



Whiskful thinking –

Troy Johnson and Steve Ketchersid of Fresh Harvest have embarked on a new adventure on the Spice Boat! Taking a cue from the fabled *Star of India* spice boat, the duo have brought the world's riches of spice, herbs, teas and treasures to our landlocked port. See p. 3 for details. (PS: The whisk is not for sale, but all the other decorations are!)

PHOTO BY CD WHITE

ASPC staff sides with SWEPCO in rehearing

BECKY GILLETTE

The staff of the Arkansas Public Service Commission (APSC) has come down firmly on the side of American Electric Power (AEP)/Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO) by filing documents indicating they had no objection to a limited re-hearing in the power company's bid to overturn the decision selecting Route 109 in favor of SWEPCO's preferred Route 33. Staff also recommended the Save The Ozarks (STO) petition for rehearing be denied.

"Bisecting of Garfield with a 345 kV transmission line will impose a burden on this small city from which it may never recover."

"This is further evidence that the staff is completely on SWEPCO's side," STO Director Pat Costner said. "I don't think there has been a question about that from the beginning. What we do and say apparently has no influence at all on the staff. I don't think the staff has any regard for us, or for our position in this. They don't understand what their job is, and I don't think anyone is telling them what their job is, which is to take a fair, balanced and rational view of the submissions from the various parties."

Garfield city attorney Joanne M. McCracken

In recommending denial of STO's petition for a rehearing, staff said the commission's decision is based on substantial evidence, and STO has failed to meet its burden of proving otherwise, calling the commission's decision "not arbitrary or unreasonable."

SWEPCO requested the commission enter an order selecting Route 33 with modifications and amendments, and alleges any concerns the

SWEPCO continued on page 24

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This Week's INDEPENDENT Thinkers



PHOTO BY NATHANIEL BROOKS

Remember what kindergarten was like? Rigid classrooms, loud bells, listening to a teacher play bad songs on a bad piano and being told to sit up straight? No more.

Forest kindergartens are where children learn by playing. They go into the woods each school morning, no matter the weather. Children spend their days among trees and ponds and birds. They get physical exercise and mental stimulation while studying habits and care of creatures. They learn, they thrive. ADHD is practically non-existent.

It takes very little land to have an outdoor classroom, and results are making kids in their fives and sixes develop mature, healthy outlooks. And which berries taste best.

CAPC ranks score sheets high; overhauls website

NICKY BOYETTE

Score sheet scores

"It worked!" City Advertising and Promotion Commission Executive Director Mike Maloney reported at the March 26 workshop after giving the funding request score sheet devised by commissioner Damon Henke a test run by applying it to events funded last year.

The score sheet gives evaluators an opportunity to rank criteria such as public relations value to the city, demographic mix of visitors, and importance of tradition along with estimated lodging income an event might generate. The formula then produces a number representing estimated CAPC funds to be generated by the event.

"It is a non-complicated way to evaluate an application for funds," Maloney stated. "And the score sheet makes it easier for groups to know what we are looking for."

Maloney said he had used the score sheet to evaluate two events they funded last year, and the numbers produced by the rating system approximated what the CAPC had invested.

To date, the commission wanted all applications submitted by the end of October for funding the next

year. Chair Charles Ragsdell suggested they institute two funding periods so events formulated early in the year would still have a chance for funding. Maloney suggested Nov. 1 and May 1 as deadlines for each cycle.

Henke also suggested providing a funding support package that would let groups know what the CAPC can do for them. He stressed they should let groups know what the CAPC already is doing for them with citywide promotions.

Finance Director Rick Bright commented, "People complain we don't advertise for them, but they don't see the ads."

"It would impress them to see what we did for them," Henke added.

Commissioners liked Henke's idea of informational packages and charged Maloney with following up.

Homegrown website

Maloney gave the commission a tour of the new eureka Springs website built in-house. He said some of the features such as access to weekly events are more robust and searchable "and more adaptable for us in-house."

Ragsdell said intended improvements would include, for example, expanding the wedding section

so that each Bed & Breakfast has a space as well as a space for listing photographers. "And the beauty of this is we have control," he said regarding expansion and development of the site.

The commission wrangled with how to advertise activities without endorsing one establishment over another. Henke's idea was to "distance ourselves from biased information yet still give visitors options for what to do."

Maloney asked commissioners for input as staff continue to develop the site.

Michael Martin Murphey heading back to town

Ragsdell announced the premiere viewing of the Woodsongs Old-Time Radio Hour recorded at the auditorium last October will be aired at the Auditorium Friday, May 23. The performances feature Michael Martin Murphey and artists from the area as well as host, Michael Johnathon. Ragsdell said Murphey would return to the auditorium and perform the following evening, Saturday, May 24.

More information is available at theaud.org and eureka Springs.org.

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

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Spice Boat Ahoy!

C.D. WHITE

Indonesia, Spain, France, Italy ... how would you like to visit the ports of call made by the fabled *Star of India* as she sailed her spice routes around the globe? It's a close second, but a visit to the new Spice Boat in Pine Mountain Village can put you in a cook's Nirvana with the brilliant colors and scents of those exotic spices, some once worth more than their weight in gold.

Owners Troy Johnson and Steve Ketchersid of Fresh Harvest docked the Spice Boat at the Village harbor on April 2 (Steve's birthday), and her hold is filled to the brim with the coveted flavors of spices, teas and herbs from every country on the *Star of India's* ports of call – and then some.

Real vanilla bean, saffron, cinnamon, turmeric, anise, smoked paprika, peppers, salts, herbs and teas along with extracts, flavorings and rubs of the highest quality are no longer just the purview of top chefs. Steve and Troy have now made them available to you.

"We wanted to surprise Eureka," Troy said. And they have, with a selection of 244 spices, herbs and teas and a cargo of "treasures" – among them, top deck cookware including tagin and coq au vin pots, German and Japanese kitchen knives, double-blown glassware and a French coffee press that keeps coffee warm!

But first, they looked all around Eureka Springs at what was being offered, not wanting to "step on anyone's toes."

Observant folks knew something was going on behind the papered-over windows on the store next to Fresh Harvest, but Troy and Steve managed to keep their secret while the nautical-themed Spice Boat was being made shipshape with the creative help of carpenter Martin Pot, and Acord's was installing a seaworthy "deck."

"The *Star of India* is our mascot," Steve said, pointing out a picture of the sailing vessel in the shop. The duo spent a lot of time doing research and finding the right providers who could deliver "certified, safe handling" products.

Most spices go through a microwave process before they reach the shelves of the average grocery or shop, but Steve and Troy opted for the better, more expensive flash steam process. All the spices and teas are non-irradiated, all natural and have no preservatives.

"We looked into bulk products, but there were too many steps where there could be contamination," Troy explained, "so we created private label jars and the spices are immediately packed so they come directly to you after packing and you're the first one to smell and touch them when the cap is opened." And what fragrances there are!

SPICE BOAT continued on page 22



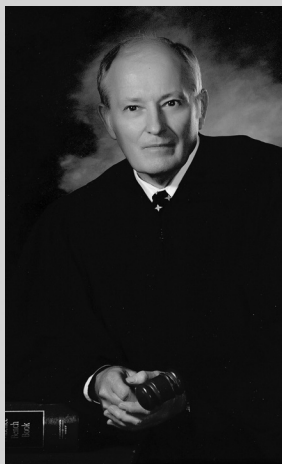
Olfactory delights – Steve Ketchersid, left, opens one of the Certified Organic spices offered at the Spice Boat so Troy Johnson can appreciate the pungent aroma.

PHOTO BY CD WHITE

RE-ELECT KENT CROW CIRCUIT JUDGE

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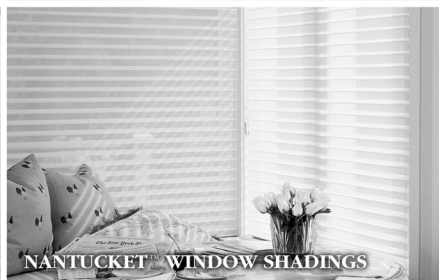
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INDEPENDENTNews

Goddess Gala April 8 celebrates, raises money

BECKY GILLETTE

Ladies, it is time to get your Goddess gown out. Tuesday, April 8, is the fifth anniversary of this "only in Eureka" event, the Goddess Gala, where the woman of the area gather to raise money for abused children, celebrate spring, bless seeds, eat gourmet food, drum, and dance, dance, dance.

Valerie Damon, one of the area's more prominent artists and an earth activist, has been spearheading the event since its beginning.

Why a Goddess Gala?

"The reason we wanted to have a spring women's party was to create stronger bonds in the sisterhood of women," Damon said. "We wanted the money for tickets to go to a good cause, and I have always been impressed with the dedication and nobleness of the Merlin Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides help to victims of child abuse, rape and domestic violence. We decided the money we raised would go to the abused children's medical needs. I can think of no better cause."

In 2013, the event raised \$2,300 for the Merlin Foundation, and there was \$250 in expenses. This year, the goal is to have zero expenses, and that is possible because so many people have donated generously, including Elise Roenigk, Jodie English and Susan Dickson.

"Jessica Shabatura has been designing our tickets, posters and playbills and helping with the website for five years," Damon said. "Deerwoman has helped with sound systems, photography and the website. Lany Balance has been terrific providing musical entertainment and helping with planning. Karen Lindblad handles publicity. Victoria Marshall is organizing a fantastic raffle. Lorna Trigg Hirsch leads drumming during the blessings. This year Shakeenah Kedom and Zee Reeder are doing all the decorations."

Alisha Hensley helped organize it the first year, and since then a number of other women have come on board.

"We have a team of incredible volunteers from Northwest Arkansas," Damon said. "It is not just Eureka women. This year, thanks to the generosity of everyone, we have zero

money being taken out of the ticket sales. Every dime from every ticket sales goes to the Merlin Foundation. Everything is volunteered."

The event grew out of a Blessing of the Seeds party that used to be held in Eureka Springs years ago. Since then they have added a Blessing of the Water, a Blessing of the Food, a Blessing of the Goddesses and a Blessing of the Children.

The blessings are not from one kind of religious perspective. "It is more a universal, loving energy," Damon said.

Creative, artful costumes are definitely encouraged. "Some people just pull out their latest wonderful, fancy dress they don't have anywhere else to wear," Damon said. "This is, after all, Eureka, so we encourage individual, artful expression. People can bring drums and rattles. And we will have face painting available for those who want it."

The event has grown each year, and helps raise awareness that child abuse, rape and domestic violence are far too common.

"People really care about these issues, and have been ready to jump on board and contribute," Damon said. "Inspiration for the event is all the great work the Merlin Foundation is doing. That has fed this event and makes us dedicated to happen again. The event has created an energy of its own because of the need. The party itself is uplifting!"

Tickets for the event that runs from 6 to 11 p.m., Tuesday, April 8, are \$13 in advances and \$15 at the door. A sellout crowd is expected, so it is recommended that tickets be purchased in advance. Tickets are available in Eureka Springs at Annie's Boutique (inside New Orleans Hotel), Eureka Market, Fire Om Earth Studio, Gazebo Books, Keels Creek Winery, and from Damon.

Participants need to bring a gourmet potluck dish to share, (label the dish vegetarian, carnivore, vegan, gluten free, or whatever for our diet-sensitive Goddesses). Alcohol is fine; BYOB. Tea, coffee and water will be available. Women can bring seeds to bless, if they desire (label your bag of seeds

GODDESS GALA continued on page 25

SWEPCO – A boon for solar energy in Carroll County?

DAVID FRANK DEMPSEY

Home installation of grid-connected solar energy systems spiked by 33 percent in the 12-month period since Southwestern Electric Power Company announced its plan to plow through Carroll County with

a 345 kiloVolt transmission line. Those numbers came from Carroll Electric Communications Director Nancy Plagge who cited 12 grid-tied solar installations a year ago, a number she said has now grown to 18.



Some of the new solar users decided to invest in alternative power in reaction to SWEPCO's transmission line plans. "That's prompted several people to jump on it," Jerry Landrum said. Landrum has consulted and helped plan solar installations in Carroll County and become known as a go-to-guy for people making the leap. "Earlier a lot of people were thinking, 'If I suddenly had a lot of money solar would be a good thing to look into,'" Landrum said, "It's gone from that to," "I have a little money so what can I do with what I have now?"

Experts like Landrum, Carl Evans and Jimis Damet of Rocky Grove Sun Company make the changeover less daunting by explaining in plain English different kinds of solar installations and where each is best

Let the sun shine on – David Pettit, left, Michael Shah and Carl Evans install solar panels in a large array at the Shah farm near Kings River in Carroll County.

PHOTO BY FAITH SHAH

suited. Clearing the hurdle of understanding can be as important as the cost.

Michael and Faith Shah are opponents of the SWEPCO 345 kiloVolt line. They had kicked around the idea of solar power for years but were driven to action in a very short period after becoming associated with Save The Ozarks, a grassroots movement

SOLAR continued on page 27

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INDEPENDENTNews

Finnish carpenter, not finish carpenter, not finished yet

ERIC STUDER

Imagine traveling almost 5,000 miles from Finland to Eureka Springs on four different occasions and never visiting the Crescent Hotel, Beaver Lake or world renowned Thorncrown Chapel.

Tuomo Rinne, 33, didn't come here from his home in Raasepori, Finland to sightsee or vacation. He's here because of Old Street Tool, founded by Eureka Springs' residents Larry Williams and Don McConnell. Rinne manages a carpentry and home restoration business in Fiskars. In 2008, while studying for a degree in preservation carpentry at Turku University of Applied Sciences, he decided to make unique wood planes for his capstone project.

Rinne's tool making research led him to Old Street Tool. OST is one of the only companies in the US specializing in building 18th-Century British wooden

planes and other fine carpentry tools. Superior performance and high quality of OST tools has led to a two-year backlog of orders.

"Most people think these tools are primitive, but they are more sophisticated than anything available at Home Depot. They are truly mathematical machines that do things no power tool can," Williams said.

In the quest to complete his final college project, Rinne ordered an OST tool building instruction DVD which inspired him to attend classes at the Franklin, Ind., Marc Adams School of Woodworking in 2012, where he first met Larry Williams. Rinne was so inspired by Williams and his products that he obtained small business loans from the Finnish government and private grants for a series of training sessions at OST.

Rinne recently completed his fourth two-week training visit at OST and plans to return for two final sessions before the end of the year.

When asked about Eureka Springs, the thoughtful Finn hesitated, saying, "I think it's a nice town, but I have not seen much of it." His lack of local knowledge is due to his extreme dedication to learning his craft.

"Tuomo works twelve hours a day, seven days a week when he is here. We can't get him out of the shop," said Don McConnell, co-founder of OST. "You have to really want to do this. It's hard work that won't make you rich. We are so impressed by Tuomo's skills and commitment we are considering passing him the torch when Larry and I retire or die at our workbench," quipped McConnell.

A Finnish carpentry student working with two veteran American woodworkers has led to some comical



Tuomo Rinne in the Old Street Tool workshop

situations. "It's a big adjustment going from metric measurements to feet and inches. I'm totally lost with Fahrenheit, so I never know the temperature here," Rinne joked.

"I work from memory, but Tuomo keeps detailed notes. He keeps me on my toes," added Williams.

Fine Tool Journal once wrote, "... Old Street Tool is more than a tool making company. It's also a research facility for early woodworking technology." Tuomo Rinne would be quick to add that it's also a university for serious craftsmen and Williams and McConnell are his two favorite professors.

"We are looking forward to Tuomo's next visit. Hopefully we can pry him out of the shop to see the beauty of the Ozarks," said Williams.

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Foodie family makes Sweet-n-Savory dream come true

ERIC STUDER

Long-time local chefs from Eureka Springs' best restaurants, Ann Naumann and Trey Merritt, will open Eureka Springs' newest new dining option Thursday, April 3, at 8 a.m.

If you've wondered about the eye-catching Sweet-n-Savory sign on E. Van Buren, now you can taste what it's all about. Assisted by family members and friends, Naumann and Merritt will be open initially for breakfast and lunch with an eclectic menu and a wide variety of fresh baked goods supplemented by the local farmers' market right across the street.

Breakfast lovers will enjoy fresh baked cinnamon rolls, scones, hand-made quiche, fresh baked cookies and pan breads in a relaxing space surrounded by the works of local artists.

Appetizers include savory cheesecake with spinach, artichoke hearts, green onions, sun dried tomatoes and gorgonzola – and more. For lunch there's a crab melt

on a croissant, a great Reuben, pan seared tilapia with pecan butter and dishes to make your mouth water.

Naumann, a 32-year resident of Eureka Springs, has experience in a long list of the city's best dining places, including Dairy Hollow House, Café Armagost and Local Flavor.

"I have always wanted to have my own restaurant. Thanks to my children and close friends, it's become a reality. My son and daughter have played a key role in making this a reality. I can't thank them enough," Naumann said.

Her daughter, Shastah, will continue in critical roles of promoting and managing the facility.

Sweet-n-Savory partner, Merritt, is a long-time chef who has done his share of time in the best kitchens of Eureka Springs and Little Rock. "When Ann lost her husband a few years ago, I encouraged her to fulfill the lifelong dream they shared of opening their own restaurant. I never



One sweet 'n' savory team – Shastah Naumann, from left, Melanie Pierce, Mark Murphy, Ann Naumann and Trey Merritt are ready to cook for and serve you at the new Sweet-n-Savory Café.

PHOTO BY ERIC STUDER

realized she would put me on the spot and say 'OK, let's do it.' So here we are making it happen in our favorite town," he said

Sweet-n-Savory is open 8 a.m. – 4

p.m. See The Sweet & Savory Café on Facebook for more on the menu and Café news. To order take-out bakery items, call (479) 253-7151.

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Gunslinger – Shades of old Eureka!

This happy holstered visitor was one of 60 people on an open carry walk into Eureka Springs organized by Northwest 746. The group walked into town from the train station on N. Main on March 29 and dispersed around Spring Street without incident. About 20 of the group stayed behind to shop and eat.

PHOTO BY GWEN ETHEREDGE

Meek and proud of it – The reorganized Meek's building supply store in Berryville began a week of fun, sales and specials with a re-opening ribbon cutting on March 29 held by the Berryville Chamber of Commerce. Front row, from left, are Vanessa Hunt, Kathy White, Patricia Foster, Ronnie Mathes and Brandon Foster; back row Mike Meek, Dusty Neal and Charlie Meek. The staff and Meek family members have a lot to celebrate. Drop in and see why this week.

PHOTO BY ERIC STUDER



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CALL OR DROP BY FOR A TOUR

Frog Listening Workshop

FrogWatch USA invites you to report the calls of local frogs and toads. Tom Krohn, Arkansas regional coordinator for Frog Watch USA, will conduct a free frog listening workshop Tuesday, April 8, and Tuesday, April 15 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Shiloh Museum of Ozark History, 118 W. Johnson Ave. in downtown Springdale.

Sponsored by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, FrogWatch USA is a citizen science program that invites individuals and families to learn about

the wetlands in their communities and help conserve amphibians by reporting the calls of local frogs and toads.

The April 8 session will focus on how to identify frogs and toads by their calls. The April 15 session will be an introduction to wetlands ecology and a discussion of volunteer opportunities with FrogWatch USA.

Preregistration by April 5 is encouraged, as seating is limited. Call (479) 750-8165 or email shiloh@springdalear.gov.

No Foolin' Grand Opening & Sale

WoodzY Eco-Friendly Modern Rustic Furniture, 24002 US 62, is officially open! Help celebrate by getting a great deal on reclaimed wood furniture, cool modern art and funky home décor April 1 – 6 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Enjoy 30 – 50 percent off the entire stock of reclaimed wood furniture handmade by Robert and Suzanne Norman. For more information, see www.woodzy.org, email info@woodzy.org or phone (479) 981-6463.

New railroad museum opens April 3

The Eureka Springs Railroad Historical & Restoration Society is proud to announce the opening of The Eureka Springs Railroad Historical Museum located at Silver Wings Field Airport. A grand opening for the museum will be celebrated Thursday, Friday and Saturday April 3 – 5, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Come see tools and historical items from the Eureka Springs and North Arkansas Railroad and more. The museum is located near the Aviation Cadets Museum parking lot 2.5 miles down Onyx Cave Road off US 62E. For more information, phone (479) 253-5008.

HI Blood Drive April 7

The Holiday Island Community Blood Drive will be Monday, April 7, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Elk's Lodge, located at 4 Park Cliff Drive in the Holiday Island shopping center. Free cholesterol screening for all donors. Help make a difference in your community by donating blood.

5K Run/Walk for cancer research April 12

The Carole Hilmer 5K Run/Walk is presented annually by the Holiday Island Chamber of Commerce to benefit ovarian cancer research at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Research Center. This year the Three-Mile Run is USATF-sanctioned. Three-mile and two-

mile walks are also part of the event.

The race begins Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m. at the Barn, 120 Shields Drive, on Holiday Island. Entry fee is \$20 until April 7 and \$25 after. Online entry forms and maps are available at www.holidayisland.us and at www.ridgerunnersports.com.

Start carb-ing up for the event Friday from 5 – 7 p.m. at the Holiday Island Elks Lodge spaghetti dinner. Cost is \$8, a portion of which will benefit the race. Registration and packet pick-up will also be available.

On Saturday morning, load more carbs and be ready for action at the Eureka Springs Rotary Interact pancake breakfast at the Holiday Island Pavilion beginning at 8 a.m. Again, registration and packet pickup will be available.

Come help support this worthy cause in memory of Carole Hilmer, known to her friends and others as “a courageous woman who inspired a lot of people.”

AARP gets lesson in pesticides April 14

The Carroll County Chapter AARP will meet Monday, April 14, at the Holiday Island Club House, downstairs; Room A. Guest speaker is Mark Mowrey, Superintendent for Holiday Island golf courses and driving range.

Mowrey has worked on the courses for 17 years and brings his valuable experience to bear on the use of herbicides and pesticides. He is licensed from the Natural Resource Commission as a private nutrient applicator and is a Class VI applicator license holder from the Arkansas State Plant Board, giving him permission to use potent and dangerous chemicals. Mowrey will be teaching homeowners ‘how and what’ to safely apply for personal use on property.

Carroll County Chapter AARP meets the second Monday of each month excluding June, July and August. Everyone is invited to attend. Please direct any questions to Sherry Kerr (479) 253-6428.

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Letters to the Editor should be limited to 200 words or so.

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

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

Is Eureka truly open to everyone?

Editor,

I would like to share my observation of the downtown businesses reaction to the Open Carry Walk, before, during and after. On Tuesday, March 25, I visited more than 170 businesses in the downtown and surrounding areas. I found one “no guns” sign. On the morning of the scheduled Saturday walk I visited the same 170+ businesses and found 14 new signs posted for “no guns.” On the following Monday afternoon I once again visited the same businesses and found that seven of the 14 signs had been removed.

Also I would like to mention that the local blue paper did an online survey, “Do you support the open carry walk.” 84.5 percent (201 votes) said yes. 7.6 percent (18 votes) said I support gun rights but not this. 8 percent (19 votes) said I think too many people are gun-happy.

In the emergency city council meeting to prevent the walk a council member said he got 150 signatures from downtown shops. I did not find 150 “no guns” signs in the downtown area.

I’ve left my opinions and emotions

out of this letter and only state the things I observed so you can decide for yourself “is Eureka truly open to everyone.”

Keith Youngblood

Keep Out signs a sign of fear

Editor,

Can you remember a number of years ago when folks were excluded from towns with signs placed in restaurants and businesses because of a community’s ignorance, fear and prejudice? It’s a terrible shame... some will never understand.

E. Grat

Evolve or die

Editor,

I just read that every single Arkansas congressman (yes, all men, all white, fairly rich and all Republican) to the US House voted to dump coal waste in the streams as a way for corporations to deal with unwanted toxins, which are the nasty by-product of our way of powering our society.

I don’t know if it is fear that motivates politicians to act against the interests of all sentient life, but it certainly comes across as pandering greed. I don’t know what makes Republicans hate life on our Home,

but they are certainly showing how much they do. I wonder if these politicians think because they are rich and white and men they can survive what the rest of the little people cannot survive.

We cannot survive without clean drinkable water or fresh breathable air, but corporations have only one agenda, and that is to make money whether it supports sentient life or not. Today we face this dilemma on many levels and in many states.

This is the issue of our lives. We all know that money is important. We see that every bill due date; but at the same time, the collective “We” has a say. We can choose which direction we want to go. Making as much money in the short term and “Damn the Torpedoes, Full Speed Ahead” is one strategy, or adjusting to new realities and opportunities and living more harmoniously with all the inhabitants of our planet by choosing 21st Century Green technologies. We as citizens of this planet have to make this choice. And this is the time, because the future is here. This tiny corner of the world is paradise and our question is how to live in the 21st century without destroying our lives in the process.

I hope we will choose to look to future

MAIL continued on page 23



WEEK’S Top Tweets

@FrankConniff --- Latest economic indicators show an uptick of growth in the manufacturing outrage sector.

ADavidKlein5 --- If your ringtone is a Black Eyed Peas song you have 4 seconds to answer before the entire office throws their stapler at you.

@craydrienne --- How about a restaurant where the minute you walk in you lose cell service and your camera app is disabled, we’ll call it “Enjoy your lives.”

@calluptome --- We should remove the warning labels from everything and let the stupidity problem take care of itself.

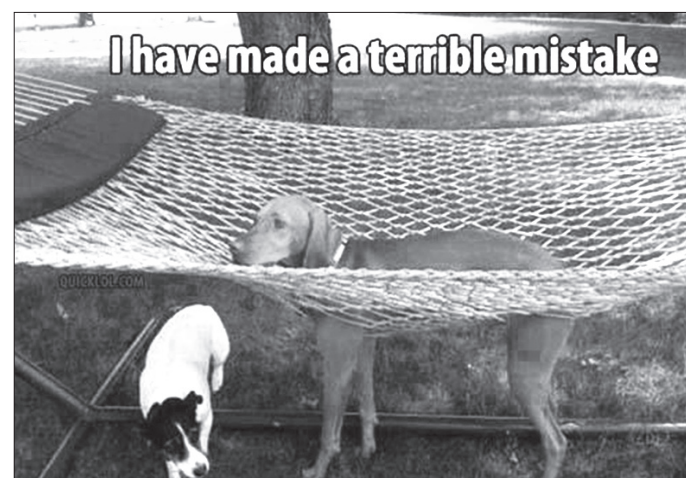
@sween --- Hipster sushi restaurants only serve eye rolls.

@Zen_Moments --- In prosperity our friends know us; in adversity we know our friends. ~ John Churton

@inthefade --- More like March Sadness.

@Brain_Wash --- If this phone were really smart, it wouldn’t let me call people.

@soffii --- Do they make UGGS for emotions?



Put Arkansas Medical Cannabis Act on the ballot

If someone stops you in the next couple of months and asks you to sign a petition to put the Arkansas Medical Cannabis Act on the ballot, the last thing you should say is that you don't have time. If Melissa Davis of Fayetteville has time, you have time.

Davis is the mother of two children who suffer from a rare genetic seizure disorder called PIG-T CDG (Congenital Disorders of Glycosylation). It causes them to have a seizure every two minutes on average – all day, all night, all week, all year. Children with this disorder can see their seizures drop from hundreds a week to five a week by taking a tincture that is made by a special strain of low THC cannabis called Charlotte's Web.

Davis' children need constant supervision, a superhuman task. But she has found time to gather hundreds of signatures on the Arkansas Medical Cannabis Act petition (see www.arcompassion.com). If she has time, you have time to sign to help the Davis children, and many other people throughout the state who would benefit from medical cannabis.

Recently people attending a service at the Unitarian Universalist (UU) Church heard a presentation by a sponsor of the Arkansas for Compassionate Care campaign. Emma Yingling talked about Davis and other people like veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and cancer patients who could greatly benefit from medical marijuana/cannabis. At times her talk was emotional as she talked about losing a dear aunt to cancer, whose suffering could have been eased greatly if cannabis had been legal and available.

Even people who thought they knew about medical cannabis came away with a lot of new knowledge. For example, many people may know that cannabis can help with nausea and other side effects of chemotherapy for cancer treatment. But did you know scientific research shows that cannabis can kill cancer cells and shrink tumors?

This is illegal, while the opiates that cost far more money and come with serious side effects such as addiction are legal?

There is a new term out there for people with serious medical problems that are relieved or cured by marijuana – cannabis refugees. This includes families with children who have hundreds of seizures a day. These are patients that are forced to uproot/migrate/move to states where they can access their medicine safely and legally.

Yingling talked about the medicinal marijuana initiative in Arkansas that was on the ballot a couple of years ago. That came closer to passing than was predicted, with 49 percent of voters in favor of it. Now another effort is being made to put it on the ballot, and organizers have only until the first week in July to gather about 62,507 signatures from registered voters.

The time is ripe for passage in Arkansas with medicinal cannabis now legal in 20 states and Washington, D.C. People are becoming better educated all the time that this isn't about someone getting "high." It is about sick people having access to the best natural medicine for their condition.

One of the more interesting parts of the presentation at the UU recently was how many people spoke up from the congregation about cannabis being very helpful to their loved ones. Two women spoke of daughters with seizures who have benefitted tremendously from cannabis. One of the women went from being bedridden to being able to live normally. Another woman spoke of a foot surgery that had left her in pain for months. She traveled to a state where medicinal cannabis is legal, and after only a couple doses, her foot relaxed enough that the pain started to go away. She was in a wheelchair before; now, she can walk.

Petitions to put the issue on the ballot can be signed at Granny's in downtown Eureka and at My Funk'n Eureka, 7190 Highway 62. To volunteer with Arkansas for Compassion care, Yingling can be reached at (479) 283-6578 or by sending an email to emma.yingling@arcompassion.com.

Becky Gillette



The Pursuit Of HAPPINESS

by Dan Krotz

I have long admired the life and work of the Christian writer and preacher Watchman Nee. Born in China at the beginning of the 20th Century, Nee worked as a mostly itinerant missionary from around 1925, until he was imprisoned by the Chinese government in 1952. He died in prison in 1972.

During the late '30s Nee gave a series of lectures in Europe that were translated into English and then published, in 1957, as *The Normal Christian Life*. It is an altogether edifying book, for both Christians and skeptics alike, and for anyone, actually, with a metaphysical turn of mind. Among Nee's ideas was that churches ought to exist as places where believers experience and enjoy Christ as a body of believers rather than as members of an organization. Roughly summarized, Nee thought that one church per town was plenty enough. Considering that there are at least 50 churches between here and the eastside of Berryville – and another 15 or 20 if we go to the outer edges of Green Forest – Nee failed as a prophet, if not as an exemplar of virtue. This has to do, doubtlessly, with man's unquenchable need to monetize, or at least improve, everything within sight. Thus, Christ brought a revolution, Paul turned it into a religion, the Greeks made of it a philosophy, the Romans milled it into an organization, Europeans hammered it into political parties, and Americans franchised it and put it on television.

The fragmentation of Christian religion into such an array of "choices" seems a bit scandalous, frankly. Today, "the Body of Christ" bears an uncanny resemblance to cohorts of shoppers strolling through retail malls looking for "just the right thing." I admit to feeling a bit of sympathy for the shopkeepers – preachers – as they try and guess what these omnivorous customers may want next. Nee would recommend consolidation and more revolution. But those, of course, would be bad for business, at least in the short term.

Theologically speaking, I guess we could start by agreeing that dogs go to heaven and cats go to hell. You're on board with that, right?

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INDEPENDENT Constables On Patrol

MARCH 24

10:56 a.m. – Concerned observer thought two young men in a parked vehicle near apartments seemed suspicious. He asked them to leave and noticed they had a large knife. The pair relocated across the street. Later constable on patrol made contact with one of the two males and determined things were okay.

6:16 p.m. – Resident in a neighborhood thought vehicles were parked along the street in such a way they might be in jeopardy of being hit after dark because they partially blocked the roadway. Constable responded and was able to drive through without difficulty.

MARCH 25

12:25 a.m. – Resident just east of downtown complained the music nearby was too loud, but the constable who went to the area did not hear any loud music.

12:32 a.m. – Sheriff's office asked ESPD to watch for an individual who would be walking toward town from Hwy. 187.

8:15 a.m. – Constable at the station took a report of fraudulent use of a credit card.

9:15 a.m. – ESPD learned of a male hitchhiking along Hwy. 23 North, but he was nowhere to be seen when the constable looked for him.

4:23 p.m. – An individual in a neighborhood was allegedly jumping in front of cars as they passed and yelling at them. Constable did not encounter the person.

4:30 p.m. – Another call came in about the same person beating on passing vehicles and yelling. This time the constable found the culprit and arrested him for public intoxication.

10:48 p.m. – A driver was allegedly tailgating and passing others on his way through town. Constables and the driver did not cross paths.

MARCH 26

2:39 a.m. – Passerby noticed a male

apparently passed out in a parked vehicle near a bar downtown. When the constable arrived, the subject was no longer asleep, and said his home was nearby and he planned to walk home.

3:26 a.m. – Constable went to the scene of an accident on Hwy. 23. EMS also responded.

MARCH 27

7:15 a.m. – Constable found an unleashed chocolate Lab in a neighborhood near downtown and brought it to the station where the owner later reclaimed it.

9:08 a.m. – Burglar alarm sounded at a downtown business. Constable found the door unlocked and checked the building. Nothing seemed amiss, and he waited for the keyholder to secure the door.

10:17 a.m. – Complainant accused another individual of not only flipping him off in traffic, but regularly harassing him. Constable spoke with both parties and filed a report.

11:35 p.m. – Apartment dweller reported someone entered his premises uninvited.

MARCH 28

9:11 a.m. – A cell phone disappeared.

9:28 a.m. – Person at another location reported personal items had been stolen from his vehicle overnight.

9:58 a.m. – A delivery truck hit an awning downtown.

3:12 p.m. – ESH asked for an officer right away.

3:19 p.m. – Traffic downtown had been blocked temporarily but it had cleared before a constable got there.

MARCH 29

12:54 a.m. – Constable on patrol encountered two men arguing downtown. He called a cab to take them to their hotel.

2:13 a.m. – Vehicle nearly hit a passing constable so the constable initiated a traffic stop resulting in the arrest of the driver for DWI, driving left of center, possession of

a controlled substance and possession of paraphernalia.

10:11 a.m. – Someone stole a fishing pole, but the owner did not want to file a report yet.

2:01 p.m. – Motorist observed another driver being erratic behind the wheel as they came toward town from the west. Constable did encounter the subject vehicle but the driver was driving safely in town.

2:18 p.m. – Two vehicles bumped in a parking lot. No injuries.

3:57 p.m. – ESPD watched for a person with an outstanding warrant possibly headed toward town, but he did not come their way.

7:53 p.m. – Two females were reportedly running along Planer Hill yelling disparaging comments at passersby. Constable advised them to return to their motel room and bunker down for the night.

10:55 p.m. – Person already banned from an establishment came in anyway and made a scene when she was asked to leave. She left the premises and constables kept watch for her just in case.

MARCH 30

2:26 a.m. – Bystander called in a well-oiled individual downtown. Constable went to the scene and arrested the individual for public intoxication.

8:33 a.m. – Constable responded to an unattended death in a neighborhood near downtown.

9:07 a.m. – Person just released from jail was creating a disturbance, and a constable responded. The agitator left the scene with his girlfriend.

3:12 p.m. – Observer claimed protesters were causing an issue. The constable said there was no problem at the moment but he would keep an eye on things.

5:19 p.m. – Constable issued a citation for parking in a handicapped spot.

COPS continued on page 27



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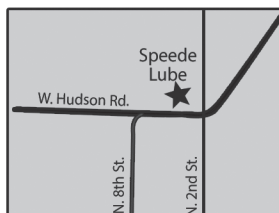
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INDEPENDENT Art & Entertainment

Get potted April 9

A Eureka Springs Potter's Association is forming with the goal of bringing together people with an interest in functional and non-functional ceramics. The group will be social and educational, with plans to open a co-op storefront in town. Organizing meeting will be Wednesday, April 9 at 7 p.m. at FireOmEarth (872 Mill Hollow Rd). Anyone with an interest in pottery is encouraged to attend. Call Elby (914) 584-2145 for additional details.



Step Lively! Scottish dancing class registration

Register now for Scottish Dancing spring classes before the series' summer break. Classes will be held at the Elks Lodge in Holiday Island on Tuesday

nights from 7 – 8:30 p.m. on April 8, 15, 22 and May 5, 13 and 20. For more info on this fun class phone Melissa (479) 253-8252.

\$500 for best ArtRageous parade entry!

The Eureka Springs Arts Council will award \$1,000 in prize money for the best entries in the 2014 ArtRageous Parade: First place, \$500; Second place, \$300; and Third place, \$200.

It's the perfect chance for your group or organization to put some money in the coffers, so dust off your most ArtRageous decorations and spiff up that old float or artsy idea and sign up to enter the parade. Pick up an application from the Chamber

of Commerce, the CAPC offices or download one from the "Info" page on the MFA website: www.eurekaspringsfestivalofthearts.com

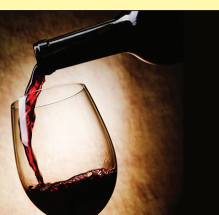
The Arts Council wants this to be the biggest and best May Fine Arts parade ever. Everyone is encouraged to get ArtRageous and participate. Ride, walk, roll or dance – all are welcome.

This year the parade starts at 6 p.m. For more information call the CAPC (479) 253-7333.

Tastes and Tapas April 5 at Writers' Colony

Come to a tasting of fabulous Oregon and Washington wines and enjoy tapas created by FRESH Executive Chef Jonathan Streety from 5 – 7 p.m. at the Writers' Colony at Dairy Hollow, 515 Spring St. Tickets are \$20 and space is limited, so reserve yours today by calling (479) 253-7444 or emailing director@writerscolony.org.

Tapas & a
Taste of the
Pacific
Northwest



"April showers" bring *Singing in the Rain* to Aud

Eureka Classic Movies (ECM) opened its season to an appreciative crowd at the city auditorium on March 30 with the 1964 musical, *Mary Poppins*, starring Julie Andrews and Dick VanDyke.

April's movie, *Singing in the Rain* (a title appropriate for April's fabled showers), starring Gene Kelly, will be shown Sunday, April 13, at 7 p.m.

Just follow the smell of popcorn

through the open doors of the lobby as children and parents find seats in the theater to enjoy community laughter, cheering and a fine theater experience at a reasonable price, only \$3.

Parking is free after 6 p.m., so join the gang at the auditorium for some outstanding classic entertainment plus popcorn, candy, liquid refreshments and fun.

Be SmART, ReART!

ESSA's first fun(d)raiser event of the year, ReART CHAIR-ity – "Art and Collectibles" – is coming up Sunday, April 27.

This is a great chance to donate the art and collectibles you've been looking at for decades to ESSA now and replace them with something fresh from the silent auction beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center on April 27.

At 8 p.m. there will also be a fun live

auction of Fantastic ReART Chairs by Jim Nelson, Doug Stowe, Debbie Handler and Gina Galina, among others.

See www.ESSA-ART.org and email esartschool@gmail.com or phone (479) 253-5384 about art and collectibles you'd like to donate to the ReART CHAIR-ity event. Then come have some fun and enjoy appetizers as you bid on rare art and collectibles to replace them. Some amazing art has been obtained at unbelievable prices!

Young local dancers step up

Elite Dance Studio dancers have measured up well in venues including Tulsa, Bentonville and Kansas City, but Artistic Directors Emily Viator and Virginia Mock wanted to give them a new challenge; so off they went to explore new horizons in Texas at the CoDance Convention and Competition March 21– 23 in Dallas.

According to Berryville studio owner Mock, Elite students got about one third of the top scores. The two Elite studios, Berryville and Johnson, shared the Spirit Award for positive attitudes on and off stage.

Judges were especially captivated with Eden Wilson, who earned one of two Entertainer awards, was named an overall winner and also received a scholarship to a future event. In addition to a Platinum award for a solo, Eden and her brother, Gavin, received one of the four top Judges' awards for a duo. An Elite group performance to "Freak Flag" also earned a Judges' award.

The Berryville studio will hold a recital at the Lawrence Welk Theater in Branson on May 18, and the Johnson (Fayetteville) studio will hold a recital at Springdale Performing Arts Center on May 10. For more about Elite Dance studios see www.elitedancestudios.com or phone (870) 423-5304 or (479) 443-1990.



Gavin and Eden Wilson

INDEPENDENTHIGH (Falutin') SOCIETY



Finn and founders – Tuomo Rinne, left, was recently back in town from his home in Finland for another of several apprenticeships under the tutelage of Old Street Tool founders Don McConnell (seated) and Larry Williams.

PHOTO BY ERIC STUDER



Learning early – Joe McClung, Cornerstone Bank representative, took time to explain stock market basics to Eureka Springs' third and fourth grade gifted and talented students recently. The students are competing in the Stock Market Game, and McClung taught them how to research

stock prices, why one should diversify, and also why and how students should research stocks before investing.

PHOTO SUBMITTED



Old friends – Carl A. left, whose show opened at the Ozark Mountain Down this week, met with his old boss, Mike Bisbee. The Cinnamon Valley ribbon cutting. Mike's show opens at the Pine Mountain Theater on April 4.

PHOTO BY ERIC STUDER



New beginning – Despite a cool and rainy evening, The Cinnamon Valley Luxury Log Cabins Open House and Ribbon Cutting drew a strong turnout from Chamber of Commerce members and local residents. Julie Martin, holding scissors, is The Cinnamon Valley's new owner.

PHOTO BY ERIC STUDER



One zombie tag – Original zombie volunteer, Mary Wise, gets her first (and only) tag! Aw, Mary, there's always next year!

PHOTO SUBMITTED

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Bagged! – Carroll County Master Gardeners Mariellen Griffith (from left), Lee Monger, Anna Mathews and Michael Rissler raked and bagged leaves at the Eureka Springs Heritage Museum as part of the work the CCMG does to beautify the area.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Grotto gang –
Lower Elementary students from left: Chance FitzPatrick, Rowan Scheunamen, teacher Jenny Amussen, Ana Crider and Ian Evans



Zombie trap – Original zombies Scott Rodier, left, and Siddhi Torre-Frost got stuck in the Zombie Squeeze part of the obstacle course during Zombie Tag at Lake Leatherwood. About 150 humans and zombies came out to participate.

PHOTO SUBMITTED



Thumbs up for clean up – Clear Spring Students Chloe Kirk, left, and Lily Torgerson showing bags of debris they collected during the springs' spring cleanup, as part of keep Arkansas Beautiful.

Spring spring cleaning – Harding Spring gets a spring cleanup from Chloe Kirk, from left, Alena Guillory and Kylie Fife. Sitting behind bags are Lily Torgerson and Tarrah Youngblood, standing are Kaitlyn Pearson, teacher Juanita Crider, Oakley Griffin, Hawk Slane, and Steven Rivers in the back.

A little help from our friends:

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

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

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

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

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

• **Celebrate Recovery** – All are welcome 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 10 a.m.

Sunday – Thursday, Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Tuesday and Friday, 8 p.m. (479) 253-7956

Al-Anon, Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.

All other meetings: See www.nwarkaa.org

INDEPENDENTNews

Free adult beginning computer classes

The Carnegie Public Library is again partnering with the University of Arkansas at Monticello and Connect Arkansas to provide free Adult Computer Literacy Training in the Library Annex on Friday, April 11. Two identical sessions, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. – 5 p.m., will be offered.

The three hour class aimed at those aged 50 and older will give detailed instruction from how to use your computer to setting up email and navigating Facebook. Those who

attended the session in October are welcome to enroll again for a refresher. Laptops will be provided, but everyone is encouraged to bring their own, if preferred.

Please contact the Library (479) 253-8754 to enroll. Space is limited, so call soon to reserve a spot. The Connect Arkansas project is dedicated to increasing high-speed Internet subscription and improving and sustaining Internet adoption throughout Arkansas (see www.connect-arkansas.gov).

Soccer Club youth jamboree April 5

Eureka Springs Soccer Club will host their spring youth soccer league jamboree at the city ball fields at Leatherwood on Saturday, April 5. Games will run from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. on all fields in age divisions from under 6 to under 14. Forty teams will be attending from Eureka, Berryville, Green Forest, Huntsville, Bergman and Lead Hill. There is no admission for spectators. No smoking please in the vicinity of kids playing. Concession will be open.

Spaghetti for GSHS's Lady and the Tramp

Who can forget that cute scene in *Lady and the Tramp* when the doggies were slurping opposite ends of the same spaghetti noodle? On Thursday, April 10, you can slurp your own noodles and benefit dozens of sweet canine ladies and tramps (and cats too!) living at the Good Shepherd Humane Shelter.

Bring your appetite to the Berryville United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 400 Eureka Street (US 62) for a Spaghetti Dinner to raise funds toward purchase of a seven-acre land tract running behind and west of the GSHS shelter.

Feast on spaghetti (with or without meatballs), garlic bread, salad and drinks for \$8 adults and \$4 kids 4 – 12. Kids three and under free. A huge sale of home-baked goods sale rounds out the fun, and individual desserts can be purchased for \$2. To-go dinners will also be available for those on the run. Master Card/Visa/Discover/debit cards accepted. Sysco of Harrison, Little Apple and Hart's are supplying the food.

Tickets are available at both Doggie Shops and at the door. The church is located at 400 Doors open at 4 p.m. and close at 7. *Bone appetit!*

Sign up for fresh produce delivery

Wildfire Farm is still open for new member sign-up for the 2014 CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) program. Join for the season to receive 25 weeks of freshly harvested produce along with recipes and tips on storage and processing.

Wildfire Farm grows high quality

produce with no chemicals and delivers in Carroll County through its CSA shares weekly, May through October. For more information contact Marcie (870) 545-3120, email wild_firefarm@yahoo.com or check out www.localharvest.org/wildfire-farm-M7.



Back in Action – Eureka Springs' unofficial yacht *Anahí* returned to Beaver Lake for another season of sailboat racing last Sunday, ably crewed by old hands David Carlisle, Deven and Kristin Phillips, Mark Francis and skipper Dan Bennett. They got her off to a good start, winning the first two races of the 2014 Spring Series. The series continues April 13. Read all about it in the *Independent*.

PHOTO BY MOOSE FARNSWORTH

Permaculture study group forming

A Permaculture study group is being organized to educate and support its members in designing home areas to be more sustainable and productive. Initial organizers are Jerry Landrum and Jane and Richard Pille. The first meeting will be at the home of Jerry Landrum at Angel Falls, 259 CR 301 (Greenwood Hollow Road), April 12, at 10 a.m.

The group will meet at members' homes and other sites once a month. For more information email jl.landrum42@gmail.com or jane.arkfarm@gmail.com.

Ham radio club April 10, 17

The Little Switzerland Amateur Radio Club will gather Thursday, April 10, at noon at the Eureka Springs Pizza Hut, 2048 E. Van Buren, for lunch and meeting. Anyone with an interest in amateur radio is welcome.

On Thursday, April 17, the club will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the physicians' building at Mercy Hospital, Berryville. Refreshments will be available. For additional information see: ww.lsarc.us or email gmj@bscsystems.com.

Sycamore, written by Constance Wagner and published in 1950 by Alfred A. Knopf, is the story of a sophisticated New York girl who marries a boy from Arkansas. The Wagners and their daughter lived in Eureka Springs while the novel was written. In addition to five novels, Constance Wagner wrote numerous articles and stories published in *The New Yorker*, *Atlantic Monthly* and *Collier's*.



CONSTANCE WAGNER

“Reckon so.” He tumbled the gunny sack onto the broken boards of the low, unrailed porch, and took out a ten-pound bag of sugar, several tins of coffee, a sack of chicken-feed. “I done bought you a dress, too,” he said, and he tossed her a package wrapped in cheap green paper. “You ain’t got nothin’ but rags.”

Her eyes lighted, and her fingers fumbled nervously with paper and string, till she had brought forth the cotton print with its vivid pink flowers. “I kin wear it to the meetin’,” she said. “They been holdin’ a revival up at Bushy Knob.” She spread it out and held it against her shrunken body, the pink roses cascading down across the drabness of her, making a deeper tragedy of her brown and time-dulled face. “I’m proud to have it,” she said. “Must have cost you plenty, Fent.”

“Two bucks,” he said.

She touched its folds with a deep reverence, shaking her head. “Didn’t you bring *them* nothin’?” she asked then, timorously, jerking her head toward the open door, beyond which the older girls were moving apathetically about the large wooden table, not glancing toward the porch except

in sly and sidelong peeps.

“No,” he said. “Let ‘em root for theirselves.”

He strode through the door, his high-heeled boots squeaking. Of the seven or eight persons in the kitchen, only the youngest – a boy of nine or so – spoke to him. He said, “Hi, Fenton.”

“I ain’t had no breakfast,” Fenton said, sitting down beside the scarred table. His mother had come in behind him, laden with packages. A pale, sullen-looking girl in her early twenties appeared in the door that led into one of the other two rooms, suckling a young baby wrapped in a soiled cotton blanket. Fenton stared at her, hostile and surprised, and she looked away.

“What in hell’s *she* doin’ here?” he asked his mother, as if the girl were deaf and incapable of answering for herself.

Mrs. Gowdy moved nervously to the stove and fed it a couple of sticks of wood. “Anse done walked out on her,” she said over her shoulder. “A week, ten days back. Right after the baby come. There wa’n’t no place else fer her to go.” She spooned up an enormous helping of mush and pork, and set it in front of him, and she poured coffee. No one else made a move to sit down.

“Home to roost,” he said bleakly, looking around at the shut and secret faces of his half-brothers and sisters. “More mouths to feed. Fetchin’ their younguns home too, now.”

“The little baby don’t eat nothin’,” said the girl in the doorway, bitterly.

Fenton pitched into his breakfast, no longer looking at her. “Ain’t you got any eggs?” he asked.

“Sally Sue just gone out to gather ‘em. Them hens lays in the most outlandish places...” She refilled his coffee cup, dropping her solicitude about him like a shabby cloak, not good enough for him. “What’s the news in town, Fent?” she asked, bravely attempting to bring a note of the commonplace into the charged atmosphere of the house. “None of us ain’t been in in a dog’s age.”

He began rolling a cigarette without haste. All his movements were deliberate, as if he had calculated in

advance exactly how much energy need be expended on each of them. “Wally Knowles got him a wife up North,” he said indifferently. “Come home the other day and aims to build him a house out Oldtown way. They say the old man’s turning the newspaper over to him.”

Mrs. Gowdy perched herself with a tentative air on the edge of a chair, removed slightly from the table. “Roger Knowles done all right by hisself,” she said gazing off into space.

Fenton said: “I hate the whole God-damned passel of ‘em.”

Mrs. Gowdy said in meek reproof: “You hadn’t ought to talk thataway, Fent. It’s purely sinful, takin’ the Lord’s name in vain.”

“The Lord ain’t never done nothin’ for *me*.” He threw her a sharp glance. “You got religion again?”

“I been saved.” Mrs. Gowdy enunciated this with a humble pride, and light came into her face as she spoke. “Oh, Fent,” she said, her whole body yearning toward him, “why’n’t you stay home this time and go to the meetin’ at Bushy Knob this evenin’? You never did listen to sech preachin’, Fent. Folks jest goes plumb crazy, once this here Brother Ogleby gits warmed up. And the singin’, Fent – the singin’ is jest beautiful. It does your heart good to hear it...”

He sat staring at her darkly, with the limp cigarette stuck to his lower lip.

“I wisht,” she went on, made bold by his silence, “I wisht you could find God, Fent. Then you’d know peace, and you’d be done with all this rangin’ around, drinkin’ and fightin’ and runnin’ with loose women. I been prayin’ day and night, lately, that you’d see God’s truth and git saved.”

He abruptly got up from the table, pushing back his chair so roughly that it fell over and made a clatter on the bare boards. “Jesus Christ,” he said, picking up his hat but leaving the overturned chair where it had fallen. “That’s enough. I’ll be goin’.”

From the doorway her voice pursued him across the yard, urgent, imploring: “Fent! Wait’ll I fry you up some eggs, Fent—” But he untied his horse without looking again

SYCAMORE continued on page 25

NOTES from the HOLLOW by Steve Weems

On the Berryville Public Square is a memorial to those of Carroll County who died in the wars of the 20th century. The names of the dead are organized by war and engraved on the monument. Fifty-two of the fifty-nine names listed died in World War II, while three died in World War I, one in Korea and three in Vietnam.

While in the US Navy, my father served three consecutive tours to Vietnam on the destroyer the USS McKean. It spent time in the coastal waters off Vietnam, but also on the river deltas and up the rivers.

Donnie Weems died December 24, 2011 at the age of 70 of health

complications linked to Agent Orange exposure. Agent Orange was a defoliant manufactured by Monsanto and Dow Chemical and sprayed by aircraft in Vietnam to eliminate cover that could be used by enemy forces.

My father was initially skeptical of his Agent Orange exposure, but it was his nature to be initially skeptical of everything. The Veterans Administration said that his contact with Agent Orange would have been during his time on land in Vietnam or on the rivers and river deltas. But the USS McKean would also float off the coast of North Vietnam to coordinate communications for downed pilots and the wind would blow the sprayed poisons

out to sea, contaminating everything. My father described standing on the deck of the ship and the wind washing over him.

The government admitted his extensive heart damage and blindness were directly related to the Vietnam War. The Veterans Administration rated him as 540 percent disabled, as if that were possible. I do not recall him ever saying that he felt like he was in grave danger during Vietnam (not that he would have), but I’ve read online that his ship took fire (which he never mentioned.) However, the war apparently had a hand in killing him, though it was more than 40 years later.

The obvious point I am making is



that war has costs that go on long after the conflict ends. There is a message on the memorial at the Berryville Public Square, the first line of which is, “That we not forget.”

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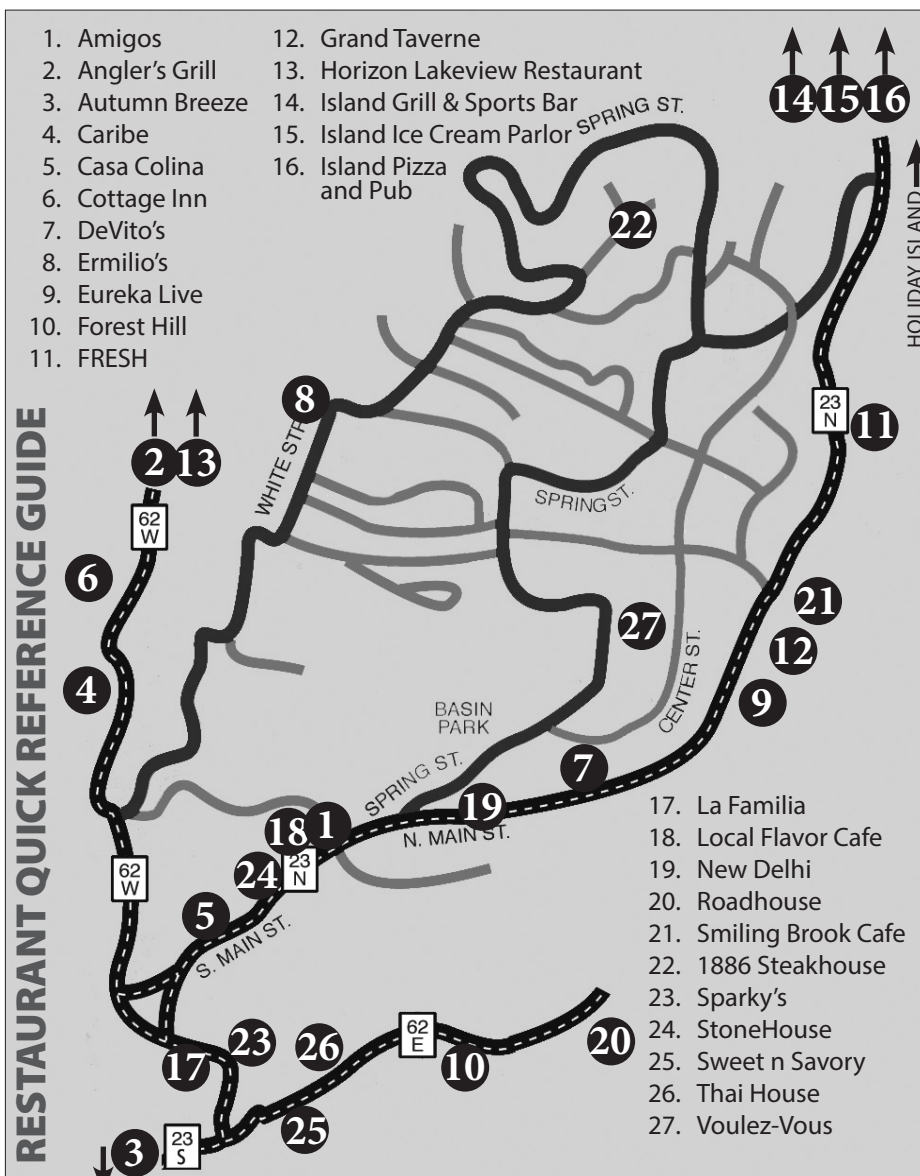
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Mysteries to restore the Earth

Sun squares Pluto Thursday, 2:22 a.m. west coast time. A challenging and potent transit for the day. Transformative. Summoning Persephone from the underworld. Gemini moon follows. Persephone has lots to say about things hidden, in darkness, seeking the light.

Venus enters Pisces **Saturday**. Venus in Pisces – dancer, Illusionist, actor, sailor, fisherman/woman, swimmer, savior. Venus is exalted in Pisces. Venus harmonizes dualities and separations, conquering differences and oppositions. The two Pisces fish,

bound together (struggle of duality separating everyone), one upward looking, the other down, are unbound by Pluto. They are free now. No more struggle. Everywhere a subtle Love enters the world from the world Soul. Venus remains in Pisces till May 2. Then Venus enters Aries and a fiery love comes forth.

Mercury, Soul ruler, enters Aries **Monday**. “*I come and from the plane of Mind, I rule.*” Mercury (study), taking over from Mars (thrill-seeking), and strong in Aries, illumines our minds. Many “seers”

of the new age will come forth, “leading humanity into the light.” This light diffuses the illusions (Matrix) we live under. There is a powerful will (Aries) to penetrate into the darkness of obstructing thought forms, to free the life-force, so new ideas for the Aquarian Age can emerge. Vulcan, the First Ray Lord, husband of Venus, fashioning gold out of lead, plays its part. Vulcan hides behind the Sun. Mercury and the Sun are One. These are mysteries. Their purpose is to restore the world balance. We, too, must play our part.

ARIES: There will be much to ponder upon this week as new ideas flow into your mind concerning who you are, who you think you are, your choices as you prepared for this lifetime, and how to combine all into a synthetic whole. It’s done by first understanding family history, then realizing we are actually our ancestors here to heal each other – everyone in our family – including ourselves.

TAURUS: Like Aries, thoughts are flowing through your mind like fire from Mercury and truly they are, for Mercury is the metal and the god of alchemy – what’s needed to move up the evolutionary, Jacob’s ladder. You almost seem lost in realms few perceive or even vaguely experience. The information you study may save the world. Walk, exercise, tend to an inside-growing garden and eat correctly, lest you fall down and forget who you are.

GEMINI: The planets are gathered in Aries, your tenth house of world recognition, the gifts you offer that help create the new culture and civilization. This is a serious, esoteric statement that you understand. Aries provides us with the “will-to-be,” a new self-identity, new studies and pursuits. Aries rebuilds our mind so we, with you, can create all that is new. The new Aquarian archetypes.

CANCER: A new higher mind is attempting to form within you, a mind that not only thinks of family, but also includes thoughts on justice

(why is it blinded?) and philosophy (Ageless Wisdom teachings). Wherever you are, grow your garden. Contact the Deva (angel overseeing your area) for assistance. Every geographical area, as does every person, has a protective angel. Very few people contact them. Now you can. They become your friend.

LEO: Many of us are suffering. When we suffer we share the burdens of others also suffering and help alleviate the suffering of our God. We learn how to provide others with understanding, rest and care. This includes caring for the animal and all the kingdoms. Those who suffer understand others who suffer. Suffering eventually makes us healers. Some day, some time, somewhere, this has, is, or will occur for you.

VIRGO: Read all the signs. They all apply to you. Aries always hides quietly in your eighth house of transformation, sex, intimacy, and other people’s money (resources held in common). The purpose of planets in the 8th house is to transform everything into better and greater, more inclusive and loving terms. It calls us to be disciples. We raise the personality to the Soul. Joy appears subtly. Joy is your hidden path. Like the Joyful Mysteries.

LIBRA: In Aries each year a new identity occurs for you within relationships. The new identity concerns how, in the future, you see yourself, what is valuable to you, and what you are seeking in relationships. Also, a new state of independence, courage and strength is emerging helping to move you forward into beauty. This is good, expanding more as the year unfolds. Serve everyone you meet. Love them.

SCORPIO: Your daily life may be in upheaval, unfolding your gifts, creating new structures concerning your world work. Events in your environment take on a depth of purpose. You confront life and death situations. There’s a desire (Mars) to do more and better, to study new ideas (Mercury) in healing, architecture and sustaining atmospheres (all Uranus). You apply all that you learn. You are the experiment.

SAGITTARIUS: Who you’ve been and what you identified with through your creative efforts is now forming a foundation for who you’re going to be and how you’ll identify yourself in the future. You are in transition. Many things initiated now may be completed. If you feel everything’s also a risk, it is. Life is trying to find

its perfect next part for you to play. Life’s a stage. You play your part well.

CAPRICORN: Attempting to realize new and intelligent ways to care for family is the focused task now. Changes are occurring within the family. Look carefully at what’s needed. Ask for help and assistance. You’re the focus now. As you change the family changes. Have everything in place so the family’s needs are met. In your heart the family always comes first. Pray as a family to find the right answers. The wisdom, loving harmony, will come forth.

AQUARIUS: Notice how you feel more resourceful, more independent, with ideas flowing into your mind so fast you hardly remember them. A great force is falling to earth now between the Aries and Taurus (Wesak) festivals. Be attentive, jot down ideas for later manifestation. Create an aide-memoire. The new Aquarian art is coming. You’ll want to be its first creator.

PISCES: You will consider resources and values in new ways. Whereas most things in form and matter seem hidden from you, a new thought-form of both preparation and solutions appears in symbols from the Raincloud of Knowable Things (intuition). It’s good to understand the Biblical transition of the Hebrew people on their journey from Egypt (Taurus) to Canaan/Israel (Aries). Study this story. As we move from Pisces to Aquarius you are one of the leaders.



Risa, 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.

Everything from burlesque to storytelling...diversity is us

The fun of diversity weekend is here again and maybe it's time to catch a show. Voulez-Vous has "Show Me Burlesque" by Lola Van Ella Productions on Friday and Saturday night. St. Louis based Lola says about her art form, "Burlesque can ride a line between dance, theater, performance art and erotica." She brings a fabulous, fun-filled show to Eureka just when we all need to get out and shake it loose. Seating is limited, recommended arrival time is 7:30 p.m. because you don't want to miss Lola a/k/a

The Derriere Beyond Compare.

Eureka Live! also has a show on Friday and Saturday night. "A Comedy of Queens" is a drag show featuring Felicia Blackheart, Sybil Ann Storm, Jamie Ray Downs and Eureka Live's DJ D. Underground. Show starts at 9 p.m., come early for best seating and prepare to be entertained.

When it's time to unwind on Sunday evening, head to the UU Church for another great offering from Eureka House Concerts. Eureka's own Jerry

Jones is the opening act for Michael Reno Harrell. An award-winning entertainer/storyteller, Harrell is from the southern Appalachian Mountains and writes such insightful songs and stories that he has toured most of the U.S., British Isles and Europe. His music has earned him great respect in Country, Americana and Folk circles. Doors open at 5 p.m. for a meet and greet potluck and music starts at 6 p.m. Admission is a \$15 donation at the door.

THURSDAY - APRIL 3

- **BLARNEY STONE** *Lynched— from Belfast, & Morgan O'Kane Gonzo string, Irish traditional, 7 p.m.*
- **GRAND TAVERNE** *Jerry Yester Grand Piano Dinner Music, 6:30–9:30 p.m.*
- **JACK'S PLACE** *Karaoke with DJ Goose, 9 p.m.*

FRIDAY - APRIL 4

- **BALCONY RESTAURANT** *Hogscalders, 12 p.m. & 6 p.m.*
- **BLARNEY STONE** *Ozark*

Thunder, 9 p.m.

- **CATHOUSE LOUNGE** *Tyler Gregory, 8 p.m. – midnight*
- **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** *Rideshy*
- **CHELSEA'S** *Diversity Band, 9 p.m.*
- **EUREKA LIVE!** *A Comedy of Queens drag show, 9 p.m.*
- **GRAND TAVERNE** *Arkansas Red Guitar, 6:30–9:30 p.m.*
- **JACK'S PLACE** *Blue Moon, 9 p.m.*
- **LEGENDS SALOON** *DJ Karaoke*

with DJ Pharaoh, 9 p.m.

- **NEW DELHI** *Rockenheimer, 6–10 p.m.*
- **ROWDY BEAVER** *Karaoke with Jerry, 7 p.m.*
- **ROWDY BEAVER DEN** *DJ Goose, 9 p.m.*
- **THE STONE HOUSE** *Jerry Yester, 6:30–9:30 p.m.*
- **VOUEZ-VOUS** *Show Me Burlesque, 8:30 p.m.*

SATURDAY - APRIL 5

- **BALCONY RESTAURANT** *Catherine Reed, 12 p.m.*
- **BASIN PARK** *Drumming in the Park, 6 p.m.*
- **BLARNEY STONE** *Ozark*
- **THUNDER** *9 p.m.*
- **CATHOUSE LOUNGE** *Tyler Gregory, 8 p.m. – midnight*
- **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** *Karaoke*
- **CHELSEA'S** *IRIS, 7 p.m.*
- **EUREKA LIVE!** *A Comedy of Queens drag show, 9 p.m.*
- **GRAND TAVERNE** *Jerry Yester Grand Piano Dinner Music, 6:30–9:30 p.m.*
- **JACK'S PLACE** *Blue Moon, 9 p.m.*

- **LEGENDS SALOON** *JAB the Band, 9 p.m.*
- **NEW DELHI** *Pete & Dave, 6–10 p.m.*
- **ROWDY BEAVER** *Third Degree, 7:30 p.m.*
- **ROWDY BEAVER DEN** *DJ Goose, 12–4 p.m. and 9 p.m.*
- **VOUEZ-VOUS** *Show Me Burlesque, 8:30 p.m.*

SUNDAY - APRIL 6

- **BALCONY RESTAURANT** *Jeff Lee, 12 p.m., Chris Diablo, 5 p.m.*
- **CHASERS** *Shuffleboard Tournament, 4 p.m.*
- **CHELSEA'S** *IRIS, 2 p.m.*
- **LEGENDS SALOON** *Free Texas Hold 'Em Tournament with prizes, 6 p.m.*
- **NEW DELHI** *Terri & the Executives, 12–4 p.m.*
- **ROWDY BEAVER** *Sunday Specials*
- **ROWDY BEAVER DEN** *DJ Goose, 12–4 p.m.*

MONDAY - APRIL 7

- **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** *Poker & Pool night – Pool Tournament, 7 p.m.,*
- **CHELSEA'S** *SpringBilly, 7:30 p.m.*

TUESDAY - APRIL 8

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

WEDNESDAY - APRIL 9

- **CHASERS BAR & GRILL** *Ladies Night – Drink specials, free jukebox*
- **NEW DELHI CAFE** *Open Jam*
- **PIED PIPER CATHOUSE LOUNGE** *Wheat Wednesday Draft Beer Specials*
- **ROWDY BEAVER** *Wine Wednesday*

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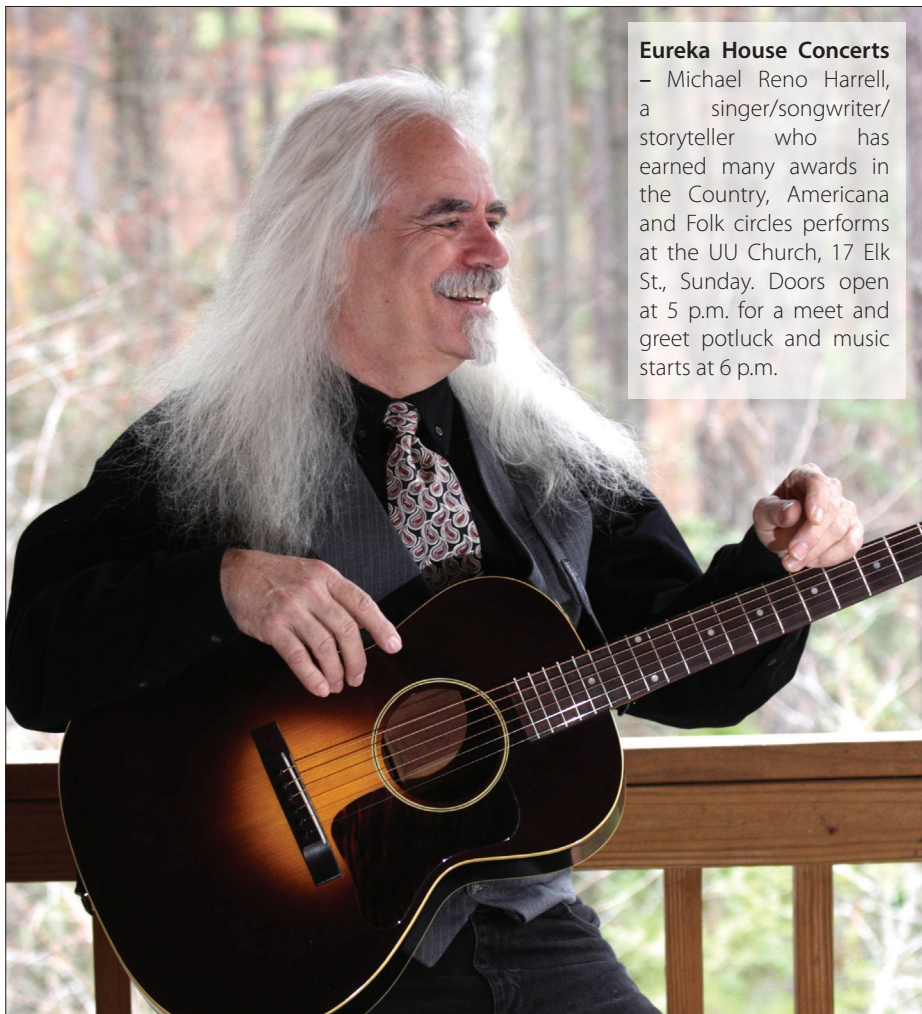
Sat., April 5 • 7 P.M. – IRIS

Sun., April 6 • 2 P.M. – IRIS

Mon., April 7 • 9 P.M. – SPRINGBILLY

Tues., April 8 • 9 P.M. – OPEN MIC

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Eureka House Concerts

– Michael Reno Harrell, a singer/songwriter/storyteller who has earned many awards in the Country, Americana and Folk circles performs at the UU Church, 17 Elk St., Sunday. Doors open at 5 p.m. for a meet and greet potluck and music starts at 6 p.m.

COMMUNITY DATEBOOK

April 3

Chamber Business After Hours at Sky Ridge Cabin Resort, 5 – 7 p.m., Sky Ridge Pavilion, (479) 253-8737 for directions.

April 4

First Friday flea market, farmers' market, arts and crafts market, music; 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., Holiday Island Shopping Center, (479) 363-6245 for info or free spot at market.

April 4 – 6

Spring Diversity Weekend, venues all around town include shows, parties, events and more. Detailed schedule at www.gayeurekasprings.com or iloveeurekasprings.com.

April 5

Workshop on Memoir Writing, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Village Writing School, 177 Huntsville Road. Registration required – (479) 292-3665.

Poets Out Loud, 6:30 pm – 8:30 p.m., KJ's Caribé, 309 W. Van Buren (US 62E), LGBTQ Arkansas poets and good food,

April 6

Ozark Mountain Mystique juggling and wonderment, 3 p.m., city auditorium, tickets \$8/\$3 at the door or call (479) 253-7664.

Women be Wise daylong dream-themed retreat, Fire Om Earth, register at www.fireomearth.com, (479) 363-9402.

6th Annual Preservation Society Tea and Bonnet Contest, 2 – 4 p.m., Crescent Hotel.

Drumming in Basin Park, 6 p.m.

April 8

Goddess Gala dance, gourmet potluck and more, women only, 6 – 11 p.m., Basin Park Hotel Ballroom, tickets \$13/\$15, www.goddessgala.com for details.

April 9

Plein Air Painters, 8 – 10 a.m. Crescent Hotel, plein air painting session, all painters welcome, free.

April 10

Spaghetti Dinner benefit for Good Shepherd Humane Society, 4 – 7 p.m., Berryville United Methodist Church, US 62, tickets at both Doggie Shops or at the door.

DIVERSITY WEEKEND

LGBTQ community and aging program April 4

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) people face a number of particular concerns as they age. Providers at the federal, state and community level establish service guidelines and regulations in a heterosexist framework with no consideration for the needs of LGBTQ Arkansans. Quite often providers are not familiar with the needs of LGBTQ elders.

In an effort to begin a dialog there will be a screening of *Gen Silent*, a documentary by Stu Maddox following the quest of six LGBTQ elders to secure appropriate assistance and services. Following the film there will be a discussion regarding the concerns and needs of LGBTQ elders in Eureka Springs and surrounding areas.

Randi M. Romo of CAR, a LGBTQ centric organization working for Fairness and Equality in Arkansas since 2003, will present the program April 4 at 2 p.m. in the Carnegie Library Annex. See more at www.artisticrevolution.org.

Sunday at UUF

April 6 at Eureka Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 17 Elk Street, Jim Dudley will moderate a "Creativity via Poetry" program. Using the Writers' Colony Potluck format, participants will have four minutes to celebrate their love of poetry by sharing a favorite one or two. Program is at 11 a.m., followed by refreshments. Childcare is provided. There will be no soup Sunday this week since Easter is coming up this month.

EasterBelles ride again – *Easter Parade moves to Spring Street*

The Eureka Springs EasterBelles is a social organization of women who come together once a year to produce the annual Eureka Springs' Easter Parade in the spirit of the 1800s, celebrating women, fashion, springtime and the culture of our times.

"This year, we want to honor the generations of women who call Eureka Springs home – the mothers, grandmothers, great grandmothers, daughters and granddaughters making this part of the country beautiful, fun and worth celebrating," Cne' Breau,

EasterBelles' founder, explained.

Registration is now open for a spot in the EasterBelles Parade on Easter Sunday, April 20, at 2 p.m. If you would like to participate or want more information, phone (703) 400-6090 or email ESEasterBelles@gmail.com

The EasterBelles' parade will be on Spring Street for the first time, as the group has outgrown the Historic Loop where horse-drawn carriages, convertibles and strolling ladies delighted parade watchers.

In keeping with their tradition of supporting an organization that benefits women, the EasterBelles will partner with the Merlin Foundation this year to raise money for services not covered by traditional funding sources: transportation, medical incidentals and alternative medical or therapeutic treatments. The Merlin Foundation is dedicated to providing health, education, social services, advocacy and lobbying on behalf of children, women and families.

TheNATUREofEUREKA by Steven Foster

Breaking news: You can't fool Mother Nature



I think it's great that city council is proposing ordinance (No. 2201), which aims to "update and expand City beautification and to eliminate health and safety issues." Citizens asked council to update the current code so as to "keep privately owned areas clean and safe..." Good idea. Now that we no longer run a street sweeper, the gravel and little bits of trash accumulating along every street in Eureka Springs shows the acute need for this ordinance.

The proposed ordinance includes item "A" of Section 1, which involves my specialty "plant vegetation." When human nature is compelled to legislate Mother Nature, I think God puts his hands on his hips, raises an eyebrow, frowns and shakes his head in disbelief. "I have to tell Mother Nature about this," God says.

The ordinance contains well-meaning and ambitiously ambiguous definitions of broad categories of vegetation that grow where you live (property ownership not required) — "owner(s) or occupants(s) of property within Eureka Springs will be required to maintain, cut, and/or remove weeds, grass and/or any other non-cultivated plant(s) (flowers, shrubs, vegetable plants, etc.) which exceed the height of eight (8) inches. Bamboo may be cultivated within the city limits, but should not encroach upon another citizens/city property or become an obstacle to vision while driving."

I have to cut "any non-cultivated plants to a height under 8 inches?" Is the council aware that trees

are plants? I am thoroughly confused about the bamboo provision. Bamboo is a grass — a member of Graminae or Poaceae — the very clearly defined grass family.

But grasses are already covered elsewhere in the ordinance. Does the bamboo provision in the absence of a definition pertain to plants to which the common name "bamboo" is applied, such as *Nandina domestica*, commonly grown in Eureka Springs and known as "heavenly bamboo?" It's not technically a bamboo, therefore not a grass; it's just called "heavenly bamboo." Maybe council really meant hellish bamboo for purposes of the ordinance. Heavenly bamboo, like hellish bamboo, is an "obstacle to vision while driving." What's with the blatant discrimination against bamboo as "an obstacle to vision?" What about all the other plants that are obstacles to vision while driving? Bobby Ray, let me know if you need to hire a consultant.

Thank you, city council for providing my comedic introduction for my summer lecture tour on how humans relate to plants.

You can find the draft of the proposed ordinance at the official City of Eureka Springs website. Just click on the "Ordinances" menu tab, then click on "Proposed Ordinance." Whoops — "sorry for any inconvenience." Seems like updating the website has gone the way of updating the street sweeper. Beautiful.



SPICE BOAT continued from page 3

The teas — greens, blacks, reds and whites — from Victorian Rose to Chocolate Black, are hand picked and harvested, which means no stems and seeds. The best providers were found with the help of the former manager of a tea plantation in Sri Lanka. Teas come in tins with 20 sachets, specially designed in a pyramid shape for flow-through. The teas may seem more expensive, but because of quality and bag design, one

sachet can make 2 to 5 cups, depending on variety.

The spices come in four ounce, easy to store square glass bottles, rather than the smaller sizes normally found, so their higher price and quality (you can use less) is a better value.

There are 27 varieties of peppers and chilies alone, including African Bird Pepper, which rates 175,000 on the Scoville heat scale. There's even a gift pack called Some Like it Hot, and

customers can choose their own variety for gift packs at any time.

The 22 varieties of salt include everything from smoked salts to Pink Himalayan and Chardonnay salt. The garlic salt is actually coarse garlic and salt that comes in a grinder with two settings.

There are also 32 varieties of Certified Organic herbs and spices, 21 extracts and flavorings and 32 unique rubs and blends — including Espresso Rub, created

by Steve, and Troy's Whiskey Rub. There are various kinds of cinnamon, including Saigon Cinnamon, and several paprikas.

"We're excited to give back to the community that has supported us," Troy said. "So we're going to raffle a treasure every month and pick a non-profit to donate the proceeds to." April's raffle will benefit the Flint Street Food Bank.

The Spice Boat will be open the same hours as Fresh Harvest, 10 a.m. — 5 p.m., closed Monday and Tuesday.

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

I don't understand why my husband and I fight all the time. We both hate the constant conflict but it just keeps happening, like we have no control over it. How can we stop this?

Every marriage is a potential powder keg. No mystery really. Bind two people together with differing needs and desires. Add a failed aspiration or two, income, debt, interest rates, employment, in-laws, illness and exhaustion, throw in a dash of diverse childrearing, political and religious philosophies, then turn up the heat. BOOM!

Day after day we prod our partner in our habitually negative manner with intentions (*delusions*) of motivating them to respond in the manner we've been requesting (*demanding*). We look externally to find fault, and with diligence we blame, bulldoze or bully. Mired in our own bitterness and blinded by the relentless cycle of conflict, we become utterly oblivious to our partner's pain.

To relate rationally, *empathy* is necessary. Recognize that your partner, just like you, is feeling neglected, unheard and unwanted. Acknowledge your own pain and feel it deeply. With sincerity, accept and truly grasp that your partner is equally anguished. Embrace humility and commit to practicing a gentler approach.

Awareness is essential. Check yourself. Own your anger and search for its presence outside of your relationship. Does it manifest when you're navigating your motor vehicle, waiting in line at the Department of Revenue or when you're on hold with your Internet provider? If anger has been your quietly closeted comrade, it's time to unlock that door. Make friends with your feelings, be aware of your emotional expression and conscientious with your conduct.

Trust develops through *integrity*, when the words we hear match the actions we see. If you value harmony you must choose and strive to reflect harmony. If you value conflict you must declare it openly and manage it

responsibly. Be mindful in word and action. Degrading words spoken in anger can inhabit a person's head for a lifetime and stunt a relationship forever. Words spoken in kindness can create a life-long dialogue upon which a loving relationship can infinitely grow.

The clarity to resolve conflict and compassion to rebuild connection is yours to choose. It rests at your door when you pave your life's path with empathy, awareness and integrity.

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.*



MAIL continued from page 10

thought rather than last century thought for our solutions. As my niece and nephew tell me as I stumble through the Internet world: Evolve or Die. I say, Let's Evolve!

Sheri Hanson

Assault on the natural state

Editor,

The city council is considering the "Clean City" ordinance #2201 for the third and final reading before it becomes law, possibly April 14. The intent was to address demolition by neglect. It also seems to have morphed to include gated community aspects like what we store on private property (better get rid of those 2x4s and sheet metal you've been saving so you don't have to purchase them again when need be).

As a botanist and gardener, the requirement that all non-cultivated plants be kept under 8 in. tall disturbed me the most. I am delighted by the amazing variety of native plants that grow in our city. This ordinance, if passed, would mean all of the wildflowers and the splendid grasses (that feed wildlife) growing in town would be illegal if over 8 in. tall. The magnificent fields along Dairy Hollow Road and Grand Ave. would be mowed under this ordinance wording.

I understand it is important to get a handle on deteriorating buildings. I would suggest council remember that we are an extraordinary escape, not a gated community. Perhaps requiring planted lawns to be mowed, and not all the native

plants that make the Ozarks unique.

As for what you are allowed to store in your backyard, I suggest you ask our city clerk (253-9703) to email you a copy of Ord. 2201 or pick up a copy at city hall before it becomes law April 14. Call or e-mail your alderman to ask them about this government intrusion into your backyard.

Gwen Bennett

Forming the Tree Party

Editor,

I find it amazing that month after month one environmental disaster happens after another. The Feds shell out disaster relief money, which is putting plugs in a sinking ship and not looking at the systemic problem which is mismanagement of the environment. A current issue that NRDC just addressed is pollinator demise, especially the monarch butterfly that faces near-certain extinction because they need milkweed as a host plant and all the milkweed is being sprayed dead by utilities like our Carroll Electric and SWEPCO. There are many 1000s of miles of utility lines that are sprayed under huge swaths taking no account to what plants are actually growing there and the pollinators that rely on them.

Re: the environment in the USA at large, recent disasters to note: *Seattle Times* has articles with people familiar with the area saying permits were given without much thought and warnings were ignored; Lake Michigan BP spill; Elk River Freedom Industry coal-cleaning spill; Gulf of Mexico oil tankers collide

in Galveston; Mayflower, Ark., Exxon oil spill; mudslides in Colorado where there is also deforestation; and burst pipes on a regular basis.

We forget about the last disaster after a few days and then another one appears. No one gets fired, no one goes to jail, companies go bankrupt and lawyer up and the federal government offers money for disaster relief time and time again. If I could have one wish, it would be for a TREE PARTY as a political party that actually addressed issues that matter to everyday people – like clean air, clean water, blue skies and pollinated food.

Why don't we get real about caring about the environment? Things are going terribly wrong and money can't pay for this sickness. I think we are a ticking time bomb and things are only accelerating and no one is doing anything in the government – only small grassroots seems to care. Sending federal relief money is not going to save us from near certain destruction – Can a Tree Party candidate be found? Please!

**Susan Pang
Garfield**

Support After School Program

In the spring of 2009 Eureka Springs Schools and Main Stage Creative Community Center partnered in the initial five year federal grant (2009-2014) for an after school program under the 21st Century Community Learning Centers national project. The need for such a program was strongly validated by our

family, student, community and school faculty surveys. This first program was focused on the academic and social advancement of our students through the partnership using our public school learning practices. While the program introduced innovative learning techniques it emphasized creative dramatics and experiential art and performance coupled with direct family support programs in literacy and social behavior.

Again, required components include: literacy education; mathematics remediation and tutoring; integrated health, nutrition and social skill development; organized recreational events and physical skill building; visual arts, music, creative movement, theater and cultural awareness; technology education; drug and violence prevention; community service; and family support programs.

We are now at the close of that five year grant period and due to ever increasing needs as described above we will be submitting another five year grant application to the state for approval next month. It's important that our community remains aware of this and will continue to lend support through partnering with our schools.

The afterschool program is open to all students in the geographic Eureka Springs school district for kindergarten through eighth grades and runs Monday – Friday from 3 to 6 pm each school day and during a scheduled summer program. For more information please call (479) 253-8704.

Gary Andrews

Blue Skies Ahead – Book study group begins April 22

St. James Episcopal Church offers a new opportunity for spring growth and discovery. The Blue Skies Book Study will have its first book discussion group Tuesday, April 22, 4 – 5:30 p.m. in the church undercroft.

The book selection is *Take this Bread* by Sara Miles.

An unusual story about a radical conversion, the book is a delightful, entertaining read. “What Miles learns about faith, about herself, and about the gift of giving and receiving graciously are wonderful gifts for the reader,” reported National Public Radio.

All are invited to read this riveting book in preparation to participate in a discussion to be led by the Rev. Betsy Porter. A few copies are available at the church, 28 Prospect. Call (479) 253-8610 for details.

SWEPCO continued from page 1

commission has regarding Route 33 may be resolved by “ordering minor deviations in the route.”

The staff filing states SWEPCO is proposing a limited rehearing to submit evidence demonstrating that modifications to Route 33 will address the commission’s concerns regarding impacts to Garfield Elementary School, development of a new commercial district in Garfield and possible expansion of the Pea Ridge National Military Park, thus rendering the route “reasonable.”

SWEPCO has asked the APSC to overturn its decision selecting Route 109 in favor of Route 33, which has the powerline routed entirely through Arkansas, including running through Garfield, Gateway, and near the town of Beaver before turning southeast towards a proposed new Kings River Substation north of Berryville.

STO said SWEPCO’s claims are incorrect, that there was not a sufficient finding that Route 33 was unreasonable and that a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (CECPN) should not have been granted. STO said it is clear from the commission’s reasoning in two orders issued by the APSC Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Connie Griffin that Route 33 was not acceptable because of its aesthetic (and resulting economic) impacts. She selected Route 109, which crosses fewer parcels of land and major roads.

Although Route 109 extends into Missouri and would require SWEPCO to obtain additional regulatory approvals, Griffin found it had a lesser impact on residential areas and a lesser aesthetic impact. After weighing evidence and in consideration of the above factors, she found Routes 33 and 108 unreasonable.

“The commission rightly put a greater weight on the factor of aesthetic displeasure when issuing its CECPN for Route 109 than did SWEPCO in its decision to present Route 33 as its preferred route,” STO said. “Route 109 causes the least aesthetic displeasure, as observed by the ALJ.”

The City of Garfield has opposed SWEPCO’s petition for rehearing, stating that bisecting Garfield with a 345 kV transmission line would impose a burden from which it may never recover.

SWEPCO has said it was directed to build the new powerline by Southern Power Pool, a Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) whose representatives include SWEPCO. SPP has also responded to STO’s petition for re-hearing, and recommended that it be denied.

“STO claims that the reliability problem giving rise to this project no longer exists,” SPP said in a filing Friday. “This is simply not correct. As discussed below, it has been testified numerous times that the need... continues to exist. The need for this project was established in the Ozark Transmission Study, demonstrated again in the 2007 STEP and confirmed with SPP’s recent evaluation performed in June 2013.”

SPP’s said its Ozark Transmission

Study found that without this 345 kV transmission expansion, numerous voltage violations and overloaded lines would occur in Northwest Arkansas and surrounding areas under a range of studied conditions.

“As an RTO, SPP has the ultimate responsibility for both transmission planning and expansion within its region that will enable it to provide efficient, reliable and non-discriminatory service. Despite what STO seems to assert, SPP has no interest in over-building the transmission system or building for ‘super-reliability,’” SPP said.

SWEPCO receives about a 12 percent guaranteed return on investments such as the proposed \$123-million transmission line. STO has alleged less environmentally damaging and less expensive alternatives exist to the powerline. About six 150-foot metal monopoles per mile would be needed to carry the line that would have a capacity of four times the amount of electricity needed in Carroll County, which could double for eight times if a second line is added to poles designed to carry two circuits.

STO alleged the powerlines are to carry power through – not to – Carroll County.

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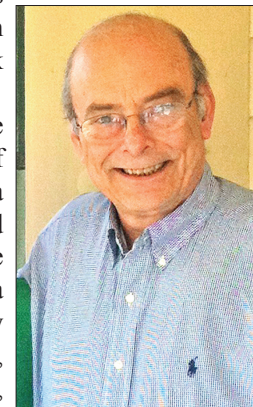


DEPARTURES

Kenneth John Fusaro Oct. 8, 1954 – March 30, 2014

Kenneth John Fusaro, a resident of Eureka Springs, departed this life on March 30, at age 59. He was born in Glenridge, N.J. on October 8, 1954 to Fredrick and Joan (Desmond) Fusaro.

He is survived by three sons, Louis Capawanna of Arizona, Lenard Capawanna of North Carolina and Michael Fusaro of Texas; one daughter, Melissa Capawanna of Kansas; two brothers, Jay and wife, Rosemary Fusaro, of Texas; Fredrick Fusaro, Jr., of California; one grandson, Brandon Capawanna of Kansas; several nieces and nephews, cousins and a host



of relatives and friends, and his dog “Shadow.”

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Memorial services were April 2 at the First Christian Church in Eureka Springs. Arrangements were under the direction of Nelson Funeral Service. Memorial donations may be sent to the Good Sheperd Humane Society, 6486 Hwy 62 E., Eureka Springs, AR 72632. Online condolences may be sent to the family at nelsonfuneral.com. © Nelson Funeral Service, Inc. 2014

DROPPING**A** Line

by Robert Johnson



April 1 report I bring you a pic of Jan Myers in the middle with a 25 lb. striper. Her husband on the right with an 8 lb., and her dad on the left with a 16 lb. They came down from the Kansas City area to take dad, Del from Eagle Rock, on a fishing trip for his birthday. They let dad have the first two fish but she ended up with the big one.

Well, spring is really here this week with good warm rains coming – the white bass and walleye run is on here at Holiday Island. Big walleye are being caught from Beaver to Houseman on jigs, minnows and trolling crank baits. The whites are being caught mostly between Holiday Island to Beaver. It will just get better after the creeks come up with flowing water. Start looking up the creek arms also for whites and walleye.

Also, crappie are moving up into the shoreline brush looking for where they want to spawn.

SYCAMORE continued from page 17

toward the house with its festering life that he knew too well: the lean spotted hounds beside the door, the ubiquitous chickens, and all the attendant parasites that dwelt with them, and with the human creatures that brawled, close-packed, beneath the rotting shingles of that roof. As he passed the rudely fenced corner of the pasture where four pairs of crossed boards marked the graves of his stepfather and of three children who had died early, it occurred to him that it would have been better all round if the entire human content of the cabin were likewise here, their conflicts and their demands silenced. All but *her*, he thought, and, turning in the saddle, he saw her still standing on the trampled earth before the house. He raised his

Beaver Lake has the stripers also full of eggs and wanting to run up the White and War Eagle arms, but they do not like the mud so most are being caught between Prairie Creak and Horseshoe bend near Rogers. We caught our fish on both brood shiners and shad in water from 9 to 20 ft. deep. Water temps are now in the low 50s on both lakes and not going back down, which is very good for the spawns.

If you happen to take a drive to the dam it is also time to check the day use side from the back and off the rocks for stripers and white bass that went the wrong way. Throw something from shore like a ¾ oz. rooster tail or crankbait that will get out a ways on 10 to 12 lb. mono or 25 lb. fiber line just in case you get into a big striper.

Well that’s it for this week, if your tackle is not ready yet it is time, and it is also warm enough now to take a kid fishing so get out and enjoy the Ozarks.

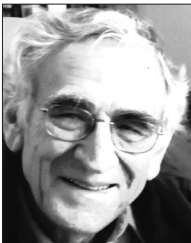
right arm high and waved to her. Before he rounded the turn where the cedars stood, he heard her voice thinly following him in her invariable farewell:

“You come back, Fent –”

GODDESS GALA continued from page 4

with your name so you can find it later). Bringing a little extra money for the raffle is encouraged, along with bringing your own plate and eating utensils.

A new Merlin Foundation film will be shown by Michelle Steiner at 7:30 p.m. Music by Lany and the Lively Ladies will run from 7:45-11 p.m. Raffle winners will be announced at 9 p.m. (www.goddessgala.com)



INDEPENDENT

Crossword

by Bill Westerman

Solution on page 27

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
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39	40	41		42		43				44	45	46
47				48					49			
50					51				52			
53					54				55			

- ACROSS
1. Shoo!

5. Topper

8. Flat plate

12. South American rodent

13. 100 square meters

14. Soothing additive

15. Single component part

16. Exuberance

18. Mom’s mate

19. Long

20. Stupid fool

21. European river

23. Lubricate

25. Accented syllable

27. Inactivity (*Poetic*)

31. Satisfied a debt

32. High card

33. Winged

34. Trap

36. Glide on ice

37. Vietnamese New Year

38. Overhead

39. Harem room

42. Strangely

44. Paving material

47. Slow Cuban dance

49. English monk

50. Toward the center

51. Romaine lettuce

52. Desert-like

53. Curved molding

54. Photo_____

55. Pay to play

9. Hip bones

10. Topers

11. Low islands

17. Indigo dye

19. Affirmative reply

22. Failed to do

24. Seeps

25. Simian

26. Was a candidate

27. Diamonds (*slang*)

28. Untidy woman

29. Made a lap

30. Before (*poetic*)

32. 1920’s style

35. Long time (var.)

36. Kind of ink

38. Social rank

39. Buckeye state

40. Mild expletive

41. Competent

43. Fall

45. Mine entry

46. Advise

48. Sailor’s assent

49. Cote cry
- DOWN
1. Tater

2. Biblical town

3. Blood condition

4. Make lace

5. Actress June

6. Operatic solo

7. Electron tube

8. Indian dish

INDEPENDENTClassifieds

The INDEPENDENT Classifieds cost \$8 for 20 words, each additional word is 25¢.

DEADLINE – Monday at noon

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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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.

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VEHICLES

1986 SUBARU GL10 WAGON Electric doors, windows and sunroof. 5-speed. \$650. Call for more info (479) 244-6175

HELP WANTED

MOUNTAIN BIRD COFFEE CO. SEEKING PART-TIME help, possible becoming full-time. Year round work, light manual labor, must be able to lift 75 pounds. References required. (479) 426-6777.

A&M ROOFING HIRING! Local work, weekly pay, year round employment. Experience preferred. Occasional weekends required. All tools and safety gear provided. Call (479) 244-5434 or (479) 244-0335

PART-TIME SALES POSITION. Looking for an experienced, enthusiastic and energetic person to join our staff. Apply at 52 Spring Street, call (918) 260-1116 or email resume to: thejewelry-show52@att.net

THE PALACE BATH HOUSE IS NOW HIRING licensed massage therapists. (479) 253-8400 or email: palace-bathhouse@yahoo.com

QUICKER LIQUOR NOW HIRING. Weekends-flexible hours. Must have reliable transportation. Apply in person at 169 E. Van Buren, Eureka Springs.

HELP WANTED

PERSONAL CARE GIVER for elderly lady in assisted living facility. 2-4 hrs daily Mon. – Fri. to assist with exercise, fine motor skills & ADLs. PT a plus. (479) 253-8955, leave message please.

PARTS UNKNOWN, Eureka Springs’ destination for a broad assortment of fine men’s and women’s fashions and accessories, is hiring Part-Time Sales Professionals. If you are a service driven, energetic fashion enthusiast, we’d like to meet with you. Please email your resume to eureka@partsunknown.com or fax to (866) 498-2780

REAL ESTATE

HOMES FOR SALE

2700 SQ FT + RANCH STYLE 3BR/2BA, CH/A, Satellite TV ready, dining room & spacious kitchen w/eat-in counter, new gas cook top, large closets. Comfortable living room, home office-possible 4th BR. Full Basement that could be in-law suite, shop, laundry room, bedroom, TV lounge, Rec Room, storage or ?? House has new roof, new septic, fenced back yard, many trees below to creek bed. Large paved parking area with separate paved area for 40’ RV that includes water/electric. Quiet neighborhood. VA Loan. Not downtown. \$137,000. (479) 253-7253

TWO STORY HOME WITH OWNER UP, RENTAL DOWN. Corner lot. Detached shop/studio. 5 minutes from Spring Street. \$144,000 (479) 253-4963

VACATION HOME-LITTLE LAKE EUREKA 2BD/1.5BA, WB Fireplace, HW floors, central air, secluded at end of hollow yet walk to town. \$135,000. (913) 634-2833

COMMERCIAL FOR SALE

LOG CABIN, BEAUTIFULLY REMODELED. Located near Wal-Mart & Country Club. Features: living quarters, must see. Perfect for law office, beauty salon, dog grooming, you name it. PRICE REDUCED \$169,500. Call (870) 847-1934

REAL ESTATE

COMMERCIAL FOR SALE

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

LAND FOR SALE

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

To place a classified, email classifieds@esindependent.com

RENTAL PROPERTIES

HOME RENTALS

2BD/2BA TOWNHOUSE APT. w/garage & W/D. \$650/mo, 12 mo. lease, Pivot Rock, dishwasher, no smoking inside, small dog ok w/dep., first/last required. Available in April. (479) 981-0682

3BR/2BA NEWLY REMODELED with laminate floors, in town acreage. Semi-secluded yet close to shopping. East edge of town. \$750, Eureka Springs. (479) 253-9564

2+BD/1.5BA HOUSE in quiet neighborhood in Eureka. Washer/Dryer. Furnished or unfurnished. One or two people. References & background check required. Available May. (479) 981-1705

DUPLEX RENTALS

2BR/2BA HARDWOOD FLOORS, CH/A, attached carport, 2 lock-ups, newly painted upper level of house. \$800/mo + deposit. (479) 981-9976

APARTMENT RENTALS

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

DOWNTOWN EUREKA ON SPRING ST. 1BR, CH/A, great kitchen. \$550/mo. Please call (479) 244-5100

RENTAL PROPERTIES

SERVICE DIRECTORY

NOTICE OF FILING

NOTICE OF FILING

COMMERCIAL RENTALS
FABULOUS RETAIL RENTAL ON NORTH MAIN. Newly renovated w/ very nice details. Wall of windows overlooking creek. All utilities but electric paid. \$750 plus deposit. (479) 981-9811

SEEKING RENTAL
WANTED TO RENT OR LEASE: Clean, furnished house with garage or carport. Prefer a very good view. No kids, no pets, don't smoke. Call (479) 244-0844

PARKING SPOT RENTALS
COVERED PARKING SPOTS 6 spots for mid-size or compact vehicles. 1 spot for large vehicle. Call (479) 981-3739 for more information.

SERVICE DIRECTORY
PETS
PET SITTING, HOUSE SITTING. Holiday Island, Eureka Springs and surrounding areas. 25+ years experience. Reliable, references, insured. Call Lynn (479) 363-6676 or Emily (918) 409-6393

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

PROFESSIONAL CLEANING SERVICE
Residential & Small Business
Deep Cleaning, Windows, Organizing
References Available. Call Sharon (479) 244-6527

UPHOLSTRY
UPHOLSTERY-RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, CUSTOM BUILT. Furniture repair, antiques, boats, caning. Fabrics & Foam. Free Estimates. No job too small. (479) 363-6583 or abunyar@sbcglobal.net

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.

MAINTENANCE/ LANDSCAPE/ HOME SERVICES
REALTORS-PROPERTY MGRS-LANDLORDS. I specialize in preparation of properties for showing and/or occupancy. Excellent references. (479) 981-0125.

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

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

CHIMNEY WORKS Complete chimney services: sweeps, repairs, relining and installation. Call Bob Messer (479) 253-2284

HEY, IT'S SPRING CLEANING TIME, LET US HELP. Free estimates. All types of clean-ups. Will haul off and dispose of anything. Including tear-downs, furniture restoration and painting. (870) 423-5674

TOM HEARST PROFESSIONAL PAINTING AND CARPENTRY Painting & Wood Finishing, Trim & Repair Carpentry, Drywall Repair & Texturing, Pressure Washing (479) 244-7096

TREE WORKS Skilled tree care: trimming, deadwooding and removals. Conscientious, professional arborist and sawmill. Bob Messer (479) 253-2284



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Extra!
Read all about it.

20 words, \$8... See it here.

classifieds@esindependent.com or call 479.253.6101

APPLICATION FOR RESTAURANT BEER AND WINE PERMIT
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has filed an application with the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division of the State of Arkansas for a permit to sell and serve beer and wine with food, only for consumption on the premises, at:
2076 E. Van Buren, Eureka Springs, Carroll County
Said application was filed on March 17, 2014. The undersigned state that he/she is a resident of Arkansas, of good moral character; that he/she has never been convicted of a felony or other crime involving moral turpitude; that no license to sell alcoholic beverages has been revoked within five (5) years past; and, that the undersigned has never been convicted of violating the laws of this State, or any other State, relative to the sale of controlled beverages.
Name of Applicant: Ann C. Naumann
Name of Business: Sweet-N-Savory Café
Sworn to before me this 28th day of March, 2014
Wilsie Sherman, Notary Public, Commission # 12377407, exp. 7/1/20

SOLAR continued from page 5
attempting to prevent construction of SWEPCO's power line. The Shahs got to know Landrum through STO.
"We've been procrastinating for three or four years," Faith said, "and because of the contacts we made through STO we were able to get over misperceptions that going solar was going to be very complicated." For the Shahs going solar at exactly this point in time was a public statement intended to help inspire others to choose alternatives to SWEPCO.
For Dr. Luis Contreras installing solar panels was a statement he decided to make shortly after his first contact with SWEPCO officials. He started with 16 panels and later added six more to the roof of his home that overlooks the White River west of Eureka Springs. He is now producing about 75 percent of the power he and his wife use.

Most new solar installations are tied to the power grid using a net metering system that measures the power sent into the grid. Electric utility companies then credit the

installation owner for energy produced. When the customer is using power from the grid the meter operates like most other meters, but when power is being added to the grid from the solar facility the meter senses it and can compensate for the difference.

Electrician Lyle Pinkley does hookups between solar arrays and new metering systems, but has worked on a half-dozen or so direct current setups where power is transferred from solar panels directly to storage batteries which are not connected to the grid. Pinkley has done hookups for DC setups in Carroll County for more than a decade. Because Carroll Electric does not know of all these installations it is difficult to estimate the true number of solar facilities in the county.

"Everyone has rights to the sun," Jimis Damet said. "It's a good time to go solar because prices are cheap. It's a win-win for everyone and helps stabilize the grid."

Carroll Electric can work with people who generate electricity from solar, wind, water or biomass. "We are also happy to be able to supply backup power whenever these systems cannot meet the owner's needs," said Plagge. "We do encourage people who are thinking of installing these systems to contact Carroll Electric early in the process. Part of that is because of safety issues for electric company linemen."

COPS continued from page 12
5:21 p.m. – Upset citizen complained about motorcycles racking their pipes and being otherwise rude in the downtown vicinity. Constable who had been in the area had not noticed any loud motorcycles. Or rudeness.

CROSSWORD Solution

S	C	A	T		H	A	T		D	I	S	K
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O	G	E	E		O	P	S		A	N	T	E

A new ship has docked in
Eureka Springs!



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SPICE
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HWY 62 (next door to Fresh Harvest Tasting Room) - 479-253-BOAT