

Poinsett County Democrat Tribune

75¢

Fisher • Harrisburg • Lepanto • Marked Tree • Trumann • Tyrone • Waldenburg • Weiner

Trumann, Arkansas 72472

Thursday, May 17, 2018

Volume 96, Issue 20

Citizens address Marked Tree Council

By COREY CLAIRDAY
DT News Staff

The Marked Tree City Council heard from citizens on a couple of issues Monday night, one of which involved damage to a house after drainage was improperly unclogged.

Eddie Mitchell and his wife addressed the council about damage done to their home in January. According to the Mitchells, the city had come to unclog their sewer drainage, but it was done improperly, and sewage came up into their house. They said they were in the house for two days before someone with Riverside told them they shouldn't be there because of contamination. The city had the floors cleaned and new flooring put down over it, but the Mitchells said the old floor was not disinfected and should have been taken out before the new floor went down as there could still be contamination.

When asked by Alderman Cleo Johnson what it would take to satisfy them, Mitchell said they were asking for \$15,000. City Clerk Pam Wright said the city had received a letter from the Mitchells asking for \$250,000, which Mitchell said he had asked for originally because toxic waste can cause future health problems. After more discussion, several council members said the city was responsible and that the Mitchell's house should be fixed. In the end, the council agreed to turn the matter over to the Municipal League.

Another citizen, Louis Bailey, addressed the council regarding an area of roadway in the area of Monroe Street that had been dug up to fix water leaks months ago. Chat was put down, and Bailey asked when it would be repaired. Director of Public Works Wayne Hendrix said conditions have not been right due to rain, but he said he would get it done in the next two weeks. There was also a question from the council about using concrete instead of asphalt since the street is concrete and is set to be resurfaced by the state, and Hendrix said he would look into it.

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Trumann Memorial Day observance set

American Legion Post 42 will hold a Memorial Day ceremony at 10 a.m. Monday, May 28, at the American Legion Memorial Park located at the corner of Highway 463 and Main Street in Trumann. Col. Clarence Overbay will be the guest speaker.

Park Cleanup



Photo provided

City of Trumann Public Works employees were joined by Columbia Forests Products employees who volunteered to help clean up Cedar Park on Friday, May 11.

Quorum Court hears from library board

By ANTHONY COSSEY
DT News Staff

The Poinsett County Quorum Court heard from the library board about their funding and heard about the Purple Heart County designation during the monthly meeting Monday night.

Rhonda Davis spoke on behalf of the Poinsett County Library Board about the funds the library has available. The last two meetings, Justice Donnie Taylor has asked why they have so much money in their fund and if the court needed to look at changing the millage for the library so monies can go to other areas that may need it. Davis told the court about the programs that are offered to the kids, about equipment needed to help the kids, and that money is kept back for any other issues that may arise. The county libraries are forward-funded, meaning funds collected during the current year are used in the next year.

"I invite you justices to come by the library and see what all we have going on and what the money is being used for," Davis said. Davis also talked raises for those employed by the libraries. "Some have not had a raise since minimum wage was increased. A lot of these workers do work on their own time, even at home, to get prepared for the kids the next day," Davis said.

Davis said the busiest time of the

year for the libraries is almost upon them as schools are getting ready to dismiss for summer. "We will be very busy over the summer, but we love our kids and love what we do," Davis said.

There were representatives from the Marked Tree, Harrisburg and Weiner libraries at the meeting.

In other new business, Terry Long, Poinsett County Veteran's Service Officer, spoke next about the Purple Heart County Proclamation. Long told the court the Purple Heart is the oldest decoration in present use. Initially called the Badge of Military Merit, the honor was created by General George Washington in 1782. "With Poinsett County having a large population of highly decorated military members, active duty and retired, as well as Purple Heart recipients living in the community, I think this would be a great way to honor them," Long said. The proclamation was read and approved by the justices.

Also in new business, Appropriations and Transfers Ordinance 2018-05, with appropriations totaling \$40,021.50, was approved by the justices.

Poinsett County Sheriff Kevin Molder had three items of new business for the court. Molder informed the court that insurance has reimbursed the county \$21,640 from the patrol car that was totaled in an accident. Molder said a new vehicle

would be \$31,000, so he asked the court if the additional \$9,360 to cover the cost could come out of the County General account. The justices agreed to this request. Molder also said he inquired about having the rest of the pipes looked at, which would cost \$600. "This will tell us what kind of shape the pipes are in and maybe help us head off any future damage," Molder said. The justices approved to have this procedure be done. Molder also told the court with the recent new Drug Task Force, he has had to take two of his deputies to make this group, and that is leaving him short-handed at times. He asked the court for \$15,000 to be used for some part-time help, which the justices approved.

The last new business of the night was from the Fisher Volunteer Fire Department. The court was told funds were needed to replace out of date equipment. The department asked that an increase on property taxes be passed to help with the funds. The fire department has gone door to door explaining the issue and has gotten solid support from the community. Justice Randy Jones, who has helped the department in trying to get needed funds, asked the issue be tabled until the next meeting so everything can be checked to make sure it's right on the petition before proceeding. The issue was tabled until next meeting.

Election day is May 22, early voting underway

The Preferential Primary Election, Nonpartisan General Election, and Annual School Election will be Tuesday, May 22. The polls will be open on election day from 7:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.

Also, County Clerk Teresa Rouse wants to remind everyone that early

voting is underway at the Poinsett County Annex Building and will continue until 5 p.m. Monday, May 21. The normal hours for early voting are 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday.

Anyone wishing to view their bal-

lot choices online may do so by going to www.voterview.ar-nova.org.

Rouse urges anyone with questions regarding this to contact the County Clerk's office at 870-578-4410 or any member of the Poinsett County Election Commission.

Sheriff's Office investigates death

By DT News Staff

The Poinsett County Sheriff's Office is investigating the death of a man found off White Road.

According to Sheriff Kevin Molder, the Sheriff's Office received a call on May 9, around 11:50 a.m., from the Craighead County Sheriff's Office requesting they be on the lookout for Ricky Dale Woods, 52, of Bay, along with the vehicle he was driving.

On May 10, around 12:50 p.m., the Poinsett County Sheriff's Office received a call from a farmer who said a van had been found on one of his field roads off Shady Grove Lane in Poinsett County. The vehicle was identified as the van Woods was driving. A search of the immediate area was conducted by both the Craighead and Poinsett County Sheriff's Offices using Craighead County's drone and Poinsett County's ground equipment, but Woods was not located that day.

On May 11, around 3:47 p.m., Woods' body was found off of White Road. His body was sent to the medical examiner. In a press release, Sheriff Molder said foul play was not suspected at this time, but they are currently investigating all leads pertaining to the case. Both sheriff's offices have been coordinating during the investigation.

Lepanto looking at annexation

By COREY CLAIRDAY
DT News Staff

During a very brief meeting Tuesday night, Lepanto Mayor Dale Dunlap talked to the city council about annexation. Dunlap said they were looking at squaring up the city limits and bringing in about 30 houses that are located just outside the city.

"Our population is not gaining by any means," Dunlap said. "We need all the people we can get."

Alderman Earnie Hill pointed out that houses that are annexed will get police and fire protection, and Dunlap said their garbage rates would probably go down too. The mayor also said there may be grant money available to run water and sewer lines.

There will be a public meeting to discuss annexation at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 19, in courtroom before the next council meeting, which starts at 7 p.m.

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Your Local Weather

Thu 5/17	Fri 5/18	Sat 5/19	Sun 5/20
87° 65° F	88° 67° F	93° 72° F	92° 71° F
PM Thunderstorms	0 in	AM Thunderstorms	PM Thunderstorms
0.28 in		0.02 in	0.02 in

This Week



Blossom Ribbon Cutting

See page 10





Perspective

The dangers of debt

Politicians and commentators these days like to point to an array of threats to our constitutional system. There's one, though, that doesn't get nearly as much attention as it should: our national debt.



Lee H. Hamilton

We may not yet be in imminent danger of fiscal collapse, but we're moving into uncharted waters. We are among the most indebted nations in the world, and it's only getting worse. Thanks to our new tax law, we're staring ahead at routine federal budget deficits north of \$1 trillion each year - compared to what now seems like a paltry \$665 billion in 2017.

As we look down the road to an aging population, rising entitlement costs, and skyrocketing interest payments, things promise to go from dismal to dire. In just five years, the head of the Congressional Budget Office warned a few weeks ago, we'll be spending more on interest payments on the debt than we do on our entire military. By 2028, we'll be closing in on \$1 trillion in interest payments alone each year.

We're running these deficits at a time of full employment, when the economy is doing well. This is exactly the wrong time to be pressing on the accelerator, because when the downturn comes - which, inevitably, it will - we won't have room to maneuver.

The more debt we accumulate, the more interest rates rise and the more our spending on debt serves to dampen economic growth. Small wonder that former Fed chair Janet Yellen told Congress last year that rising debt "is the type of thing that should keep people awake at night."

The problem is not quite that nobody's talking about the debt in Washington. They are. But it's not a productive discussion - especially among the politicians who will need to roll up their sleeves and tackle it. They give lip service to debt and deficit reduction, but for the most part, each party is trying to blame the other.

This is not just a waste of time, it's counter-productive. Because a problem of this duration, severity and complexity is not going to be solved without a bipartisan approach.

Tackling deficits and the debt always takes a back seat to other priorities: tax cuts and spending increases of all kinds and descriptions. Politicians fall prey to the temptation of saying that economic growth will save us - whether it's spurred by tax cuts or spending increases. We've been fed this line for decades, and it hasn't worked out yet.

To be sure, carefully targeted tax cuts and spending on investments in the economy's underpinnings - infrastructure, say, or human development - can enhance economic growth. But we've had too much that was merely political fodder, and it's done more harm than good.

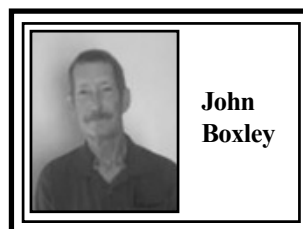
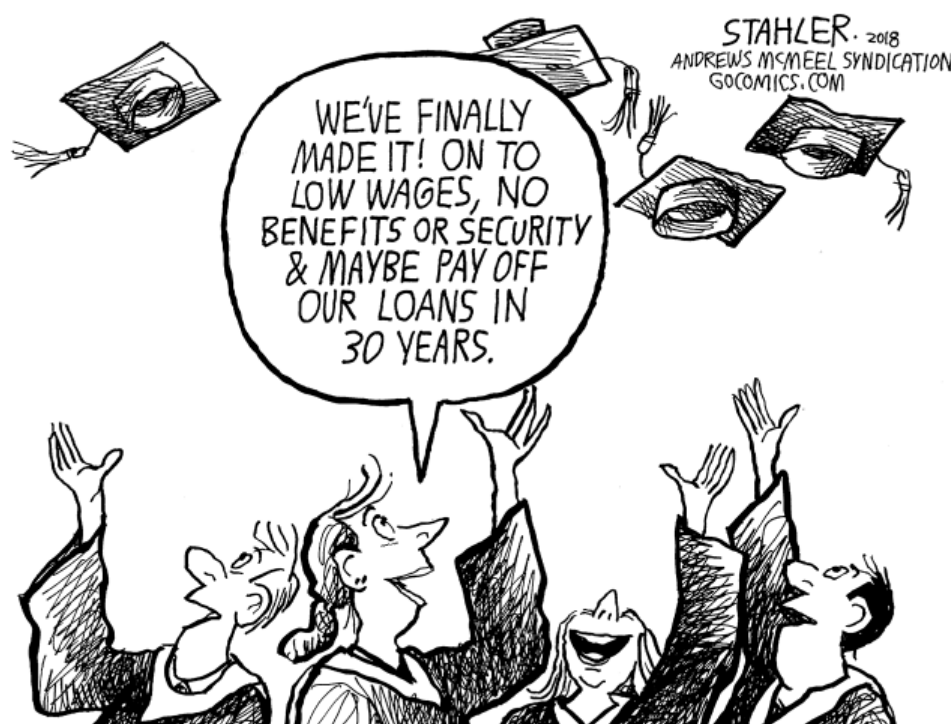
What do we do about all of this? "The time to repair the roof," John F. Kennedy once said, "is when the sun is shining." That's why it's time right now, while the sun is shining on the economy, to repair our fiscal problems. We need to restrain the growth of spending, especially in entitlement programs. And we need to recognize that this most recent tax cut, with its fiscal stimulus and further explosion of debt, is exactly the wrong medicine.

Like a lot of problems, the longer we wait to act, the larger and more disruptive the eventual solution will need to be. We're probably in the most fiscally irresponsible period in recent American history. Debt is a major threat to our preeminence in the world, since it constrains our ability to steer the economy and react forcefully to unexpected events. How we deal with it will be a real test of our constitutional system and our political system.

Can Congress and the President act against the popular grain to cut spending and raise taxes in the public interest? Can we, as citizens, demand credible action by our political leaders even when it hits us in our pocketbooks?

What we need to do is no secret: we have to spend less and tax more. This is very hard to do. But the system is not self-correcting. Unless Americans demand action, we will continue down our current road until, at some point, the pavement ends and the wheels come off.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar, IU School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice, IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.



John Boxley

Not that you asked

I'm taking shots at more than one topic this week because in the Trump era, things move faster than we can react. For example...

Before some of you even received your paper last week, my column had become a waste of time and ink. Before you could read my agreement with all of the people upset over the monologue at the White House Correspondent's Dinner, the Trump Administration had proved that it deserved the treatment it got there, if not more. As of this writing (Sunday) no one at the White House has apologized for a staffer's crude joke about Senator John McCain. In fact, the woman still has her job there.

I'm not surprised that President Trump has not apologized, after all he never does for anything. Remember, this is a man who has never felt the need to ask for God's forgiveness, so we shouldn't expect him to do that to a mere human. The staffer did apologize to McCain's daughter, but other than that, the only White House response was anger over the fact that it was leaked. Oh yeah, Sarah Sanders did chew out her staff over the leak.

And how about all of those people who were howling with outrage after the Correspondent's Dinner? They have been strangely silent lately. When they do mention the so-called "joke," they respond in two ways. For one, they complain more about the fact that it was leaked than the "joke" itself. When they do manage to admit that the "joke" was inappropriate, they always follow with "but," as if it can be somehow justified. The only but that should be mentioned in this whole shameful episode are the ones being kicked for allowing this type of attitude in the White House.

Meanwhile, like the rest of you, I am suffering from severe gas pains that can't be eased with medication. They come up every time I pull up to the gas pump. I guess it's a good thing people are getting and extra 15 or 20 dollars from each paycheck. It's just too bad that instead of having it to splurge, now it just keeps you from falling further behind due to rising gas prices. Yeah, every time I pull up, I'm really thankful that those awful Obama years—and that \$1.75 gas price—are gone.

We've been told that the reason that prices are going up is the war in Syria, but that makes no sense. We are supposed to be energy independent due to new drilling methods and improved gas mileage in cars. Regardless of the price on the world market, our supply here at home should go for a lower price.

Could it be that we are having fake shortages here because our oil companies are exporting more American oil at the high world price? If so, isn't it time for our "America First" President and Congress to pass legislation requiring our oil companies to supply our needs first, at a lower price, before selling one drop of oil on the world market?

Time to end the crazy secrecy of Trump-Russia investigation

On Jan. 24, 2017, then-national security adviser Michael Flynn was questioned by the FBI in his White House office. The session, focusing on Flynn's transition talks with the Russian ambassador, led to Flynn pleading guilty to a charge of lying to investigators. He is now awaiting sentencing.

But why did FBI agents go to the White House in the first place? We still don't know precisely, because we have only snippets of information from the various Trump-Russia investigations. There's no reason it should be a big secret, but it is.

Newly unredacted portions of the House Intelligence Committee Republicans' Trump-Russia report say top Justice Department and FBI officials — Sally Yates, James Comey, Andrew McCabe and Mary McCord — gave "conflicting testimony" about the "primary purpose" for sending the FBI to question Flynn.

Some said the reason for interviewing Flynn was "investigating potentially misleading statements to the vice president," according to the report. Some said it was investigating "a possible violation of the Logan Act." And some said it was "a desire to obtain more information as part of the counterintelligence

investigation" into Flynn.

Who said what? It's impossible to know, because the committee has not released the interviews it conducted with each of those players in the Flynn affair. And we're lucky to know what little we know; the intelligence community originally blacked out the portion of the report that said Yates, et al, gave conflicting accounts. Even that was a secret until the last few days.

Beyond the specific issue of the Flynn questioning, the Republican report's little snippets of quotations and characterizations of testimony leave much untold. They also leave many wondering whether the GOP told the whole story of what its investigators gathered.

In their minority report, House Intelligence Committee Democrats included a few passages from interviews with key figures — former Office of National Intelligence chief James Clapper on his contacts with the press, McCabe on the Logan Act, and more. But of course, the brief passages are just the ones Democrats want the public to see. Like Republicans, they leave a lot out.

The bottom line is that the public still does not know what many important players



Byron York

have told the House about the Trump-Russia affair.

The solution is obvious and simple: Release the transcripts of the committee's witness interviews. Among others, the committee questioned Donald Trump Jr., Jared Kushner, Michael Cohen, Corey Lewandowski, Steve Bannon, Rick Gates, Hope Hicks, Sam Clovis, Stephen Miller, K.T. McFarland, Roger Stone, Jeff Sessions, Carter Page, Erik Prince, J.D. Gordon, Reince Priebus and Sean Spicer. It would be a public service — actually, it is a public responsibility — for the committee to release those interviews.

A good example is about to be set by the Senate Judiciary Committee. One of the areas that panel has focused on is the much-discussed June 9, 2016 meeting in Trump Tower. Committee investigators questioned six of the participants, including Trump Jr., music promoter Rob Goldstone and the translator who heard it all. (The committee received written answers to questions from Natalia Veselnitskaya, the Russian lawyer at the center of the

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The perils of complacency

A young friend of ours who worked for Hillary Clinton in 2016 waved a big caution flag recently about the fall elections. The same complacency that doomed Clinton is starting to afflict Democrats again, she warns. Too many party operatives are convinced that a "blue wave" will sweep the Democrats to a majority in the House; the only outstanding question in their minds is whether they will win the Senate, as well.

Our friend is only one voice, but she's worth listening to. She was on the ground in a key state when Clinton's managers persistently ignored warnings from the field that their candidate was in trouble. Chill out, came the word from Brooklyn HQ, our data tells us we're going to win. And what job do you want in the Clinton administration?

Democrats are fully capable of repeating the same willful self-delusion that sank them last time out. Is a "blue wave" possible? Absolutely. Is it inevitable? Absolutely not.

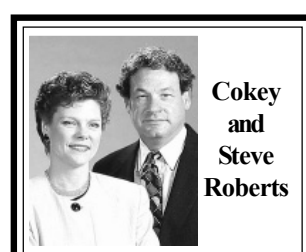
Several recent trend lines demonstrate the perils of complacency in Democratic ranks. President Trump's approval ratings have edged slowly but steadily upward and stand at 43.2 percent in the latest average compiled

by the website RealClearPolitics. That's still low by historical standards, but he's going up, not down.

One big reason is the economy. Unemployment has dipped to 3.9 percent, the lowest rate in more than 17 years, and a tax cut has bolstered paychecks for many workers. In the latest CBS poll, nearly two-thirds of voters rated the economy as good or fairly good, and a CNN survey found that 52 percent view Trump's handling of the economy favorably.

At the same time, popular support has waned a bit for special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into possible ties between the Trump campaign and Moscow. The president has loudly and persistently denounced the probe as a "witch hunt," and he's having some effect. A Monmouth poll found that 54 percent of voters still feel Mueller is conducting a fair investigation, but that's down from 60 percent just two months ago.

Trump's core base of support shows no signs of cracking. Republican pollster Jim McLaughlin told The Washington Post: "That dynamic that elected Donald Trump that I thought was going to dissipate after 2016 elections



Cokey and Steve Roberts

is still there."

In primaries this week, Republicans nominated two strong candidates — Patrick Morrissey in West Virginia and Mike Braun in Indiana — to oppose vulnerable Democratic senators and boost their chances of retaining control of that chamber.

Then there are the Berniecrats, now organized under the banner "Our Revolution." They helped defeat Clinton in 2016 by dividing the party and deriding its candidate, and they threaten to do the same thing again by endorsing unelectable lefties like Dennis Kucinich, who lost a Senate primary in Ohio this week but gave the nominee, Richard Cordray, heaps of trouble.

Of course, there's plenty of evidence in favor of a blue wave, starting with history. The party of an incumbent president almost always loses Congressional seats in off-year elections, mainly because marginal voters who were excited by a popular candidate at the top of the ticket stay home two years later.

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 A Rust Communications Newspaper

Searches result in five arrests

By DT News Staff

Probation and parole searches conducted May 11 by the Poinsett County Sheriff's Office and the Arkansas Community Correction's Department resulted in the arrest of five people.

Two were arrested at a residence on Old Military Road after methamphetamine was found. Tony Greer, 48, of Harrisburg, is charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent to Deliver (Meth), Endangering the Welfare of a Minor First Degree, and Unlawful Use of a Communications Device.

Judge Ron Hunter set a \$100,000 bond. Billie Bass, 29, of Harrisburg, is charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent to Deliver (Meth), Endangering the Welfare of a Minor First Degree, and Unlawful Use of a Communications Device.

Judge Ron Hunter set a \$75,000 bond. Two were arrested at a residence on Hamilton Street in Harrisburg after methamphetamine, drug paraphernalia, and illegal pills were found. Angela Scott, 37, of Harrisburg, is charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent to Deliver (Meth) and Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent to Deliver.

Judge Ron Hunter set a \$10,000 bond. Gregory McKellar, 49, of Harrisburg, is charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance (Meth) and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Judge Ron Hunter set a \$25,000 bond.

One was arrested at a residence on Parker Street in Waldenburg after methamphetamine, marijuana, a firearm, and drug paraphernalia were found. George Wesley Siddons, 59, of Waldenburg is charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance (Meth), Possession of a Controlled Substance (Marijuana), Simultaneous Possession of Drugs and Firearms, Possession of Firearm by Certain Persons, and two Counts of Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. This is Siddons' second arrest within two months.

DEATH

Continued from page 1

Poinsett County Sheriff's Office received a call from a farmer who said a van had been found on one of his field roads off Shady Grove Lane in Poinsett County. The vehicle was identified as the van Woods was driving. A search of the immediate area was conducted by both the Craighead and Poinsett County Sheriff's Offices using Craighead County's drone and Poinsett County's ground equipment, but Woods was not located that day.

On May 11, around 3:47 p.m., Woods' body was found off of White Road. His body was sent to the medical examiner. In a press release, Sheriff Molder said foul play was not suspected at this time, but they are currently investigating all leads pertaining to the case. Both sheriff's offices have been coordinating during the investigation.

Beat the Heat



Aaron's made a donation of Gatorade and water to the Trumann Police Department as part of the Trumann Chamber of Commerce's Beat the Heat community policing initiative. (DT Photos/Corey Clairday)



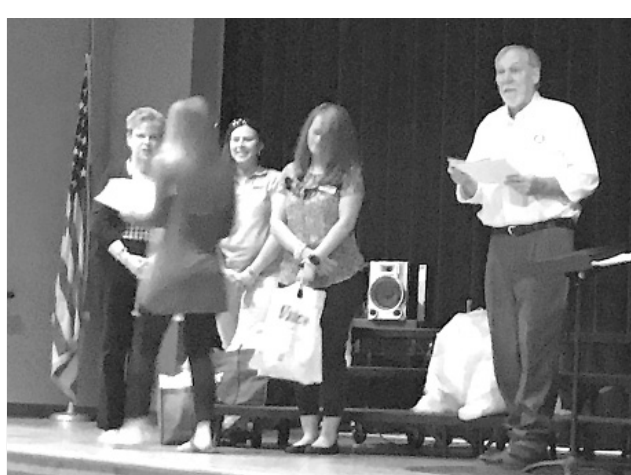
Country Mart also made a donation of Gatorade and water to the Trumann Police Department to help officers stay hydrated and cool during summer months.

Teacher Appreciation

The choir sings during Teacher Appreciation night, which is put on by Marked Tree High School and Marked Tree Rotary Club. (DT Photos/Corey Clairday)



Marked Tree Rotary members handed out certificates of appreciation and goody bags to teachers during Teacher Appreciation Night.



CITIZENS

Continued from page 1

Alderman Jerry Jones brought up concerns about Carver Park having a portapotty instead of a building with a bathroom. Mayor Steve Craig pointed out the council had decided to go with a portapotty due to the cost and to reduce drug-related problems caused by multiple people being able to access the bathroom at once. Jones also asked to be placed on the Parks and Recreation Committee. After discussion, the council agreed to have the Parks and Rec committee look into the bathroom situation.

In other business, the council approved an ordinance establishing the maturity schedule for the city's sales and use tax refunding bonds.

The city had approved refinancing the 1996 sales tax bonds last month. Marshall Hughes with Crews and Associates said the sale of bonds went well with a savings of \$102,000 for the city. Monday's ordinance was a supplement to last month's ordinance and authorized the issuance of the city's sales and use tax refunding bonds in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$1,685,000 for the purpose of refunding the 1996 bond, funding a debt service reserve, and paying expenses of issuing the bonds.

The council also: *approved a resolution removing a Freightliner from the Sanitation Department inven-

tory. *approved an ordinance updating the energy code.

*heard a letter from Marked Tree School Superintendent Matt Wright expressing appreciation for use of the sports complex and assuring the council he will make sure the park is cleaned up after games.

*tabled a resolution to condemn a house at 107 Sycamore.

*discussed hiring a full-time police officer and tabled the matter until next month.

*approved paying the code enforcer for mailouts.

YORK

Continued from page 2

meeting.) The transcripts of those interviews remain secret.

"(The Trump Tower) section of our investigation is done," Judiciary Committee chairman Charles Grassley announced in January. "So, now it's time to start officially releasing the transcripts of all witness interviews we have done related to that meeting." Grassley said that four months ago, and it has taken all this time to get committee Democrats and the intelligence community to go along with releasing the transcripts. That release is said to be coming soon.

Capitol Hill's secrecy is nothing compared to that of special counsel Robert Mueller, whose lawyers recently declined to tell a federal judge in open court what their investigation is about. It happened in a hearing in the case of former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort, who has been charged with financial crimes unrelated to the Trump campaign and the 2016 election.

In court, Mueller prosecutor Michael Dreeben essentially admitted that the May 17, 2017, order appointing Mueller and stating the subject of the investigation was just for show. Mueller's real assignment — the factual statement defining the limits

of his investigation — remains a secret. "The regulations nowhere say that a specific factual statement needs to be provided publicly," Dreeben said.

Mueller got his marching orders, Dreeben said, in secret conversations with deputy attorney general Rod Rosenstein. "The specific factual statement ... was conveyed to the special counsel upon his appointment in ongoing discussions that defined the parameters of the investigation." It was all done in secret.

Federal District Judge T.S. Ellis' incredulous reply was simple: "Come on, man." Ellis ordered Dreeben to show him the special counsel's complete assignment. That's a good thing — but of course, it will happen in secret. The public still won't know.

And that has been the problem with this investigation, going back to the beginning. In February, I wrote that in the Trump-Russia probe, "Too much material is secret, too much is classified, and too many attacks are launched and defenses mounted with too little public knowledge of the underlying facts."

That's still true, and becoming more so every day.

(Byron York is chief political correspondent for The Washington Examiner.)

ROBERTS

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Without a doubt, Trump has galvanized the Democratic opposition, with new candidates and new contributors flooding into the political arena. The party has won critical elections in Virginia, Alabama and Pennsylvania, and a record number of Republican lawmakers are retiring instead of risking defeat. "You need to understand what's happening," House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy recently warned his GOP colleagues. "They've got money. They've got good candidates. They can speak well about issues. And they're engaged."

Democrats are focused primarily on suburban districts where college-educated women voters are increasingly disenchanted with the president. Many are traditional Republicans who backed Trump because they despised Hillary Clinton and

were tired of eight years of Democratic rule. But now 56 percent of all women, and 59 percent of all white college graduates, tell the Quinnipiac poll that they are "embarrassed to have Donald Trump as president."

Democrats are expanding their target list to include some rural districts where President Trump's trade policies, which threaten to trigger retaliation from China against American farm products, could really hurt Republican candidates.

How these complex and competing forces play out in November is far from certain. History gives the Democrats a big advantage, but if they repeat the same mistakes they made in 2016 and take victory for granted, they could get blindsided again.

(Steve and Cokie Roberts can be contacted by email at stevecokie@gmail.com.)

BOXLEY

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Speaking of the "America First" movement, it's beginning to have some repercussions. The Chinese have started to fight back, and one of their tactics will have an effect locally.

First, the Chinese are using all types of red tape to keep American goods in port, instead of getting them to consumers. One thing I learned from my years in retail is that manufacturers and retailers are obsessed with getting product from the manufacturer to the consumer as fast

as possible. Any delay will make them crazy.

The other tactic is that the Chinese are going to have their farmers grow more soybeans, so they can export less from us. All of you farmers who wear a red "Make America Great Again" cap while planting this spring are in for a rude surprise later on.

But, then again, as I wrote at the beginning of this, things change so fast these days, all of this may be irrelevant before you read it.

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FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE

TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

Jehu Kills Joram and Ahaziah
II Kings 9

Jehu conspired against Joram who was in Jezreel recovering from the wounds the Arameans had inflicted on him in the battle with Hazael king of Aram. Ahaziah king of Judah was visiting with Joram. Seeing him approach, horsemen were sent to see if Jehu came in peace. Jehu instructed them to join his forces. After the second horseman joined Jehu, Joram went to meet him, taking Ahaziah of Judah with him. They met him at the plot of ground that had belonged to Naboth the Jezreelite. Joram asked Jehu if he came in peace. Jehu replied by asking how could there be peace as long as all the idolatry and witchcraft of Joram's, Jezebel abounded. Joram fled and Jehu drew his bow and shot Joram between the shoulders. The arrow pierced his heart and he slumped down in his chariot. Jehu ordered that he be thrown on the field that belonged to Naboth the Jezreelite.

Ahaziah king of Judah fled but Jehu chased him and he was wounded in his chariot but he escaped to Megiddo and died there. His servants took him by chariot to Jerusalem and buried him with his fathers in his tomb in the City of David.




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Obituaries

Nelda Smith

TYRONZA - Nelda Delene Smith, 66, died May 9, 2018, at her home in Tyronza. She was a retired nurse. Mrs. Smith was born March 31, 1952, in Jackson, Miss., to D.C. Avery and Rebecca Arlene Aldridge.

She was preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her husband, Richard Smith. Wilson Funeral Home of Tyronza was in charge of arrangements.

William Thomas

TRUMANN - Mr. William Eugene "Bill" Thomas, 69, departed this life Saturday, May 12, 2018, at Flo and Phil Jones Hospice House in Jonesboro. He was born in Jonesboro, had lived in Trumann since 1994, and was formerly of Wynne. He owned and operated Bill's Cleaners and W. & W. Appliance in Wynne for many years, was a Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War, and was a member of the First Baptist Church in Trumann.

Mr. Thomas was preceded in death by his father, William "Alvie" Thomas; stepfather, J.P. "Pug" Sutterfield, and one brother, Marvin Thomas.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Cheryl Ann Hill Thomas of the home; one son, Keith Thomas and wife Cindy of Jonesboro; two grandchildren, Ali and Makenzie Thomas; mother, Opal Thomas Sutterfield of Bay; two sisters, Doris (Fred) Yeager of St. Charles, Mo., and Dolores (Bryan)



William Thomas

Sutterfield of Trumann; and one brother, Freddie (Paula) Thomas of Willford.

Funeral services were held May 15 at the First Baptist Church in Trumann with Rev. John Maley and Rev. Kenneth Doke officiating. Burial followed at Pine Log Cemetery in Brookland.

Pallbearers were Lee Watson, Carl Wise, Jimmy Furnish, Roy Rooks, Bill Pagan, Gary Rudder and Larry Hall. Honorary pallbearers were Bob Kitterman and Larry Rawls.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church, P.O. 575, Trumann, AR 72472.

An online register book can be signed at www.thompsonfuneralhome.net.

Silver Haired Legislators chosen

Delegates to the 2018 Arkansas Silver Haired Legislative Session have been selected for the Delta. Petitions were received by East Arkansas Area Agency on Aging, and elections were held in a 12-county area. Counties having no participants will be represented by appointed alternates.

Delegates act as legislators in this non-partisan session by writing, debating and voting on bills addressing issues critical to older Arkansans in the session to be held at the State Capitol and Old State House Aug. 15-16.

The Silver Haired Legislative Session is a mock legislature of delegates 60 years of age and older that has convened every two years since 1978. The session is held with the permission of the Arkansas General Assembly and sponsored by the Department Human Services (DHS) Division of Aging, Adult and Behavioral Health, in partnership with the Arkansas Area Agencies on Aging.



This year's delegates for the Arkansas Silver Haired Legislative Session representing the Delta region are pictured, from left: (front) Cecilia Baker, Dotty Varvil, Winnie Johnson, Sue Whitmire, Olivia Lemons, (back) Daryl Johnson, Duane Dutka, Mike Dunn, Leroy Williams, Tom Baker, and Ted Ford. Not pictured are Teresa Dallas, Kathryn Dust, and Kay Robertson. (Photo provided)

The Silver Haired Legislature program provides an opportunity for senior Arkansans to learn more about the legislative process as effective advocates for all seniors. They bring issues and concerns pertinent to senior Arkansans to the attention of the General Assembly and public. Legislative issues presented will be considered in

the law-making process of the state legislature.

Two days of training were required May 8-9 at the Agency. The Honorable Fran Cavanaugh and John Cooper participated. Delegates attending included Duane Dutka, Clay; Tom Baker, Craighead; Teresa Dallas, Cross; Olivia Lemons, Greene; Sue Whitmire,

Lawrence; Cecilia Baker, Lee; Daryl Johnson, Mississippi; Leroy Williams, Phillips; Winnie Johnson, Poinsett; Kathryn Dust, Randolph; Dorothy Varvil, St. Francis; and appointees Mike Dunn, B.T. Ford, Jr. and Tobey Johnson.

For more information, contact Debi Hottel, 870-930-2202.

Adult Ed center announces summer schedule

The Sims-Talbot Adult Education Center in Trumann will remain open over the summer. ASU-Newport provides adult education at the center. The summer schedule is as follows:

- Mondays: classes 5-8 p.m.
- Tuesdays: classes 11 a.m.

to 2 p.m., Aztec computer lab open 9-11 a.m.

Wednesdays: classes 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thursdays: Aztec computer lab open 9 a.m. to noon.

Instructors are Madeleine and Jonnie Kirkland and Mary Juhas.

What you need to know about reverse mortgages

By JIM MILLER

Dear Savvy Senior,

What can you tell me about reverse mortgages for retirees? My wife and I are contemplating getting one but want to make sure we know what we're getting into.

Running Short

Dear Running,

For retirees who own their home and want to stay living there, but could use some extra cash, a reverse mortgage is a viable financial tool, but there's a lot to know and consider to be sure it's a good option for you.

Let's start with the basics.

A reverse mortgage is a unique type of loan that allows older homeowners to borrow money against the equity in their house (or condo) that doesn't have to be repaid until the homeowner dies, sells the house or moves out for at least 12 months. At that point, you or your heirs will have to pay back the loan plus accrued interest and fees, but you will never owe more than the value of your home.

It's also important to understand that with a reverse mortgage, you, not the bank, own the house, so you're still required to pay your property taxes and homeowners insurance. Not paying them can result in foreclosure.

To be eligible, you must be 62 years of age or older, own your own home (or owe only a small balance) and currently be living there.

You will also need to undergo a financial assessment to determine whether you can afford to continue paying your property taxes and insurance. Depending on your financial situation, you may be required to put part of your loan into an escrow account to pay future bills. If the financial assessment finds that you cannot pay your insurance and taxes and have enough cash left to live on, you'll be denied.

Loan Details

Around 95 percent of all reverse mortgages offered today are Home Equity Conversion Mortgages (HECM), which are FHA insured and offered through private mortgage lenders and banks.

HECM's also have home value limits that vary by county, but cannot exceed \$679,650.

How much you can actually get through a reverse mortgage depends on your age (the older you are the more you can get), your home's value and the prevailing interest rates. Generally, most people can borrow somewhere between 50 and 65 percent of the home's value. To estimate how much you can borrow, use the reverse mortgage calculator at ReverseMortgage.org.

You also need to know that reverse mortgages have recently become more expensive with a number of fees, including: a 2 percent lender origination fee for the first

\$200,000 of the home's value and 1 percent of the remaining value, with a cap of \$6,000; an upfront 2 percent mortgage insurance premium (MIP) fee on the maximum loan amount, plus an annual MIP fee that's equal to 0.5 percent of the outstanding loan balance; along with an appraisal fee, closing costs and other miscellaneous expenses. Most fees can be deducted for the loan amount to reduce your out-of-pocket cost at closing.

To receive your money, you can opt for a lump sum, a line of credit, regular monthly checks or a combination of these.

More Information

To learn more, read the National Council on Aging's online booklet "Use Your

Home to Stay at Home" at NCOA.org/home-equity. And see the National Reverse Mortgage Lenders Association self-evaluation checklist at ReverseMortgage.org/consumerguides.

Also note that because reverse mortgages are complex loans, all borrowers are required to get face-to-face or telephone counseling through a HUD approved independent counseling agency before taking one out. Most agencies typically charge around \$125. To locate one near you, visit Go.usa.gov/v2H, or call 800-569-4287.

Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.



Shooting Sports winners

The Poinsett County 4-H Shooting Sports Club held their raffle this week. Chris Oaks was the winner of the \$600 cash prize and Pam Owens was the winner of the \$400 cash prize. (Photos provided)

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Notice

NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF POINSETT COUNTY, ARKANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DENNIS WAYNE PENTER, Deceased No. PR-2018-49

Last known address of the decedent: 30145 Thorn Road Trumann, Arkansas 72472

Date of death: March 12, 2018

An instrument dated March 3, 1998, was on the 30th day of April, 2018, admitted to probate as the last Will of the above named decedent, and the undersigned has been appointed Executrix thereunder. A contest of the probate of the Will can be effected only by filing a petition within the time provided by law.

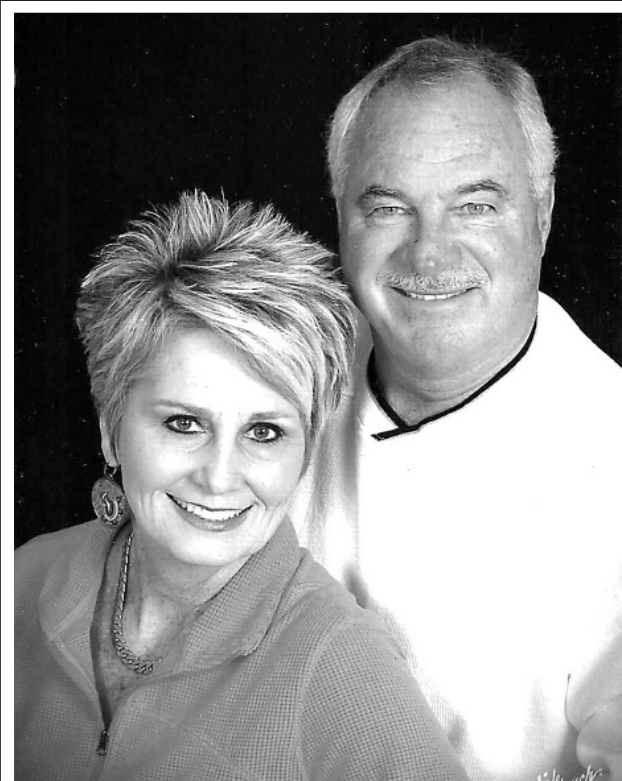
All persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, duly verified, to the undersigned within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in the estate. Claims for injury or death caused by the negligence of the decedent shall similarly be filed within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of the notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in such estate.

This notice first published the 17th day of May, 2018.

Doris Penter
c/o Robert S. Jones
Waddell, Cole & Jones, PLLC
P.O. Box 1700
Jonesboro, AR 72403

5-17,24 - 2018

Lifestyles



50th anniversary

Dennis and Paula Morgan of Trumann will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on Sunday, May 27, with a drop-in reception from 2-4 p.m. at the First Baptist Church CLC building. They were married May 30, 1968. They have two sons, Jan and Sherry Morgan and Taylor and Jenny Morgan, and five grandchildren. Everyone is invited; only the gift of the presence of friends and family is requested. (Photo provided)



Brittany Pharis



Rachel Rowlett

MFA Oil awards two scholarships

MFA Propane in Marked Tree gave out two scholarships to local students, Brittany Pharis of Marked Tree High School and Rachel Rowlett of Trumann High School. Both students received a \$2,000 MFA Foundation scholarship.

Brittany Pharis is the child of Bobbie and Dwayne Pharis. She plans to attend Arkansas State University in Jonesboro.

Rachel Rowlett is the child of Carol Copeland and Paul Rowlett. She plans to attend Arkansas State University in Jonesboro.

These scholarships were two of approximately 340 scholarships presented this year by MFA Incorporated, MFA Oil Company, and their affiliates.

Trumann Senior Life “On the Go!”

By HAZEL RILEY

Last Friday, we had special guests Mayor Barbara Lewallen, Police Chief Chad Henson, Fire Chief Revis Kemper, and Richard Mabe to help celebrate EAAAA's 40 years of service and Mother's Day.

On Monday, we took a trip to Hardy, had lunch, and walked the square. Tuesday was penny auction. Wednesday we had food pantry give away and guest speaker Ms. Bianca Burgess. Thursday is bingo, puzzle club, and brain teasers. On Friday, we will have Wii bowling and bargain hunt.

Out sick this week is Ms. Ruth S. Get well soon. The center is kinda lost without you here.

Have a great weekend!



Trumann Senior Life guests

City officials were at the Trumann Senior Life Center recently as the center recognized May as Older Americans Month. They also celebrated East Arkansas Area Agency On Aging's 40 years of service in Trumann. (Photo provided)

What is responsible pet ownership?

Pet ownership is a privilege. As an owner, you should provide good food, a com-

Pet Talk
Dr. Norette Underwood



Some may resort to poisoning or shooting your pet. In most cities, it is against the

fortable and protected area to sleep, and adequate exercise. Keeping your pet updated on needed vaccines, spaying and neutering to prevent unwanted offspring, and making sure your pet's coat is clean and mat free are an important part of pet care. Heartworm, internal parasite, and flea prevention are essential in Northeast Arkansas. The above care includes the basic things that your pet should have.

Being a good pet neighbor is also part of responsible pet ownership. Make sure that your dog does not bark continuously or late at night. Try to keep your cat off cars and out of trash. This can be very upsetting to your neighbors. Keep your dog in a fenced in yard. Do not allow them to roam and get into trash and other people's yards. Even if you live in the country. You may think your dog doesn't get out of your yard, but ask your neighbor who has to clean up their trash from where your non-roaming dog scattered it all over the ground. I now live in the country and love finding doggy doo right outside my door.

When you are a bad pet neighbor, this can cause your neighbors to harm your pets.

law to disarm firearms within the city limits. If your neighbor's pet is annoying, talk to them before harming their pet. Sometimes a cat or dog may accidentally get out, so talk to your neighbor before harming. If talking to the neighbor doesn't help, call the dog catcher or local police to report a problem. That bothersome dog or cat may be someone's beloved pet that they do not know is causing a problem.

Be a responsible pet owner and neighbor. Keep your dog under control at all times. I know people who think it is cruel to keep their pet in a fence. Do you not think it cruel to put your pet in harms way? Remember they are basically a six-year-old. Would you let your six-year-old roam around the neighborhood unattended?

Remember to always spay and neuter your pet to help stop over population of animals.

If you follow the above tips, you can be a responsible pet neighbor!

If you have questions about being a responsible pet contact Dr. Underwood of Trumann Animal Clinic and Best Friends Vet Mobile Service at catdoc56@gmail.com.

School lunch menus . . .

May 21-25 Harrisburg
Monday-cheesy pizza, steamed broccoli, carrots, crispy treat, fruit and milk.
Tuesday-manager's choice
Wednesday-manager's choice
Thursday-manager's choice
Friday-Have a great summer!

EPC
Monday-chili dog, pizza quesadilla, fries w/ketchup, cobb salad, blueberry muffin and mandarin oranges.
Tuesday-chicken and waffles w/syrup, bacon pickle grilled cheese, strawberry chicken salad, Italian bread, steamed broccoli and cinnamon apples.
Wednesday-chicken patty, spicy chicken patty, meatloaf, mashed potatoes w/gravy, mandarin orange chicken salad, green beans, hot rolls and pineapple.

Thursday-bbq bacon cheeseburger, cheesy chicken pasta w/Italian bread, taco salad, cornbread, refried beans and pears.

Friday-pepperoni pizza, fish sandwich, chicken bacon ranch salad, pineapple muffin, roasted vgs. and tropical fruit.

Marked Tree
Monday-corn dog, salad mix, baked beans, mustard/ketchup, orange and milk.
Tuesday-cheeseburger, potato wedges, sandwich salad cup, ketchup/mustard, sidekick and milk.
Wednesday-cheese pizza, tossed salad, ranch, corn, mandarin oranges and milk.
Thursday-bologna sandwich, baby carrots, celery snack packs, chips, ranch, apple and milk.

Friday-ham and cheese sandwich, lettuce/tomato, chips, ranch/mayo, ice dog and milk.



Cookout

The Trumann Lions Club had a cookout for graduating seniors on Friday, May 11. (Photo provided)

Ms. Genealogist

By SYLVIA EVANS



Past history of anxiety

Lately all we read in the papers and Facebook is about children abusing their teachers to the point of violent behavior.

Experiences affect how people think about themselves and what they choose to believe and react to. Sometimes negative events create a hurtful thought pattern that can play in someone's brain in a continuous loop. When that gets switched on, it triggers anxiety in the person's heart and brain. Shutting it off permanently requires lessons of control or faith in the Lord.

Let me give you an example of what I mean. Suppose that little Walker's efforts to do well were often rejected by his parents. He heard, "You can do better than that," or, "your sister did much better at your

age." Walker rarely received praise for a job well done. Now as an adult, he refuses to apply for a job promotion, even though his boss is encouraging him to do so. Why? Because he fears being found inadequate. Walker may not be able to name his fear, but it certainly holds him back. There are several other potential root causes of anxiety for Walker. An exhaustive list would not fit here, but a few of the more common ones are: the belief that one can't reach a set standard, guilt over past sins or actions, a faulty idea of God as a punisher, or attitudes instilled during his childhood.

When students, a child, a person, start feeling anxious, ask yourself what produced the uneasiness. Knowing which incidents nurture fear can point you to the underlying cause. Let God help you and that child/person reject the unhealthy thought pattern and replace it with assurance that those who listen to Him live free from the dread of this unacceptable behavior.

Behavior not taught correctly is like history being repeated.

County Commemorative Day is next week

In honor of Historic Preservation Month, and to show respect to veterans and the state's history, the Poinsett County Historical Society, along with county officials, will hold a County Commemorative Day at 10 a.m. Friday, May 25, at the court square in Harrisburg.

Through a partnership of the Arkansas World War I Centennial Commemoration Committee and the Arkansas Forestry Commission, a willow oak tree will be planted in the courthouse annex lawn to remember the Arkansans who served during WWI. A historical marker provided to the county by the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission will be unveiled at the northwest corner of the courthouse lawn. And a hot dog lunch will be served in Harrisburg's Veteran's Park with birthday cake to celebrate the 100th birthday of the Poinsett County Courthouse.

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Sports

Lady Warriors get first ever state tournament win

By ANTHONY COSSEY
DT Sports Staff

The EPC Lady Warriors (25-7) held on for a 7-5 win over Pangburn in the opening round of the Class 2A state softball tournament this past Friday in Pangburn.

Keragan Gordon grounded out leading off the game for EPC as Meagan Allen followed with a single. Madison Wiggins flew out before Jordyn Brewer watched strike three go by for the third out. The Lady Tigers took a 2-0 lead thanks to a two-run home run. The Lady Warriors got on the board in the top of the second inning as Taylor Hannah singled leading off and advanced to second base on a passed ball. Kaylee Hood and Emili Mangrum both watched strike three go by. Bre Ward reached on a bunt single as Hannah sneaked home on the play to make it 2-1 Lady Tigers. Ward was caught trying to steal third base for the third out. Pangburn went three up and three down in the bottom half of the inning.

Kurstin Bryan walked to lead off the third inning as Gordon followed with a single. Allen's ground out scored Bryan making it 2-2 before Wiggins doubled to plate Gordon to give EPC a 3-2 lead. Brewer grounded out and Hannah popped out to leave Wiggins on base. The Lady Tigers got runners on first and second with outs before a strikeout left the run-

ners stranded to keep the score 3-2 Lady Warriors. Hood led off the top of the fourth with a single for EPC as Mangrum followed with a walk. Ward walked to load the bases before Hood scored on a bunt single from Bryan to make it 4-2. Gordon's sacrifice play plated Mangrum to make the score 5-2 as Allen walked. Wiggins reached on a fielder's choice that forced Ward at home plate as Brewer singled to plate Bryan and Allen making it 7-2 Lady Warriors. Wiggins was caught trying to make it to third base on the play for out number three. Pangburn got a runner on with one out only to leave them stranded as the score stayed 7-2 EPC after four innings of play.

EPC went three up and three down in the top of the fifth as Hannah grounded out as Hood and Mangrum both struck out. The Lady Tigers cut the lead to 7-5 with an RBI single and another two-run home run in the bottom of the fifth. Ward struck out leading off the top of the sixth for EPC as Bryan popped out. Gordon and Allen both singled only to be left on base as Brewer lined out for the third out. The Lady Tigers got two runners on in the bottom of the sixth but couldn't get a runner home to keep the score 7-5 EPC.

Brewer grounded out leading off the top of the seventh for EPC as Hannah followed with a single. Hood moved Hannah to second with a sac-

rifice bunt only to see Becca Miller ground out leaving Hannah on base as the score stayed 7-5 Lady Warriors. Pangburn got two runners on with one out in the the bottom half of the inning but two strikeouts by Allen ended the game with EPC winning 7-5.

Allen and Gordon each had two hits, a run scored and a RBI for EPC as Bryan had a hit, two runs scored and a R B I . Brewer had a hit and two R B I s , Wiggins had a hit and a R B I , Hannah had two hits and a run scored, Hood had a hit and a run s c o r e d , Mangrum scored a run as Ward added a hit. Allen got the win for the Lady Warriors as she gave up five runs on six hits with three walks and 18 strikeouts in seven innings of work.

The Lady Warriors (25-8) almost made it two wins in a row but came up just short in a 3-2 loss to Harmony Grove. The Lady Hornets took a 3-0 lead after six innings before Hannah's two-run home run in the top of the seventh cut the lead to 3-2 with no outs. Hood struck

out, Bryan flew out and Ward grounded out to end the game and end the Lady Warriors' season.

Hannah had a hit, a run scored and two RBIs to lead

EPC as Bryan also had a hit. Brewer scored a run for the Lady Warriors. Allen suffered the loss giving up three runs on two hits with two walks and 11 strikeouts.



Bre Ward of EPC catches a fly ball for an out during the Lady Warriors' Class 2A state tournament game with Harmony Grove this past Friday in Pangburn. (DT Photo/Anthony Cossey)

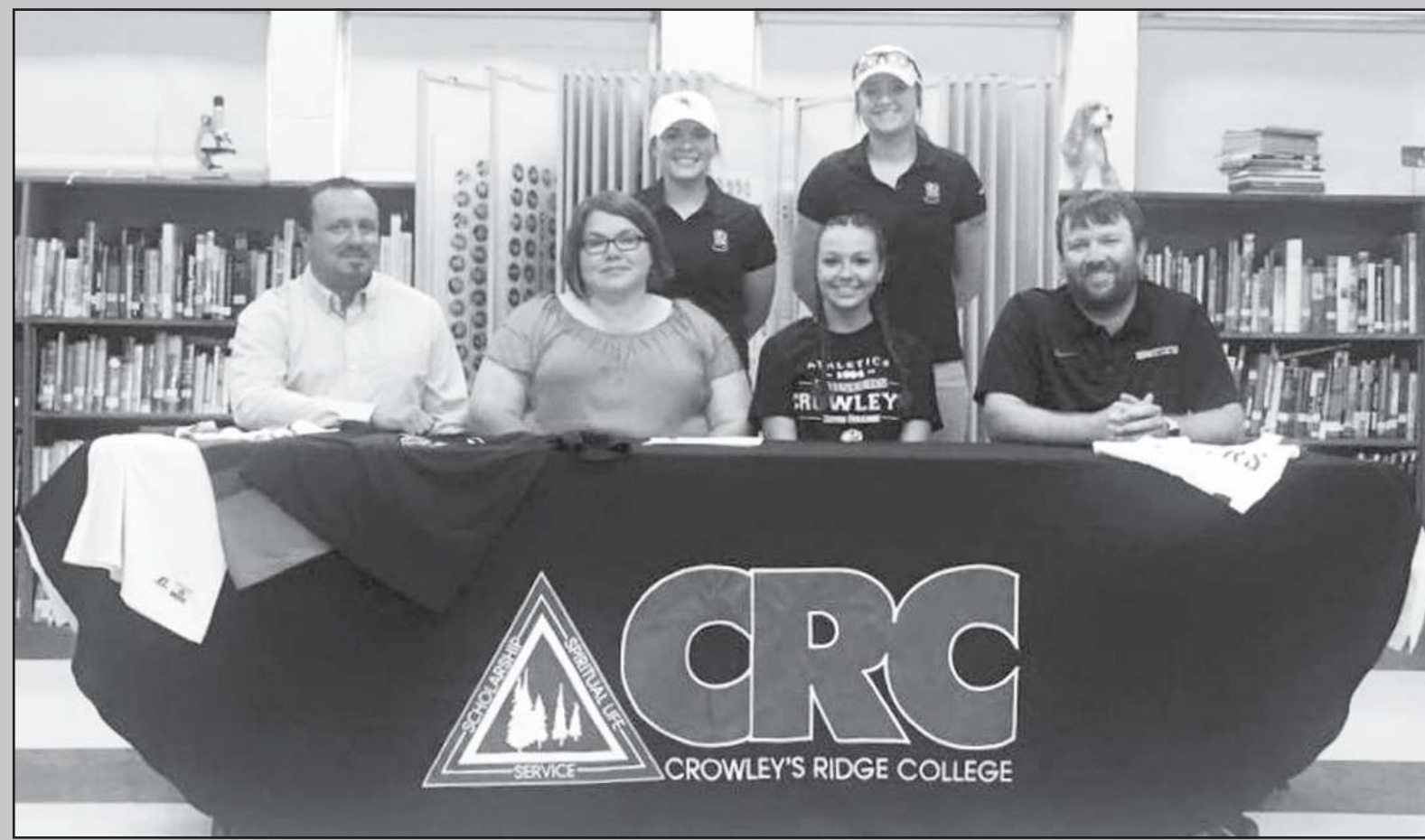
Area Sports Roundup

By ANTHONY COSSEY
DT Sports Staff

Harrisburg (22-5) and Berryville had to go nine innings to determine a winner as the Lady Bobcats scored five runs in the top of the ninth to break a 3-3 tie on their way to an 8-4 win over the Lady Hornets last Thursday in the opening round of the Class 4A state softball playoffs in Batesville. Ansley Wixson had three hits, a run scored and a RBI to lead Harrisburg as Jayden Roark had a hit and a RBI. Caitylyn Adams scored two runs with a stolen base, Lacey Lambright scored a run as Kloe Harlson and Hayden Hopkins had two hit each. Kelsey Criswell and Gretchen Morgan each added a hit for the Lady Hornets. Harlson took the loss for Harrisburg as she pitched all nine innings giving up eight runs on 10 hits while walking two, striking out 14 and hitting one batter.

Bay (6-11) had the unenviable task of taking on defending Class 1A state baseball champion Woodlawn in the opening round of the state tournament. The Bears wasted little time as they blasted four home runs and scored in every inning to beat the Yellowjackets 13-3 in five innings. Kyle McAdams led Bay with a hit (home run), a run scored and a RBI as Trey Norris had a hit and a RBI. Andrew Oster scored two runs with Jimmy DuVall adding a hit for the 'Jackets. Nathan Higgins took the loss

for Bay as he pitched three and one-third innings giving up nine runs on nine hits with four walks and four strikeouts. Paiton Hartley pitched two-thirds of an inning as he allowed one run on three hits while walking three and striking out one. Andrew Oster tossed two-thirds of an inning giving up one run on one hit with one walk and two strikeouts.



Bryan signs

EPC's Kurstin Bryan (second from right) signed her letter of intent to play softball with Crowley's Ridge College (CRC) this past Monday in Lepanto. Pictured with Bryan are, from left: (front) Michael Bryan (dad), Misty Bryan (mom), EPC softball coach Brandon Powell (back) CRC head softball coach Jordan Malone, and CRC assistant softball coach Kourtney Brown. (Photo provided)

**ELECTION PROCLAMATION
ELECTION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PREFERENTIAL
PRIMARY
ELECTION, NONPARTISAN GENERAL ELECTION
AND ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION**

May 22, 2018

The Poinsett County Election Commission hereby gives notice that there will be a Preferential Primary Election, Nonpartisan General Election and Annual School Election in the County of Poinsett, State of Arkansas, at the designated voting places on the 22nd day of May 2018, for the purpose of voting on the candidates whose names and issues appear on the ballot for the offices hereinafter listed.

**NONPARTISAN GENERAL ELECTION
STATE SUPREME COURT ASSOCIATE JUSTICE
POSITION 3**

STATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICE COURTNEY GOODSON
JUDGE KENNETH HIXSON
DAVID STERLING

**REPUBLICAN PREFERENTIAL PRIMARY
GOVERNOR**

GOVERNOR ASA HUTCHINSON
JAN MORGAN

SECRETARY OF STATE

JOHN THURSTON COMMISSIONER OF STATE LANDS

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE TREVOR DROWN
COUNTY JUDGE**

MARK A. WESTON
BOB CANTRELL

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE #11

HAROLD BLACKWOOD
MICHAEL FERGUSON

CONSTABLE WILLIS TOWNSHIP

JAY PAUL WOODS
WAYNE HOGAN

**DEMOCRATIC PREFERENTIAL PRIMARY
GOVERNOR**

JARED K. HENDERSON
LETICIA SANDERS

**UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES (NONPARTISAN GENERAL
ELECTION)**

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY SCOTT ELLINGTON, PROSECUTING ATTORNEY, DISTRICT 02

**UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES (REPUBLICAN
PREFERENTIAL PRIMARY)**

CONGRESSMAN RICK CRAWFORD, U.S. CONGRESS DISTRICT 01

LT. GOVERNOR TIM GRIFFIN, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

ATTORNEY GENERAL LESLIE RUTLEDGE, ATTORNEY GENERAL

TREASURER OF STATE DENNIS MILLIGAN, STATE TREASURER

AUDITOR ANDREA LEA, AUDITOR OF STATE TOMMY LAND, COMMISSIONER OF STATE LANDS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE DWIGHT TOSH, STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 52

REPRESENTATIVE JOHNNY RYE, STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 54

COUNTY CLERK TERESA O'BRIEN ROUSE, COUNTY & PROBATE CLERK

MISTY RICHARDSON-RUSSELL, CIRCUIT CLERK

KEVIN MOLDER, SHERIFF & COLLECTOR TREASURER TAMMIE STANFORD,

TREASURER JOHN K. HUTCHISON, ASSESSOR

BUTCH DAVIS, CORONER

RANDY L. JONES, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE #1 CARMACK W. SANDERS, JUSTICE OF THE

PEACE #3 LARRY FOWLER, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE #6 LAMON MOYE, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE #7 VANCE EVANS, CONSTABLE BOLIVAR

TOWNSHIP RANDY L. HOLT, CONSTABLE GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP

ALLEN HICKS, CONSTABLE LITTLE RIVER TOWNSHIP

SCOTTIE BLAGG, CONSTABLE TYRONZA TOWNSHIP

**UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES (DEMOCRATIC
PREFERENTIAL PRIMARY)**

CHINTAN DESAI, U.S. CONGRESS DISTRICT 01

ANTHONY BLAND, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR MIKE LEE, ATTORNEY GENERAL SUSAN INMAN, SECRETARY OF STATE LARRY WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONER OF STATE

LANDS

AUSTIN W. JONES, STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 54

ELIZABETH T. SCHWARZ, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE #2

J.C. CARTER, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE #4

DUSTIN LEE MARS, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE #5

GENE TERRY, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE #6

JEFF JONES, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE #8

JERRY CARTER, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE #9

LARRY W. STEAKLEY, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE #10

GERALD D. SMITH, CONSTABLE WILLIS TOWNSHIP

**UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES (ANNUAL SCHOOL
ELECTION)**

SPENCER HARSTON, EPC SCHOOL DISTRICT ZONE 1

KEITH TYLER, EPC SCHOOL DISTRICT ZONE 3 DANIEL NOONER, EPC SCHOOL DISTRICT

ZONE 7 R. SCOTT TAYLOR, TRUMANN SCHOOL DISTRICT POSITION 1

**ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION (CROSS COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7)**

39.9 MILL SCHOOL TAX The total tax rate proposed above includes the uniform rate of tax (the "Statewide Uniform Rate") to be collected on all taxable property in the State and remitted to the State Treasurer pursuant to Amendment No. 74 to the Arkansas Constitution to be used solely for maintenance and operation of schools in the State. As provided in Amendment No. 74, the Statewide Uniform Rate replaces a portion of the existing rate of tax levied by this School District and available for maintenance and operation of schools in this School District. The total proposed school tax levy of 39.9 mills includes 26.3 mills specifically voted for general maintenance and operation and 13.6 mills voted for debt service previously voted as a continuing levy pledged for the retirement of existing bonded indebtedness. The surplus revenues produced each year by debt service millage may be used by the District for other school purposes. The total proposed school tax levy of 39.9 mills represents the same rate presently being collected. **FOR TAX or AGAINST TAX**

**ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION (EAST POINSETT
COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14)**

35.2 MILL SCHOOL TAX The total tax rate proposed above includes the uniform rate of tax (the "Statewide Uniform Rate") to be collected on all taxable property in the State and remitted to the State Treasurer pursuant to Amendment No. 74 to the Arkansas Constitution to be used solely for maintenance and operation of schools in the State. As provided in Amendment No. 74, the Statewide Uniform Rate replaces a portion of the existing rate of tax levied by this School District and available for maintenance and operation of schools in this School District. The total proposed school tax levy of 35.2 mills includes 25.0 mills specifically voted for general maintenance and operation and 10.2 mills voted for debt service previously voted as a continuing levy pledged for the retirement of existing bonded indebtedness. The surplus revenues produced each year by debt service millage may be used by the District for other school purposes. The total proposed school tax levy of 35.2 mills represents the same rate presently being collected. **FOR TAX or AGAINST TAX**

**ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION (JACKSON COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT)**

36.0 MILL SCHOOL TAX The total tax rate proposed above includes the uniform rate of tax (the "Statewide Uniform Rate") to be collected on all taxable property in the State and remitted to the State Treasurer pursuant to Amendment No. 74 to the Arkansas Constitution to be used solely for maintenance and operation of schools in the State. As provided in Amendment No. 74, the Statewide Uniform Rate replaces a portion of the existing rate of tax levied by this School District and available for maintenance and operation of schools in this School District. The total proposed school tax levy of 36.0 mills includes 26.5 mills specifically voted for general maintenance and operation and 9.5 mills voted for debt service previously voted as a continuing levy pledged for the retirement of existing bonded indebtedness. The surplus revenues produced each year by debt service millage may be used by the District for other school purposes. The total proposed school tax levy of 36.0 mills represents the same rate presently being collected. **FOR TAX or AGAINST TAX**

**ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION (MARKED TREE
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 28)**

39.5 MILL SCHOOL TAX The total tax rate proposed above includes the uniform rate of tax (the "Statewide Uniform Rate") to be collected on all taxable property in the State and remitted to the State Treasurer pursuant to Amendment No. 74 to the Arkansas Constitution to be used solely for maintenance and operation of

schools in the State. As provided in Amendment No. 74, the Statewide Uniform Rate replaces a portion of the existing rate of tax levied by this School District and available for maintenance and operations of schools in this District. The total proposed school tax levy of 39.5 mills includes 25.0 mills specifically voted for general maintenance and operation and 14.5 mills voted for debt service previously voted as a continuing levy pledged for the retirement of existing bonded indebtedness. The surplus revenues produced each year by debt service millage may be used by the District for other school purposes. The total proposed school tax levy of 39.5 mills represents the same rate presently being collected. **FOR TAX or AGAINST TAX**

**ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION (TRUMANN SCHOOL
DISTRICT NO. 21)**

38.6 MILL SCHOOL TAX The total tax rate proposed above includes the uniform rate of tax (the "Statewide Uniform Rate") to be collected on all taxable property in the State and remitted to the State Treasurer pursuant to Amendment No. 74 to the Arkansas Constitution to be used solely for maintenance and operation of schools in the State. As provided in Amendment No. 74, the Statewide Uniform Rate replaces a portion of the existing rate of tax levied by this School District and available for maintenance and operations of schools in this District. The total proposed school tax levy of 38.6 mills includes 25.0 mills specifically voted for general maintenance and operation and 13.6 mills voted for debt service previously voted as a continuing levy pledged for the retirement of existing bonded indebtedness. The surplus revenues produced each year by debt service millage may be used by the District for other school purposes. The total proposed school tax levy of 38.6 mills represents the same rate presently being collected. **FOR TAX or AGAINST TAX**

PRECINCT POLLING PLACES

- AMERICAN LEGION HUT – GREENWOOD CITY & RURAL AND RIVERVALE
- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH – LITTLE RIVER CITY & RURAL AND PAYNEWAY
- CALVARY BAPTIST LIFE CENTER – BOLIVAR CITY & RURAL, GREENFIELD-GREENFIELD, SCOTT WHITEHALL AND SCOTT VALLEY VIEW
- CENTRAL COMMUNITY CHURCH – GREENFIELD BUFFALO LICK
- METHODIST YOUTH CENTER – OWEN FISHER CITY & RURAL
- OLD COMMUNITY CENTER – WILLIS CITY & RURAL, LUNSFORD-MCCORMICK, WEONA & TULOT
- TYRONZA SENIOR CENTER – TYRONZA CITY & RURAL WALDENBURG CITY HALL – WALDENBURG CITY & RURAL
- CARDINAL COMMUNITY CENTER – DOBSON COOPER-HAYNES, DOBSON PITTS, WEST PRAIRIE CITY & RURAL
- POINSETT COUNTY ANNEX BUILDING – EARLY VOTING

All polling places will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Election Day. The votes will be opened, processed, canvassed, and counted as soon as practicable following the closing of the polls at 7:30 p.m. in the courtroom located upstairs in the Poinsett County Courthouse, 401 Market Street, Harrisburg. Early voting begins Monday May 7th at the Poinsett County Annex Building located at 110 N. East Street, Harrisburg. Hours for early voting will be Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Early voting will end at 5:00 p.m. on Monday May 21st. Absentee ballots are available by calling the County Clerk's Office at 870-578-4410 Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Requests for absentee ballots by mail, fax or electronic mail must be made to the County Clerk's Office no later than Tuesday May 15th at 4:30 p.m. Absentee ballots will be opened, processed, and counted at the Poinsett County Annex Building beginning at 4:00 p.m. on Election Day. The lists of appointed election officials will be prominently posted in the County Clerk's office, which is located inside the Poinsett County Courthouse. The list of election officials working early voting was posted April 20th and the list of election officials working Election Day and absentees will be posted no later than May 2, 2018. Anyone wishing to make an objection to any person(s) appointed as an election official, a deputy county clerk (or additional deputies, if applicable) for legal qualifications or their relationship to a candidate may do so within ten (10) calendar days after said posting by contacting any member of the Poinsett County Board of Election Commissioners (names and numbers listed below), or by mail to 401 Market Street, Harrisburg, AR 72432. For questions or concerns regarding Election Day procedures please contact the County Clerk's Office at 870-578-4410 or any member of the Poinsett County Election Commission.

Given under our hand this 20th day of April, 2018.
POINSETT COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
RUTH ORR, CHAIRMAN 870-219-4523
WILLIAM "SHORTY" JONES 870-408-0521
SANDY TEAGUE 870-919-2780

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**NOTICE OF ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION IN
EAST POINSETT COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14
OF POINSETT COUNTY, ARKANSAS**

In accordance with the requirements of Ark. Code Ann. §6-14-109, notice is hereby given that the annual school election in the above named school district will be held on May 22, 2018, for the following purposes:

To elect 3 members to the Board of Directors for a term of 5 years;

To submit the question of voting a total school tax rate (state and local) of 35.2 mills on the dollar of the assessed value of taxable property located in this School District. The proposed tax includes the uniform rate of tax (the "Statewide Uniform Rate") to be collected on all taxable property in the State and remitted to the State Treasurer pursuant to Amendment No. 74 to the Arkansas Constitution to be used solely for maintenance and operation of schools in the State. As provided in Amendment No. 74, the Statewide Uniform Rate replaces a portion of the existing rate of tax levied by this School District and available for maintenance and operation of schools in this District. The total proposed school tax levy of 35.2 mills includes 25.0 mills specifically voted for general maintenance and operation and 10.2 mills for debt service previously voted as a continuing levy pledged for the retirement of existing bonded indebtedness. The surplus revenues produced each year by debt service millage may be used by the District for other school purposes. The total proposed school tax levy of 35.2 mills represents the same rate presently being collected. The polls will open at 7:30 a.m. and will close at 7:30 p.m. at the following polling places:

Ward or Precinct	Polling Place
1, 3, and 7	Lepanto American Legion Tyronza Senior Center Poinsett County Annex Bldg

Early Voting:
Poinsett County Courthouse, Poinsett County Clerk's Office, 401 Market Street, Harrisburg, Arkansas, beginning Monday, May 7, 2018 through Monday, May 21, 2018. Voting hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday (except Monday, May 21st, voting is 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) with Saturday hours of 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF EAST POINSETT
COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14 OF POINSETT
COUNTY, ARKANSAS**

By Daniel Nooner
Secretary of the Board

Notice

**NOTICE OF POLLING SITES FOR
ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION IN
MARKED TREE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 28
OF POINSETT COUNTY, ARKANSAS**

In accordance with the requirements of Ark. Code Ann. §6-14-106, notice is hereby given that:

(1) The polling site for each ward or precinct in the 2018 annual school election is as follows:

Ward or Precinct	Polling Site
	First Baptist Church 412 Liberty Street Marked Tree, AR 72365

Early Voting will be conducted at the Poinsett County Courthouse, Poinsett County Clerk's Office, 401 Market Street, Harrisburg, Arkansas, beginning Monday, May 7, 2018 through Monday, May 21, 2018. Voting hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday (except Monday May 21st, voting is 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) with Saturday hours of 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MARKED TREE
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 28
OF POINSETT COUNTY, ARKANSAS**

Ira Lee Whitfield
Secretary of the Board

5-17-18

Notice

**NOTICE OF POLLING SITES FOR
ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION IN
EAST POINSETT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14
OF POINSETT COUNTY, ARKANSAS**

In accordance with the requirements of Ark. Code Ann. §6-14-106, notice is hereby given that:

(1) The polling site for each ward or precinct in the 2018 annual school election is as follows:

Ward or Precinct	Polling Site
1,3, and 7	Lepanto American Legion Tyronza Senior Center Poinsett County Annex Building

(2) The polling sites for the following wards or precincts have changed since the last school election:

Ward or Precinct	Former Polling Site
	Former Polling Site

Early Voting:
Poinsett County Courthouse, Poinsett County Clerk's Office, 401 Market Street, Harrisburg, Arkansas, beginning Monday, May 7, 2018 through Monday, May 21, 2018. Voting hours are 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday (except Monday, May 21, voting is 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) with Saturday hours of 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF EAST POINSETT
COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14 OF
POINSETT COUNTY, ARKANSAS**

Daniel Nooner
Secretary of the Board

5-17-18



SELL IT FAST IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE - The Trumann Church of God is accepting bids on the parsonage at 504 Wayne St., Trumann, AR until May 31, 2018. We reserve the right to refuse or reject any and or all bids. Please send bid to Trumann Church of God, P.O. Box 427, Trumann, AR 72472.

FOR SALE - 2 Lots at 645 Monroe, \$3000 cash, good place to build a home. Call 870-882-2903 for more information.

LOT FOR SALE, 1405 Brian Ln., Trumann. 163x210 for 1 house only. \$25,000. Good location. Ph. 870-483-5855.

WANTED

WANTED: The Trumann Church of God is seeking individuals who are looking for a place to play for the glory of the Lord. You must be saved and have a relationship with the Lord. If interested, call Pastor Timothy Gray at 318-547-7964 or 334-695-7217.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT: mobile homes. Apply at Moon's Heat & Air, 725A Hwy. 463 N, Trumann, or call 870-483-6133.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED: The Poinsett County Housing Authority (PHA) will be accepting applications for part-time and full time maintenance/cleaning aide A. This job specification includes cleaning the entire unit within a standard period of time. This position will also perform general maintenance, lawn care and/or assistance to a skilled mechanic on major maintenance or construction projects. Applicant must be able to work with the public and under extreme temperatures. Must be able to lift heavy tools and work independently. Salary range is dependent upon experience. Employee will work 29 hours per week part-time and 40 hours per week full time. You must apply in person at the Poinsett County Housing Authority Administration office located at 1104 Elm St., Marked Tree, AR. All applicants must complete an application for employment to be considered. Applications will be accepted until the job is filled. PCHA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

THE POINSETT COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY (PCHA) will be accepting applications for a site manager. Applicants must have experience working with the public and must be computer literate, able to speak before small groups, demonstrate strong leadership and organizational skills. Applicant must have experience working with Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher and the capability to work independently. Salary range is dependent on experience. You may apply by filling out an application at 1104 Elm Street or submitting your resume at phal@grmco.net. Applications will be accepted until the job is filled. PCHA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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- Clay County Times-Democrat: 870-598-2201
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- Poinsett County Democrat Tribune: 870-483-6317

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Week of 05-14-18

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Pictured are, from left: Front - Cathy Crain, RN; Frances Boyce, Crittenden; Sherry Way, Mississippi and Poinsett; Kathy Frames, Home Care manager. Middle - Kim Allen, Cross; Kimberly Baker, Greene; Arlene Dormio, training and compliance nurse. Back - Debi Treadaway, Lawrence and Randolph; Debbie Youngman, Craighead; Bonnie Wilson, Phillips; and Candice Holcomb, Clay. (Photo provided)

EAAA celebrates Nurses Week

East Arkansas Area Agency on Aging celebrated Nurses Week 2018 with a luncheon for their 12-county staff of registered nurses. Held in the central headquarters Jonesboro office, nurses were audience to the well wishes of executive staff of the agency.

"Much trust is placed in the nurses of the agency who man offices in the 12-county region of the state defined as a planning and service area," Jacque McDaniel said. "2018 marks our 40th year of service

in providing home care in the region. We were the first to do so and our longevity is attributed to persons such as these."

Sherry Way, RN, of Poinsett County was presented a 10-year service pen for her contribution. "We have a long history of longevity in service to the agency's home care program," said Kathy Frames, RN, Home Care manager. "Sherry is one of many to continue to be loyal to our patients. There are a number of folks remaining who actually

helped to open the program."

Those recognized included Cathy Crain, RN, agency nurse; Frances Boyce, Crittenden; Sherry Way, Mississippi, and Poinsett; Kathy Frames, Home Care manager, Jonesboro; Kim Allen, Cross; Kimberly Baker, Greene; Arlene Dormio, training and compliance nurse; Debi Treadaway, Lawrence and Randolph; Debbie Youngman, Craighead; Bonnie Wilson, Phillips; and Candice Holcomb, Clay.

Time for tomatoes

By CRAIG ALLEN
County Extension Agent,
Staff Chairman

Tomatoes are easy to grow, and just a few plants will usually provide more than enough at harvest for most families. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, four out of five people prefer tomatoes over any other homegrown vegetable. Today, 95 percent of all American gardeners grow tomatoes; they are the most popular garden vegetable in Arkansas. Tomatoes rank number one in terms of their contribution of nutrients to the American diet.

Hundreds of cultivars of tomatoes are available for the home gardener. They range widely in size, shape, color, plant type, disease resistance, and maturity. Choose the cultivars best suited to your intended use and method of culture. If you have been struggling with diseases and

wilts in your tomatoes, then try some of the newer disease resistant varieties that are available.

For best results with your tomatoes, plant when the soil is warm soon after the last frost-free date, which is April 15 in this area, but be prepared to cover them if Mother Nature springs a cold snap on us. Plant development, not the age of the plant, will determine when the tomato bears fruit.

Spacing of the plants depends on variety and cultural practices. Staked plants should be spaced 18-24 inches apart, while caged or ground bed plants should be placed 24-36 inches apart. You should place the rows 48-72 inches apart.

Prior to planting, fertilize with a complete fertilizer at the rate of three pounds per 100 feet of row. Apply eight ounces of a starter fertilizer solution (one tablespoon of 20-20-20 per gallon) when

transplanting. If you wish to maintain your plant for full season harvest, consider mulching with black plastic or organic materials.

Water the plants thoroughly every two to four days during dry periods. You should side dress with nitrogen fertilizer (ammonium nitrate) at the rate of one pound per 100 feet of row or one tablespoon per plant after the first tomatoes have grown to the size of golf balls. Make two more applications three and six weeks later. If the weather is dry following these applications, care should be taken to water the plants thoroughly.

By following these simple steps, you should get your tomatoes off to a healthy start and make your harvest a bountiful one.

For more information on garden care, contact your local Extension office at 870-578-4490.

Wet Ink

By DR. KEN
WORTHINGTON

As we begin our commentary today, we wish to return to verse 11 of Revelation chapter 1.

John is instructed to write in a book (scroll) and send it to seven specific churches. God always speaks to specific people and churches. The location and purpose of each church has eternal consequences for those in its surrounding area. This is why Jesus instructed His disciples to go into all the world in Matthew chapter 28.

In verse 12, John turned to see the voice that was speaking to him, and having turned, he saw seven golden lampstands. These golden lampstands would bring to John's memory the golden

lampstands located in the Temple at Jerusalem. The purpose of the lampstands was to illumine the Temple where the priest could worship and offer sacrifices. These lampstands represent the seven churches, therefore, we understand that the church is to illumine the way for men and women, boys and girls, to see clearly the way to worship and make offerings to God.

Continuing in verse 13, John sees the Son of Man standing in the midst of the seven golden lampstands. Remember the gold means the lampstands are valuable and pliable. Pliable relates the idea of being molded or fashioned by the hand of the Creator. So we see John in his vision seeing the Son of Man, which is the person of the Lord

Jesus, standing in the midst of the churches (lampstands).

When Jesus is not in the gathering, there is no church there. The church reveals the light of the gospel of God to a dark and desperate world. The church's mission should never be taken lightly.

Isn't it exciting as a church to understand Jesus in our midst? As we finish verse 13, Jesus is clothed in a robe that reaches His feet, denoting His priestly offering of Himself for His people. And girded across His chest with a golden sash. The golden sash Jesus being pliable and becoming whatever his men, women, boys, and girls may need. Isn't it wonderful to think of the Lord becoming all things to all men?

Till next time, may we see clearly.



Ribbon cutting

Blossom Events and Florist held a ribbon cutting for their grand opening Tuesday. They are located at 309 Highway 463 South in Trumann. (DT Photo/Corey Clairday)

Marked Tree Chamber plans for year's events

By COREY CLAIRDAY
DT News Staff

The Marked Tree Chamber of Commerce put together its new committees for the coming year and assigned who would maintain the flower bed at the underpass and mow at the George Washington Carver monument during the summer months. Next month, they will also start recognizing Yard of the Month and Business of the Month.

In business, Chamber President Sandy Teague read a letter for Marked Tree School District expressing the chamber's support for the school's reading initiative. The district is applying for a grant and needed a letter of support from the chamber.

The MTHS football team is in need of uniforms, which are \$75 each. The chamber board approved purchasing two uniforms for the team. Teague

said several local businesses had also pledged to buy uniforms, and Bonnie Thompson said there has also been a big response from MTHS alumni. Teague also talked about

the possibility of the chamber putting on a Meet and Greet later in the year to get a chance to meet political candidates who are running.

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