mexico



11-6-13

Ethiopia



11-13-13

Willy Law  
Wai-cheung



11-20-13

John Moffitt



11-27-13

the Gulabi Gang



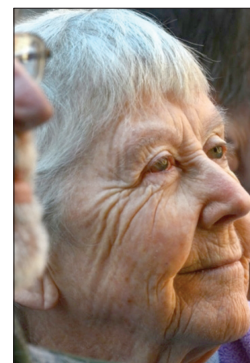
12-4-13

Noam Chomsky



12-11-13

Nelson Mandela



12-18-13

Sister Megan Rice



12-25-13

Julia  
Trigg-Crawford



# INDEPENDENT 2013 Wrap

## As the page turns ...

A favorite haunt of Eureka Springs residents through the years has been the Carnegie Public Library. Whether we're checking out physical books, E-books or video entertainment, the library has always been a hub for reading and research as well as special events for kids and adults.

But there's much more. During 2013, the Library offered several beginner computing classes geared toward older adults, and continued to bring Peachtree Village residents books and DVDs for checkout. Summer saw the introduction of Lego Club in addition to regular Summer Reading Programs (and it was a huge hit!).

A record 32 teens and tweens spent all night in the Library at the Summer Library Lock-In, and a new Alpha Geek group for teens was formed (you know who you are). A library group, dressed as their favorite book characters, walked in the Victorian Classic Race.

Friends of the Library, together with the Eureka Springs Rotary Club, paid for an AV equipment update that was

installed in the Library Annex in time for Genealogy workshops, TED talks, and a documentary film festival in late summer and fall. Then there were those fabulous book sales the community looks forward to each year, and library participation in Books in Bloom.

In September, the library began cooperating with North Arkansas College Adult Education to offer free GED preparation classes in Eureka Springs.

A new Facebook online book club, BookFace, was created in November. A system-wide survey, including Town Hall style meetings, was undertaken in the Carroll and Madison Library System, with results soon to be released.

While we gear up for snow days with our stack of winter reading, Library Director Loretta Crenshaw, extends New Year's greetings to the community and promises, "It's been a busy year and there's no reason to expect anything less in 2014!"

To keep up with what's new at the library, see [www.eurekcalibrary.org](http://www.eurekcalibrary.org).



**Remote lending** – Loretta Crenshaw, Carnegie Public Library director (seated), sets up the traveling lending library for residents at Peachtree Village.

PHOTO BY BEVERLY TAYLOR



The chill of winter is here

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### MAY

**Goliath goes down** – A giant oak was toppled on Judah Street by high winds on a Monday night. Besides wind damage around the area, portions of Carroll County, including Eureka Springs, were without power for two days.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY



# DEPARTURES 2013 Wrap

**Eugene Kresse**, Jan. 15, 1922 – Jan. 10, 2013  
**Marcella McCarthy**, Sept. 14, 1915 – Jan. 11, 2013  
**Terry Engholm**, March 5, 1944 – Jan. 20, 2013  
**James L. Vernon**, June 27, 1943 – Jan. 10, 2013  
**John Lawrence Thurman**, May 20, 1940 – Feb. 11, 2013  
**Shannon Pharis**, Oct. 31, 1960 – Feb. 8, 2013  
**Martha Ann Maloney**, Jan. 10, 1935 – Feb. 5, 2013  
**Mary Lynn (Walker) Clark**, Oct. 10, 1943 – Feb. 1, 2013  
**Walter A. Butler, Jr.**, Jan. 7, 1931 – Feb. 7, 2013  
**James Roger “Jim” Duffy**, Oct. 7, 1948 – March 5, 2013  
**Manuel “Manny” Ortiz**, Jan. 2, 1933 – March 8, 2013  
**Lorena J. Durland**, March 29, 1916 – March 21, 2013  
**Claudia J. Blankenship**, July 21, 1934 – March 23, 2013  
**John William Anderson**, March 13, 1930 – March 26, 2013  
**Charlene Mae Maxwell**, July 10, 1946 – March 26, 2013  
**Bob McBride**, August 10, 1940 – April 4, 2013  
**John Richard Riddler II**, June 30, 1944 – April 14, 2013  
**Ruth Katherine Haydon**, Jan. 27, 1920 – April 11, 2013  
**Terry Allen Thornton**, May 27, 1953 – April 22, 2013  
**Dorothy Tanton**, Oct. 15, 1923 – April 16, 2013  
**John Russell Ratliff**, March 1, 1929 – April 18, 2013  
**Gordon Keith “Sweetie” Hutchison, Jr.**, October 18, 1963 – April 16, 2013  
**Eugene V. Lovelace, Jr.**, Jan. 18, 1957 – April 21, 2013

**Jeannie Mitchell**, Sept. 29, 1951 – April 16, 2013  
**Mildred Krebbs**, April 29, 1923 – April 30, 2013  
**Ronald James Newburn**, July 2, 1946 – May 2, 2013  
**Bryan Lawrence Stoppel**, Jan. 14, 1961 – May 8, 2013  
**Jason Lee Polan**, April 5, 1941 – May 4, 2013  
**Betty Sue (Hall) Hinson**, Feb. 9, 1937 – May 18, 2013  
**Robert Marcus (Mark) Payne, Jr.**, March 30, 1962 – May 15, 2013  
**Floyd Carroll Evans**, Dec. 26, 1957 – June 4, 2013  
**Lamonte “Monte” Woolhiser**, May 18, 1939 – July 3, 2013  
**Elizabeth Stockton**, Nov. 26, 1911 – July 10, 2013  
**Malia Markel Rutherford**, Jan. 2, 1956 – July 12, 2013  
**Misty Scates Moyer**, Jan. 27, 1976 – July 13, 2013  
**Leta Aparicio**, Sept. 21, 1934 – July 16, 2013  
**Johnathan Travis Johnson**, April 3, 1987 – July 13, 2013  
**Steve Gsellmann**, Oct. 12, 1931 – July 21, 2013  
**Jerry Dean Tumbleson**, Feb. 18, 1967 – July 14, 2013  
**Thomas Shear**, Dec. 14, 1924 – August 4, 2013  
**Floyd E. “Happy” Jones**, July 7, 1932 – August 2, 2013  
**Michael Shawn Harlan**, April 1, 1965 – August 6, 2013  
**Bonnie Jean Farwell**, March 30, 1928 – August 5, 2013  
**Reba Lou McCollough Pyatt**, June 18, 1929 – August 9, 2013  
**Jerry L. McGrew**, Dec. 4, 1926 – August 6, 2013  
**John Neilson Christensen**, Dec. 4, 1920 –

August 9, 2013  
**Donald Gene Smith**, Sept. 24, 1940 – August 16, 2013  
**Patrick Curtis Blevins**, July 18, 1957 – August 18, 2013  
**Gary Steven Galloway**, July 18, 1952 – August 22, 2013  
**Mary Jane (Willis) Phillips**, Oct. 20, 1936 – August 18, 2013  
**Charles “Chuck” Stanton Greer**, Sept. 10, 1931 – August 27, 2013  
**Kathy Brookbank**, March 16, 1937 – August 18, 2013  
**Wanda Jean Bowser**, April 27, 1943 – August 22, 2013  
**Larry DeWayne Martin**, August 22, 1939 – August 28, 2013  
**James Reginald Wilson, Jr.**, March 26, 1948 – August 24, 2013  
**Helen Irene Hull Maples**, May 24, 1925 – Sept. 1, 2013  
**Milton Charles “Chuck” Levering**, June 28, 1939 – Sept. 6, 2013  
**John Burris**, Sept. 4, 1923 – Sept. 4, 2013  
**Norbert George Bialka**, April 8, 1939 – Sept. 4, 2013  
**David Fletcher Putnam**, July 23, 1953 – Sept.

12, 2013  
**John Maurice (J.R.) Robie**, July 27, 1939 – Sept. 24, 2013  
**Gloria Bohannon**, Jan. 23, 1949 – Sept. 23, 2013  
**William Wesley Goodson III**, Dec. 4, 1943 – Sept. 30, 2013  
**Marian Claire Sadler Thomas**, April 10, 1939 – Oct. 8, 2013  
**James F. Wright**, Feb. 6, 1927 – Oct. 8, 2013  
**Lynn M. Williams**, Nov. 23, 1949 – Oct. 8, 2013  
**Gerald Meeks**, June 17, 1964 – Oct. 11, 2013  
**Linda Russene Clay**, June 4, 1947 – Oct. 11, 2013  
**Debra Collette Price**, June 29, 1956 – Oct. 27, 2013  
**Stanley Leon Walker**, Oct. 13, 1955 – Nov. 8, 2013  
**Mildred Ellen Tromburg**, Aug. 1, 1921 – Nov. 5, 2013  
**Brandon James Snodgrass**, Feb. 20, 1995 – Nov. 12, 2013  
**Ruby Jean Faulconer**, Feb. 2, 1934 – Nov. 16, 2013  
**Richard G. Kelley**, July 14, 1937 – Nov. 23, 2013  
**William E. “Red” Perkins**, – Nov. 23, 2013  
**Beatrice G. Kaastad**, Jan. 25, 1917 – Nov. 30, 2013  
**Larry Teslow**, – Nov. 23, 2013

## SCHOOL BOARD continued from page 6

local revenue over the state-set Uniform Rate of Tax. “What we do to educate kids will be seriously hampered if this happens,” he said. It turned out SB 360 never got out of committee, but school administrators around the state will be on alert for similar attempts in the future.

Lesieur told the board they are working to improve school culture by focusing on kindness and good manners. As a result, she is hearing “hello” and “thank you” more often not only to teachers, but between students.

The board elected as officers for the year – Jason Morris, president; Chris McClung, vice-president; Sam Kirk, secretary.

## November

In November, Mike Bishop, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce announced creation of an *ad hoc* committee of citizens to figure out what to do with the old high school property. Bishop said Diane Murphy would Chair the committee.

Lavender said a group of high school science students under the supervision of Katy Turnbaugh created a micro fodder project intended to figure out a way to feed cattle during droughts. She also presented most of the members of the high school state champion cross-country team. Nathan Andress was Number 1 in the state and Jake McClung was Number 3.

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work with Planning Chair Beverly Blankenship on a proposed ordinance to eliminate overhead utility lines on new constructions except in cases of extreme hardship. They also assigned to Weaver the task of crafting an ordinance updating City Code regarding outdoor sales by incorporating several suggestions Planning had suggested.

Also in February, council passed the third reading of an ordinance raising parking fines.

The controversial urban deer hunt ended with a whimper, as Schneider reported 12 deer had been bagged and there had been no problems.

#### March – Street watchers

Twenty-six people spoke at the March 11 public hearing regarding Abundant's application for a taxi license. The preponderance spoke up for long-time service of David "Fuzzy" White of Eureka Springs Taxi, who had been providing his personal touch to the taxi experience in town for 23 years. There were also reports of visitors waiting long periods before getting a ride, if they got one. Some testified there was a need for another taxi service.

Stussy said he intended to work with Fuzzy, not put him out of business. He would pick up what Fuzzy cannot handle.

Mitchell said he thought there was a need for another taxi in town. Other alderman fell in line and voted 6-0 to approve the application from Abundant.

The next cause célèbre was a proposed arts' fair on Spring Street. Sandy Martin, Chair of the Eureka Springs Arts Council, spoke at the March 25 council meeting to represent a proposed event on Saturday, May 25, when a portion of Spring Street would be blocked off to most traffic and artists' booths and food vendors would be set up.

"We want to create a fresh, high-end event to bring people to town," Martin said.

Objectors took their turns, with one merchant saying the street fair would take away business by preventing trolleys from driving through. Another despaired at losing more parking. Was it "fair to allow out-of-town vendors to set up booths in front of local merchants?"

As council mulled and mulled, Martin said, "Let me make it easy for you. We'll move it."

Mayor Morris Pate said he was disappointed with so much opposition to the idea, and that the Arts Council was just trying to bring some customers downtown.

Council then stepped from that controversy into a quagmire. Brian and Lil

Hostick, who operate Sherwood Court, told council they had been surprised by a sewer backup in one of their tourist cottages. Mr. Hostick said the previous owner had had three such incidents, and although improvements had been made, here was another backup. There was discussion of where the backup originated and who was responsible, but Hostick's point was, "We've been damaged, and what sewage sorrows are lurking beneath the streets?"

Council decided they needed to hear from Public Works at the next meeting.

DeVito brought up the topic of regulating limousines because he said there was a limousine service in town acting as a taxi. Aldermen agreed allowing a third company to operate this way was not fair to the two behaving legally. They decided to have a workshop on the subject of regulating limousines.

The second reading of the ordinance to amend City Code regarding outdoor sales came up and Planning Chair Beverly Blankenship clarified the intent was to limit an inordinate number of sales on private property. Purkeypile saw it as a way to prevent open-ended accumulations of trash for sale. Others saw it as too restrictive. Nevertheless, the second reading was approved 6-0.

Council also approved the third reading of the ordinance placing utility lines in new constructions underground or at the rear of the property and the ordinance levying the sales and use tax for four years to fund implementation of the Lake Leatherwood Master Plan.

#### April – Sewage, decay and SWEPCO

At its April 2 workshop, council distilled topics from their long list as worthy and achievable goals: 1) bathrooms at the North Main parking lot; 2) the bridge on Mill Hollow Road; 3) improvements to the sewer/water systems, including adding flow meters to check losses of potable water; 4) a new and more convenient ESFD substation to replace the one downtown; 5) the tram situation at Transit; 6) the dam at Black Bass Lake.

Two days later, aldermen convened again for a workshop on limousines. They said City Code was vague and wanted the law clear enough to prevent limousines operating as taxis. Weaver got the task of defining jumbo taxis and writing a new limousine ordinance. At the April 8 meeting, DeVito and Schneider volunteered to help Weaver craft the limousine ordinance.

The Hosticks of Sherwood Court were back with their backup. Public Works director Dwayne Allen said his records

showed no city equipment had jetted in that area. After a conversation about a more thorough check, Hostick stated the backup must have been caused by forceful action, not by just a clog in the main line. Eventually DeVito suggested the Hosticks check if any private plumbers had been working in their vicinity during their absence and Allen should investigate further at Public Works.

Mitchell brought up the subject of properties in town that have been neglected to the point of being dilapidated and possible safety hazards. At the next workshop, City Economic Coordinator Glenna Booth said any ordinance must contain a clear definition of "demolition by neglect" and a clearly delineated point in the process when the city can step in.

After technical points of the process were unpeeled, Beverly Blankenship, Chair of the Planning Commission, said, "I see two animals on the table. One is keeping properties from being neglected. Then after they are too far gone, Arkansas Code says council can authorize razing them." She said Russellville just went through the process of posting some homes and then razing them.

Booth remarked the situation is not just neglected but abandoned properties leaving the city with little recourse.

Sentiment leaned toward giving the Building Inspector authority to notify an owner or post notice of action required, then allow a certain amount of time for a response and some action by the owner, after which the city could take action. Purkeypile remarked, "I can see us going down a rat hole on this one," and they agreed to convene another workshop.

The SWEPCO situation was dominating conversations everywhere by the next meeting when DeVito said, "The impact on some of our most treasured visual features cannot be overstated." He mentioned a proposed route for the 150-ft. tall towers would make them visible from Spring Street, Thorncrown Chapel, Inspiration Point and Beaver Lake. "And that is just the visuals, not to mention the impact of herbicide-spraying. The fact that the line is not in city limits does not mean it won't affect us," he said.

Several citizens decried the plan during Public Comments as did several aldermen when the topic came up on the agenda. In the end, Purkeypile moved to have DeVito work with Weaver and any interested citizens to draft a resolution stating council's objection to SWEPCO's plan.

The mystery at Sherwood Court continued. The Hosticks said they had also inspected Public Works records, and there were only three references to city lines

being jetted in the past three years.

Purkeypile said, "It seems like we're still in mystery mode." He pressured Allen for a specific reason or set of circumstances that might have occurred, but Allen had no answers.

Council wanted this problem solved. DeVito suggested Purkeypile represent council and work with Allen and the Hosticks to find a solution because conversation at the table was not expedient.

Uproar about landlords possibly skirting the law with their "weekly rentals" reached the council table. Blankenship told council there is a definition in Code that allows weekly rentals in R-1, but Code also says no tourist lodgings, which means no transient guests. Weekly rentals in R-1 should be allowed only in a landlord-renter relationship. Other situations should be cited.

Weaver added it is up to the city to document illegal activities and pursue action. Regardless of the weekly rental statute, it is illegal to operate a tourist lodging where it is not allowed. Council decided to discuss it more at the next meeting.

Mitchell said he is working with Economic Development Coordinator Glenna Booth to clean up the previous "demolition by neglect" ordinance.

Council approved the second and third readings of the ordinance allowing people serving in other city positions, but no more than one alderman at a time, to serve on Planning.

At an April 30 workshop, council set up the tentative date of August 19 for a town hall meeting.

#### May – Limos and rentals

On May 13, council passed the first reading of a limousine ordinance. The difference between a taxi and a limo, DeVito explained, is one has a taxi license and the other has a limo license and that at least a two-hour reservation was needed for a limo.

Then came the murmurings about weekly rentals again. Bob Jasinski, co-owner of the Angel at Rose Hall, assailed the city for not enforcing the law. Zeller said they needed clearer definitions in Code. DeVito said there is no loophole, just people "pushing the issue."

Weaver said there needs to be a more specific law and explained that it is illegal for R-1 and R-2 to rent to tourists, but who is a tourist? Who is a temporary resident? He said it would take diligent effort to define the differences.

Jasinski pointed out the license plates near lots of weekly rentals show there are tourists renting in R-1. He said he had filed

COUNCIL continued on next page



six complaints, and there is no loophole – there is ignorance of the law. “If it looks like a duck and walks like a duck and quacks like a duck then it’s a tourist lodging,” he said.

DeVito added the intent behind the restriction is to protect the neighborhoods from commercial incursion. Council decided to talk more about it next time.

Pam Ensminger brought her application for a single unit B&B CUP for 8 Drennon Drive to council. She already had been turned down by Planning. Mitchell noticed Blankenship had voted for the application, and he asked if she was still in favor of it. She said, “Yes.”

The appeal was granted unanimously.

Purkeypile reported that Public Works would replace 175 ft. of sewer lines near Sherwood Court. Council voted to get the work done as soon as possible.

Later in May, the echoes of weekly rentals still haunted the council chamber. Bob Jasinky said felt compelled to file a writ of mandamus asking a higher court to order a public official to perform a statutory duty. He said the law is clear but needs to be enforced. Schneider called it “neighbor against neighbor” around town. Council eventually agreed bringing back an ordinance Weaver had already written for the previous council would be a good starting place toward resolving the problem.

Council heard the request by Patrick Brammer to have his property at 123 S. Main rezoned from R-1 to C-1. Planning had thought the entire section of South Main from the Historic Museum to US 62 should be rezoned instead of only pieces of it. Council voted for Blankenship and Weaver to draft an ordinance for rezoning both sides of South Main from US 62 to the Historical Museum, and the vote was unanimous.

DeVito proposed an ordinance making it mandatory for all restaurants and bars within city limits to recycle cardboard and bottles. Purkeypile questioned how such a law could be enforced. They agreed to give the idea time to incubate.

### **June – Recycling**

Weekly rental rattled cages again at the June 24 meeting. Schneider dug her heels in against the proposed ordinance. She pointed out when larger families go on vacation, they look for a rental with a kitchen because they cannot afford to eat out every meal. She stated council is telling those families “too bad, we don’t want you.

Not all on council saw the ordinance that way. Mitchell advocated approving the proposed ordinance. He said they are dealing with only three or four properties, a small

pool which would be non-transferable, so the issue would die out in time. The second reading was approved 4-2, Purkeypile and Schneider voting No.

Council voted 3-3, Schneider, Purkeypile and McClung voting No, but Pate cast the deciding fourth Yes vote, for Weaver to draft an ordinance making it mandatory for all restaurants and bars in the city limits to recycle cardboard and bottles.

Purkeypile reported a group of interested citizens were studying the dam at Black Bass Lake. They will consider all repair options as well as the option of decommissioning it. They intend to form a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization which will set up a website and seek grant funds.

Council approved the third reading of Ordinance 2183 which rezoned 123 S. Main from R-1 to C-1.

### **July – Rentals and recycling, Part II**

The July 8 meeting found a resolution to the weekly rental saga but not to everyone’s satisfaction. Schneider maintained her opinion the ordinance was “discriminatory” and would turn away potential visitors. Nevertheless, the vote on Ordinance 2184, which would prohibit rentals for less than 30 days in the R-1 zone, passed 4-1, Schneider voting No.

Council voted to impose a 90-day moratorium on CUPs in R-1 as a another step toward getting a handle on issues regarding residential zones versus commercial zones.

They also voted to ask Weaver to draw up an ordinance extending the 200-ft. rule, which restricts a property owner from applying for a CUP if another property with a CUP is within 200 ft. on the street, to all residential zones. The intent was to limit commercial ventures in residential areas.

Council amended the proposed recycling ordinance to allow a warning on the first offense and no fine. Vote to approve the first reading was 5-1, Purkeypile voting No.

Finance Director Lonnie Clark gave a brief budget overview and asked council to come up with targeted plans for goals with costs and timelines attached. “If I knew the numbers, there might be ways we could move forward,” he said.

### **August – The yellow Brix road**

In August, Rachel Brix found supporters sitting at the council tablet in her attempt to clear up who owns the rocky access to her home, but in the end council deemed the issue was best left to a judge and jury.

Brix had appeared before the Parks and Planning Commissions seeking a vacation of a portion of what is called Rock Street, but in both cases she was denied. The Brixes use the strip of land as the only legal access

to their property, they pay to maintain it, no one else uses it, and it runs within six feet of their front door.

Undeterred by the previous decisions, Brix had unearthed more historic records which convinced her that the city does not own the driveway, and instead of a vacation, she is seeking acknowledgement from the city that the city simply does not own that piece of property.

Purkeypile and Schneider saw merit to her points, and some aldermen did not buy the opposing argument Rock Street was the only access to the adjoining property called Marble Flats, maybe not even the best one.

Zeller encouraged council to grant the vacation but DeVito thought council was “just spinning its wheels” trying to solve the puzzle. He moved for council to take no action.

The third reading of the ordinance setting a separate line item for limousine and taxi licenses passed 6-0.

High drama about a possible downtown street fair involving closing all or part of Spring Street continued to bubble up. Merchants were still crying out, “Stop this unpopular issue.” The Arts Council still wanted to find a way to reinvigorate downtown. Sandy Martin told council, “We may be on the edge of losing our ranking as the premiere NWA arts destination.”

She envisioned a Euro-Eureka event involving the entire city, but acknowledged it would not work without merchant support. Mitchell encouraged the Arts Council to consider alternative ways to stage their event.

Mitchell reported the August 19 town hall meeting had been success. Forty-three people attended. He said input from attendees showed rebuilding the infrastructure – water and sewer systems – was voted most important by far. Second was figuring out what to do with the failing dam at Black Bass Lake. Third was repairing the Mill Hollow bridge. Other items written in by citizens were city beautification, stricter noise limits, and finding ways to be less tourist-dependent. “By having the town hall meeting, we set ourselves up to be accountable,” he said.

The third reading of Ordinance 2188, which would extend the 200-ft. rule to all residential zones, was approved unanimously.

### **September – Parking fees and Intrigue**

A brief tempest stirred at the council meeting Sept. 9 because Planning commissioner Pat Lujan had been hired as a landscaper by Parks. Misunderstandings around city hall led Lujan to feel he should resign his seat. Council did not see it

that way. As points flew from all angles, McClung firmly stated, “I don’t like this. He can do both. Let’s get it back to the way it was.”

Mayor Morris Pate asked Lujan if he wanted to be back on Planning, and he said, “Sure.”

Pate said he would need an application in order to renominate him, and Purkeypile suggested using the previous application. Pate accepted that suggestion, confirmed with Lujan he wanted to be reelected on Planning, and said, “You’re in.”

After a motion and the unanimous vote to approve his nomination, there was spontaneous applause around the room.

Charles (known as Rags) and Lori Ragsdell, promoters of Blues Weekend, both spoke against a proposed ordinance which would increase parking fees for city-owned spaces near the courthouse during special events. Lori said her event pumps a ton of money into the local economy, and council should hear from other promoters. Rags said it would it would deter promoters from coming to Eureka Springs and take away from what they are able to donate to their beneficiaries.

Schneider said they both made sense, and she wanted to find a way to exempt nonprofit promoters from increases. Weaver saw problems with her suggestion, and council voted to hold a workshop.

Third reading of the recycling ordinance passed 4-2, Purkeypile and Schneider voting No.

Intimate Theater made its public debut at council Sept. 9. The proposed ordinance came from Planning as an attempt to solve some of the Code complication brought about by Intrigue Theater operating at 80 Mountain. Council asked Weaver to work with Blankenship on an ordinance incorporating suggestions from Planning.

Ken Smith said the current group tour franchise expires at the end of the year, and he suggested two changes. The current franchise splits the proceeds from the group tram tours between the city and the tram tour operators 60-40. Smith is pushing for 65-35. He also suggested the city needs only one group tour operator at this time, and council decided to continue discussion at a workshop.

At the Sept. 18 workshop, Smith warned council one of his trams would soon need replacing or serious rehabilitation. Because of income from the tram tours, he does not ask for operating funds in budget requests each year. But somehow he will need a tram fixed.

There was also a workshop that

**COUNCIL** continued on next page



afternoon on a proposed ordinance called the Clean City Nuisance Ordinance, formerly known as demolition by neglect. Building Inspector Bobby Ray offered examples from his experience with properties where “garbage, rubbish, or any other unsanitary or unsightly articles” had collected. Council was in favor of giving Ray discretion to work with violators to comply before a fine would be imposed, but there were still a spate of unknowns.

Sentiment was that living in town brings different expectations than living on a country road. They decided to have another workshop.

Intrigue Theater mysteriously appeared on the September 23 agenda again. Even with the proposed ordinance creating a conditional use called Intimate Theater, Weaver was still not convinced Intrigue Theater operating at that venue was legal. He said a different Building Inspector or

Police Chief might interpret City Code differently and cite the owners.

Council had heard about enough on this subject. McClung said, “I’m not throwing stones at anybody, but I want it clean and clear cut.” He suggested they alter the ordinance to make Intimate Theater a permitted use and pass it. Weaver said he would bring it back amended, and council agreed to set up a joint workshop with Planning.

Weaver said he researched City Code regarding closing a city street, and the only relevant passages he found were related to special events, and the mayor, after consulting with department heads and maybe health officials, could make that decision. If the request were denied, then council would consider his denial.

He clarified that this interpretation meant those who oppose a street closing would have no appeal, and said laws in other towns read the same.

Council approved a resolution supporting efforts by Carroll County Airport to extend its runway to at least 4000 ft. Currently it is 3555 ft. They also approved a resolution in support of a General Improvement Fund grant for \$150,000 toward the construction of a new bathhouse/shower house at Lake Leatherwood City Park.

**October – Going to the Chapel**

The intrigue continued into the Oct. 14 meeting regarding the use of Gavioli Chapel. Citizens spoke against the decision by council to make Intimate Theater a permitted use, which meant neighbors would have no input in the permit process. McClung said council was doing the best it could to fix the problem. Vote to approve the first reading was 5-1, DeVito voting No.

The issue of noise got loud for awhile the same evening. Comments were made about revisiting the town’s noise ordinance. Mitchell said the issue was not about

any particular group (read: motorcycles). Schneider said Corvettes and pickups make noise as well, and Purkepile added leaf blowers. Mitchell became the council representative on a citizen’s committee to study the noise issue from all perspectives.

Council began discussion of a proposed ordinance from Planning regarding requiring owners of multi-family dwelling to get a Certificate of Occupancy upon transfer of ownership. The point was to make multi-family dwellings on par with B&Bs as far as inspections go. Comments went from “not allowing vermin-infested properties to be let” to “what’s the point?” to “Is this another way to collect taxes?” The proposed ordinance had already gone to Weaver, who was absent, so council decided to wait until they see what he had done.

Pate announced constructions on the North Main bathrooms had begun, as had

COUNCIL continued on next page

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On Oct. 28, Council approved a resolution in support of the Carroll-Boone Water District project to parallel its existing transmission line from Beaver Lake to Harrison over the next 20 years.

Council agreed to let the Auditorium management automatically renew, thereby allowing the CAPC to continue managing the facility through 2014.

Purkeypyle brought up the topic of a downtown parking facility. DeVito suggested they set up a workshop for this discussion because it is complicated and would involve the Planning Commission.

#### **November – Take it to the Land Bank**

Council considered a Land Bank ordinance that had come from Parks, an ordinance that would set up a citizens' committee to oversee a city fund that would receive money from the sale of city properties it does not want or need and use those funds to purchase properties the city wants.

McClung had two particular problems with the ordinance. He said he was not against vacations, but was against the disparity in the ordinance between citizens who happen to live within the 320 acres of city-owned property and those who might own the very next inch outside that

demarcation. There was a contested vote that postponed discussion pending more work on the ordinance.

Mike Maloney, executive director of the CAPC, announced he had eliminated the position of special events manager for the Auditorium that had been held by Ray Dilfield. He said he still oversees all operations, but they have a group of volunteers who have been handling duties for awhile already.

Pate announced that the road into Lake Leatherwood "is as smooth as this table is level."

Council approved the third reading that updated the group tour franchise.

The proposed Land Bank ordinance did not make it out of its second reading at the Nov. 25 meeting, and would have to be significantly rewritten to be reconsidered.

McClung stood by his concern that the ordinance, as written, did not treat all Eureka Springs citizens equally. "I'm very strong on this," he said.

The vote was 3-3, McClung, Purkeypyle and Schneider voting No. Pate said the ordinance needed some work and chose not to vote, so the ordinance failed.

At the same meeting, commissioner Ed Leswig of Planning told council in the R-1 zone, multi-family dwellings are a conditional use just like B&Bs, yet there

is a gap in the process. "What is good for B&Bs is good for multi-family dwellings," he said, with the idea they get an inspection occasionally.

His idea was that a new owner of a multi-family dwelling would procure a Certificate of Occupancy, a process which invites the Building Inspector and Fire Marshal into the dwelling. Council fixed some language and voted to approve the first reading 5-1, McClung voting No.

Council also voted to re-review the Auditorium Commission ordinance Weaver had written for the previous council.

The long quest for a vacation of portions of platted but undeveloped Hartman and McCune Sts. finally arrived at the council table. Jim McEvoy had asked for a vacation of two areas near his house which he contends the city will have no use for. His request had already been recounted before Parks and Planning with little result. Parks said it would agree to vacate the portion of McCune immediately beside his house.

Part of what he had asked for had been contended by adjacent property owner KJ Zumwalt and nearby property owner LeRoy Gorrell. Both said granting one part of his request would prevent access to the rear of their properties.

Purkeypyle asked McEvoy's attorney

Jim Crouch if other neighbors had been heard from. Crouch replied, "They were notified, and failure to object is acquiescence." He also noted council can grant a vacation regardless of the objections from neighbors.

McClung said he would not vote either way until he saw the site. They tabled the item until the next meeting.

#### **December – City's rights questioned**

Rachel Brix again appeared before council at the Dec. 9 meeting but with a different request. Previously she had pursued a vacation of Rock Street. Now she wants the council "to determine whether the city has any rights to this strip of land that bisects our property."

She presented an array of maps, plats and documents to support her stand.

Mitchell thought council should get some legal clarification from Weaver, and McClung added he should do so in tandem with a land attorney.

Brix then asked for an expedient response because she is under a time constraint for being able to initiate a federal suit with the city. Council voted to have the answer by Feb. 15.

In other action, council voted to approve the third reading of Ordinance 2191 that makes Intimate Theater a permitted use in C-3.

said he and his are still looking for solutions to the geese dilemma.

#### **July**

Levine said feral hogs had been invading Lake Leatherwood City Park, and wanted to try a new approach to ridding the park of the porkers. A group from Rogers said they wanted to trap the wild swine. Featherstone emphasized the group would be trapping, not hunting. He will report back.

He also said he had learned the only reliable way to get rid of geese was either hunting or trapping and taking the trapped birds to a "processing" plant in Missouri.

Levine announced the grant submitted by the Dog Park Committee had been turned down, but the committee offered advice for reapplying.

#### **August**

In August, Brix said she had been shocked by the cavalier attitude toward dispatching geese in LLCP. She said it reminded her of the deer hunt – "the wonderful, artistic, eclectic town that shoots its geese."

Levine replied they had already tried aversions. Brix remained unconvinced, and wanted Parks to employ aversions in a

systematic way and keep looking for new ideas. She volunteered to present a management plan at the Sept. 16 meeting.

Commissioners also voted, after lengthy debate, to allow management of the Crescent and Basin Park Hotels to stage a fireworks show at the end of a private staff event at Lake Leatherwood. Fireworks would be managed on a floating dock on the lake and operated by a crew of professionals. Featherstone said there might be at least 300 people at the party.

#### **September**

Commissioners visited the site of a vacation request by Jim McEvoy. He applied for a vacation of portions of McCune and Hartman Sts. and an unnamed alley near his home. Part of what he requested was contested by neighbors KJ Zumwalt and LeRoy Gorrell, and had been contentious in the neighborhood.

Brix maintained they were there to see if there was space for a trail to add to the trail system in the future, not resolve the property dispute or the longstanding feud.

Brix presented her goose management plan that was built on the idea that Parks had little money to throw at this problem. She chose inexpensive strategies which would work if applied assiduously.

Elements in her plan included sprinklers, sudden leaf blowers and airhorns, and shiny, reflective balloons shimmering and swaying in the breeze. The commission was convinced it was worth a try and voted to adopt her plan.

Brix announced Eureka Springs was named one of the top five Dog Destinations by *Dog Fancy* magazine, the premier monthly magazine in the country devoted to dog owners.

Levine brought copies of a proposed Land Bank ordinance with the intent to set up a line item in the city budget to be used for monies the city received from the sale of properties and spent only on obtaining other properties. Decisions about the fund would be made by a five-person Land Bank committee.

After much discussion about points of language, commissioners arrived at a version they could pass on to council. Vote was 5-1, Brix voting No.

#### **October**

Parks held a public hearing about vacating portions of Hartman and McCune Sts. and an unnamed alley. There was debate, lawyer-speak, points this way and that, but in the end Parks voted to grant the vacation of only a short section of the

platted street called McCune right beside McEvoy's home, but no other parts of his request.

#### **November**

Levine proudly announced the road into Lake Leatherwood had been paved at last. "The worst road has become the best road," he said.

Discussion continued about the proposed Land Bank ordinance. Featherstone said he had met with alderman Terry McClung to hear his objections, and said his evaluation of the situation made it seem like a "tempest in a teapot." He said there is not much potentially vacatable land involved, but everyone agreed the intent should be to do what is the best for the city rather than an individual.

At a subsequent city council meeting, the Land Bank was voted down.

Levine reported the geese seemed to have relocated. He added a floating alligator head anchored just offshore to the collection of aversive techniques.

They discussed sanitation connected to a proposed Eagle Scout project to build a special campsite on the island at Lake Leatherwood. Sentiment was to allow the project, but they said they do not need to decide until next year.



# Austin Cobb & the Contra Band kick it up at Blarney Stone

Austin Cobb has been playing music his whole life, telling the *Tahlequah Daily Press* "I can remember playing banjo before I could talk." Making music with father Carl Ferinelli and other family members over the years to perfect his skills, Cobb started his own band called Austin Cobb & the

Contra Band. They have released two CDs, written by Cobb. His music is inspired by his surroundings, experience and the musical history he shares with his Dad, with every song reflecting his life. The sound is red dirt country which combines country, blues and rock. With all members contributing to the vocals, the

line-up is: Austin Cobb – guitar, Nathan Frank – guitar, Mike Cambiano – bass and Javan Long – drums.

You can hear Austin Cobb & the Contra Band at the Blarney Stone on Jan. 4 around 9 p.m. Come hear the unique mix of rock and old style country that is truly Oklahoman.

## THURSDAY – JANUARY 2

- **BLARNEY STONE** Loose Mic, 7 p.m.
- **CHELSEA'S** *Smart-T Jones & DJ Havok*
- **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** DJ Karaoke

## FRIDAY – JANUARY 3

- **BLARNEY STONE** *Strange Derangers, 9 p.m.*
- **CATHOUSE LOUNGE** *DJ Havok, 8 p.m. – midnight*
- **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** Live Music, 9 p.m.
- **CHELSEA'S** *Mountain Sprout, 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** DJ Karaoke, 9 p.m.
- **NEW DELHI** Live Music, 6:30–10:30 p.m.
- **ROWDY BEAVER** '70s Jukebox Party
- **ROWDY BEAVER DEN** '70s Jukebox Party
- **THE STONE HOUSE** *Jerry Yester, 6:30–9:30 p.m.*

- p.m.
- **JACK'S PLACE** *Karaoke with DJ Goose, 9 p.m.*
- **LEGENDS SALOON** DJ Karaoke, 9 p.m.
- **NEW DELHI** *Johnny & Friends, 6:30 – 10:30 p.m.*
- **ROWDY BEAVER** '80s Jukebox Party
- **ROWDY BEAVER DEN** '80s Jukebox Party

## SUNDAY – JANUARY 5


- **BLARNEY STONE** NFL Game Day–We Have Every Game
- **CHASERS** Sunday Funday
- **JACK'S PLACE** NFL Football with Dylan, 1 p.m.
- **LEGENDS SALOON** Free Texas Hold 'Em Tournament *with prizes*, 6 p.m.
- **NEW DELHI CAFÉ** Sunday Night Football – gametime food/drink specials
- **ROWDY BEAVER** Free Pool Sundays
- **ROWDY BEAVER DEN** Open mic with *Jesse Dean*, 5–9 p.m.

## MONDAY – JANUARY 6

- **BLARNEY STONE** Monday

## SATURDAY – JANUARY 4

- **BLARNEY STONE** *Austin Cobb, 9 p.m.*
- **CATHOUSE LOUNGE** *DJ Havok, 8 p.m. – midnight*
- **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** *Muddy River*
- **CHELSEA'S** *Don't Stop Please, 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*



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**Austin Cobb & the Contra Band** – The red dirt country band from Oklahoma performs at the Blarney Stone on Saturday, Jan. 4. It will be a boot stompin' good time.

**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 – JANUARY 7**

- **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

**WEDNESDAY – JANUARY 8**

- **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

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# Ambulance district commission makes 'bigger' plans

**NICKY BOYETTE**  
**May**

Chair Chuck Olson told commissioners in May a new Arkansas law might increase the number of commissioners from three to five. SB 989 had already passed and would become law in August, and it was up to the Quorum Court to decide on the increase. Olson also pointed out his term ends June 30, so someone would need to be appointed by County Judge Sam Barr to succeed him. Three people applied for that seat.

Commissioner Joe McClung took over as Chair in July.

Ed Thompson, representing Inspiration Point FD, reported they had a couple of calls during June in which the callers could not clearly identify from where they were calling, and responders in one case had to traverse most of Hwy. 187 to find the scene of the accident. Reports indicate a slow response time, but Thompson said it was not the fault of responders.

Jack Deaton, chief of the Holiday Island FD, said responders had more than the usual number of traffic accidents in May and June, so he has had to be careful not to send too many out at one time.

Deaton distributed a color-coded map he produced which showed areas covered by the four fire departments and where all responders live. Although rural Eureka Springs lists more responders, there are also more spots left uncovered in its response area. Mike Fitzpatrick, speaking for Rural Eureka, pointed out some of the areas they cover are remote, and response times to those areas will always be skewed.

July was another busy month for Holiday Island responders, with 40 calls. "Sometimes they come in bunches," Deaton observed at the August meeting.

Grassy Knob Fire Department was not quite as busy. They had 15 calls, and Karen Finkeldei said one was a drowning that kept her and another responder on a boat for two and a half hours.

There was more discussion about the possible change from three to five commissioners and how to stagger terms and other details. Deaton suggested they ask Justice of the Peace Lamont Richie to present their suggestions to the Quorum Court.

Jim Simmons of the Inspiration Point Fire District attended his first meeting as a commissioner.

**WCCAD** continued on page 35



**Smiles all around** – Eureka Springs Downtown Network awarded a check for \$1000 to Eureka Springs High's Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) on Dec. 19. FBLA members engaged in a yearlong project to work on ESDN's Fun After Five and Christmas Festival programming. More than 30 students participated, with a core group of seven – Nathan and Sarah Andress, Wade Carter, Kennedy Cash, Dallas Galyen, Heidi Kirk and Jordan Moyer – working on all projects throughout the year. ESDN's Jack Moyer and Alexa Pittenger, top left, bracket FBLA members with Director Jackie Wolven, top right, and Carol Friesen, bottom right.



## GSHS meets challenges

JANICE DURBIN

2013 started out as a year of challenges for Good Shepherd Humane Shelter. The loss of the Berryville Thrift Store on Dec. 29, 2012, created a huge hole financially. Thanks to the support and contributions of the communities, the shelter and thrift stores have recovered and continue to care for the dogs and cats of Carroll County. Money raised through Good Shepherd events goes directly into paying for shelter animals' care, medicine, food and staff.

Adoptions have been somewhat mixed, but generally good this year. We have

adopted out 240 dogs to date (and we may send a few more home before New Year's), and 188 cats. It's been a tough year to find good homes for our cat population, so we're always looking for new and creative ideas to advertise our great pets.

In 2013 Good Shepherd Humane Society became a partner of the No More Homeless Pets Network sponsored by the Best Friends Animal Society. This membership provides us with new opportunities to advertise our adoptable animals, access to grants to help promote animal adoptions, and access to experts on

animal care and behavior. I also started a shelter blog, called "Shelter Stories" that people can link to from the Good Shepherd website and keep up with all the happenings at the shelter.

We've set 2014 to be bigger and better than 2013 with a full range of fundraisers and adoptathons planned throughout the year; starting with a Pancake Breakfast Saturday, Jan. 29. We're finalizing details on a couple of large and new fundraisers; one in spring, one in early fall – so stay tuned for more details.

Good Shepherd also plans to hold three

community rabies clinics in late spring and early summer, and those will be advertised in local papers. Of course, at the end of the year will be the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Doggie Style Show, an event that has become an annual tradition.

On behalf of the doggies and kitties, the staff and board of directors, thank you to everyone who helps us throughout the year. It takes the combined efforts of lots of people and lots of funds to keep the shelter open and caring for dogs and cats, and we could not do this work without the help of everyone.

**QUORUM COURT** continued from page 4  
dispatch, and Barr announced the following committee assignments:

Public Water Development– Ron Flake, Don McNeely, John Reeve

Personnel– Jack Deaton, Matt Phillips, Joe Mills

County Facilities– Lamont Richie, John Reeve, Gaylon Riggs

Budget– Jack Deaton, John Howerton, Ron Flake

Finance– Larry Swofford, Gaylon Riggs, Lamont Richie

Library– Matt Phillips, Lamont Richie, Joe Mills

In **July**, Grudek responded to scuttlebutt that his deputies were not attentive to the needs of Oak Grove. He said Oak Grove needs its own marshal to enforce city ordinances.

He also reaffirmed his stance of not accepting prisoners with medical issues, and the county's risk management attorneys supported his position.

Opinions about Grudek's stance were everywhere and a hubbub was about to bubble up when Richie remarked, "None of us is the sheriff." He said Grudek sets his policies and the court funds the position. If people don't like the policies, then they should run for sheriff next year.

Closser had written an ordinance defining the central dispatch system, but the ordinance was not presented because Grudek had withdrawn his proposed changes to the system.

Richie said the Facilities Committee recommended Judge Sam Barr renegotiate a three-year lease for the county prosecutor's office at its present location. However, Richie wanted a better long-term solution for county offices.

In **August**, the court passed an ordinance acknowledging the clerical

functions of central dispatch should not be the responsibility of the sheriff's office as Sheriff Bob Grudek had maintained.

Richie said he had spoken with Closser about the issue, and she had said the cities are entitled to dispatch functions but not clerical services. Entering data into a computer might not be part of central dispatch.

Grudek contended he had spent tax money as it was intended and it did not cover costs, and the ballot did not say he could not charge for the extra services.

Flake stood by Grudek's assessment by stating the sheriff should not be obligated outside of his job description.

After more back and forth, Richie observed, "We keep scratching old wounds." He moved to amend the ordinance by dropping the language related to clerical duties, and the JPs unanimously approved his amendment and then the amended ordinance on its first two readings.

Before the third reading, budget questions surfaced. Flake responded, "If he needs more money, we'll have to find it. We have to jeep the jail and central dispatch running."

After budget concerns were assuaged, the JPs voted to approve the third reading of the ordinance.

Grassy Knob had a strong contingent at the **September** meeting. Bob McVeigh, Grassy Knob fire chief, asked for a greater deputy presence out their way. He said there had been break-ins and reckless drivers.

Grudek replied he did not have the resources to have a deputy patrolling Grassy Knob and Inspiration Point since most of the activity getting his attention has been in the eastern part of the county.

Anna Marie Lee asked the court to support a resolution authorizing Judge Sam Barr to apply for a General Improvement Fund fire protection grant to fund installing

a 10,000-gallon water storage pump at the Grassy Knob Fire Department. The grant is funded through the Arkansas Department of Rural Services. Vote to approve it was unanimous.

The Public Water Committee, consisting of Flake, Reeve and JP Don McNeely, began meeting monthly in August. The goal of the committee was to find a way to get water to folks in rural areas. The original idea was to see if the voters wanted a county-wide rural system.

After a couple of meetings with free-flowing conversations with the public, the committee listened to Stan Schultz, an engineer who builds rural water and sewer systems. Schultz then brought Bob Wright, financial consultant, to the **Nov. 7** meeting. Wright encouraged the committee to consider staying away from a county-wide system and instead assist a group of citizens in a rural area form their own Public Water Authority.

The Finance Committee presented its 2014 budget to the court at its **Nov. 22** meeting. Commissioner Lonnie Clark of the Airport Commission said he was disappointed the budget for the airport had been cut again, and he had been getting conflicting stories about the state of the budget.

Clark stated, "I'm a little confused about things as they stand regarding economic development." He claimed the airport is the only county entity addressing economic development. Executives of Tyson and Labarge fly in regularly. If the airport had stronger support, the entire county would benefit.

Flake, speaking for the budget committee, said there was only so much the county could give the airport.

He then stated the proposed budget included defunding the mapping office and

shifting its duties to the assessor's office.

JP Gaylon Riggs asked for Candy Bawcom, the 911 mapping coordinator, to have a chance to speak.

She said her office, comprised of herself and one other person, is the lifeline to 911. "We show where each residence is so EMS can get to a site quickly, and the system must be checked constantly.

She stated Jo Ann Harris, county tax assessor, would not be able to take this on without some training.

Riggs pointed out the information dispatchers see on their monitors is accurate because of the work of the mapping office.

Flake still thought the duties of that office could be handled by other people.

Riggs replied, "Lots of positions in government can be handled by someone else." Riggs did not agree with defunding the mapping office.

The initial plan was for Bawcom's position to be absorbed in Harris' office for six months as a temporary full-time staff while the assessor's office learned the job. However, before the budget committee could meet to discuss it, Bawcom announced she was resigning at the end of the year.

Harris said she would need someone trained quickly.

At the **December** meeting, JPs discussed a new state law exempting some ranchers and farmers from sales taxes on utilities and some equipment items, which meant the budget they just wrestled with and approved would be underfunded in 2014. One of the provisions of the law was already in effect and another would take effect in July, so the impact on the county budget would be undetermined for awhile.

Grudek announced the handover of 911 duties for the City of Berryville had begun, but his department temporarily will continue to handle after hours calls.



the festival.

Maloney said the CAPC is “running purposefully conservative” with spending this season to make sure they can adequately fund festivals and events later in the year.

Eureka Springs was well-represented among the winners at the Arkansas Addy Awards ceremony in Ft. Smith. Addy Awards are for excellence in advertising. Maloney said Eureka Springs won more than a dozen awards including Best in Show.

Ragsdell told the commission he expects Eureka Springs to get at least \$700,000 worth of advertising from having two episodes of WoodSongs recorded in the Auditorium.

### March

Ragsdell called a special workshop to discuss budget issues. CAPC collections early in the year are traditionally slow and barely pay the bills. Ragsdell observed it is a balancing act to advertise when you need it most at a time when the CAPC is short on cash.

Commissioner Bobbie Foster said she thought spending was out of balance and needed attention quickly, and Ragsdell noted her comments for the next agenda.

Maloney described his strategy as using cable television ads in very specific neighborhoods within a four-hour drive zone, such as Wichita, Kansas City and Tulsa.

Commissioners authorized Bright to get a line of credit for use during the lean season. Foster wanted to dig deeper into expenses and see where the problems were.

The commission formally approved bringing WoodSongs to town during the Folk Festival. Some of the expense would be offset by funds allocated previously for a Little Feat event that did not work out.

### April

Commissioners voted to abandon the bonus plan. “We have no good way to determine what a year-end bonus should be,” stated commissioner Terry McClung. Moreover, the commission is not able now to know what its financial situation will be at the end of the year.

Maloney announced they had moved their website to Epic Online for care and maintenance. He also displayed examples of Wayfinding signs to be erected around town soon.

### June

The Blues Weekend brought in a

large spirited crowd to town, and Brewer & Shipley entertained in Basin Park on Second Saturday.

### July

Foster announced her resignation, saying she was not sure if her voice was being heard, so she decided this was her time to move on and give someone else a chance.

Ragsdell said it looked like the Blues Weekend might be able to donate as much as \$3000 to its beneficiaries.

The Cate Brothers wowed the crowd in Basin Park on Second Saturday.

### August

The Hogtown Hot Club sizzled in Basin Park on Second Saturday, and the Bluegrass Festival was a hoot as Bobby Osbourne filled in for ailing headliner Jess McReynolds. Lots of people, watermelon, banjos, fun and incredible musicians.

### September

The Cleverlys kept us laughing in Basin Park for Second Saturday.

Spyro Gyra was the headliner for JazzEureka, and it was a good weekend for downtown merchants.

The commission agreed to continue managing the Auditorium for another year. They discussed finding a way to make walk-up tickets sales easier. Ragsdell told commissioners the Auditorium needed a commission to run it and a revenue stream to support it. Nevertheless, he said the facility is a wonderful draw for first-time visitors who might return, and the CAPC should continue running it for now.

Ragsdell announced the main act for the second show of the WoodSongs taping would be Michael Martin Murphey, famous for his songs, *Wildfire* and *Geronimo's Cadillac*.

Maloney said focus for advertising was cable ads in targeted areas of Tulsa, Springfield, Kansas City and Little Rock. He said the CAPC has spent less than expected on ads with continued good coverage because of the use of data gathered from Internet analytics.

### October

Bright announced collections were higher than last year's record numbers at this point, but there were also higher than expected expenses.

Bright identified how they could meet all expenses for the remainder of the year and still put aside \$35,000 in reserves, but commissioners face tough budget decisions.

Maloney said Eureka Springs again out performed Washington County

as a tourist destination in September, according to numbers from Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism.

The 66<sup>th</sup> Eureka Springs Folk Festival featured a variety of talent on the Basin Park and Auditorium stages. Featured event was the recording of two shows Saturday in the Auditorium of the WoodSongs Old-Time Radio Hour. Host Michael Johnathon performed and emceed shows that showcased excellent young Ozark-area talent. Headlining the first show was Leroy Troy and the Tennessee Mafia Jug Band. Michael Martin Murphey performed during the second show.

Wolven continued to look for ways the CAPC and the ESDN could work together. Her suggestion this time was for ESDN to be a line item on the 2014 CAPC budget, and the CAPC would promote events while her network would put them on. Ragsdell pointed out that by law, the CAPC could not provide support for any organization. It can support specific city-wide services or events. She said she would sign a contract “and we'll provide results.”

The Independent Film Festival, scheduled for Jan. 23-25, was a new event on Eureka's calendar, and Sandy Martin of the Arts' Council put in a funding support request to help promote the event. This request was added to the growing stack of funding requests.

Bright continued to scour the inner workings of the budget, and claimed they might be able to stash \$41,000 in reserves at the end of the year and still pay all the bills. Ragsdell continued to protect the reputation of the CAPC, stating, “We are doing a better job of bringing people to town than we ever have.”

### November

Maloney announced to city council at its Nov. 4 meeting he had eliminated the position of special events manager, a position held by Ray Dilfield. Ragsdell later pointed out all the other people who had been running events at the Auditorium were still in place, and duties had been assumed more and more by volunteers.

Ragsdell also announced he would be setting up an Auditorium committee to assist with managing the facility, and Bright will perform some of his duties at the Auditorium to maintain a larger presence there during the week.

Dr. Kelly Way of the University of Arkansas presented results of a survey of visitors done by her graduate student, Kayla Kesterson.

The study represented responses from 95 people, and indicated that for those who had not been to Eureka Springs before, they learned about our town primarily by word of mouth. The main attraction was the historic downtown. There were more visitors from Arkansas than anywhere else, but many came from Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas.

The number one problem was parking.

Way said she and her associates plan to do a much more extensive survey of our visitors next year at various times and places from spring through autumn.

Commissioner Lynn Bridwell stated concern over the way the recent personnel decision had been made.

Representatives of the wedding industry appeared at the November workshop to present information they hoped would be useful in promoting Eureka Springs weddings.

Kathy Pickowitz, owner of Rock Cottage Gardens Bed and Breakfast, told commissioners the trend is for smaller “destination” weddings and Eureka Springs is perfect for mid-sized, mid-priced events. However, Pickowitz claimed Eureka Springs, the Wedding Capital of the South, did not even command enough Arkansas weddings.

Susan Misavage, co-owner of the Angel at Rose Hall, pointed out the wedding purveyors already band together to publicize on websites, and are offering what they have if the CAPC can use it. Maloney said he would look into it.

Commissioners decided to must tighten rules for those who receive funding support for an event. They are faced with a stack of requests totaling \$93,000, but the 2013 budget allowed \$20,000 for funding requests. Maloney said he was convinced many of the requests do not look like good investments.

“Our title is not Advertising and Funding,” Bright commented.

### December

The commission established funding amounts for festivals during 2014, and at the Dec. 18 workshop, they made the first pass through the funding requests and agreed upon investing \$9850 for eight events. Commissioners focused on events that would bring people to town and were especially diligent about applying the guidelines.

Bright announced all bills for the year are paid and they had put \$40,000 in reserves to count on early in the year.



prevent blight in the area. He claimed there was more inappropriate behavior in the neighborhood when the chapel was not being used regularly.

The item took its turn on the agenda, and right away commissioner Denys Flaherty moved not to allow small entertainment venues in C-3 zones. Commissioner Ed Leswig pointed out the commission had already voted not to add small entertainment to the list of accepted uses, so no action was necessary. Blankenship concurred, saying their business at that meeting was just to have the public hearing, and she would take their decision to council, and council would make the final determination.

The third big item of the evening was Rachel and Ryan Brix requesting to have the portion of Rock Street from Mill Hollow Road to the end of their property vacated. She presented a thorough, detailed defense of the request. She said Rock Street, an unmaintained city easement, runs less than six feet from their front door. It is the only legal access to their home, and she and her husband must pay to have it graded annually.

First to oppose the application was Parks Director Bruce Levine. He stated the easement could be important for completion of a section of the trails system. Brix countered the easement intersected their property and Parks guidelines state trails should be established along the edges of property to avoid disturbing residents.

Next to oppose the application was Wade Williams, attorney for the owners of Marble Flats, an undeveloped tract further up and on the other side of what is designated as Rock Street. He asked if the vacation was in the best interest of the city.

After much back and forth, Leswig moved to recommend against approving the request for the vacation. The vote was 3-2, Morris and Greene voting No and Lujan recusing himself as an interested party, so the application was denied.

Blankenship said the document defining land vacating procedures continues to grow, and Leswig suggested they drive a stake through it before it gets any larger. They put it on the next agenda.

#### July

On July 9, there was a public hearing for a variance of the 200-ft. rule in the R-1 zone for the property at 8 Washington. The Realtor said this was another strategy to sell the property which had been on the market for seven years. She acknowledged, "The neighbors would appreciate it if someone could take it over."

Those in opposition took the

microphone one by one. "More traffic in a congested area would be a problem. Parking is hard already."

Alderman David Mitchell noted the property has been declining for years, but did not agree that a variance was the answer. He said investors would buy properties in that part of town and restore them, but the price must be reasonable.

Commissioner James Morris lamented the fact the house had deteriorated to such a degree, but said, "I can't conscientiously approve a variance for someone who neglected the property."

Leswig moved to deny the request. Vote was unanimous to deny.

At the subsequent meeting, commissioners had observations regarding council's 90-day moratorium imposed on issuance of Conditional Use Permits in the R-1 zone. Commissioner Melissa Greene stated, "I still feel like it was a knee-jerk reaction," adding that it was "sort of a slap in the face" for council to think Planning could not handle the CUPs that land on its agenda.

Lujan differed from Greene in that he saw council imposing only a temporary stopgap, changeable at any meeting, which would allow council and Planning to continue looking at how to further protect R-1.

Morris did not like it. He said, "There is nothing tragic about it, but what is the need?" He went on to state, "I'd be happy if they would explain it to me. I hope they back away and allow Planning to do its job."

Leswig suggested "Intimate Theater" be added as a new conditional use category in the C-3 zone for which an applicant can apply, and presented his definition. The commission voted to send his suggestion on to council.

The commission also voted to send to council Leswig's proposed multi-family dwelling ordinance.

#### August

August was "slog through the Code" month for Planning. Intrigue Theater at Gavioli Chapel continued to challenge City Code. Commissioners also discussed time restrictions in C-3, pets in C-3, home occupations, and the definition of a studio.

Alderman James DeVito responded in Public Comments to remarks made by Planning commissioners which were critical of action taken by council to place a moratorium on CUPs in the R-1 zone. DeVito said he only intended to freeze the situation so everyone could not feel so rushed to solve issues.

Lujan asked if livestock were allowed

in the R-2 zone. He knows of someone moving to town from a farm, and they want to bring their cow. Their new property is on Dairy Hollow Road, and there is already a barn and plenty of space.

He said, "It is nice to have someone ask first." Blankenship put it on her homework list.

#### September

The Sept. 10 meeting was the first time in memory the commission had seven members with the seating of Steve Beacham.

Blankenship said her research so far indicated no livestock would be allowed at the property on Dairy Hollow Road, but since there was a well-worn barn and it appeared livestock had been there in the past, she said she would take another walk through codes and records and report back.

At the next meeting, she said she had wandered the green pastures of City Code but found no references that would allow a cow on Dairy Hollow Road.

"It looks like the right place for a cow," Blankenship said, but she added it would be spot-zoning to allow a variance for a property in the middle of a zone.

Nevertheless, cows again wandered onto the October 8 agenda because City Economic Development Coordinator Glenna Booth had found information from other cities about adding Farm Animals to the list of Conditional Uses in residential zones.

Blankenship still maintained, "We can't make a law person-specific. If you want to consider this, take into account all the places in residential zones in town where there is acreage. Would you want livestock in those places?"

Commissioner Melissa Greene moved to have a public hearing on the topic of making farm animals a conditional use in residential zones at the Nov. 12 meeting. Vote to approve her motion was 4-1, commissioner Ed Leswig voting No.

#### October

Planning learned Oct. 22 the property at 8 Washington had found buyers. Kim and Tom Tuccillo wanted to buy the property and move here with their three kids. Their plan was to restore the property, which once was a B&B, back into a 3-unit B&B, but they need a variance of the 200-ft. rule and a CUP.

Even though two citizens spoke against the application, seeing it as a commercial incursion into a residential area, others were effusive in appreciation that anyone would want to refurbish what one neighbor called "an obscene eyesore."

Greene was enthusiastic in her support.

She called it a win-win that a family wanted to put time, love and money into the place as well as raise kids there and vote.

Commissioners voted unanimously to approve a variance to the 200-ft. rule contingent on successful purchase by the applicants and their creating a 3-unit B&B. They also approved the CUP.

City Council and Planning convened together in a joint workshop on Oct. 29 and agreed they should identify achievable goals after which they can develop a way to get there together.

#### November

Commissioners heard the request for a vacation of portions of Hartman and McCune Sts. Attorney Jim Crouch represented his client, Jim McEvoy, who wanted the city to vacate certain areas near his home which were platted as streets but never developed. Neighbors KJ Zumwalt and LeRoy Gorrell claimed they would lose access to the backs of their properties if the portion of Hartman at the top of the hill were vacated. There was also a property line dispute between Zumwalt and McEvoy.

The request had already been denied by the Parks Commission, and Crouch said they were appealing that decision. Bill Featherstone, Chair of Parks, defended the stand by Parks that the top portion of Hartman could be a vital link in their urban trails system. He said he would present a Trails Master Plan to Planning no later than mid-February.

The commission voted 3-1, Blankenship voting No, to delay a vote until February so the motion failed, which meant Planning made no decision.

Crouch was not sure yet if his clients would wait or go forward to council.

The commission denied a request by Rachel and Ryan Brix to build a tourist cottage on their property because it would sit on the platted but undeveloped Rock St.

The cows came up again at the Nov. 12 meeting. Kimberly Clark told the commission in 1981 she had received a variance from the county judge that allowed her to have cows and horses at the property on Dairy Hollow Rd. and suggested the farm should be allowed to continue for reasons of historic preservation.

City Code prohibits farm animals in that zone, but Greene suggested a workshop to discuss it anyway.

#### December

At the final meeting of the year and just before the final "I move we adjourn," Blankenship announced she had resigned from the Planning Commission effective Dec. 31.



## Final Journey of the Magi – from Scorpio to Pisces to Epiphany

The week begins with Aquarius moon (Thursday morning). Appropriate for continuing the astrological Twelve Days of Christmas. The foundational knowledge in the Aquarian Age is the study of astrology. Which leads to a clearer understanding of one another.

The last five signs (and sensitive body parts), Jan. 2 to 6, ending on Epiphany in Pisces (sign of saving the world).

Jan. 2 – Scorpio/generative organs

Jan. 3 – Sagittarius/thighs, liver, hips

Jan. 4 – Capricorn/bones, knees

Jan. 5 – Aquarius/ankles, calves, Achilles heal  
Jan. 6 – (Epiphany) – Pisces, feet, the immune system

Epiphany is Greek for “appearance, new light in the world.” Each sign contributes to Epiphany, journey of the Three Magi Kings following a bright star (Sirius), discovering the prophesied holy child (born of a Virgo the sign in the midheavens) in a manger (humility), in Bethlehem (City of Bread), intersecting East and West (Messiah for the world). They offered Him gifts – gold, frankincense, myrrh – signifying royal birth. Each gift an aspect of the Holy

Child (royal, divine, mortal) and the mission He was to perform for the world. The discovery of this child initiated the beginning of the new age (Pisces).

Today, in our world crisis, as one age ends (Pisces) and the other begins (Aquarius), Epiphany is ever more relevant. Humanity represents the “Three Magi Kings” at the cusp of the new world, awaiting the Aquarian World Teacher. The Ageless Wisdom says, “*He will come in the air.*” The New Group of World Servers are His forerunners, the Ageless Wisdom (astrology its foundation) His Teachings.

**ARIES:** You will assess and reassess your professional life and work in the world. Be sure not to do less than is expected. Pay attention and complete all tasks. This isn’t your greatest strength but it’s important now that projects be on time, that negotiations go smoothly, that you do your very best and more the next several months. Review goals. Do you like your work? Are you challenged? Are you dutiful? These are important questions.

**TAURUS:** Venus is your guardian angel (also Gemini’s, Capricorn and Pisces). But Venus likes you best. Ssshhh, don’t tell! On your mind are faraway place, visions and dreams higher learning, teaching and creating realities altogether new. Consider how your values and beliefs affect your relationships. Do they help or hinder? Do they include others’ thoughts, ideas and needs?

**GEMINI:** You will be concerned with resources and sharing feelings. Nothing about this Venus retrograde is light for you. Love will call you to be kind and patient. To be honest about finances, resources, desires, intimacy and relationships. Are you studying the mysteries yet? At some point you will commit to this. Then your life will change. You may look back for a while. Remembering things.

**CANCER:** Many people passed your way and left an indelible mark on your heart. You will remember relationships, past and present, assessing their

goodness, value, what you learned, gave and received. All relationships help us learn how to be in them.

Then one day we’re ready and the real relationship comes along. You’re practicality creates a solid foundation of trust.

**LEO:** Evaluating daily tasks you ask are they effective and efficient? Increase technical work skills that affect work routines. Expect challenges in communicating and understanding due to Venus retrograde. Notice if animals begin to feel unease, agitated or become ill. You too, must look after your health. Go slower than usual, know that resting is good and all that happened in your past also was good. There was love.

**VIRGO:** Creating a winter garden, beginning a creative project, visiting museums and galleries, choosing to be playful instead of serious, remembering generous moments from the past, reconnecting with loved one – these and more are part of your life the next several months. They have already begun, actually. Consider changing the way you ask for affection. Expressing it more is one way.

**LIBRA:** You will experience an interesting state of insulation the next several months. You will ponder upon

many things – the state of your home, the foundations of your life, your parents, especially mother.

You’re both mental and sentimental. As you sustain and nourish others you’ll need to hide away, hibernate with warmth and comfort. Tranquility will be your aim. Forgiveness the outcome.

**SCORPIO:** Your mind expands exponentially through study, training, travel, culture and the mysteries. One study particularly important is the Electric Universe. It seems our present scientific systems are all wrong. Gravity isn’t holding us together. Electricity is. Studying this subject of the electrical universe places you on the very edge of the new reality. Continue to visualize your dream/vision. It comes quietly on little cat’s feet.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Feelings of nobility within solitude appear the first months of the New Year. You’ve been mentally active, engaged, diligent and industrious for so long. This is the year to settle down, learn to have late afternoon tea and deep friendships of trust, and assess resources slowly and cautiously with gratitude. An internal orientation eventually rebalances your energy, helps organize your

future. You will see goals clearly and visualize how to reach those goals. Learn archery.

**CAPRICORN:** For the first several months you feel restless, realizing something’s changing foundationally in your life, your self-identity, your usual ways of being. You will experience your usual winter identity as Persephone (females and males) underground with Pluto. You’re deeply internal. Continue eating the pomegranates. They keep you alive. Spring does come.

**AQUARIUS:** There are four rulers of Aquarius. The dour, strict rule-oriented Saturn (old ruler) who criticizes a lot. The revolutionary Tesla-like newbie Uranus creating the Aquarian Age. The loving wise teacher, Jupiter. And the lightning-like revelatory Uranus (again). Which would you like to be? Knowing the rulers of each sign and what their task is allows us to assume different identities. Blending Uranus and Jupiter is good. When we’re Saturn we scare everyone. Jupiter loves you.

**PISCES:** Be caring and kind to everyone. Have as your new year’s intention to bring harmony to all relationships and interactions. Have this as a goal. You may reconnect with past friends and lovers. There are several you would like to see, talk with, create new friendships with. This may or may not happen. Many are on another path. Be generous, helping those in need. Everyone is in need of something. Discover it. Offer it. Love more.





# DEPARTURES

## “Jan” Marie Laabs,

June 15, 1939 – Dec. 21, 2013

“Jan” Marie Laabs of Holiday Island, was born June 15, 1939 in Milwaukee, Wis., a daughter of Steven and Theresa (Comeau) Baker. She departed this life Saturday, Dec. 21, in her home with family by her side in Holiday Island, at age 74.

Jan worked as an ophthalmic technician and research coordinator for the Medical College of Wisconsin for 16 years.

On June 21, 1958, she was united in marriage with Gregory Anthony Laabs, who survives her of the home. She is also survived by one daughter, Jeanette Sue and husband, John Bobholz, of Pea Ridge, Ark.; one son, Daniel Steven Laabs of Milwaukee, Wis.; many other family members and a host of friends.

Jan was preceded in death by her parents and one sister, Mary Baker.

Memorial service was Dec. 28, at St. Elizabeth Catholic Church with Father Kevin Atunzu officiating. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Nelson Funeral Service. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [nelsonfuneral.com](http://nelsonfuneral.com).



LAABS

## Travis Wyatt, III,

August 31, 1916 – Dec. 24, 2013

Travis Wyatt, III, of Holiday Island, was born August 31, 1916 in Alexandria, La., a son of Travis Daniel and Ivey Belle (Bandy) Wyatt, II. He departed this life Dec. 24, in Berryville, at age 97.

Mr. Wyatt was a resident of Berryville, Ark., where he and his wife, Katye, resided on their farm after his retirement from the railroad. Travis and his wife of 75 years recently moved to Peachtree in Holiday Island where they resided until his death. Mr. Wyatt was a committed community and church member and volunteer. He was a member of the First Methodist Church in Berryville and the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Berryville. He was a member of Ashley Masonic Lodge #66 in Berryville, the Shell Knob Masonic Lodge and Shell Knob Shriners Club.

On February 27, 1938, he was united in marriage with Katherine Polancic who survives him of the home. He is also survived by one daughter, Mary Katherine Hughes of Berryville; one son, James Marvin Wyatt of Fort Worth, Texas; three granddaughters, Lynette Wyatt-Mason of Maumelle, Ark.; Tina McLaughlin of Fort Smith, Ark.; Pam Hughes of Michigan; three grandsons, Travis Daniel Wyatt, IV of Pocatello, Idaho; Rick Hughes of Cheyenne, Wyo.; Phillip Hughes of Temucala, Calif.; 14 great grandchildren and five great great grandchildren, several nieces and nephews and a host of family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Travis and Ivey Wyatt, II and one sister, Janet Wyatt Wilkinson, brother, C. Ray Wyatt and son, Travis Daniel Wyatt IV and sister-in-law, Bernice Wyatt.

Memorial Service was Dec. 28 at the Berryville United Methodist Church. Cremation arrangements were made with Nelson Funeral Service. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [nelsonfuneral.com](http://nelsonfuneral.com).



WYATT

**COPS** continued from page 17

spoke to the person with the truck arrested her on a warrant out of Madison County.

**JULY 7**

Wife called to report her husband had just beat her up, and their 12-year old son had witnessed it. Central dispatch passed along a call from the husband which preceded the wife's call saying the wife was beating him up. Constables arrested the wife for domestic battery – Third, and endangering the welfare of a minor – Third.

**JULY 9**

Hotel employee reported a male wearing only boots and shorts passed out on a bench outside. Sleeping Beauty had his dog with him. Constable discovered the gentleman had a room for the night at the hotel but never made it all the way inside.

**JULY 9**

Caller was concerned the shirtless accordion player walking along US 62 headed toward town from the west might be stumbling and possibly too close to the roadway. Constable thought the accordion player was walking just fine.

**JULY 16**

Resident told ESPD there was a car in her flowerbed.

**JULY 24**

Passerby noticed an approximately eight-year old child hitchhiking. Constable met with the child and mother. The parents agreed the child would stay with the father for awhile.

**JULY 28**

Hotel staff reported they suspected one of the guests to be a thief. He comes and goes a lot and was seen carrying a carpet into the hotel. Before a constable could arrive to investigate, hotel staff had seen the suspicious guest going through employees' lockers and security caught him as he tried to run away. Constable arrested the individual for public intoxication, breaking and entering and theft of property.

**JULY 30**

Divorcée complained her ex-husband came to her home and would not leave. Plus he was intoxicated. Constable went to the scene and discussed life with the ex-husband. Then a taxi came and took the ex-husband away.

**AUGUST 4**

ESPD heard about a male lying in his driveway in a neighborhood. He had belligerently refused assistance. Constables and EMS found him intoxicated and still on the driveway. He said he had fallen, but he was in front of his residence and did not want help from EMS.

**AUGUST 17**

Two constables responded to the Passion Play grounds because a son was choking his mother. Constables secured the scene until deputies could arrive.

**AUGUST 23**

Resident reported seeing several baby snakes slithering from beneath her porch. Animal Control did not find any snakes but advised the resident what she could do to keep them out of her house.

**SEPTEMBER 3**

Nurse at ESH told ESPD of a patient who came in with what appeared to be a gunshot wound in the lower left leg. He refused to give a name but wanted to be treated. The hospital refused treatment without more information, so he left.

**SEPTEMBER 4**

Witness told ESPD of two females screaming at each other outside a bar. Constable arrived at the scene and he was told everything was okay. It was just a verbal disagreement between a bartender and her mother.

**SEPTEMBER 14**

Individual told ESPD he was hearing suspicious noises, but since he hears voices regularly he wanted someone else to verify the noises. Two constables walked through his property and found everything okay.

**SEPTEMBER 16**

Animal Control helped a resident get an armadillo out of a pipe.

**OCTOBER 16**

7:46 a.m. – A cat with a broken leg bit the hand of the person trying to help. The cat ran away and the person went to ESH.

**OCTOBER 30**

Resident near downtown saw a female dressed like a Playboy bunny with a male wearing a baseball cap checking car doors on the street.

**NOVEMBER 6**

Local barkeeper kicked out a patron for cursing at a waitress. The exiled patron and his friend kept driving by and making obscene gestures at the establishment. Constable chanced upon the unhappy exiles and advised them to avoid that establishment for the rest of the evening.

**NOVEMBER 8**

Witness thought it suspicious when a well-worn farm truck carrying a dead deer in a neighborhood above downtown drove away suddenly when the occupants saw him.

**NOVEMBER 8**

Passerby saw a person dressed in dark clothes walking along US 62 and apparently gesticulating and talking to no one in particular. Constables discovered it was a local businessperson walking home.

**NOVEMBER 10**

Stranded individual told ESPD her vehicle needed a jumpstart and her cell phone was almost out of juice and she had no one else to call. Constable went to her aid.

**NOVEMBER 19**

Resident spoke with a constable regarding a letter she had received that was written in crayon and to which a rubber bat was attached. She thought it might have come from a neighbor.

**DECEMBER 2**

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 cavorted away with the other deer.

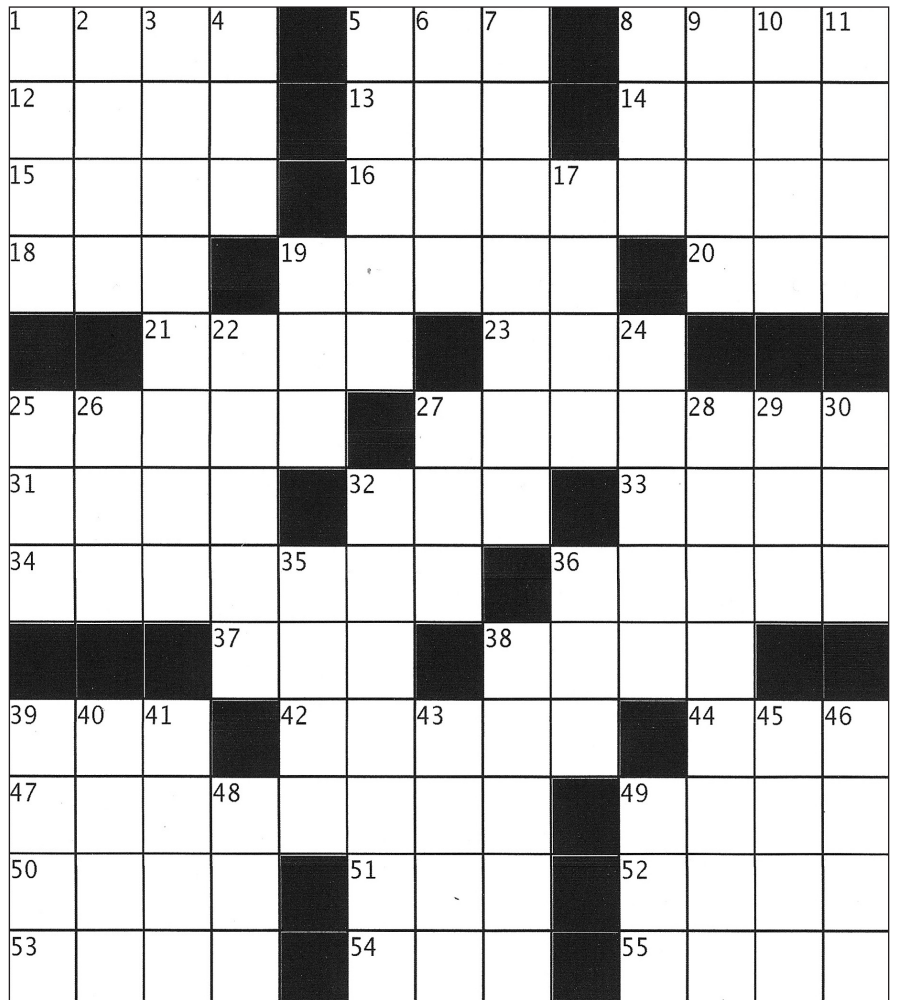




# INDEPENDENT Crossword

by Wayne Levering

Solution on page 35



## JUNE

**Budding blues harpists** – Kennedy Fox, 5; Daniel Rose, 5; Isaac Torrence, 6; and Kellen Castle, 6, sit in the front row intently following directions as they take blues harmonica lessons from bluesman George Hunt at Basin Park during Blues Weekend, June 15. The Blues Society of the Ozarks sponsored the lesson.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

## DEPARTURES

### Aubrey

Aubrey, the scrappy one-eyed black and tan terrier of unknown origin, cut a wide swath through the hearts of volunteers and customers alike at the Eureka Springs Doggie Thrift Shop from the first day she invited herself in five years ago until she quietly crossed the Rainbow Bridge on Nov. 27 after losing her final battle with kidney failure.

Her quest was not for love or attention, but for treats. Though obviously well fed at the nearby Matterhorn Towers where she made her home with Chris McCoy, she seemed never to be able to get enough food. A picky little beggar, she would frequently turn up her finicky button nose at conventional dog treats, opting for high end morsels like the turkey, cheeseburgers and chicken McNuggets some volunteers were only too happy to provide, especially when she'd sit politely or stand on her hind legs for



AUBREY

some impromptu begging. Her single-minded focus on food no doubt came from her days as a wild pack dog roaming the vast Blackfeet Indian Reservation in Glacier, Montana. Apparently thrown out of the pack in 2005, she showed up on Chris McCoy's porch and never left, even though adapting to humans and expected behaviors proved quite the hurdle. Aubrey's muzzle was graying even then, and Chris figured she must have been ousted from the pack because she was slowing down. Her travels with Chris took them through four national parks before settling in Eureka Springs in 2008.

Aubrey rests now in a small garden space at the Matterhorn, facing the Doggie Shop. Since her passing, many of her two-legged friends have come by to place candles at her scruffy feet. She leaves a large void in the hearts of those who knew her.

### ACROSS

1. Clue
5. Strong cleanser
8. English channel island
12. Suggestion
13. Even (*Scot.*)
14. Dust Bowl refugee
15. Happy
16. Jamaican staple
18. That girl
19. Jellied garnish
20. Fisherman's tool
21. Bird shedding
23. Wine holder
25. Kick out
27. Particulars
31. Enormous
32. Long time
33. Annoying bug
34. Core
36. Wet dirt
37. Weight of wool
38. Church recess
39. Raw metal

### DOWN

1. Stoned
2. Motionless
3. Close, but not quite (2 wds.)
4. Little bit
5. Minimum
6. Shrill bark
7. Stimulate
8. Soak up
9. Related to
10. Sake grain
11. Young guinea fowl

17. Skeddadle
19. PC key
22. Eight performers
24. Lisbon's river
25. First lady
26. Anatomical duct
27. Female deer
28. Beholden to
29. Young man
30. Home for pigs
32. Skin shedding
35. Cutting it spites the face
36. Dashboard abbr.
38. Sleep disorder
39. Milky gem
40. Go lickety-split
41. Long winged sea eagle
43. Meadow bird
45. First class
46. Ancient Greek temple
48. Came together
49. Snow plow



# 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](mailto:classifieds@esindependent.com) or call 479.253.6101

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE #1 NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION IS TO LOSE WEIGHT.** A very high percentage fail. Visit: [www.healthymewithjg.com](http://www.healthymewithjg.com) I can help you achieve success with your 2014 resolution without chemicals, drugs or injections. Just try me and enjoy weight loss.

**FLORA ROJA COMMUNITY 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

**GENEALOGY WORKSHOPS \$12** Holiday Island. Learn basic skills for genealogy research. Wednesday, January 15, 10 a.m. – noon OR Wednesday evening, January 22, 6–8 p.m. Call (479) 253-7256 for details.

**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.

**YOGA WITH JACK.** Come to yoga on Mondays at 6 p.m. during the holidays. Wed./Thurs. classes will resume in January. The Space \$8. (870) 480-9148.

**WINTER MARKET IS HERE!** We are open on Thursdays from 9 a.m. – noon in the Pine Mountain Village parking lot. We have winter greens, roots, squash, pecans, apples, mushrooms, beef, chicken, eggs, baked goods and more!

**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](http://bread.loveureka.com) My cookbook is here – Winter BBQ Rub coming soon! Special requests entertained; call me! (479) 244-7112

## 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

**ES FARMERS' MARKET** is looking for an assistant manager. Part-time paid position (4-12 hours weekly.) Candidates must love the market and handle a small trailer-load of market props. Call evening (479) 253-7461

**CASA COLINA MEXICAN GRILL & CANTINA** now hiring for March openings! Wait staff, host, line cooks/prep and dishwashers. Email your interest to [joejoy@gmail.com](mailto:joejoy@gmail.com) Please leave telephone number, work history and best time to reach you.

**PEACHTREE VILLAGE** at Holiday Island is looking for a part-time overnight med person. Must be dependable with attention to detail and be able to work efficiently without supervision. Must love to work with retired individuals. Stop by and apply in person at 5 Park Drive, Holiday Island.

***Myrtie Mae's Café***  
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* Myrtie Mae's Café c/o  
**BEST WESTERN INN OF THE OZARKS**  
P.O. Box 431  
Eureka Springs, AR  
479.253.9768

## REAL ESTATE

### COMMERCIAL SALES

**LOG 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. **PRICE REDUCED \$169,500.** Call (870) 847-1934

## REAL ESTATE

### COMMERCIAL SALES

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

### 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

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

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

### DUPLEX RENTALS

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

## SERVICE DIRECTORY

### BEAUTY

**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 Pedicure, Manicure with OPI gel polish—lasts 2 weeks (compare to Shellac) Call (479) 981-9556 for info on other services and appointments.

### 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.

## SERVICE DIRECTORY

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### MAINTENANCE/ LANDSCAPE/ HOME SERVICES

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#### AIRPORT continued from page 5

Commissioners then heard that the Quorum Court would be considering a 2014 budget which included cuts in the airport budget.

Clark pointed out businessmen are flying in to visit Tyson and Ducommon Labarge in Berryville. Visitors fly in and spend a day in Eureka Springs. "It deeply concerns me the Quorum Court would want to cripple the site of access to economic development for the county," he said. Clark said he would speak up at the upcoming quorum court meeting.

Commissioners also gave thorough consideration of lease enforcement at the airport, and moved to resolve a particular

lease violation before their next meeting.

Evans announced that in October the Federal Aviation Administration had awarded Carroll County resident Al Iller the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award. There will be an event to recognize Iller in December.

#### December

Incoming manager Dana Serrano announced the airport would finally get cabinets for the model aircraft display in early January.

The commission also continued to work toward settling the lease default issue with a tenant.

The hangar project was moving along well, and the airport was looking for tenants.

#### WCCAD continued from page 27

#### September

Richie said the ordinance regarding allowing three to five commissioners on the board was inadequate. There already exists an ordinance which stipulates the board should have three commissioners, and he has found nothing in state law that says the board can amend that ordinance regardless of new legislation. He said the new legislation changes state

law, but "there's nothing in there about changing the enabling legislation." He suggested they get guidance from deputy prosecutor Devon Goodman.

For all ambulance districts, August had been a quiet month. Grassy Knob FD had two calls, one of which was a deer. Fitzpatrick noted they do not have a first responder in Hogscald area.

#### October

McClung announced in October that Richie had found the new law was in effect and he would sponsor an ordinance at the upcoming Quorum Court meeting increasing the number of commissioners from three to five. Commissioners agreed to have one representative each from Eureka Springs, Grassy Knob, Inspiration Point, Holiday Island, and rural Holiday Island. If things went according to plan, the two new members would be seated by the January meeting.

Inclement weather prevented a December meeting, so decisions on new commissioners will wait until 2014.

#### CROSSWORD Solution

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



## OCTOBER

**Yarn bombed** – Gina Gallina and friends made a colorful splash in the Folk Festival Parade ... and nobody unraveled along the way!

PHOTO BY RICHARD QUICK



## NOVEMBER

### Woman of the Year!

– Pat Costner receives the Woman of the Year award from Chamber President, Mike Bishop, at the Annual Chamber Banquet Nov. 13 to a standing ovation for her work with Save the Ozarks. See the *Independent* online edition and Facebook page for more photos and a complete list of award recipients.

PHOTO BY C.D. WHITE



## DECEMBER

**Slip slidin' away** – 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 to traffic due to weather.

PHOTO BY GWEN ETHEREDGE





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