

Poinsett County Democrat Tribune

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DT photo/Corey Clairday

Sheriff Kevin Molder speaks with the Trumann Lions Club about the one cent sales tax vote.

Sheriff Molder talks sales tax

By COREY CLAIRDAY
DT News Staff

Poinsett County Sheriff Kevin Molder has been making the rounds discussing the one cent sales tax which will be on the general election ballot in November. Recently, he spoke to both the Trumann Lions Club and the American Legion in Lepanto about why he was asking for the tax, which will go toward the sheriff's office and detention center if approved by voters.

According to Sheriff Molder, the detention center opened 23 years ago in 1995. Back then, a half cent sales tax was approved with a quarter cent going toward building the detention center and the other quarter cent going toward maintaining it. After the detention center was

paid for, that quarter cent fell off, leaving a quarter of a cent to pay for maintaining it in the meantime. As the detention center gets older, the cost to keep it running increases. "We knew we were getting to this point because a quarter cent has never been enough," Molder said.

Molder explained that because the detention center is a necessity, the county's general fund has been supplementing the sheriff's office and detention center's budget for years. "Everything inside the building is aging," Molder said. Last year, they had to spend \$120,000 on a new chiller. Three years ago, they spent \$9,000 replacing collapsed cast iron pipes, but there are a lot of iron

See **TAX** page 3

Chief Henson survives shooting, suspect shot and killed

Authorities of the Trumann Police Department have asked for the assistance of the Arkansas State Police in the investigation of an officer-involved shooting that occurred Friday, Aug. 3.

According to the Arkansas State Police, Trumann Police Chief Chad Henson was contacted about 10 a.m. by an individual identified as Johnny Kelley, 49, who resides near Trumann.

According to an initial statement provided to state police special agents, Chief Henson was asked to come by Kelley's residence. Once there, Chief Henson approached the door of the residence, and Kelley

fired at Henson with a gun.

Chief Henson, who was wearing a vest, survived the shot and returned fire, killing Kelley. Henson was taken to a Memphis hospital and later that day released in stable condition.

Kelley's body is being submitted to the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory to determine the manner and cause of death.

The investigation being prepared by the state police will be submitted to the prosecuting attorney to determine if the use of deadly force by the chief was consistent with Arkansas law.



Walter Crump

Man arrested on multiple charges

Walter Crump, 49, of Harrisburg was arrested on Aug. 1 after chasing a woman down Highway 214 and causing her to wreck, according to the Poinsett County Sheriff's Office.

See **ARREST** page 3

Stanford gives county fair update

By ANTHONY COSSEY
DT News Staff

Tammie Stanford, secretary/treasurer of the Poinsett County Fair Board, spoke to the Harrisburg Rotary Club last Thursday about the events for the upcoming Poinsett County Fair to be held Aug. 14-18 at the fairgrounds in Harrisburg.

Sew It, Grow It, Show It is the theme for this year's fair with the first event being the Poinsett County Fair Queen Pageant, which will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 11, at the Harrisburg High School Fine Arts Center.

The first day of the fair will be Tuesday, Aug. 14. The fair officially opens at 5 p.m. with carnival armband night being from 6-10 p.m. "You can buy your armbands at Circle K for \$15, or they are \$20 if you buy them at the carnival," Stanford said. Tuesday is the first of three armband nights this year. Rocky Clements will do a magic



DT photo/Anthony Cossey

Tammie Stanford, Poinsett County Fair Board member, speaks about the upcoming Poinsett County Fair.

See **UPDATE** page 3

Community members participate in city planning workshop

By COREY CLAIRDAY
DT News Staff

Trumann community members met last week for a workshop aimed at updating the city's 20 year plan.

James Walden, an urban planning manager of Little Rock, facilitated the meeting. He said the city is working to update its 1999 land use plan.

"It's so exciting to see people think about the future of your community," Walden said.

After a brief orientation, the participants split into groups, each with a map of the city, and came up with ideas for improvements they would like to see made over the next 20 years. Then, the groups presented their ideas.



DT photo/Corey Clairday

See **WORKSHOP** page 3

Groups listen as ideas are presented during a city planning workshop held July 31.

Inside

Opinion 2

Obituaries 5

Lifestyles 6

Sports 7

Classifieds 9

Your Local Weather

Thu 8/9	Fri 8/10	Sat 8/11	Sun 8/12
83° 70° F	87° 69° F	90° 70° F	88° 70° F
Scattered Thunderstorms	Scattered Thunderstorms	Partly Cloudy	Scattered Thunderstorms
0.22 in	0.27 in	0.05 in	0.48 in

This Week

Stolen Truck Crashed

See page 3



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Perspective

A more perfect Union

You know these words, but how often do you stop to think about them? “We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity...”



Lee H. Hamilton

They belong, of course, to the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution. That remarkable document is not just the blueprint for our political system. Its Preamble is also a profoundly aspirational call to arms. Because when you read it, it’s hard not to ask yourself how we’re doing - at establishing justice, promoting the general welfare, securing the blessings of liberty, and, in sum, creating a more perfect union.

It’s especially hard to avoid asking this question now, when the warnings of democracy in retreat are all around us. For many, the creeping authoritarianism that has taken hold in any number of countries - Russia, China, Bolivia, Turkey, the Philippines, and Hungary, among others - seems alarmingly on the ascendant.

You can also look around and find developments that make you wonder whether the world’s democracies have much cause for complacency. Worrisome environmental trends, population growth, climate change, the ills that go along with rising consumption - like mountains of trash and depletion of natural resources - all suggest a world unable to rein in its appetites.

Yet it’s undeniable that we’ve come a long way in this country and in other democracies, expanding women’s rights and the rights of minorities, ending child labor, banning nuclear testing, improving literacy, building strong economies. The world’s most vibrant economies and most nimble military forces remain mostly in the hands of democratic nations: the U.S., France, Great Britain, Germany, Japan, and Australia.

I don’t believe that people around the world favor authoritarianism. They prefer a voice in government. But most of all, they want decent lives for themselves and their children. They are not so wedded to a democratic system that if they see no improvement in their lives, they’ll reject authoritarianism. So democratic governments have to perform. They have to meet the expectations of their people and improve the quality of their citizens’ lives.

In the U.S., many Americans, worried about the direction of their country, wonder whether it is making progress toward the ideals of the Preamble. We seem to advance, fall back, and then move forward again, all in incremental steps.

What do we mean when we talk about “a more perfect Union”? I suppose we think of material progress. But more fundamentally, I hope, we think about the expansion of human freedom and progress toward the goals set out simply and eloquently in the Preamble. There’s a sense that we’re all in this American experience together: it brings us together and connects us with our past, present and future.

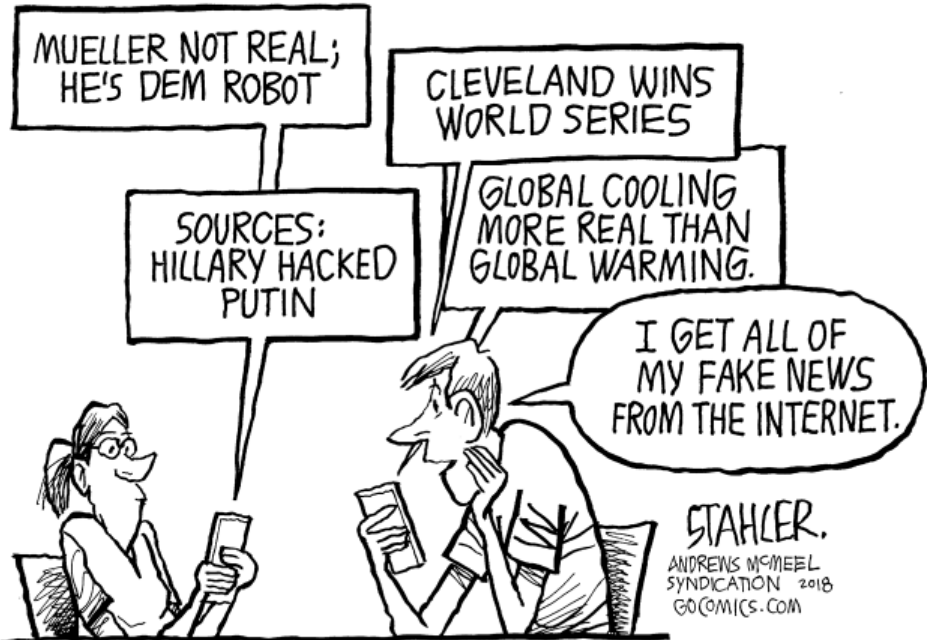
The American experiment in representative democracy is always a work in progress. The results are always in doubt. Lincoln’s words at Gettysburg - “whether a nation so conceived and so dedicated can long endure” - will probably resonate for as long as we’re a nation.

We face immense systemic problems at the moment: racial discrimination, wage stagnation, staggering income inequality, political polarization, the pernicious effects of too much money washing around in the system, the degradation of civil discourse. It is not a given that we’ll be able to resolve them, and we always have to be alert to the fact that our freedoms and rights can be eroded. Which means that to prevent this erosion we have to step up to the task of responsible citizenship.

This is a challenge for every generation. We’ve stepped up to it in the past, through world wars, the Civil War, economic recessions and depressions. As Americans we believe in a set of democratic ideals, basic rights, fundamental freedoms, and the notion that all people are created equal and all are entitled to dignity. These are ideas that give us cohesiveness and identify us.

But we cannot take our ability to deliver on them for granted. Without a renewal of energy and commitment to the democratic values of the Constitution, without acting on the call issued by the Preamble, we could lose them.

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

There was a movie a few years ago called “Dave.” In it, the President falls into a coma, and in order to hide it from the public, his advisers find a man that looks like him to take his place. My favorite scene in the movie is when this fake President sits down at the kitchen table in the White House, goes through the federal budget line by line, and manages to balance the budget.

I liked the scene because anyone with common sense knows we have to get government spending under control. Also, it showed how, if someone with common sense were to go through the budget, they could find plenty of wasteful spending to cut without denying us the things we need government to do. Unfortunately, common sense is about as rare in Washington as an honest politician.

The main problem with cutting the budget is agreeing on how to do it. Republicans want to take an axe to the budget and just slash away. Democrats want to take a scalpel to the budget and make cuts that are smart. Instead of getting in a room and figuring out what to do, they waste time in front of cameras demonizing each other. That’s because, in Washington, job number one is getting re-elected.

The four biggest drains on the budget are welfare programs, Social Security, Medicare, and defense. I’m about to propose four ways to cut three of them that would work and aren’t that hard to do if we just will. More important, these cuts will do no harm.

Are you tired of people collecting welfare benefits? Get the Congress and the President to enact a Living Wage Law. It would only apply to employers who could afford it, like Walmart and McDonalds instead of a local general store or hamburger joint.

How would that affect welfare? Right now, 25 percent of the people who get some form of government assistance to live work full time. If a living wage could move 10 or 12 percent off of welfare, we could cut the cost of the program without hurting people who really need it. And after all, we all know of some people who need help. The problem is, we only think about them at Christmas.

Speaking of welfare, a popular idea among conservatives is to require means testing for those applying for it. I suggest we turn that idea on its head and apply means tests to people getting Social Security and Medicare. Now, the way those programs are set up, everyone who pays into them is entitled to start getting benefits once they turn 65, so they have to get something. Still, it makes no sense to send someone like Bill Gates a Social Security check for the maximum benefit. It makes more sense to send him a token amount of say, \$200 and use the savings to keep the program going.

The same thing applies to Medicare. Even the super wealthy deserve token coverage, after all that’s the deal that was made. At the same

Trevor Noah’s World Cup dust-up

I suppose that if Ireland had played in the recent World Cup, I’d have cheered them on. As a child, I was taught to be Irish before American, although nobody saw those as conflicting identities. My family’s was a relatively benign version of Hibernian nationalism, probably because World War II had made the British seem more allies than enemies.

“You’re no better than anybody else,” my father would insist, “and nobody’s better than you!” Accept no slight, never forget and never back down. That was the essence of Irish-Americanism to me. None of my close relatives had ever been back to Ireland, although all eight great-grandparents were born there. Being “black Irish” — dark eyes, dark hair — I was a bit disappointed when my Ancestry.com DNA test came back relentlessly Celtic. I was hoping for something more exotic.

Years later, I asked a friendly bookseller in County Cork why the native Irish seemed so warm and gentle compared to the clenched jaws and knotted fists of their American cousins.

“Well, we had our revolution, didn’t we?” she said. “’Twas a hundred years ago, wasn’t it? And so we’ve quite forgotten.”

I do feel very much at home there.

Anyway, instead of Ireland, I supported France. My wife’s people are Louisiana French, and she loves it there: the most beautiful country on Earth, she thinks, and I don’t dispute it. People in Paris sometimes stop Diane to ask directions, forcing her to explain in pidgin French that she’s lost, too. Our dear friend Alain, a visiting professor I met on a tennis court in Texas years ago, is a passionate supporter of “Les Bleus.”

Although I know very little about futbol, it was also my opinion after watching parts of several matches that France’s team had the best athletes. Readers may not be astonished to learn that I do enjoy watching my opinions validated.

So I was fascinated by the controversy that began when “The Daily Show” comic Trevor Noah got all ethnic — or was it racial? — about France’s victory. “Africa won the World Cup! Africa won the World Cup!” Noah, a mixed-race South African by birth, chanted. “I mean, look, I get it: They have to say it’s the French team. But look at those guys. You don’t get that tan by hanging out in the south of France!”

Noah played it for laughs. Indeed, six of France’s start-



Gene Lyons

ing 11 shared African or North African roots. However, one viewer who was not amused was Gerard Araud, the French ambassador to the United States.

A representative of Emmanuel Macron’s government, which celebrated the World Cup win as a triumph of French cosmopolitanism and a repudiation of anti-immigrant politicians, the ambassador sent Noah a testy letter.

“As many players have already stated themselves,” he wrote, “their parents may have come from another country, but the great majority of them (all but two out of 23) were born in France; they were educated in France; they are French citizens. They are proud of their country, France.

“Unlike the United States of America,” he continued, “France does not refer to its citizens based on their race, religion or origin. ... By calling them an African team, it seems you are denying their

See LYONS page 3

Challenges for Facebook

Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg told tech writer Kara Swisher how the social media platform would handle contentious political information in coming elections.

“There are really two core principles at play here,” Zuckerberg told Swisher, executive editor of the website Recode. “There’s giving people a voice, so that people can express their opinions. Then there’s keeping the community safe, which I think is really important. We’re not gonna let people plan violence or attack each other or do bad things. Within this, those principles have real trade-offs and real tug on each other.”

How Facebook resolves the tension Zuckerberg describes could have a major impact on future elections. After all, the platform has 2 billion followers around the world, and, along with Google and Twitter, has emerged as a primary source of information for many voters.

Facebook’s growing importance as a political player was highlighted by the recent indictment of 12 Russian intelligence officers for hacking into the computers of Democratic campaign organizations and using stolen information to help elect President Trump. Often the Russian agents used Facebook to spread

their propaganda, buying at least \$100,000 worth of paid ads through 470 phony accounts.

And the Russians are still conducting their campaign of subversion, no matter how often Trump denounces the story as “a big hoax.” The president’s own director of National Intelligence, Dan Coats, made that completely clear when he called out Moscow’s “ongoing, pervasive efforts to undermine our democracy.”

The “trade-offs” Zuckerberg describes are as old as the republic. Leaders have always had to reconcile two profoundly American values — the right to know and the right to be safe — and most of the time, they have tilted the balance in favor of free speech.

Zuckerberg long argued that Facebook was only a “utility,” like a phone company, that simply transmitted information and had no editorial responsibility. As late as November 2016, he said it was a “pretty crazy idea” that fake news on Facebook had influenced the election — a ridiculous statement for which he now apologizes.

Twenty months later, Zuckerberg is coming to understand the enormous power Facebook has acquired. The question is how that power is



Cokey and Steve Roberts

employed. Fortunately, he is rejecting calls for censorship, even against odious or hate-filled speech.

“The approach we’ve taken to false news is not to say, ‘you can’t say something wrong on the internet,’” Zuckerberg told Swisher. “I think that would be too extreme.”

But in rare cases, he concedes, such as terrorists planning an attack, or a person threatening suicide, the “trade-offs” tilt in favor of safety, and censorship is justified: “The principles that we have on what we remove from the service are: If it’s going to result in real harm, real physical harm, or if you’re attacking individuals, then that content shouldn’t be on the platform.”

Most of the time, however, the choice facing Facebook is not binary; it’s not between keeping some voices on the platform or throwing them off. Careful judgments can and should be made that preserve both values: free speech and public safety.

The answer in many cases is not to ban types of speech,

See ROBERTS page 3

See BOXLEY page 3

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Stolen truck leads to arrest

A Harrisburg man was arrested last week after stealing a truck and crashing while intoxicated, according to the Poinsett County Sheriff's Office.

On July 31, Poinsett County Dispatch received a call about a stolen truck in Waldenburg. The caller said the suspect was traveling north on Highway 49 toward Weiner. At 8:32 p.m., dispatch received a 911 call that a red truck had wrecked on Highway 49 in front of Riceland. Weiner Fire/Rescue and deputies responded to the scene. The stolen vehicle was on its side in a ditch on the west side of the highway. Christopher Ford, 29, of Harrisburg, had been driving the vehicle and was with a firefighter nearby. A deputy made contact with Ford and noticed he was unsteady on his feet and had a strong odor of intoxicants coming from his person. Ford was determined to have been the driver of the stolen vehicle, and the press release from the sheriff's office states, "Ford's reasoning for steal-



Christopher Ford

ing the truck was that his vehicle had run out of gas." The vehicle Ford had been driving before stealing the truck was sitting in the road on Highway 49 south of where Ford wrecked the stolen truck. Two guns were in the back of the vehicle. Ford was also in possession of marijuana.

Ford was charged with Theft of Property (Vehicle), Possession of Firearms by Certain Persons, Driving While Intoxicated, Reckless Driving, and Possession of a Controlled Substance (Marijuana). Judge Ron Hunter set a \$100,000 bond.

Sheriff warns of jury duty scam

The Poinsett County Sheriff's Department received a complaint recently about a new scam in the area.

According to Sheriff Kevin Molder, the complainant received a call from a man identifying himself as Lt. Carter with the sheriff's office. This man claimed the complainant had missed jury duty in June and that, as of June 30, a warrant had been issued for her arrest. The man said she could prevent being arrested if she

bonded over the phone, which would require her to put cash on a money card.

"This is a scam," Sheriff Molder said in a press release, "The Poinsett County Sheriff's Office, or any other law enforcement agency, will never call you and request money over the phone. If you receive a phone call like this or any call you believe is a scam, please call 870-578-2116 and report it."

TAX

Continued from page 1

pipes still in place. And more recently, the sewer line was backing up. He said they were unable to move prisoners out of the block with sewer problems while repairs were made, which cost \$38,500. But he also noted that the jail stays at capacity most of the time, and if repairs had required prisoners be moved to another facility temporarily, that can cost around \$50 a prisoner, which adds up with over 100 prisoners.

Molder said maintenance to the detention center is necessary because they have to abide by jail standards. As an example, he said they are required to maintain a temperature between 65-75 degrees per jail standards. That meant when they were having problems with the chiller, they had to get it fixed or they could face lawsuits on behalf of the prisoners. "I have to abide by jail standards. I don't want Poinsett County to be sued every week," Molder said.

Molder said the detention center draining the county general and reserve funds also affects the sheriff's office. "We have an aging fleet of vehicles with \$20,000 budgeted for parts and repairs," Molder said. So far this year, he said they have spent \$18,000. "Our fleet is getting old, but we haven't been able to purchase new vehicles to keep up," Molder said.

Another cost Molder mentioned is outfitting deputies, which is around \$1,300-\$1,500 each. The sheriff's office only has \$5,000 budgeted for clothes and uniforms each year. Molder said when he took office, deputies had to buy their equipment. A pistol is around \$450. Molder said for younger deputies, that \$450 means a huge difference. Molder also said when he took office, most of the deputies had expired vests. With donations from citizens, a deputy equipment fund was established to help equip deputies and make sure they didn't have to spend out of pocket for the equipment they needed.

Equalization Boards meets in August

The Equalization Board of Poinsett County will meet, by appointment only, tentatively every Wednesday in August. Anyone wanting to meet with

the board must have an appointment scheduled by Monday, Aug. 20. To schedule an appointment, call 870-578-4436 or 870-578-4435.

LYONS

Continued from page 2

Frenchness. This, even in jest, legitimizes the ideology which claims whiteness as the only definition of being French."

Did the ambassador protest too much? Maybe so, although the players themselves went out of their way to emphasize their love of country. Most agreed with French NBA player Nicolas Batum, who advised people saying, "Congrats Africa in the World Cup" to stick a sock in it.

"Yes my dad and my last name are from Cameroon," Batum wrote, "but I was born, raise(d), educated, taught basketball in France. Proud to be FRENCH. I'm playing for the youth in France who wants to be like us and make the country proud. And I'm proud of that and our 2018 world champ."

See, in a French context, the notion that race transcends citizenship is a Nazi idea, and therefore deeply offensive. Noah, however, played the controversy like a Monty Python skit, reading the ambassador's letter in a mock French accent and wisecracking that rather than the "diversity" Araud celebrated, "I

think it's more a reflection of France's colonialism."

Noah's audience took that as a real zinger. Apropos of the athletes, the comic then asked, "How did you guys become French? How did your family start speaking French? Oh, OK."

Basically the same way my Celtic ancestors came to speak English — a great benefit to the Irish over time. Also to Trevor Noah's ancestors. We'd have a much harder time making a living in Gaelic or Zulu.

Another irony is that whether in the U.S. or France, ethnic ambiguities are much easier to negotiate if you're white. Maybe it's an illusion to imagine that even brilliant athletes like France's World Cup champions can transcend history through sport, but it's a brilliant illusion all the same.

(Arkansas Times columnist Gene Lyons is a National Magazine Award winner and co-author of "The Hunting of the President" (St. Martin's Press, 2000). You can email Lyons at eugenelyons2@yahoo.com.)

ROBERTS

Continued from page 2

and few want Zuckerberg and Co. to have that kind of power. Rather, as he puts it, Facebook has "a responsibility to mitigate the darker things that people are gonna try to do."

For example, Facebook has partnered with a number of reputable fact-checking organizations, such as Snopes and Politifact, to evaluate its content and post warnings on false statements. They're also reducing the prominence of false stories on each member's daily news feed and making it harder for purveyors of "fake news" to sell ads on the platform.

But Facebook needs to make fact-checking a much higher priority, and a larger budget item, so consumers have more data about what they're reading and seeing.

Legislation has been introduced in Congress requiring Facebook to provide more in-

formation about who buys political ads — the sort of transparency that is already required of TV stations — but the platform should adopt those innovations on its own, even if it hurts its ad business.

Writing in The Atlantic, Yair Rosenberg makes an excellent suggestion: rather than banning "hateful information," Facebook should encourage "counter-programming," a version of the surgeon general's warning on cigarettes that details the dangers of smoking. "The trolls would find themselves trolled," he writes.

The answer to "hateful information" is usually more, and better, information. Then people can hear many voices — and still feel safe at the same time.

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

BOXLEY

Continued from page 2

time, most of these very wealthy people know that it is crazy to spend money where it isn't needed. How do you think they got rich anyway?

Congress could pass two laws that would cut the cost of Medicare immediately if they would just do what we want instead of what the lobbyists want. One would be a law allowing Medicare to negotiate with drug manufacturers over the cost of their products. Another would be a law banning drug ads except for medical journals and conventions. That would ease their pain over having to bargain with Medicare, not that they need it. Also, when you think about it, there isn't much difference between some actor on TV saying, "Take this pill and you'll feel better," and some guy on the street corner telling you the same thing.

As for the Pentagon, it just needs some sort of money czar to watch over every penny they get. Our military is the best in the world. Nobody can match it. Unfortunately, when it comes to money, they just don't know how to manage it. They just flat lost \$12 billion in Afghanistan, and contractors rip them off all of the time. The generals need a money nanny.

None of the things I have proposed would completely balance the budget, but at least they would be a move in the right direction. We have to do something. There's not much chance a real Dave will be in the White House anytime soon.

WORKSHOP

Continued from page 1

Common ideas many groups shared included enhancing parks, cleaning the old downtown area, beautifying run-down businesses, doing something with the Trumann Plaza area, adding more for younger kids to do, adding sidewalks and walking trails, improving the museum, adding recreational areas like a community pool or fishing pond, and annexing nearby areas. Police Chief Chad Henson spoke briefly in favor of annexation, saying the police and fire departments serve nearby areas in the county and that while crimes in the nearby areas count toward the city, the population in those areas

does not, which leads to inaccurate rankings in yearly crime statistics lists.

At the end of the workshop, Walden said he would take the ideas community members had discussed and distill them down into themes he will present to the steering committee. Walden said a new city plan should be in place by the end of the year.

Also that night, a public meeting was held regarding a parks grant. Mayor Barbara Lewallen said she was working on a matching grant to build restrooms by the splash pad. She said the cost would probably be around \$20,000, and the grant, if approved, would pay for half of that.

UPDATE

Continued from page 1

show, and The Eaton and DeLoach Band will be the musical guests for the night. Both are first-time performers at the fair. Three Trees Cowboy Church out of Wynne will have a mechanical bull at the fair Tuesday and hope to have a full rodeo at the fair in 2019.

Wednesday, the fair opens at 5 p.m. with Community Gospel Singing hosted by Three Trees Cowboy Church. Baked goods entries are accepted this night, and the rabbit and poultry will be judged too. Thursday will see the EHC Annual Rice Buffet at First Baptist Church Glissen's Center from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Carnival opens at 5 p.m. with the second armband night. Musical entertainment will be The Band Tripppp, which features the children of Trey Stafford, to be followed by the Crafton Brothers Band. Livestock, except rabbits and poultry, are to be checked in this day.

Friday is School Agriculture Activities Day from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. for first through third grades. "We already have 330 kids singed

up to attend this," Stanford said. The fair opens at 5 p.m. with musical guests Cody Richardson and Triple Nickel. "Cody is a Harrisburg native who sings solo, and Congressman Rick Crawford sings for Triple Nickel. He's pretty good," Stanford added. The livestock will also be judged Friday.

The last day of the fair is Saturday with Tiny Rides and Little Rides races at 4 p.m. The fair opens at 5 p.m., and it's the last armband night. Musical entertainment will be Lil' Red with Angie Joiner followed by up and coming country artist Cory Jackson. This is Jackson's second year in a row to play the fair. Monday will be exhibit pick-up day from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Johnson Brothers Rides will have 18 rides set up for the carnival this year. "These will be moveable rides, not bouncy houses," Stanford said. Stanford was asked about mosquito control and told the group that discussions are ongoing about the subject.

ARREST

Continued from page 1

According to the press release, after receiving a 911 call from the victim, a deputy spotted Crump's vehicle heading west on Highway 14 and made a traffic stop. During the stop, it was determined Crump was driving with fictitious tags, no insurance, and a suspended driver's license. Crump was also on probation. During a probation search of the vehicle, a purse belonging to the victim was found in the bed of the truck along with two shopping bags, also belonging to the victim.

While another deputy investigated the accident scene, Crump was transported to his residence for a probation search. During the search, 4.2 grams of crystal methamphetamine, digital scales, and other drug paraphernalia were located in the house. After the evidence was collected, Crump was transported to the Poinsett County Detention.

According to the sheriff's office, the victim told depu-

ties that she was traveling home when she noticed Crump sitting where she would normally turn at Bay Lane. She said she and Crump had been having problems, so to avoid any confrontation she passed Bay Lane and continued eastbound. She said Crump pulled out, began to follow her, and eventually pulled up beside her vehicle, telling her to stop. She was terrified and continued down the road before Crump ran into her vehicle, causing her to lose control and wreck in the ditch on the north side of Highway 214.

Crump was charged with Aggravated Assault on a Family Member, Stalking, Driving on a Suspended Driver's License, Fictitious Tags, No Insurance, Leaving the Scene of an Accident, Terroristic Threatening — First Degree, Possession of a Controlled Substance with the Purpose to Deliver (Meth), and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

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578-2604

First Baptist
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578-5901

First United Methodist
204 S. Main St.
578-5407

First Pentecostal
600 Hill Rd.
578-5517

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475-6184

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475-2207

First Baptist Church
Kenwood & Berney
475-2125

First Baptist Church
443 Oak
475-2010

First United Pentecostal
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475-2257

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Anderson Chapel
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358-4637

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Church of Christ
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358-4044

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114 Allen St.
358-2963

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202 Jefferson
358-3268

FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE
TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

Uzziah Becomes Proud
II Chronicles 26

With the coming of power Uzziah became proud and that led to his downfall. He was unfaithful to the LORD his God, and entered the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense. Azariah the priest along with eighty other courageous priests of the LORD followed him and told him that it was not right for him to burn incense to the LORD because that was for the priests, the descendants of Aaron, who have been consecrated to burn incense. They told him to leave the sanctuary, that the LORD God would not honor him. This angered Uzziah and while he was raging at the priests before the incense altar in the LORD's temple, leprosy broke out on his forehead. Seeing that he had leprosy Azariah and the other priests hurried him out and he was eager to leave, because the LORD had afflicted him. His leprosy remained with him until his death and he lived in a separate house excluded from the temple of the LORD. Jotham his son had charge of the palace and governed the people of the land.

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358-3650

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483-7032

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Assembly of God
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483-6673

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Christian Worship Center
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483-7009

Church of Christ
Melton Avenue
483-2114

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483-0052

Corner's Chapel Baptist
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593-2112

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513 E. Speedway
483-5091

Elm Grove Baptist
2331 Hwy 69 S
483-2283

First Baptist
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483-6459

First Christian
521 W. Main
483-5820

First Methodist
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First Pentecostal
Temple & Christy
483-5021

Holy Trinity
Church of God
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Maple Grove Baptist
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483-5232

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231 Church Street
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Obituaries

Hubert “Newt” Beaird

TRUMANN - H.N. “Newt” Beaird of Trumann was born Feb. 21, 1929, in Lepanto, the second son of John and Marvin Beaird. He died Aug. 3, 2018, at St. Elizabeth’s Place in Jonesboro. Newt was married to Mavene Baker Beaird for 69 years. She preceded him in death on April 25, 2018.

He was predeceased by his brothers, Guy of Trumann and Bill of Madera, Calif., and his sisters Betty Gage of Sandpoint, Idaho and Bonnie Aleman of Madera, Calif.

He is survived by his brother, John Robert Beaird of Madera, Calif.; niece, Patricia Hendrix of Little Rock; nephews, Brad Baker of Jonesboro and Brent Baker of Trumann; great niece and loving caregiver, Abigail Greene of Trumann, as well as several nieces and nephews in California.

Newt graduated from Trumann High School in 1949 and spent most of his adult life working as the manager of Guy’s Discount Center in Trumann, but his real joy was behind the controls of any airplane. Newt was a private pilot and “flew the mail” after work just for the pleasure of being airborne. He also served as the director of Trumann Housing Authority



Hubert “Newt” Beaird

for many years. Newt loved all sports and was a notable baseball and basketball player who was considered a likely pro candidate before a shoulder injury ended his career. He was a huge Razorback fan and loved talking through the games on the phone with Guy after their retirement.

Services were held Aug. 7 at Thompson Funeral Home in Trumann. He will be buried at Jonesboro Memorial Park next to his wife Mavene and brother and sister-in-law, Guy and Nida Beaird, as well as many Baker relatives.

Pallbearers were Brad and Brent Baker, Joey Greene, Dennis Hendrix, David Utley and Kerry Baker.

The family would like to extend their everlasting gratitude to the wonderful ladies of Home Instead, who lovingly cared for him in his last months.

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

Dr. Michael Smith

Dr. Michael Gene Smith was born July 9, 1950, in El Paso, Texas, to Dr. Vestal Beecher Smith and Frances “Tad” Melodean Fisher. Following his mother’s early death, his father married Mary Smith, who together raised Mike and his three brothers. He grew up in Marked Tree, where he played drums in a band and graduated high school with honors. He attended college at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville for three years and was a member of the fraternity Sigma Phi Epsilon. After his junior year in college, he matriculated at the University of Arkansas College of Medicine, where he graduated in 1975. He served his country overseas in the armed forces, based out of Istanbul, Turkey, in 1976-77. Upon his return to the United States, he married Glenda Ross, the mother of his first three children, and completed his residency in anesthesiology at Walter Reed in Washington, D.C. He was honorably discharged from active duty Armed Forces as a major in 1983.

Mike practiced medicine as an anesthesiologist for many years at the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville and also served as faculty for the nurse anesthetist program. He became an avid fan of the Tennessee Volunteers while still remaining a rabid Arkansas Razorback in pride and practice. He spent his time in Tennessee as a true Renaissance man as he enjoyed his lifelong passions of gardening, genealogy, woodworking, literature, movies, and as always, being a father to four children. He also kept his love of music and rock-and-roll alive as drummer in The Snooze Brothers, who played in many locally famous venues such as Ella Guru’s, the World’s Fair Park, and Manhattan’s in the Old City. He retired to Tumbling Shoals, Ark., in 2000 with his youngest son, to fully explore his many interests.

Mike suffered a massive stroke in his home in Arkansas in February of 2003 that left him paralyzed on the right side of his body and also severely affected his ability to speak. Despite this significant setback, Mike attended an intensive speech therapy clinic at the University of Michigan’s Aphasia Program (UMAP) in Ann Arbor, Mich. This experience was pivotal in helping Mike develop new tools for effective communication and acclimate to his new condition. He moved from Tumbling Shoals to Gentry, Ark., next to his brother and sister-in-law, Steve and Cheryl, where he lived with his daughter Mary Helen. Mike volunteered at the Gentry Public Library, where he computerized the entire card catalogue. During this time, he was acknowledged in an article in the Arkansas Democrat Gazette for volunteering “hundreds of hours annually” at the library where they fittingly reported that despite his difficulties with speech, “His kind smile conveys what words cannot.”

Mike also lived in Maryville, Tenn., with his daughter, Julia, before moving to Maui, Hawaii, with is



Dr. Michael Smith

son, Michael. During his time in Hawaii, he volunteered at the Maui Botanic Garden, raised orchids, and spent time with family. In 2011, Mike moved back to Maryville and into the Shannondale Retirement community where he enjoyed much autonomy, a welcoming community, and a peaceful home for many years. During his time there, he developed many close relationships, enjoyed doing puzzles, enthusiastically decorated his home for holidays, communicated his work in genealogy, watched/collected movies and spent much time with family. Mike passed away suddenly from natural causes in his home, on Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2018, at the age of 68.

He was preceded in death by father and mother, Dr. Vestal Beecher Smith and Frances “Tad” Melodean Fisher, and survived by his loving stepmother Mary Smith, brothers Ronald Smith, Stephen (Cheryl) Smith, and Dr. Vestal (Amber) Smith, Jr., his children Mary Helen (Brendan) Smith, Julia (Adam) Spannaus, Michael (Holly) Smith and Samuel Smith, his grandchildren Maxwell Smith, Bryan Spannaus and Oliver Spannaus, nieces and nephews Ruston Smith, Emily Smith, Corbin Smith, Garrett (Becky) Smith, Bethany Smith and great-nephew Otto Smith.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the University of Michigan Aphasia Program at <https://mari.umich.edu/ucell/umap/donate/> in his name.

Services and a reception are scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 11, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Smith-Westbrook Funeral Home at 404 W. Dewitt Henry Dr., Beebe, Ark., followed by a private family burial. A gathering of friends will be held in Maryville, Tenn., on Aug. 25. Arrangements are by Smith-Westbrook Funeral Home, Beebe.

www.SmithFamilyCares.com

Filing deadline

The deadline for filing for all Trumann Municipal elected offices is noon Aug. 17. Candidates may pick up forms at the Trumann Clerk/Treasurer’s office at 225 Highway 463. All paperwork must be filed with the Poinsett County Clerk in Harrisburg.

How Medicare covers diabetes

Dear Savvy Senior,
How well does Medicare cover diabetes? I’m 66 years old and was

recently told by my doctor that I have pre-diabetes. If it progresses to full-fledged diabetes what can I expect from Medicare.

Recently Retired
Dear Recently,

Medicare actually provides a wide range of coverage to help beneficiaries who have diabetes, as well as those who are at risk of getting it—but they don’t cover everything. Here’s a breakdown of what Medicare covers when it comes to diabetes services and supplies along with some other tips that can help you save.

Screenings: If you have pre-diabetes or some other health conditions that put you at risk of getting diabetes—such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol and triglycerides, are overweight, or have a family history of diabetes—Medicare Part B (medical insurance) will pay 100 percent of the cost of up to two diabetes screenings every year.

Doctor’s services: If you’re a Medicare beneficiary, Medicare will pay 80 percent of the cost of all doctor’s office visits that are related to diabetes. You are responsible for paying the remaining 20 percent after you’ve met this year’s \$183 (for 2018) Part B deductible.

Prevention program: Just launched in April, the Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program provides lifestyle change programs offered by health professionals to help you prevent diabetes. This is available for free to all Part B beneficiaries who have pre-diabetes.

Self-management: If you have diabetes, Medicare covers 80 percent of the cost of self-management training to teach you how to successfully manage your diabetes.

Supplies and medications: Medicare Part B covers 80 percent of the cost of glucose monitors, test strips (100 per month if you use insulin, or 33 per month if you don’t), lancets, external insulin pumps and insulin (if you use a pump), after you’ve met your deductible.

If, however, you inject insulin with a syringe, Medicare’s Part D prescription



Savvy Senior
Jim Miller

drug benefit will help pay your insulin costs and the supplies needed to inject it—if you have a plan.

Part D plans also cover most other diabetic medications too. You’ll need to check your plan for coverage details.

Nutrition therapy: Medicare will pick up the entire tab for medical nutrition therapy, which teaches you how to adjust your diet so you can better manage your condition. You’ll need a doctor’s referral to get this service.

Foot care: Since foot problems are common among diabetics, Medicare covers 80 percent of foot exams every six months for diabetics with diabetes-related nerve damage. They will also help pay for therapeutic shoes or inserts as long as your podiatrist prescribes them.

Eye exams: Because diabetes increases the risks of getting glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy, 80 percent of dilated medical eye exams are covered each year, but eye refractions for glasses are not.

For more information, see “Medicare’s Coverage of Diabetes Supplies & Services” online booklet at Medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/11022-Medicare-Diabetes-Coverage.pdf.

Other Insurance

If you have a Medicare supplemental (Medigap) policy, it may pay some of the costs that Medicare doesn’t cover. Call your plan’s benefits administrator for more information.

Or, if you’re in a Medicare Advantage plan (like an HMO or PPO), your plan must give you at least the same diabetes coverage as original Medicare does, but it may have different rules. You’ll need to check your policy for details.

Financial Assistance

If you’re income is low, and you can’t afford your Medicare out-of-pocket costs, you may be able to get help through Medicare Savings Programs. To find out if you qualify or to apply, contact your state Medicaid program.

Also, find out if you are eligible for “Extra Help” which helps Medicare Part D beneficiaries with their medication expenses. Visit SSA.gov/prescriptionhelp or call Social Security (800-772-1213) to learn more.

Cash committee issues invitations to food, arts and crafts vendors

Application materials are now available for arts and crafts and food vendors who are interested in setting up stations at the second annual Johnny Cash Heritage Festival, Thursday through Saturday, Oct. 18-20, in Dyess.

The festival celebrates the legacy of singer Johnny Cash, along with the Dyess agricultural resettlement colony and other New Deal programs of the 1930s that shaped the man and his music.

The three-day festival will begin at noon, Thursday, Oct. 18, with screenings and discussions of two films, *O Brother Where Art Thou* and *Johnny Cash at Folsom Prison*, at the Dyess Colony Visitors Center, located in the Colony Circle. There will be presentations from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Friday. Regional music will be performed in the Colony Circle on Thursday and Friday evenings from 5-9 p.m.

Food and arts and crafts vendors, along with rural heritage demonstrations, are scheduled for Thursday and Friday in the Colony Circle.

On Saturday, Oct. 20, major music events will be held from noon until 5 p.m. in the field adjacent to the Johnny Cash Boyhood Home. Performers include Jamey Johnson, Alison Krauss, John Carter Cash, Ana Cristina Cash and other special guests. Gates for field concert performances will open at 11 a.m. The festival offers two opportunities for food and arts and crafts vendors:

*Colony Center booth – Arts and crafts vendors only,

from noon until 9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18, and from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19.

*Cash farmstead field booth – Food, and arts and crafts vendors from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20.

Food vendors will be selected based on suitability of menus that focus on the heritage of the region as well as popular item selections throughout the festival. Regarding potential arts and crafts vendors, the festival committee is searching for original, handmade works from regional artists and crafters to be offered at the Colony Center and the Cash Field stage. Prints of two-dimensional work also are appropriate. Demonstrations of early 20th century arts and crafts and rural lifestyles are encouraged. Preference is given to arts and crafts that have relevance to the heritage of the region and/or to the heritage of the 1930s or 1940s eras.

All vendors must adhere to Arkansas State University regulations and requirements, along with Arkansas Health Department regulations for food vendors.

Application forms may be downloaded from the festival web site at <http://JohnnyCashHeritageFestival.com> or from Paula Miles, A-State Heritage Sites, P.O. Box 2050, State University, AR 72467, or by email at pmiles@AState.edu <[mail to: pmiles@AState.edu](mailto:pmiles@AState.edu)>. Completed forms are due to Miles by Aug. 17.

For additional information, contact the Heritage Sites office at 870-972-2803.

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Lifestyles

Trumann Senior Life Center “On the Go”

By HAZEL RILEY

On Monday, we went to Jonesboro to the Dollar Tree and KFC for lunch. Ms. Cindy had a van load. On Tuesday, we had special bingo sponsored by Reynolds Financial Service. It was a lot of fun. On Wednesday, we had C.S.F.P. food pantry giveaway, newspaper day, and dominoes. Thursday is regular bingo, and Friday is purse swap. I hope mine has something in it.

Getting better each day is Ms. Ruth S. and Ms. Kathy S. had a new grandson born last week.

We have an artist, and she makes really cute stuff out of recycled bottles. Ms. Roberta is working on a sketch of her parents in crayon. She’s pretty good.

School starts back next week, so please watch out for all those eager children that can’t wait to get back to school. Have a great weekend!

Adoptees can request ADH files starting Aug. 1

Starting Aug. 1, individuals who have been adopted (adoptees), and who are at least 21 years of age, may request their adoption file from the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH). Forms are now available online for adoptees to fill out to request their files.

An ADH adoption file usually includes an original birth certificate and adoption decree; however, what is included in a file can vary depending on the adoption. Act 519, which became law in March 2017, gives adoptees the ability to request their files if they are at least 21 years old.

Written requests for adoption files will be accepted from adoptees or, upon their death, a surviving spouse, child or guardian of that child. The request must be notarized and include proof of identity. There is a \$100 fee to process an application for adoption files.

The new law also allows birth parents to complete forms to redact their name from an adoption file as well

as update their family history information and contact preference. These forms are also available on the ADH website.

To submit a redaction request, a birth parent must show proof of their identity, submit a notarized form and update their genetic or social history. A form cannot be submitted by one birth parent for another.

Birth parents can request to be contacted by the adopted child directly, through a third party or not at all. The ADH will share preference requests as part of the adoption file but cannot guarantee that requests will be honored.

More information, including forms for adoptees or birth parents, may be found online at www.healthy.arkansas.gov or by contacting adh.vitalrecords@arkansas.gov or 1-800-462-0599. Forms must be returned to the ADH Vital Records Department, State Registrar, 4815 West Markham St., Slot 44, Little Rock, AR 72205.

Pleasant Grove EHC meets

Pleasant Grove Extension Homemakers Club held its July meeting on July 12. During the meeting, members reflected on their best Fourth of July memories.

Sarah Dacus reported that program books were not yet ready for members to fill out. She received one program

book and asked members to fill in the months they would be hosting for 2018-2019. Dacus said when she receives the program books, she and Martha Smith will fill out the information and have them ready for members at the next meeting on Aug. 9.



Shirley Long (right) presented her “Trumann High” poem to Trumann Superintendent Myra Graham Friday. Graham said the school was very grateful and one copy would hang in the high school, and one will hang in the middle school. (DT Photo/Corey Clairday)

Trumann High

A poem by SHIRLEY LONG

Down the halls of education at Trumann High,
Have walked many students trying to survive.
In the pictures in the hallways,
Are doctors, lawyers, teachers and friends,
And even soldiers who died in Viet Nam.
But what is so amazing, as time passes by,
Is the hallways seem smaller, than in earlier times.
Our school has seen some changes,
In its buildings old and new,
And even our parents have

walked these halls too.

Although it’s been many years since I was a student here,
My mind drifts back often to those earlier years.
The days of youth are quickly gone,
Cherish them as the years pass.
Do not wish the hours away, make each moment last.
In your heart remember always
These precious years of time,
And be proud your Alma Mater,
Is Trumann High.

Marked Tree Sr. Center Happenings

By Joan Campbell



We are having fun at the Marked Tree Senior Center. Please come and join us.

On Aug. 2, Carol took some of us to Jonesboro to the Area Agency on Aging to learn a new game called Sit Down Volleyball. Those who went were Joan, Janet, Ruth, Irma, Carol Sue and Doris. Then we went to Barnhill’s to eat lunch, to the new store Five Below, and also to the Dollar Tree. Thank you, Carol.

Last week on our bowling trip, I stated that Irma went, but instead it should have said Winnie Johnson went. First mistake I ever made, if you can believe it or not.

If you would like to come to the center, call Carol Crum or drop by and talk to her.

Commodity distribution set Aug. 15

A commodity distribution for Poinsett County is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 15, from 9 a.m. until noon or until food supplies are gone. The distribution will take place at three locations: Marked Tree Fire Station at 102 Liberty Street, Trumann Sports Complex at 16179 Pecan Grove Road, and Weiner City Hall at 123 W. 2nd Street.

At the time of the distribution, information cards will be filled out for all recipients. Recipients will need to provide the following information: name, address, family size and combined monthly income of the household. An appropriate form of identification such as a driver’s license, social security card, or picture identification card

must be shown.

Recipients will only be allowed to pick up commodity foods for themselves and one additional household. To pick up food items for a shut-in, elderly person or other qualified household, the person picking up the food must have a signed authorization slip with the following information on it from the person he or she is picking up for: name, address, family size and combined monthly income of the household receiving the food. Case workers picking up for large groups must make prior arrangements with the program coordinator.

For more information contact Keith Livesay at the Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas by calling 870-932-3663.

Fish oil anyone?

Could omega-3 fatty acids help your dog? Many people take fish-oil supplements on recommendation of their physician. Could they help your dog? Ask your veterinarian about the benefits of fatty acid supplementation at all stages of your pet’s life. Joint disease is often associated with inflammation and reduced mobility, which can be helped with omega 3-fatty acids. The two types of omega-3 fatty acids that help reduce inflammation with joint pain are EPA (eicosapentaenoic acid) and DHA (docosahexaemoic acid) both of which are found in fish oil.

Your veterinarian can help determine if a fish-oil supplement could make your stiff senior dog more comfortable

Pet Talk

Dr. Norette Underwood



or help your dog’s itchy skin. Dogs with heart disease can benefit from the anti-inflammatory effects of fatty acids. Muscle loss may be counteracted, and some arrhythmias may be stabilized by omega-3 fatty acid. Dogs with kidney disease may have less protein loss in their urine if supplemented with omega-3 fatty acids.

Omega-3 fatty acids have many uses in veterinary medicine due to their anti-inflammatory properties. Please talk to your veterinarian about omega-3 fatty acids and how they can benefit your pet.

If you have questions about your pet and omega-3 fatty acids contact Dr. Norette L Underwood of Trumann Animal Clinic and Best Friends Vet Mobile Service at catdoc56@gmail.com.

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Sports

Wand added to Doak Walker Award watch list

Arkansas State senior running back Warren Wand is a preseason candidate for the 2018 Doak Walker Award, presented annually to the nation's premiere running back.

Wand finished the 2017 campaign by rushing for 715 yards and six touchdowns to lead the Red Wolves' rushing attack for the second straight season. He averaged 72.2 yards on the ground per game to rank fifth in the Sun Belt Conference, which included rushing for a career-best 173 yards against ULM. The performance against the Warhawks was also the fifth most yards by a running back in league during the 2017 season.

The Edmond, Okla., native enters his senior season with the 11th most rushing yards



Arkansas State running back Warren Wand has been added to the Doak Walker Award watch list for the third year in a row. (DT Photo/Anthony Cossey)

(2,303) in school history and is 697 yards shy of becoming the fifth player in school history to reach 3,000. Earlier this year Wand was named Lindy's and Athlon's Preseason Second Team All-

Sun Belt Conference, while Street & Smith named him the "Most Elusive Running Back" in the Sun Belt Conference.

This is the third straight

season that Wand has been named to the Doak Walker Award Watch List, tying Reggie Arnold (2007-09) for the most appearances on the list in school history.

County schools fill coaching vacancies

By ANTHONY COSSEY
DT Sports Staff

Harrisburg School District filled its last remaining coaching position last week with the hire of a new boys' basketball coach. The hire completes the coaching staffs of all the schools in Poinsett County. Here is a breakdown of the coaches for the upcoming school year.

East Poinsett County returns all their coaches for the 2018-19 school year. Brandon Powell will coach football and softball, Adam Chamberlin will coach baseball, Steve Brown will be the boys' basketball coach, Justin Williams will coach girls'

basketball, Bo Powell is the golf coach, and Jamie Carpenter will coach tennis.

Harrisburg will have two new coaches at the school this year. John Rountree is the new boys' basketball coach—and will also coach tennis—and Lonna Baker will be the new girls' basketball coach. Aaron Thornton will coach football, Greg Biggers will coach baseball and golf, Chastan Carpino will coach softball, and volleyball as Robert Killebrew will coach track.

Marked Tree welcomes a new girls' basketball coach as Baylee Kellar takes over the program. Waylon Dunn re-

turns to coach football and softball, Michael Wages will coach baseball, Barbara Wilburn will coach boys' basketball, Abby Beck is the tennis coach, and Colten Frazier will coach track and golf.

Trumann welcomes three new coaches this year as Billy Phelan takes over the boys' basketball program, Zach Tyler is the new baseball coach, and Kayla Winfrey will be the new volleyball coach. Craig Green will coach football, Aaron Ballew will coach girls' basketball, Rachel Harmon will be the golf coach, and Deryk Hibbard will coach track.

Marked Tree football practice



Chaz Simmons (70) tackles Kylen Johnson (12) as Justin Ellis (5) is close by for assistance during Marked Tree's football practice this past Tuesday. (DT Photo/Anthony Cossey)



Cameron Wray (3) tries to defend the pass as Jarmaria Anderson (2) attempts to make the catch during drills this past Tuesday. (DT Photo/Anthony Cossey)

College Exposure Tournament



Arkansas Stealth's Kelsey Criswell (Harrisburg) swings at a pitch during tournament action this past Sunday in West Memphis. (DT Photo/Anthony Cossey)



Anna Walker (Harrisburg) of the OC Batbusters-Shankle awaits the throw at third base during her game this past Saturday. (DT Photo/Anthony Cossey)



Arkansas Stealth's Abby Martinez (Lepanto) throws the ball back into the infield after a hit during the game play this past Sunday. (DT Photo/Anthony Cossey)

Crime has no color

Some say black-on-black crime, and some say disadvantaged individuals.



By Sherri Holliman

Whatever it is called, it is for certain a criminal act that must be addressed and most definitely not tolerated no matter what race, gender, or social class that the accused may be arrested for.

It seems that it is easier for a disadvantaged individual to get a deadly weapon than to get a driver's license, voter's registration card, some education, or in some cases complete a sentence than to get a job. Many citizens want to blame the culture, but the culture is not responsible for this violent behavior or crime increase. When it comes to violent crimes, it should be considered a multi problem, a public policy issue, or a dysfunctional labor market matter. Crime is complex because it involves factors beyond law enforcement.

With the increased crime rate growing every day, how can we as the people not question ourselves about the how these people became who they are? Think about how many children grow up being neglected, abused, harassed, raped, and exploited. Not every child has parents, relatives, teachers, neighbors,

minister, or just a person to teach them right from wrong, provide them love and discipline,

show them the moral and material value of hard work and education, and bring them to cherish the self-respect that comes only from respecting the life of others.

How do we deal with the issue of our increasing violent crime?

Anyone that can make a difference should reach out to disadvantaged individuals to offer resolutions with the intent of reducing or eliminating a potential violent act from occurring. The focus needs to be on preventing the conditions that draw people into violent or criminal behavior.

It will take a coordinated effort by educators, churches, elected officials, health professionals, counselors, and local community activists and leaders to stem the violence. They must devise and coordinate short and long-term strategies and programs to provide jobs, training, better education, and boost the self-esteem of at-risk youth. Public officials must provide the political muscle and resources to implement these programs.

Vickers graduates Community Development Institute

Dr. Neal Vickers, director of the Trumann Industrial Development Commission and executive director of the Trumann Chamber of Commerce, was among 39 individuals who were awarded graduation certificates during the 32nd annual Community Development Institute (CDI) at the University of Central Arkansas (UCA) on Aug. 3. Vickers completed all three years of the Institute's program of study.

CDI trains community leaders and economic development professionals on how to strengthen their local economies and build communities. This is achieved by developing the ability of participants to identify community assets, set goals, encourage collaboration and partnerships with stakeholders, and bring communities, organizations and businesses together to re-

spond to a broad range of economic and quality of life issues.

The complete CDI experience is a three-year program, with one week of training per year. Participants move through the program curriculum in cohorts and are exposed to a comprehensive, applied approach to the field of community and economic development.

UCA is the birthplace for the Community Development Institute, which started in 1987 in partnership with Entergy, Southwestern Bell, and ARKLA. Since that time, CDI's have been established in California, Texas, Alabama, Idaho, and Illinois, and a national governing and certification body, the Community Development Council, has been created. More information about CDI can be found as www.uca.edu/cdi.

July Trumann fire report

The Trumann Fire Department answered a total of 49 calls in the month of July. Of those, 24 were medical calls. The rest are as follows:

July 1: lift assist at 1:49 a.m. on Melody Drive; motor vehicle accident at 6:12 p.m. on Poinsett and Main Street.

July 2: motor vehicle accident at 4:16 p.m. on Maple Grove Road.

July 3: lift assist at 2:40 p.m. on Melody Drive.

July 5: set-up landing zone at 1:55 p.m. on Pecan Grove Road; tree stump on fire at 10:39 p.m. on Cross Street.

July 6: car fire at 9:07 a.m. on I-555/Browns Lane overpass.

July 8: electrical short at 1:35 p.m. on Wayne Street.

July 9: rubbish fire at 12:12 p.m. and 5:05 p.m. on Oscar and Dobbins; public assist at 5:38 p.m. on S. Willow Road.

July 10: dumpster fire at 3:52 p.m. on Highway 463.

July 16: lift assist at 1:11 p.m. on S. Ozark.

July 18: structure fire at 10:00 p.m. on Patterson Avenue.

July 19: structure fire at 4:49 a.m. on Patterson Avenue; smell of smoke at 2:47 p.m. on Highway 69 W.

July 25: rubbish fire at 5:10 p.m. on Oscar & Dobbins.

July 26: false alarm at 5:16 p.m. on Sumac.

July 28: motor vehicle accident at 6:41 p.m. on Collins Loop and W. Main Street.

July 29: grass fire at 4:10 p.m. on Industrial Drive.

July 30: gas leak at 5:50 p.m. on Ellis.

July 31: smoke at 6:56 a.m. on Jaden Cove.

School lunch menus

Aug. 13-17 Trumann

Monday-salisbury steak/three-cheese sub, chicken quesadilla (TES), tuna salad, mashed potatoes, baby carrots and fruit.

Tuesday-bbq chicken sandwich/Santa Fe wrap, walking taco (TES), buffalo chicken salad, veggie blend, sliced red pepper and fruit.

Wednesday-orange chicken w/lo mein/ham and cheese sandwich, cheeseburger (TES), turkey salad, tater tots, zucchini slices and fruit.

Thursday-chili mac/thai chicken wrap, chicken melt (TES), ranch chicken salad, campfire beans, celery sticks and fruit.

Friday-Tex Mex popcorn chicken/turkey sandwich, cheese pizza (TES), Baja salad, steamed broccoli, coleslaw and fruit.

Harrisburg

Monday-cheesy pizza, steamed broccoli, carrots, crispy treat, fruit and milk.

Tuesday-tangerine chicken, mashed potatoes, hot roll, peas, fruit and milk.

Wednesday-crispito, carrots, seasoned beans, salsa, fruit and milk.

Thursday-country steak w/gravy, mashed potatoes,

green beans, hot roll, fruit and milk.

Friday-bbq rib sandwich, oven crisp fries, veg. beans, cookie, fruit and milk.

EPC

Choice of entrees, salads and sides

Monday-spaghetti and meatballs w/ Italian bread, spicy chicken sandwich, strawberry chicken salad, cheesy cauliflower popcorn, salad mix and peaches.

Tuesday-smothered burrito, Frito pie, taco salad, cornbread, garden salad, cowboy beans and orange pineapple mix.

Wednesday-chicken patty, spicy chicken patty, roast turkey w/gravy, mandarin orange salad, hot rolls, mashed potatoes w/gravy, corn and pears.

Thursday-bacon cheeseburger, tacos, cobb salad, blueberry muffin, tater tots w/ketchup, fresh garden salad and applesauce.

Friday-Tony's pizza, pb&j sandwich w/yogurt, chicken bacon ranch salad, pineapple muffin, caesar side salad, baby carrots w/ranch and strawberry banana mix.

Marked Tree K-6

Monday-beefy burrito, corn, pinto beans, salsa, applesauce and milk.

Tuesday-mac and cheese,

turnip greens, black-eyed peas, cornbread, raisels and milk.

Wednesday-popcorn chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, mandarin oranges and milk.

Thursday-pizza bagel bites, tossed salad, baby carrots, ranch, mixed fruit and milk.

Friday-cheeseburger, french fries, sandwich salad cup, ketchup/mustard, apple and milk.

Marked Tree 7-12

Monday-taco salad/bacon, cheeseburger, corn, pinto beans, salsa, applesauce/apple and milk.

Tuesday-mac and cheese/cheese pizza, turnip greens, black-eyed peas, cornbread, pear/raisels and milk.

Wednesday-popcorn chicken/rib sandwich, mashed potatoes, green beans, mandarin oranges/orange, roll and milk.

Thursday-pizza bagel bites/beefy burrito, tossed salad, baby carrots, ranch, mixed fruit/banana and milk.

Friday-cheeseburger/ham and cheese sandwich, salad cup, french fries, veggie sticks w/ranch, ketchup/mustard, apple/juice and milk.

Local students receive UofA honors

The University of Arkansas at Little Rock announced its students who have made the Dean's List and Chancellor's List for the spring 2018 semester.

Local UA Little Rock students who made the Dean's List include Taylor Adams of Trumann and Sheri Whitlow of Marked Tree. John Schwarz of Weiner made the Chancellor's List.

To be on the Dean's List, UA Little Rock students must have completed at least nine credit hours and earned at least a 3.5 grade point average. The student must not have any D, F, I, or "No Credit" grades on their semester grade report.

To be named to the UA Little Rock Chancellor's List, a student must have completed at least nine credit hours with a grade of A, B, C or "credit", and maintained at least a 3.9 grade point average. In addition, the student must not have received a grade of D, F, I or "no credit."

Harrisburg food pantry holding bake sale

The Bread of Life Food Pantry will hold its annual bake sale in conjunction with the Poinsett County Rice Luncheon from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16, at the Harrisburg First Baptist Church Glissen Center, 201 W. Jackson Street. Luncheon tickets are \$5 each and may be purchased at the door. Bake sale items are available on a first come, first served basis. All donations are welcomed and appreciated.

The Bread of Life Food Pantry is a ministry of the Harrisburg First United Meth-

odist Church and is financially supported through donations of the Harrisburg Ministerial Alliance, local churches, and private citizens. The Bread of Life Food Pantry is staffed and operated by a dedicated group of volunteers who give over 2,000 hours of their time annually to serve fellow citizens in need.

Monthly, the Bread of Life Food Pantry serves approximately 554 Poinsett County residents with an average of 7,750 pounds of food at a cost

of \$1054. The annual Poinsett County Rice Luncheon Bake Sale is the Bread of Life Food Pantry's largest monetary fundraising event each year. All proceeds raised from this event go directly to the purchase of perishable and non-perishable food items.

For 25 years, the Poinsett County Extension Homemakers Club have hosted the Rice Luncheon during the Poinsett County Fair week. Proceeds from the luncheon fund the service club activities throughout the year, such as

providing handmade pillows for the use of home health patients, handmade hair turbans for cancer patients, and wheelchair bags for local nursing home residents.

Anyone who knows of someone in need of food or wanting more information should contact the Bread of Life Food Pantry at 870-578-5407. For information on the Rice Luncheon or the Poinsett County Extension Homemakers Club contact the Poinsett County Extension Office at 870-578-4490.

Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR POINSETT COUNTY, ARKANSAS DOMESTIC RELATIONS

APRIL RICHMOND VS. 56-DR-18-166
EDGAR EZEQUIEL LEAL SALAS

PLAINTIFF

DEFENDANT

WARNING ORDER

TO: EDGAR EZEQUIEL LEAL SALAS

You are hereby notified that April Richmond, Plaintiff, whose attorney is Richard Rhodes, and whose attorney's address is P.O. Box 971, Osceola, AR 72370, has filed a complaint herein against you, a copy of which complaint and summons shall be delivered to you or to your attorney upon request. You are also notified that you must appear and defend by filing your answer or other responsive pleading within thirty (30) days of the date of the first publication of this Warning Order; and in the event of your failure to do so, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint as circumscribed by the laws of this State.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my had and seal as Clerk of the Court on this 23rd day of July, 2018.

Misty R. Russell Clerk /s/ by Tomasina Rosa, D.C.
richmondawarnord

Published 8-2,9 2018

Notice

ELECTION PROCLAMATION ELECTION COMMISSION NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION City of Harrisburg August 14, 2018

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that by the authority vested in us, the Poinsett County Election Commission does hereby proclaim, publish and make known to all legal voters in Poinsett County that a SPECIAL ELECTION will be held in the City of Harrisburg, Arkansas (the "City") on Tuesday, August 14, 2018, at which there will be submitted to the electors the question of:

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-007

An ordinance providing for the levy of a one percent (1%) sales and use tax within the City of Harrisburg, Arkansas, with three-fourths (3/4) of the revenue generated thereby dedicated to general operations of the police department and with one-fourth (1/4) of the revenue generated thereby to be used for the general operations of the fire department; and prescribing other matters pertaining thereto; and declaring an emergency.

Only qualified electors of the City will have the right to vote, and the electors may vote either for or against the measure described above.

Early voting will begin on Tuesday, August 7, 2018 and continue through Monday, August 13, 2018; Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Poinsett County Annex Building located at 110 N. East Street, Harrisburg. 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 County Clerk's office located in the Poinsett County Courthouse, 401 Market Street, Harrisburg. 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 August 7th at 4:30 p.m. Absentee ballots will be opened and processed beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Election Day and counted as soon as practicable following the closing of the polls at 7:30 p.m. in the Poinsett County Annex Building. 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 on July 20th and the list of election officials working and Election Day and absentees was posted July 25, 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.

PRECINCT POLLING PLACE CALVARY BAPTIST LIFE CENTER (503 S. Illinois Ave, Harrisburg, Arkansas) POLLS OPEN AT 7:30 A.M. UNTIL 7:30 P.M.

Given under our hand this 27th day of July, 2018.

POINSETT COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
RUTH ORR, CHAIRPERSON 870-219-4523
WILLIAM "SHORTY" JONES 870-408-0521
SANDY TEAGUE 870-919-2780

Published 8-2,9 2018

PROVISION 2 NON BASE YEAR PUBLIC RELEASE

SCHOOL YEAR 2018 - 2019

The Harrisburg School District is pleased to announce the district's policy for providing **meals at NO CHARGE for all students** participating in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program, regardless of eligibility category, during the 2018 - 2019 school term unless otherwise notified. This is made possible through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Special Assistance Certification and Reimbursement Provision 2 Alternative. Federal reimbursement for meals is based on applications on file for the 2013 - 2014 Base Year for the district. These applications are filed and maintained at the Administration Building to ensure the strict confidentiality of each document and must remain safely filed for the entirety of the school district's Provision 2 status. The information on the applications will be made available only to State and Federal officials for review. All adults, e.g., visitors, teachers, support staff members, and administrators of the district must assume the full cost of the meal which is \$2.00 for Breakfast and \$3.00 for Lunch.

Nondiscrimination Statement:

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: 202-690-7442; or

(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov

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State Rep. Johnny Rye

Out of every 100,000 Arkansans, 14 will die from a drug overdose. If this trend continues, the drug overdose death rate may surpass the motor vehicle death rate, which was 20 per 100,000 in 2016.

In short, drug overdoses are killing us. Nearly 116 Americans die each day from an overdose of a legal opioid prescription pain killer or a lethal dose of illegal heroin.

The young age at which many drug overdoses occur increases the burden these deaths place on our communities. Between 2014 and 2016, the average age of a drug overdose decedent was 43 years. During the same time period, the average age at death from all causes was 71, which means that overdoses shortened many people's lives by close to three decades. The issue is complex, baffling, and heart-breaking.

In the 2019 Drug Threat Assessment Report from the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), methamphetamine is cited as our state's most significant drug threat. The use of pharmaceutical drugs like Oxycontin and Hydrocodone continues to increase posing another significant threat. And now heroin use is slowly but inexorably increasing.

According to the report, the continued growth of heroin appears to be a direct result of the abuse of pharmaceutical drugs, whose abusers transition to the drug due to

the price and availability. Adding to the already increasing concerns of the drugs dangers, law enforcement is finding that half of all heroin confiscated in the state is laced with fentanyl.

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid. It is 30-50 times more potent than heroin and 50-100 times more potent than morphine.

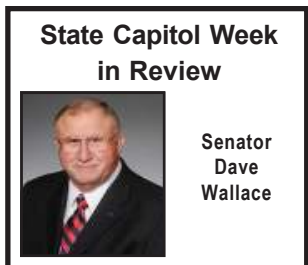
Arkansas is certainly not alone in this struggle. In fact, just this week at the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), legislators from around the country shared what their government is doing to combat this growing epidemic. We will continue to study effective policies in other states to determine what legislation may be needed in 2019.

In the last session, we passed Act 284. This allows pharmacists in Arkansas to order, dispense and/or administer naloxone without a prescription. It provides greater access to more Arkansans and first responders in the event of a drug overdose.

In 2018 alone, law enforcement agencies have administered naloxone 68 times to overdose patients.

There are positive developments when it comes to our state's battle with drug use. In the last five years, drug abuse rates among our youth has declined every year. We look forward to seeing this rate decline.

If you or a family member is struggling with addiction, we encourage you to visit www.artakeback.org. This site has valuable information on opioid addiction and links to treatment centers across the state.



Educators and traffic safety officials have expanded their annual campaign to alert motorists that students are returning to school, so everyone should be more careful driving because children are again getting on and off school buses every day.

This is the sixth year of the campaign, called "Flashing Red. Kids Ahead." In the past it has lasted three weeks, and this year school officials, police departments and civic leaders will promote school bus safety for the entire month of August.

It's little wonder that commuters notice the absence of students in summer and their reappearance in August. In Arkansas 350,000 students

ride 7,000 buses every school day.

Transportation officials at the state Education Department promote school bus safety all through the year.

As part of their continuing efforts to enhance school bus safety, they conducted a survey of 3,200 bus drivers in April. On a single day, they reported 850 instances of a motor vehicle illegally passing a bus that was stopped to pick up or drop off children.

In 2005 the legislature strengthened the penalties for passing a stopped school bus that has its red lights flashing to indicate children are getting on or off. The enhanced penalties are in Act 2128 of 2005, which is titled Isaac's Law in memory of a nine-year-old from Benton who was killed by a passing motorist after he had got off a school bus.

Since 2011, after the legislature approved Act 37, it has been illegal to use a cell phone while driving through a

school zone. Act 37 also prohibits the use of a cell phone while driving through a construction zone while workers are present.

In 2009 Arkansas joined a long list of states that prohibit text messaging while behind the wheel of a motor vehicle. Previous laws had prohibited teenaged drivers from texting, but Act 181 of 2009 prohibits all drivers from texting.

That year the State Police worked 787 traffic accidents in which drivers were distracted by cell phones. Federal transportation officials say driver distraction is a factor in 16 percent of fatal crashes.

The State Police joined a nationwide safety campaign in April meant to prevent driving while distracted. It was called "U Drive - U Text - U Pay."

In 2016, distracted drivers caused traffic accidents that killed 3,450 people in the United States.

Reading and sending text

messages are not the only distractions that endanger motorists. Talking on a phone or using it to search the Internet is a distraction. So is eating, drinking or smoking. Talking to other people in your vehicle can create distractions. Adjusting the navigation system, turning on music or changing radio stations are also common distractions.

In September, police and traffic safety officials will conduct a child safety campaign, aimed at teaching adults to make sure that children in the car are always properly buckled up in an appropriate booster seat. That will be followed by Teen Driver Safety Week in October.

Car crashes are the leading cause of death for American teens aged 15 to 18. The discouraging news is that in 2016, when the most recent statistics were compiled, the number of teen deaths from car crashes went up by six percent over 2015.

More candidates file

Municipal candidates are continuing to file to run in the general election. As of Tuesday, the following candidates have filed.

In Trumann, incumbent Barbara Lewallen, Sheila Walters, and Gary Hill have filed to run for Mayor. Carol Waleszonias has filed for City Clerk. For City Council, Hazel Riley has filed for Alderman

Ward 3 Position 2, and incumbent James Baker has filed for Alderman Ward 5 Position 1.

In Harrisburg, incumbent Randy Mills, Wayne King and Justin Kimble have filed for Mayor. For City Council, incumbent Bobby Austin has filed for Alderman Ward 1 Position 1, Bernard Blancato has filed for Alderman Ward

2 Position 1, and incumbent Jeff Spiegel has filed for Alderman Ward 3 Position 1.

In Tyronza, incumbent Charles Glover has filed for Mayor. For City Council, incumbent Mike Hood has filed for Alderman Ward 1 Position 1, and incumbent Barbara Ross has filed for Alderman Ward 2 Position 2.

In Waldenburg, incumbent William Wood has filed for Mayor, and incumbent Lottie Hall has filed for Alderman Position 1.

Four have filed for Mayor of Weiner: Tyler Sitzler, Michael Frasier, Joe Trotter and Franklin Kimble.

The filing period ends Friday, Aug. 17.

"Flashing Red. Kids Ahead." campaign promotes school bus safety

With school starting in a few short weeks, school bus safety once again becomes a priority for students, teachers and motorists. To help build awareness, the Arkansas Department of Education, Arkansas Association of Pupil Transportation and Arkansas School Bus Mechanics Association are teaming up to launch the sixth annual Flashing Red. Kids Ahead. school bus safety campaign.

What has been a three-week campaign in the past has been expanded this year to the entire month of August. "As the 2018-2019 school year begins, about 350,000 youngsters around Arkansas will be boarding one of about 7,000 school buses every day," Governor Asa Hutchinson said. "Once again, the Department of Education is rolling out its bus-safety campaign. Flashing Red. Kids Ahead. rolls easily off the tongue and is an easy-to-remember slogan. When you see the flashing red lights on a stopped school bus, that means children are crossing the street, and state law requires drivers to stop. We owe our children a future, and one of the most basic contributions to their future is to ensure that they get to school and back home safely. Flashing Red. Kids Ahead. Easy to say. Vital to remember."

"School bus safety is important throughout the entire year," said Jerry Owens, senior transportation manager at the Arkansas Division of

Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation. "It is important for all motorists to know that it is illegal to pass a stopped school bus when its red lights are flashing. Remember: Flashing Red. Kids Ahead."

In April, more than 3,200 Arkansas school bus drivers reported more than 850 instances of motorists illegally passing a stopped school bus in one day.

Everyone is encouraged to be a part of the 2018 campaign

by posting videos and pictures that promote school bus safety on social media using #2018FlashingRed. To learn more about the campaign, visit <http://bit.ly/FlashingRedKidsAhead>.

Wet Ink

By DR. KEN WORTHINGTON

We are finishing verse 7 of the second chapter of the Revelation today.

We are looking at the last phrase of verse 7, "To him that overcometh (conquers) I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God." The overcoming the Apostle is talking about is the overcoming of dullness of hearing, in other words, hearing clearly what the Spirit is saying to the Churches. Hearing should be "standard operating procedure" for the Christian. God is speaking and desires that we hear.

The figurative symbol "tree of life" relates to nourishment, sustenance, literally receiving what God has and is providing. How does one hear? By listening to the messengers of the church. The Epistle of the Romans declares in 10:17, "faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God." 10:14 asks the question, "how shall they hear without a preacher?" And the Epistle to the Hebrews teaches in 11:6, "without faith it is impossible to please Him." So we understand if we are not hearing from God we are not in fellowship with Him.

Now verse 8 takes us to the Church in Smyrna. Smyrna is modern day Izmir and was the probable birthplace of Homer and possibly the most beautiful city in Asia. The famous golden street which began at the seaside ran upward, culminating on Mount Pagos. Along the way, one passed an imposing array of pagan temples to Cybele, Apollo, Aesculapius, Aphrodite, and Zeus. Smyrna was the center of Caesar worship in Asia. In the first century, it was not unusual to deity kings and tyrants. Notice how in verse 8 the Lord Jesus identifies Himself, "I am the first and the last." This is a very audacious statement made in the

heart of Caesar worship. But then the Lord has never hidden His identity from us. Just think of the statements He has declared, "destroy this temple and I will raise it up in three days," he said. "I am the bread of life," "I am the way, the truth and the life," "I am the good shepherd"...etc. There are over 100 designated descriptions of Him in the Bible.

Jesus is declaring here at Smyrna that He is the beginning and the end of it all. He also declared, "He was dead and is alive." All great leaders of nations have died, except the Head of the Churches. He was dead but is alive! When death cannot stop you, you cannot be stopped.

Our hope in this age in which we live is in Jesus. Our Lord is enthroned in heaven at the right hand of The Father. Being at the right hand of the Father, He is conducting God's business in the world. He has watchcare over His people in the churches. This whole Book of Revelation is about the Lord conducting business through His people in all the ages of mankind. In the future lessons, we will watch it unfold. What glories we will behold.

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