

Council finalizes water rates

NICKY BOYETTE

Eureka Springs City Council voted 4-0 to approve the third reading of Ordinance 2234 that raises water rates for customers who buy water from Eureka Springs. Mayor Butch Berry said the city has been paying \$8000 per month since April to cover the increase handed down by Carroll-Boone Water District.

Council had passed the first two readings of the proposed ordinance at the Nov. 23 meeting, but alderman James DeVito stated council should wait until the next meeting for the third reading to give citizens a chance to voice their opinions. None of the alderman at Monday evening's meeting had heard from the public about the issue since the previous meeting. Vote to approve the third reading was 4-0.

Alderman Mickey Schneider moved to invoke the Emergency Clause, which would make the ordinance effective immediately upon being passed and signed, but alderman Bob Thomas demurred that an emergency existed. Nevertheless, the vote to invoke the emergency clause was 4-1, Berry casting the deciding fourth Yes vote.

Rates will increase during the next billing cycle. The ordinance stipulates rates for customers inside the city limits as: first 2,000 gallons of water per month, or any portion thereof – \$11.20 per 1,000 gallons; for the next 6,000 gallons – \$4.29 per 1,000 gallons; for water in excess of 8,000 gallons – \$5.74 per 1,000 gallons.

For customers outside city limits, the cost will be exactly double the above rates for the same usage.

Parking lot lease

Berry presented a resolution authorizing him to negotiate and execute the lease agreement with the county for parking lots immediately surrounding the courthouse, saying Justices of the Peace have wondered since Eureka Springs makes a modest profit off the lease if the county should not take the parking lot back. Berry noted the county would then have to invest in parking meters, manage and repair them, plus maintain the surface of the lot. There are costs and labor involved to reap the benefits of the lease.

Berry stated council would have a voice in decisions if anything beyond the traditional lease were proposed.

Council unanimously approved Resolution #673.

Next meeting will be Monday, Jan. 11, at 6 p.m.



Lions 'Brighton' the holidays – Brighton Ridge resident, Owen Magee, was among a packed room of residents enjoying a musical presentation and seasonal fun that included a visit from Santa during the Annual Lion's Christmas Program at the facility on Dec. 12. Owen's gift was delivered by Santa's elf and Lions Club member, Debbie Coleman. *PHOTO BY CD WHITE WITH PERMISSION*

This Week's INDEPENDENT Thinker

Justin Trudeau, who will turn 44 on Christmas Day, has taken humanitarianism to a new level. The newly-elected Canadian Prime Minister is simply a good guy. A refreshing voice in a world plump with alarm.

He favors legalizing marijuana rather than decriminalizing it, is a feminist, and regards treaties with indigenous people as sacred obligations.

Trudeau saw how a proposed ban on Muslim immigration in the U.S. reached the level of hysteria and fear because of actions of a few. He personally welcomed 160 Syrian refugees at the Toronto airport and promised to resettle 25,000 more.

It takes a clear and intelligent head to believe in the goodness of people. Maybe being born on Dec. 25 was an omen...



PHOTO FROM CHRISTIANPOST.COM

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INDEPENDENTNews

CAPC conducts budget tour

NICKY BOYETTE

The Dec. 9 City Advertising and Promotion Commission (CAPC) meeting was all budget all the time. Executive Director Mike Maloney led commissioners on an item-by-item tour of his proposed budget which totaled \$1,365,100, a modest increase over this year's \$1,289,400. Even though questions lingered at the end about festivals and effective marketing to groups, commissioners approved the budget.

Maloney stated the budget reflected important changes in marketing strategy. He will spend less on print advertising and target potential visitors from three hours away who would be more likely to spend a night or two, and expand use of digital billboards to Tulsa in 2016. Maloney annually puts Eureka Springs' ads on digital billboards along I-49 in Rogers.

The CAPC will continue to feature its three-minute video on the Vacation Channel, which goes into 18,000 rooms in Branson. Other new items in Maloney's budget were funds set aside for developing a Eureka Springs app and a line item for an events director for the Auditorium.

Finance Director Rick Bright pointed out collections are up more than seven percent so far and he anticipated the commission would be able to put more into reserves next year.

Group travel marketing

Maloney announced a new strategy for marketing to groups. Since Eureka Springs cannot accommodate some of the larger groups that might otherwise come here, Sales Director Karen Pryor will adjust her schedule to target smaller, mid-

week business meetings. Maloney said Eureka Springs has at least 15 properties that could accommodate those kinds of events, so groups from Joplin to Little Rock looking for a meeting venue will be a target in 2016.

Chair Charles Ragsdell agreed with Maloney's strategy of reaching out to the mid-week meetings market. Commissioners noted staff, particularly Pryor, could hone information gathering and dispersal with the larger properties in town, and decided to devote the Dec. 16 workshop, to be held at the Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center at 4 p.m., to group sales. The public is invited.

Festivals

Ragsdell claimed the city's music festivals have been a reliable attraction bringing tourists to town for a night or two, but contended, however, the CAPC should overhaul its handling of the festivals, "If we want to be in the festival production business, we need to be in the festival promotion business," he said. Besides better promotion, Ragsdell insisted the festival promoters need to have their dates and line-ups ready earlier so CAPC can promote earlier.

He suggested they devote a workshop to meet with festival promoters and set up the new paradigm.

"I'd be willing to spend more on festivals but not until we are spending it better," Ragsdell said.

Commissioner Damon Henke observed he would rather have more people in town to see a free show, and argued regarding festival promoters, "If you're not getting dates set a year in advance, you're not really in the festival business." They did not set a date for the workshop.

Director's report

Maloney stated because of the voluminous number of press releases they send out, Eureka Springs received an estimated \$98,300 in free press in Arkansas alone, and there were articles from Texas to California and Oregon.

He distributed the 2016 media plan that will be posted on the capc.biz site.

Auditorium committee

Ragsdell announced the nascent Auditorium Committee would stage a workshop at the Auditorium Thursday, Dec. 17, at 4 p.m. Commissioners Dustin Duling and James DeVito volunteered to

CAPC WORKSHOP continued on page 23

Christmas & CD Release Party

She'll be Going, Going... GONE!



For details see ad on page 5.

Task at hand for task force

NICKY BOYETTE

The Dec. 9 meeting of the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Development began with optimism. Charles Ragsdell, chair of the City Advertising and Promotion Commission (CAPC), noted the economy in Eureka Springs is "holding its own against its peers," and compared it to historical markers. Mayor Butch Berry added the city continues to build on previous good years.

Chair Sandy Martin observed the city has the good numbers in spite of

three motels closing, adding that Bed and Breakfasts have been lagging but restaurants are doing well. Berry observed cabins and cottages are busy, so Martin surmised there is a shift to staying out of town. She suggested Eureka Springs establish a firmer connection to the businesses around Beaver Lake. "It's a huge potential. If we don't capture them, Rogers will."

There was agreement the ecotourism attraction of Beaver Lake is a powerful marketing tool for Eureka Springs. Martin

said the city should establish a connection with Eureka West to see how they can work together. She and Berry said they would follow up.

Overnighters

Ragsdell mentioned one focus of CAPC marketing next year would be attracting overnight visitors. Kent Butler, director of marketing and public relations for the Great Passion Play, noted his attraction is open every day except Sunday for tours and other attractions even if there is no play that evening. He said they hope this will contribute to overnight and maybe mid-week stays.

Martin stated it would also help if other businesses remained open a bit longer to give visitors something to do. Ragsdell replied, "If we show them a return on investment, they will be open." He suggested they develop a late night restaurant list for tourists.

Reaching out

Martin passed around a list of trade shows for the group to peruse. "Who do

TASK FORCE continued on page 19

LOOK here

Here's a Christmas present to all of you – the *Eureka Springs Independent* office will be closed from Dec. 24 – Jan. 4.

Ads, press releases, announcements, news, sports, weather and yard sales will all have to wait until we get back to our chairs on Monday, Jan. 4. Our New Year's Resolution is to be better, faster, accurater, funnier and more sensitive, but it will take a full week of rest to gear up for that. Thanks. We love you.

P.S. Ad deadline for anything in December is December 18. That's this Friday. Chop chop!



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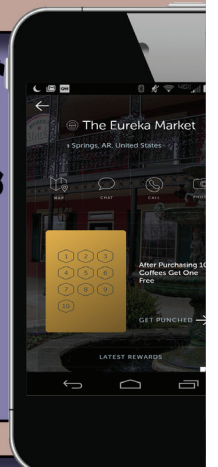


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BECKY GILLETTE

Elle D'Coda was only five years old when she faced choosing between 20th century modern medicine and traditional herbal medicine, such as practiced by her grandmother and great-grandmother, who were Ozark granny woman root doctors.

D'Coda had rheumatic fever that developed into rheumatic heart disease.

"They wanted me on penicillin the rest of my life," said D'Coda, founder and director of the Ozark Herbal Academy (www.ozarkherbalacademy.org). "My mother, like so many of her generation, was of the opinion the plant-based medicines were primitive and not nearly as effective as the pharmaceuticals. At the time, traditional herbal medicine was being quashed by contemporary regular medicine. Everyone was excited about the miracle of modern medicine. My grandmother and great-grandmother were living with us, and they disagreed with my mother about how to treat me."

She grew up in Colorado Springs, Colo., but her grandmother and grandmother were from the Ozarks, and her great-grandmother a Choctaw. A granny healer saved D'Coda's life when she was very ill as a baby and her mother finally agreed to allow D'Coda to be treated with herbs.

"After I realized my grandmother knew what was needed to heal me, I started paying close attention to her," D'Coda said. "I learned from her and stayed with it. By the time I was sixteen, I learned I should be a vegetarian because the toxics in the environment accumulate in meat, and my heart couldn't take all the poisons in meat. That was a bit tough because my family was cattle ranchers."

Through the years whenever she



"Plants are the master chemist."

– Elle D'Coda

was faced with serious health issues, she would consult a doctor, find nothing that could help, and go home and heal herself with plants and diet. She went on to careers in Los Angeles in music and film, even working on *Forrest Gump*. When she was in her late 40s, D'Coda decided it was time for a major transition to fulfill a lifelong dream of living in the wilderness. In 1998 she moved to the center of the 15,000-acre Hurricane Creek Wilderness Area in the Boston Mountains.

She initially planned to live in a community with others, learn from nature, study herbs, wild craft, and propagate a large number of heirloom vegetables. But this wasn't just off grid. It was miles from the nearest house with no electricity, no running water, no cell phones and no stores for miles around. Soon the others found it too isolated, and left. But D'Coda stayed for ten years, at times spending years without going to town.

"I had a purpose besides living in a community with others who valued nature," D'Coda said. "Since a young child, when I considered what I wanted to do when I grew up, I had a clear picture of living in the wilderness. It was a calling. It was something I was supposed to do. I was aware of the dangers of Genetically Modified Organisms, and wanted to help conserve old heirloom seeds. I grew 300 varieties of heirloom vegetables and 200 varieties of medicinal herbs."

During those years she so rarely saw another person to talk with that she almost lost her voice. Instead of talking so much, she listened to "nature's broadband."

"This experience gave me a deep

immersion into the plant world," D'Coda said. "Before I would buy herbs, but I wanted more of a relationship with them. I wanted to know if they could teach me. If you ask indigenous people how they learned things, they often say, 'the plants taught me.' I wanted to know if they would teach me. I wanted what I learned to be primarily from my own experience. Also, on a philosophical level, I wanted to know if the universe is friendly, if there is intelligence with nature, and if I could enter into a relationship with it. What I now know is that nature will teach us what we need to know to survive."

There is a whole science dealing with cellular communications and understanding how cells use bio photons to communicate. Nature's broadband frequencies are full of information.

"We are constantly sending and receiving information about our environment that our body uses," D'Coda said. "Plants are the master chemist. We know plants use the light for photosynthesis, and can change chemicals to manage the ecosystem. You can sit with a plant at least a day before harvesting so the plant knows what you need. The plant can change the chemistry to make a prescription unique to that person. Introduce yourself. Show gratitude. That is a lot different than just going out and picking something, or buying herbs at a store."

She was surprised at the stillness she reached, and how she shifted from thinking of things conventionally to being receptive to downloads from nature's broadband.

"I formed a relationship of harmony with nature that required me to be receptive and on call," D'Coda said. "I spent my days in this timeless zone with that. I had experiences that were other worldly."

After ten years she began another remarkable transformation. She came out of the woods, and followed her calling to teach others and assist with the granny woman root doctor revival. D'Coda quickly picked up on the Internet revolution, and established the Ozark Herbal Academy, which offers online courses along with face-to-face classes. After teaching here previously, in September she moved to Eureka Springs where she has found a number of eager students.

ROOTS DOCTOR continued on page 19



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Party

For details
 see ad
 on page 5.

A December day on a garden path

NICKY BOYETTE

A sunny Saturday in early December can be a busy time for dreamers who have gardens and endless other ancillary projects. Garden beds begin to rest and recuperate by now, so gardeners can pay attention to cleaning up the pathways.

Having clean walking spaces makes the garden a calmer place to visit. Pathways will get shaggy and disheveled during a summer, and even pathways covered by chipped bark still sprout weeds. Gardeners who allow plants to go to seed often find volunteer seedlings in pathways. Offseason reclaiming of pathways will lead a steadfast gardener to rediscover all sections of the garden.

It is not unusual in our area for there to be wild grape vines growing in the wooded hillsides. A well-established clump beside a pathway toward the bottom of the garden might send out a dozen or more vines up to 20 ft. long which can fully engage a garden fence or ramble along pathways. The vines produce grapes during the summer, but birds usually get the fruit before it ripens. Vines, however, are the predictable product, and a delight to wreath makers. They are also useful in making trellises for peas and beans to climb, and the clump pumps out long vines year after year. Plus, a resourceful gardener will wonder if, when cut to size, the vine pieces make good kindling.

Up the pathway from the grapevine in my garden is the bed where two blueberry plants will go in the spring. In the meantime, the bed is the sanctuary for gobs and gobs of displaced iris corms.

They had to vacate their former permanent bed because they became a knotted matted mass overdue for separation. Now they can breathe easy in the blueberry spot for the winter protected by hickory and oak leaves and pine straw.

Healthy blueberry plants will be a good reason to keep the pathway clear next summer. Huckleberries already live on the south side of the garden where the spearmint took over. Huckleberry plants thinned to a foot apart produce a moderate number of berries in late spring, plus they were on this hillside before the garden, so they stay.

Fearless, intrepid spearmint roots run rampant underneath the pathway by the huckleberries and through the entire huckleberry neighborhood. Mint leaves are useful for tea but the plants can become a nuisance. Once started, spearmint roots are difficult to contain. Same with comfrey and horseradish... doggedly persistent.

So a bowlful of mint leaves harvested from the pathway by the huckleberries goes into a paper bag beside other paper bags on a shelf in the shed. Sprigs of thyme, oregano and peppermint age comfortably in paper bags. The leaves get rustled or squeezed and shaken once a week or so, and eventually they dry enough to go into spice jars. Mint leaves get used quickly; thyme, not so much.

Marking the intersections of major pathways in the garden are well-established clumps of thyme, lemon thyme and oregano. Each plant offers

WINTER GARDENING continued on page 23

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Sharing the season – Lions Club members, from left, Wayne and Juanita Ehret, Beverly Wells, Debbie Coleman and Michael Howard brought a lot of live music, presents and holiday cheer to a packed house during the Lions' annual Christmas program at Brighton Ridge.

PHOTO BY CD WHITE

30 minutes of meditation followed by reading/discussion

The Eureka Springs Buddhist Study Group will gather for 30 minutes of meditation followed by reading and discussion on Thursday, Dec. 17 at 4 p.m. at Heart of Many Ways, 68 Mountain Street. All are welcome.

Main Street will be on Arkansas Preservation's 2016 tour program

The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program's monthly "Walks Through History" tours will visit Eureka Springs among other historic properties across the state in 2016, according to AHPP Director Frances McSwain.

In the "Walks Through History" program, free guided walking tours take in historic structures and districts across Arkansas. On Sept. 10, AHPP historians will guide the tour along Main Street in a walk co-sponsored by Main Street Eureka Springs.

The city's architecture will be a special focus, as the American Institute of Architects is offering two continuing education credits for members who attend a "Walks Through History" tour.

Most tours begin at 11 a.m. on Saturdays and are free and open to the public. The program begins on March 12 in downtown Newport (Jackson County) and ends on Dec. 10 in Drew County.

For details on the 12 tours scheduled for 2016, visit www.arkansaspreservation.org, call (501) 324-9880 or e-mail info@arkansaspreservation.org.

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Merry Scamas

Don't call back until you check

Phone scams are back in time for the holidays. As usual, the phone will ring but you won't have time to answer. You'll see a message from a number (the latest being (603) 747-9531) that you won't recognize. If you call back, the number may be answered by a generic "Rewards Redemption" – but hopefully you won't have gone that far – because by then you could already be racking up enormous charges.

When you see a number you don't recognize, take the time to get online and type it into the Google search bar, even if you have to put it off until later. Google will bring up a number of sites if that number has been reported to be a fraud. For instance, one site reports the above number belongs to a company in New Hampshire that has purchased more than 1,000 phone numbers from which to run their scam in several different states.

Some sites even have a form on which you can report the number to help

track down the perpetrators. Because it's Christmas, people may assume long lost friends are calling for the holidays and won't bother to check out a number they don't readily recognize. That's what the scammers are counting on. Avoid the temptation to return the call, and check the number before you get slammed with outrageous charges on your phone bill.

On stage for the Holidays

Join us at 7 p.m. for *Home for the Holidays*, a Christmas show featuring some of Eureka Springs' greatest talent on Saturday, Dec. 19 at the Auditorium. There is free admission or two cans of non-perishable items for the Flint Street Food Bank.

Mardi Gras Kings kickoff party

Boom Boom Mardi Gras will resonate at the Krewe of Krazo Kings Day kick-off Rally at the Rowdy Beaver Tavern on Saturday, Jan. 9 at 5 p.m. Details on four masquerade balls, the Night Light and Sound Parade, the Day Parade and Mardi Gras Day will be announced. The public is invited and members of the Royal Court and the King and Queen for 2016 will be formally introduced, followed by a gala party. For more information go to www.eurekaspringsmardigras.net.

Christmas &
CD RELEASE
She'll be Going, Going... GONE!

For details
see ad
on page 5.

Notice

ESFD clarifies dues snafu

The Eureka Springs Fire Department has announced there were a couple of issues with the annual fire dues mailing for the Eureka Springs Rural Fire Association due to a printing error.

Several bills went to addresses a few years out of date, but the biggest error occurred in the printing process when the line stating "\$35 for unimproved property" vanished. The correct dues for the rural fire protection area are \$35 for land only and \$60 for property with a structure.

The fire department apologizes and reminds members that fire dues are important to the continued fire protection of the unincorporated area around Eureka Springs. The money collected goes to the purchase and upkeep of equipment, fire trucks and fire stations.

Please call Eureka Springs Fire & EMS, (479) 253-9616, with any questions.

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Send your INDEPENDENTMail to: **ES Independent**, 103 E. Van Buren, #134, Eureka Springs, AR 72632 or editor@eurekaspringsindependent.com

Rounding it out

Editor,

I have been out of town for several days, but when I recently returned, I picked up the Dec. 2, 2015 edition of the *Eureka Springs Independent*, and the Round House article caught my eye.

Here are the facts:

Richard Ryan Thompson came to Eureka Springs in 1908 as a language teacher to assist A. S. Maddox for the opening of Crescent College for Women. When President Maddox left, Mr. Thompson took over the presidency of Crescent College in the fall of 1910, and operated it until June 1923, when the owners of the hotel said they were not going to renew the lease but would sell it to Thompson for \$100,000, which he refused.

The College then closed after 15 years. Mr. Thompson had previously purchased Sanitarium Lake, which he later turned into Lake Lucerne Resort, and also acquired the business known as Ozarka Water Co. that was started by William Duncan in 1905. Mr. Duncan, the originator and owner, had become insolvent in 1907, and the business was placed in the hands of a receiver. Eureka Springs Water Co. was the business, and the brand name was Ozarka.

Thompson built up the business considerably, and early in the year 1930, he purchased the Round House and the Stone House next door (which is now Brownstone Inn), to house and run the business.

After making a tremendous success of the business, and Thompson's health began to deteriorate, and as he was losing his eyesight, he sold the Eureka Springs Water Co., dba Ozarka in 1966 to Arrowhead Puritas Waters, Inc., of Los Angeles, Calif. Your article states, "Ozarka went out of business in 1965," and that is incorrect, as the business was moved to California initially but has changed hands, and Ozarka is still being marketed today. After purchasing the water company, Arrowhead Puritas continued to market said water out of Eureka Springs until Mr. Thompson died on August 28, 1971, and that is when the business was moved to California, and it became obvious that they only wanted the brand name "Ozarka."

John Fuller Cross

The candor of Sanders

Editor,

Five years ago this country's highest court declared that

corporations, as well as individuals, would have the right to spend as much money as they care to for electing legislators sympathetic to their interests. So the idea of one person/one vote got changed to one dollar/one vote and legislators became commodities to be purchased or discarded at the whims of the wealthy. And so we were set up to become an oligarchy (rule by the wealthy); no longer a true democracy. Our Presidential candidate, Bernie Sanders, wants to address this fundamental problem.

Since the financial community makes billions, and pays themselves millions by making bets on the movement of commodities (including stocks, bonds, loans and money itself), Bernie wants to place a very small tax (much less than one percent)) on these transactions (which can amount to trillions of dollars per *day*), to pay campaign and election expenses. This attacks two of our country's problems directly; that is, extreme income equality and our need to return to a truly democratic election process.

Enough is enough! Consider Bernie Sanders.

Rand Cullen

TV backbone of moral decline

Editor,

Language is a beautiful and poetic binder in our world that imparts emotion, information, and helps us achieve deeper awareness.

A society that curses God on a continual basis cannot be expected to excel to a high consciousness. Basically, you either believe or don't. At this juncture in our society, a majority still believe (or hope) in a God that helps, guides, and wants the best for humanity.

The level of guttural vocabulary emanating from our televisions is a further indication of a moral breakdown that encompasses even the most isolated of our citizens.

Offensive programming has become the norm and we don't even bat an eye when a subject that once was considered disgusting, inappropriate or just not polite is openly discussed as though you were speaking to whatever trash you want to hear it.

Freedom of speech is a wonderful thing, but does it give you the right to bombard innocent thought with polluted

MAIL continued on page 23



WEEK'S TopTweets

@theyearoffelan: Ordering decaf coffee is like ordering a picture of food.

@yuckybot: "You're not leaving the table until you finish it, young man!" –

termite mom

@jmabell: Rudolph is the only reindeer who doesn't have a stripper name.

@sammyrhodes: Help free the reindeer from sleighvery.

@thesulk: Just bought a Ken doll. I don't know what everyone's talking about, you can't read books on this thing.

@badbanana: My computer is quick to point out when I eject a disk improperly, but never notices when I've ejected

a disk beautifully.

@thejacquo: It's time to admit that as a species, we're just not ready for 4-way stops.

@momtoteens: Wifi went down during family dinner tonight. One kid started talking and I didn't know who he was.

@hazelmotes1: "Because it would be hilarious" is probably not a good reason to elect someone to be president.

@lloydrang: Why, yes, I am dressed for the weather. I'm wearing a house.

@mzeld: Is a stepdad a faux pa?

@smerfin: Why doesn't the Bible have a bibliography?

See ya 'round campus!

Yes it's true. This CD is being "released" from her job at the *Independent* as of December 30, although I'll be doing a little writing for the *Fun Guide* from home.

At the end of a circuitous route beginning on the East Coast, I dug in here in 1980, and in one form or another have been writing for and about Eureka Springs over the decades. I have to credit the late Ken O'Toole and the late Sharon Hamm, consecutive editors at the *Times Echo*, for my first foray into writing for local newspapers.

I subsequently wrote for the two newspapers Sharon began after she left the *Times Echo* and finally ended up at the *Lovely County Citizen* after it was founded by Mary Pat Boian and Bill King.

In between those jobs I worked in nearly every industry in Eureka Springs, as have so many others in true Eureka fashion – hospital, lodging, housecleaning, Clear Spring School, The Writers' Colony, Ozark Guidance – even the city and Chamber of Commerce. Guess that made me an insider if not a true local.

I've been writing since age nine and can't imagine a life without books. I also can't imagine a life without a sense of humor. But, yikes, I see it creeping on the horizon.

My first job at the *Times Echo* was a long, weekly humor column about the people and foibles of Eureka Springs. Ken once told me a reader who had dropped his subscription read the column and wanted to reinstate his subscription just for that. I recently found one of those columns and was shocked to realize it could never be printed today. Back then, it was considered charming, funny and people loved seeing their names in it. Today it would be covered in lawsuits.

Back then, people could still lighten up and have a good laugh at themselves and with their neighbors in a healthy way; but over the years something dark and angry seems to have infested, if not broken, hearts and spirits across the land. When did our country's good folks become such a rigid, fearful, intolerant, fault-finding, oversensitive, unforgiving, selfish and bigoted lot? A new offense scandalizing the overblown sensitivities of one group or another or one self-important individual or another is cataloged every day on the news ... news so divisive and deadly that the mother of a teenage boy who committed suicide was prompted to say that he "died of the evening news."

Is this really the world we intended to create for our kids?

Of course not, but we did. So we need to change it. That's why I'm staying put in a community of people who still know how to laugh and be kind, and for the most part don't take themselves too seriously except when they're working for the common good. And it's also why I want to acknowledge the privilege of working with the team at the *Independent*.

My editor, Mary Pat Boian and our Art Director, Perlinda Owens, work hard to make a difference in the community by putting out an intelligent paper that doesn't give much return on their personal investment as far as material reward is concerned, but packs a heck of a satisfying spiritual payday for a conscientious job well done for a community well loved.

No matter what side of the many political divides you come down on, if you've ever befriended either one of these amazing women (or our sales maestro, Chip Ford, for that matter) on a personal level, you know that they would lay down anything for you except the principles they live by if they thought it would benefit you more than it would them.

I leave them in your good hands and timely support, and I leave you in theirs.

~ CD White



The Pursuit Of HAPPINESS

by Dan Krotz

It is more than fair to say that the Democratic Party is responsible for the radicalization of the Republican Party. Democratic leadership – including its think tanks and public policy groups – is comprised of '70s activists served and waited on by millennials, and hardly any one else. If there *are* any middle-aged people in the Democratic Party, they're probably post-docs on food stamps desperately praying for another adjunct faculty section to teach. And what about working men and women? Forget about it. The Democratic Party's focus on managing the poor, and its contemptible abandonment of trade union workers and the working class, has created the pathetic – and scary – populism that makes cartoon candidacies like Donald Trump's possible.

True Believers point to Bernie Sanders as proof that the party still has a soul. The fact is that there isn't a snowball's chance in hell that Sanders will be nominated. Nearly 20 percent of the 4,764 delegates to the 2016 convention are super delegates – members of Congress, party hacks, etc., – who overwhelmingly support Hillary Clinton. These extra-special delegates result from Democratic Party reforms, in 1984, specifically designed to prevent grassroots delegates from having equal standing with party professionals. Even if Clinton and Sanders evenly split primary delegates, Clinton will be nominated in the political Snore Fest of the decade.

The most egregious outcome of these reforms is at the state and local levels. Here, younger and less connected potential delegates and leaders – now middle-aged outsiders – have been locked out of opportunity and responsibility for the last 30 years. It is no mystery why Republicans control so many statehouses and legislatures, and will continue to do so until Democrats learn there is more at stake than the White House.

Some Democrats will be satisfied with the moral victory of nominating a woman for the presidency. To the majority of voters, however, that's about as satisfying as the imperative to create a "safe place" for cake eaters at Yale University. As it stands today, there isn't an eyelash of distance between Clinton's foreign policy positions and those of her credible Republican opponents. And her slavish, pro-Wall Street record was made to order for the Donald Trumps of the world.

A little help from our friends:

- **Community Suppers at St. James:** St. James' Episcopal Church, 28 Prospect, will hold Sunday community suppers, from 5 – 6 p.m., through March 20. Supper will be provided by local restaurants. The suppers are free and all are welcome.
- **Carroll County Domestic Violence Hotline:** 1-844-247-3223 (844-24PEACE) is available 24/7. The Purple Flower Domestic Violence Resource and Support Center of Carroll County is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. on North Springfield St. in Berryville. (479) 981-1676.
- **24-hour NWA Crisis Line for Women** – NWA Women's Shelter serving Carroll County – "Empowering families to live free of violence." (800) 775-9011 www.nwaws.org
- **Cup of Love free soup lunches** – Cup of Love provides soup lunches at Flint Street Fellowship Mondays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. and at First Baptist (Penn) Church on Fridays, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. (479) 363-4529
- **Flint Street Fellowship food pantry, lunch, free clothing** – Pantry open 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Free lunch Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Free clothes/shoes closet, books and household items. (479) 253-9491 or 253-4945. Leave donations in barrel at entrance if facility is closed.
- **Wildflowers one-dollar, furniture barn/thrift store** US 62E across from Hill County Hardware. One-dollar store in the yellow building every Friday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Thrift store, furniture bank in big blue barn behind the chapel open Wednesdays – Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Donation drop offs Thursday – Saturday between 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Healing and delivery outreach in chapel Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.
- **Shamatha and Tonglen meditations Monday** – A meditation group will meet every Monday at 6:30 p.m. to focus on Shamatha, learning how to focus to achieve peace of mind, and Tonglen, a practice of love and compassion on all beings. The meetings will alternate these two practices so that one is the focus on each Monday with coffee and tea afterward. Call Alece at (479) 244-6842 or Gary at (479) 244-6840.
- **Celebrate Recovery** – Soul Purpose Ministries, 801 S. Springfield, Green Forest, 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday. Potluck followed by 12-step Christ-centered meetings for those suffering from addiction, habit, hang-up or hurt.
- **Coffee Break Al-Anon Family Group Women** – Tuesdays, 9:45 a.m., Faith Christian Family Church, Hwy. 23S, (479) 363- 9495.
- **No high school diploma?** Free GED classes in the Carnegie Library Annex every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 9 a.m. - noon with study and tutoring for the GED test. Open to ages 18 and up. GED classes also in Berryville at Carroll County Center. Some open to ages 16 and 17 per educational requirements. For info: Nancy Wood (479) 981-0482, Carnegie Library (479) 253-8754, Carroll County Center (870) 423-4455). Offered by North Arkansas College with Carnegie Library support.
- **Grief Share**, a Bible-based, 13-week program for those who have lost a loved one, is held Sundays from 2 – 4 p.m. at Faith Bible Church, Suite C, 3 Parkcliff Drive, Holiday Island. Share in an informal, confidential setting with others experiencing similar circumstances. Call (479) 253-8925 or email lardellen@gmail.com. Meetings at Coffee Pot Club:
- **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) 244-0371 • **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 Groups** 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

EMT classes in mid-January

Eureka Springs Fire & EMS will host an Emergency Medical Technician class beginning in mid-January and running through April. Classes will be held each Monday and Thursday evening with additional hours required in the emergency room, on the ambulance and for auto extrication training.

You must have a high school diploma or GED, be 18 years of age, an American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR card valid through July, 2016, no criminal convictions which prohibit college attendance or state certification/licensure, completion of TEAS college exam or college transcript showing previous attendance and a TB skin test to join the class.

Class cost is \$500 per person and must be paid in advance. Graduates will be eligible to test for Arkansas & National Registry EMT certifications. Students sponsored by a recognized emergency response agency in western Carroll County may attend free. Application packets are available at fire station #1. Classes will be held in

the same location. For more information contact Christian FitzPatrick at (479) 253-9616 or email esfireadmin@eurekaspringsfire.org.

December hours for Snow Village and Train display

The Snow Village and Train display at Gaskins Switch Village will be open at 2051 Hwy. 63 East, on Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Sundays from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. through Dec. 20. Special evening hours will be Dec. 21 – 23 from 5 – 7 p.m. which will be the final dates.

This exhibit consists of over 300 buildings in a wintery setting, together with three Lionel 0 scale trains, a Lionel 0 scale trolley, and many accessories.

Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children 5 – 12 and children under 5 free. This exhibit is a fundraiser for the Eureka Springs Historical Museum.

INDEPENDENTConstablesOnPatrol

DECEMBER 7

8:24 a.m. – Constable went to the scene of an abandoned vehicle and called for a tow truck.

1:26 p.m. – Caller told ESPD an adult female disappeared about 30 minutes previous. She had gone to a bathroom but did not return. Constable was able to find her, and she returned to her party.

11:07 p.m. – Traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the driver for speeding and DWI.

DECEMBER 8

5:13 p.m. – Constable assisted with a combative patient at ESH.

DECEMBER 9

9:56 a.m. – Motel staff reported theft of property.

11:05 a.m. – Constable responded to a call about an erratic driver, and found the vehicle already parked. He spoke with the driver and determined everything was okay.

12:21 p.m. – As the constable was on his way to check out a report of gunfire near the library, the reporting party called back to say she had heard roofers using a staple gun.

6:48 p.m. – Constable initiated a traffic stop and arrested the driver for DWI and possession of a controlled substance.

DECEMBER 10

12:27 p.m. – Constables responded to a report of theft of personal property at ESH.

12:56 p.m. – Constable went to the scene of an accident.

1:15 p.m. – ESPD got word a male was harassing a female at her apartment.

3:18 p.m. – A mother asked for assistance because her son was out of control and had left the scene. Constable advised her to get a pick up order.

6:15 p.m. – There was a dispute about a vehicle in a neighborhood near downtown. Vehicle was returned. No one filed charges.

6:57 p.m. – Someone was yelling in a residence above downtown, and constables were able to settle everyone down.

7:07 – In a nearby neighborhood, constables cautioned a female who was yelling to stay home or risk being arrested for disorderly conduct.

7:57 p.m. – Yelling erupted again at the first yelling location. Constable went back to the scene and advised the couple to keep it down.

DECEMBER 11

12:55 a.m. – Traffic stop downtown resulted in the arrest of the driver for DWI and disregarding a stop sign.

11:02 a.m. – Another traffic stop resulted in the arrest of an individual on a failure to appear warrant out of Huntsville.

DECEMBER 13

4:23 p.m. – Store employee reported finding a lost wallet. Constable retrieved the item.

11:24 p.m. – Back door alarm rang out at a business. Constables scoured the area and found nothing suspicious. All doors were secure.

11:34 p.m. – Motorist in a neighborhood crashed his vehicle into a residence. He left the scene on foot, but a constable encountered him on Hwy. 23 North. He was arrested for DWI and careless driving.

EARLY DAYS at Eureka Springs[©] – by Nellie Alice Mills, 1949

Early Days at Eureka Springs Arkansas 1880-1892, a memoir of Nellie Alice Mills whose family moved here in two covered wagons from Oswego, Kansas, was written in 1949, relying on memory. In her second book, *Other Days at Eureka Springs*, written in 1950, she went through old records she had kept. The family home was built on the west side of Leatherwood, “about a hundred yards beyond the mouth of Magnetic Hollow, opposite Cold Spring, which supplied us, and all our neighbors, with water.”

Part One – Pioneering, cont.

It was while they were living there, however, that the thing happened that caused me to remember the building of that house between ours and Ed Turley’s. It was a three-roomed house. We children found much pleasure and exercise running across the sills that were later to support the floor. But one day Sudie Rippetoe fell through. The distance to the ground was not great; she may have bumped her head on a timber. At any rate she was, as we would say now, “knocked out.” At the time I was puzzled because her father came and carried her home. Whether by stern paternal injunctions, or the laying of the floorboards, our fun in hopping across those sills was ended.

I had often been in the Henson house; there were two little girls in the family, Della and Eva. But while the Readings lived there I was never inside their house; but I used to stare in wonder and admiration at a girl with long curls who used to sit by the window upstairs in the north gable.

Mr. Isaac Putnam had a store across the creek from us; he, with his two

daughters, Helen and Josephine, lived over the store. Beyond that store was the Henson blacksmith shop. We children often watched Mr. Henson shaping horseshoes. Beyond the shop, upon a stone retaining wall, was the McDowell house. Next to the house was an immense stable that belonged to Mr. McDowell. It must have been a livery boarding stable during the years of freighting by wagons. I never got so far away from home until the stable was no longer in use. Before it was razed, however, I, with all the youngsters of the neighborhood, explored it from the empty corn bins in the front, through all the vacant stalls, and from the dirt floor through the empty haymows above.

There was some contest about the land at Eureka Springs. I know nothing of the legal aspects of the case, but there were two factions, the Townsiders against Bays and Evans. Our father had procured his land from Bays and Evans. He held lots on both sides of Main Street. On the east side the lots did not include the Cold Spring, but there is a smaller spring higher

up on the hill that was on the land. At any rate, he lost this land on the east, but kept the lots on the west where we lived. I had never heard a name for that mountain at the foot of which our home was built. Is it now called West Mountain, that mountain about whose waist runs Spring Street from the Basin to the Dairy Spring?

There must have been much “squatting” done at that time; much camping or even building, on land of which no purchase had been made, or any attempt to possess the property. Those houses so close to the street between our place and Magnetic Hollow may have been of that class, they were so soon abandoned. One pioneer habitation was quite famous for two or three years – the temporary shelter of a man and his family. I have forgotten their name, but the man and wife were known locally as Adam and Eve. Whether or not dire poverty had induced them to take up their abode under a sheltering rock up Magnetic Hollow almost as far as the Mystic Springs, it must have been a profitable venture. Many



summer visitors went up the Hollow just to see this unique residence. It was while I was still too young to get far away from home. When I first saw the place, the front wall had partly fallen down. But it seems such a place would be fairly comfortable in warm weather, or cold. I have seen other shelving rocks near there, though none affording quite so much space, that a little rock wall building of the bountiful material so near at hand would make a fairly good shelter. Some horses were once stabled for a short time there in Magnetic Hollow.

NOTES from the HOLLOW by Steve Weems

In school, geography was a favorite subject of mine. If I had a good teacher, it was like traveling without leaving my desk. And I liked how places could be quantified by such things as population, elevation or precipitation. When not in

Arkansas, I read everything I could about it and searched the sports page for mention of the Razorbacks. As a homesick army private in Germany, I would walk into town on my day off and visit the big German bookstore. There I’d go through the travel guides of the

United States looking for mention of Eureka Springs, or at least of Arkansas. Sometimes I hit pay dirt and would try to decipher the German to understand what was being said about my hometown and state.

Now when I yearn to travel to new locales, circumstance usually requires me to do it as I did in school, from a desk. I’ve had a passing interest in New Zealand ever since I was a lad and my father told me about his visit there in the 1960s. I remember his saying that New Zealanders were more British than the British.

Occasionally, I become obsessed with a location. Besides visiting “Kiwi” websites (New Zealanders refer to themselves as Kiwis), I’ve discovered listening to radio stations over the Internet. Now I need a daily fix of talk radio out of Auckland for my news. The commercials are interesting. Since New Zealand is in the Southern Hemisphere, it is the beginning of summer there, so supermarkets are advertising fresh strawberries. Everyone is gearing up for the



big traditional Christmas barbecue or trip to the beach.

All of this leads to my pondering how our visitors hear about Eureka Springs, especially our foreign ones. I don’t have much direct contact with tourists anymore, so I wonder what the trends are and if there are versions of me overseas obsessed with Eureka Springs or the Ozarks, hoping to visit.

If you are now interested in a trip to New Zealand, I might save you a journey to the Eureka Springs Carnegie Library by telling you that I have all of the New Zealand guidebooks checked out.

Poetluck Dec. 17

Listen to veteran Michael Jennings as he reads from his novel in the works at Poetluck this Thursday, Dec. 17, at the Writers’ Colony at Dairy Hollow, 515 Spring Street. The viewpoint of the character in his novel is a soldier who was drafted the summer after he finished college.

Local writers and musicians are invited to read from or perform their work for up to four minutes after Jennings. A poetluck dinner will start at 6:30 p.m.

Poetluck takes place every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome and bring a dish to share.

Retirement Reception for Jack and Connie Deaton

The Holiday Island Fire Department and Auxiliary will host a retirement reception to honor Jack and Connie Deaton on Thursday, Dec. 17 from 5 – 8 p.m. at the Holiday Island Clubhouse Ballroom. Drop by and celebrate the Deatons’ longtime service and commitment to the community.

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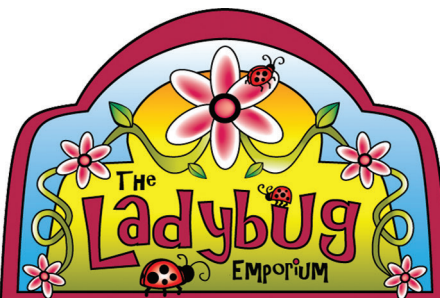


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Another side of food trucks

Accommodations:

Throughout small towns and big cities of the world, people choose to eat from food trucks. There is more to Eureka Springs than the Historic District.

No, food truck customers will not expect existing restaurants to provide seating. That would be very rude. Food truck customers as a rule are not rude. Most of the thousand or so food trucks I have seen through the years have stools for people to sit on and often a counter, mounted on the food truck. It is not necessary to carry their food while eating standing up.

Food trucks provide a wastebasket for their waste. They have the responsibility to dispose of it properly as any other good citizen. So, the food truck will pay for the extra trash.

I'm not sure how bathrooms always get into these controversies. I have limited evidence, but I believe most people can order a sandwich, eat it, and be on their way without having to take a trip to the loo.

The food truck would park where permitted and

likely where welcomed. Food truck parks do allow permanency. There is one in Fayetteville. In Eureka Springs, it is most likely a food truck would park for their planned hours and then return home. Private property owners along the highway should have the right of allowing food trucks to set up on their property.

Benefits:

I do not understand the presented argument. If food trucks create six jobs for our citizens, is that a negative or a positive? If John Smith quits his restaurant job to work in a food truck because the hours give him more family time – is that a sacrifice? The marketplace is not a zero-sum game.

It is a surprise to me that one would argue against food trucks because one is unhappy with the system that collects taxes to support the public schools. A local food truck owner would be paying property tax on his residence and on his food truck (both truck and/or trailer). If the taxation system is unfair, that is not a reason to forbid particular businesses and jobs.

Compatibilities:

Mrs. Larimer, it sounds you would concede with the existence of food trucks if they were to be levied a special tax. And perhaps you would be content if food trucks were not permitted in the Historic District. The Highlander Community Center looks like an ideal location. Some cities offer up a limited number of permits each year, but also provide informative tools for entrepreneurs to manage a safe, healthy, and profitable business. Eureka Springs could do this easily enough.

I should be open that I am a proponent because of more self-centered reasons: I just want a good option to grab some fast food besides McDonald's. And I get to eat Frank and Lisa's food at Farmers' Market, and I think its pretty good and they deserve a chance to succeed in their business just like the rest of us. And street food is my preferred diet and source of cuisine when traveling outside the U.S.

Laissez les bons temps rouler.

Andrew Schwerin

Prayer gatherings for change on the Earth

Join your intention, invocations and prayers with others to help the Earth and its people call forth the changes needed in Earth's present crises. Gather on the first and third Thursdays of the month, from 11 a.m. – noon, and make a new year's resolution to call forth more hope, wisdom and love for our planet. Go downstairs on the left side of the Christian Science Building at Heart of Many Ways, 68 Mountain St. For more information call Amrit at (479) 253 – 3165.



Voices appreciate cemetery use – Directors of *Voices of Eureka's Silent City*, Rod and Phyllis McGuire (R.), along with Museum Operations Manager, Stephanie Stodden, present a donation of \$500 to Chair of the Cemetery Commission, Ken Fugate, and Cemetery Groundskeeper, Kelly Cappelletti for the use of the cemetery for the production of *Voices*.

Search and Rescue Team reviewed at AGM

Emergency responses during 2015 were reviewed at the AGM of the County Search & Rescue Team this week. Outgoing president Jennifer Feltmann of the Special Operation Rescue Team (SORT) listed a river rescue, a victim recovery search at Elk Ranch, two wilderness searches, an urban lost person search and two carry-out operations for injured hikers as the major events of the year. Outdoor training exercises included a water rescue on the Kings River and an overnight land search followed by a ropes rescue at Leatherwood Park.

The newest addition to the team has been two K9 units trained for tracking lost persons. Terry Plumlee and Nick Samac, with their families, have invested time and money owning and training search dogs which are now part of SORT.

Melisa Curtis is the new president of SORT and Justin Capps is the Coordinator. SORT meets on the second Wednesday of every month through the year for training. For more information contact Mike FitzPatrick, public information officer for SORT, at (479) 253-6244 or fitzmxea@gmail.com

All Aboard! The Polar Express departs soon

The Carnegie Library will host a Polar Express party for young children on Friday, Dec. 18 from 6 – 7 p.m. in the library. Wear your pajamas and enjoy milk and cookies, simple crafts for small hands, a journey to the North Pole and a

reading of the classic Van Allsburg book *The Polar Express*. Special Guest, The Conductor, will give every child a jingle bell, so plan to attend this free event. Contact the library with questions at (479) 253-8754 or info@eurekalibrary.org.

Christmas & CD RELEASE Party
She'll be Going, Going... GONE!

For details see ad on page 5.

Dances of Universal Peace

Dances of Universal Peace will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 17 Elk St., on Friday, Dec. 18 at 7 p.m. The Dances are simple, joyful moving meditations that involve the singing of sacred phrases with

accompanying movements from the world's many spiritual traditions. Participation is free of charge. Contact Rebecca Babbs (479) 253 – 8303 or email babbsrebecca@gmail.com for more information.

Democratic debate party at the library

There will be a Democratic debate party at the Library annex starting at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 19. Open to the public and Republicans are welcome. For further information call Sonny at (479) 253–2853.

Eureka Springs Methodist Choir presents Christmas Cantata

Soprano soloist Maura Caldwell will sing “Magnificat,” by John Rutter, on Sunday, Dec. 20 at the 10 a.m. service at

the United Methodist Church on Hwy. 23 S. Accompanying will be a string quartet, two flutes, piano and organ. All are welcome.

Hikers take a Christmas walk in Eureka

Join the Holiday Island Hikers Monday, Dec. 21 on an easy – moderate, 3-mile hike on a Eureka Christmas Walk. Group will meet at 10 a.m. at the Crescent

Hotel Parking lot and lunch will also be at the Crescent Hotel. For more information call Dan Kees (479) 287 – 2082 or email dandtkees@cox.net.

Dec. 21 Metafizzies meeting

The Dec. 21 meeting of the Eureka Springs Metaphysical Society will feature Stephen Foster continuing his discussion on the metaphysical interpretation of the Bible. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at Heart of Many Ways, 68 Mountain Street. All are welcome.

Community Christmas dinner at ECHO

A community Christmas dinner will be held at the ECHO dining room on Christmas Day from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. The dinner is sponsored by Flint Street Fellowship, all are welcome and there is no charge. ECHO is located at Hwy. 62 and Rockhouse Road. Call (479) 253-4945 for more information or if you would like to volunteer to help.



Tearful farewell – Simply Scrumptious Tea Room closed its doors for good on Dec. 13. Up until then, the elegant lunchroom was packed as usual, but on the last three days the line extended out the door. The kitchen was overwhelmed, but customers didn't mind the wait. Nancy and Bob Clark of Rogers made it in and said they thought about staying overnight just so they could be first in line the next day. The Eagle Rock Book Club held a final birthday party for one of its members and wondered where they could go to celebrate now. Hunter Slay from Mississippi was there because he had been advised not to miss it. Above, owner Charleen McCain gave a thank you speech that ended in tears and elicited a standing ovation from the packed room. Recovering with her usual smile she said, “Let's just have a good time today!”

PHOTOS BY JAY VRECNAR



New Year's Eve worship service

There will be a Universal Worship service presented by the Sufi Center of the Ozarks at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 17 Elk St., on New Year's Eve at 6 p.m. The Universal Worship honors all of the world's religious traditions. Participation is free of charge. For more information contact Rebecca Babbs at (479) 253 – 8303 or babbsrebecca@gmail.com.

Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge closing days

Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge will be closed on Christmas Day and will not open until 10 a.m. on New Year's Day.

Sunday at EUUF

Sing Christmas songs for the young and the old, secular and sacred, on Dec. 20 at the Eureka Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 17 Elk Street at 11 a.m. Childcare is provided. Extra parking at Ermilio's Restaurant, 26 White Street.

Dec. 21 Metafizzies meeting

The Dec. 21 meeting of the Eureka Springs Metaphysical Society will feature Stephen Foster continuing his discussion on the metaphysical interpretation of the Bible. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at Heart of Many Ways, 68 Mountain Street. All are welcome.

Hallelujah! – Ozarks Chorale Director, Beth Withey, leads the community in the “Hallelujah Chorus” at the close of the Chorale's annual Christmas concert at the city auditorium Dec. 12.



PHOTO BY BECKY GILLETTE

Winter Solstice, Gifts, Our Eyes Toward Bethlehem

Monday, the 21st, at 8:48 p.m. (west coast time) the Sun enters Capricorn. The days before solstice (and Christmas) are days of quiet expectancy. The four candles of the Advent wreath have been lit. There's a deepening within nature, a hushed reserve, a gathering of strength for what's to come. Earth's kingdoms – mineral, plant, animal, human

– feel hope and anticipation together – a spark of flame at each center. At Solstice, that flame burns brighter. Darkness gives way to the Light. We hold out our hands to each other in gladness. The new light of Winter Solstice uplifts the Earth to the Kingdoms of Beauty.

At winter solstice the Sun rests at the Tropic of Capricorn for three days before

its rays, with the promise of summer, move northward once again. There is expectancy in the Temple and in the stable. The Hierarchy and New Group of World Servers begin preparations for Wesak. The Archangel Gabriel assumes his post of protection over Earth & her kingdoms. The angelic Cherubim from the constellation Cancer, guardians of mothers, babies,

children, fathers and all families begin surrounding the Earth. A new light, a star is faintly seen in the sky. All of life is hushed in expectation. Looking up we “set our eyes toward Bethlehem.”

Gifts

On our journey toward the Light, and like the Three Magi Astrologer Kings, what gifts for each sign shall we bring?

ARIES: Things hot and red that go pop! A bike that goes zoom, fiery things – firecrackers, candles, incense, what flickers in the dark. Crayolas and crayon paintbrushes that glow in the dark, silly putty, anything sparkling with glitter. Hats and helmets, protecting their fire. Bike lights or miner's light for the Ajna Center (3rd eye), illuminating their Way. Things white, red, rouge, ruby and for some secret reason, deep violet. A watch with diamonds.

TAURUS: A gardener to plant all their vegetable starts; seed sprouter, yogurt machine, gelato maker. Greenhouse, actually several (two, three, four). They know food in the near future will be the important commodity. Gardening tools and wild desert white sage (plant). A nature walk identifying wild mushrooms. Tools, barometer and weather thermometer. How-to books. A cow (Irish Dexter) or goat for milk. Land in Hawaii (Maui).

GEMINI: Things to read and write with, ancient (Basho's poetry, calligraphy brush) and new (iMac, iPhone, iPad, Kindle, Fire, etc.). Playing cards, a set of jacks, marbles. Things that whirl about, glitter in the Sun, resembling butterflies, like their mind, unable to endure one moment of stillness. Gadgets, fascinating at first, useless later. Games, pick-up sticks, a clutch of bare root roses: heirlooms, climbers with fragrance and scent.

CANCER: Cancers are water babies, no matter how old they are. Decorative boxes of tissues for each room in their house. Cancers cry a lot. They're sensitive. Things from the ocean like pearl puddles (jewelry), hand, body and face creams and soaps made from Dead Sea minerals. Containers, baskets, vessels, copper pots and pans, secret boxes, music boxes. A rainmaking showerhead for the experience of a rainforest. All treasures from the sea found in Santa Cruz. A dish of fresh crab cakes.

LEO: Leos want to be the one and only treasure of the zodiac! Leos, sensitive too, are fiery (like Aries) but a different kind of fire. They seem to be from the Sun. Without the sun, Leos are *sad* (the lights they need). Make sure they have adequate light (shining upon them). No gloomy shades, curtains or dark colors for them! Give them things that shine like the Sun. A locket of gold, silver and platinum. Rose gold (yellow gold & copper) reflects Leo's heart.

VIRGO: Virgo knows how to clean, clear, order and organize in great detail. Virgo

organizes, shelf by shelf, what Gemini discovers. Virgo is my Chiron, so what do I know of Virgo needs? Mrs. Meyer's cleaning products are a good start. The Zum products, too. Virgo, always gestating a new state of consciousness, hides from everyone except for a few. They need more & more bookshelves, notebooks, reading lights, a silver pencil, the Roomba vacuum cleaner, a book called *Just Listen* by Mark Goulston. And something precious.

LIBRA: Art, art and more art. But the kind that immediately is identified as beautiful, balanced and harmonious. Flower seeds, bulbs, fruit trees (apricot, lemon, fuji), kitchen herb garden, scented candles, mirrors (to see they are the fairest/most handsome of all), magazine scripts (monthly gift), box of chocolates with *fleur de sel*, a month of home-delivered veggie tonics, more glass baubles for their already overlade Christmas tree. A party.

SCORPIO: Things subtly red, violet, black, aglitter with exotic scents (sandalwood, patchouli, bergamot, myrrh, frankincense & clove). Incense in these scents and oils also. From Young Living Oils, a blended oil called Thieves, which cleanses and heals and comes in soap and spray (excellent for traveling), throat lozenges, toothpaste, etc. Leather gloves, books on generals, revolutions and warriors. Anything serpentine (from Egypt) or eagle-like. A scarab ring.

SAGITTARIUS: A home town, a place called home, walking shoes, a staff (several), laughter (ho ho ho – St. Nick is a Sag), bow & arrows aimed at the Sun, an archery set with targets & bundles of straw, a new vehicle that runs fast on little gas, another journey somewhere, a (new) camera, photographs from famous photographers, a mountain top, a plain, a white horse; foods from different cultures, mineral waters, a cashmere beret. A train whistle or harmonica.

CAPRICORN: New shoes, hiking (mountaineering) boots, mountain climbing equipment, clocks, timepieces, watches (old), surf board, desk, gardening tools (the best), goat cheese, science sets (for adults & children), magazines (a monthly gift; *Architectural Digest*, *Vogue*, *New Yorker*, *Kosmos* & *The Week*). A week or more of rest. Going nowhere, especially not down. A beginning silverware set (knife, fork, spoon added to each year). Silver purifies our foods and palates. A true compliment.

AQUARIUS: For some Aquarians, a home of their own. For little ones, microscope and telescope, for the little and big pictures. An asteroid named after them, a heavenly star map covering one entire wall in their home, anything with lights, light beams, luminosity and radiance. A Vespa, Prius or electric bike. A warehouse, Coyote Trickster feather, a Kachina, pieces of sky that fell to earth. Some Aquarians need a new home & some need to travel. A donation toward either. Offer them DJ & Farmers' Market work.

PISCES: Cashmere socks, bedroom slippers, shawls, sweaters, hats, scarves. Fountains, bells, water purifying showerhead (water drops like rain), goldfish, diamonds, espresso machine. A room of their own. A home of their own in a citrus orchard. Being called to the mountain to serve. Statues of the sleeping Buddha, of Mary, Christ, St. Francis of Assisi. A cross of gold to wear. A chandelier.

Risa is Founder & Director of the Esoteric & Astrological Studies & Research Institute, a contemporary Wisdom School in the Ancient Mysteries tradition. Email: risagoodwill@gmail.com. Website: www.nightlightnews.org/. Facebook (2): Risa's Esoteric Astrology & Risa D'Angeles



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Mercy lab gets high marks

Mercy Hospital Berryville's lab department recently received a major seal of approval from the Accreditation Committee of the College of American Pathologists (CAP) based on results of a recent on-site inspection.

The U.S. government recognizes the CAP Laboratory Accreditation Program, begun in the early 1960s, as being equal to or more stringent than the government's own inspection program.

"This is the gold standard for laboratories," Lab Supervisor Kim Ginder said regarding the national recognition. "People are healthier because of laboratory medicine, and being accredited means we're advocates for cost-effective, safe and high quality care."

During the CAP accreditation process, inspectors examine the laboratory's records and quality control of procedures for the preceding two years. CAP inspectors also examine laboratory staff qualifications, equipment, facilities, safety program and overall management.

NWA Master Naturalist accepting enrollees

The NWA Master Naturalists are accepting enrollees for the 2016 annual training program that takes place on twelve Saturdays from Feb. 6 – March 21. 40 hours of training are required to graduate on May 21. The first class will be held at Northwest Arkansas Community College, 1 College Drive in Bentonville, with remaining classes being held at various locations. More than 90 hours of expert instruction and field studies will be offered.

Training includes techniques for observation and identification of trees, plants, insects, rock formations, weather patterns and the night sky.

Arkansas Master Naturalists may choose to perform at least 40 hours of volunteer service and complete 8 hours of advanced training annually to become and remain certified.

Go to wordpress.ArkansasMasterNaturalists.org for more information and to obtain an application for enrollment. A fee of \$135, which covers materials and instruction, must accompany the completed application. Class size is limited, spaces reserved on first come, first served basis. For questions email nwamnContact@mn4arkansas.org.

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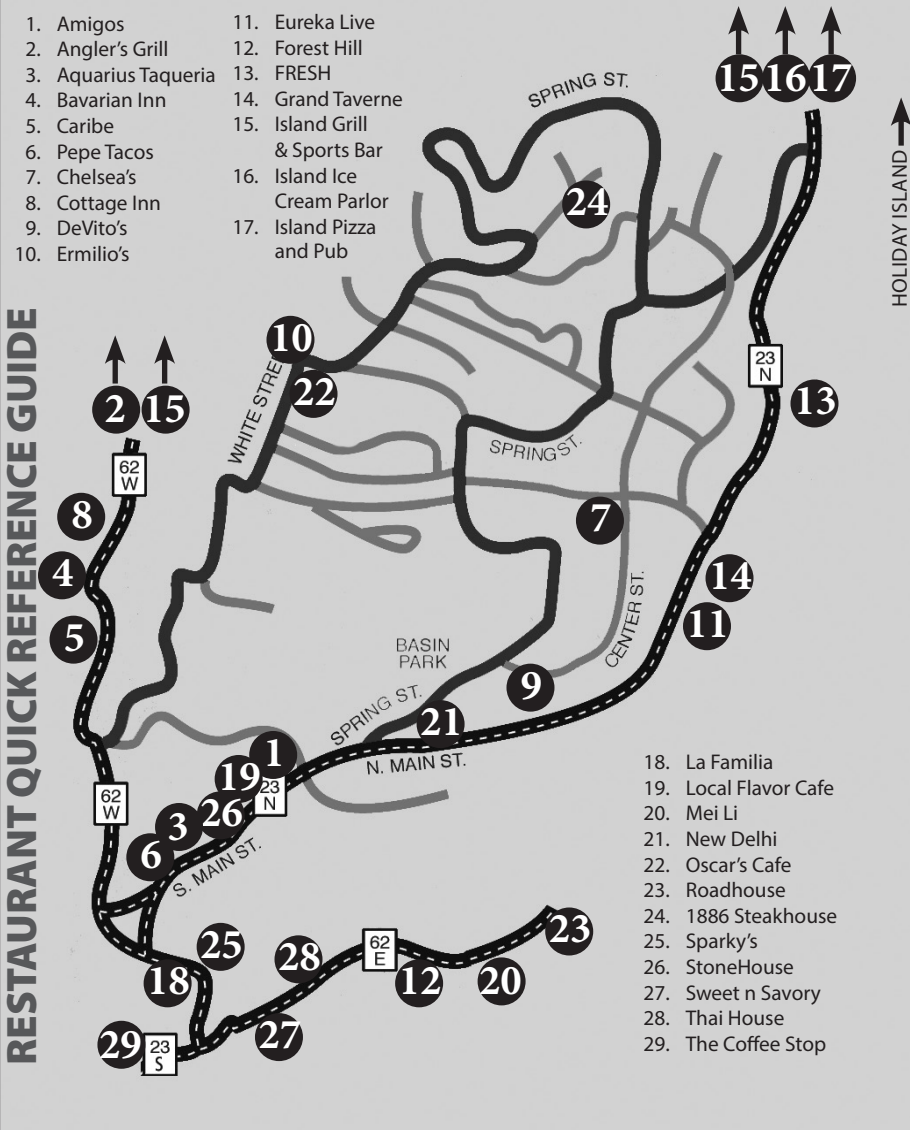
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Cathouse celebrates in naughty pajamas, Handmade Moments' farewell hoorah, Mud Hawks prey on rock fans Sunday at Chelsea's

Don your jingle bell hats and pointy shoes; it's time to party! Thursday the Cathouse hosts its annual Naughty Pajama Party featuring surprise guests, dance music, and lacy revelry – that'll keep you warm. Saturday evening, Handmade Moments plays quirky jazz jams in boy-girl harmony at the StoneHouse before they go to South America for a couple years. Sunday, catch the Mud Hawks from Fayetteville scorching guitar strings at Chelsea's and finish burning the euphonius candle at both ends. Let's sneak one in before Santa gets here!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *Naughty Pajama Party*, 8 p.m.

CHELSEA'S – *Xmas Party*, 7 p.m.

EUREKA LIVE! – *Green Screen Karaoke*, 9 p.m.

GRAND TAVERNE – *Jerry Yester*, Grand Piano Dinner Music, 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

LEGENDS SALOON – *Some Other Band*, Rock, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

BREWS – *Brian Martin*, Singer/Songwriter, 6 – 9 p.m.

CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *Amy Leigh*, Singer/Songwriter, 8 p.m.

CHELSEA'S – *Michael Schembre and Dan Redmond*, Stringed Funk, 9 p.m.

EUREKA LIVE! – *Green Screen Karaoke*, 9 p.m.

GRAND TAVERNE – *Arkansas Red*, Amplified Acoustic Guitar Dinner Music, 6:30- 9:30 p.m.

LEGENDS SALOON – *DJ and Karaoke with Kara*, 8 p.m.

NEW DELHI – *Terri and the Executives*, Rock, 6 – 10 p.m.

ROWDY BEAVER – *North of Forty Duo*, Rock, 7 p.m.

ROWDY BEAVER DEN – *Karaoke with DJ Goose*, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

AUD – *Home for the Holidays Holiday Concert*, 7 – 10 p.m.

BREWS – *Johai Kafa*, Folk, 6 – 9 p.m.

CHELSEA'S – *Black Out Boys*, Rock, 9 p.m.

EUREKA LIVE! – *DJ & Dancing*, 9 p.m.

GRAND TAVERNE – *Jerry Yester*, Grand Piano Dinner Music, 6:30- 9:30 p.m.

LEGENDS SALOON – *Headley Lamar*, Rock (Ridge), 9 p.m.

ROWDY BEAVER – *2 Dog 2 Karaoke*, 7 p.m.

ROWDY BEAVER DEN – *Jimmy Wayne Garrett*, Singer/Songwriter, 12 and 8 p.m.

STONE HOUSE – *Handmade Moments*, Jazz, 7 – 10 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

BREWS – *Cards Against Humanity/ Board Games*

CHELSEA'S – *The Mud Hawks*, Rock, 7:30 – 10:30 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21

AQUARIUS TAQUERIA – *Buffalo Gals*, Americana, 6 p.m.

CHELSEA'S – *Sprungbilly*, Bluegrass, 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22

CATHOUSE LOUNGE – *Los Roscoes*, Americana, 6 p.m.

CHELSEA'S – *Open Mic*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23

CHELSEA'S – *Jimmy Wayne Garrett*, Singer/Songwriter, 9 p.m.

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

I've been seeing someone for 6 months. We were texting daily and dating twice weekly. He's great but the romance has fizzled for me and he's totally missing my cues. I don't text anymore other than brief replies to his. I've declined dates for three weeks but he's still not getting it. How can I end it without hurting him?

Ghosting, icing and simmering are three trending terms used to define intimate communication via texting. According to noted psychotherapist Esther Perel, each are communication tactics that create a state of "stable ambiguity," basically an established, yet poorly defined, relationship.

Ghosting occurs when one abruptly ends communication via text because they've lost interest but don't have the guts to say so. Icing occurs when one suspends a relationship using various excuses of unavailability, hoping the other continues to pine for them while enjoying the freedom to peruse other options.

Simmering occurs when one significantly reduces the frequency of texting, feeling something's not quite right yet needing the security of a constant companion but wanting the no strings attached privilege.

Rejection is painful regardless of the format in which it's received. However, when a majority of communication occurs through texting, accountability can easily be avoided. Partners are not privy to one another's body language or verbal cues, allowing either to sustain a mediocre relationship in an indefinite holding pattern. In other words, they can play the field with the comfort of an instantaneous dinner date or booty call on speed dial.

As indicated in your inquiry you're acting as the ghostee, desperately hoping the ghosted will get the hint and quietly move along. Many believe this approach is less hurtful. Wrong! Instead you're leaving the ghosted in a state of confusion, hope, anger and self-doubt. *Am I a bad lover? Am I a bore? Am I not adequately physically*

fit or financially successful? Self-doubt is an aggressive parasite.

Grow some cojones. Engage your integrity and with loving kindness simply be honest.

Wanting to have your cake and eat it too is nothing new. Yet with today's realm of remote communication it's overly easy to indulge our selfishness while fully ignoring the consequences our actions have on others. As a technologically progressive society, are we losing our capacity for empathy? Something to reflect upon.

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 16 years, after receiving extensive training in human sexuality at the Masters and Johnson Institute in St. Louis, Mo.



Social Mediacs – From left, Crescent and Basin Park Hotel Digital Marketing Director, Amanda Haley; Grand Central Hotel General Manager, Dusty Duling; Turpentine Creek Communications Director, Lisa Brinker; Main Street Eureka Springs tour guide/blogger, Christie Braswell; Chamber of Commerce Communications Director, Holly White; Main Street Eureka Springs Executive Director, Jacqueline Wolven and Crescent Hotel Activities Director, Mary Howze combine their social media savvy as a task force unofficially called #TeamEureka. They're working through programming, promotions and new ideas to boost Eureka Springs's presence as a thriving, fun destination on Twitter, Pintrest, Instagram, Facebook and other social media.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Georgia on your mind?

It will be! How about a springtime adventure in Savannah, Jekyll Island and Beaufort in April? A motor coach tour leaves from the Holiday Island Rec Center on April 2 for an adventure including 9 days, 8 nights, all lodging, 14 meals and a great planned tour.

The trip returns April 10, and is a great bargain at \$723 per person/double occupancy. A deposit of \$75 per person secures a seat. Call Janice (479) 253-9890 or 244-7669 or visit www.GroupTrips.com/HolidayIslandTravelClub.

TASK FORCE continued from page 3
we pitch to?" she asked. She mentioned the city does not have much in incentives to offer a prospective business. She said Hot Springs upgraded its city infrastructure as an incentive for a new business.

Dan Hebert attended a task force meeting for the first time, and said his background was in manufacturing. He suggested the city look for small businesses

offering jobs in light assembly or machining. He warned, however, his company started a new plant in Alabama and could not find qualified workers in the area. He said he would start a conversation with the person in charge of the business incubator at the University of Arkansas to see if they could work together.

Berry brought up career academies that teach what companies actually need like

machinists and forklift drivers. "Industry is doing the teaching," he stated.

Martin suggested another way to attract potential entrepreneurs would be to establish a website for the Task Force to put its intention online.

"So," Berry said, "the question is, 'What can Eureka Springs do for your company?'"

Martin commented it was time to identify who would go where to begin

enticing potential new businesses to consider Eureka Springs. "We've got a lot of talent here, so we might as well show it," she said.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, Jan. 13, at 10 a.m., in the Auditorium office.

ROOTS DOCTOR continued from page 4

Her herbal certification courses are more affordable than most similar courses.

"I wanted to make it affordable because everyone needs this knowledge in order to be healthy in a world with many problems," D'Coda said. "We all have to learn about traditional herbalism to take care of ourselves. I offer a variety of different types of courses. This is a school for lifelong learning, not just a place to go get a certificate and be done.

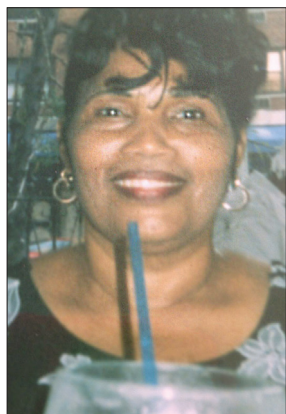
"Even the World Health Organization is calling for support for more indigenous medicines because it has been found that often

indigenous medicines can heal people without some of the harmful side effects of conventional western medicine. I think the only reason some of these healing arts died out is the healers didn't have the scientific language to explain why these things were working. Now we can incorporate scientific understanding into traditional herbalism. There is a whole movement from practitioners from different traditions who are doing that now. There is a sharing of common knowledge among different traditions, Ayurveda, Traditional Chinese Medicine and western herbalism. We are at this wonderful place where we can benefit from knowledge about many of the world's best natural healing traditions."



DEPARTURES

Grace Emma-Jean Young Oct. 31, 1939 – Dec. 6, 2015



Grace Emma-Jean Young, a U.S. citizen of Belize, Central America, was born October 31, 1939 in Belize, Central America, the daughter of Mr. John Young and Mrs. Doris McKivey Young. She departed this life Sunday, Dec. 6, 2015 in Berryville, Ark., at age 76.

Grace is survived by one son, Mr. Emelio Sutherland of New York; five daughters, Mrs. Amanda Blount of Atlanta, Ga.; Ms. Leonia Sutherland of Berryville, Ark.; Mrs. Althea Laws of Berryville, Ark.; Ms. Joycelyn Sutherland of Belize, Central America; Mrs. Patricia Sutherland-Pook of Berryville, Ark. and three sisters, Mrs. Mellisa Perez of Philadelphia, Pa.; Mrs. Josephine Walters of

New York; Ms. Janice Young of California; three brothers, Mr. William Young of New York; Mr. Valentine Young and Mr. Peter Young both of Belize, Central America; one aunt, Mrs. Frances Flores of Belize, Central America, two favorite cousins, Mrs. Mary Rosita Nicholson of New York and Mrs. Florine Perez of Belize, Central America; two sister-in-laws, Mrs. Linda Young and Mrs. Delcy Young both of Belize, Central America; 14 grandchildren; Eugene Vasquez, Elroy Flowers, David Blount, Carrie Blount, Karim Flowers, Terelene Dibba, Shanel Moreno, Chantel Sutherland, Kelley Sutherland, Brandi Sutherland, Kyle Sutherland, Germaine Shock, Darion Miles

and Evaun Pook; 12 great grandchildren; Atlas Shock, Kaiden Flowers, Tarik Vasquez, Gracie Vasquez, Hassan Dibba, Hussein Dibba, Ahmir Sullivan, Kaylynn Sullivan, Phoenix Sullivan, Imarien Flowers and Jayden Flowers; a host of nieces, nephews, family, friends and the entire village of Rancho Dolores.

Grace was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, Mr. Lester and Mr. Clive Young, three sisters, Mrs. Una Panting, Ms. Casserine Young and Ms. Loraine Young and one grandson, Mr. John Flowers.

No services at this time. Online condolences may be sent to the family at nelsonfuneral.com. © Nelson Funeral Service, Inc. 2015

Joe Compton Luker, Jr. Feb. 14, 1941 – Dec. 2, 2015

Joe Compton Luker, Jr., of Eureka Springs, Ark., died Dec. 2, 2015 from complications after open-heart surgery. Joe was the dearly loved spouse of Melva Luker; cherished brother of James Charles Luker and sister-in-law, Myra Luker; and adored father and stepfather of Jonathan Luker, Anne Ream, Robert Ream and Kary Ream. His grandchildren, Cami, Alaina, Marisa, Joey, Jules and Arline, adored their “Papa Joe.” He will be deeply missed by family and many friends, young and old.

Joe was preceded in death by his father and mother, Joe Compton Luker and Zula Inez Stanley Luker Broyles.

As is fitting for a loving and beloved man, Joe was born on Valentine’s Day, Feb. 14, 1941, in Little Rock, Ark. An outstanding athlete and scholar, Joe was an All-State varsity football player and lettered three years in varsity basketball. He was Salutatorian and Harvard Book Award recipient of his 1959 graduating class at North Little Rock High School.

Joe went on to receive his Bachelor of Engineering from Northwestern University, his Juris Doctor from the University of Arkansas, and a Master of Laws (Taxation) from New York University. Joe served honorably as Lieutenant Commander and Judge Advocate General (JAG) in the United State Navy. He successfully practiced law in both

Arkansas and California.

A dedicated and trustworthy community activist, Joe served as President, Legal Advisor and Volunteer for the Grassy Knob Fire Dept., Emeritus Foundation Director of the Carroll and Madison County Library Foundation, and as a member of the Opera of the Ozarks Guild.

Joe was insatiably curious – a life-long learner. His keen interest in novels, poetry, music and theater fed his love for world travel. He was also a skilled fisherman. Few could make a top-water lure dance to catch more fish than Joe Luker.

He was an ever-loyal Arkansas Razorbacks and Northwestern Wildcats fan.

Donations in Joe’s honor can be sent to The Carroll-Madison Library Foundation, 106 Spring St., Berryville, AR 72616, www.cmlibraryfoundation.com, or The Voices and Faces Project, 47 W. Polk St. #170, Chicago, IL 60505, voicesandfaces.org.



Wilfred Dale “Willie” Helgeson July 13, 1931 – Dec. 9, 2015

Wilfred Dale “Willie” Helgeson of Oak Grove, Ark., was born July 13, 1931 in Oregon City, Oregon, a son of Henry and Alice Elvira (Golladay) Helgeson. He departed this life Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2015 in Rogers, Ark., at age 84.

Willie was of the Pentecostal faith. He proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Korean War. He worked at Pace in the janitorial department for many years and enjoyed fishing and playing cards. He loved telling jokes.

Willie is survived by six children, Brenda

Lloyd of Branson, Mo., Barbara Helgeson of Portland, Ore., Willie Helgeson of Portland, Ore., Shannia Beasley of N. Car., Angela Oglesby of Zinc, Ark., and Catherine Poe of Oak Grove, Ark.; fifteen grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; two brothers: Oliver Helgeson and Johnny Helgeson both of Rainer, Oregon; three sisters: Ruby Allison of Oregon, Clara Clark of Rainer, Ore., and Darlene Logan of Pacific City, Ore.; several nieces and nephews; and a host of other family, friends, and loved ones.

Willie was united in marriage with Frances (Hicks) Helgeson who preceded him in death. He

was also preceded by his parents: Henry and Alice Helgeson; one son: Tiny Helgeson; four brothers: Clarence, Roy, Bennie, and Jimmy Helgeson; and one sister, Edna.

Graveside service was at the Hilltop Cemetery with Brother Billy Rogers officiating. Interment followed at the Hilltop Cemetery under the direction of Nelson Funeral Service. Memorial donations may be made to help with funeral expenses to Nelson Funeral Service, Inc., P.O. Box 311, Berryville, AR 72616. Online condolences may be sent to the family at nelsonfuneral.com. © Nelson Funeral Service, Inc. 2015

Santo Rizzo III April 21, 1948 – Dec. 9, 2015

Santo Rizzo III of Eureka Springs, Ark., was born April 21, 1948 in Bridgeton, New Jersey, a son of Santo Rizzo, Jr., and Patience Ann (Jagers) Rizzo. He departed this life Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2015 at home in Eureka Springs with family by his side. He was 67.

Santo was a member of the N.R.A., and enjoyed cooking, coin collecting, marble collecting, gun restoration, and fly fishing.

He is survived by four children, Santo Rizzo IV of Eureka Springs, Ark., Jennifer Rizzo of Winslow, Ark., Angela Hamilton of Booneville, Ark., and Kerri Rizzo of Mountainburg, Ark.; eight grandchildren, Santo Rizzo V, Sean Rizzo, Stella Purcell, Mason Purcell, Elliott Purcell, Mikie Dudley, Ryan Dudley and Mikael Dudley; two great-grandchildren, Karlie Dudley and Blaike Dudley; one sister, Pat and husband, Chesley Arrington, of Bentonville, Ark.;

one brother, John Rizzo of Reno, Nev.; and a host of other family, friends, and loved ones.

Santo was preceded in death by his parents, one sister and one brother.

Private family services will be held at a later date. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Nelson Funeral Service. Online condolences may be sent to the family at nelsonfuneral.com. © Nelson Funeral Service, Inc. 2015



Well, we got no calls last week so here’s a pic of Sam with six of the 15 stripers he and his dad caught last week. The right place at the right time. These guys live in Springfield and make it down about once a month for two-to-three days. They search hard and fish hard.

I met them a few years back from a forum which you might enjoy called ozarkanglers.com. They were posting a lot of video back then, not so much now, but you can enjoy viewing some at youtube/samkam56. I respect a father and son for finding something to enjoy together that keeps them close like family should be. They are passing it on to sons and grandchildren and enjoying family camping and cookouts. Thumbs up for passing it on.

Well, as you can tell the stripers on Beaver are biting good from the surface down to 20 ft. with water temps still in the low 50s. Most the bait and fish are stacked up between Prairie Creek and Hickory with the mudline just north of Hickory. We did go up into the War Eagle arm last week before the new rain and got some good bait

below the mudline with no time to fish, but had them swirling around us and hitting top as we were putting on the trailer, but the sun was setting and we had to go.

Here at Holiday Island most fish being caught are 5 – 20 ft. deep. Most crappie are in standing timber, and bass are holding close to the bluffs in the main channel. Also check out the creeks from the mouth to 1/2 way back in. Deep divers, spoons, jigs and just dropping live bait to them is all working.

The bass are fat and pretty this time of year and spots now have no length limit. Walleye are here, too, also being caught working slow off the bottom with jigs and minnows. As the lake cools we get a few big trout that come up river closer to Holiday Island.

Well, that’s it for this week. Share fishing with your kids and keep family together. Your reward will be your memories, and theirs.

Robert Johnson, Johnson Guide Service, www.fishofexcellence.com (479) 253-2258.

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by Mike Boian

Solution on page 23

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- ACROSS
1. Hawaiian goose

5. Common name for the Internet

8. Wound covering

12. On the sheltered side

13. Fury

14. Puritan pronoun

15. Castle with defensive towers

17. Very unusual

18. Aged, sort of

19. Inventor of many electrical devices

21. Epic poetry

23. Poetic “frequently”

24. Gather again

27. They travel in gaggles

30. Bristlelike appendage on many plants, a beard

31. Practical and useful

33. Formerly, as a name

34. Resources, abilities

36. Make rougher to the touch

38. British afternoon rite

39. Of long ago
40. Looked at, saw

43. Boat with a net

47. Roman poet in 1st century BCE

48. One of Biblical Daniel’s three companions

50. Construction area

51. Container of beans or Fix-A Flat

52. Several units or energy or work

53. Snow mobile

54. Printing widths

55. A single appropriate amount
8. Hard times, difficulties

9. Inflicts punishment on for moral improvement

10. Dynamic opener

11. “I’ve never ___ to heaven, but I’ve ___ to Oklahoma”

16. Acceptance, approval

20. Well-worn book

22. Risqué, as a novel

24. Hit hard

25. Ram’s dam

26. Insect’s mouth appendage

28. Discern, spot

29. When the sun goes down, poetically

32. Releases restraints

35. Had to have

37. Slowed a horse

40. Individual in charge

41. Stock in trade for Satan

42. Minnow’s cousin

44. Roman fiddler

45. Bacon’s complement

46. “Charlie Hustle” who played five positions

49. Roll-on deodorant
- DOWN
1. 1949 European alliance

2. Jewish twelfth month

3. Socially awkward, smart person

4. More chilling

5. Sans

6. Air homonym

7. Adam ___, by George

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LEGAL

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF CARROLL COUNTY, ARKANSAS
WESTERN DISTRICT
PROBATE DIVISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
THEODORE E. SPILGER, DECEASED
CASE NO. 08WPR 201557 WD**

NOTICE

Last known address of decedent:
2 Fairway Dr., Holiday Island, AR 72631

Date of Death: October 23, 2015

An instrument dated April 27, 2011 was on November 24, 2015 admitted to probate as the Last Will of the above named decedent, and the undersigned has been appointed executor thereunder. A contest of the probate of the Will can be effected only by filing a petition within the time provided by law.

All persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, duly verified, to the undersigned within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in the estate.

This notice first published the 9th day of December, 2015.

Kurt M. Spilger
1079 Mead Rd.
Bellbrook, OH 45305

Kristine B. Kendrick, Attorney at Law
105A W Van Buren,
Eureka Springs, AR 72632
Attorney for the Estate

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It's A Mystery BookStore
the gently-used book store featuring vintage, modern & classic reads on the Berryville Sq. www.itsmystery.net.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas & CD Release Party
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For details see ad on page 5.

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PERSONALS

Dear PARENTS,
Since you are not coming to my house for the new year, I'm heading to yours. You better be home!
Love,
Your favorite DAUGHTER

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REAL ESTATE

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WALDEN PLAZA – Passion Play Rd. – Glass front, paved parking, 1,100 sq. ft. m/l. \$650 per month. Call Sherry, Mountain Country Properties, (479) 253-9660. Agent has interest in property.

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MAIL continued from page 8

views that the instigator wants to expound to shock, manipulate and warp previously undisturbed minds?

It seems as though we have crossed a morally indefinable line where we feel it's our right to do whatever we want. If you want loud pipes on your motorcycle, does it matter if it hurts my ears? Whose freedom is correct?

I accepted Jesus Christ 16 years ago and my worldview has changed. No more R-rated movies and I shut the movie off when God's name is used as a curse.

A society that curses God on a continual basis cannot be expected to excel to a higher consciousness.

Eric W. Pederson

Lighting the way

Editor,

Thank you, Eureka Springs, for all the new and refurbished holiday decorations. I don't think I've ever seen our town so beautifully trimmed. Also, thank you to the merchants who took it upon

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Taking a closer look at our community



themselves to decorate their shops and windows with lights, etc. Eureka outdid itself. You made our holiday season very special, indeed.

And, now I hear our city is going to store all the expensive décor in a single and safe space. That's using the "old noggin'." Now we'll never have to rent lights again.

Enid B. Swartz

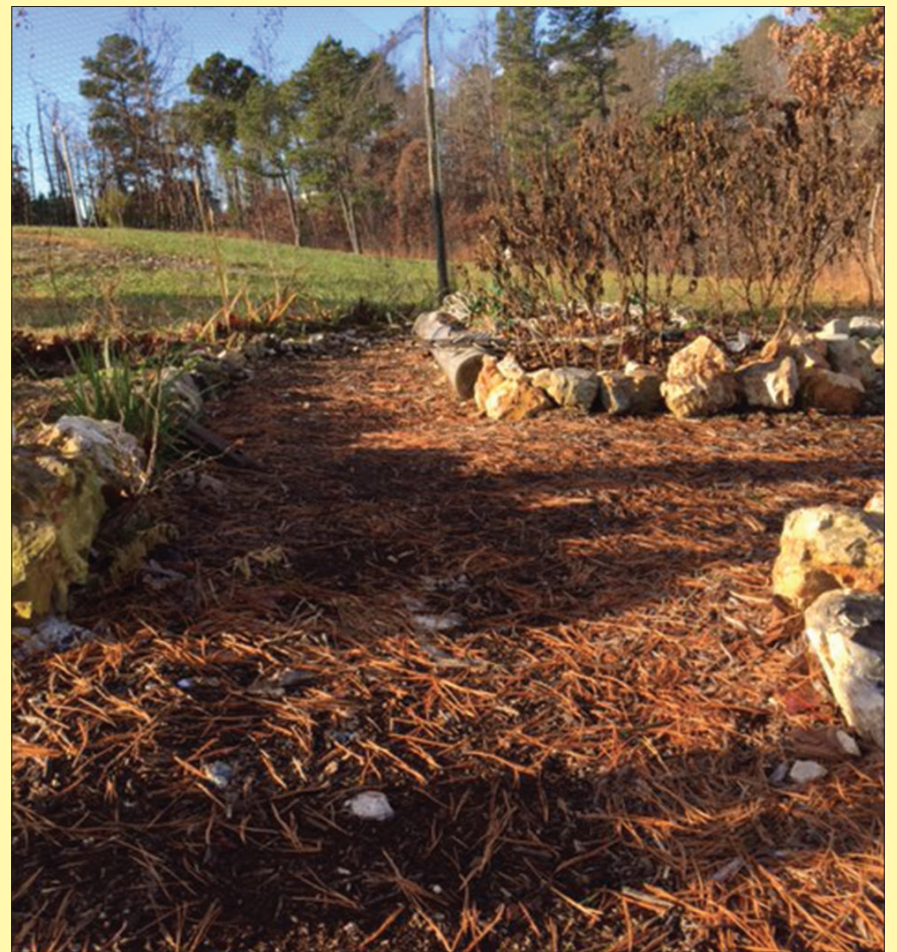
CAPC WORKSHOP continued from page 2

represent the CAPC. Other members will include CAPC chair, Mayor Butch Berry, two aldermen and two citizens nominated by the mayor.

Financial report

Bright reported collections through the end of October show every category except B&Bs was up, and the year-to-date total collections are up 7.2 percent above the same period in 2014.

Next workshop will be Wednesday, Dec. 16, at 4 p.m., at the CAPC office. Next regular meeting will be Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2016, at 6 p.m.

**WINTER GARDENING** continued from page 5

far more spice than a family will ever consume, but the plants are important permanent features which help to define the ever-changing garden space. Every year it is a different crop growing between the thyme and the oregano in the very middle of the garden. Right now, it's red kale.

Two clumps of garlic chives dominated the space at the other end of the oregano bed. Garlic chives acclimate themselves to a spot easily and will spread like a bad rumor. Seedlings begin sprouting in pathways. The clumps of tiny bulbs develop into a massive network of underground roots, so garlic chives require thinning, even relocation, after a year or two. The leaves and flower buds, however, are tasty on stir-fry or burritos.

The pathway beside the asparagus bed gets cluttered toward autumn with tall drying fern-like asparagus foliage falling over. By early December, the ferns are dry enough to remove. And the pathway being clear for the first time in awhile makes it obvious the piece of lath which shapes the west side of the asparagus bed is rotting and needs to be replaced by several rocks the size of pineapples.

Asparagus beds are mysterious after a few years, and delicate to cultivate. During spring and summer, it is very tedious trying to aerate the soil without disturbing emerging asparagus spears, but with the dried stalks gone this time of year, the soil will gladly accept a gentle cultivation.

And with pathways clear, other beds call out to be properly cultivated, mulched and readied for winter. A sunny December day can be a busy time in a garden. Fallen leaves must be raked onto beds and off pathways. Herb bushes hang over onto pathways and must be trimmed, and the trimmings can be layered in place on a fallow bed. Maybe the scented leaves deteriorating in the soil over winter will discourage pests next year. Regardless, dried herb leaves make a good mulch, and everything belongs somewhere.

Pathways are more than just the places where there is no garden bed. Every step occurs on a path. Wheelbarrow drivers need paths to get from here to there. Gardeners need paths so they don't step on the radishes, and path upkeep is just as Zen as lemon cucumbers.

And, for the record, properly dried grape vines work just fine as kindling.



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