

We got winter licked – Sam Feldman takes her miniature schnauzers Sophie, left, and Fiona for a walk as the weather began to warm Tuesday. Feldman said Monday night was the first time in 14 years the water pipes in her home had frozen, leaving her and her family without water. Feldman was not alone. According to a water department spokesman, most problems involved private water lines and not city lines.

Рното в DAVID FRANK DEMPSE

Hog factory opponents move forward to protect the Buffalo River

BECKY GILLETTE

The holidays brought new filings in the lawsuit filed by a coalition of environmental groups challenging the permit for the controversial C&H Hog Farms in Mt. Judea near the Buffalo River, and the attention of one of the largest newspapers in the country, The New York Times.

Hannah Chang, the attorney with Earthjustice representing the environmental groups, said she was not terribly surprised to learn that The New York Times was doing a story on the hog factory.

"The problems CAFOs [Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations] and factory farms are having in states other than Arkansas is well known," Chang said. "There is a great deal of concern about it. It has affected a lot of other communities in other states. It goes beyond just this one facility."

Chang said another reason The Times was interested in the article is that the farm was the first such facility in Arkansas to get a general permit

HOG FARM continued on page 22

Cargill's response on on page 4

This Week's INDEPENDENT Thinker

Kevin Stoick is the frozen food and dairy manager of a Hornbacher's in Fargo, North Dakota.



TO BY DAVE WALLIS/THE FORUM

"Two days ago the temperature outside was twenty-seven below," Stoick told the Independent. "Didn't bother me a bit. I've been frozen food manager since '05, and like it in the freezer. I've always worked in them. But this time I went in to get warm, not to cool off. Just to prove a point."

Stoick said he's from South Dakota but it wasn't cold enough for him there, so he moved one state north for the weather. Too cool!

HISID Acuna-Sanchez Cargill South Africa Chocolate Lovers There's still time Independent Mail Independent Editorial

Constables on Patrol

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Pipe freezin' season. Love a drip.

Objection filed to proposed Holiday Island lawsuit settlement

BECKY GILLETTE

To date only one person has filed an objection to the proposed settlement between the Holiday Island Suburban Improvement District (HISID) in a lawsuit brought against it by property owner David Bischoff, a settlement that will impact all owners of property in Holiday

LOST

TWO LARGE DOGS BUCK MOUNTAIN ROAD

ONE BEIGE PYRENEES/POODLE MIX WITH COLLAR.

ONE BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOG, TRI-COLOR (NEEDS MEDICATION)

REWARD FOR ANY INFO PLEASE CALL (479) 253-7528 or (479) 253-4227 Island if approved after a hearing Jan. 21 by the Carroll County Circuit Court in Eureka Springs.

The lawsuit settlement involves how HISID determines the amount of money billed property owners yearly for what is known as Assessment of Benefit (AOB) fees. Bischoff had alleged in his lawsuit that AOB money was being spent in ways that state laws regulating SIDs do not allow. He said SIDs are set up to pay off development costs, and aren't intended to become *de facto* municipalities with taxation powers.

According to the lawsuit, HISID's reassessment of benefits in 2011 completely disregards any/all payments made prior to the reassessment, and puts the entire cost of HISID's sewage treatment plant into the AOB. At the same time, users of water and sewer are also being charged on their bills for the sewage plant. The settlement allows the 2011 valuations to stand, but gives current

R1 and R2 improved-paved owners a \$2,300 credit to offset future fees paid on water and sewer bills. The remaining assessed benefits are \$10,700 for R1 and R2 improved-paved.

"The \$2,300 credit is in place as recognition that the improved lots are owned by property owners connected to the HISID water/sewer system and thus have paid and will continue to pay the special sewer debt assessment charge, water tower charge and security fee that are all included in their monthly sewer bill," said the notice of the proposed settlement sent to owners.

HISID Chair Linda Graves denied the lawsuit settlement was any admission the district was operating illegally, and said instead that HISID agreed to the settlement to avoid legal fees if the lawsuit was appealed to the Arkansas Supreme Court.

The only objection to the settlement thus far was filed in late December by Holiday Island resident Rebecca Sherman, who publishes the *Creekside News Journal* at www.holidayislandarkansas. com. Sherman refers to language in the settlement indicating that HISID has been collecting AOB levies without the authority to do so.

"I want a refund, which I do not see offered in the settlement agreement," Sherman said, adding that long-time residents and other property owners who paid the illegal levy should be reimbursed.

Bischoff said while he understands Sherman's concerns, reimbursing all property owners would have bankrupted HISID and harmed all property owners.

"I certainly respect everyone's right to an opinion, and have repeatedly insisted that members' legal right to be heard be observed," Bischoff said. "In getting to a settlement, I had to take into account the interests of all members of the class, and attempt to find common ground on what is best for everyone involved. The proposed **HISID** continued on page 27

WANT TO START THE YEAR OUT RIGHT?



Acuna-Sanchez waits for additional testing

NICKY BOYETTE

It has been just more than one year since the New Year's Eve 2012 murder of 21 year-old Laura Acevez in her apartment west of Eureka Springs. Acevez was the mother of three young children, and Carroll County Prosecutor Tony Rogers claims it was her former boyfriend, Victor Acuna-Sanchez, who shot her in the head with a .22-caliber handgun.

Shortly after authorities found the body of Acevez, they arrested Acuna-Sanchez in his mother's cabin hiding in a shower, a .22-caliber handgun on the floor. He was charged with violating a No Contact order, aggravated robbery and capital murder.

Laura Ponce is Acevez's mother and has been raising the three grandchildren since her daughter's death. She has learned her daughter dropped charges against Acuna-Sanchez several times. He reportedly physically assaulted Acevez multiple times over two years, and was arrested three times in the 12 months before Acevez's murder.



There were also No Contact orders that Acuna-Sanchez ignored, as Ponce said she filed her own charges and asked for a protection order when Acuna-Sanchez allegedly beat her daughter in Ponce's home and then stole a computer. He was charged with Battery and Theft of Property. According to Sheriff Bob Grudek, Acuna-Sanchez had been in jail as recently as early December 2012, three weeks before Acevez's murder, for violating a No Contact order. District Court Judge Scott Jackson released him on his own recognizance, but the district attorney's office had not known about the arrest or they could have asked for Acuna-Sanchez to remain in jail. Grudek said there were undoubtedly gaps in communication between the judge and the prosecutor.

Bill James of Little Rock, lead defense attorney for Acuna-Sanchez, requested a continuance in April for psychological testing of his client, and at a hearing in August Acuna-Sanchez was considered competent to continue. In autumn, James requested further testing. The testing subsequently was postponed again until possibly February due to a backlog at the state hospital.

Ponce said she has been considering

her options. One attorney told her he could win a wrongful death suit against Carroll County, but another lawyer cautioned her against a suit. She said the Arkansas Supreme Court sent her a packet requesting information about the case.

Ponce also said for a time she was getting visits from associates of Acuna-Sanchez with threats toward her and the children, but those visits stopped after James intervened. She told the *Independent* that a Berryville officer had told her, "I believe you and your daughter are in danger."

Ponce said she has asked for a change of venue more than once, but the prosecutor's office advised her against it. Repeated calls to the prosecutor's office were not returned as of press time.

The next hearing for Acuna-Sanchez will be 9 a.m., March 6, in Eureka Springs.

New indoor music festival slated for end of January

The new Ozark Mountain Music Festival at the Basin Park Hotel will begin Friday, Jan. 24 at 6 p.m. and continue with at least 11 acts until Sunday's Bloody Mary Morning Show. There will be performances by regional favorites HonkySuckle, 3Penny Acre, National Park Radio,

The new Ozark Mountain Music Pearl Brick, the Hogscalders, tival at the Basin Park Hotel will SxRex and more during the threein Friday, Jan. 24 at 6 p.m. and day event.

> All-access passes are \$45. For a complete lineup, tickets and room reservations, see eurekaspringsmediacenter.com or phone (877) 643-4972.

Eureka Gras celebrates 9th year

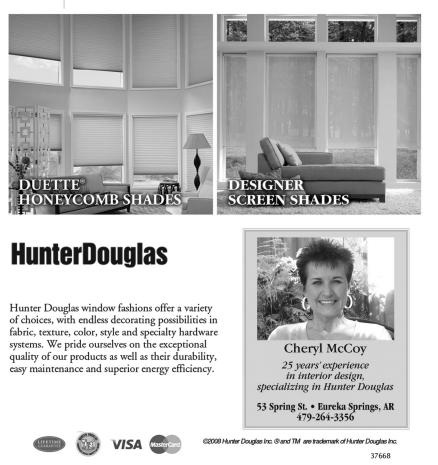
The first Eureka Gras event is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 11 at the Rowdy Beaver on US 62W at 5 p.m. Get the good times rollin' with the introduction

of the 2014 Royal Court and new King and Queen, followed by a gala party. Details on five masquerade balls, the night parade and day parade as well as Mardi Gras Day will be announced.



The public is invited for entertainment, free munchies and King cakes with Happy Hour beverages. More info at www.Krazo. Ureeka.Org or email Dan@Ureeka. Org.

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INDEPENDENTNews

Cargill says no 'flood' of hog factories planned for Arkansas

BECKY GILLETTE

Cargill, the company buying the pork produced by the C&H Hog Farms located near the Buffalo River, has

thus far responded to about 300 letters or e-mails from people concerned about how the operation might impact the nearby Buffalo National River.

Mike Martin, Cargill director of communications, in an interview this week with the *Eureka Springs Independent*, said that "Cargill has no plans for further expansions or

additional CAFOs (Confined Animal Feeding Operations) in Arkansas; C&H Hog Farms isn't the first of a 'flood' of CAFOs planned for the state.

"We don't have plans to have our contract suppliers increase operations or add additional farms in Arkansas," Martin said. "Eighty five percent of hog production has left Arkansas in the past ten years. It is unlikely that will come back. This is simply a case where a family farmer wanted to expand his operation."

Martin said C&H Hog Farms has put into place proper controls to prevent environmental problems.

"Be aware of the fact that in the immediate area where C&H Hog Farms exists near Mt. Judea, historically there have been more hogs in that area than there are now," Martin said. "At one point, there were 11 hog farms in that watershed with a larger aggregate number of hogs than the 2,500 sows at C&H. Almost all of those farms have disappeared. They have gone out of business or moved. That is true of hog production in Arkansas in general."

Martin said some production has been moved to states like Iowa, Nebraska and Missouri that are closer to the main sources of food for hogs – corn and other grains. He said another factor of hog production moving out of Arkansas is increasing regulations restricting farming in the state.

"It is a combination of tighter environmental regulations on farming, higher costs in the form of taxes, and more government oversight by federal agencies such as EPA and others," Martin said. "It has made it a more challenging

> environment for farmers. As far as C&H is concerned, Cargill doesn't own the farm. The farm is owned by three families who have lived in that area for several generations. They have been hog farmers for about a dozen years. About two-and-a-half years ago they asked if they expanded, would Cargill agree to take additional piglets? The lead farmer, Jason Henson, is a very responsible

steward of the resources and is known for following rules and regulations. He has never been cited for anything at all. We said we would accept additional piglets if they expanded the operation."

Martin said C&H Farms went to an engineering firm that specializes in building or expanding farms, and had plans drawn up for construction of hog barns and waste lagoons that complied with existing laws, as well as Cargill's requirements. The farm then applied for what is known as a general permit for CAFOs. The farm received the first general permit CAFO in Arkansas.

"The environmental safeguards on that farm far exceed anything required by the state or federal government," Martin said. "It has a nutrient management plan as part of the overall permitting process and focuses especially on hog waste and hog manure, which is basically used as fertilizer for hay fields in the immediate area. It comes down to doing it properly, being a good steward of resources, having a nutrient management plan approved by the State of Arkansas, and following that."

Martin said that animal manure has been used for fertilizing crops for thousands of years, and Cargill believes that protection of the environment can co-exist with animal production.

"Those who oppose C&H Hog Farm are opposed to it on a 'what if' scenario that may never occur," he said. "Certainly neither the farm owners, Cargill or anyone else wants to see harm come to the Buffalo National River. But anyone honest about the situation knows there are already sources impacting the Buffalo National River that have nothing to do with hog farming. There are actual real impacts to the river right now that are not being addressed."

Martin said the owners of C&H Farms have been very transparent about their operations, even holding media tours of the farm.

"Both Cargill and the owners of the farm believe people have a right to see what is going on there," he said. "There is nothing to hide. It is a pretty straightforward farm. I've seen people refer to the size of the farm and number of animals as large. In today's context, it is a small- to medium-size hog operation. It is not by today's standards a large operation. Farms have gotten bigger over time. It is a function of productivity and technology that has allowed farmers to produce more per acre or per animal. Farmers have become more productive in feeding a lot of people."

Women's Living Expo Jan. 11 – 12

The 4th annual 40/29 & Arkansas CW Northwest Arkansas Women's Living Expo returns Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 11 and 12, to the John Q. Hammons Convention Center at 3303 Pinnacle Hills Parkway in Rogers.

The Expo is a weekend of fun and entertainment, featuring 200 diverse exhibits, fashion shows, makeovers, health screenings, popular chefs, book signings, enter to win contests and lots of free goodies.

Show hours: Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tickets: \$7 general admission, \$5 with a discount card, children 8 and under free. See www. womenslivingexpo.com for more information.

MARTIN

Local woman recalls struggle against apartheid

"You really had to decide what you stood for. There was no complacency. It was a very dangerous situation. At that time in South Africa, police had the right to detention without trial. You had no rights." – Lorna Trigg Hirsch



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BECKY GILLETTE

Lorna Trigg Hirsch is so much a part of the Eureka Springs art, dance and spiritual communities that it is hard to imagine the town without her. She helps organize the Eureka Springs Studio Tour, gives classes on topics ranging from boot making to belly dancing, makes pottery and a wide variety of drums, and hosts many workshops at the Fire Om Earth Retreat Center she and her husband, Craig, operate on Mill Hollow Road.

Born near Johannesburg in 1952, Lorna grew up aware of political tension between the white government and other races in South Africa. As a child, she was taught people are equal. She felt it was wrong that although blacks outnumbered whites by a ratio of 11 to one, they were not allowed to vote or be involved in the political process in any way.

Lorna worked against apartheid in

South Africa before fleeing the country in 1988, fearing for her life and the lives of her children because of work she had been doing to bring civil rights to indigenous South Africans.

"A lot of us whites were involved in the struggle to overturn apartheid," she said. "Much of that work was being done underground because we were being constantly harassed by the police. Our homes were searched, passports taken, and some of our friends just disappeared. We used to meet at a black jazz club under the guise of listening to music, and have meetings in the back rooms. A lot of people were working for Nelson Mandela when he was in prison, carrying on his work."

Lorna was involved with a group of women called the Black Sash who participated in peaceful protests.

"We felt if women marched, we wouldn't be attacked," Lorna said. **SOUTH AFRICA** continued on page 24



Chocolate Lovers' Festival changes hands Help continue Eureka's best midwinter event

C. D. White

From humble beginnings more than 10 years ago in St. Elizabeth Church's Parish Hall, the Annual Chocolate Lovers' Festival quickly became so popular it required a larger venue and found a permanent location at the Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center. Since then the festival has changed hands a few times – at one time being a fundraiser presented by Clear Spring School, and most recently taken over by Vacation Rentals of Holiday Island.

For the last 10 years, the festival has filled the convention center with the tempting fragrance of all manner of chocolate delights and the eager presence of hundreds to thousands of chocoholics from near and far, drawn by the festival to spend Valentine weekend in Eureka Springs.

Then, due to unforeseen circumstances, Vacation Rentals announced it would not go forward with

the event his year. Not wanting to see the popular festival disappear, the Chamber of Commerce was approached and has agreed at this late hour to take on the event.

"The Chocolate Lovers' Festival has become a staple in the Valentine weekend festivities and we did not want to see it discontinue," stated Mike Bishop, Chamber President/CEO. "It was important to our business community to keep it going and not lose the momentum it has gained over the past decade."

To that end, the popular event has been scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 15, and promises to again thrill chocolate connoisseurs and satisfy those sweet tooth cravings. This festival is a chocolate lovers dream. From cookies and cakes to candies and ice cream, beverages, dipping fountains, novelty products and more, it's everything chocolate.

For a nominal entrance fee, attendees can enjoy all types of chocolate and then take home a sampling of their favorites. In addition to the great treats for tasting, there are contests for chocolate recipes and decorating tasted and rated by a panel of celebrity judges to win cash prizes. Other activities include a silent auction and displays by local merchants.

However, the chamber staff needs home made chocolate items, contestants, sponsors, vendors, exhibitors, silent auction items and volunteers.

Admission is only \$12 for ages 7 and older and \$6 for Children 6 and under. It's an all you can eat without passing out affair, and boxes are provided to take samples home. As in the past, proceeds from the festival will be shared with area school students and non-profits.

Exhibit space this year is available and booth rental fee has been reduced to \$125. Local businesses are encouraged to purchase a booth and use the space to promote their business and merchandise to the 1500 to 2000 attendees. Advertising opportunities are also available.

For details see eurekachocfest.com for updates and contact Suzanne Kline or Toni Rose at (479) 253-8737.

Workshops at Flora Roja

Jan. 10, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.: "Imagine, Active Hope: Holding On To Positive Expectations As We Heal Our Planet" with Budhi Whitebear. Learn the practice of Active Hope. Empower yourself with image making and give yourself a little space to breathe as you share creative space with folks who share your same concern for the Earth. \$10 suggested donation, all materials provided. For details contact Budhi (479) 790-0400.

Jan. 11, 4 - 6 p.m.: "Chai Tea Tasting with Francesca Garcia-Giri and Carrie Marry." It's tea time at Flora Roja. Visit our community kitchen for a demonstration on the making of the classic masala chai; and Francesca will be cooking up a chai to target the immune system. Learn about the amazing healing powers behind

the spices that make up this age-old beverage.

An ongoing monthly workshop begins Jan. 7 from 6 – 8 p.m.: "Holistic Health Coaching in a Group Setting" with Carrie Marry. Each session will move through different topics – whole foods, stress management, healthy meals for a busy lifestyle and much more. Carrie offers cooking demos, great handouts and full support between sessions. Enroll for the six month program or attend month by month on a sliding scale fee. For info/to register email carrie_marry_ handwoven@yahoo.com, (479) 253-7874.

All workshops are at Flora Roja, 119 Wall St. For info about events and classes phone (479) 253-4968 or visit www.floraroja.com.

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There's still time to sign up for health insurance

If you haven't already signed up for insurance through the Healthcare Marketplace, there's still time to do it and receive premium assistance. The next deadline is Jan. 15 for coverage on Feb. 1. After the 15th, sign-ups will have coverage beginning March 1.

If you or someone you know is stuck on an application or has not heard

back regarding their eligibility status there are resources offering help. If someone has received eligibility from HealthCare.gov stating they are eligible for Medicaid, this most likely means they are eligible for the new program called Health Care Independence Program, and the number to call to receive enrollment help for this is (855)

Nonprofit grant applications open Jan. 10

Nonprofits with programs focusing on youth and children are encouraged to apply for the Carroll County Community Foundation's annual competitive Youth Advisory Committee grants beginning January 10.

Any IRS-designated 501(c)(3) public charity, public school, church, government, or hospital with programs benefiting youth and children within Carroll County is eligible to apply. Other applications may be considered if the project has a clear, charitable purpose for the public benefit. YAC grants are not made to individuals and typically range from \$100 to \$1,000. This year's YAC grant application can be downloaded online at www.arcf. org/carrollcounty. Grant application deadline is Feb. 15.

Members of the local YAC group represent all three public high schools in the county as well as Clear Spring School and homeschoolers. These dedicated students meet monthly to learn about the significance of local philanthropy and selfless service to others through their own community service projects. "The grant-making process itself is a tremendous educational opportunity for our YAC members," said YAC Advisor, George Purvis. "They learn to keep open minds while they have discussions with their peers and most important that it is not age that matters when it comes to helping people, only heart, attitude and drive."

"Our Youth Advisory Councils around the state are helping to train the next generation of Arkansas's philanthropists," added Heather Larkin, president and CEO of the Community Foundation. "By working together to award grants from their own endowment, our YAC students not only learn about the process of smart giving but also have a chance to make a tangible difference for organizations serving children and youth."

For more information about this grant opportunity or Carroll County Community Foundation, contact Janell Robertson, Executive Director, at CarrollCounty@arcf.org or call the Eureka Springs office (479) 253-8203. Contributions to the Community Foundation are fully tax deductible.

HI town hall meeting Jan. 8

The Town Hall Meeting for Holiday Island property owners who have paid the Annual Assessment of Benefits to HISID will be Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 6 p.m. in the ballroom of the Clubhouse on Holiday Island Drive. Attorney Tim Hutchinson will discuss the impact of the Settlement Agreement on owners and answer questions regarding the settlement or the notice that was received by residents as class members. 372-1084 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The federal portal is HealthCare. gov online, or call (800) 318-2596 (24/7). Local insurance assistant, Charlisa Cato, said a number of people are getting repeated calls from sites with similar names, and that this will not happen when applying at HealthCare.gov. Should you be called from HealthCare the person will identify themselves, give you their ID number and a callback number, and will not ask medical questions.

Another resource is www. arhealthconnector.org. You can search this site for Q @ A, and find lists by county of agents, brokers and guides who can help with the application process and answer questions. For more information, contact Charlisa (479) 253-0943.





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A little help from our friends:

• *Food pantry, furniture bank and used book store* – Wildflower Chapel Food Pantry is open 10:30 – Noon on Fridays. Thrift Store and Used Furniture Bank open Monday – Friday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. (479) 363-6408. Service times: 253-5108.

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

• *First United Methodist Church offers free Sunday suppers* 5:30 – 7 p.m. Hwy. 23S. Night Church at 6 with short message and music. (479) 253-8987

• *St. James' Episcopal Church hosts community Sunday Night Suppers from 5* – 6:30 p.m. at St. James' Church, 28 Prospect, until March. The suppers are for the community, especially those who are out of work, and are provided at no charge by area restaurants and others. (479) 253-8610.

• *GRIEF SHARE* 13-week grief recovery program begins Oct. 13. Sundays 2 – 4 p.m. HI Community Church Fellowship Hall library (188 Stateline Drive). Join at any time. \$15 workbook fee required. For details phone (479) 253-8925, or e-mail lardellen@gmail.com.

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

• *Alateen* – Sundays, 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. Email alateen1st@gmx.com or phone (479) 981-9977.

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

• *Narcotics Anonymous* – Fridays, 5:30 p.m. (903) 278-5568

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

• Eureka Springs Coffee Pot AA Group

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

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

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

All other meetings: See www. nwarkaa.org

Occupants, pets safe after four-plex fire One unit destroyed, one damaged

An afternoon fire on Jan. 2 at a four-plex on 45 Blue Water Drive in Holiday Island drew firefighters from the Holiday Island, Eureka Springs and Inspiration Point fire departments.

INDEPENDENTNews

According to HI fire chief, Jack Deaton, the first call came in at 2:51 that afternoon after one of the unit's owners, Benjamin Bond, heard a noise when he was outside chopping wood, opened the door to his home to investigate, and saw fire at the back of the house.

Arriving firefighters made sure the occupants and pets in all units were out of the building as they began fighting the fire. Bond's unit was totally destroyed, and the unit above, belonging to Kim Ryan, was damaged. Two units on the other side were not harmed.

Ryan was not at home at the time of the fire, but Bond and the occupants of the other two units were able to leave safely with no injuries to humans or pets.

The cause of the fire has yet to be officially determined pending further fire inspector investigation scheduled for Jan. 10.



Photos by Gwen Etheredg



City Council Agenda

Monday, January 13, 6 p.m.

Commission, Committee, Authority reports and expired terms:

Planning – Pos. 2 – vacant – expires 1/1/17. Pos. 4 – Jim Morris – expired 7/1/12.

Pos. 5 – Melissa Greene – expired 1/1/13

CAPC – Pos. 2 – vacant – expires 6/30/14. Pos. 5 – vacant – expires 12/31/14 and

Pos. 6 – vacant – expires 12/31/14 (5 and 6 are the Council positions)

Hospital – Pos. 1 – Anna Ahlman – expired 6/1/13

Parks

HDC – Pos. 2 – Dee Bright -- expired 11/30/13. Pos. 4 – Doug Breitling – expired 11/30/13. Pos. 5 – vacant – expires 11/30/14

Cemetery

Public comments

Unfinished business:

- Vacating request for portion of Hartman and McCune – postponed by Mr. McEvoy until second mtg. in January – DeVito and Mitchell
- 2. Amended Land Bank ordinance – Purkeypile and Mitchell
- Ordinance No. 2198 Business Licenses for multi-family – 2nd reading
- Ordinance No. 2199 Vacating 100 ft. of Palo Pinto – fee to be determined
- Ordinance No. 2200 Vacating portion of Nut St. – 2nd reading
- 6. Auditorium Commission ordinance –DeVito and Mitchell
- Cottage at 1 Magnetic update from City Attorney by February 15 –McClung and Schneider

New business:

- 1. Trails plan/Brixes' driveway/ Rock St. –Mitchell and Purkeypile
- 2. Hours of operation and animals in C-3 –Mitchell and Purkeypile
- 3. Clean City Ordinance Mitchell and Schneider
- Conditional Use permit for farm animals – postponed pending Planning action – Mayor Pate
- 5. Code Section 9.10.01 rewrite/ Planning Commission procedures for vacating property –

McClung and DeVito

- 6. Film Industry tax incentive Mayor Pate
- 7. 2014 budget workshop Mitchell and Schneider
- 8. Set meeting dates for 2014
- 9. Pro tem for 2014
- 10. Rules and procedures for 2014

Council comments Mayor's comments



Silver Tea success for Clear Spring

Despite two weather cancellations, the third time was the charm for the annual Silver Tea. On Dec. 18, more than two-hundred guests enjoyed delectables prepared by the women of St. James Episcopal Church for the annual fund raiser. The event generated \$2,352.00 from donations to help Clear Spring School purchase safe, age-appropriate playground equipment.

Clear Spring students in period costume greeted attendees and periodically performed musical numbers. Tea sandwiches, cookies, and beverages were served from heirloom silver pieces. A nutcracker theme highlighted the festive holiday decorations and local musician, John Wiley, provided seasonal music.

Tea chairman Lucilla Garrett, assistant chairman Peggy Pot, and volunteers from St. James' Church and Clear Spring School provided an elegant atmosphere and took turns at four silver tea service stations.

In 47 years of hosting the Silver Tea, the women of St. James' Church have raised thousands of dollars for area non-profits, including Eureka Springs School of the Arts, St. John's HospiceCare, the Eureka Springs Carnegie Public Library, the Good Shepherd Humane Society, ECHO (Eureka Christian Health Outreach), and the Salvation Army.

The annual event is made possible through the generous support of Elise Roenigk and the staff of the Crescent Hotel.

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The Eureka Springs Independent is published weekly in Eureka Springs, AR

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Letters to the Editor: editor@eurekaspringsindependent.com or ES Independent Mailing address: 103 E. Van Buren #353 Eureka Springs, AR 72632

Subscriptions: \$50 year – mail to above address

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

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INDEPENDENTMail

All INDEPENDENT**Mail** must be signed and include address and phone number for confirmation. Letters to the Editor should be limited to 200 words or so.

We reserve the right to edit submissions. Send your INDEPENDENTMail to:

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

Who's in charge of the hospital? Editor,

I have read that the Eureka Springs hospital provides good service but the building is falling into disrepair. The management company that runs the facility said it would build a new hospital, but the town has been waiting for years for an out-of-state management company to decide whether or not our town continues to have a hospital. Even the hospital administrator said there is expansion potential here with a better hospital. But something is missing. Why no movement?

It would not be meddling for City Council to have an active interest in the state of the hospital, would it? How many tourists take a fall, have a rise in blood pressure, diabetes trouble, broken

bone, heat stroke, motorcycle mishap or brown recluse bite? I would think it in the best interest of the city to pursue a hospital for such emergencies. Nelli Benson

Bible means a lot

Editor.

Some recent events have once again turned the Bible into a controversial freefor-all. We can use it as a hammer with which to bludgeon people we don't like, or as a book of divine teachings from which to pick and choose our favorites, or as a soft, warm Grace Blanket to wrap ourselves in lethargic security, or we could use it for its intended purpose, as a guidebook to enable us to evolve out of ourselves and our worldly preoccupations in preparation for entrance into heaven.

Jesus spells it all out in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. As the Son of

God who knows all things, He is worth listening to. Sue Ahrens

Estate sale helps charities

Editor.

The charity-inspired estate sale at the old Arvest building on Holiday Island was a huge success despite such short notice. Hundreds of people came through the doors and everyone was happy to be helping out.

Between sales, the donation jar and refreshments we were able to raise over \$1,000 for Flint Street and ECHO! We also had a box of canned goods & clothing and some remaining pastries for Flint Street Food Bank, as well as a number of items (about \$300-500 in merchandise) that will go directly to ECHO's thrift shop.

MAIL continued on page 25



@PanicRestroom --- Always wear clean underwear, in case you are abducted by aliens.

@HallpassCanada --- Everyone always wants to date the hot crazy chick...till you're standing outside watching your house burn.

@peteholmes --- Forgot to make resolutions? Just write out everything you did last night and at the beginning add the word "stop."

@NurseSeymour --- Just discovered an app that tells you

which of your friends is stupid. It's called Facebook.

@sarousti --- Definition of Insomnia: Finding a spider in your bedroom & when you leave for a second to get the spray & come back it's gone.

@neonorchid1 --- I wish "it's the thought that counts" worked for housework.

\$30 1/8

@WilliamAder --- Just in case the FBI turns on my web cam, I've got a teeny tiny picture of Jimmy Hoffa taped to the lens.

@capricecrane --- Woman sends emotional text that's 5 paragraphs long. Man responds with "k." Woman spontaneously combusts.

@Zen_Moments --- A lie can travel halfway around the world while the truth is putting on its shoes. ~ Mark Twain

@PsyOpWar --- New Year in Colorado brings world's first regulated, legal marijuana industry.



INDEPENDENTEditorial

Cheers to our high falutin' society

B ut, where did they go? In the absence of locally-attended events and the presence of adverse weather conditions, most of our high falutin' Eureka Springs social butterflies were most likely tucked in somewhere with hot chocolate, conceivably laced with Bailey's, and a good book or maybe an iPad.

In any case, they weren't available to our stealth photographers this week and have thus escaped the High (falutin') Society pages.

Which got us thinking about the people we do manage to photograph over the years – those familiar faces that bring a smile when we see them at one function or another. For a small town, we seem to have an abundance of opportunities to socialize, and frankly, do good; since most of our gatherings seem to be for the benefit of a worthy organization, cause or community member in need.

Which got us thinking about how much good the community really does. For an area of Northwest Arkansas that doesn't exactly have the highest per capita income, to say the least, we certainly know how to share what we have – even if we are at political loggerheads over what we don't have or want to have as community.

Which got us thinking about the old Eureka Springs school property and what it might become, if anyone can ever agree on it. That's the other thing about our high falutin' society. As lovely as we are, when we're not unselfishly giving to others, we're busy going DEFCON when we collectively have to decide what we want to give ourselves.

Which got us thinking about the proposal to put some American flags up in town and what a firestorm of misinformation and hard feelings erupted over that innocent attempt to do something good.

Which got us thinking about someone who came into the *Independent* office with a delivery the other day and asked if we were the liberal paper or the conservative paper. "The liberal," our editor replied. "Well I'm a conservative," the delivery person said. Then they had a good long chat about various issues. It was an enlightening and civil conversation. When he left, the visitor, now a friend, asked, "Why can't people talk to each other the way we just did?"

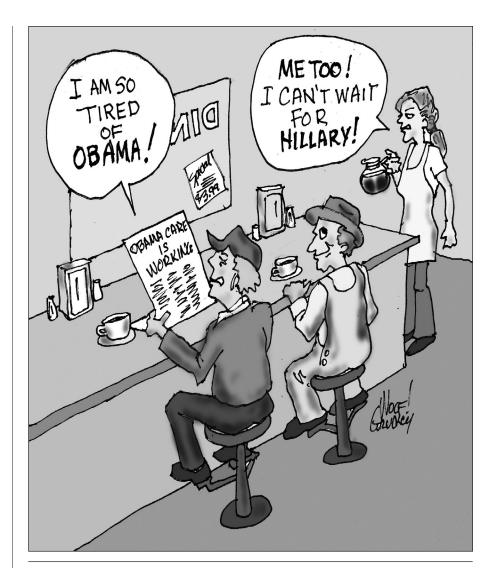
Which got us wondering why we can't. We've all seen attempts at dialog, some in public, turn into temper tantrums and rudeness, and mostly between folks locked in incalcitrant positions that shut out any possibility there might be another way or solution. Of course, the word incalcitrant means resistance to authority or control, so is it the possibility that someone else could be in control that puts us on the defensive?

We may be onto something here. It's long been our observation that we're a community of immigrants from other parts of the country where things were done differently. We came here for dreams of our own, not for those of our neighbors, and landed smack in the middle of said neighbors who came here to realize dreams of *their* own. So, while we're a goodhearted, generous bunch – we don't have much common vision.

On the other hand, maybe some of us came here young enough and have been here long enough, or are tired enough of endless stalemates, to begin developing that common vision for Eureka Springs. Certainly we can unite when there's a threat to all of us, as proven by the reaction to SWEPCO's proposed transmission lines.

So why don't we just talk to each other and see what happens? Which got us thinking ...

-CDW



ThePursuitOfHAPPINESS by Dan Krotz

There is a town close by whose role in life is to make every other town in the

world look better in comparison. And though it is steeped in a perilous and irreversible decline that seems unalterable, somehow it hangs on and on, and has done so since its founding early in the last century.

Perhaps this unfortunate town's utility in negative correlation formulas is reason enough for it to keep on ticking. Where would Arkansas be, by way of example, if not for Mississippi? Representative Bob Ballinger versus Yosemite Sam? Or say, you alongside me, that old relationship between two variables in which one increases as the other decreases... and vice versa?

So much of today's public discourse – talk, chatter, mumbo jumbo – seems to begin and end with, "Oh yeah, what about Hitler!" Consequently, we no longer agree that the town drunk is the exemplar of bad value – because we never actually get around to talking about *the* town drunk, let alone the wrongness of drunkenness in general, before someone shouts "My country, right or wrong!" That, of course, has all the moral and practical effectiveness of saying, "My mother, drunk or sober!"

Time, though, has a way of sorting things out. Historians mostly agree that Warren G. Harding was the worst of our 20th century Presidents, and that the two Roosevelts and perhaps Eisenhower, by comparison, were among the best. Nixon, most historians also agree, was an awfully good President and an awful man, while Clinton was simply a pissant in both dimensions. (Although Bill is still on the scene and thus attracts some partisan defenders: "Oh yeah, what about…!")

So far, in the 21st century, we've had two Presidents, the black guy and the guy no Republican names, mentions, or seems to remember. One way to avoid a negative correlation is to erase one of the variables and pretend it never existed. Have you noticed how Republicans have managed to do that? It certainly puts Democrats at a rhetorical disadvantage, but the approach, frankly, seems to lack creativity. I mean, compared to that Libertarian paradise, Somalia, even Mississippi looks pretty good.

INDEPENDENTConstablesOnPatrol

DECEMBER 30

10:23 a.m. – Constable on patrol took a report regarding overnight damage to merchandise at a business. 3:47 p.m. – The caller told ESPD he had been threatened by someone wielding a baseball bat. Constables arrived at the scene to discover there had been only a verbal disagreement and no threats. 10:19 p.m. – Traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the

driver for DWI #3 and driving on a suspended license. He was also cited on a warrant out of Fayetteville. DECEMBER 31

12:27 a.m. – Someone pulled the third floor fire alarm in an apartment building. ESFD responded.

9:04 a.m. – Driver alerted ESPD to a driver behaving recklessly on his way to town from the east. Constable spotted the vehicle in town and cited the driver for driving too closely.

11:41 a.m. – Two drivers on US 62 in town reportedly argued and traded obscene gestures. Constable showed up to find that one of the participants was gone already. The other said it had been a road rage incident – one pulling out in front of the other. Everybody went home.

4:01 p.m. – Downtown merchant reported raw sewage pouring out of a pipe onto Spring Street. Call went to Public Works.

 $8{:}59\,$ p.m. – Two constables responded to noise complaints at a tourist lodging.

10:32 p.m. – Same noisy people at the tourist lodging, apparently intoxicated, got into a vehicle and drove to a liquor store. Two constables responded.

10:39 p.m. – Traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the driver for DWI and driving left of center.

11:46 p.m. – The alarm in Basin Park sounded, but responding constables found nothing missing or amiss. They reset the alarm.

JANUARY 1

1:13 a.m. – Employee asked ESPD for assistance in removing the intoxicated, belligerent owner from the premises. He had departed on foot before constables

got there, and they never encountered him.

11:27 a.m. – Guests at a motel were making a scene in the parking lot. They left without incident after constables arrived.

1:46 p.m. – A mother asked for a welfare check on her son who she thought might be suicidal. Constable found the son, he was fine and with other people. Constable informed the mother.

2:40 p.m. - Another resident spotted the deer with an arrow in its back. Constable spoke with the witness but did not see the deer.

7:44 p.m. – ESPD got word of an erratic driver on US 62 but constables never saw the vehicle.

8:35 p.m. – A girlfriend said she had had a fight with her boyfriend. He had been taking pills and threatening suicide. Constables found him at a friend's house, and he was okay but not answering phone calls.

9:21 p.m. – An owner called ESPD because he had not been able to contact the manager of his business. Constable went to check and discovered the manager was just fine.

JANUARY 2

12:37 p.m. – Dogs ran free on a city street and eluded the authorities.

12:48 p.m. – Motorist got stuck on a city street and blocked all traffic. Constable responded, and the motorist eventually was able to drive away.

 $10{:}50\ \text{p.m.}$ – Constable and EMS responded to a suicidal male.

JANUARY 3

12:43 a.m. – Eyewitness reported a driver speeding eastbound on US 62. Two minutes later, the same caller saw the same vehicle safely heading westbound back toward town. Constables did not encounter the vehicle.

9:47 a.m. – Individual turned herself in on an ESPD warrant for failure to appear.

9:48 a.m. – Resident said the neighbor's dogs were on her porch. Animal Control did not find the dogs or their owner.

12:47 p.m. – A vehicle ran off US 62 during the night and damaged mailboxes and private property and lost a headlight. Property owner did not want to file a report.

2:34 p.m. – Constable called for a tow truck for a vehicle parked in front of the post office for hours. It also had no license plate.

8:13 p.m. – Central dispatch alerted ESPD to a driver headed toward town from the east at 70 mph. Constable watched for but did not encounter the vehicle.

JANUARY 4

12:24 a.m. – Traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the driver for reckless driving.

4:51 a.m. – A concerned person reported her sister, who was staying at a hotel in town, had left a voice message saying she awakened to find her boyfriend raping her and videotaping the incident. Constable went to the scene and both individuals told him everything was okay. Neither person showed signs of a struggle.

3:23 p.m. – A merchant thought teenagers were stealing items from his store. Constable encountered the suspects but they were not carrying contraband at the time.

JANUARY 5

6:04 a.m. – Burglary alarm rang out at a business, but the constable found the building secure.

9:38 a.m. – Guest at a motel asked for constable assistance in sorting out an issue with the management. Constable arrived to find the individual had apparently overmedicated himself and needed EMS to check him out.

11:07 a.m. – A motorist and vehicle slid off a road together. Constable responded.

12:43 p.m. – Constable assisted EMS in dealing with a patient.

(Eds. Note: The September 2013 police log incorrectly said a man with a gunshot wound was turned away at Eureka Springs Hospital when he actually refused treatment.)

Films galore and party with the Mojo Doctors

Just a couple days (Jan. 9) for late entries to arrive and judging begins for entries to the Eureka Springs 2014 Indie Film Fest, Jan. 23 – 25. Don't miss Eureka Springs' own mini Sundance Film Festival (Snowdance?). Who knows how big this might grow?

Tickets are on sale now at esindie film fest. com or by calling (479) 363-8185. Purchase a three-day pass and get full access to all days/nights of screenings, panel discussions, presentations and The Indie Award Show and after party.

A one-day pass gets you into the day's screenings and panels on that day only, plus the Indie Award Show and After-Party. Three-day passes are just \$25, one day passes \$10. A single Indie Award-Show-only pass is \$5.

The Indie Award Show After-Party at Voulez-Vous Lounge features Leah and the Mojo Doctors. Screenings start Thursday night, Jan. 23. Screenings and panels for all days will be held at the AUD. For more info email eurekafilmfest@gmail.com or see the website above.

Three free events honor Martin Luther King

The Writers' Colony at Dairy Hollow will host a free musical evening as part of planned celebrations on Martin Luther King Day weekend.

Friday, Jan. 17 at 7 p.m., local musicians Nick Rorick, Jim Dudley and Michael Garrett will perform at the Colony, 515 Spring Street, sharing some of their own work and leading a community sing of old favorites.

Other events include an evening hosted by Katie Smith and Justin Easter at the Flora Roja Community Center, 119 Wall, at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 18. On Sunday, Jan. 19, Ivan of the Ozarks and his many compatriots will perform with Ratliff Dean Thiebaud at the St. James Community Supper, 28 Prospect, from 5 - 6:30 p.m.

All are free events and everyone is welcome to come help celebrate the legacy of a great man.

INDEPENDENTArt

Local author published

Harrie Farrow, 22-year resident of Eureka Springs, has published her novel, "*Love, Sex, and Understanding the Universe*" as an e-book available at Amazon.com. The book, which started off as a short story, became a novel at her main character's insistence and was written mostly in the coffee shops of Eureka Springs.



Listed under Gay Literary Fiction, the novel is about a bisexual man coming of age. Farrow says the story can appeal to just about anyone because it's fundamentally about inner conflict. For more info, see harriefarrow. wordpress.com.

FARROW

Opportunities for artists

The **Thea Arts Festival** is calling for entries to exhibit in the 3rd Annual Thea Arts Festival, April 26, in the Argenta District of North Little Rock. The one-day show will feature works by juried artists. For more info, email emily@theafoundation.org

Ozark Regional Arts Council's Annual Women Artists Retreat in September was booked solid months ahead last year, so early booking is recommended for Sept. 18 - 21. The four-day workshop/retreat includes two days of instruction and fellowship at Stone Creek Ranch near Mountain Home. Sheila Parsons of Conway is guest artist/instructor in watercolor and Cindy Kopenhafer of Pleasant Hope, Mo., will be guest artist/instructor for pastel. Both workshops will include plein air and studio painting. Bill Barksdale of Cotter will give a slide presentation on photography tips and techniques and will be available to instruct each day at dawn on the art of early morning photography. Costs include workshop fees, lodging and meals. Phone Contact Deborah Lively (870) 425-8291or email ozarkregionalartscouncil@gmail.com for registration or more info.

The Eureka Springs Historical Museum offers exhibition space for artists living in the Western District of Carroll County. Exhibitions will be rotated monthly. Artists may display work and contact information. All work must be "hang ready." The museum will make available a print rack if requested. Work must be available for purchase. The artist will receive 60% of the selling price. Space available on first come, first serve basis. Contact Zeek Taylor at zeek.taylor@cox.net.

In another must-book-ahead event, the Ozark Regional Arts Council of Mountain Home, will host a workshop with Lian Zhen, internationally-known watercolor artist, from Oct. 20 - 23. The fourday workshop will include Zhen's unique teaching style in both Chinese and Western watercolor. Cost includes all materials needed for Chinese watercolor. To book a space in this limited-participation workshop, contact Deborah Lively at ozarkregionalartscouncil@gmail.com or (870) 425-8291.

Learn about First Page and Character Jan. 18

A full-day writing workshop, *The First Page/Character*, will be taught by Alison Taylor-Brown on Saturday Jan. 18. Topics include how to begin, asking the right questions, the narrative arc and much more. The entire afternoon will be devoted to character – utilizing 13 ways to make your characters real, authentic and

memorable.

The workshop will be held from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at The Village Writing School, 177 Huntsville Road (Hwy. 23S). Cost is \$45. Register online at villagewritingschool.com. For more information, contact Alison Taylor-Brown at alisontaylorbrown@ me.com or (479) 292-3665.

Call for artisans

The Village Association's 4th Annual Spring Craft Show is accepting applications now for the show on May 10 in the Village at Pine Mountain. All crafts must be hand made. Those interested in being an exhibitor may phone (479) 244-6907 for application and details.

2014 ESSA catalog available

The Eureka Springs School of the Arts' 2014 Program Catalog is now available by mail and on the web. The new Blacksmithing/Metal Fabrication Studio will debut this May with workshops including blacksmithing by Jim Wallace, metal sculpture with Wayne Summerhill, forged steel by Bob Patrick and building hollowform animal heads by Kirk Sullens. Returning instructors will include Judy Lee Carpenter and Lyla Allison, who will also teach in the Metalsmith Studio.

Master metalsmith, Robert Ebendorf, will teach an exclusive workshop on "Lost and Found Objects for Personal Adornment" during May Festival of the Arts. Woodworking classes will be taught by Doug Stowe, Steve Palmer and Les Brandt. Twodimensional instructors will include Richard Stephens, Mary Springer, Valerie Damon, Tom Christopher, Jan Brieschke and Annie Tagg.

New instructors scheduled to teach in 2014 include photographer Mike Maple; painter and two-dimensional fiber artist, Barbara Kennedy; fiber artist Lisa Kerpoe and woven fiber and metal artist, Mary Hettmansperger.

For a catalog or additional info phone (479)-253-5384 or visit www. essa-art.org.



Jackie's Memoir

The art of Diana Harvey getting national notice

Diana Harvey's art has been prominent on the national scene this fall. Her painting, Jackie's Memoir, was given a merit award by the National Oil and Acrylic Painters Society's 2nd Annual Online International Exhibit, which can be seen at noaps.org. Harvey also had work selected for the American Women Artists' annual competition at the RS Hanna Gallery in Fredericksburg, Texas. For the third year she has been honored by an invitation to show at The Russell, a prestigious benefit for the CM Russell Museum in Montana, where her painting, Startled by the Stampede, will be showcased. In each show catalog Harvey is proudly identified as being from Eureka Springs. Her work can be seen at the Eureka Fine Art Gallery on N. Main Street.

DEPARTURES

Ronald Paul Cantele, Dec. 15, 2013

Ronald Paul Cantele, 76, of Eureka Springs, Ark., passed away Dec. 15, 2013, surrounded by his family and much love.

Ron was born in Benton Harbor, Mich., to Emma (Federighi) Cantele and Louis Cantele. He graduated from the University of Houston with a degree in Business.

Ron worked as an apparel salesman and then VP of Noah's Flood, a women's apparel manufacturer in Dallas, Texas. While living in Dallas, he met Kathy Ball. The two were partners for more than 40 years. They moved to Arkansas in 1981 where they started White Oak Organic Farm on Dry Fork Creek. Here they raised three sons, Matthew, Nicholas and Noah. His daughter, Christa Cantele, and granddaughters, Grace and Emma, live in Texas.

During this time Ron was the buyer for Ozark Organic Growers Association. He was a devoted baseball/soccer coach and supporter of his three sons. Family, friends and great food were Ron's passion and joy. We know he would say, "Beautiful life. Happy to have been here!"

Norma Faye Meeks Boatwright, Oct. 10, 1936 – Dec. 27, 2013

Norma Faye Meeks Boatwright, 77, of Aurora, Mo., passed away Friday, Dec. 27, at the Aurora Nursing Center.

She was born October 10, 1936, in Eureka Springs, Ark., the daughter of Art and Evelyn (Hawkins) Meeks. She was a proud graduate in the class of 1954 from the School of the Ozarks High School, in Point Lookout, Mo. She married William M. "Johnnie" Boatwright in Harrison, Ark., on May 5, 1955. He preceded her in death on August 5, 1992.

Norma was a Christian who loved her family. She lived most of her life in Eureka Springs where she was a homemaker, ran a

licensed daycare from her home, and attended the First Baptist Church of Eureka Springs for 30 years. She enjoyed going to church on Sundays and being a part of her church family.

Norma and her husband relocated to Sarcoxie, Mo., in 1986. She ran a day care from her home and attended the First Baptist Church in Sarcoxie. In 2006 Norma moved to Aurora where she became a member of the First Baptist Church of Aurora. Norma loved children very much and throughout her life cared not only for her own children but also many others. She became very close to each of them and their families. She will always be remembered for her love of children.



She was preceded in death by her father, Art Meeks

and her mother, Evelyn Meeks Putnam; five brothers, Leroy, Laverne, Jerry, Don and Norman Meeks (died in infancy), and one sister, Dorothy Meeks Handley.

She is survived by one son, Scott Boatwright and his wife, Rhonda, of Aurora, Mo.; one daughter, Sherry Clark and her husband, Jackson, of Huntsville, Ark.; one brother, Jim Meeks and his wife, Rose, of Monett, Mo.; one sister, Pearl Meeks Walters, of Kansas City, Mo.; two sisters-in-law, Juanita Meeks of Kansas City, Mo., and Sharon Meeks of Vista, Calif.; five grandchildren, CPT

(P) Brandon Boatwright of Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., Travis Boatwright of Chicago, Ill., John Boatwright of Huntsville, Texas, Ashley Henderson of Farmington, Ark., and James Clark of Russellville, Ark.; and three greatgrandchildren, Aubrey Boatwright, Landon Boatwright and Hailey Henderson.

A funeral service was held Dec. 31 at the Crafton-Cantrell Funeral Home in Aurora, Mo., followed by a graveside service at the Beaver Cemetery in Beaver, Arkansas.

Online condolences may be shared at www. CraftonCantrellFuneralHome.com.



GSELLMANN

Rose Gsellmann, Feb. 3, 1931 – Jan. 7, 2013

Rose Gsellmann of Eureka Springs was born on February 3, 1931. She passed away on January 7, 2014 in Eureka Springs at age 82. She was a daughter of Franz and Maria (Taschner) Fuchs.

On March 4, 1982 she was united in marriage with Steve Gsellmann who preceded her in death. She is also preceded in death by her parents and one brother, Frank Fuchs. She was a retired long time employee of AT&T, and more recently owner/operator of a motel, the Edelweiss Inn in Eureka Springs. She was of the Catholic Faith.

Rose is survived by her stepdaughter, Cindy and husband, Bryan Sumpter, of Eureka Springs; four sisters, Mitzi and husband, Frank Suppanschitz, of Eureka Springs; Hermi and husband, Henry Geisheimer, of Sadelia, Colo.; Emma and husband, Philipp Letscher, of Ft. Myers Beach, Fla.; Anni Fuchs of Fehring, Austria, and a host of other family and friends.

Cremation arrangements were made with and under the direction of Nelson Funeral Service. Memorial donations may be sent to the Good Shepard Humane Society, 6486 Hwy. 62 E. Eureka Springs, AR 72632. Online condolences may be sent to the family at nelsonfuneral.com.

Jan. 12 at UUF

Randi Romo, co-founder and executive director of the Center for Artistic Revolution in Little Rock, where she works with LGBT teens, will share her 25 years of experience working in social justice organizing. All are welcome at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 17 Elk St., Sundays at 11 a.m. for a program followed by refreshments. Childcare is provided. Extra parking at Ermilio's Restaurant, 26 White Street.

Wellness talk Jan. 15

Eureka Springs Partners in Wellness will meet Wednesday, Jan. 15, at Flora Roja Acupuncture, 119 Wall Street, at 7 p.m. This month's talk is "Castor Oil Packs - Worth the Effort?" For more information phone Alexa (479) 253-9208.

Bereavement support Jan. 17

There will be an opportunity for those who have lost a child to come together with other bereaved parents and grandparents for a workshop using image making in art therapy approach to grieving. The experience is designed to help discover sources of hope and healing in individual grief processes.

The workshop on Friday, Jan. 17, will be facilitated by Linda Maiella, MALS, (bereaved mother) and Budhi Whitebear, MA, ATR-BC (registered, board certified art therapist) from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at Flora Roja Community Acupuncture Clinic, 119 Wall St.

A donation on a sliding scale of \$10 to \$35 is suggested. For more information call Linda (479) 253-1229 or Budhi (479) 790-0400.

Ladies fellowship meets Jan. 20

The Holiday Island Community Church Ladies Fellowship will meet Jan. 20 at 10 a.m. Speaker Jack Deaton will present *The Importance of Emergency Preparedness – What Should You Do?* Do you have a plan; do you have an emergency kit ready? Come hear the Holiday Island Fire Chief talk on this important subject. Refreshments will be served. Contact Linda Bartlett (479) 244-5961 or Eula Jean McKee (479) 253-8021.

Save the Ozarks Review – 2013

April

• Around April 1, SWEPCO notified more than a thousand landowners that their properties are traversed by at least one of six possible routes for a 345 kV transmission line the utility will construct if the Arkansas Public Service Commission (APSC) approves the investorowned utility's plan.

• On April 7, a small group of people came together to form Save the Ozarks (STO), a citizens' organization that opposes SWEPCO's entire plan, including all six routes under consideration for the transmission line.

• After vetting numerous lawyers, STO hired attorney Richard Mays to file a petition with

APSC seeking intervenor status for STO. STO's first expert witness, Dr. Hyde Merrill, a transmission line planner, was hired.

• Two public meetings -- one each at The Space and the Auditorium -- held with 100-150 concerned citizens attending to discuss SWEPCO's plan and Save the Ozarks' commitment to opposing the entire plan.

• Website designed, Facebook page launched, mailing list initiated, and fundraising begun. On April 30, STO petition to intervene in the APSC proceeding for SWEPCO's proposed plan was submitted to the APSC with a list of 34 participants.

May

On May 3, STO submitted a supplemental list of participants in STO's petition to intervene.
After vetting a number of experts in karst hydrogeology, STO hired Tom Aley to serve as expert witness.

• On May 21, STO's petition to intervene was granted with certain limitations.

On May 26, STO submitted a reply to APSC staff's response to STO's petition to intervene.
On May 30, STO filed a motion for clarification for clarification on the limits placed on STO's participation

- Candlelight vigil held in Basin Park
- Rally held at the Pied Piper
- STO volunteers staffed table at White Street Walk

June

• Mick Harrison agreed to serve as STO lead counsel with Gregory Ferguson as co-counsel and Greenfire Consulting as paralegal support, and Richard Mays withdrew.

• STO hired Richard Smardon as expert witness in visual impacts assessment

• On June 13, the APSC Administrative Law Judge responded to STO's reply and motion for clarification with an order that effectively allowed STO full participation.

• On June 28, STO submitted direct testimony

by Hyde Merrill, Tom Aley, Richard Smardon, Pat Costner, Doug Stowe, Mike Bishop, James DeVito, Gerri Hamby, Errol Severe, Richard Quick, David Dempsey and Susan Storch. • STO volunteers staffed table at Xterra Bike

Race

July

• STO won blue ribbon as best walking entry in 4th of July Parade.

• Hundreds of people spoke in opposition to SWEPCO's transmission line at APSC's Public Hearings in Eureka Springs and in Rogers

• STO participated in panel discussion at Berryville public meeting.

• DeVito's Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser.

August

• On August 7, STO filed surrebuttal testimony by Hyde Merrill, Tom Aley, Richard Smardon, Pat Costner, and Douglas Stowe

• On August 16, STO filed a motion to dismiss or for summary judgment or in the alternative for continuance, and a motion to compel responses to data requests

• Also on August 16, STO attorney Gregory Ferguson and Pat Costner attended the APSC pre-hearing conference in Little Rock

• August 26-30, STO's legal team, witnesses and supporters participated in and/or attended the APSC hearing in Little Rock

• STO staffed table at the Fayetteville Farmers' Market

• Rockin' Pig Fundraiser with music by Mountain Sprout

September

• STO held a Public Meeting at the Eureka Springs Auditorium to recap Little Rock hearing

• Caribe Fundraiser and Auction with Maureen Alexander and Gaskins Switch.

• STO volunteers staffed table at Eurekapalooza.

• STO's motion to compel response to discovery requests was denied

October

- STO Power News, a daily news aggregate, was launched on Oct. 1
- Fresh Harvest Rummage Sale
- Legends Halloween Fundraiser

November

• For her work with Save the Ozarks, Pat Costner was named Woman of the Year by the Greater Eureka Springs Chamber of Commerce

Throughout the Year: From April through October STO volunteers staffed table at Eureka Springs Farmers' Market.

From April through December thousands of comments were submitted to the Arkansas Public Service Commission's Docket in opposition to the SWEPCO proposal.

From April through December hundreds of Save the Ozarks of t-shirts, yard signs, bumper stickers, buttons, tree ornaments sold. Available at Caribé, DeVito's, Sweet Springs Antiques, The UPS Store, and Geographics. Billboards and banners displayed throughout the Ozark Highlands.

From April through December numerous newspaper articles and television features in local and regional media outlets.

From April through December tens of thousands of dollars were contributed to STO by hundreds of people who opposed the SWEPCO proposal.

Become an Arkansas Master Naturalist

Love studying natural history in The Natural State? Consider becoming an Arkansas Master Naturalist through NWA Community College. Typical students are relative beginners in the study of natural history in the Ozarks.

A Wednesday night class is being offered from 6 - 8:50 beginning Jan. 13 and running through April. This class will also earn three units of credit through the college. A Saturday class begins on Jan. 18 and earns one unit of credit. Registration through NWACC is available at nwacc.edu.

Those not interested in credit through NWACC can begin the Saturday class on Feb. 15. These classes are typically held from 9 a.m. -3 p.m. on Saturdays through early May at various sites in Northwest Arkansas. More information, schedule of non-credit classes and an application is available at home. ArkansasMasterNaturalists.org. Click on Northwest Chapter.



Fluffed out - This female cardinal is keeping warm with fluffed out feathers and a good meal of sunflower seeds. She's extra pretty with that snowflake star on her beak. PHOTO COURTESY OF RICHARD OUICK PHOTOGRAPHY



New Year Séance - Sean-Paul, the Illusionist of Intrigue Theater listens to someone in the audience respond to his request to think of a lost loved one as the stage is set to make contact with the other side during a special show on New Year's Eve.

TheNATUREOFEUREKA by Steven Foster

Junipers, oils and allergies

It's the time of year when if looking to identify trees, ashei) also known as mountain cedar or rock cedar. leaves are not a distraction. When it comes to native coniferous evergreens, we only have three species to learn - shortleaf or yellow pine (Pinus echinata), red cedar (Juniperus virginiana) and Ashe's juniper (Juniperus

Our winter challenge is to learn to recognize Ashe's juniper. It often branches at the base, creating twisted trunks that look like a subject from a Han Dynasty jade carving. The cones (fruits) are globe-shaped, larger and

more fleshy than those of red cedar. If viewed under a hand lens, the edge of the scale-like leaves are toothed (no teeth in red cedar). The foliage is denser and darker green than red cedar.

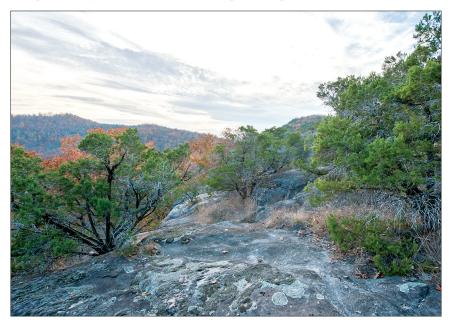
In plant geography, disjunct means a plant is separated from other populations. In the case of Ashe's juniper, it forms dense stands in the Edwards Plateau in central Texas. Its distribution skips up to the Arbuckle Mountains of southeastern Oklahoma, then jumps to disjunct populations on upland limestone or dolomite outcrops in northwest Arkansas and southwest Missouri.

A fascinating curiosity is that the chemistry and genetics of the central Texas and Ozark populations are nearly identical, while outlying south and west

Texas populations are less closely related. The large cones (berries) have a high ratio of fleshy pulp to seed, therefore, are favored by birds. After Pleistocene glaciation retreated 10 - 15,000 years ago, it is likely birds brought the seeds to the Ozarks from central Texas - or perhaps it was Santa's reindeer.

If you are interested in essential oils and aromatherapy, likely you've heard of Texas cedarwood oil, often labeled Juniperus mexicana oil, but that name is misapplied to what in reality is the oil of Ashe's juniper. The essential oil of Ashe's juniper, unlike other juniper species, is very high in camphor (up to 60 percent of the weight of the oil). Therefore, the oil of Ashe's juniper smells more like a decongestant chest rub than a cedar chest.

Even if you can't identify it, you still may encounter this tree. Ashe's juniper is one of the major causes of seasonal allergic rhinitis in Tulsa. Despite the fact that the tree doesn't grow there, it's pollen travels hundreds of miles from central Texas to Tulsa on southern winds.



Sycamore[©] - Chapter 2, cont.

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

In addition to five novels, Constance Wagner wrote numerous articles and stories published in *The New Yorker, Atlantic Monthly* and *Collier's*. In this episode, newly-married Jane arrives in Sycamore.

In summer, however, leaves and green tendrils wrapped even these hutches in a semblance of beauty. With the first warm days, flowering plants would appear suddenly on porches and steps, growing in tin cans, slop buckets, and old boiler tanks (even, in one instance, a toilet bowl painted imaginatively chartreuse). Following the houseplants, the people themselves came out of hiding: lean, bitter people whose faces seemed to have been roughly hewn from hardwood blocks, their bodies hollowed by hunger. Now, in April, they had come forth by day like Osiris, and with the desperate unhaste of those beyond reach of despair, groveled in little rectangles of rocky dirt, on their knees between ranks of embryonic cabbages and tomato plants.

Jane was enchanted. "Walter," she said, "I never dreamed there could *be* such a place." He had followed the long loop of the highway round the edge of town, and was driving slowly toward the square. "I am going to love it. I'm going to live here all the rest of my life and die here."

"Aren't you being a little hasty? You haven't seen all of it."

"Well, I've seen enough. It's wonderful."

Entering the square, he threw the clutch into second gear. "Look at this. I've seen it all my life and it still hits me, every time I've been away from it. The ultimate in uglification! And the hell of it is, my own grandfather was responsible for some of the worst features of it."

Jane, absorbing the courthouse crouched on its trampled earth, the Legion soldier staring blindly

across the fluted iron railing of the spring basin, and the protuberant arch of the Hotel Jefferson Davis, insisted doggedly on the charm of the place. "The trees are lovely," she said. "Those oaks must be a hundred years old. And that jagged bluff behind the buildings over there –" she was determined to be pleased.

He agreed that the natural features of the square were above reproach. "But, God, what they've done with it! Must have taken a touch of genius, at that." He waved toward a one-story building on the far side of the square. "That's where I'll be working my fingers to the bone," he told her, "for you."

She looked. A plate-glass window wore the inscription *Sycamore Times-Democrat* in golden Gothic letters, and she smiled, recalling her mother's startled glance when she had first heard the name of Walter's paper. She had become reconciled later, though, observing that all the nicer people in the South were Democrats, just as in the North they were Republicans.

He drove slowly, Jane hungrily taking note of each detail as it passed: a store needing paint, with what were obviously groceries in its windows, though the battered sign above the door carried the words: LOY TETTER. SEED AND FEED, and beneath it in smaller letters: WE BUY FURS AND HIDES. On the brick sidewall of the building, a palimpsest in old sign-paint revealed faintly the outlines of a huge child in a Buster Brown dress, demanding Aristo Flour, and an even earlier and more obscure legend conveyed the news that Mail Pouch Chewing Tobacco would cure dyspepsia and kindred ills. Walter noticed it too, and whistled. "Nobody told me they'd torn down the old Draper building," he said, marveling. "Used to be smack up against Tetter's store. Those signs must've been on that wall for fifty years. I never saw 'em before."

Jane shuddered, then laughed. "Someone," she said, "is walking on my grave."

Beyond the empty space left by the vanished Draper, a two-story brick building turned toward the square, windows so densely streaked and soiled as to be almost opaque, with a lopsided swinging sign: POOL. BILLIARDS. BUDWEISER. Two men in blue jeans, who were taking the sun on a wooden bench outside the pool-hall window, raised languid hands and made "Hi" with their mouths as Walter drove by. Their eyes merely flickered toward Jane. A third man, just stepping out of the door, paused, stared straight at them, and jerked his head in a curt fraction of a nod, lips closed unsmiling on a toothpick, thumbs hooked firmly into the ornate belt that held up his denim jeans. Jane felt rather than saw Walter's answering nod, and felt it to be as grudging as the original. She was interested.

She made note of the man who had come out of the pool-hall: a little older than Walter, perhaps, thirty, tall, lean, with a certain careless grace and a suggestion of strength in the long line of his body. He was wearing high-heeled boots, badly run over, and a broad-brimmed black felt hat cocked somewhat rakishly over one eye. This might have given him absurdly the look of a movie cowboy, if it had not been for something arresting about his face. It was a cold, **SYCAMORE** continued on page 25

NOTES from the HOLLOW by Steve Weems

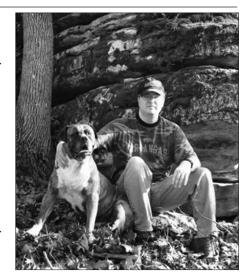
Goperated the Eureka Springs weather station for several years. Located behind O'Connor's Texaco, he recorded weather data for the National Weather Service and various media outlets. Patricia Williams Cobb is George O'Connor's granddaughter and has this memory:

"I remember his little white weather station out behind the gas station. He would also call his weather report into not only the paper, but the radio and T.V. station every night. I remember the excitement one time, when the T.V. weatherman said during the broadcast, 'George O'Connor says it is _____ degrees in Eureka Springs.' I thought my grandfather was a celebrity!" A fixture in Eureka Springs for six decades, George Paul O'Connor was born in Marcus Hook, Penn., and grew up there and in North Dakota. Following work in the 1920s, he and a friend made their way south to Eureka Springs where George settled down and married Norma Fioravanti. Norma O'Connor clerked at the Eureka Drug Company for 26 years.

I knew George only after the ravages of Alzheimer's, but have heard stories of his keen, active mind. Staunchly independent and opinionated, while reading the newspaper or a book (even an encyclopedia), he would underline and make notes in the margin, sometimes vehemently disagreeing with the author's viewpoint. For decades he lived just out of the city limits on U.S. 62 (his address was Route 1, Box 2) and when the city of Eureka Springs annexed his land he joined a lawsuit with other landowners. Though they lost the suit on appeal, George O'Connor and what he thought comes shining through when you read the opinion.

Besides opening the Texaco Service Station in 1950, he served as a Justice of the Peace on the Carroll County Quorum Court and was a highly skilled carpenter, known for his steep roofs.

Jack McCall told the story of loafing at O'Connor's Texaco one day looking at George's car, a Ford LTD. Jack asked, "George what does L T D stand for?"



Without missing a beat, George said, "Little Tom Dooley."

O'Connor's Texaco is now the longtime location of Sparky's Roadhouse Cafe.

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

I was considering some New Year's resolutions and my sex life came to mind. My partner and I have been together for over 10 years, our relationship is good but sex has become mundane and definitely infrequent. What would you suggest?

I absolutely despise New Year's resolutions! They are rarely met and seem nothing more than predictable set ups for failure. This just being my humble opinion, I checked the handy-dandy Internet. According to statistics published by the University of Scranton last year, only 8 percent of individuals who make resolutions actually achieve them. Point made! Let's move on.

Improving your sex life, however, seems more like a recipe for great fun! Instead of a list of resolutions, make a list of new ways to play with your partner. First, consider the concept of "cueing." Biological drives often require an environmental cue to make us aware of them.

INGOUT in our cool little town

When overwhelmingly busy you may not recognize that you're physiologically hungry until you smell food and realize that it's way past mealtime. Sex drive operates even more strongly in this way. Create consistent sexual cues in your environment. Place a steamy novel on your bedside table, read a few pages to one another each night. Keep a selection of love cards in your desk drawer to give your partner on occasion. Place photos of your sexiest vacations in several visible places.

There's no harm in continuing tried and true methods that bring you both to climax, but changing it up is truly the key. Have a "show and tell" session in which you and your partner take turns specifically and physically showing one another what feels arousing. What you might learn after 10 years may surprise you.

During a sexual encounter engage in a "to and fro" style rather than the typical "going for the goodies" approach. This means touching the whole body, moving toward genitals and then away, creating anticipation and increasing arousal. Blindfolding can be quite fun as it increases one's sensory awareness and creates excitement of the



unknown. Get out of the bedroom, throw a blanket on the living room floor in front of the fireplace and get naked. Slow dance naked, consider a new pleasure product, swing from the chandelier.

Why not? The best sex is fun sex. So have an XXXin' good time!

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

OPEN THIS WINTER

Best to call ahead for hours of operation since many restaurants have abbreviated hours or close for the season. SPARKY'S EXTENSIVE WINE LIST • FULL BAR 1. Angler's Grill 12. Island Grill & Sports Bar Fine Dining **Beer** • Wine 2. Autumn Breeze 13. Island Ice Cream Parlor Restaurant & Lõunge Cocktails SPRING ST. 3. Caribe 14. Island Pizza GREAT AMERICAN FARE and Pub 4. Casa Colina Tues., Wed., Thurs. 11 am-8 pr FEATURING Chef David Gilderson 5. Cottage Inn Fri. & Sat. 11 am-9 pm **Dinner Nightly** 6. DeVito's **Special \$6 Lunches** HOLIDAY ISLAND 5-9 p.m. 37 N. Main 7. Ermilio's THURSDAY LOCALS NIGHT 479-253-6756 S II.A.E HWY. 62 EAST • 479-253-6001 RESERVATIONS SUGGESTED \$14.95 Specials 8. Eureka Live 9. Forest Hill - FARM to TABLE -10. Grand Taverne Island Horizon Lakeview Restauran 11. ZA & PUB ш We Deliver (479) 363-6044 **RESTAURANT QUICK REFERENCE GUID** Fine Foods • Bistro • Culinary Marketplace BEER & WINE • LOCAL CRAFT BEERS Lunch • Dinner • Sunday Brunch 6 Parkwood Dr. • Holiday Island (479) 363-6044 •11-8 Mon-Sat PIZZA • PASTA • SALADS • SUBS BURGERS WINGS SPRINGS Breads & Pastries • Cured Meats Gourmet Cheeses • Prepared Salads • Catering 60" T.V.s! • WE DELIVER - 10 Mi. Radius 179 North Main St. • 479-253-9300 5 • TAKE OUT • CATERING • BEER & WINE 25 10 3 -B-QUE **BRISKET • CHICKEN** Burgers • Catfish • Salads 15. Legends TUES.-SAT. 11 AM-7 PM STEAKS Thurs., Fri., Sat. after 4 16. Local Flavor Cafe 3 Parkcliff Dr. • Holiday Island • 479-363-6011 17. New Delhi 18. Roadhouse Advertising fills the table 19. Smiling Brook Cafe Call Anita – at 479.253.3380 20. Squid & Whale 21. 1886 Steakhouse 75 S. MAIN • 479.253.9522 22. Sparky's 23. StoneHouse Mon.-Thurs. -24. Thai House Lunch 11 am-4 pm • Dinner 4-8 pm 25. Voulez-Vous Fri.-Sat. – Lunch 11 am-4 pm • Dinner 4-9 pm Sunday Brunch 9 a.m.-3 p.m. 26. Wild Hog Bar-B-Que

ESOTERICAstrology as news for week Jan. 9 – 14 by Risa

Lost Am I in Light Supernal, Yet On This Light I Turn My Back

Te're under the Light of Capricorn, the Light of Initiation. Capricorn is the 2nd of "two gates" – Cancer (Gate into matter [womb]) and Capricorn (Gate back to Spirit). In Capricorn we're unicorns (holy ones) on the mountaintop (high holy place of the Mind). At first in Capricorn we're sea goats (makara, water/earth creatures), then mountain goats. Later, reaching the Capricorn mountaintop, under the Rising Sun, we become unicorns.

It's been a long arduous journey from Aries to Capricorn. We've battled Ten Labors of Hercules

ARIES: You seek friends young at heart and intelligent of mind, with a strong Mercury (your Soul ruler) influence. You aspire to belong to groups that have a focus of communication and education. If not already, you might consider Masonry. You want to communicate openly, with trust and friendship, discussing many subjects without restrictions. You're very aware of personal needs, of things domestic and the sacredness of family.

TAURUS: It's important for you to write, to communicate, to do any type of art that represents your thoughts, feelings and wishes. You may have or seek out a father figure who is or has strong Virgo tendencies. You find it easy during this time to communicate with people in power, to be in touch with writers, artists and those who work in the field of communication. There's something, perhaps many things, you wish to communicate. What is it you need to say?

GEMINI: Mercury, your ruler is in your house of travel, higher education, professors, publishers, philosophy and philosophies. You may sense travel is your next destination, knowing people of other cultures, other religions and languages will help you learn. You want to be taught and inspired. You want to be taken away from daily life and create new realities. You want substantial and material actions that produce real results. CANCER: You understand realities others can't comprehend. You're able to communicate with the unseen world. You (Aries to Capricorn); we were Arjuna, and were told by Krishna, our teacher, to choose between two forces (Libra); we experienced Mars/Scorpio's Nine Tests. With one-pointed focus we rode over the plains of Sagittarius, eyes on the mountain peaks of Capricorn. We climbed the ladder/mountain of Capricorn. Now, on the mountaintop, we rest, absorbing the Light Supernal (Father's Light). We decide never to leave this place of peace. Travelers, mystics, pilgrims, disciples, initiates together immersed in the Father's Love. Gradually, aware of cries arising from the valleys of Earth, the sounds of

for your protection. It's important to puzzles, initiate intellectual recreations practice calmness, to not hold

memories or grudges, to not gossip and to hold others' secrets within your heart. You don't miss much. You're aware always of what's occurring. You know quick actions don't yield proper responses.

LEO: Communication is most important for you in relationships. Most don't have the acute communication

abilities you possess. You find so many falling short of your need for real contact and communication. Finding communication with other kingdoms (mineral, plant, animal, sky, Earth, elements, etc.) easier than with humans, you value and understand each kingdom's unique love and intelligence. Humans sometimes hurt each other.

VIRGO: Continual study and learning are necessary throughout your life. You can often feel overworked due to your perfectionist abilities. You value your work. Your eye for detail is extraordinary. You like adventurous activities involving physical activity. Staying current with new ideas, new ways of tending to daily life is basic, vital and actually essential to making you an excellent worker in any field that chooses you.

LIBRA: Your intelligence often calls you

can be secretive and not share sometimes, to read books, establish book clubs, do

games with friends and participating. You have

the gift for teaching, for educating others and the compassion for helping those in need. Over time, your slow and steady progress yields results that are practical, prosperous, valuable and long term. Career-wise you're successful. In all things your task is to create

harmony.

SCORPIO: It's important to have a library or access to intelligent bookish resources because your mind is always seeking to understand life's mysteries. You sometimes feel like a nomad, wondering if where you live is correct, always seeking to "go home." That's where your heart is. Even when living in paradise, "home" calls to you. You need lots of movement and communication from and with "home" these days. Someday wherever you are you'll feel finally at home.

SAGITTARIUS: Your above average intelligence sometimes leaves you feeling lonely and alone, wishing there were people around who could keep up with your thought processes, your humor, your many and varied interests. This is why your sign often ends up as a writer, professor and/or publisher. Only through your own creativity do you meet your

sorrowful and suffering humanity, we realize (when Sun enters Aquarius) we will leave the mountaintop, walk back down the mountain. re-enter the Gates of Cancer (masses of humanity) and serve in Aquarius (the next sign). For now we rest, while Mercury enters Aquarius.

Wednesday night the full moon rises over the mountaintop, meets with Capricorn's rising Sun (the solar festival). We stand in meditation, absorbing the Light, reciting the mantram together that strengthens us. "Lost am I in Light Supernal. Yet on this Light I must turn mv back."

> match. Only through these intelligent creative tasks is your restlessness eased. Sometimes not. Then you must look into the sky at night and find your stars.

> CAPRICORN: You have a gift for know how to make money, how to garner resources and how to use them wisely. You want substantial and material results in whatever you do. The best way to assure of results is to tend to one's garden. Here you can be practical in terms of food and feeding the family vital nutrients. It's good to once again consider a greenhouse, for protection and safety. Just put plastic over you present garden. You're practical and intelligent. You see the obvious needs, predicaments and the intelligent practical answers. Now you must apply them.

> AQUARIUS: You look Mercurial - swift, lithe, quick as a wink in all situations. Here, there, everywhere and in a moment - vou're nowhere. You're restless, changeable, nimble, distracted, versatile, at times brilliant, mischievous, lively, interesting and curious. At times people think you're cold and distant. No, you're just observing how to apply the future to the present. As forerunner.

> PISCES: Sometimes it's difficult to communicate what you see and sense for they are not what others see, sense or even know about. You have to turn inward trusting what you know often without encouragement or recognition. Do not overanalyze – what most of psychology does. The message (intuition) gets lost. Study symbols and images, the language of the Soul and intuition. Where you live.

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

Ozark Thunder kicks off Mardi Gras with rock classique

ot the winter doldrums? How about a Mardi Gras party to liven up the night? On Saturday, The Rowdy Beaver is hosting the kickoff party for Mardi Gras 2014. Besides being introduced to this year's royal court, you can rock

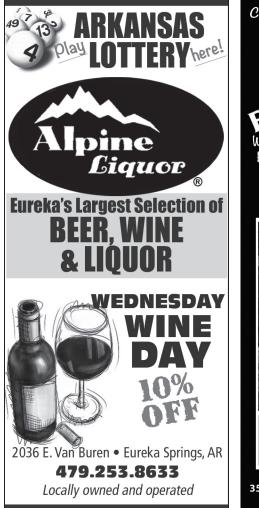
out to live music by Ozark Thunder, a local classic rock band. This quartet of talent was busy in 2013, earning a reputation as a solid performing group that will pack the dance floor. Joe Grover (guitar and vocals) cites influences such as Aerosmith, The

Beatles, Black Sabbath and Pink Floyd when discussing their sound. Ken Cooley on bass, keyboard and vocals along with Barry Peterson on guitar and vocals, rock out with Grover and newish drummer Diane a/k/a The Beast. Although most of

the show is covers, listen for the heavily blues influenced originals "I Didn't See Her" and "Take a Dive." Ozark Thunder is planning to release an independent CD with some live tracks in the future. The Frenchthemed fun starts at 6 p.m.

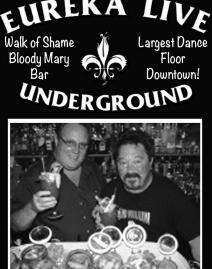
THURSDAY – JANUARY 9 • EUREKA PARADISE Free pool • GRAND TAVERNE Jerry Yester Grand Piano Dinner Music, 6:30-9:30 p.m. • JACK'S PLACE Karaoke w/ DJ Goose, 8 p.m. - midnight • LEGENDS SALOON DJ Karaoke

FRIDAY – JANUARY 10 • BLARNEY STONE Football Playoffs CATHOUSE LOUNGE Jesse *Dean*, 8 p.m. – midnight CHASERS BAR & GRILL DJ/



Jukebox, 9 p.m. • CHELSEA'S Centerfuze, 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. • ROWDY BEAVER Karaoke with Jerry





FRIDAY & SATURDAY DJ & DANCING

35 N. Main • Eureka Springs • 479-253-7020 www.eurekaliveunderground.com

• ROWDY BEAVER DEN Isayah's Allstars, 8 p.m. • THE STONE HOUSE Jerry Yester, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY – JANUARY 11 BLARNEY STONE Football Plavoffs CATHOUSE LOUNGE Jesse Dean, 8 p.m. - midnight • CHASERS BAR & GRILL Kickin' Kountry, 9 p.m. • CHELSEA'S 1 oz. Jig, 9 p.m. • EUREKA LIVE! DJ & Dancing, 9 p.m. • EUREKA PARADISE DJ & Dancing • GRAND TAVERNE Jerry Yester Grand Piano Dinner Music, 6:30-9:30 p.m. • JACK'S PLACE Karaoke with DJ Goose, 9 p.m. • LEGENDS SALOON DJ Karaoke, 9 p.m. • NEW DELHI 6–10 p.m. • ROWDY BEAVER Mardi Gras Kickoff with Ozark Thunder, 6 p.m. • ROWDY BEAVER DEN Ride

Pete & Dave,

Shy, 8 p.m.



SUNDAY – JANUARY 12

• BLARNEY STONE NFL Game Day–We Have Every Game • CHASERS Sunday Funday NFL Football JACK'S PLACE 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 13

 BLARNEY STONE Monday Night Football

• CHASERS BAR & GRILL Pool Tournament, 7 p.m., NFL Specials - Challenge the spread for free wings!

• CHELSEA'S SpringBilly, 9 p.m.

• NEW DELHI CAFÉ Monday Night Football - gametime food/drink specials

TUESDAY – JANUARY 14

• 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 15

• BLARNEY STONE Game Night • CHASERS BAR & GRILL Ladies Night – Drink specials, free jukebox • CHELSEA'S The Hooten

Hallers, 9 p.m. • NEW DELHI CAFÉ Open Jam

• PIED PIPER CATHOUSE LOUNGE Wheat Wednesday Draft

Beer SpecialsROWDY BEAVER Wine

• KOWDY BEAVER wine Wednesday **EUREKA GRAS –** The classic rock sound of Ozark Thunder heralds the 2014 Mardi Gras season at The Rowdy Beaver on Saturday, Jan. 11.

THE BEAST – Also known as Diane, drummer for Ozark Thunder, will keep the beat for the Mardi Gras Kickoff party at The Rowdy Beaver.



INDEPENDENTNews

Ozarks Chorale rehearsals begin Jan. 14

Love to sing? The Ozarks Chorale would love to have you. The Chorale begins rehearsing for their spring concert season on Tuesday, Jan. 14 in the Eureka Springs Middle School cafeteria. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. followed by the first rehearsal from 7 - 9 p.m.

If you enjoy singing, especially if you took part in the successful Hallelujah Chorus Community Sing during the annual holiday concert, you are welcome to join

Love to sing? The Ozarks this harmonious group of locals brale would love to have you. The from the Missouri and Arkansas orale begins rehearsing for their ng concert season on Tuesday, required.

> "If you can commit to Tuesday rehearsals from 7 - 9 p.m., have some singing experience, and are sincere about joining a hard-working group that strives for quality choral sound, please, join The Ozarks Chorale. We'd love to have you," Paul Gandy, Ozarks Chorale Board President, encouraged.



Cozy – Margo Pirkle is dressed for the weather, along with this lucky tree. Temps plummeted below zero this week.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RICHARD QUICK PHOTOGRAPHY

Foundation Farm gardening classes return

more productive garden this year by learning techniques from an expert, Patrice Gros, on eight Wednesdays from 3:30 – 5 p.m. at the Unitarian Church building, 17 Elk Street.

Feb. 5: Classes include _ Seeds and

HOG FARM continued from page 1

for a CAFO. The general permit streamlined the process, avoiding controversy by minimizing public notice and not requiring notification of agencies such as the National Park Service, which is charged with protecting the Buffalo National River - the nation's first National River.

"Other states have been experiencing the CAFO problems for years, so it is part of a much bigger problem," Chang said. "It is a really big deal for this to be the first one in Arkansas and the first in the Buffalo River watershed to get this general permit. It is on the front lines of something new that could be moving into the state."

The lawsuit was filed by Earthjustice on behalf of the Buffalo River Watershed Alliance, the Arkansas Canoe Club, the National Parks Conservation Association and the Ozark Society. The plaintiffs allege that the USDA Farm Services Agency and the Small Business Administration (SBA) violated federal law in providing \$3.2 million in loan guarantees for C&H Hog Farms, which began operating April 15, 2013.

Ozark Society President Robert Cross said the article was good exposure for an important issue.

"We are particularly pleased because we believe Cargill, who is the giant agriculture company behind this, should know that the people of the country realize the dangers of this type of operation not just in Arkansas, but around the country," Cross said. "We are concerned with the particular location of this one and surprised Cargill would support one so close to Buffalo National River because of the possibilities of environmental damage."

Cross said he didn't think the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality Director [ADEQ] Teresa Marks came across very well in the article. Marks had earlier denied that the waste would leave the area of the hog farm where millions of gallons of untreated liquid manure will be spread on fields. But in The Times article, she said, "Will there be some of this waste that could reach the Buffalo River? Sure. Will it cause an environmental problem? No, we don't think there's going to be any environmental harm caused."

In other states like North Carolina, heavy periods of rainfall have inundated sewage lagoons leading to million of gallons of waste pouring into local rivers where it has caused major environmental damage including massive fish kills. Cross said there couldn't have been a worse spot to spray the hog waste than the fields in Mt. Judea. They are underlain with porous

Whether it's large or small, you can have a better, Growing Transplants, Feb. 12: Preparing and Nourishing vour Soil, Feb. 19: Four-Season Gardening Techniques, Feb. 26: Insect & Disease Management, Mar. 5: Growing Great Squashes & Cucumbers, Mar. 12: Growing Great Tomatoes & Peppers, Mar. 19: Preparing a Garden Bed (hands-on,

Contact information:

Teresa Marks, Director Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality 5301 Northshore Drive North Little Rock, AR 72118 marks@adeq.state.ar.us

Gov. Mike Beebe State Capitol Room 250 Little Rock, AR 72201 501-682-2345 http://governor.arkansas.gov/contact/index.php

Cargill Director of Communications Mike Martin michael Martin@cargill.com

limestone karst that allows contaminated seepage to reach the groundwater and then Big Creek and the Buffalo River.

One of big concerns is that three of the fields abut the grounds of Mt. Judea School, which has 250 students.

"This is untreated hog waste that is being spread within a short distance of the school, as well as many of the homes there," Cross said. "The fact is that the hog waste is untreated. We wouldn't think of spreading our own waste in a method like that. It wouldn't be allowed. But it is allowed to spread animal waste, which is just as dangerous as human waste. A hog generates four to eight times the fecal matter as a human, so at full capacity the 6,500 hogs could produce as much excrement as a city of 35,000. Spreading around untreated waste really gets to me as a retired professor of chemical engineering who has worked on sewage treatment plants."

Even though waste hasn't been sprayed on fields yet, Gordon Watkins, president of the Buffalo River Watershed Alliance (BRWA), said he has had numerous reports of offensive odors from as far as six miles from the facility, as well as in the halls and classrooms of the Mt. Judea School.

"Hogs have a distinctive stink and there is no mistaking the source," Watkins said.

Cross said the permit process didn't assess the economic impact on tourism or the environmental impact on local residents.

"Government agencies seem to be going out of their way to protect an industrial swine facility that

at farm) and Mar. 26: Caging and Trellising (hands-on, at farm).

Fee is only \$15/class, or \$100 for all classes. Please RSVP to save a space as seating is limited. Phone (479) 253-7461 or email mamakapa@yahoo.com. For more info on Foundation Farm, visit www.foundationfarm.com.

will produce a handful of jobs, rather than our first national river that belongs to all of us and supports \$38 million in local spending and five hundred local jobs," he said.

In response to the lawsuit in December, the USDA and SBA denied violating any federal law. Earthjustice amended its complaint in late December adding some new facts and claims regarding violation of the Endangered Species Act.

"The government should be responding to that by the end of January," Chang said. "We have agreed with the government on a briefing schedule. This is a case where we are asking the court to review what the agencies did in creating the loan. We filed the original complaint in August, and a lot has been going on since then. The state government is now using taxpayer money to do additional monitoring and studies, which is good because ADEQ gave it such a quick review but now wants to monitor it. Assuming everything goes forward as planned, briefings should be finished in early May, and then the court should decide to schedule oral arguments."

Chang said the environmental groups have a strong case in showing that the federal agencies didn't give the permit the proper scrutiny.

"That is a major weakness that the government just sort of rubber stamped it," Chang said.

A positive outcome to the case could have nationwide implications if it makes it more difficult to get government-backed loans for CAFOs.

"We're optimistic," Cross said. "We are also looking at other legal options. There are certainly some other significant areas that can be explored. In this current lawsuit, the other side has such a weak case we believe we will prevail to have the loan guarantee withdrawn. We are hopeful the real force behind this, Cargill, will see the light one of these days and do something about this. The best outcome for everyone would be to have the farm moved."

Cross said residents who want to have an impact on the issue should "not be quiet about it. Write to the governor. Write to the ADEQ. Write letters to the newspapers. Contact Cargill's new president. Don't let the issue die."

Watkins said people should also write their state and federal representatives and ask that this facility be closed and no more be allowed in the Buffalo River watershed. People can visit the BRWA website (www.brwa.org) to learn much more and donate there, or on the sites of the coalition partners, to help support the efforts.

Fine feathered friends – Stores around the area were emptied of sunflower seeds the last few days as people stocked up to make sure their feathered friends were well fed.

PHOTO BY JOHN RANKINE

Voulez-Vous rings in The New Year – The Big Damn Horns from Fayetteville had the crowd dancing at Voulez-Vous on New Year's Eve.

Photo by Gwen Etheredge



New Year's Eve, family style – Pine Mountain Theater offered an evening of food, music and fellowship as the new year approached. The gospel group Unashamed Bluegrass performed after the crowd had filled up on beans and cornbread.





International New Year – Below, the New Delhi Café greeted the new , year with Foley's Van.

Photo by Gwen Etheredge



Knights Templar presentation Jan. 12

Templars seek research institute here

There will be an open informational meeting Sunday, Jan. 12, from 2 - 4 p.m. at the Carnegie Library Annex regarding the Templar Technology Institute (psychic research and technology) associated with the Hereditary Knights Templars of Britannia.

Lord Spiritual (Bishop) David Michael of the Hereditary Templars will present a Power Point on the history of the Templars, a discussion of their mystery secrets and why they seek to establish a Commandery and research institute in Eureka Springs.

Email info@glentivar.org or call (719) 421-9109 for more information, or see templartech.org or knightstemplar-uk.co.uk.

Twenty hikers enjoyed a beautiful hike and were very comfortable with the cold temps last week. Come join them Monday, Jan. 13, for a moderate, three-mile hike at Berryville's Pension Mountain. Meet at 10 a.m. in Hart's parking lot if you're interested. You can skip the hike down to the cave if you prefer an easier

trek. Lunch will be at Dos Rios in Berryville. For more information, email hike coordinator Connie Stielow at



SOUTH AFRICA continued from page 5

"My oldest daughter, Samantha, was in early high school when South Africa was becoming very hot. Even the high schoolers, instead of doing their own thing like proms, were protesting. No one sat on the fence in South Africa. You really had to decide what you stood for. There was no complacency. It was a very dangerous situation. At that time in South Africa, police had the right to detention without trial. You had no rights. If you were detained or arrested, you could just be locked up. Those in control didn't want a black government."

Lorna, who had a business teaching black women how to make shoes in order to be able to climb out of poverty, loved her home, her work and country. But she couldn't continue to put her life and the lives of her three children at risk.

"I never thought I would leave South Africa," Lorna said. "It wasn't anything I ever imagined. Everyone who had children and enough money left. My kids and I were in danger. I could have been detained, taken up off the streets and never seen again. I was so politically involved it was becoming dangerous, and I had the opportunity to come to America. I didn't particularly

want to leave but I had a family. At the time Kadi was four, Dylan was fourteen, and Samantha was sixteen.

com

"Because I grew up around tribal people, I sided with them and from an early age became politically involved," Lorna said. "There was a lot of inhumanity towards the indigenous people. Their labor was exploited. They were not given any rights as citizens. I was enamored with the indigenous people, and had much more compassion for them than greedy white people. I learned indigenous ways, which are similar to indigenous people all over the world. There is more of a connection to the Earth and each other instead of being totally self-centered and focused on money and buying things."

There was concern that when Mandela was released from prison and elected president, there would be a civil war in Africa.

"There was great fear," Lorna said. "Wealthy people were told that if the middle class took over, people would lose their property. Bad things like blood baths and farms being taken away had happened in neighboring countries like Zimbabwe and Uganda. There was fear because surrounding countries demonstrated what could have happened."

Lorna left South Africa two years before Mandela was released from prison after 27 years. Instead of bearing a grudge because of how he was treated, wrongfully imprisoned and tortured by sadistic guards, Mandela was able to keep the peace after becoming the president.

"I find the most admirable thing is that he came out with compassion even to his jailers," she said. "He did not point fingers, didn't create hatred or a division. He unified everyone. His ability to do that was incredibly admirable. He had to let go of grudges. He called for compassion."

There was concern at the time about friction between the different tribal groups. Mandela was from the Xhosa tribe, and traditionally the Zulu tribe was the overall governing tribe within the 26 black tribes in South Africa. Some tribal people didn't want to follow Mandela.

"There was a tension within the tribes because there was never a Xhosa as a leader," Lorna said. "But because he was the man he was, Mandela was able to keep South Africa calm. He had the same kind of peaceful presence as Gandhi or the Buddha. He was able to keep them calm. When everyone had the right to vote, blacks and white stood in line together, held hands, prayed and sang."

While living in South Africa and in visits since then, Lorna has traveled to remote areas, met with indigenous people from a number of different tribes, and worked with native healers. She was gifted with a medicine pipe, and sometimes has traded for beaded garments, dolls and artwork, and tools made by tribal people. In late November she decided to take that collection out for the first time in a dozen years, and put it on display during the holiday season.

On Dec. 5, 2013, Mandela passed at age 95. Getting the South African collection out at that time was synchronistic. Although she hadn't looked at her collection for long time, she had South Africa heavily on her mind.

"I was very sad that he died, but was very grateful for what he had done all these years for South Africa," Lorna said. "He really unified people. When I listened to the speech by President Jacob Zuma at the funeral, he was reiterating what Mandela said. He learned well from Mandela about compassion, unity and equality for all. My friends feel Zuma is carrying on in a similar vein."

DROPPINGA Line by Robert Johnson



appy New Year! Well, there's not a lot going now with the fishing. Trips are slow. Time to paint some fish in the taxidermy room and get ready for a sport show or two. Will be back on big fish again in February.

Now is also a good time to respool your reels and get all tackle back together. But if you do get out, crappie are down 18 to 30 ft. in the trees. Trout and walleye off the shoreline or boat are both a cold water species.

Fish from Holiday Island to the Beaver Dam. Walleye are our first lake fish to go up river to spawn. They will start staging in deeper areas now, then move up in February and usually spawn in March. White bass will follow them up for an April into May spawn.

Stripers are back deep on Beaver Lake. We are below 46° water temp so they will eat, but would rather take slower moving small bait now. We are marking most bait and fish now from 28 to 40 ft. deep in the main channel. Trolling small crank baits with some extra weight or on a downrigger to get you deeper can get you a mixed bag of stripers, whites, walleye and bass. Smaller shad and 4 to 5 in. brood shiners down on 2 to 4 oz. weights can do the same, along with jigging a spoon.

The two fish above were caught last winter but put in because the big one was another 38 lb. that fought harder than any we caught even bigger. I learned in taxidermy school a fish has all smooth curves. Look at the tail. It's broken, but boy could this fish run.

Don't get wet, think safe, be safe and now's the time to give me a call if you need to get a fish mounted before spring or book a discounted spring spawn fishing trip.

Thank you again for a great year, fishofexcellence, Robert Johnson.

SYCAMORE continued from page 17

vindictive face, and she felt at once that this bitter look was not something put on to match the hat and boots, nor something called up by a moment's ill will, but that it was permanently a part of him, as hard and integral as his bones.

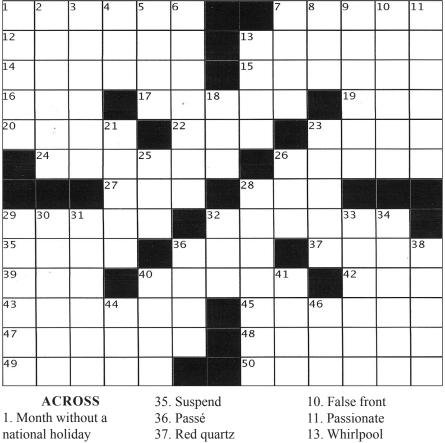
She was so repelled, and at the same fascinated, that she turned to look at him after they had gone past. For an instant she felt his eyes meet hers directly, not admiring, not even curious, but with an accidental half-awareness, as if they

had simply happened to light on her. She felt her own value debased, and she was appalled that the mere exchange of glances with a disreputable, ridiculously got-up stranger should give her this unease. Then, before she could turn her head, he let his eyes move away from her, without haste, and, gazing at some point in the square beyond the car, he removed the toothpick from his mouth and adroitly aimed a squirt of tobacco juice at the gutter. Sickened, she straightened in her seat and moved closer to Walter.

INDEPENDENT Crossword

by Wayne Levering

Solution on page 27



7. Young insect 12. Tigers' manager 40. -willow Anderson 42. Time period 13. Spookier 14. Black eye 45. Calvaryman 15. Require 16. Long time 17. Chicago districts 49. White heron 19. Sheltered side 50. Four of a kind 20. Winter vehicle 22. No 23. British submachine 2. Maintain 3. Kind of dive gun 24. On the clothesline 4. Ash holder 26. Kind of story 5. Distort 27. Schools' league 6. Despotism 28. Luau staple 7. Dregs 29. Single 8. Fortify 33. Pep

39. Tuber of high Andes 18. Tattered cloth 21. Flopping on stage 23. Leg parts 25. "____ Got a Secret" 43. Shipyard worker 26. Small amount 47. Shows contempt 28. Campaign nastiness 29. "My kingdom for 48. Medicinal ointment 30. Shoestrings DOWN 31. Zebra relative 1. Numerous donkeys 32. Coach 33. Salad type 34. Goofs 36. Mine and hers 38. Challenged 40. Saucy 41. Christmas log

44. Word of wonder 46. Fixed 9. Venetian marketplace

MAIL continued from page 10

We also recognize some of our supporters including: John Mitchell of Mitchell's Folly, Gwen Bennett, Julie Kahn Valentine, Ed & Gloria Robertson, Sunfest Market, Harts, ES Independent & Lovely County Citizen, KESA and KTHS radio stations, Straightline Construction, Inc., Lady Eureka, Gingerbread Antiques, 39 Classic Cycles and Eureka Sales.

And a special thank you to local community members for their many donations for the sale and the wonderful support of the event overall. We thoroughly enjoyed meeting each and every one of you! Shelly LaFree

www.esINDEPENDENT.com | January 8, 2014 | ES Independent | 25

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

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HISID continued from page 2

settlement is not by any means perfect, but takes steps in the right direction."

Sherman said she didn't believe the way in which the mediation agreement was announced adhered to procedures set forth by the court because not all property owners were properly notified.

"This was also the case with the 2011 AOB, which I brought up during the public period for addressing the AOB objections," Sherman wrote in the letter to Judge David Clinger and attorneys representing both sides. "Only I, Rebecca Sherman, received notification of both of the above events. My husband has never been listed on any of the mailed notifications. This leads us to believe that only the water billing accounts receive information. As joint property owners our combined names appear on all documents."

Sherman also objected to mediation settlement bullet point number seven: "HISID has the authority to waive outstanding, unpaid assessment of benefits for property that has been returned and/or foreclosed" while it is in the possession of HISID or the State of Arkansas. Sherman said that issue has already been subject to a lawsuit due to failures to notify and conduct title search.

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"The whole process puts the five commissioners representing the SID in further litigation and in the realty business," she said. "It is not a requirement for holding a seat as a commissioner of the HISID five-member board to be a certified and licensed Realtor. This agreement further conflicts with the professional community of Realtors."

Other major points she disagrees with are:

• The water tower was constructed in about 1992 and was paid for up front, but property owners are still being charged for this.

• She objects to paying three times for the same sheriff's deputy from Carroll County, once on her property tax bill, once by the HISID AOB fees, and a third time with a \$5.42 monthly security fee that appears on the water bill.

Sherman said that Bischoff's attorney, Timothy Hutchison of Reece Moore Pendergraft, LLP, should be allowed to advance this case to the Arkansas Supreme Court, but she also said she found it "objectionable to sue the court to advance a personal gain." If the case stops here, then she wants Bischoff to pay the attorney fees of Timothy Hutchison. In the proposed settlement, HISID agreed to Hutchison's attorney fees of \$125,000 within 30 days of the settlement offer.

Sherman also said she found it objectionable that an elected board of commissioners agree to one thing, then proceed to break their agreement.

"For this reason the BOC (Board of Commissioners) personally should be held accountable for the fees charged by Attorney Thomas Kieklak," Sherman said.

For more information on the lawsuit settlement, see the Dec. 18 *Eureka Springs Independent*.



The Ariels rock the Barefoot Ballroom – Karen FitzPatrick of The Ariels was doing her Grace Slick while performing "White Rabbit" at Basin Park's New Year's Eve bash.



Chelsea's New Year's Eve Bash – The Fossils of Ancient Robots put on a yearending show for the crowd at Chelsea's.

PHOTOS BY GWEN ETHEREDGE

