Feb. 19, 2014 cepencent MADE IN THE USA

ESI is your INDEPENDENT news source covering Carroll County, Arkansas

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No more Valentines

- The heart factory is apparently closed for business as far as this Steam Punk cake is concerned. Its creator, Sherry Tucker of Exeter, Mo., won First Place and a \$200 check in the Professional Decorating contest at the Chocolate Lovers' Festival on Feb. 15. There's a chocolate pics fix inside and more on the Independent Facebook page.

PHOTO BY MELANIE

Offer made on land for new hospital

NICKY BOYETTE

Eureka Springs Hospital CEO, Chris Bariola, announced that Allegiance, the company leasing operation of the hospital, has made a commitment to buy 128 acres on the western edge of town. The property is on the northern side of US 62 and across from the Razorback Gift Shop. Part of it sits above Thorncrown Chapel.

Bariola noted the parcel lies outside the 15-mile distance from Mercy Hospital in Berryville, so any problem related to that distance is negated. He said the property has scenic vistas and is spacious enough to allow the hospital to build a "medical hub." Closing date is August 14.

One hangup will be waiting for approval of the move by Medicare administrators. Bariola said ESH is not moving outside city limits, laying off staff or cutting services, so he thinks the move will be approved, though it might take several months.

He said once they get the letter of approval, they could begin working with architects.

"It's a perfect piece of land except it has no public sewage going there," Bariola stated.

Commissioner Mary Jean Sell noted other businesses out that way have been waiting a long time without getting city sewer lines.

Mayor Morris Pate said the ridge on which the hospital would be built is solid rock. He called it "a major undertaking" to get sewer to the site. He estimated extending public sewer to that point might cost as much as building the hospital. Also, another water tower might be needed at some point.

HOSPITAL continued on page 23

This Week's INDEPENDENT Thinkers

In rural Chesterhill, Ohio, produce farmers erected a pavilion and started one of 50 open-air food auctions in the country.

The auction bridges the gap between small producers and lower-income people who need healthy, affordable food, while excluding

Twice a week, farmers sell their food in crates to the highest bidder, whether a restaurant, college or vendor who wants to resell at a farmers' market. Grocery store markups are eliminated, and all food is sold so growers don't have to haul anything back home.

commercial ag food.

It took five years for the auction to show a profit, which is generous and increasing each week.



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This paper is password protected.

INDEPENDENTNews

ESPS wants to be included in city advertising

NICKY BOYETTE

Dee Bright, president of the Eureka Springs Preservation Society, offered an ardent but genteel counterpoint to comments made at the January City Advertising and Promotion Commission meeting about the best use of support funds.

The commission had been discussing how to evaluate the merits of funding requests, and the comment was made that the Tour of Homes event in December pays for itself, so it does not need support funds. In response, Bright told the commission at its Feb. 12 meeting ESPS sells ads to pay for the Tour of Homes brochure, but she wants the CAPC "to at least advertise for us because the event brings people to the city."

The Preservation Society puts on the Tour of Homes, which offers visitors a chance to see homes from a bygone era, and Bright said between 700-900 people, many from out of town, buy tickets. She said the event brings people to town, so restaurants, motels and shops get a boost.

"And our money stays in town," Bright commented. The Preservation Society spent \$20,000 last year restoring and cleaning up neglected areas in town, like cleaning and painting the fountain in Basin Park, funding part of the Calif Spring project and painting Crescent Gazebo.

Bright reiterated the Tour of Homes would continue without support funds, but asked that the CAPC include the event in advertising for the city.

Director's report

Mike Maloney, executive director, announced the eurekasprings.org site received a 30 percent boost in traffic since the CAPC started a new wedding campaign in January.

He also said staff are about halfway through the process of constructing a new website in-house that should be completed by late March.

Sales Director Karen Pryor has been

asked by the American Bus Association to serve on a sub-committee planning the 2015 and 2016 conferences. "This would keep us in touch with the bus industry," Maloney said.

The Governor's Conference on Tourism will be held in Rogers March 9-11, and Maloney said Eureka Springs has three nominations for Henry Awards, which honor individuals, businesses or organizations in the Arkansas tourism industry.

He and commission Chair Charles Ragsdell will attend the Folk Alliance conference in Kansas City next week to establish a link with them. New advertising venues will be Christian contemporary markets in Kansas City, Oklahoma City, St. Louis and Memphis.

Eureka Springs was chosen as the Joplin Globe's favorite couple's getaway.

Also, the advertising theme for March will be relaxation for families and romance for couples. Since schools

schedule spring break differently, Eureka Springs might experience three different spring break crowds in March, so he plans to advertise all month.

Maloney asked commissioners to peruse a proposed funding request score sheet so they can discuss it at the next workshop. The goal would be to develop a fair protocol for evaluating requests for support funds.

Financial report

Finance director Rick Bright told commissioners collections suffered "a soft December." Because of icy weather, all categories collected less tax than December 2012. However, commissioners Lynn Bridwell and James DeVito said indications were very positive for a big Valentine's Day weekend, and were optimistic for a turnaround in the local economy.

Next workshop will be Wednesday, Feb. 26, at 4 p.m. at the CAPC office, and next regular meeting will be March 12, at 6 p.m.



MARCH 2nd **FAYETTEVILLE** TOWN CENTER

Doors open at 10:45am Lunch is served at noon Meeting begins at 1pm

For a full schedule of events, visit www.onf.coop

Public gets the 'hole' story

BECKY GILLETTE

About 100 people showed up at the Inn of the Ozarks on Feb. 13 to hear Thomas J. Aley, president and senior hydrogeologist with Ozark Underground Laboratory, Inc., in Protem, Mo., talk on "The Hole Story: Caves, Springs, and Protecting Groundwater." Aley spoke from personal experience studying groundwater hydrology of the Ozarks for almost 50 years, and added a heavy dose of humor.

The program, sponsored by artist Lin Wellford, focused on unique karst geology that can be a blessing with underground pathways through limestone and dolomite that can create beautiful springs and caves. But it is also a fragile, interconnected system that can allow pollution to spread easily and make building challenging.

"In my work, I get to see a lot of stupid," Aley said. "What were they thinking? It is engineering by wishful assumptions. Gee, that sounds an awful lot like SWEPCO."

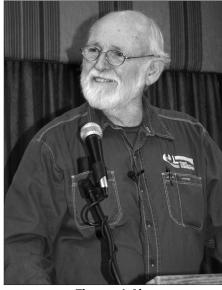
Aley said his primary concern with the current 345 kV power transmission line proposal is that good data is needed to make good decisions, and the American Electric Power/Southwestern Electric Power Company project was woefully lacking in fundamental environmental information. He said AEP/SWEPCO and its consultants displayed ineptitude in failing to do adequate work tailored to the karst landscape.

"That showed a great ignorance, whether intentional or not," Aley said.

Aley said the SWEPCO proposal shows ignorance of the importance of protecting drinking water quality in a karst area, and that good foundation assessments must be made before digging huge holes for monopole bases that support the power

Buildings can crack or cave if potential problems in underground rock formations aren't revealed. An example of that is the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Ky., where a sinkhole swallowed eight cars last week.

Aley said the work done by SWEPCO was not adequate to make a prudent assessment for the power line project. For example, a monopole foundation could be set inside a rock that isn't anchored to anything. "It may be necessary to stop that project from going forward so in the future they will do a better job," he said.



Thomas J. Aley

He also gave an example of how easily contaminants on the surface can get into groundwater supplies, recounting a study he did more than 30 years ago of the springs in Eureka Springs. Dye was placed in a sewer manhole, and tracing showed the entire amount of sewage in that manhole was coming out of Sweet Spring. None was even making it to the sewage treatment plant.

One of the city alderman said he didn't see how anything could be wrong with Sweet Spring because "it is clear and tastes so sweet."

"Maybe there is a diabetic up on the hill," Aley said. "You can't look at the water and tell how good it is. The springs are such open flow systems that bacteria have easy access. Anything we do on the land can get in the water. The quality of the springs is the quality of land use in the area. What we do on the surface becomes the quality of water in the springs.

"The funny thing about groundwater is it doesn't know whether it is going to come out in a spring or someone's well. There are not two segregated types of water. We try to drill wells much deeper to filter out surface contamination, but it doesn't always work. Even deep wells can have contamination in them."

Because of the rugged bedrock, it is expensive to drill wells in the Ozarks, and that makes protecting water quality even more important – it is too expensive to add another well if one becomes contaminated.

"Another group of problems is getting rid of our wastes," Aley said. "They have an annoying tendency to come back and get us."

He recounted the story from 25 years ago of a Green Forest sewage treatment plant that became overloaded with poultry wastes that are very difficult to break down. Studies showed the sewage waste was coming up in wells in a 60-sq.-mile area. He visited one home that was getting so much poultry fat in the toilet tank they had to remove it or it would overflow onto the toilet seat. People lost the ability to use their wells and were put on a centralized public water system.

An attorney questioned whether the sewage was really a problem after being diluted so much. Aley's response was, "How many times are you willing to flush your toilet before you drink from it?"

Another example was what he called "fuelish mistakes." He was onsite for the excavation of an underground gasoline storage tank in the town of Beaver. When it was dug up, he found a piece of metal

pipe that had broken and been "repaired" with electrician's tape. As a result of the fuel contamination, 75 percent of the wells in Beaver had detectible gasoline in them. In one well, there was almost pure gasoline floating on top of the water; it was good enough to run a lawnmower.

"What a terrible way to handle our water resources," Aley said.

Landfills also create tremendous problems when rainwater filters down through the waste into the groundwater supplies. That is why today few new landfills are permitted in karst areas.

"We can't change how the land functions," Aley said. "We can only change how we react. We have to do a better job. We have to be more aware of things and understand this is a fragile landscape. It is fragile in respect to hog manure. It is fragile with respect to running large electric transmission lines."

> Aley has often seen environmental KARST continued on page 25





24 Norris Street

INDEPENDENTNews

Planning approves deck, greenhouse and tree cut

NICKY BOYETTE

The Planning Commission convened as the Board of Zoning and Adjustment to consider the application for a tree cut at 128 Oakridge Dr. at its Feb. 11 meeting. Gabe Leahy represented the application and will be the contractor building a single-family home at the location, where 30-40 pines and oaks must be removed.

Leahy said most of those targeted for removal are small pines with a few maybe as large as 20 in. in diameter. He said he plans to keep as many trees as possible.

Chair James Morris commented Leahy would be removing no historic trees, and Building Inspector Bobby Ray has already checked out the application.

Commissioner Steve Beacham pointed out Leahy intends to keep trees along the front like other properties in the vicinity.

Vote to approve the application was 4-0.

After the vote, commissioner Melissa Greene said she had received queries about tree cut protocol, so she clarified that applications for tree cuts must come before BOZA if more than ten trees are to be removed or if any are larger than six inches in diameter. Morris added the commission has the authority to place conditions on how many trees can be removed or require replacements to be planted after construction.

The commission then convened as Planning and approved application for construction of a new deck and a greenhouse at 179 N. Main as long as construction satisfies Code requirements.

Two commissioners could not attend the meeting because of health issues, so, for the second meeting in a row, the minimum necessary to conduct business were present. Morris called out to the public for a volunteer to fill their vacant

Next meeting will be Tuesday, Feb. 25, 6 p.m.

Black History Month reception Feb. 20

The Eureka Springs Historical Museum is hosting a special reception and program from 4 - 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 20, at the Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center in recognition of Black History Month.

The event will feature artifacts

from the museum's Black History Month exhibit, including recently a acquired watercolor painting by Frank Weatherell, a retired architect who painted in Eureka Springs from 1931 to 1944, and selected photographs from museum collections.

Speakers will Jacqueline Froelich. author of Eureka Springs in Black and White: The Lost History of an African American Neighborhood, and David Zimmermann, author of Total Eclipse: The Destruction African American Community in 1909. With co-author. Jacqueline Froelich, Total Eclipse chronicles the ethnic cleansing of Harrison, Arkansas – a history buried for more than a century until they uncovered it in the summer of 1999.

The exhibit at the museum will be on display through the month of February. Admission for museum members is always free. For details email director@ eurekaspringshistoricalmuseum.org or call (479) 253-9417.

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Ground breaking – The Eureka Springs area will have more complete fire coverage and faster response thanks to a new fire station to be built on Hwy. 23S. Shown left to right are Robert Tollet, Ray Birchfield, Jim Blair, Vance Marvin, Fire Chief Rhys Williams and Assistant Chief Tom Dransfield.

New fire station underway

Eureka Springs Fire & EMS has broken ground for a new Hillspeak/Hwy. 23S facility – the seventh station for the department. The new station will fill the gap between the Eureka Springs city limits and the Madison County line.

The site is located on Hwy. 23S about one mile from Eureka Springs on the west side of the road in the sweeping curve just north of Hillspeak Road. The station is a project of the Eureka Springs Rural Fire Association funded by dues paid by property owners in the rural fire district in place of a fire tax.

The rural fire association currently has two stations, one on Rock House Road in the Winona community and the other on Buck Mountain Road near several large lake neighborhoods.

The City of Eureka Springs has four stations inside the city limits. The Eureka Springs Rural Fire Association is the branch of the fire department responsible for fire suppression, rescue and EMS first response outside of the city limits. Firefighters and responders are volunteers who respond to emergencies from home and work. The new station already has eight firefighter/responders living within two miles of the site.

> The Hillspeak/Hwy. 23S fire station **GROUND BREAKING** continued on page 25

Reopening Thursday, Feb. 27 TAPAS & WINE HOUR Small Plates • Wine Specials 4_5 p.m. **DINNER** 5 – 9 p.m. Thurs. – Sun. **MARDI GRAS** WINE DINNER Sunday, March 2 Hwy 62 West • Eureka Springs • 479-253-5282 See website for menu

HDC approves four building entrances

NICKY BOYETTE

Bill King presented the Historic District Commission a fully-developed representation of proposed renovation of 2 Pine (currently Sweet Spring Antiques) at its Feb. 13 meeting. He said plans call for adding four storefront entrances along "clean, simple lines." Vote to approve the application was unanimous.

Commissioners asked for a roof redesign for a new construction at 39/41 Hillside. Commissioner Doug Brietling pointed out the proposed roof shape and pitch was not consistent with other roofs in the neighborhood.

Discussion of the application at 15 Kingshighway was tabled pending a site visit because of the extent of the renovations.

These two applications were approved unanimously:

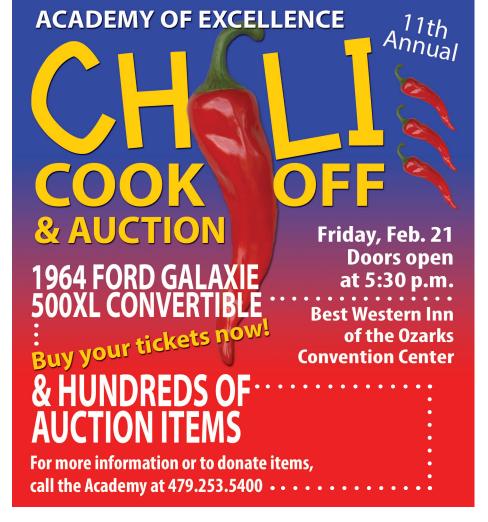
- 179 N Main new construction; deck
- 119 N Main change roofing material The commission approved the only item on the Consent Agenda:
- 139 E Van Buren new sign.

Chair Dee Bright presented these two Administrative Approvals:

- 119 N Main repair windows
- 15 Kingshighway re-paint; re-roof; repair siding as needed.

Before the end of the meeting, the commission voted in this slate of officers for the year: Chair - Dan Hebert; vice-Chair- Dee Bright; treasurer – Melissa Greene; secretary– Susie Allen.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 6 p.m.

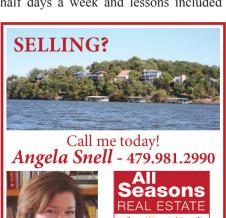


INDEPENDENTNews

Two decades of excellence

CD WHITE

The Academy of Excellence began 20 years ago as a preschool with nine three- and four four-year old students as an outreach of Faith Christian Family Church. There was one teacher, one secretary and no computers or technology. School was in session three half days a week and lessons included



Bible stories, letters and numbers and creative crafts and activities.

Each year they prayerfully considered adding another grade and staff to accommodate new students. Over time the staff has grown to eight teachers and a secretary, most of whom have stayed more than 10 years. Early on, the Academy began using the A Beka curriculum, which is strong in phonics and math. As a result, students have consistently averaged in the 70th percentile on national achievement tests and have done quite well when going on to high school and college.

Since 1993 the school's goal has to offer preschoolers through eighth graders the opportunity to grow spiritually as well as mentally. Classes meet in dedicated school facilities at the church location on Hwy. 23S. The Academy's first teacher, Gloria Taff, is still on the teaching staff and has amassed a lot of memories in the past 20 years.

"In the early days, the teachers did everything including teaching, fund raising, planning special events and so on," Taff recalled. "Now we have a dedicated bunch of parents who work feverishly on fund raisers like the chili cook-off and auction, and our float for the parades. We also enjoy great community support from businesses and individuals who may or may not have students involved in our school. A few things have not changed, however. We still strive for excellence in education, and we still pray and teach kids about God.

When asked about her favorite memory, Taff said, "As far as a great memory, it's hard to pick just one. I have fond memories of kids learning new things and the excitement when they 'got it.' I also enjoy memories of science camp when a brave soul finally did the zip line although she was afraid. I especially love hearing of former students who are having good success in their life's journey."

Debbie Hayhurst is currently serving

as the school's principal, overseeing the Academy of Excellence educational program in preschool through eighth grade, with classes enhanced by the Learning to Live program, which offers "real world" skills.

After graduation, students attend local high schools including Berryville, Eureka Springs, Green Forest and Alpena. Recently some have attended Haas Hall Academy in Fayetteville, as well as the new high school at College of the Ozarks. Area schools reportedly like receiving students from the Academy because of its high academic standards and the school's focus on self-discipline and moral principles. Former students have also gone on to universities in Arkansas including U of A, UALR, Harding and Hendrix.

A line from the school's creed has a good thought for all of us: "I believe I must start today to prepare for my future by seizing every opportunity to learn and grow."

To find out more, see www.academyof-excellence.org online.

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HunterDouglas







Obamacares - On Feb. 12 Preston Hyatt, honorary Eureka Springs Rotarian, was presented with the President's Volunteer Service Award for 2013 by Dave Teigen, Eureka Springs Rotary president. Along with the certificate was a letter from President Barack Obama thanking Preston for his volunteer efforts in the community. Preston, son of Police Chief Earl Hyatt and Eureka Elementary Springs School counselor, Rachal Hyatt, attends Rotary every Wednesday. He also loves helping with Rotary fundraising events. He has been a part of the Polar Bear Plunge for the last five years, raising more



than \$4000 for Special Olympics, a program close to Preston's heart because his uncle has Down Syndrome. Preston also volunteers with Eureka Springs Youth Sports fundraising at the Cornerstone Bank parking lot and helps elementary students with homework after school. The young Preston already exemplifies the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self."

Getting some perspective

The media tries to divide Americans into two camps, but we are far more complicated than what the mass media and folks in Washington generalize. I refuse to be branded as anything except an individual who loves America and the Ozarks and yes, there have been times when I wasted energy.

I believe to really get a feel for what is going on in this country you have to look at more than one state, one incident, one news source and one set of politicians. There are three incidents to highlight my point that are not meant to be political or partisan, as I am as independent and free from the shackles of party politics and the mass media I consider divisive and frivolous.

The three incidents are the April 16, 2013, armed assault on a power station in California; the 9/11 Benghazi incident of 2012; and the 2009 Fort Hood, Texas, massacre that left 13 Americans dead and 30 injured.

Regarding the April 16 incident, Peggy Noonan states in the Wall Street Journal that the FBI believes what occurred was merely an act of vandals, whereas former FERC Chair, Jon Wellinghoff, disagrees calling it, "The most significant incident of domestic terrorism involving the grid that ever occurred."

Rich Lordan, an executive at the Electric Power Research Institute, said, "The depth and breadth of the attack was unprecedented in the USA. It appears to be an act of war." Noonan wrote that hack attacks are getting all the buzz, but the immediate and larger threat may be physical attacks not fully reported.

The Benghazi incident was also, according to the highest level of the federal government, called a "spontaneous inspired incident due to an anti-Muhammed video" which according to a non-partisan Senate report was simply not true. In this nonpartisan report the overwhelming consensus was the attack was planned terrorism by anti-American groups in the area.

The Fort Hood incident occurred in 2009, and to the dismay of many families that lost loved ones or had insufferable injuries physically and mentally, the government is still calling this a workplace violence incident, even though Nidal Hasan was communicating with militant groups on the Internet.

I watched Nick Akins being interviewed by CNBC's Jim Cramer on Mad Money, and when asked about regulators (the government), he just went on glowingly about his wonderful relationship with them. Reading between the lines, it seems that we in Arkansas and Missouri (the Ozarks) will be on the fast track like Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Virginia in having regulators approve a rate hike. After all, more power, more control, more spinning meters and more love affairs between corporate welfare businesses like utilities and regulators are dreams come true for companies like AEP/SWEPCO, companies where no taxes were paid between 2008 and 2010, profits were \$5.9 billion, and 2,600 workers were laid off. Five top executives got a 30 percent raise.

Just so you feel better, AEP is spending money on the right things and allocating money to rehabilitate the grid. Akins told Cramer this should keep fervor at bay because Akins assures us that AEP/ SWEPCO does not want to do anything that will disrupt the economic environment of any region of the USA!

In the glitter and glow of Sochi, Russia, where villages were seized through eminent domain, these colossal glowing towers of steel and concrete are beacons drawing in terrorists and regulators (government surveillance) instead of having fisherman, hunters, rock climbers, kayakers, boaters, hikers, campers, conservationists, nature lovers, birders, tubers, swimmers and outdoors-people of all kinds.

Even through the foggy and smoggy coal-emissions air, Americans aren't that dumb, divided, partisan or simple. The picture of what is occurring in this country is getting clearer by the day.

Susan Pang

Grow your best garden

Take advantage of expertise and experience from the ground up on Wednesdays through April 2 and reap the rewards of your best-ever garden. Classes taught by Patrice Gros of Foundation Farms run from 3:30 - 5 p.m. at the Unitarian Church building at 17 Elk St. Classes are \$15 each or \$90 for all seven.

Featured topics are: Feb. 19 -Preparing and Nourishing your Soil; Feb. 26 – Four Season Gardening Techniques; March 5 – Insect & Disease Management; March 12 - Growing Great Squashes & Cucumbers; March 19 - Growing Great Tomatoes & Peppers; March 26 - Preparing a Garden Bed (hands-on, at Foundation Farm); April 2 – Caging and Trellising (hands-on, also at farm).

For more information, www.foundationfarm.com or email mamakapa@yahoo.com. By phone, best time is evenings before 8 p.m. (479) 253 7461.





INDEPENDENTNews

Sen. Boozman to attend local military ball

Sen. John Boozman will attend the 5th Annual Military Ball on March 7 at the Crescent Hotel hosted by Pendergrass Rose American Legion Post 36 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 77 of Holiday Island. The hotel is providing a special room rate for those wishing to stay the night.

The ball honoring our military heritage will feature an Honor Guard and POW/MIA ceremony presented by the Air Force ROTC from the University of Arkansas with dancing following dinner. The menu includes salad, dual entrée of steak and salmon and dessert.

Veterans and non-veterans are welcome to attend. Dress is mess dress. formal or business attire. Tickets are \$37.50 per person with reservations required not later than Feb. 20. To purchase tickets, contact Dean Lahm (479) 253-5912 or Nick Roster (479) 253-2434.

Dances of peace

Dances of Universal Peace will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 17 Elk St., at 7 p.m, Friday, Feb. 21. The dances are simple and joyful moving meditations involving the singing of sacred phrases with accompanying movements from the world's many spiritual traditions. Participation is free of charge. Email Rebecca Babbs, babbsrebecca@gmail.com, or phone (479) 253-8303 or for more information.

CC Democrats meet Feb. 22

filing fees and tend to other committee (870) 423-6446.

The Carroll County Democratic business. This meeting is open to the Party will meet Feb. 22, 10:30 a.m., public. For more information contact at the Berryville Fire Station to set Vice Chairman Margaret Fancher,



Have an ice day - A kayaker plows her way through thinning ice in Butler Creek not far from its confluence with the White River near Beaver last Sunday.

PHOTO BY DAVID FRANK DEMPSES

A little help from our friends:

- Food pantry, furniture bank and used Celebrate Recovery All are welcome 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-
- 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.

at Soul Purpose Ministries, 801 S. Springfield, Green Forest, at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, for a potluck meal followed by 12-step Christ-centered meetings for those suffering from addiction, habit, hang-up or hurt.

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

Sunday – Thursday, Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Tuesday and Friday, 8 p.m. (479) 253-

Al-Anon, Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. All other meetings: See www.nwarkaa. org



City Council Agenda

Monday, Feb. 24, 6 p.m. Commission, committee, Authority reports and expired terms:

Planning - Pos. 2 - vacant expires 1/1/17. Pos. 5 – Melissa Greene - expired 1/1/13

CAPC - Pos. 2 - vacant expires 6/30/14.

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:

- 1. Ordinance vacating McCune and portion of Hartman – **pending** legal description -DeVito and Zeller
- Ordinance to reclaim un-named street/Rock St. – **postponed** until March 10 – Purkeypile and
- 3. Ordinance for procedures for vacating property, with processing fee – McClung and Schneider
- 4. Film Industry tax incentive update -Schneider and Mitchell
- Ordinance No. 2201 Clean City/ workshop date –Mitchell and Schneider
- 6. Discussion of collapsing parking lot by Auditorium – update from Mr. Purkeypile –McClung and Schneider
- 7. Discussion of increasing water and sewer rates - workshop date Purkeypile and Schneider
- Ordinance reclaiming portion of Sweeney Alley - pending legal description -McClung and
- Ordinance removing "animals" from C-3 prohibitions – Mitchell and Schneider
- 10. Ordinance increasing parking rates for special events –Mitchell and DeVito
- 11. Discussion of Court House lease -Schneider and Mitchell **New business:**
- 1. Presentation of Green and Energy Conservation award from Crews and Assoc. - postponed until March 10 - Mayor Pate
- 2. Discussion of 2015 budget process -Mitchell and Schneider

Council comments Mayor's comments

INDEPENDENTNews

Upward Bound for the 'Eureka Circus'

Huge student group heads for cultural experience in Mardi Gras parade

Austin Jones, Academic Coordinator of the NWACC TRiO Upward Bound program in Bentonville, decided to take his students on a field trip in celebration of TriO Day, which falls on Feb. 22. As the recently-new coordinator, he wanted to get students and parents together for a road trip so parents could see how students are exposed to cultural events and how unity through diversity is promoted by the program.

Consequently, some 112 students will hop motor coaches in Bentonville and head out to be in the Eureka Gras Mardi Gras parade on Friday as a walking group. The group is composed of disadvantaged and low-income high school students in the federally funded TRiO program that serves high schools in Northwest Arkansas by preparing them for a college experience.

"Each year we bring not only students, but also parents, together to celebrate and promote our services with food, fun and outreach," Jones explained. "I wanted to participate in something that was cost effective and you can't beat free. The fact that this year's event has no cost allowed us to allocate more budget to transportation and a banquet dinner which we will have after the parade at the Inn of the Ozarks."

Jones reached out to Dan Ellis, parade coordinator and Krewe Captian, to register the group and for help with bus parking logistics and other needs. Thus far, trip plans have gone well and the only thing missing to date is an outlet for inexpensive Mardi Gras beads for the group to throw.

Anyone wishing to help with a donation of beads can contact Jones at (479) 619-2272 or by email, ajones47@nwacc. edu. And get ready to give this group a big, welcoming Eureka cheer as they pass by in the parade!

For more on the TRiO program, see www2.ed.gov/ope/trio.

11th Annual Chili Cook-off and Auction Feb. 21

up on Friday at the Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center as the popular Academy of Excellence Annual Chili Cook-off once again spices up the night with all things chili. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

The big ticket this year is the 1964

The public is invited to warm Ford Galaxie Convertible and hundreds of other items in the annual auction. Silent auction begins at 5:30 p.m. with live auction at 6:30.

> Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids 12 and under. All proceeds benefit the Academy of Excellence. For more information call (479) 253-5400.

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'Progress' means avoiding calamity

Thanks to all who came out to hear Tom Alev's talk on karst topography and why all those who live in the Ozarks need to understand the porous and fragile nature of the ground we live on, and how vulnerable our water systems are to contamination from a variety of sources. A big thank you also to the Best Western Inn of the Ozarks for donating a meeting room in the Convention Center for Mr. Aley's presentation.

Whether it's big companies insisting they need to build giant transmission lines across scenic landscapes, or multinational corporations pushing for confined animal feeding operations in sensitive watersheds, we are being told that to question such developments is to be against "progress."

As citizens, we have not just the

right to demand straight answers and proof of due diligence, but an obligation to do so when it comes to our shared environment and resources. The fact is that if we don't defend the quality of life we enjoy in the Ozarks, no one else is going to.

In North Carolina, several thousand factory hog farms have degraded rivers and wrecked property values. Duke Energy, also in N.Car., just last week had a major spill of coal ash and wastewater from a retired coal plant that fouled the Dan River. And in West Virginia, a chemical spill forced hundreds of thousands of homes and businesses to stop using tap water. All were preventable, but should it take calamity for us to realize what's at stake?

In the latest edition of the Ozark Society newsletter there was a quote by Dr. Neil Compton who spearheaded the fight to preserve the Buffalo River. He said, "The challenge goes on. There are other lands and rivers, other wilderness areas to save and share with all. I challenge you to step forward to protect and care for the wild places you love best."

Certainly these places include the hills and hollows, springs and caves of NW Arkansas, as well as our magnificent rivers. Dr. Compton's plea reaches from the past to speak to us all.

Lin Wellford

Who's paying for the survey?

Editor.

"AEP/SWEPCO spokesman Peter Main said the survey about the transmission project was conducted for SWEPCO to gauge awareness and understanding across northern Arkansas and southern Missouri now that Arkansas Public Service Commission (APSC) Administrative Law Judge Connie Griffin has issued a decision."

MAIL continued on page 27



WEEK'STopTweets

@Savage Scavange --- Idiots are fun, no wonder every village wants one.

@twilighteyes08 --- An apple a day keeps no one away unless you have

meticulously good aim.

@melpraktis --- When people say "You look so familiar" responding with "Were we in prison together?" is almost always a conversation killer.

@behindyourback --- I bet the creator of the artificial heart is pretty pissed that we still use "sliced bread" as our basis for great inventions.

@Missing_A --- So we can send men to the moon, but we can't get a button that lets us edit a typo on a tweet after it's been sent?

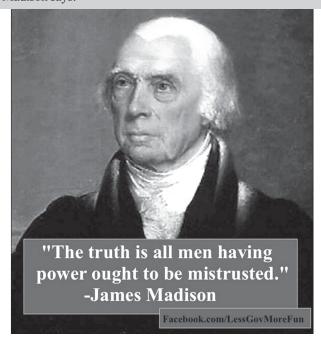
@buck4itt --- The main difference between the Winter Olympics and the Summer Olympics is the Winter Olympics has more sports that seem like drunk dares.

@Jenn_Tisdale --- Gerrymandering is my favorite political word because it sounds like your old, reclusive neighbor farting around in his bathrobe.

@Zen_Moments --- Life is but a journey; death is returning home. ~ Chinese Proverb

@KevinFarzad --- Not to brag but my bank says I have an outstanding balance.

@LessGovMoreFun --- Happy Presidents Day - James Madison says:



GUESTatorial

Is it really gluten free?

Menus should provide accurate information

Restaurant workers are getting a lot of questions about gluten these days, and sometimes it can be downright annoying. How is a busy server, for example, to know the ingredients of every menu item? One server told me that he doesn't mind intelligent questions from people who are celiacs or truly gluten intolerant, but he feels often people have just jumped onto the anti-gluten bandwagon because it is trendy, and can tell from questions they really don't have a clue. For example, they might order a gluten free (GF) meal, then down a couple of beers that are full of gluten.

I went GF a couple months ago after going through a bout of extreme anxiety for no apparent reason. Nothing was going on in my life that would explain feeling as if I were being chased by a madman with a knife. I went on some strong, addictive anti-anxiety medications with bad side effects, including one drug that actually *causes* anxiety if don't keep increasing the dosage. Being on these drugs long term was not acceptable, so I kept searching for the root cause of anxiety so severe it was hard to eat, sleep or even read the newspaper.

Then I found the books, *The Anti-Anxiety Food Solution* and *The Mood Cure* that go into details about how foods including wheat and dairy can cause anxiety, depression, other mental illnesses and a host of physical problems. Since eliminating gluten and dairy from my diet, I have been able to get off all the drugs (I replaced the anti-depressant with the amino acid tryptophan as recommended in *The Mood Cure*). The anxiety is gone.

With ten percent of Americans on anti-depressants, you would think there would be more publicity about the connections between diet and mental health. But, as with many illnesses, the symptoms are treated instead of getting to root causes.

There is a steep learning curve when you seek to eliminate gluten from your diet. It is hidden in so many things. For example, many soy sauces contain wheat. Cornmeal often contains flour. I ate some licorice the other day before reading the label and finding out the number one ingredient is wheat.

It is perilous to eat out at potluck dinners in Eureka Springs because people can say, oh, there's no gluten in that, when they don't realize that the soy sauce, cornmeal or other ingredients used contain wheat.

You can understand the average person who brings something to a potluck being mistaken, but I feel restaurants have an obligation to get up to speed on this issue, as people's health is at stake. I will recount two recent dining experiences, one good, one bad.

At the first restaurant, the menu actually had GF labels beside menu items. I was surprised how few were GF as there were other items on the menu I would have thought were GF. For example, the crab dish was made with imitation crabmeat that contains wheat. The chef brought us GF soy sauce, and it turned out he had a previous girlfriend who was a celiac. We knew after talking to him we were in good hands.

At the second restaurant, we called ahead and were told there were lots of GF choices. They said they only had one menu item with gluten. In fact, just reading the menu showed that nearly all items had flour ingredients. I was dining with a friend who has severe reactions to even small quantities of gluten. Despite her reservations, she ordered something off the menu she thought was probably GF.

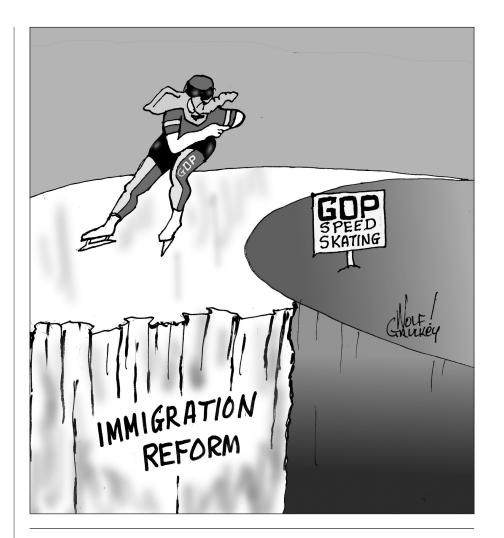
This friend ended up extremely ill from eating that one meal.

"Last night I experienced a lot of pain sitting in my chair and then went to bed and it moved into a full blown rheumatoid arthritis situation," she said. "I was in and out of sleep in pain all night. I couldn't move or turn myself over in bed. I would wake up and have to really prompt myself to flip over. I can barely lower myself into a chair. I can't even bend over to the bottom shelf in the fridge to pick up something.

"I have a pretty big ulcer on my tongue and a bunch of boils on my body. From one mistake, Becky. I knew they didn't know what they were talking about. Restaurant workers should know about food allergens. It's the industry standard."

I ask restaurant workers that the next time someone asks about gluten in menu choices, realize that someone could get very sick by getting bad information. If you don't know, just say so.

Becky Gillette



ThePursuitOfHAPPINESS

by Dan Krotz

y wife was browsing through the Netflix inventory when she happened on the film *Nude Nuns with Big Guns*. She accompanied her discovery with a shout of disbelief, a bit of haughty laughter, and lengthy speculation about "the pathetic losers who make and watch this sort of crap." Then she asked my opinion on the matter.

Well. Really. Come on.

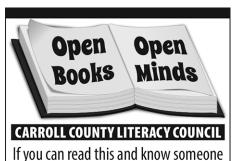
I've been married long enough to understand that any request for my opinion is purely rhetorical. I admit that arriving at such insight involved a chain of lessons, and that I am a slow learner, but learn I ultimately did. So: I frowned, nodded vigorously, and remained silent. Discretion is...and, etc.

I did have a few unspoken opinions, of course – just between you and me, right? – but they followed a couple of different avenues. First was the implausibility of nude nuns; the image simply didn't compute. Penguins? Sure. Ingrid Bergman? Obviously. But nude? Nah. Not on a bet.

Second was the notion that a nun would require a gun, no matter what size, to get done what she wanted to get done. In my considerable experience with, albeit fully clothed nuns, a raised eyebrow was sufficient to control the most recalcitrant of mobs. I suppose it is possible, to paraphrase Al Capone that, "You can get more with a nun and a gun than you can with a nun alone," but I don't really think so.

I also found it difficult to assign opprobrium to the makers of the film, especially to the women who, however implausibly but in all probability [see *Title*], were required to play nuns in the nude. Most women, nevertheless, look askance at other women who are free with their favors, or who dress (or undress) provocatively. I, on the other hand, have always thought of these women as friendly and generous, ports, so to speak, in otherwise stormy and existential seas.

Yes, I know this column is pure dribble. It just beats the hell out of writing about those fierce patriots down in the General Assembly. No one wants to see *Rude Dudes with No Clues*.



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INDEPENDENTConstablesOnPatrol

February 10

9:19 a.m. – Staff at an inn thought a vehicle without a license plate parked behind the building was suspicious. Constable on patrol went to the scene and determined no suspicious person was in the building. He advised that the innkeeper could have the vehicle towed.

11:05 a.m. - Individual told ESPD she had been receiving harassing text messages and unwelcome visits from someone. She had asked him to stop the messaging. Constable spoke with both parties.

2:54 p.m. - Observer reported a reckless driver on US 62 in town. Constable caught up with the vehicle and arrested the driver for DWI and an open container.

5:01 p.m. - Driver somehow got a large rock stuck under vehicle. Constable came to the rescue.

10:33 p.m. - Individual was booked for third degree battery.

FEBRUARY 11

12:24 a.m. – Person passing through town ran out of gas. Constable took her to gas station to get enough gas so she could return to fill up.

7:44 a.m. – Staff at the elementary school called for backup for constable having difficulty with a subject at the school. Subject eventually was arrested for reckless driving, resisting arrest and disorderly conduct.

1:13 p.m. – Alarm sounded at a business, but the business was open. False alarm.

February 12

4:45 p.m. – Vehicle crashed into a rock wall in a neighborhood. Constable found the vehicle had minimal damage and the wall came through unscathed.

8:42 a.m. - An out-of-town caller told ESPD she had been on the phone with a Eureka Springs resident who said her partner had been hitting her in front of her children. Constable spoke with the parties and found no evidence of physical dispute. February 13

8:07 a.m. – Business owner claimed an exemployee had been making harassing calls. 2:01 p.m. – Motel employee reported items missing from a room. Constable went to the scene, and the innkeeper was able to speak

to pay for the damages. No report needed. 4:30 p.m. – Driver described being harassed on the road by another driver as they drove toward town from the west. Constables watched for but did not encounter the suspect vehicle.

with the previous guests and they offered

February 14

4:24 a.m. – Constable on patrol noticed a door open near a bar downtown. The door led to a cooler in which beer was usually stored, and the beer was gone. Constable saw signs of forced entry. He made contact with the owner of the bar and filed a report. 8:16 a.m. - Caller said several pieces of outdoor furniture had been taken from neighborhoods just north of downtown.

9:09 a.m. - Frustrated driver told ESPD she had been closely tailgated as she drove toward town. She allowed the driver to pass and the driver continued to be a nuisance to others on the highway. Constables did not encounter the vehicle in city limits. Nearby authorities were alerted.

9:41 a.m. - Guest at a tourist lodging wanted to file charges for unauthorized use of his credit card account.

10:20 a.m. - High school asked for a constable to hear about threats made between students.

12:38 p.m. - High school called ESPD again, this time to report a parent had entered the building but had not left and could not be located. Parent was gone by the time a constable got there.

5:52 p.m. - Resident reported seeing a deer with a nail sticking out of its back in his yard. Constable responded but did not see the deer.

7:26 p.m. - Person walking her dog along Main Street noticed the smell of gas. ESFD called the gas company.

9 p.m. - Hotel staff called in a vehicle that had been parked in a shuttle spot for over an hour. Constable responded.

February 15

12:44 a.m. - Vehicle was parked so that lumber sticking out the back was blocking the roadway in a neighborhood. Constable cleared the way.

3:32 a.m. – Dweller in the bottom apartment reported a loud domestic upstairs, lots of screaming and things being thrown. Constable arrived to discover the dispute had been verbal only and a male involved had an outstanding warrant from Carroll County on him, so the constable arrested

1:57 p.m. – EMS requested a constable for an unresponsive male. Constable filed a report for an unattended death.

2:54 p.m. - Renter reported burglary and ransacking at his apartment. There was also an angry note from the landlady on the door. Renter said he would be moving

2:57 p.m. - One vehicle rolled across a parking lot into another. No damage.

8:42 p.m. – Constables responded to report of domestic disturbance at an apartment building.

9:41 p.m. - Constable took a report regarding stolen medications.

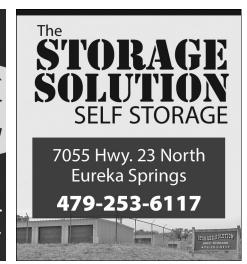
10:43 p.m. – Witness saw a male, possibly intoxicated, park his vehicle at a motel and then get a baby out of the vehicle. Constable went there and decided everything was okay.

11:41 p.m. – Another apartment dweller below called in a domestic going on up above. She was hearing screaming and things banging around. Constables arrived,

COPS continued on page 27







Love and marriage

was legally married to my same-sex partner nine years ago in Canada. What we thought was going to Let be a strictly political action, turned out to be much more. We had already been living in sin for more than a dozen years, so a legal piece of paper was not going to change anything, especially our commitment to each other.

The plan was to get hitched in my native Toronto and obtain a fast and simple license at City Hall - no frills, no fuss, no Vera Wang.

My family however, had different plans, and to make a long column short, we soon found ourselves standing in front of a minister, my four brothers, their wives and kids, my mother and several close friends.

Canadian marriage law had just changed and city employees were still adjusting to the same-sex thing. Our polite but embarrassed clerk informed us the new marriage forms had "still" not arrived. The new licenses would replace "Bride" and "Groom" with "Spouse 1" and "Spouse 2," – but on that day, Billy became my blushing bride.

We are close to obtaining full marriage equality in this country. Recent rulings in Utah, Virginia and even Oklahoma are clear indications that it's only a matter of time. The shift in public opinion, the Supreme Court's partial killing of DOMA and the Obama administration's readiness and commitment to



equality are fuelling fast change.

Here in Arkansas, constitutionality of the 2004 constitutional amendment declaring marriage as between one man and one woman is being challenged in state court, with a motion for summary judgment likely to be heard in April. Whatever the outcome, the decision is destined for the Arkansas Supreme Court.

Meanwhile, confusion sets in. Under federal

law, same-sex marriages are recognized, thus Billy and I are obligated to file our federal tax return as a married couple. Yet in Arkansas we are forced to file our state tax separately as singles under penalty of perjury.



Imagine not being able to make legal or medical choices for the person you've shared a life with for more than 20 years, even being refused hospital visitation because you are not legally family. Imagine seeing the nest egg built together disappear if one of you should die, or losing custody of the child you love and helped

I've always had a close, supportive family, but nothing prepared me for the wallop I received as Billy and I spoke our vows of love and commitment - everyone gathered, smiling, beaming unconditional love and total acceptance while our defiant, political posturing melted away.

Civil marriage is about the government conveying certain rights and responsibilities to committed couples, allowing them to live legally as a single entity. But that piece of paper also brings with it a deep emotional and spiritual bonding that should not be denied to anyone who wants it.

NDEPENDENTArt & Entertainment

Call for artists

Requesting art for May Festival of the Arts graphic design

The Eureka Springs Arts Council will commission a local artist to create an original piece of art to be incorporated into the 2014 May Festival of the Arts branded graphic design.

All interested local artists should submit an application along with 3 examples of existing work no later than Feb. 21. Please do not create new art for this application.



The Arts Council will review all applications and notify the artist to be hired no later than Feb. 28. The winning artist will receive a generous fee. Once hired, the artist will be given parameters for the original artwork to be created and used on all promotional materials for the 2014 May Festival of the Arts.

To receive an application, contact Diane Wilkerson, 253-9703.

Two writing workshops

The Word & the Sentence workshop dramatic and subtle and more. will be offered at The Village Writing School Saturday, Feb. 22, from 9 a.m - 4 p.m. Topics will cover diction, sound devices, the sentence, figurative language, types of phrases and style.

On March 1, the full-day workshop on Subtext, High Events and Closing covers topics including below the story surface, plot, context, implicit narrative, weaving the

Both are taught by Alison Taylor Brown at The Village Writing School, 177 Huntsville Road (Hwy. 23S). Preregistration is required, and class size is limited. Cost for each workshop is \$45. Register online at villagewritingschool.com, email alisontaylorbrown@me.com or phone (479) 292-3665.

Secret Season Cinema Feb. 21

This week the Danish film, The Hunt, takes the screen at the foreign film festival at the Eureka Springs Carnegie Library annex. Lucas, a highlyregarded school teacher, has been forced to start over after overcoming a tough divorce. Just as things are going his way, his life is shattered. Lucas is forced to fight a lonely fight for his life and dignity. Rated R.

All are welcome Friday, Feb. 21, at 7 p.m. Free admission and popcorn. Check out other films in this series online at eurekalibrary.org.

Poetluck Feb. 20

Sandra Ostrander and Harrie Farrow will entertain at Poetluck on Thursday, Feb. 20, at the Writers' Colony at Dairy Hollow. Playwright Sandra will read a short tribute to comedian, saxophonist, composer, actor and musician Sid Caesar, who died Feb. 12 at the age of 91.

Harrie Farrow recently published Love, Sex, and Understanding the Universe about a bisexual man coming of age. She will discuss e-publishing and share what she has OSTRANDER learned about the process of promoting one's book on the internet and through social media. She'll also read a bit from her novel.

Potluck begins at 6:30 p.m. followed by Harrie and Sandra. Local writers will have a chance to share some of their work for up to 4 minutes. Poetluck takes place every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at The Writers' Colony at Dairy Hollow, 515 Spring. Everyone is welcome, so bring a dish to share and settle in for a great evening.





INDEPENDENTHIGH (Falutin') SOCIETY



All hail - Mardi Gras royalty-elect, Queen Tanya Smith and King George Purvis made a pre-coronation appearance at the Taste of 'Nawlins Saturday.

Jam packed - Every act in the Hometown Jam got onstage for the final session – the Ariels, Josh Jennings Band, Sara Hughes Springbilly, Band, Kevin Riddle and Medicine Man Show and delighted the crowd with one blowout finish to a great night of music.

Jam-alaya – Karen FitzPatrick gets the crowd stompin' at the wellattended Chamber of Commerce Hometown Jam on Feb. 15.



Wine and beignets – Mardi Gras Queen, Tanya Smith, joins Cné Breaux and a good crowd at the Taste of 'Nawlins at Keels Creek on Feb. 15. The event advertised coffee and beignets, but that looks like wine to us!

No excuse needed – Once second-line dancers decorate those umbrellas you don't need to coax them to get a line going, no matter what the occasion. This group is about to step out around Keels Creek Winery at the Taste of 'Nawlins.

Every Krewe needs a Captain – Dan Ellis, Mardi Gras organizer, takes a break from tending details and raises a glass at the Taste of 'Nawlins. Thanks for Eureka Gras, Dan!

Worth the wait – Crowds were packed in all day for the Chocolate Lovers' Festival at the Inn of the Ozarks on Feb. 15. On its maiden voyage running the festival, the Chamber of Commerce did a great job and finished the day with enough chocolate for everyone. Then the chamber staff took a breath and hosted the Hometown Jam a couple of hours later at the auditorium. See more pictures of weekend events on the Eureka Springs Independent Facebook page!





Candy man – Chamber President/CEO Mike Bishop helps replenish chocolates and marshmallows for dunking. Mike could be seen everywhere pitching in during the festival. Regarding this being the Chamber's first time in charge of the Chocolate Lovers' Festival, Mike quipped, "Ask me how much I learned from this."



Taste testers – Judges Ken Ketelsen and Steve Grant may have had enough chocolate by the time winners were announced at the Chocolate Festival.



Most creative - Tayler Skeels of Berryville won first Place and a \$100 check for her "Breakfast in Paris" entry in the Amateur Youth Most Creative Dessert contest.



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

I have fallen in love with an amazing man. He recently told me he has a serious foot fetish. I totally freaked out and his feelings were very hurt. He hasn't brought it up since and I feel there's a huge wall between us now. I don't want to lose him. How do I deal with his fetish?

fetish is a strong sexual preoccupation with a specific body part, object or activity that is typically considered unconventional. A sexual fetish can certainly make or break a relationship. Shame is often significant for the fetishist, as most view anything outside of the Vanilla genre to be perverted. Understand that a fetish is never purposely chosen and numerous are the theories as to how they develop. Theories can be interesting but never as interesting as Sex. So let's get back on track.

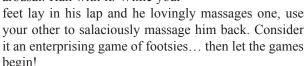
Sexual turn-ons are as varied as the people who own them. That which triggers arousal in an individual

is deeply ingrained and not likely to change. There is basically no "cure" for fetishism, nor should there be – excluding those that are dangerous, criminal or compulsive. A fetish is compulsive when it is *required* for sexual arousal. Most fetishes are equivalent to the whipped cream and cherry atop your ice cream sundae. It's not required but it certainly turns a pleasant experience into an amazing event.

So your man digs feet. Re-open the conversation and tell him you want to know him completely. Commit to keeping an open mind about the nature of your sexual play. Go a step further and share *your* sexual fantasies; those you've never dared to explore.

What to expect when you indulge his foot fetish? He will worship your feet, massage them with abandon, tickle them, smell them, suck each and every toe or simply gaze upon them as he self-stimulates.

Yes, it can be intense but if you gain comfort with his fetish the rewards are abundant. He will in turn enthusiastically honor your every private pleasure. You have *the key* to his arousal. Run with it. While your



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.



Access library catalog on the go

Carroll and Madison Public Libraries now offer the option to browse catalogs via phone and tablet. The catalog has been available to computers since 2009, but browsing on other devices has been cumbersome. The new mobile version of the catalog is simple, intuitive and easy to use.

To place holds on books using the catalog online, you must first visit or call your library and be given a PIN number. While you are at it, give the library your email address and sign up for email notifications when holds arrive or items are almost overdue.

You can then browse the mobile

catalog from your phone or tablet by entering catalog.carrollmadisonlibraries. org/mobile into your mobile browser address bar and sign in under "My Account" to renew items you have checked out, select "Search the Catalog" to place a hold on a good book or look up your library's hours of operation and contact information.

To be assigned a PIN number visit or call the public libraries in Berryville (870) 423-2323, Eureka Springs (479) 253-8754, Green Forest (870) 438-6700, Huntsville (479) 738-2754, Kingston (479) 665-2745 or St. Paul (479) 677-2907.

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Promote the float – Zeek Taylor works on a float for the Mardi Gras parade, "Circus Eureka." The lighted night parade rolls at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 22. The day parade is at 2 p.m. on March 1.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Come clean this spring

Last year The Great Arkansas Clean Up resulted in 415,320 pounds of litter being collected, 729 miles of roadway and 588 miles of waterway being cleaned, and the clearing and cleaning of 4,279 parks and public areas. Let's do it again!

Each year Keep Arkansas Beautiful participates statewide in the Great

American Clean Up from March 1 – May 31. Check out the many fun ways to get involved, contests to enter on an individual or business level, and see what other communities are doing at Keep Arkansas Beautiful on Facebook, and register at www.keeparkansasbeautiful. com.

Go orange for Gras

Save The Ozarks invites supporters to march with them in the Eureka Gras Day Parade Saturday, March 1. The group will line up about 1 p.m. This year's theme is Circus Eureka, so get creative with those STO costumes and have some fun while showing everyone what we are fighting for.

Mardi Gras throws are not required, but those who can hand something about STO out to the crowd along the route are welcome to do so. STO T-shirts, signs and bumper stickers are still available at the UPS Store on US 62 if you need a little something to jazz up your costume. For details, email info@savetheozarks.org.

Hit the streets in Victorian Classic

The gun goes off for the Eureka Springs Rotary Club's 32nd Annual Victorian Classic March 8, at 9 a.m. This year the Victorian Classic is a certified 10K course and sanctioned event including challenging hills plus flat and fast ridge stretches.

There's also a two-mile run and a two-mile walk in Historic Eureka Springs, and groups are encouraged to sign up. Gather your social group, church group, work group or uptown group and choose a theme.

The gun goes off at 9 a.m. sharp for all events. Awards ceremony begins at

10:30 a.m. with awards offered three deep in the Overall male/female, Masters male/female and the five to 75 male/female age brackets. Awards are also given in the Two Mile Run and Two Mile Walk to the top 10 male/female finishers and medals for finishers 12 and under.

Sign up now and get updates by contacting Mickey (479) 244-6545. Registration forms are available at www.eurekarotary.org. Proceeds from this year's Victorian Classic will benefit the Merlin Foundation.

Sycamore Chapter 3, cont.

Sycamore, 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.



CONSTANCE WAGNER

In addition to five novels, Constance Wagner

wrote numerous articles and stories published in The New Yorker, Atlantic Monthly and Collier's.

Previously – Newlywed Walter has brought his bride, Jane, to Sycamore, Arkansas, where they stay with Walter's parents. Walter is thinking how unendurable the thought of his father is.

ouldn't that have made the household seem less idyllic, more bearable to her? (No, he reasoned with himself: not yet The time was not ripe for Jane to hear that story, the germ of which lay deep in the past, before his own birth. She would have to know both his parents, and to weigh them in her own mind - the strong, wise, and incorruptible woman, and the man who had once shown conclusively that he stood on a lower level, that he would be shaken and defeated by his own weakness, – returning however, in the end, bowing before her absolution, grateful for her indulgence forever afterward.) This, Walter reflected, he himself had come to understand only after his furious indignation had burned itself out. Jane, in time, would be able to see it in the same light. He never doubted that his feeling for her was so incandescent that everything touching either of

them must eventually be illumined by it.

When he came out of the bathroom he found her stretched luxuriously on the bed, smoking. She had put on a white chiffon robe so transparent that the erect points of her breasts showed pink through it. The sight and smell of her, so fresh and fragrant, excited him. He stood in the doorway for a moment, meeting her lazy smile, then he crossed the room and touched her body. "We don't need to go down right away," he said His voice sounded thick. He uncovered one of her breasts and put his lips to it, but she drew away.

"Walter - don't!" She uttered the protest in a whisper. "Somebody might hear us."

His exaltation died suddenly. "Why are you so afraid?" he asked, getting up. "What are you scared of?"

She laughed defensively. "Why nothing. Only

He began to dress, but she noticed that his mouth looked tight. She had a sense of inner confusion, as if she were both victor and vanquished. She, too, had been warm with desire, so why had she rejected him? Was it really only a natural reticence, here in his mother's house? Or was he enjoying the sweet new taste of power – the joy of being able to grant or to withhold, according to her whim? There was something deeply unsatisfying about it, even so, and she began to wish that he would not give way so easily before her capricious moods – even that he would take her by force some time. He's too thoroughly a gentleman! She remembered having had visions of being violated by rough and brutal strangers, when she was fourteen of fifteen, and it disturbed her to realize now that these daydreams had been wishes rather than fears. Perhaps I'm a tramp by nature, she thought. Maybe I'm just masquerading as a Nice Woman.

She jumped up and began wriggling into her

girdle. "Which shall I wear," she asked briskly, as if nothing had happened – "the blue dress or the gray?"

Even at the first glance, there was something anomalous about the Skeltons. Willy May looked much too big for her husband, yet there was about her a childlike quality – a shy alertness that peered from behind her wide brown eyes, darting out of hiding now and then to make an abrupt, incomplete overture toward friendship, then scuttling back with panic haste to the shelter of silence. Although she was past fifty, as tall as her brother, and large-boned, she moved with the awkward angularity of a little girl. Jane felt, when she saw her sitting with her big, rough hands folded in her lap, that she took the pose consciously because as a child she probably had been spanked for knocking over small tables and smashing pieces of bric-a-brac. Once she had been accepted, however, as a strangely overgrown child, she ceased to seem funny. It was so evident that her innocence had betrayed her at all points, as a child is betrayed. When she emerged from her habitual, dreamy state of withdrawal, she wore a look of naïve, hurt surprise, as if she expected life to knock her around, but had never learned the nature of its charge against her.

Of Floyd, people often said: "Willy May would make two of him," and came close to the truth. Whoever had created him had practiced a mean economy in the use of materials. His face, his body, even his hair had a sparse, thin, eked-out look, and he gave the impression of being strung on wires. He moved in a nervous, jerky manner, talking incessantly in a twanging voice, laughing at his own jokes. As if by way of compensation, he decked his meagerness in spectacular clothing: suits of pebbly weaves, pale-tinted, rakish hats, colored shirts worn with strongly contrasting ties. He wore a lodge emblem in his lapel, and his sharp little hand bore the weight of a large seal ring.

NOTES from the HOLLOW by Steve Weems

xcept for her childhood in Kansas, Lena Wilson lived her ✓ life just off Pivot Rock Road near Eureka Springs. The trash and junk she collected around town was carried back to what she called "the farm." She did have livestock over the years, including the pigs to which she fed the garbage.

When Lena Wilson and her horse, cart and dogs (she particularly liked Dalmatians) commuted daily through Dairy Hollow from Pivot Rock Road, Doris (Groblebe) O'Connor remembers that Lena would usually be walking beside the horse, one hand holding the reins and the other hand grasping a book

or magazine she was reading.

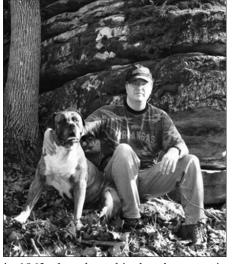
I'd heard that Lena Wilson was a talented artist. There is evidence that she won prizes for her watercolor landscapes, including a first place at the Colorado State Fair in Pueblo.

So, the question remains, why would Lena Wilson, an intelligent, educated and talented woman resort to collecting trash as a means of survival? This very question was posed to Lena in a 1949 Associated Press news story. Her response was that collecting garbage was not only more profitable than teaching, but healthier, too. In the article, she said that it took her six hours to make her daily rounds through Eureka Springs and

though she was then 66 years old and only 120 pounds, she was stronger than when she quit teaching school.

But to many this does not adequately explain why she left the teaching profession and lived much of her life as a recluse. The persistent story among those who knew her was that it was a broken heart that prompted her to pursue the life she did. Some of the details have been lost over the years, but it seems that Lena Wilson was in love with an area businessman, but after her family lost its wealth, the relationship ended and she was never the same.

Lena Wilson was buried next to her father in the Eureka Springs Cemetery



in 1963, though to this day the grave is without a tombstone. The last sentence in her short obituary was the following: "She has no known survivors."

EATINGOUT in our cool little town

OPEN THIS WINTER

Best to call ahead for hours of operation since some restaurants have abbreviated hours or have closed for the season.











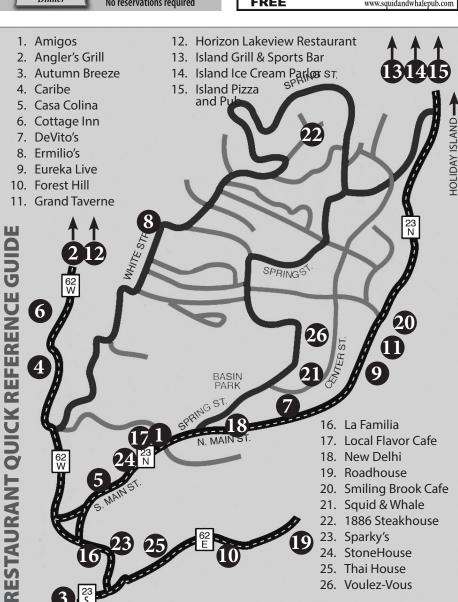




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Voulez-Vous

ESOTERICAstrology as news for week Feb. 20 – 26 by Risa

Pisces - Sinners Who Become Saints

re are now under the influence and light of Pisces – the Light that saves the world, sign of World Saviors. Pisces is the last sign in the zodiac ending the zodiacal year. Pisces gathers all gifts, transgressions, vicissitudes, talents and wonders of the 11 previous signs, placing them in Neptune's waters where distinctions dissolve, hard edges soften, separative behaviors unite. All the determined individualities merge into a chalice of Oneness.

In Pisces the world dreams more, becomes more sensitive, hopeful, imaginative, visionary and musical. Pisces is the sign of the arts, artists, musicians, healers

and sinners who become saints. Pisces senses what's real. Like Gemini, Pisces is "not of this world." Instead, Pisces resides in the etheric, the "body electric," a nonphysical world surrounding the physical. The etheric is radiant, filled with light, color and symphonic sound. Everything is united. From the etheric all energies enter the Earth.

Some Pisces experience life as too much radiance. They must veil the radiance with substances that hide. diminish and tone down the intensity, usually using drugs and alcohol. If we understand these words, we begin to understand the reality of the life of Pisces – the sign, the person, the month, the age. Pisces often suffers. Their suffering leads to their art, music and healing skills all of which "inform and save the world."

Sunday, the 23rd, Pisces Sun joins Neptune, a once a year occurrence. Watch the light, it may be blinding. The veils between the worlds may lift. For a moment, the RainCloud of Knowable Things is revealed. Where dreams come true. The square in the title of this week's column, Jupiter in Cancer square Uranus in Aires, is a foreshadowing of a Cardinal Grand Cross occurring in the heavens April 21-23. Life will change after that.

ARIES: For several years you will face at times a sense of being or living in secrecy, aloneness and sometimes isolation – a spiritual situation. Within that isolation unexpected events occur like bolts out of the blue, electricity, revelations, the hand of God. You may feel you're being forced into solitude and, actually, you are. But it's good to be in this state. Something about you isn't revealed. And then it will be.

TAURUS: There's one special supportive person in your life. No matter what you do or say, they're your friend. When things become edgy, precipitating separation or break up, you ensure that connection is tended to and renewed. You contribute greatly to groups, offering originality, change, new narratives. Often your need implementing by others. Pray they arrive soon.

GEMINI: Potency and intensity are two significant encounters you're having. They will continue, having to do with your destiny, which you continue to step away from. Extreme variations and continual changes attempt to prepare you. There's something you can't quite leave – a way of life, belief, behavior, an attitude. Unforeseen events will someday take you by the hand and sweep you forward. It's a great journey ahead.

CANCER: Often what you believe in your heart is at odds with what others, maintaining the status quo, believe. You're in the middle of a great turning point. Independence is vital for this to continue. Guard against falling asleep, guard against being an anarchist, too. Which is not the same as a revolutionary. You're a pioneer and an original thinker. Let yourself know these things.

LEO: You left your family long ago to establish safety, security, independence and your own special quiet. You need balance in the However, home. things, unexpected events, experiences happening are there. They're like paradoxes. Reflecting something within you seeking to change. Set about organizing the instability. Instability is a state of change in itself, neither good nor bad. Manage the situation creatively. Stability and security are in the future.

VIRGO: As you go through your days, weeks and months you will be on the lookout for things most unusual, avantgarde, out of the ordinary. You're curious and interested in people with different ideas, thoughts that don't conform. It's good to learn about and discover different neighborhoods in different towns and cities. Pick a subject... like food. Discovering new realities, new regions, new cultures through food. Be eccentric. Exceed yourself.

LIBRA: You're sorting relationships, seeking to do new things in relationships in original ways. You offer unconventional activities

your friends. You're here, there and everywhere sometimes. Freedom is needed always. Although you seek the very traditional, often you reverse that choice. Only very close

> special friends and understand your paradoxical behaviors. Acknowledge

their capacity for patience. SCORPIO: Sudden

situations, events developments and seem to occurring. Everything's unexpected. There's no

rest, ceaseless activity and people and animals in need, asking your care and tenderness. Always you say yes. Things can feel quite chaotic, especially your surroundings. When exhausted take to your bed. All that you do is of great service to others. We recognize this. May you rest more.

SAGITTARIUS: You're constantly looking for something to ease your mind and heart. You're constantly seeking pleasure and new ideas to fuel your creativity. Sometimes it's insatiable, other times you're simply exhausted from being in the world. While simultaneously feeling you're not quite of this world. At times you're not. You act eccentric with partners. Love can feel novel and unusual. During these times you change course, avoiding stability. Your highest level of work is

CAPRICORN: It's possible your early family life was unusual. Some would call it chaotic. Others artistic. Now you seek a quiet life, wanting the atmosphere of your family to be stable and secure. However, during this time, even as you seek balance, you also crave things out of the ordinary. As soon as stability is established, you upset the apple cart. Each stage of your life unfolds, from change to stability. Things abruptly disappear and then appear again. You're the stability for everyone.

AQUARIUS: When anything traditional occurs you pursue instead the non-traditional. Because your mind is always focused partly on the future in order to bring forth everything new. New concepts, ideas, fields of endeavor exposing humanity to a new world. This is accomplished through your speech, what you write, and how you relate to others. Some call this chaotic. It's not. It's a catalyst for the new world order.

PISCES: You're in a situation where your true values are coming forth and your personal comfort is being assessed. You're awakening to your true needs and will learn how to say "no" to what is not good for you. This can and may be difficult. But you must have the courage of self-knowledge. It's important your surroundings support health and well-being. Things are surprising for you each and every day. It will feel like emergencies every moment. Call forth poise and balance. As often as you can.

Risa D'Angeles, writer, 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.

221 Band shooting video at Legends

The 221 band is an acoustic three-piece from Cassville. Jason Blankenship, vocals and percussion, describes their music as "a little bit of classic country, a little bit of new country and classic rock." Blankenship, who uses a cajon box for percussion, is joined by longtime friends Ryan Preddy and Aaron Ennis, both on vocals and guitar. The show is

a mix of originals and covers of artists such as Turnpike Troubadours, Stoney LaRue, Black Crows, Stevie Ray Vaughn, Waylon Jennings, Johnny Cash and even the Goo Goo Dolls.

Among their originals is "Cold Can," a true story of growing up and running the back roads like country boys do. A video in the making will include footage of the show Friday night at Legends Saloon and will be released to YouTube and ReverbNation. They are looking for a good time crowd, videographers Matt McCullough and Jeremy Hughes will record all the action. Come to Legends on Friday, Feb. 21 around 9 p.m. and see if your dance skills can grab you 15 minutes.

THURSDAY - FEBRUARY 20

- GRAND TAVERNE Jerry Yester Grand Piano Dinner Music, 6:30-9:30
- LEGENDS SALOON Karaoke
- SQUID & WHALE Open Mic & Pie Social-homemade pies and homegrown music, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY - FEBRUARY 21

TBD

- BLARNEY STONE
- CATHOUSE LOUNGE Little Zero, 8 p.m. – midnight
- CHASERS BAR & GRILL Chasers Winter Game Challenge
- CHELSEA'S Bar Brawl III, 9

Liquor

- EUREKA LIVE! DJ & Dancing, 9 p.m.
- GRAND TAVERNE Arkansas Red Guitar, 6:30–9:30 p.m.
- JACK'S PLACE Karaoke with DJ Goose, 9 p.m.
- LEGENDS SALOON **221 Band** Video Shoot, 9 p.m.
- NEW DELHI SPinRaD, 6-10 p.m.
- ROWDY BEAVER Karaoke with Jerry, 7 p.m.
- ROWDY BEAVER DEN John Henry & Friends, 8 p.m.
- SOUID & WHALE "Local Kine" feat. Derek & Friends, 9 p.m.

• THE STONE HOUSE Jerry *Yester*, 6:30–9:30 p.m.

 VOUEZ-VOUS FreeVerse, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY - FEBRUARY 22

- BLARNEY STONE TBD
- CATHOUSE LOUNGE

Felonious Monk, 8 p.m. – midnight

- CHASERS BAR & GRILL SX Rex
- CHELSEA'S Toto Jojo, 9 p.m.
- EUREKA LIVE! DJ & Dancing, 9 p.m.
- GRAND TAVERNE Jerry Yester Grand Piano Dinner Music, 6:30–9:30
- JACK'S PLACE Karaoke with DJ Goose, 9 p.m.
- LEGENDS SALOON Mountain Sprout, 9 p.m.
- NEW DELHI In The Light, 6-10 p.m.
- ROWDY BEAVER **Ozark** Thunder, 7 p.m.
- ROWDY BEAVER DEN Isayah's Allstars, 1-5 p.m., Third Degree, 8 p.m.
- SQUID & WHALE Magic Mule, 9 p.m.
- VOUEZ-VOUS The Black Light Ball with FreeVerse, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 23

- CHASERS Shuffleboard Tournament, 4 p.m.
- EUREKA HOUSE CONCERTS Catherine Reed opening for Jon Vezner, 6 p.m.
- LEGENDS SALOON Free Texas Hold 'Em Tournament with prizes, 6
- ROWDY BEAVER Free Pool Sundays
- ROWDY BEAVER DEN Open mic with Jesse Dean, 12-4 p.m.

MONDAY - FEBRUARY 24

- CHASERS BAR & GRILL
- Poker & Pool night Pool Tournament, 7 p.m.,
- CHELSEA'S *SpringBilly*, 9 p.m.

TUESDAY - FEBRUARY 25

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

WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 26

- CHASERS BAR & GRILL Ladies Night – Drink specials, free jukebox
- CHELSEA'S Loves It!, 9 p.m.







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• NEW DELHI CAFÉ Open Jam • PIED PIPER CATHOUSE **LOUNGE** Wheat Wednesday *Draft* Beer Specials

• ROWDY BEAVER Wine Wednesday

FreeVerse at Voulez-Vous's Black Light Ball – FreeVerse is ranked number 22 in jam bands in the U.S. by ReverbNation and they will rock Voulez-Vous on Saturday after the Mardi Gras Sound and Light parade on Saturday, Feb. 22. This Little Rock band is perfect for a Eureka Gras event since the overall goal of their music is to "rock the now."





ESDN events recognized

Main Street Arkansas, a program area of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, recently awarded projects in 10 communities, including Eureka Springs.

The Eureka Springs Downtown Network won Best Creative Fundraising Event Award for Cocktails for a Cause, an ESDN fundraiser held on the third Thursday of each month at a local pub with an entry fee and portion of drink sales going to a local nonprofit organization.

ESDN also won the Best New Event Award for its Party in the Park in which shopping vouchers are distributed at parades to encourage visitors to stay downtown and shop after the parade.

Parade and concert participants sought

The Western Carroll County Ministerial Association invites the public to join in a celebration of faith and joy with the annual Celebrate Jesus Parade & Concert in Eureka Springs, Friday, April 18.

There will be music in Basin Park all day on Friday and on Saturday before and after the parade at 2 p.m. Organizers are seeking Christian musicians, church choirs and groups for the concert; and floats, banners and walking groups for the Jesus Parade. For more information call Dale or Laura Nichols (479) 253 8925 or email lardellen@gmail.com.

Spring into spring with twofers at Purple House

The Purple House, Eureka Springs Hospital Guild's thrift shop at 24 Norris on the hospital campus, is having an End of Season sale until March 14. Buy one adult clothing item and get the second of equal or lesser value free!

The shop is open on weekdays, weather permitting, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Shop for some new spring outfits and help others at the same time since proceeds received from sales are used to fund health care needs in our community.

INDEPENDENTNews

More health insurance help

Uninsured? Underinsured? Started the process and got stuck? Not sure what your next step is?

There will be a Health Insurance Enrollment Fair on Saturday, March 8, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Forest Hill Restaurant. Licensed guides will help answer questions about health coverage options and will have computers set up to help you apply and enroll.

No appointment is needed. For more information call (479) 325-0943.

Tax-Aide program up and running

Under the auspices of AARP Foundation and IRS, the Tax-Aide program is available in Carroll County again this year. The nationwide tax preparation service provides free income tax preparation, free electronic filing and answers to tax questions. Businesses and rental property owners are not eligible to participate.

The program is intended to assist low and middle income taxpayers of all ages, with special attention to taxpayers over 60. IRS-provided software is used for all tax returns and counselors are certified, having passed IRS testing. All information is strictly confidential.

There will be 18 counselors and

eight client facilitators available to help people this year. Tax-Aide is scheduled at the Holiday Island Community Church, 188 Stateline Drive, on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. from through April 9.

Help is also available at the Cornerstone Bank of Berryville, 907 W. Trimble, on Mondays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. through April 7.

No appointments are necessary, and AARP membership is not required. Taxpayers are required to bring their prior tax return and any current documents needed to prepare the 2013 tax return. For more information. contact local coordinator Anne Dray (479) 253-7611.

Les bon temps are about to rouler

perhaps just continue) rolling Saturday, Feb. 22, in the Light and Sound 'Eureka Circus' Mardi Gras parade at 6 p.m. After the parade there will be Second-Line dancing downtown at 7 p.m. and a Black Lite Ball at the Voulez-Vouz Lounge at 63 Spring Street at 8 p.m. Tickets may be purchased at www. voulezvouslounge.com.

The Hookers and Jokers Ball takes place Thursday, Feb. 27, at 6 p.m. at the Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center with music, a mini parade, buffet with heavy hors d'oeuvres and cash bar. Prizes will be awarded for best "Eureka Circus" costume.

The Coronation Masquerade Ball is Friday, Feb. 28, at the Crescent Hotel featuring live music and a champagne buffet dinner. Mardi Gras royalty, King George Purvis and Queen Tanya Smith along with their royal court will lead a promenade. Reservations required – (479) 981-9551.

And of course, there's more - a second Mardi Gras parade, led by the

The good times will start (or Krewe of Krazo, will roll on Saturday, March 1, at 2 p.m. followed that night by the Beaux Arts Masquerade Ball at the Basin Park Hotel with cash bar at 7 p.m. and dancing with live music by locally famous party band Ultra Suede at 8 p.m. Tickets may be purchased by calling (479) 253-9417.

Sunday, March 2, those who are up for it after all the parties will hit the New Orleans-style Jazz Brunch at the Crescent Hotel at 11:30 a.m. for food and live music entertainment. Reservations required – (479) 253-9652 – and umbrellas welcome.

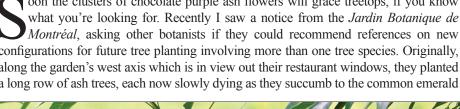
On Fat Tuesday, March 4, celebrate the official Mardi Gras at the Saint 'Lizbeth King Cake Ball and dinner. Dinner & music begins at 6 p.m. at the St. Elizabeth Parish Center, 232 Passion Play Road. For more information phone (479) 253-

For details, times and more see the February/March Fun Guide, visit krazo.ureeka.org and see Eureka Gras Mardi Gras on Facebook.

The NATURE of EUREKA by Steven Foster Ash trees at risk

ash borer.

oon the clusters of chocolate purple ash flowers will grace treetops, if you know configurations for future tree planting involving more than one tree species. Originally, along the garden's west axis which is in view out their restaurant windows, they planted a long row of ash trees, each now slowly dying as they succumb to the common emerald





The greatest threat to Arkansas ash tree species is the emerald ash borer (Agrilus planipennis), an Asian insect that probably hitched a ride on a palate or crate from China in the late 1990s, and was first identified feeding on ash trees in Michigan in July 2002. It is now one of the top 10 potential invasive alien species

of concern to Arkansas. The pest has spread in much of

the Midwest, adjacent Canada and other states, seen as close as 50 miles north of the Arkansas border. In the upper Midwest, larvae of this little green bug has killed more than 50 million ash trees in the last decade. In Arkansas, there are five species of *Fraxinus* (members of the olive family – Oleaceae). In Carroll County we have three ash species: white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), green ash (*F.* pennsylvanica) and blue ash (F. quadrandularis).

Ash trees are one of those forest dwellers that most of us just don't pay a whole lot of attention to. The leaves of ashes are compound, with 5-11 leaflets (perhaps reminding one of the leaves of hickories). The branches and buds are opposite one another (in hickories they are alternate). Like maples, ash trees produce winged-seeds, though those of ash trees are paddle-shaped. The bark is relatively easy to identify as it is deeply furrowed with diamond-shaped ridges.

If the emerald ash borer comes to Arkansas, trees canopies will decline and die, sucker branches will proliferate on ash tree trunks, and d-shaped exit holes about an 1/8 of an inch across will be seen on the outside of the bark.

For now, it hasn't made it here, but we must be on the lookout. If the borer continues along its march, the sound of the familiar crack of a major league baseball bat made from ash will become the ping of an aluminum bat.

INDEPENDENTNews

Sign up for weekly share of fresh produce

Member spots are available in the 2014 Produce Share provided by Sycamore Bend Farm. This year's pickup location for fresh produce is Flora Roja, 119 Wall. There's also an option to participate in one or all of the spring, summer and/or fall-winter 12-week seasons.

Members receive a weekly share of local, organic produce. Dues for each season are \$200, with a discount for subscribing to all three seasons. Fees are due March 15 and available spaces are limited. For more information email andrewschwerin@gmail.com or call (479) 981-3128.

Try a wee bit o' dancing

Scottish country dancing classes take place at the Elks Club in Holiday Island Park (North of Sunfest, across from the post office) on Tuesday evenings from 7 - 8:30. All are welcome to come and have fun while getting good exercise. Bring softsoled shoes if you have them. Beginners are welcome, and your first session is free.

If you have prior experience with Scottish country dancing and are interested in having a demonstration group, call Melissa (479) 253-8252.

Sunday at UUF

All are welcome Sunday, Feb. 23 at the Eureka Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 17 Elk Street. Rev. Jim Parrish, Interim Minister of the UU Fellowship of Topeka, will present "The Laity and Ministry of Unitarian Universalism: Why Does

Anyone Think Ministry is a Good Idea?"

Come discover and reflect on the ideas, responsibilities and realities of UU laity and its ministry. Program at 11 a.m. is followed by refreshments. Childcare provided.

HOSPITAL continued from page 1

"It would be cost-prohibitive for the city to do this," Pate said.

Nevertheless. Bariola remained positive about their prospects. He will continue to keep the commission informed of any progress.

New ambulance

"I am thrilled to be able to announce we can make available funds for a new ambulance," Hospital Chair Michael Merry said. Pate was on hand to represent ES Fire Dept. Pate said Fire Chief Rhys Williams would have to send someone to the factory in Houston to design the ambulance, and it might be six months before it is completed. He estimated the final cost at \$200,000.

What's this we hear?

The commission shared with Bariola a letter in which a person described shoddy business practices at the hospital that included, among other items, low inventory of supplies and sketchy debt management. The letter also said morale was as low as it could go.

Bariola responded that some of the claims were just not true, but hospitals nationwide suffer shortages in saline, for example, because supply is low and it is, therefore, expensive.

"But we've never had anyone not treated because of lack of saline," he commented.

He added various suppliers also put shipments on hold sometimes, so staff watch the inventory. "Patients get what they need," Bariola said, and emphasized the quality of care is never compromised.

Regarding staff morale, administrative assistant Jodi Smith pointed out the turnover rate is only three percent and statistics show employee satisfaction is at 87 percent. "They were unhappy about the cost of health insurance," Smith said about the survey.

Bariola said he has not heard negative news personally, but knows there is better retention among doctors and nurses, and that fact is meaningful. He commented the best public relations strategy for ESH would be to continue doing a good job, "and as turnover stabilizes, negative comments will wane."

Pate stated he had the opportunity to see ESH staff at work firsthand, and was treated very well, adding that his mother and uncle also both had good experiences

Next meeting will be Monday, March 17, at 1 p.m., at ECHO Clinic.

Volunteers needed for GSHS Petco trips

The Good Shepherd Humane Society has been accepted as a Petco adoption partner, and as such will be allowed to bring adoptable animals to the Petco store in Fayetteville on the last Saturday of every month as well as any Sunday of choice.

Volunteers are needed to transport 5 to 10 cats and/or dogs to the Fayetteville Petco on adoption days and spend the afternoon with them while they work their cuteness and vie for forever homes. Hopefully, several volunteers will come forward offering to take this on as a regular monthly project, but one-time volunteers are certainly welcome, too.

Adoption Saturdays are great exposure for the Good Shepherd and offer a deeper pool of potential adopting families. If you can help, please call Janice at the shelter (479) 253-9188 or e-mail her at goodshepherd10@yahoo.com.

January Student of the Month

- Miranda Hudson, daughter of Tawny Hudson of Holiday Island, is Eureka Springs Rotary's January Student of the Month. Miranda is a senior at Eureka Springs High School where she maintains a 3.6 GPA. She's is a member of the National Honor Society and takes advanced placement classes. Miranda has already been accepted at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, where she plans to major in pre-med chemistry and become a radiologist.



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DEPARTURES

Florence Willett Marable, March 29, 1911 – Feb. 12, 2014

Florence Willett Marable passed to a new life on Feb. 12, 2014, just 45 days before her 103rd birthday. She was the oldest and only surviving child of George Walter Willett and Evelyn Lowery Willett. She is survived by her son, Doug Marable of Quemado, N.M.; her daughter and son-in-law, Florence and Dick Witkop of Park Rapids, Minn.; and daughter and son-in-law, Sue and Tom Hammer of Eureka Springs, Ark. She is also survived by five grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and 20 great-greatgrandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Louis, her parents, her brother and two sisters.

She was active in the North West Arkansas Heirloom Doll Club and Lone Star Bible Church. She had been active to a smaller home.

in the Grandview Extension Club and the Carroll County Senior Center.

Florence taught first grade for many years. She was also an elementary school district reading consultant/specialist who raised the reading level of the school district She also significantly. taught at the University of Chicago.

She and her husband retired to Eureka Springs in 1971. They restored and lived in the 1914 Brooklyn Schoolhouse for 25 years before moving



Mrs Marable at 100

Florence led a full and interesting life. She was a voracious reader. She enjoyed traveling. When she was a young girl, the family went with her father during summer vacations as he took teaching positions at various universities around the country. She attended 26 different universities, beginning when she was 12 years old. She continued her travels within the country as

an adult. After her 90th birthday she traveled to England and Scotland with her oldest grandson and his wife. She

also traveled to Alaska twice and the Caribbean.

People who knew Florence well loved her. She was comfortable to be around, interesting, and an excellent listener. Friends knew they could count on her.

A memorial service is planned for March 29, what would have been Florence's 103rd birthday. It will be at Lone Star Bible Church, five miles south of Eureka Springs on Hwy. 23. Donations in her memory may be made to the Carroll County Senior Center, 202 W. Madison, Berryville, AR 72616, or the Carroll County Library, 104 Spring St. Berryville, AR 72616.

Sandra Lee Carcione Young, June 10, 1942 – Feb. 14, 2014

Sandra Lee Carcione Young, 71, of Eureka Springs, died peacefully in her home surrounded by family on Friday, Feb. 14, 2014 after a short battle with lung cancer.

She was born to the late Giuseppe

Riccardo Carcione and Elizabeth Lanelle Hardee, June 10, 1942, In Webb City, Mo. At an early age her family moved to Chino, Calif., where she later met and married Ray Dean Young in 1958. Ray and Sandra stayed in

California where their daughter, Sherry, was born, and two years later moved

to Springfield, Mo., where daughter, Kathy, was born. A short time later they settled in the Raytown/Kansas City area where daughter, Zoi, was born. They stayed in the Kansas City area for 35 years enjoying the family life.

Sandra had been an artist throughout her life, taking numerous classes to learn different media. including oils, watercolors, pastels, chalk, ceramics, clay

and recently, wood carving. Her talent continued on to her three daughters with whom she owned an art gallery in Raymore, Mo. Inspired by the beauty of the Ozarks, Ray and Sandra, their three daughters and 10 grandchildren moved to Eureka Springs, Arkansas, in 1996 to enjoy the quiet life.

MRS. YOUNG

After relocating, Ray and Sandra pursued their dream taking motorcycle trips and cruises to different and exciting places.

Sandra's love of the Arts included painting, drawing, ceramics, dancing and singing. She had the voice of an angel and sang with the Ozarks Chorale for many years. Most recently she had joined The Sweet Adelines, which she loved. One of her proudest moments was being able to travel to New York City and preform at Carnegie Hall.

To her daughters she was more like

a sister – young at heart and beautiful inside and out, with a loving spirit that

> embraced everyone she met. After 51 years of a wonderful and happy marriage, Ray passed in 2009.

> In 2012 Sandra met Bill Klindsworth. As both were accomplished artists, their instant connection and love of art led to a wonderful friendship and opening of Wild Life Art Gallery in Eureka Springs.

> Sandra was preceded in death by a sister, Janice

Burton, and an infant daughter, Debra Jean. She is survived by two brothers, Gary Carcione and wife, Gloria, of Red Bluff, Calif., and Kenneth Blankenship of Upland, Calif.; three daughters, Sherry Young and partner, David Roll; Kathy Marquez and wife, Julie Landis; and Zoi Young all of Eureka Springs. She is also survived by 11 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, all who loved her dearly.

Sandra was a wonderful daughter, wife, mother, sister, grandmother and friend. Her loving heart and creative spirit will never be forgotten and she will be deeply missed by many. Your memory will be in our hearts until we meet again.

There will be a Celebration of Life at Nelson's Chapel of the Springs from 1 - 4 p.m., Friday, Feb. 21. Friends are welcome at the family home afterwards.



Drs. Kresse and Beard present health care needs

meeting at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4, in the hospital cafeteria. Drs. Greg Kresse and Charles Beard

The public is invited to attend will present some health care needs the Eureka Springs Hospital Guild in our community that might become new projects for the Hospital Guild. For more information contact Mary Dolce (479) 253-4939.

DROPPINGA Line by Robert Johnson

Tater temp here at Holiday Island is warming. We have come up to 42° from 38°. Walleye are being caught from Holiday Island up river toward Houseman Access in 13-20 ft. water off the edge of the flats, islands and humps. Still a little spotty, but more fish moving in every day. They will be laying eggs in about three weeks close to the full moon.

Trolling crank baits that can get down 13-18 ft. can work now. Or working a jig, minnow or both combined should catch you some bass and maybe a walleye or two. White bass should start showing up to spawn in three to four weeks.

Beaver Lake is warming, too, with most stripers still hanging out between the Hwy. 12 bridge and Monte Ne near Rogers, still holding 30-40 ft. deep but will also be moving up the White and War Eagle river arms to spawn in three to four weeks.

Got me a walleye trip this weekend and striper bookings in March, so we should be getting some fresh pics soon. Hope this

winter is over. Enjoy this 60° weather while you can, there will be more to come.

Fish Spawning Temperatures (F)

Bass Largemouth	68-72
Crappie Black	62-68
Bass Smallmouth	59-60
Crappie White	60-65
Bass Spotted	63-68
Paddlefish	50-55
Bass Striped	59-65
Sunfish Green	75-78
Bass White	45-52
Sunfish Redear	68-75
Bluegill	70-75
Trout Brown	47-52
Catfish Blue	70-75
Trout Rainbow	50-55
Catfish Channel	75-80
Walleye	45-50

All fish above spawn early spring into summer except the Brown trout, which spawn in the fall around October.

KARST continued from page 3

studies that use what he calls MUD (made up data). "In public matters, MUD is unacceptable," he said.

In the case of AEP/SWEPCO and the controversial hog factory near the Buffalo River, Aley said it is important for the public to get involved to constrain sloppy work. Don't bulldoze and tear up karst for more than 50 miles through the Ozarks for high voltage transmission lines. Don't put huge amounts of hog manure on fields where

runoff can go to underground water supplies or springs that end up feeding the Buffalo National River.

"With springs, you can have a rapid impact from activities miles away," Alev said. "In many of our groundwater traces in the Ozarks, we have shown water moving underground to springs at rates of about a mile a day. There are major impediments to restoring groundwater quality. It is easy to pollute or do sloppy work; it is terribly expensive to restore."

GROUND BREAKING continued from page 5

is being built on a three-and-a-half acre lot considered to be a prime piece of property due to highway frontage, proximity to town, closeness to the Hillspeak neighborhood and general ease of access. The planned station should be completed by midsummer and will contain four garage bays housing a fire engine, tanker and brush trucks. Funding for construction is courtesy of a loan from Community First Bank, which will be paid back with money from

the annual rural fire dues. Local businesses and volunteers are donating much of the labor, groundwork and construction.

Short term plans call for placement of a permanent helipad, and long term plans call for the addition of storage rooms, office space, a meeting room and bathrooms. Donations to help offset the cost of construction are welcome and can be mailed to Eureka Springs Rural Fire Association, 144 East Van Buren Ave, Eureka Springs, AR 72632.



INDEPENDENT Crossword

by Bill Westerman

Solution on page 27

1	2	3	4	5	6			7	8	9	10	11
12							13					
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47							48		\dagger	+		
49							50	T	+	\dagger		

Across

- 1. Fame
- 7. Perspire
- 12. Egyptian fertility god
- 13. Split
- 14. Makes amends
- 15. Thin metal sheet
- 16. Indian dish
- 17. Lure
- 19. Terminate
- 20. Stride
- 22. Silent assent
- 23. Therefore
- 24. Morals
- 26. Norwegian poet
- 27. Mine find
- 28. Lump
- 29. Board
- 32. Wisconsin resort Lake
- 35. Memo

- 36. Pale
- 37. Info 39. Devour
- 40. More wan
- 42. Swindle
- 43. Uniting
- 45. Thai coin
- 47. Woolly sheep
- 48. Eve
- inflammation 49. Sharp
- mountain ridge
- 50. Choose

Down

- 1. Streets
- 2. Property
- 3. Ice axe
- 4. Large coffee pot
- 5. Lashed
- 6. Perfume is one

- 7. Kill
- Soaked
- Diners 10. Retaliate
- 11. Sinew
- 13. Dirt clump
- 18. Romaine
- 21. Cell
- 23. Abetted
- 25. Irritate
- 26. Charged ion
- 28. Origin
- 29. Soul
- 30. Bank officer
- 31. Clothing
- 32. Guy's mate
- 33. Move out
- 34. Unaccented
- 36. East central
- Texas town
- 38. Distress
- 40. Evergreen
- 41. Hard to find
- 44. In conformity 46. Sesame plant

INDEPENDENT Classifieds

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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREE TO GOOD HOME. Sweet senior sister cats. Call (479) 253-6983 for more information

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

Established & Effective: SIMPLICITY **COUNSELING** – improving the health of your friends and neighbors in this community in a relaxed respectful environment since 2010. Depression, Anxiety, Self-Worth, Trauma, Grief, Adjustment & Relationships. Call for professional licensed service. (479) 244-5181 "It's Your Time"

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

BREAD - LOCAL ORGANIC SOURDOUGH Ivan's Art Bread - Pumpernickel Rve. Golden Gate Sourdough Art Loaves. Breakfast: Bialys, Spelt Crumpets and announcing Wheat Free "Artful Dodgers" for your toaster. @ Farmers' Market, 9 a.m. -Noon on Thursdays. bread.LovEureka. com or call the request line: (479) 244-7112. Winter Rub is here!

ANTIQUES

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

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HELP WANTED

THE LEGENDARY CRESCENT HOTEL in Eureka Springs is now hiring an Executive Chef/Kitchen Manager. Ideal candidates will have a passion for food, culinary skill to produce exceptional catering and Sunday Brunch presentations and an AS or BS in Culinary Arts with a business acumen. Candidates may apply directly to the General Manager via email at: jackmoyer@ gmail.com

NOW HIRING FRIENDLY, PRO-FESSIONAL wait staff. Apply in person at Rockin' Pig Saloon, 2039-C E. Van Buren, Eureka Springs. Contact info: Sarah, (479) 363-6248, Rockin' Pig Eureka.

HIRING ALL POSITIONS! Apply in person at New Delhi Café, 2 North Main St., Eureka Springs.

TIME POSITION FULL MYRTIE MAE'S. Year round employment, vacation and holiday pay. Now accepting applications. Please apply in person at Inn of the Ozarks, 207 W. Van Buren, Eureka Springs. (479) 253-9768

CRESCENT HOTEL Now hiring Sous Chef to oversee culinary production for events. PM work schedule. Year round employment, strong hourly wage. Email interest to: jackmoyer@gmail. com

PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT. Transportation & flexibility a must. Ap-

ply in person at Quicker Liquor, 173 E. Van Buren, Eureka Springs

Looking for someone to be CAREGIV-ER FOR DISABLED CHILD. After school, a few days a week and Saturdays. Call (479) 981-0055

Help wanted: FULL/PART-TIME WAIT STAFF and WEEKEND **HOSTESS**. Call Joe (479) 304-8998

HELP WANTED

NOW HIRING-WEEKDAYS AND WEEKENDS. People oriented sales staff. Must be 21 or older. Positions include inventory control, bar tending, inside and outside sales. Hours 10-6. (479) 253-9295

LOVE DOGS? Local rescue needs kennel help to care and feed dogs and puppies. \$10/hr possible! Call (479) 981-2155.

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DOWNTOWN 1BR APT. \$500 plus gas, electric (water/trash pd). Call (479) 253-9481 or email dan@twilight.arcoxmail.com

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SERVICE DIRECTORY

BEAUTY

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

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COPS continued from page 12

and took the male to a motel for the night. FEBRUARY 16

12:26 a.m. - Another call came in about the male with the baby. He, with the baby, had driven away toward town. Constables discovered his vehicle parked near a bar and later found him carrying the baby downtown. Constables called a taxi to take them back to their room. Vehicle staved downtown.

12:27 a.m. - Caller said a male was at her place and would not leave. Constable was unable to locate the address. ESPD later learned the call might have come from Holiday Island.

12:28 a.m. – Central dispatch reported an intoxicated person causing problems at an establishment downtown. Constable responded and arrested an individual for public intoxication and disorderly conduct.

1:11 a.m. – Another possible domestic in an apartment, and again the couple insisted everything had been verbal only. They agreed to sleep in separate rooms for the night.

1:47 a.m. - Caller told ESPD a vehicle had been backed up to the point of touching the bumper of his vehicle. He then said the owner of the vehicle was knocking on his door and he hung up on ESPD. Constable responded to discover there had been no damage to either vehicle. No report.

2:34 a.m. - Guest at a motel reported hearing someone in the parking lot yelling for police assistance. Constable went there but did not see anything suspicious.

2:39 a.m. - Traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the driver for DWI, driving on a suspended license, implied consent and driving left of center.

7:28 a.m. – Constable responded to report of an unattended death. EMS and coroner also responded.

10:58 a.m. - Alarm was triggered at a liquor store, but the responding constable found everything secure.

4:04 p.m. – ESPD got word of a reportedly reckless driver headed toward town from the west. Constable encountered the vehicle but did not notice any reckless driving.

11:38 p.m. – Another alarm company alerted ESPD to a burglary alarm, but the constable on patrol found the building

Go ahead and slurp

Don't miss the Holiday Island Fire Department's Annual Souper Sunday Feb. 23. Enjoy a variety of soups and desserts served from 10:30 a.m. until 2

p.m. Cost for adults is \$6, children (under 12) \$2. Soup's on in the Ballroom at the Holiday Island Country Club, corner of Holiday Island Drive and Country Club!

Men's Fellowship breakfast March 3

Gents, you're invited to the Men's Fellowship breakfast on Monday, March 3 with coffee at 7:30 a.m., breakfast at 8 and a guest speaker at 8:30 at Holiday Island Community Church, 188 Stateline Drive. Speaker Norman B. Camp is a native

of the area and traces his heritage to the early pioneer settlers. Camp's interest in area history has resulted in a collection of pictures and stories handed down over the years. Contact Duane Kriesel (479) 244-6422 if you plan to attend.

Wellness Festival kicks off with TED event March 1

My Wellness Festival is presenting a TED independent event at Clear Spring School on Dairy Hollow Road Saturday, March 1, from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.Registration is at 9 a.m. and there will be a live stream viewing party of *Changing* the Way We Eat at 10:30 a.m.

This is a free event with a potluck (BYO food and drink). RSVP required via email or phone at mamakapa@ yahoo.com, (479) 253 7461 or crystal@ clearspringschool.org, (479) 253 7888.

The Wellness Festival picks up again

March 15 through 22 with everything from an Equinox Concert to a seed swap. There will be discounts, demonstrations, classes and talks about food, healing, communication skills, digestive health and the invisible world inside us, massage for kids by kids, essential oils, what the feet can tell us, reading issues caused by light, thyroid health, herbs ... and much more.

See all events at mywellnessfestival. com and check upcoming Independent issues for details.

MAIL continued from page 10

[ES Independent Feb. 5, 2014].

When landowners starting getting their April Fool's letters from AEP/ SWEPCO back in 2013, it became apparent to many that we, the people, needed to create awareness and understanding of this surprise attack on our community. Save The Ozarks was formed and held its first public meeting two weeks later. I find it hard to believe, and irresponsible, that it took 10 months from those certified letters to finally conduct a survey. For a multi-billion dollar company that has had this project in the works for six years, shows either just how arrogant they are, how out of touch they are with this area, and/or how irresponsible they are with investors' money. In the real world, I'd be fired if I spent my backers' money in development without doing any research. But then again, I don't have the benefit of selling a product without proving it is needed or wanted.

What I would like to know is who is paying for said survey. Is this going to be classified as an education expense that is going to be passed on to the ratepayers?

I wonder how many affected landowners are getting called vs. people not on a route. To Mr. Main, we are quite aware of AEP/SWEPCO's assault and we have a very good understanding of the proposed destruction. You could have saved AEP/SWEPCO, the ratepayers or someone a lot of money on that survey if you have bothered to read the countless articles and testimonies on how much this project is opposed, or better to talked to us early on.

Ilene Powell

Response to first responder conference

Editor,

I wish to commend Eureka Springs Fire & EMS and their sponsors and vendors for the wonderful job they did in presenting the 2014 Midwest First Responder Conference. This conference gets better every year and is a tremendous asset for our EMS and fire responders.

Jim Simmons, Commissioner Western Carroll County Ambulance District (WCCAD)



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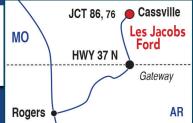
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