

DR. JERRE

JERAMY RICHEY
CULTIVATING HOPE FOR OTHERS
FEEDING THE HUNGRY
HOWL FOR HUMANITY
NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH
NEA SENIORS

A PUBLICATION OF MOR MEDIA, INCORPORATED

September
2016



JOHN DEERE



Legacy

EQUIPMENT

Get all you need in a complete package:
3032E, D160 Loader, 60" box blade , 60" Rotary Cutter and 18' Trailer
0% financing for 60 months

plus

\$1,500 Implement Bonus



Arkansas

Paragould (870)236-5475, Corning (870)857-6682,
Piggott (870)598-2221

Missouri

Kennett (573)888-5857, Hayti (573)359-0141,
Portageville (573)379-5426, New Madrid (573)748-2571



Financing through John Deere Financial subject to credit approval. Implement bonus subject to purchase of 2 or more John Deere or Frontier implements. Other offers and restrictions may apply, see dealer for details. Offer ends October 28th, 2016

legacyequipment.com

Another reason to choose AMMC



AMMC

Orthopaedic Associates

LLOYDINE JACOBS, MD

Arkansas Methodist Medical Center is proud to welcome Lloydine Jacobs, M.D. Orthopaedic Surgery to our staff. Dr. Jacobs comes to AMMC from The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia where she was Clinical Fellow with the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. Her vast orthopaedic surgery experience and strong research background are valuable assets to the AMMC team. Dr. Jacobs is just one more example of how we're making healthcare all about you.

Now scheduling appointments! Call 870-239-8570

1000 W. Kingshighway, Suite 5 • myammc.org 

FREEMAN

Body, Glass, Rental, Towing, & Sales, Inc.

Free Estimates
Rental Cars
Loaner Cars

We also work on Big Rigs



Thanks for voting us
your Favorite Auto Body Shop!

Auto Collision Repair Since 1978



**HOME OF THE
WRITTEN LIFETIME WARRANTY!**

Locally Owned & Operated • Next to Labor Park since 1988

700 East Garland • Paragould • (870) 236-1515 • www.freemanautobody.com



Linwood Animal Hospital...

*Devoting ourselves
to the care
of our patients and
their families!*



Dr. Chelsea Dowler, DVM

Dr. Brent Reddick, DVM



www.linwoodanimalhospital.com
Submit your questions by going to our
website's VetNotes page, FaceBook, or email
us at staff@linwoodanimalhospital.com

504 Linwood Drive
(Next to Walgreens)
Monday - Friday 7:30am-5pm
Drop-off service available.

870.236.7778

Call for an Appointment.

CONTENTS

9 NEA Duck Classic

Chase Sain Pitches In

17 Howl for Humanity

ASU, Families, Inc. Team Up

19 Days on the Water

Chuck Long

23 Tuning Up with the Oldies

Rehearsal Night With The Group

24 Farming Out a Story

Jeremy Richey Helps The Cause

25 Food Bank

Of NEA Feeds The Hungry

29 NEA Seniors

June Bridger Is The Dog Lady

40 Chateau on the Ridge

Garden Plots A Plus

44 Grace Mission Rehab

Help For Those Who Struggle

46 John 3:16 Ministries

Greene County House Underway

Fergus

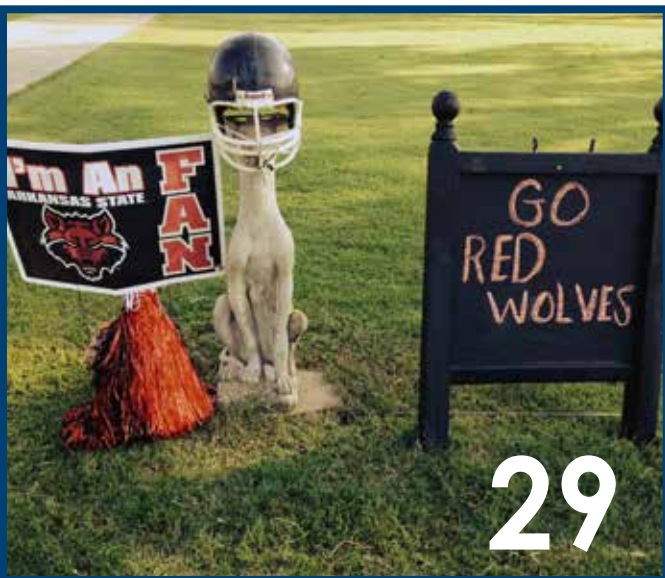
ORTHODONTICS

PERSONALIZED CARE. EXCEPTIONAL SMILES

KELLY-GWYNNE FERGUS, DDS, MDS



2812 Harrisburg Road
Jonesboro 870.336.3366
www.FergusOrtho.com



From The Managing Editor ...



There is often a misconception regarding individuals and families who need help each month finding enough healthy food items to fill out the menu.

Many people are of the opinion that the only ones seeking help with putting food on the table are those who just won't work and are looking for a free handout, or those who by poor life choices have found themselves down and out.

While that is certainly true in some cases, there are many more that disprove those theories but still are in need of assistance. Sometimes the head of the household finds himself laid off temporarily or, even worse, permanently let go from his job without warning and suddenly the responsibility of feeding a family of four becomes more difficult.

Sometimes it is a young mother who finds herself raising her children without the help of a father or husband and high-paying jobs are hard to come by; often it is the elderly who see themselves living out their final years on a small monthly income and things like rent, medication and other life necessities put a pinch on the grocery shopping allotment.

For the people who wind up in such a bind, facilities like the Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas are lifesavers. On the inside pages this month we examine some of the good works and projects facilitated by the group and others like it.

It may astound some readers to learn that in 2014 only Mississippi exhibited a higher household food insecurity rate than Arkansas when compared to the national average of 14.3 percent. Mississippi's sat at 22 percent, Arkansas' at 19.9

During that same time frame, 48.1 million Americans lived in "food insecure" households, 15.3 million of that total being children. Households that had higher rates of food insecurity than the national average included those with children (19%), especially households with children headed by single women (35%) or single men (22%), Black non-Hispanic households (26%) and Hispanic households (22%).

When you read the number of people serviced by the Food Bank, chances are you will be astonished. That feature begins on page 24.

Also, since September is National Recovery Month, we bring you stories from a couple of different directions. Grace Mission Bible Training Center near Paragould houses in the area of 50 people



Due to technical difficulties the caption "It's almost time for kids to head back to the classroom and Madden Russom looks right at home behind the desk as the first day of school nears. Madden, 10, is the daughter of Kevin and Brandi Newsom, and Brandon and Heather Russom of Paragould" did not print on page 23 of our August edition. We are sorry for the inconvenience.

determined to overcome addictions or mental health issues. At the same time, a local woman has spearheaded the drive to build a Greene County House at the John 3:16 Ministries home base in order to better serve locals who have found themselves in need of rehabilitation services.

See those stories and more inside this month's Premiere.

PREMIERE

publisher/advertising sales

Dina Mason •
dina@mormediainc.com

managing editor

Richard Brummett •
editor@premiere-magazine.com

contributing writers

Caitlin LaFayette •
caitlin_lafayette@hotmail.com
Anthony Childress •
tribalredwolf@hotmail.com

graphic designers — advertising

Jordan Lewis •
graphics@mormediainc.com
Leisa Rae •
leisa@mormediainc.com

advertising sales team

Dina Mason • dina@mormediainc.com
Perry Mason • perry@mormediainc.com
Ashley Mason • ashley@mormediainc.com
Brian Osborn • brian@mormediainc.com
Sarah Dawson • sarah@mormediainc.com

contributing photographers

Tim Rand Photography



PREMIERE is a publication of MOR Media, Incorporated. Editorial, advertising and general business information can be obtained by calling (870) 236-7627, faxing to (870) 239-4583 or e-mailing to dina@kdrs.com. Mailing address: 400 Tower Drive, Paragould, AR 72450.

Opinions expressed in articles or advertisements, unless otherwise noted, do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Publisher, or the staff. Every effort has been made to ensure that all information presented in this issue is accurate and neither MOR Media, Incorporated, or any of its staff, is responsible for omissions or information that has been misrepresented to the magazine. Copyright © 2016 MOR Media, Incorporated. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording or any information storage and retrieval system, without the permission in writing from the Publisher.

All pictorial material reproduced in this book has been accepted on the condition that it is reproduced with the knowledge and prior consent of the photographer concerned. As such, MOR Media, Incorporated, is not responsible for any infringement of copyright or otherwise arising out of publication thereof.

For advertising, distribution or editorial contribution, contact Dina Mason at 870-236-7627 or email to dina@mormediainc.com.



DEDICATED
to your health.

CR DOC

Roger Cagle, M.D.
Lucas Hoggard, A.P.N.

We care about you.

Our walk-in clinic is designed to offer more patients a convenient healthcare experience. We offer flu shots.

Feel secure with our personalized care.

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 8am-7pm
Weds: 8am-5pm, Sat: 8am-2pm

2700 W. Kingshighway
870.239.3600



FLOORS
that stand up to all of life's messes.

Warehouse Flooring

"Where the Prices Won't Floor You, but the Selection Will"

1709 N. Campground Road, Paragould, AR (870) 236-1754

GCCF Luncheon

As it does each year, the Greene County Community Fund officially began its fundraising season with a Kickoff Luncheon at the Paragould Community Center.

Community Fund members manned a number of roles ranging from servers to ticket-takers to cashier, since the meals could be eaten at the center, picked up for carryout or delivered. Ironhorse Barbecue & Catering provided the meals.

Numerous agencies in the Paragould area benefit from the money raised for Community Fund projects. Anyone wishing to contribute – or to gain more knowledge about the work of the GCCF – may contact Executive Director Kera Crafton at 870-239-8435 or at gccf@grnco.net.

The Community Fund office is located at 120 North 2nd Street in the Rhine Building.

GCCF members and volunteers made sure guests were fed at the annual Kickoff Luncheon.



FAIR WARNING!
DROP BY OUR BOOTH
REGISTER TO WIN FREE TICKETS!

KoЯn breaking benjamin

Heart's

RED WOLVES ARKANSAS STATE

Arkansas Pro Rodeo

107.1 JACK fm playing what we want

Jill @99.3

ROCK 103.7





Chase Sain is an active supporter of the NEA Duck Classic.

NEA DUCK CLASSIC

By Caitlin LaFarlette

For six years, Rector native Chase Sain has offered up acres of land for the Duck Classic in order to help raise funds for the NEA Baptist Charitable Foundation. This December Sain joins the ranks again to bring hunters from all over the nation together.

Sain first joined the Duck Classic group of hosts when the foundation began looking for landowners in 2010. He exchanged numbers with committee member Clint Parton and began his journey as a Duck Classic host.

"He graciously said he'd be in it," Parton said.

It was the beginning of a yearly tradition that Sain continued to revisit.

"I've always enjoyed it," he said, adding the event is a great way to meet others.

The Duck Classic begins with a banquet, held this year on Dec. 8 at the Convocation Center, where names of hunters are drawn to be put with hosts of land.

"My responsibility is to take those four people duck hunting," Sain said.

Sain's land is in Boydsville and he hunts off three different fields. Wherever he thinks he and his hunters will have the best luck is the plot he selects. Sain and the hunters head out before daylight to try their luck before checking back in by noon.

One of the most memorable years of the Duck Classic for Sain was in 2013 when three inches of sleet rained down on the participants. Sain said many teams killed no more than five ducks that year. However, it isn't about the number of fowl brought back at the end of the day. Sain said he has always had great groups paying for the charity, and the hunt is just an added bonus.

New friendships are also formed during the Duck Classic, and Sain has kept in touch with some of his past groups. For him, duck hunting is a social gathering.

"These guys are making memories," Chase said of the hunters. "It's nice to be a part of that."

NEA BAPTIST 

DUCK CLASSIC
December 8 & 9 ASU Convocation Center

AMMC Men's Health Fair

Arkansas Methodist Medical Center in Paragould will host its annual Men's Health Fair, Round-Up for Health, on Thursday, September 1.

The event will run from 6:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Professional Office Building, located on the AMMC campus at 1000 West Kingshighway in Paragould.

Glucose, cholesterol and PSA blood tests will be offered to all men who take part in the health fair, and additional screenings from a number of different vendors will also be available.

For more information on how to participate, call the AMMC Education Department at 870-239-7016.

Numerous vendors, like those pictured at right, set up shop at last year's Arkansas Methodist Medical Center's Men's Health Fair. Free screenings of various types are offered along with valuable information and free sample items at the annual event.





Delivering experience, service and technology since 1931.

Call **870-586-7433** or email JRollings@FocusBank.com



Score big with the Focus Bank Mortgage Team!

No matter what kind of mortgage loan you need, we're here to help. We offer Fixed and Adjustable rate loans, FHA, Conventional and Rural loans, and VA loans. All with rapid loan approvals and closings!

Call us at **870-586-7433** and we'll help put you, in the home of your dreams!



© 2016 Focus Bank. Terms and Conditions apply. See website for details. *Subject to credit approval. Jennifer Rollings NMLS 728656. Focus Bank NMLS 403606.



PLAY, PARTIES, AND A LOT OF FUN.

**COME PRETEND
WITH US!**

PARTIES • SPECIAL EVENTS • DROP OFF EVENTS

BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Closed

Tuesday - Saturday 9 am to 5 pm

Sunday 12 pm to 5 pm
(after hours reservations available)

870.240.0211 | www.justpretend.com | 206 S. Pruet St. | Paragould, AR



PRIVATE CLASSES

YOGA

BALANCE BARRE

SEE OUR CLASS TIMES ON FACEBOOK



ASK US ABOUT BABYSITTING!

870.476.1776 | 206 S. Pruet St. | Paragould, AR | Rear, Upstairs Entrance





Meet Candace Berry, Stylist at Rouge.

Candace graduated from Blackwood Beauty School 2002. She continued her education with Redken, keratin complex and hotheads hair extensions. Candace has taken several haircutting classes by matrix and Paul Mitchell. She owned a salon for 7 years in Oklahoma. Her husband is retired Air Force veteran and they have a wonderful little girl!

Jane Iredale Fashion Forward Collection

This Fall be beautifully bold! The Fashion Forward Collection puts the look together for you with defined brows, captivating cream to powder color for the eyes, and our new Cindy PureMoist Lipstick, a classic red!



Young Again by Kevin Murphy

A restorative shampoo and conditioner containing a complex of 20 Amino Acids. Anti-ageing extracts from Lotus flower and Orchid help to renew youthful lustre and shine to dry brittle hair.



870.215.0663
 3501 Stonegate Drive
 Paragould, AR 72450
 rougespaandsalon.com



19th ANNUAL MEN'S HEALTH FAIR

Round-Up for Health
 September 1
 6:00 AM-2:00 PM
 Arkansas Methodist Medical Center Professional Office Building Auditorium, 1000 West Kingshighway, Paragould
 AMMC is sponsoring its 19th Annual Men's Health Fair. This year's health fair will include blood glucose and cholesterol screenings, blood pressure checks, weight and nutrition information and screenings and PSA testing (blood screening for prostate cancer). All services are free to the public.

AMMC FOUNDATION 22nd ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Thursday, September 8, 2016
 Shotgun start at 8:00 AM, Paragould Country Club
 The annual four-person scramble is made possible by event sponsor Kindred Hospital Rehabilitation Services and is just one of several fundraising events held throughout the year to help support The Foundation's mission. For more information about The Foundation or the golf tournament, call 870-239-7077.

BREASTFEEDING CLASS

Monday, September 12
 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM
 Professional Office Building
 AMMC sponsors a breastfeeding class that discusses the importance of breastfeeding, breast preparation, feeding techniques and positioning options for mother and baby. If delivering at AMMC, the classes are free of charge. Otherwise, there is a small fee. There is a \$10 materials fee. Call the AMMC Education Department at 870-239-7016 or e-mail baby@arkansasmethodist.org for classroom location, pricing and to register. Registration is required for all classes.

MOMMY AND ME BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

Monday, September 12
 1:00-2:00 PM
 Second floor conference room in the Professional Office Building
 The Greene County Health Unit

sponsors a monthly support group meeting for new and expectant mothers. Greene County Health Unit's Leisa Kennedy, Breastfeeding Peer Counselor, is available to teach and assist. For more information, call the Greene County Health Unit at 236-7782.

INFANT SAFETY CLASS

Monday, September 19
 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
 Professional Office Building
 AMMC sponsors an infant safety class that focuses on topics including car seat safety, childproofing your home and crib safely, as well as infant CPR. If delivering at AMMC, the classes are free of charge. Otherwise, there is a small fee. There is a \$10 materials fee. Call the AMMC Education Department at 870-239-7016 or e-mail baby@arkansasmethodist.org for classroom location, pricing and to register.

CHILDBIRTH PREPARATION CLASS

Monday, September 26
 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
 Professional Office Building
 AMMC sponsors a childbirth preparation class series that provides detailed information about late pregnancy, preparing for labor and birth and much more. This four-week class is offered to anyone who is expecting. It is recommended to take the class when you are 5-8 weeks from your due date. Register early to ensure availability. Call the AMMC Education Department at 870-239-7016 or e-mail baby@arkansasmethodist.org.

HEALTHY PREGNANCY CLASS

Tuesday, September 27
 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
 Professional Office Building
 AMMC sponsors a healthy pregnancy class that can help ease the transition to parenthood. Call the AMMC Education Department at 870-239-7016 or e-mail baby@arkansasmethodist.org for classroom location, pricing and to register.

Save the Date for the Annual Women's Health Fair on October 6 from 6:00 AM-2:00 PM

Autism Resource Conference Jonesboro Hosts First-Ever Event

More than 200 participants packed the 2016 Autism Resource Conference in Jonesboro, sponsored by Ag for Autism in August.

The day-long conference was provided free of charge to parents, educators and therapists working with children on the autism spectrum. This year's topic was Pivotal Response Treatment (PRT) Level 1 Training led by Megan Mann, M.Ed., BCBA, a Clinical Consultant and a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) at the Southwest Autism Research and Resource Center (SARRC) in Phoenix, Arizona.

The knowledge-based training discussed the history of PRT highlighting the motivational procedures that increase communication while decreasing challenging behaviors, and stressed the importance of data collection to monitor progress. The presentation included video examples and interactive activities. The intention was to offer participants the tools to identify the motivational procedures of PRT, describe how improvement in communication can lead to a reduction in problem behavior, and understand the importance of data collection to monitor student progress.

The free event was held at The Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas. Participants were asked to register on the Ag for Autism website when the conference date was announced last spring and maximum capacity was reached within days. Organizers are hopeful the event will become an annual resource for parents, teachers, therapists and caregivers. Ag for Autism was born after a number of agriculture-related



Megan Mann was a featured presenter at the Autism Resource Conference.

organizations — Armor Seed, Cache River Valley Seed and Farm Credit Midsouth — were compelled to band together with the support of other area agriculture companies and organizations to back a very worthy cause. They are joined by a long and growing list of sponsors, a complete list of which may be found at www.AgforAutism.org.

In many cases, autism therapies are not covered by insurance and Medicaid, but are critical to help a child function at his or her highest ability. Research shows many families, especially those in more rural areas, struggle to find and afford the important therapies that can be life changing. It is the organization's goal to ease this financial burden and help these families access the services they need.

LIVE @ THE CONVO

NE Ark Pro Rodeo	Sept 16 & 17	
Rascal Flatts	Sept 22	
Night w Phil Robertson	Oct 14	
Heart	Oct 18	
Dierks Bentley	Oct 20	
Jamey Johnson & Marty Stuart	Nov 17	
Newsboys	Dec 1	
Harlem Globetrotters	Jan 6	

TICKETS: 870-972-2781
Ticketmaster.com
AStateConvo.com

HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS



THE CONVO



To learn about shows as soon as they are announced, sign up for the newsletter at AStateConvo.com

RUSTY McMILLON

★ for COUNTY JUDGE ★

Committed to the
community.
Dedicated to
progress.



Paid for by RUSTY FOR JUDGE



Hispanic Community Services Inc. Breaks Ground for New Facility

Jonesboro Hispanic Community Services Inc. took the first stages toward erecting a new building, holding an official ground breaking ceremony in August.

Located at the intersection of Cate and Vandyne streets, the proposed facility will double the size of the current structure and enable the staff members to better accommodate the rapidly increasing Hispanic population in Jonesboro.

According to information provided by HCSI, more than 10,000 Hispanics currently reside in Northeast Arkansas. Since its inception in 1997, HCSI has provided more than 60,000 services to the NEA community, reaching more than 22,000 individuals in 2015 alone. It provides translations and interpretations to improve legal situations and quality of life.

In addition to the new Jonesboro building, HCSI lists among its 2016 projects:

- Satellite office in Pocahontas
- Partnership with the city of Blytheville
- Partnership with the city of Pocahontas
- Partnership with Jonesboro PD
- Partnership with Pocahontas PD
- NEW Program: "Mi amigo el Policia"
- NEW Program: Attorney on site
-

For more information on the HCSI organization, stop by the current offices at 311 West Huntington Avenue in Jonesboro; call 870-926-1118 or 870-931-1884; email ginag@jhcsi.org; or visit the Facebook page at Centro Hispano en Jonesboro.



Pack Pride Weekends

For the third year in a row, A-State Red Wolf students, alumni, and fans will be able to enjoy one of Downtown Jonesboro's most popular events, Pack Pride Weekends.

Set to kick off on September 2nd against the Toledo Rockets, Pack Pride Weekends will feature five home game events this season. The award winning event will feature Friday night activities on Main Street, such as the A-State Homecoming classic, "Downtown by the Decades," "Stay Alive After Five," and "Downtown Gives Back." Fans and their families can enjoy game day transportation for a minimal fee from the free parking lot downtown at East Street and Burke Avenue, to Centennial Bank Stadium on Saturdays. Routes will begin running from the parking lot approximately four hours prior to kick-off. To cap off the weekend festivities, Sunday's in Downtown Jonesboro will play host to "Brunch & Browse" from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

The first Pack Pride Weekends event will kick off on Friday, September 2nd, with the Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce's Big Great A-State leading the Friday night festivities at Tailgate City. The game day wear for the Red Wolf - Toledo Rockets face off will be red.

Pack Pride Weekends was established in the fall of 2014 by the Downtown Jonesboro Association, a local Main Street Arkansas® program. The regionally and nationally recognized event is the result of a partnership between Downtown Jonesboro and Arkansas State University to help create the ultimate game day experience for students, fans, alumni, and the community. Pack Pride Weekends 2016 is brought to you by these presenting sponsors: MOR Media, KAIT8, and Art Advertising.

Downtown Jonesboro Association

Established in 2010, the Downtown Jonesboro Association is a non-profit organization that seeks to provide community outreach and to promote Downtown Jonesboro as the place to eat, shop and live. An official Main Street Arkansas program, the organization is made up of a board of directors, four committees, staff personnel and many local volunteers. For more information, visit www.downtownjonesboro.com or call the office at (870) 919-6176.



Get all the discounts you deserve.

Virginia Walls Ins Agcy Inc
Virginia Walls, Agent
2305 Linwood Drive
Paragould, AR 72450
Bus: 870-236-9544
www.virginiawalls.com



FREE Discount Double Check®

It's a quick and easy way to make sure you're saving all you can.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®

CALL ME TODAY.

Welcome Kelly!

Centennial Bank welcomes Kelly Roswell to our Paragould lending team. Contact Kelly for competitive rates and fantastic customer service on your next commercial loan.



Kelly Roswell • 870-215-4862

NMLS ID# 1162196

kroswell@my100bank.com

300 W. Emerson St, Paragould, AR 72450

MY100BANK.COM | A Home BancShares Company (Nasdaq: HOMB)



Member
FDIC

TIME TO HOWL!

By Anthony Childress

Fall means football. Arkansas State Red Wolves football. It's time to get decked out in the old red and black and head to Centennial Bank Stadium.

With six home games on tap this year, fans will have ample opportunity to catch Head Coach Blake Anderson's third squad. It promises to be another exciting season for the defending Sun Belt Conference champions, as the team aims for a second straight undefeated league record and fifth title in the past six years, not to mention a sixth consecutive bowl appearance (a program record).

A total of 15 starters return, including six on offense and eight on defense, and the team's kicker. They hope to build off last year's 9-4 overall record, which included a tough 47-28 loss to Louisiana Tech in the New Orleans Bowl.

ASU has been picked to finish anywhere from first to third by various pre-season publications. The Red Wolves are used to being underestimated, so it's a sure bet the coaches and players have used such predictions for locker room fodder heading into the 2016 season.

To be sure, a challenging schedule awaits, beginning with a Sept. 2 tussle with Toledo at Jonesboro (a national ESPN audience brought about bumping the game up a night). After two lopsided defeats at the hands of the Rockets in the GoDaddy Bowl two years ago and a road loss in 2015, revenge may very well be at hand.



Things get a lot tougher the next two weeks, as the Red Wolves head to Auburn on Sept. 10 for a battle with former coach Gus Malzahn's Tigers. A week after that, it's off to Utah State. The Aggies no doubt remember their heartbreaking loss here in 2014. Three straight home games begin on Sept. 24 when ASU tackles the Bears from the University of Central Arkansas. It's the first time the teams have battled since 2011.

Georgia Southern brings its juggernaut to Jonesboro on Oct. 5, a rare Wednesday night game, again for the chance to play on national television via ESPN. Ten days later, South Alabama comes to town, with Louisiana-Monroe visiting on Oct. 29. From there, the schedule tilts decidedly on the road. In November, ASU will go to Georgia State (Nov. 3), come home to face New Mexico State (Nov. 12), at Troy (Nov. 17) and finally at Louisiana-Lafayette on Nov. 26.

The regular season ends with another road contest, this one at Texas State on Dec. 3.

It's About More Than Cheering . . .

Fans who spend much time on the ASU campus for games will often mention the many tailgating opportunities outside the stadium, as well as the growing tradition of the Red Wolves Walk, when fans line on opposite sides heading to the stadium to welcome the team and raise the decibels a few notches before packing the stands.

In addition, game crowds can enjoy amenities ranging from stadium concessions and team merchandise available for purchase to checking out the west side's decked out press box (dedicated last season) and the array of markers celebrating the school's rich football tradition.

Tickets are available on a season or individual game basis by calling (870) 972-ASU1 or (888) ASU-FANS. Online orders can be placed at www.astaredwolves.com or via email at tickets@astate.edu. Information pertaining to ticket pricing, parking options and the like can be found on the official web site or by calling one of the numbers listed above.

For those seeking to support ASU beyond purchasing tickets, the Red Wolves Foundation offers a tiered level of giving. It is available at www.redwolvesfoundation.com.

**ADVERTISE
YOUR FAMILY
BUSINESS**
in the next edition of
PREMIERE

Contact your MOR Media Consultant or call 870.239.4010 for more details.



HOWL FOR HUMANITY

By Richard Brummett

Families, Inc., in Jonesboro hosted the third annual Howl For Humanity launch party, recognizing six non-profit organizations in Northeast Arkansas that will benefit each time Arkansas State University's football team puts points on the scoreboard at home.

During each home football game this season, a different organization will be the lucky winner. Every time the Red Wolves score a touchdown, Families, Inc., will donate \$250 to the particular organization chosen for that day. Groups selected and the games in which they will be recognized are:

September 2, vs. Toledo: Foundation of Arts

September 24, vs. Central Arkansas: Greene County Animal Farm

October 5, vs. Georgia Southern: Helping Neighbors Food Pantry

October 15, vs. South Alabama: PACES

October 29, vs. Louisiana-Monroe: NEA Bicycle Coalition

Howl and a youngster smile for the camera, left, while members of each honored group pose at right. Below, Families' Bob Puckett and Dawn Layer explain the promotion.

November 12, vs. New Mexico State: Jonesboro Church Health Center

Families, Inc., Director of Marketing Dawn Layer said the idea came about a few years ago, and Families, Inc., wanted to be involved in something that would bring more attention to the non-profits and their causes. Layer said even if the Red Wolves only score one touchdown, or even if they don't score at all, the organization in the spotlight that day will still receive at least \$500 from Families, Inc. The amount of money that an organization can receive is not capped.

Mark Thurman, CEO at Families, Inc., and Bob Puckett, Director of Business Operations, joined Layer in seeing the launch party through and in explaining how the program works. Each credited President/Owner Joy Davis with supporting the program, and welcomed guests that included ASU mascot Howl along with several others.



NEA REGIONAL SOLID WASTE

HAVE UNWANTED OFFICE ELECTRONICS? WE TAKE THEM FOR FREE!

RECYCLE ELECTRONICS, CLEAR & COLORED GLASS, PLASTIC BOTTLES, NEWSPAPERS AND MORE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (670) 239-5572

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE

REMEMBERING DAYS ON THE WATER

By Chuck Long

The long awaited invitation had finally come to fruition as I hopped in the truck with Add Schug and we headed south to Otwell. David Flanrey was also along as we travelled south to do a little squirrel hunting in Mr. Add's bottomland hardwood forest near Cache River.

We arrived at the farm at daybreak and he dropped us off and I entered the forest. The damp, musty, wonderful smell of bottomland hardwoods was thick in the timber as the woods were awakening from an overnight rest. The dimness of the morning light made it difficult to discern details but as my eyes adjusted there was movement in a nearby tree, along with a sound like light rain. The shaking limbs and pieces of hickory nuts hitting the forest floor quickly gave away the presence of a gray squirrel, but the low light and thick foliage made it tough to pick out the quarry. Finally, amidst the leaves and limbs, he came out into the open just long enough to allow a shot with the 870 .20 gauge and the squirrel was then in the pouch of my vest and destined for the dinner table.

As the sun got higher, Mr. Add came back and picked us up and we took our game and headed back to the cabin where we would get the morning's bounty ready for the table. The cleaning process was quick and thorough and we skinned a few of the squirrels to the tip of the nose so we could have not only the squirrel body but the head and brain, which were among Mr. Add's favorite parts of the animal, to enjoy.

That was a nice morning of hunting, but it was also a great learning experience through spending time with a fine man who had great respect for the land and game we hunted. Looking back now, the lessons from that day have become much clearer. These were lessons about the outdoors, not based on knowledge, but based on the wisdom of an older gentleman who had great respect for the land and the resources the land had to offer.

CHUCK LONG

Regional Education Coordinator Northeast Education Division Arkansas Game and Fish Commission



I wish I had a list of each and every person who saw fit to take the time to invest in me as an outdoorsman, which was also a much deeper investment in me as a person. I did not realize until much later the lessons of life I was being taught each time Dad, Granddad Long, Papa Blanton, Uncle Jerry or Uncle Ted took the time to share the outdoors with me. There were many other men and women who played a great role in helping me grow in my hunting and fishing skills. More importantly, the trips with these folks helped me grow in the skills I needed to get through everyday life.

The outdoors offer a great opportunity to teach our youngsters many lessons that are not often taught in any other facet of learning. Life, death, use of resources, management of time, and a general overall appreciation for the cycles of nature are all evident when you get outdoors. The brevity of life itself, the need for death of some to insure life for others and the complex web that makes up this world can become much clearer in a simple squirrel hunt or just some time in the woods.

As summer slips into fall, the leaves will start to turn, the air will become much clearer and less humid, and the mornings will begin to have a slight bite from the cooler air. This is a great time to get outdoors and enjoy what nature has to offer. It would be a wonderful time to head out in pursuit of a dove or squirrel, but if you do not want to pursue any game, a walk through the woods or drive through the countryside can be very rewarding and soothing. More importantly, take some time to invest in someone else and share time with them in the great outdoors.

I truly believe many of our societal problems could be helped with some time outside with family and friends. Make an effort this fall to get out and enjoy the richness of the great state of Arkansas. There are lots of lessons to be learned out there.

Smile Designs
Justin D. McGarity, DDS, PA

Family, General, and Cosmetic Dentistry

- FREE Whitening with Comprehensive Exam
- We Accept Care Credit and Most Insurances

Find us on Facebook | 622 W Court St. Paragould, AR 72450 | 870-236-2300 | Monday-Friday, 8AM - 5PM

The Greene County Wildlife Club

The Greene County Wildlife Club has organized a series of float trips on the St. Francis River in conjunction with the opening of the new Dement Landing site.

According to Dan Martin of the Wildlife Club, plans are to schedule float trips on the first Saturday of each month, departing from the new Dement Landing site. He said the trips take a little over two-and-one-half hours, floating from the landing to the Highway 412 bridge. The public access site is located three miles north of the highway. The club held a ribbon cutting ceremony at the boat launch in early July.

For more information, contact Martin at 870-215-1627.



Accidents Happen. We Happen Next. **Stadium**
AUTO BODY INC.

Paragould, AR www.stadiumautobody.com 870-215-0700

The advertisement features a photograph of the Stadium Auto Body Inc. building in Paragould, AR. The building is a large, dark-colored structure with a white fence in front. An American flag flies on a tall pole to the left of the building. The text "Accidents Happen. We Happen Next." is written in a yellow, outlined font at the top. The company name "Stadium AUTO BODY INC." is written in a large, green, stylized font on the right. At the bottom, the location "Paragould, AR", the website "www.stadiumautobody.com", and the phone number "870-215-0700" are listed.

The Arrival of Fair Season

When September rolls around the fair season has officially arrived. The Greene County Fair in Paragould is set Sept. 5-10, marking the 129th version of the event.

The fair opens at 10 a.m. on that Monday, with a Demolition Derby in the rodeo arena at 6 p.m. highlighting first-day action. At 7 p.m. Caleb Hammon will perform in the B.C. Lloyd Building.

Tuesday will feature all sorts of exhibits and competitions, topped off by the annual Little Miss and Miss Greene County contests beginning at 6 p.m.

Wednesday is Buddy Night, with free gate admission, Thursday is Senior Citizens Day, Friday hosts the Bone Stock Derby in the evening and Saturday is Kids Day. Also on the last day, another Demolition Derby will be held.

All through the week there will be a variety of musical acts as well as the popular midway rides and games.

Gate hours will be 10 a.m.-10 p.m. daily with the carnival running until 11 p.m. Daily admission is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. Some special events carry an additional charge.

NEA District Fair

The 2016 NEA District Fair is marked for Sept. 19-24 and this year brings even more exciting rides and events.

Two people ride for the price of one on Monday's Buddy Night, with rides opening at 4 p.m. Throughout the day, field crop, watermelon, pumpkin, flower and livestock exhibits will be in place. The evening closes with the Rocky Clements Magic Show at 8 p.m.

Arkansas State University freshmen are admitted for free on Tuesday, and those participating in livestock exhibits will be judged. The Front Porch Fan Jam, presented by 104.9 The Fox, is The Grandstand's free event for the evening. Kiddie rides are available

for \$1 on Wednesday's Dollar Day, with major rides marked at \$2 and spectacular rides at \$3. Seniors are admitted free from 1-6 p.m. on Thursday and armbands are only \$15. Friday is Children's Day, and children under 12 are admitted free. The fair closes off on Saturday with \$20 Armband Day.

The remainder of the week hosts a youth talent contest, along with the Little Miss KFIN, Junior Miss KFIN and KFIN Little Farmer pageant. The Poes, His Guys, Ken Yarbrough and the South 40 Band, and T.G. Sheppard will all perform at the fair through Saturday.

Gate admission is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. Books of 20 tickets can be purchased for \$18, or at \$1 each.



ANCHOR PACKAGING

COMPETITIVE WAGES
& BENEFITS

FULL, PART & FLEX TIME
OPPORTUNITIES

NO LAYOFFS
IN THE PAST 20 YEARS

TO JOIN THE ANCHOR FAMILY,
APPLY NOW AT
WWW.JOBSATANCHOR.COM

1(855)562.7282
PARAGOULD-MARMADUKE-JONESBORO
WWW.ANCHORPACKAGING.COM

WE ARE
HIRING



LIVING A BETTER STORY

By Jared Pickney

According to city data, 25.5% of people in Paragould are living below the poverty line. This means that over 1/4 of our citizens are cut off from the resources 75% of us are tempted to take for granted. Things like gas money, good medical care, positive support systems, opportunities for higher education and food.

This is not good news. Poverty is a scar on the dignity of God's creation. It is not the way things were meant to be. It is not a picture of the Kingdom of God.

So what do we do about it? Here are four ideas.

1. Embrace Grace. How you treat the poor is a direct reflection of how you view God. The truth is, everything we have is a gift from God. We didn't earn or deserve it. Therefore, we should seek to bless others as we have been blessed.

2. Check Your Motives. Don't treat poor people like projects. Treat them like people. Don't serve the poor because it makes you feel good. Serve the poor because you love them.

3. Build Relationships. Nobody fell into poverty over night. Therefore, no one will pull out of it over night. If we really want to help the poor we should go from dropping food off at their houses to eating meals with them around our own tables.

4. Point to Jesus. We can feed people but apart from Jesus they will die with full bellies yet empty souls. This is the greatest form of poverty. People need a hope beyond this world. It's found in Christ.

The greatness of a city is tested by the city's treatment of the poorest and most vulnerable in its midst. May we be a people who care well for the least of these.



We would like to be your Primary Care Provider!

Scheduled Appointments & Walk-ins Welcome!

Family Practice Clinics

Clinic Locations

- 1300 Creason Road – Corning—Ph. 870.857.3399
- 141 Betty Drive – Pocahontas—Ph. 870.892.9949
- 201 Colonial Drive – Walnut Ridge—Ph. 870.886.5507
- 308 Hwy 62W – Ash Flat—Ph. 870.994.2202
- #1 Medical Drive—Paragould— Ph. 870.236.2000

Website: www.1stChoice-ar.org



**** We offer a reduced fee based on family income and the number in household.
Medicare, Medicaid , Self-Pay



TUNING UP WITH THE OLDIES

By Richard Brummett

When the curtain goes up and the lights come on, the members of the Ultimate Oldies Show definitely know how to put on a performance that will have you wanting to shout and sing and dance in the aisles.

Playing to sellout crowds wherever they go, the singers and musicians draw rave reviews from both first-time attendees and from the ever-growing band of faithful followers who don't miss a show. While Branson, Missouri, is considered to be the haven for entertainment excellence, Ultimate Oldies organizer Joe Wessell has said on many occasions that once people attend an Oldies concert they are convinced what they just heard was every bit as good as – or even better than – the Branson offerings.

My original intention was to feature the members of the group -- which recently began its ninth season together – by interviewing each performer and getting a feel for what makes them so special, individually and collectively. But only a few minutes into the project I realized that would be impossible. They are too talented; each singer is deserving of multiple pages and there is no way for me to ever do them justice in the magazine space allotted.

What I decided to do was give readers a brief inside look at what it's like to attend an Oldies rehearsal session, to be right there on stage, camera in hand, as they walk through

the numbers intended for the next night's performance. The only way to describe it – the ONLY way – is to begin with the word "fun." These guys obviously enjoy putting together the pieces that will make the show work. This is not to say they don't take their roles seriously. Like flicking a light switch from off to on, the singers can move from giggles to incredible harmony in heartbeat.

There are powerful voices, those that harmonize, those that flow out across the stage like gifts sent directly from God and all combine to leave you in awe if you've never been situated right beside musical excellence. The individual singers can be scattered about, dealing with their kids in the near-empty theatre or talking to a spouse or visitor one second, then they can rush onstage to jump in to the right spot at the right time and create vocal beauty. For instance, the night I attended they were putting together the parts to a song they had not performed together before, *The Age of Aquarius*. With Craig Morris stepping in to draw the singers together, they formed a circle and began to chime in until they were satisfied they had it down pat. The following night they opened the show with the number and sounded as if they had been singing it forever.

Morris is sort of the father figure, the one who gets people in place and moves from director to singer to dad all in one motion. He, his wife Donna Rhodes and their two



children make up the “first family” of the musical troupe, falling back on a resume good enough to trump just about anyone’s. Having shared the stage with stars like Loretta Lynn, Conway Twitty, Marie Osmond, Elvis Presley and Isaac Hayes, the Morris/Rhodes collaboration lends a definite professionalism to the effort. Their experience as backup singers and understanding the importance of that role goes a long way toward making so many of the Oldies’ songs come alive. That’s not to say they don’t shine when the spotlight hits them as soloists; each is excellent as a vocalist, and the kids – Savannah and Sam – have definitely followed their parents’ path and are already on their way to musical greatness of their own. I am not able to accurately describe what it feels like to sit and watch singers grab a microphone, belt out a few lines and then say, “I’ve got it,” and know that they certainly do have it and that when the time comes they will make you smile and probably sing along.

Shannon Freeman, whose Elvis act is incredible, serves as the good humor man on rehearsal night and keeps everyone smiling but when it’s time to sing he is an A-teamer like the rest.

That’s what makes trying to capture this group in words so difficult. There really aren’t words that suffice; you have to see them and hear them to believe them. It would be impossible to pick a favorite. If you said I couldn’t have any of the aforementioned, do you think I would be disappointed to listen to Chandler Gill? Or Lori Dial? Or Ryan Fisher, or Richie Williams or Suzie Stacey? Could I not be happy simply floating along on the musical tones of the band members, who are every bit as talented as the singers?

The next time you have a chance to catch a show, you should; and you should remember that just a few days prior to that the singers were working on deliveries, band members were studying music in order to get it just right, and by the end of the night all the laughing and talking and nods of approval were coming together as one incredible performance just waiting for the lights to come on.

And, they were smiling.

(Be sure to check out Premiere’s Facebook page to see a collection of photographs from the band’s rehearsal night and recent performance at the Collins Theatre.)



Leadership you Know

Fellow Paragould Voters,

My background in community and economic development runs deep in Greene County. My tenure with the Paragould Chamber of Commerce from 1989 to 2001 marked a period of vibrant growth. Paragould had established itself decades earlier as an important manufacturing hub and was well-known for its leadership and workforce. The 1990’s brought a second wave of growth with expansions in our existing facilities and new industry start-ups. Local entrepreneurs contributed with the launch of information and communications based companies. We welcomed newcomers and celebrated as our sons and daughters found good jobs and came home after college to start their careers. The tradition continues today as evidenced by a vibrant young population, new neighborhoods and quality of life second-to-none

I joined the Delta Center for Economic Development at Arkansas State University in 2001 as a regional consultant and quickly learned cooperation is essential to success and our best chance of using public money effectively and efficiently. Today’s economic development is changing and more competitive than ever before. Our future success is dependent on policy that allows communities and people to be the best version of themselves.



I am running for State Representative District 57 because I believe we need the same cooperative spirit in our state capitol that we have seen work here at home. I am Frankie Gilliam and would appreciate your vote November 8.

Respectfully,

www.frankiegilliam.com



Paid Political Advertisement



Jeremy Richey is an avid participant in the Acre of Hope program.

FARMING OUT A SUCCESS STORY

By Richard Brummett

Family and friends got Jeremy Richey started with participation in the Acre of Hope food program and he quickly saw it as something near and dear to his heart.

Working in conjunction with the Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas, Richey dedicates the profits from one acre of his farming business to be used as a means of feeding the hungry. "There is no reason for people to go hungry," he said. "Sometimes, they need to be educated as to where to go for help. The Food Bank runs a tight ship. They do a lot with the money they get, but they help so many people it's unbelievable. It takes a lot of people to get a program like this organized and I'm happy to be part of it. I'm not doing a lot. This is just my small way of helping out."

Acre of Hope is a program aimed at uniting farmers to help fight hunger in the Northeast

Arkansas area. All proceeds benefit the Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas, which services families and individuals in 12 counties.

"Mary (Beasley, organizer of the Acre of Hope event) and one of my cousins talked to me about it, doing something through the Food Bank," Richey said. "They said it was something they were going to do as a fundraiser, and would I be interested? I definitely was."

Richey said his grandmother raised 12 kids and her husband died at a young age. "At the end of her life, she made use of some of those commodities," he said. "She was on a fixed income and she had kids who made sure she didn't have to do without, but she took advantage of some of those things that were out there to help those who really need it."

Richey called his farming operation "small, about 4,000 acres ... cotton, rice, corn, beans. I will give proceeds from an acre to the program. We have somebody else on the board taking care of working with the grain elevators, trying to get the logistics worked out on how to do it. Three or four elevators are involved this year. We're trying to work it out where the farmer takes it to the elevator and, say it's an acre of rice, the elevator can hold it out right then and then send the money to the Food Bank."

He said last year's first venture into the program -- both for him and the Food Bank -- surpassed expectations. "I think last year we did about \$60,000, and hope to do more this year," he said. "This will be our second event. This year I will donate an acre of rice, for sure. Last year we didn't push it as much; I just purchased items at the auction they had. But Mary is great. She does a great job and I've known her since Marmaduke and Lafe went together. We go way back.

"The Food Bank can feed like five meals for every dollar they get," Richey said. "Anything we do is huge. Like their Backpack program. The Rice Depot and Food Bank merged and went from helping 400 kids to helping like 1,200 kids in the Backpack Program. A lot of people get in their heads that the only people needing help are the ones who don't do anything. But that's not true. It's single moms, it's grandkids, it's the elderly. I think the Food Bank services about 5,000 people weekly.

They do a lot with the money they get. I just wanted to do something. The community up here around Marmaduke has been really good to me all my life. If in some small way I can help out, then I want to.

"Or in a large way," he added.

(See related story on the next page.)

NEA FOOD BANK

By Richard Brummett

Here is the number we need to sit back and consider: Approximately 5,000 people in the region receive emergency food assistance each week from a food pantry, soup kitchen or shelter associated with the Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas.

Hunger in Arkansas is a very real issue and that's why the efforts of the Food Bank staff loom large in the hearts and minds of many. It is estimated that on any given day almost 500,000 Arkansans do not have enough to eat. Three people in particular have made it their business to see that food – especially fresh produce – makes it to the tables of those who need it the most.

Christie Jordan, Chief Executive Officer; Emily Still, Food Resource Coordinator; and Mary Beasley, Development Officer, direct the services provided by the Food Bank and are constantly looking for ways to make life easier for the residents in the 12-county area they serve.

"We do everything we can to incorporate fresh produce in Northeast Arkansas," Jordan said. "We try to let the community know where the food donated to the Food Bank goes. We provide fresh produce to our 12 counties. We did 2.2 million pounds last year; we're at 1.2 million pounds this year, and still counting."

Numerous companies and organizations have conducted food drives in efforts to contribute to the cause, and last year more than 124,000 pounds of food was collected. According to information provided by the Food Bank, that amounts to providing 103,789 meals to those in need.



From left, Emily Still, Mary Beasley and Christie Jordan are helping feed the needy in Northeast Arkansas.

The Food Bank is a nonprofit organization serving more than 140 partner agencies and programs to distribute millions of pounds of food to the hungry. It is a member of the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance, and the Feeding America network of food banks. The staff secures donations from food and grocery industries, government agencies, individuals and other organizations, then ensures the safe and reliable distribution of donated goods to local charitable agencies.

The Food Bank moves donated food and grocery products through agency partners and programs to places they are most needed. Donations are provided to people in need at food pantries, soup kitchens, youth programs, senior centers and emergency shelters.

Still said that for every dollar donated to the Food Bank they are able to provide five meals to a person in need.

"You don't realize the size and scope of the need until you are involved with it daily," she said. "We try to raise awareness through the things we do in the community. For instance, fresh produce and Acre of Hope compliment each other."

Acre of Hope is a program allowing farmers to dedicate either the profits from an acre of their harvest or the crop itself to the Food Bank's cause. Beasley said the Food Bank made its initial venture into the program last year and exceeded expectations.

"We set a goal of \$50,000," she said, "and we netted \$59,000-plus. But we missed out on some sponsorship opportunities. It was a

really good vehicle for us, and we think this year it will be even bigger."

She said Acre of Hope is "a special event and it brings in agriculture from the 12 counties we service. It helps with our mission and serves two needs: To get the agricultural community involved and to bring the 12 counties together."

The Acre of Hope campaign culminated last year with a ticketed event held at the Food Bank. "We had a dinner, live and silent auctions with things like agri products, services, fun things like jewelry, trips or household items, and a program. It celebrates the efforts of the community and the ones who support us."

"It's to build awareness and name recognition," Jordan added.

There are several ways for individuals to participate. They can attend the banquet, buy items at the auctions, donate through sponsorships or products for the auction, or pledge proceeds from an acre of crop. "The money can be given in a lump sum or in quarterly or monthly payments," Beasley said.

To participate call Beasley at 870-932-3663, extension 106, or email her at mbeasley@foodbankofnea.org.

The Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas is located at 3414 One Place in Jonesboro. For more information, use the telephone number or email address listed above.



Two Saints' Kitchen

By Anthony Childress

A joint venture between two Jonesboro churches has made it possible for hungry people to enjoy a hot meal and a place to sit down for the enjoyment of it on a weekly basis.

Two Saints' Kitchen, named for its congregational duo, has been around for more than three years and continues to grow in size and scope.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church and St. Paul United Methodist Church field ten volunteer teams every Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in a much-anticipated weekly time for food and fellowship.

"I look at this as our ministry," said Linda Graham of Jonesboro, who serves on one of the teams with husband Dennis. They are members of St. Paul's. "We come here once every 10 weeks to prepare and serve a meal to people who are so grateful to have it."

Food is provided by way of donations from both churches' memberships, as well as Harp's Grocery Store through its weekly discount on food items. Brandon Johnson places teams on their annual schedules and said interest only continues to rise as more people hear about Two Saints and its ability to reach those who might otherwise go without a meal on a given Saturday.

A van is used to pick up passengers at the Jonesboro Public Library headed to St. Mark's for the meal. One man said he appreciates having transportation to and from the parish.

"These folks are golden. They are God's people," he stated. "I used to be the one serving meals, then I fell on some real hard times. First time I came here, I felt embarrassed. But they were so nice to me that I couldn't wait to come back."

Both churches emphasize community activism, outreach and mission work. Dennis Graham said the dual focus means St. Paul and St. Mark's can do their work and utilize church members who have identified Two Saints as a way of giving back.

"St. Paul identifies as a mission-based church. We believe in putting God's love into action by supporting one another and our community as members of Christ's body," the church's website affirms. Rev. Charles Sigman is St. Paul's pastor.

As host for the meals, St. Mark's also places a value on service.

"St. Mark's is a progressive, open-minded Episcopal Church . . . We strive to see Christ in every person around us, and to respect the dignity of every human being," its website states.

In terms of how many people it reaches, Two Saints feeds hundreds of individuals and families year-round. And, it provides meals during more challenging times like holidays, including the Thanksgiving and Christmas periods. Linda Graham said she looks forward to every Saturday that her team serves, but the days falling closest to holidays are even more special.

"We go all out for Thanksgiving," she said, smiling. "It's something I get excited about."

To donate, visit church web sites or contribute at Tith.ly or mark checks specifically for "Two Saints' Kitchen."

Happy
3rd birthday
22lou

2405 Linwood Dr St1:870-215-7752



LIFEstyle



Passport Plaid Shirt, \$35.95
Tropical Glamour



Love My Farmer Tee, \$12
Style Encore



Black Leather Choker, \$60
Darling's Fine Things



Sneak Peak Denim Shorts, \$39.95
Tropical Glamour



DL1961 Skinny Jeans, \$29.99
Twice Elegant



Qupid Taupe Suede Booties, \$38
22 Lou



Qupid Brown Suede Booties, \$38
22 Lou

PREMIERE

NEA SENIORS

Enjoy Life. Contribute. Make a Difference.

Fall 2016

**JUNE BRIDGER IS
DOGGONE
HAPPY**



Foster's Monument, Inc.

*Remembering all who served,
Happy Veterans Day.*

11656 Hwy 49 N.
Brookland, AR 72417

Phone: 870-932-2893
Fax: 870-932-0188

5226 E. Nettleton Ave.
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Phone: 870-268-8434
Fax: 870-268-8435



Thank You for your service & sacrifice.

CONTENTS

32 Doggone Happy

June Bridger

36 Paint the Town Red

Senior B.E.E.S.

42 Lifeline Gold Plus Award

St. Bernards



CLEAR VISION JUST AHEAD

0%
Financing for
18 months*
*With approved credit

**55
YEARS
OLD!**

Finally, visual relief for the millions of middle-aged men and women wearing bifocals, trifocals, or reading glasses. Thanks to a recent breakthrough in lens implant technology available at Southern Eye Associates we're now able to restore new vision for your middle-aged eyes.

If you're experiencing changes in your vision that may be occurring because of cataracts, you may be a candidate for one of our multifocal or accommodating lens implants.

Call today to schedule an evaluation and to learn more about these exciting, new FDA-approved lens implant technologies.



Seeing is Believing

1-800-634-7299

www.arkansaslasik.com

601 East Matthews • Jonesboro, AR 72401

THE DIET GAL

BOOSTING OUR IMMUNE SYSTEMS

By Karan Summitt

Last year I heard the mom of three school-age children declare that the very first week of school included some unwanted attendees — strep throat and sinus infections. Unfortunately, when people of any age spend time together, bacteria and viruses have an opportunity to spread. The strongest line of defense against these invisible enemies is a healthy immune system.

Our immune system is a network of cells, tissues and organs that work together to protect the body from infection. To function properly, it must be able to detect a wide variety of unwanted agents called pathogens, and distinguish them from the body's own healthy tissue. Pathogens have the ability to change and adapt, making it hard for the immune system to recognize and attack these enemies to good health.

Fortunately, our immune system does a remarkable job of defending us against disease-causing microorganisms. But sometimes it fails and a germ successfully invades and makes us sick. Is it possible to make our immune systems stronger?

“The single best step we can take for ourselves, our children and our grandchildren for a strong and healthy immune system is to follow the general guidelines for good health.”

The single best step we can take for ourselves, our children and our grandchildren for a strong and healthy immune system is to follow the general guidelines for good health. Every part of your body, including your immune system, functions better when boosted by healthy-living habits. These include:

- Don't smoke
- Eat a diet high in fruits, vegetables, and whole grains, and low in saturated fat
- Exercise regularly
- Maintain a healthy weight
- Control your blood pressure
- If you drink alcohol, drink only in moderation
- Get adequate sleep
- Take steps to avoid infection, such as washing your hands frequently and cooking meats thoroughly

- Get regular medical screening tests for people in your age group and risk category



As we age the immune system becomes more susceptible to infections, inflammation and disease. Compared with younger people, the elderly are far more likely to contract respiratory infections, influenza and pneumonia. Worldwide, these three are a leading cause of death in people over age 65. No one knows exactly why this happens, but the immune system seems to weaken with age. This makes getting flu and pneumonia shots even more important.

Researchers are looking at the connection between nutrition and immunity in the elderly. A form of malnutrition that is common, even in affluent countries, is “micronutrient malnutrition.” Micronutrient malnutrition refers to a deficiency of essential vitamins and trace minerals. Because seniors tend to eat less and often have less variety in their diet, it can be a common problem among the elderly. Multi-vitamins taken with the advice of a physician may help older people maintain a healthier immune system.

This knowledge of what happens to our immune system as we age provides a valuable insight for bolstering a child's immune system. Daycare, school attendance and developing bodies put children on the front lines in the war against germs. Feeding our kids a healthy diet, making sure they get adequate sleep and exercise and teaching them something as simple as the importance of good hand washing techniques are strong offensive weapons. Keeping them up to date on immunizations is internal defense.

If strep throat and sinus infections can invade area schools, other winter ailments won't be that far behind. September may seem a bit early for a discussion on fighting infectious diseases, but the more time we have to ramp up the immune system, the stronger it will be when (not if) germs cross our path.

TRAVEL WITH US

VACATIONS & CRUISES
Jonesboro, Arkansas

870.932.7221
800.934.7221

LANCASTER SHOW TRIP, AMISH COUNTRY & PHILIDELPHIA
Sept. 24-Oct. 2
Few Spaces Left!

NEW YORK CITY HOLIDAY SHOPPING & SHOWS
Nov. 18-20
Includes a Broadway Show!

BRANSON HOLIDAY SHOW EXTRAVAGANZA
Dec. 6-8
Christmas Lights!

MULTI-AWARD WINNING TRAVEL AGENCY
in business since 1985

TRAVEL LEADERS®

Learn More Online at
www.travelwithusjonesboro.com



JUNE BRIDGER IS DOGGONE HAPPY

By Richard Brummett

For more than 15 years motorists travelling between Paragould and Jonesboro have made it a habit to look over at June Bridger's yard as they pass by.

Situated close to the highway is a concrete greyhound, dressed in a manner that brings a smile to the faces of drivers as they look to see just what Bridger has in store for them that day. The dog, named Trouble by Bridger's husband Phil, could be wearing anything from hunting gear to a wedding dress, all just a part of its owner's wish to make others happy.

"I actually started doing it before I retired," said Bridger, a former secretary and administrative assistant at University Heights Elementary School, "and I've been retired since 2002.

"As a child, I loved these things," she said, "but so many of them were scary and angry lions and the like. I was searching for something friendly that all could enjoy. When I worked at school I was always trying to come up with something I thought the kids would enjoy. So one day I was in Memphis with my daughter and I saw the greyhound and we both loved it. She had a van so we had them load it up because it was so heavy; it took two men to put it in the van and then it had to stay in there another two weeks because all our men were off hunting and we couldn't get it out."

Before too long Phil had poured concrete to give the dog a permanent home, and he also gave it a permanent name.

"I told her to name it Trouble," he said, "because I told her once she got started messing with it, it was going to be nothing but trouble."

But she didn't see dressing the dog up in various costumes as a chore at all. Rather, she gets a kick out of comments from others who can't wait to see what she will come up with next.

"I try to change with all of the holidays," Bridger said. "I try to do something for each month like Labor Day and the Fourth of July, and you have your June Bride and Mother's Day, which is my favorite.



"When the kids go back to school I make mention of that, and prom and Cancer Month ... I'm a survivor, myself, and there have even been donations made to the Cancer Society in honor of the dog. So many people stop by and leave notes and tape them on the dog and we've even had some people in their wedding gown stop and get their pictures made by it. We don't mind at all; it's fun for us."

Bridger keeps a stockpile of costumes and ornaments for Trouble and said most of the time she knows exactly how she wants to dress him -- or her, depending on the occasion. "Well, this all just looks like a pile of junk until I get started," she said, pointing to her selection of decorations. "I just can't get my creative brain to work some months. January is hard, you know, because you don't really have a holiday; all you have is cold. In February you get Presidents' Day but I don't know if I should dress him as Hillary or Trump. I may just skip that month."

She said she tries to be prompt in changing Trouble's look because so many people count on her to lighten up their day.

"I was sort of slow when I had knee surgery, and I may take longer if I'm sick," she said, "but you've got twenty or thirty thousand people passing by each day. It should get seen."

She said it is not rare to go out and find that someone has left a message like, "This is the best one yet," or "This is my favorite," or "I love this."

"For Mother's Day I put a wig on it and had it hold two babies," she said with a smile. "That one got a lot of comments. And Christmas ones always get a lot of positive comments."

"One year, my husband had an old deer decoy that he was about ready to throw away and I wouldn't let him. I said, 'No, I can use that with Trouble somehow.' So I propped it up behind him and put on his hunting outfit and a lot of people liked that."

She said just about anywhere she goes she keeps an eye out for items that might add a new touch to the dog's wardrobe and is always "searching for a new look, anything that would tickle someone. Hats are my favorite, because they're easy. Just slap a hat on and you have a look."

While Trouble is quite famous in the Northeast Arkansas area, Bridger said she happily remains in the background. "I guess I'm sort of behind the scenes," she said. "If I'm buying anything or someone says something about what I'm getting, I might mention that I live out on the Jonesboro Highway where the dog

is, and then they'll say, 'You're the dog lady!' And we get a laugh out of that.

"Or if I'm in Paragould and say I live between there and Jonesboro and then say, 'Have you ever seen the dog that's always dressed up?' then some of the ladies will hee-haw out loud. People who know me know I have a Facebook page and always put the newest changes on there and lots of people say I ought to make him a website of his own but I tell them, no, he's just a part of our family."

She admits she doesn't have a game plan for how long the act will continue, and said on a few occasions when she's hinted at turning the work over to others, family members have told her, "No, you keep on doing it."

There is no doubt her efforts do not go unnoticed but the reason she traipses out in all kinds of weather to play dress-up with a statue is even more noteworthy.

"Anything that makes someone happy right now," she said, "I'm glad to do. Ours is not a happy world right now."

Unless you're driving past the Bridger home and you are paying attention.

RESEARCH ARKANSAS SENIOR SERVICES FOR YOUR AGING PARENTS

As seniors age, access to affordable, high-quality health care becomes crucial. Fortunately, Arkansas has developed programs to make it easier for seniors to acquire the medical care they need and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Medicare

Seniors should apply for Medicare as soon as they turn 65 to gain the benefits that cover a host of medical costs. To ensure seniors receive the coverage they deserve, Arkansas provides two important Medicare-related programs: the Senior Health Insurance Information Program and Arkansas Senior Medicare Patrol. SHIIP offers free health care education to Medicare beneficiaries. Counselors are always available to answer questions about general coverage, Medicare Advantage Plans, Medicaid, and much more. ASMP teaches Medicare beneficiaries to recognize and report fraud. Seniors can learn how to protect their identity, identify billing errors, and recognize false marketing.

Staying Healthy

Arkansas understands it is important for seniors to maintain their well-being through exercise, a nutritious diet, and disease management. To enhance the lives of the elderly, the Older Adult Section at the Arkansas Department of Health developed the following programs:

Active Living Every Day-

ALED fosters healthier lifestyles by teaching seniors how to incorporate moderate physical activity into their daily lives. This course also educates about how unbalanced eating causes obesity, heart disease, and other ailments. The goal of ALED is to empower seniors

Chronic Disease Self-Management Program-

This educational program is for those with chronic health issues such as hypertension, arthritis, lung disease, or diabetes. CDSMP equips seniors with the skills they need to manage their condition and produces increased energy and improved mental well-being. Senior's friends, family, and caregivers may also participate.

Peer Exercise Program Promotes Independence-

Through strength training and walking, this program teaches seniors how to be active without risking their health and safety. Seniors will learn proper exercise technique so they can maintain a high level of fitness even in their old age.

A Matter of Balance-

This program addresses the common fear of falling. Trained facilitators teach seniors how to control this fear, change one's environment to reduce risk, and improve balance. AMOB empowers seniors to not let anxiety hold them back from an active lifestyle.

More Resources

Senior Care Guide:

Care.com's comprehensive guide to senior care that helps readers understand senior care options by describing each option in detail and answering frequently asked questions.



Our Family
SERVING YOURS

When your family experiences a time of need, count on our family to guide and support you in making thoughtful, informed decisions.

Traditional Burial | Cremation | Pre-Arrangements
Pre-Arrangement Transfers | Life Insurance

Gregg-Langford Bookout | 870.935.5566 | Gregg | 870.486.2266
Gregg Weston | 870.578.9500 | McNabb | 870.892.5242

 **Gregg-Langford Bookout**
Funeral Home

mcnabbfuneralhomes.com




Belle Meade
A REHABILITATION & GUEST CARE FACILITY

Designed for Elders, by Elders!

The Green House Cottages of Belle Meade are designed to appeal to the desires of our residents. This means it is designed to be a home with almost no medical signposts. The Green House Cottages of Belle Meade are 100% restraint free. The Elders will have access to all of the home's shared spaces.

The Green House Cottages of Belle Meade will be for elders who require skilled nursing care, or those who are in need of inpatient rehabilitation (Physical, Occupational, and Speech therapies). Every home will be designed with 12 private rooms, private bathroom and shower.

The Green House Cottages of Belle Meade are different because of the staff. There are almost twice as many direct caregivers per elder than in a traditional nursing home and they deliver constant service.

For more information or to schedule a presentation for your company on the Green House Cottages of Belle Meade, please call 870-236-7104 or stop by 1800 Linwood Dr. Paragould.



 Follow us on Facebook



Your Home For Caring.

OPEN IN SEPTEMBER!



Ridgecrest Health & Rehabilitation is Jonesboro's newest state-of-the-art skilled nursing and rehabilitation community. We are just 15 minutes from Paragould, and located less than a mile from NEA Baptist Hospital.

FEATURES INCLUDE:

- **Private suites, private rooms and semi-private rooms will be available**
 - **Ample common areas for residents to visit with family members**
 - **Therapy gym with state-of-the-art training equipment**
 - **Dining areas located throughout the community**
- **Beautiful enclosed courtyard with covered patio for outdoor activities and barbeques**

For more information, to schedule a tour or to find out how easy it is to transfer from your current facility, please call us today! We are now accepting Medicare, Medicaid and Private Pay residents. We look forward to your call, and we know you will find Ridgecrest Health and Rehabilitation to be the community your loved one will call home.

870-932-3271 | 5504 East Johnson Avenue | Jonesboro, AR 72401

SENIOR B.E.E.S PAINT THE TOWN RED

Executive Director Carol Fleszar and her Greene County Senior B.E.E.S. group went all out, sprucing up their Paragould facility for the “Paint The Town Red” campaign.

The south lobby of the Paragould Seniors Center was decked out from top to bottom in red and black, and with Arkansas State University memorabilia.

One of the items displayed revealed the B.E.E.S.’ strategy in putting on such an impressive display. Currently serving as the winner of last year’s decoration competition, Fleszar wrote a chalkboard message to the judges: “The BEES want to keep our trophy please.”

The Senior Center is located at 121 North 12th Street in Paragould. Learn more about the B.E.E.S. by calling 870-239-4093 or visit beessenior@yahoo.com.



TREATING YOU LIKE
Family

At Arkansas Methodist Medical Center, it's all about treating our patients like family. From offering top quality healthcare with a compassionate touch to purchasing the latest in technology, we take pride in bringing the most up-to-date services to our family of patients.

 Arkansas Methodist Medical Center www.myammc.org 



life begins at 60!



B.E.E.S SENIOR CENTER
Busily Enjoying Everyday Seniors

**Day Trips • Tour Bus Trips • Meals on Wheels
Handicapped Bus • Computer Classes • Exercise Classes**

121 N 12th St. • 870-239-4093


Life is good!



A healthy, happy and active atmosphere is what makes life so good at Chateau on the Ridge Assisted Living in Paragould, Arkansas. The Chateau is more than an assisted living facility, it's a thriving community of entertained and engaged aging adults. From a spirited game of chair volleyball to a relaxing afternoon of wine and cheese, The Chateau puts the "life" in lifestyle. With all the amenities of home with the peace of mind of knowing care and assistance is always close by, Chateau on the Ridge makes life not just good but great.



Assisted Living Retirement Community

2508 Chateau Boulevard · Paragould · 870-215-6300 · www.MyChateau.org 

Glen Sain

GMC



WHERE QUALITY MEETS LUXURY



GOD BLESS *our* TROOPS 870.236.8503 1.866.531.8503
glensainparagould.com | 6345 HWY 49 South | Paragould, AR 72450



NEA ARcare Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is serving your community by focusing on HEALTHY FUTURES, DISASTER TRAINING, and OTHER COMMUNITY NEEDS

Volunteering activities will include partnering with state and local programs to:

- Encourage healthy futures through education, and providing services
- Train volunteers to run volunteer reception stations during disasters
- Work in short term or specific projects to meet other community needs

ABOUT RSVP: AN ORGANIZATION LIKE NO OTHER

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is for people ages 55 and over who are excited about volunteering and giving back to the community. While there are many generous and willing volunteers eager to become involved in community service, often times there's a disconnect between those who need help and those willing to provide it. NEA ARcare RSVP bridges that gap. Our mission is to promote volunteerism throughout a thirteen county area in eastern Arkansas.

RSVP BENEFITS

Our volunteers choose how, where, and how often they want to serve. In return for their work within their community, volunteers will enjoy recognition events, group insurance, and multiple health benefits associated with volunteering.

**www.arcare.net/rsvp
CALL TODAY 870-347-3457**

GARDEN PLOTS A PLUS FOR CHATEAU RESIDENTS

Residents at Chateau on the Ridge in Paragould have had plenty of fresh produce over the summer months, thanks to their very own garden.

Chateau employees Ricki Groves, Irma Thomas and Michael Simpson cleared the land, planted the seeds and then harvested the crops, all under the watchful eyes of some of the senior citizens living there.

"We did it for the residents," Simpson said, then added with a grin, "and I think some of them really enjoyed seeing us have to work. As we were going through the process of making the rows, some of them would give us advice. Actually, they were very helpful and it really was for them. The only thing we got out of it was enjoyment."

A former resident, James Branch, had a small garden when he lived at the Chateau and Simpson credited him with "kind of getting the idea of a garden started.

He worked with me and gave me some pointers and it grew from there."

"And grew and grew," added Thomas.

Thanks to their efforts, residents had a steady supply of corn, tomatoes, radishes, zucchini, cantaloupes, watermelons, pumpkins, bell peppers and banana peppers.

Next year they hope to also have fruit trees -- thanks to a donation from the family of Melvin Crockett, a former resident -- even though it adds more hard labor to the work schedule.

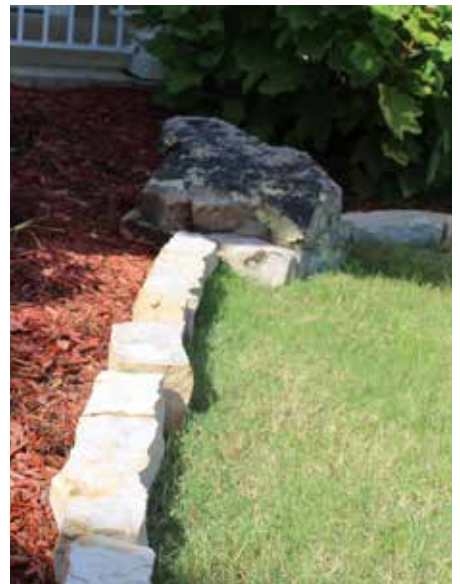
"I loved it," Simpson said of the garden work. "I didn't mind it all, really."

"Get out there and pluck some weeds," Thomas added, "and you get rid of a lot of stress."

More projects are in the works, like a landscaping effort that will circle the building. Flowerbeds are in line to receive new rock borders with more than 3,000 feet of stone scheduled to be put down.

There will also be a walking trail constructed, running the length of the facility. "It will go from the east sidewalk and reconnect on the west sidewalk," Simpson said. "It will be a winding path with a couple of gazebos. It should be really nice."

A donation from the Alvin Samuels family has made that plan possible, he said.



The Chateau flower beds are getting a facelift.



Michael Simpson and Irma Thomas have been getting plenty of time in the sunshine, working around the Chateau on the Ridge.



HOME HEALTH PROFESSIONALS & HOSPICE, INC.
BRINGING HEALTHCARE HOME TO YOU!

JONESBORO: 870-932-7630, (FAX) 870-932-9422
BLYTHEVILLE: 870-762-1825, (FAX) 870-762-2299
IN MISSOURI: 573-695-3966, (FAX) 573-695-7322

Care	Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cancer Care • Diabetic Care • Stroke Care • IV Therapy • Amputee Care • Dressing Changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visiting Nurse • Home Health Aide • Hospice • Physical Therapy





Residents helped with the preparation of their garden produce, shucking corn while enjoying conversation. Others posed with some of the items harvested from the summer garden at the Chateau on the Ridge in Paragould, a project proudly enacted by those who both live and work at the assisted living facility.



ST. BERNARDS EARNS LIFELINE GOLD PLUS AWARD

St. Bernards Medical Center has received the Mission: Lifeline® Receiving Center GOLD PLUS Quality Achievement Award for treatment of patients who suffer severe heart attacks.

It is the only hospital in Arkansas that has earned the award and it is the first hospital in the state ever to receive that recognition for two consecutive years.

The award was presented to physicians at a press conference at St. Bernards by Cammi Marti, Arkansas director of the American Heart Association.

It acknowledges the medical center's continuing commitment to and success in implementing the highest standards of care for heart attack patients based on data for the 2015 calendar year. Data specifically focus on patients who suffer ST elevation myocardial infarctions (STEMIs), the most deadly type of heart attacks.

Each year in the United States, nearly 300,000 people experience ST elevation myocardial infarctions (STEMIs). To prevent death, this condition requires timely treatment because it is critical to restore blood flow to the heart as quickly as possible. That is done either by mechanically opening the blocked vessel or by using "clot-busting" medication. The Mission: Lifeline® program puts the expertise of the American Heart Association to work, helping communities and hospitals save lives by closing the gaps that separate STEMI patients from speedy access to appropriate treatments.



Cammi Marti (left), Arkansas director of the American Heart Association, was in Jonesboro to present the Mission: Lifeline® Receiving Center GOLD PLUS Quality Achievement Award to St. Bernards Medical Center. Pictured with her are St. Bernards Heart & Vascular cardiologists (beginning second from left) Drs. Jaime Chavez, Max Arroyo, John McKee and Barry Tedder and St. Bernards Administrator Michael K. Givens.

Receiving hospitals earn Gold recognition for achieving 85 percent or higher composite adherence and at least 24 consecutive months of 75 percent or higher compliance on all Mission: Lifeline STEMI Receiving Center quality measures. In addition, the Gold Plus component is earned for achieving at least 75 percent compliance of these measures in STEMI patients that are transferred to St. Bernards from other facilities or first responders.

Because St. Bernards received the Gold Plus recognition, it was listed in the U.S. News & World Report "Best Hospitals" issue published in July.

Through a specialized protocol for patients with STEMIs, the St. Bernards heartcare team has been able to reduce the number of deaths from heart attacks and improve outcomes.

Patients with STEMIs are identified by a unique pattern on EKGs. Through the St. Bernards Delta Ridge STEMI Network, hospital emergency departments and first responders throughout Northeast Arkansas have been trained to identify STEMIs and to expedite the transfer of patients for life-saving care.

The national gold standard is to have the blocked arteries opened within 90 minutes of the time a patient from the immediate Jonesboro area is seen by a healthcare professional.

This is the fourth year St. Bernards has received a Mission: Lifeline® award – and the second year it has been the only hospital in the state to receive the Gold Plus award. "The care our patients receive is our number one priority," stressed St. Bernards Administrator Michael K. Givens. "That is why we are especially proud to be recognized for performance in the Mission: Lifeline® program of the American Heart Association.

Insurance For ALL Generations



M.F. BLOCK
INSURANCE SINCE 1934

Follow us on Facebook 

870.236.8744 • 32 Southpointe Drive • Paragould, AR

LARRY'S AUTO SALES



INCORPORATED
870 · 239 · 9328

STG



PRE-OWNED PLAYBOOK



'04 Chevy Silverado
4x4

'03 Ford Mustang GT
auto

'08 Scion XB

'08 Ford Edge SEL
auto



**CARS TRUCKS RVs MOTORCYCLES
CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT AND MORE!**

3 MONTH/3,000 MILE WARRANTY* CONVENIENT LAYAWAY

350+ VEHICLES NO INTEREST FINANCING

LOW WEEKLY PAYMENTS WITH YOUR DOWN PAYMENT

*SOME EXCLUSIONS APPLY

LARRY'S AUTO SALES

HIGHWAY 49 NORTH - ACROSS FROM MONROE - (870) 239-9328

#2 - HIGHWAY 49 NORTH - AT THE CITY LIMITS - (870) 215-0320

LarrysAutoSalesOfParagouldInc.com 

NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH



Harold McKinney sings the praises of Grace Mission Bible Training Center, having seen life from both sides of the coin.

GRACE MISSION REHAB

By Richard Brummett

The fact that Grace Mission Bible Training Center sits well off the beaten path is apropos, seeing that it is designed to serve those who have lost their way.

Located at 732 Greene 712 Road in Paragould, the facility is situated in a wooded area that provides privacy and serenity to people seeking to recover from addictions and emotional problems.

"We are a faith-based, Christ-centered residential program," said Harold McKinney, Resident Director of Resources at Grace Mission. "Basically, we are here for desperate people, and I say that in a loving way. Nobody who is semi-struggling says, 'I want to go away for eight to ten months.' But for desperate people, this is a wonderful place. I know. I was one of those desperate people."

McKinney, now 61, said he was "metaphorically ... face down on the concrete with no room for



you'll love our



HOMEGROWN BANKING

LOCALLY OWNED. LOCALLY OPERATED. LOCALLY YOURS.

506 WEST KINGSHIGHWAY (236-1700) 1908 LINWOOD DR (236-4747) 201 REYNOLDS RD (236-1170)

Unico Bank

Everyday Excellence

Member FDIC

any more lies. I didn't think I was prideful; I put that veneer on: If I didn't act like I was prideful, I wasn't prideful. I was a self-made person and proud of it. Like Israel, I would follow the Lord and then walk out of the light. Eventually, I had to go somewhere for help and my sister had been here so I was familiar with this place ... and that was five years ago."

The Grace Mission idea started as a small personal project by Rev. Jim Bracken 50 years ago but grew over time into a program with 17 non-profit centers in several states. Residents should expect a lengthy stay, starting out with few privileges other than to write and receive letters but have the chance to earn more as the weeks go by.

"It's like a retreat to receive God," McKinney said. "Are you willing to accept Christ as the answer to your problem? There is no charge to come here, but you cannot leave the property for two months. The plan has four phases and as they move up a level their responsibility and privileges increase. But if you don't follow the program you can't stay."

Residents are given daily chores like making beds, cleaning bathrooms in the dorms, cleaning the devotional area or dining room, and their schedule includes daily devotions, counseling sessions and Bible classes dedicated toward building a better relationship with God. Area ministers volunteer their time to teach some of the classes and lead discussion groups. Tuesdays and Thursdays are also recreation days and the strict schedule calls for "lights out" at 10:30 each evening.

"After they've been here two months, people can visit on the weekends," McKinney said. "As they grow over their stay here, then the last two months they have the opportunity to become Trainee Counselors, to counsel residents under

them. They have to learn to be under authority and in authority. The correction is brilliant; it all comes from God."

McKinney reiterates that he speaks from experience. Like so many who enter treatment, he refused to admit his lifestyle had taken control of his living.

"I was probably 30 before I realized I had a problem," he said. "I had a nightclub business and catering. I was in my early 30s when I went to the Lord and He immediately took away my desire to drink. It was like a miracle. Then I would go four or five years and think, 'I've got it.' I thought I could control it; I was wrong.

I had an alcohol issue. The most I could go was about five years of sobriety. But if you are willing to ask for help, this place will give you help; that's the Lord. I just had to surrender."

The program has a very good success rate, but McKinney said the important part is not in the number of people who graduate, but rather "if you get into a relationship with the Lord, that's the big thing. For me, if it wasn't alcohol it would have just been something else. If you don't put Jesus in there, it will just be something else. Where Jesus belongs, nothing else can go in there.

"What we have here is a coverage. When you leave, we encourage you to get coverage in another place, a church, immediately. The Lord will tell you what to do if you will listen."

Anyone seeking information on the Grace Mission program can call 870-573-6414.



FAIR WARNING!

DROP BY OUR BOOTH AND REGISTER TO WIN FREE TICKETS!

KOЯn breaking benjamin

107.1 JACK fm playing what we want

Heart

Jill @99.3

RED WOLVES ARKANSAS STATE

ARKANSAS PRO RODEO

ROCK 103.7



Holly Burnett proudly backs John 3:16 Ministries and the work the rehab facility promotes, and is helping build a Greene County House at the complex.

NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH

JOHN 3:16 MINISTRIES

By Richard Brummett

Holly Burnett will tell you it was her love for a sibling that drew her into the world of recovery; it was also that same loving attitude that carved out a spot in her heart for the people at John 3:16 Ministries, an organization dedicated to helping young men fight drug and alcohol addictions.

Burnett's brother had pretty much run the gamut of drug abuse, having developed a dependency on painkillers after a serious wreck. His family listened to his hard luck stories and funneled money his way for more than a decade before Burnett found the strength to draw the line and refuse to give him another cent.

"He was pretty much cut out of my life for the last year," she said. "His drug abuse caused problems between him and me, and between me and my dad. It was a horrible thing to go through."



Better heart care, so you don't miss a beat.

NEA BAPTIST 

neabaptist.com

870-936-8000

Get Better.

Not willing to simply give up on a loved one, Burnett researched a number of treatment options and programs, hoping something or someone would have the answer for her brother. Through discussions with others who had also dealt with family members smothered by abuse issues, Burnett eventually found her way to John 3:16 and its rehabilitation program. The ministry is long-term and requires a minimum stay of six months, with many residents choosing to stay up to one year and help mentor others who arrive in the same shape they were in at one time.

Her brother's successful stay at the center, located in Charlotte, Arkansas, has touched Burnett so that she has been the driving force behind the construction of a Greene County House at the main complex, helping raise funds for the project.

"What they do there is a very strict program," she said of the rehab measures. "They get up at 6 a.m. and they have Bible studies and they work and everything is very regimented. It's like a boot camp, but structure is what they need. They won't let just anyone in. You have to come on a Sunday and go to a church service and you have to be interviewed so they can find out if you are sincere about getting better."

Her brother was accepted and she was delighted to see the gradual improvement that eventually "gave me my brother back. He had been through so much but it was neat to watch his transformation. His color came back, his attitude improved and he changed so much. His first month, I was hopeful; but then as time went by you could just see it in him.

He was ready to get healed and the people helping him were wonderful."

Residents and instructors work six days a week and serve the surrounding communities through several internal ministries. "They have a body shop and landscaping and screen printing," Burnett said. "They work while they're there and they stay in these dorms, or houses."

Most dorms, or Faith Houses, at John 3:16 are named for counties in which donors have contributed funds for their construction. The majority of residents at the camp are housed in their respective county's Faith House.

"That's why we decided we need a Greene County House," Burnett said. "The men and their families learn to connect with other Greene County guys and families, and that's important. When they get to go back home, they have new friends and families to associate with. With addiction, you can learn to cope very well because you're learning new coping skills but when you get out and you've left that support group, life's going to hit you again. That's why so many addicts fail once they're out; they go right back to the same old friends and same old places, and it just starts all over again. In a Greene County House, they will be with just guys from Greene County so they can be there to help each other later."

It takes about \$98,000 to build a house, although much of the work and materials are donated at cost by professionals who have had a loved one graduate the program. "And the men help actually build the houses," Burnett said. "They use their talents to build something good."

Individuals, families or businesses can sponsor a room in one of the houses for a \$7,000 donation (all donations to John 3:16 are tax deductible since it is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and does not receive any state or federal funding. The ministry survives entirely on donations from individuals, businesses, churches and annual fundraisers) and Burnett said all but two of the required 14 rooms in the Greene County House have been spoken for already. She has helped with the financial support by speaking to a civic club and helping organize events like a golf tournament and fish fry.

"I hate to ask people for money," she said. "That's just how I am. I did speak to the Rotary Club but I don't ask for your money, I just want to bring awareness. If it's something you feel moved to do, then you should contribute. It's amazing to me how it's all come together. We still have some fundraisers we are considering for the fall, but it's just how much people here want to help others who are struggling that overwhelms me sometimes."

Burnett said anyone seeking more information can contact her by phone at 870-476-1626 or at hollyburnett@live.com.

"If I can help just one other person by putting our story out there, that's what I want to do," she said. "My brother will be the first one to tell you this has been a life-saving experience for him. He has come full circle."

John 3:16 Ministries may be reached at 870-799-2525 or by email at beverly@john316ministry.com.



CHAMPIONS
CGC
GYMNASTICS

ENROLL NOW!

All Ages from 2 years to 18 years old.
NO REGISTRATION FEE

PREGYM CLASSES TUMBLING CLASSES
GYMNASTICS CLASSES

870-236-3286 | championsgymnasticscenter.net



September

EVENTS CALENDAR

Recurring

EVENTS

01

What: 1st Thursdays

When: Thursday, September 1, 5 p.m.

Where: Downtown Paragould

Info: Music, shopping, dining ... all in Downtown Paragould

What: Yoga

When: Thursday, September 1, 12:15 p.m.

Where: Jonesboro Public Library

Info: The library offers free exercise classes each week in the Round Room. On Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. the library offers a low impact yoga class. All of the free exercise classes are taught by licensed instructors.

02

What: Pack Pride Weekends

When: Friday, September 2

Where: Tailgate City (AState)

Info: The first Pack Pride Weekends event will kick off with the Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce' Big Great A-State leading the Friday night festivities at Tailgate City. The game day wear for the Red Wolf - Toledo Rocket face off will be red.

07

What: Greene County Commodity Distribution

When: Wednesday, September 7, 9:00 a.m.

Where: National Guard Armory, Paragould

Info: Must bring photo ID. For information call Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas at 870-932-3663.

09

What: Bike Jonesboro Advocacy Ride

When: Friday, September 9, 6:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Where: Gearhead Cycle House, 231 S. Main St., Jonesboro

Info: <https://raceroster.com/events/2016/9575/bike-jonesboro-advocacy-ride>

10

What: Rummage at the Rails

When: Saturday, September 10, 7 a.m.-noon

Where: Downtown Paragould

Info: Have too much stuff? Looking for a treasure? Join us Downtown for September's Rummage at the Rails. Rummage is held every other month on the 2nd Saturday, weather permitting.

15

What: Alive After Five

When: Thursday, September 15, 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Where: Downtown Jonesboro

Info: The Alive After Five Street Market, an award winning event, seeks to enhance quality of life, provide entrepreneurial opportunities, and establish a community and social gathering place in Downtown that welcomes local farmers, producers, crafters and artisans to come together and offer a variety of fresh produce and goods directly to the consumer.

24

What: Pack Pride Weekends

When: Friday, September 24

Where: Downtown Jonesboro

Info: The award winning event will feature Friday night activities on Main Street, such as the A-State Homecoming classic, 'Downtown by the Decades', 'Stay Alive After Five', and 'Downtown Gives Back'. Fans and their families can enjoy game day transportation for a minimal fee from the free parking lot downtown at East Street and Burke Avenue, to Centennial Bank Stadium on Saturdays..

26

What: KASU's Bluegrass Monday

When: Monday, September 26, 7 p.m.

Where: Collins Theatre, Paragould

Info: Enjoy the musical entertainment of The Farm Hands

First Monday of every month: Paragould Young Professionals First Monday Lunch, noon.

First & Third Wednesday: Perking on Pruett, 8:30 AM-10:00 AM. At Something Sweet. Find out what's happening in the One and Only downtown Paragould. Your input is welcome.

Second Tuesday of every month: The Greene County Wildlife Club meets at the Paragould Community Center beginning at 6:00 PM.

Second Tuesday of every month: Greene County Master Gardeners present a Brown Bag Lunch Program at the Greene County Library from 12-1. Bring a lunch and enjoy a free gardening presentation.

Second & Fourth Tuesday of every month: The Paragould American Legion Post 17 meets at 7:00 PM at the corner of Court and Hwy. 49. The second Tuesday is a business meeting and the fourth is a Pot Luck Dinner with spouses and friends.

Third Thursday of every month: Alive After Five, Downtown street market in Downtown Jonesboro.

Second Thursday of every month: The Compassionate Friends, 7:00 PM. Southside Community Church Conference Room, 2211 Jones Road. For parents grieving the loss of a child. tcfnortheastarkansas@yahoo.com.

Second Thursday of every month: The Memory Cafe, support group for those having memory, dementia or Alzheimer's at 1:00 PM at the Senior B.E.E.S. Center, North 12th St. in Paragould.

Second Wednesday of every month: St. Mary's Spaghetti Dinner, 11 AM-1:00 PM Admission is \$6 for all you can eat spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert and drink. At St. Mary's Catholic Church in Paragould.

Every Third Monday: Greene County Retired Teachers Meeting, 11:30 a.m. at Grecian Steak house. All retired Greene County school personnel are invited.

Every Third Thursday: Alzheimer's Support Group with the Alzheimer's Arkansas Association and Home Instead Senior Care, 2:00 PM at Chateau on the Ridge.

Fourth Tuesday of every month: Greene County Master Gardener Meeting, Greene County Library, 6 PM, guests welcome.

GC Fine Arts Council The Addams Family


The Greene County Fine Arts Council has announced the cast for the upcoming musical, "The Addams Family." The show, directed by Taylor Smith, will be presented at the Collins Theatre in downtown Paragould October 7 and 8 at 7:30 p.m. and October 9 at 2:00 p.m.

The Addams Family features an original story, and it's every father's nightmare. Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family, a man her parents have never met. And if that weren't upsetting enough, she confides in her father and begs him not to tell her mother. Now, Gomez Addams must do something he's never done before — keep a secret from his beloved wife, Morticia. Everything will change for the whole family on the fateful night they host a dinner for Wednesday's "normal" boyfriend and his parents.

The cast includes:

Gomez Addams- Tommy Russell
 Morticia Addams- Sydney Walker
 Wednesday Addams- Leah Aldridge
 Lucas Beineke- Jordan Dean Foster
 Uncle Fester- Tim Ward
 Pugsley Addams- Bryan Roberts
 Lurch- Steven Watkins
 Mal Beineke- Josh Dennis
 Alice Beineke- Ashlyn Pillow
 Grandmama- Sandra James
 Addams Family Ancestors
 Carlotta (Opera Singer)- Ashley Speaks
 Brenda (Stewardess)- Rebecca Martin
 Roxie (The Flapper)- Nina Witcher
 Nellie (Nurse)- Olivia Beaverson
 Sally (Bride)- Jodie Rebstock (u/s Grandmama)
 Will (Shakespearean)- Eli Irwin
 Jean V. (Prisoner)- Chance Williams (u/s Lucas Beineke)
 Christopher (Pilgram)- Reese Ruhl
 B.C. Boulder (Caveman)- Ariel Coleman
 Gump (Army Man)- Alex Brewer
 Creature of the Night (Front of the house/flowers)- Rene Spence
 Servants/Beineke Family
 Jon Ray
 Ron Spence
 Jenna Boling (u/s Pugsley Addams)
 Randy Hembrey (u/s Uncle Fester)
 Jennifer Bell (u/s Alice)
 Holly Henson
 Donna Fulkerson

Tickets are available online at www.gcfac.org and at the door. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under and seniors 65 and up.



Simply Elegant

Gotay's
 GALLERY OF
 CUSTOM JEWELRY
 DESIGNS, L.L.C.

2604 E. Nettleton Avenue | Jonesboro | 870-972-8743 | www.gotaysgallery.com



Whitney Vassar
 PHOTOGRAPHY

Now booking Fall sessions!

Phone: 870.219.2902
 Email: photosbywhitneyv@yahoo.com



LIKE US ON  facebook

HAPPENINGS

1. Jr. Auxiliary

Junior Auxiliary of Paragould recently selected board members for the 2016-2017 year. Junior Auxiliary is a national non-profit organization that encourages members to render charitable services beneficial to the general public, with particular emphasis on children. Pictured from left are Mimi Jackson, Treasurer; Lindsay Sheets, Corresponding Secretary; Tiffany Nolen, Vice President; Latoya Coward, President; Kelsey Matheny, Recording Secretary; Audra Brown, Assistant Treasurer; and Debbie Jones, Chapter Support Coordinator. Not pictured, Stacie Reddick, Ex Officio. For more information on Paragould Junior Auxiliary, visit www.jaofparagould.org or email paragouldjuniorauxiliary@yahoo.com. For more information on NAJA, visit www.najanet.org.



2. OGHS Reunion

The Oak Grove High School class of 1976 gathered for its 40th reunion on July 23 at Grecian Steakhouse. Special guest was Mr. Roy Draffen. Front row from left-Lillian (Jackson) White and Phyllis (Roberts) House. Back from left—Wylie Marvin, Rusty Horton, Joe Ward, Rick Harper, Ron Bellomy, Rex Morton, Darron House and Mr. Draffen.



3. Master Gardeners

Wanda Howerton, a long-time master gardener and owner/operator of Country Garden in Paragould, was in charge of the Tuesday BBL for the Greene County Master Gardeners. She went over how to prepare individual flowers for competition at the Greene County Fair and how to prepare potted plants for competition as well. Included in the presentation were two judges who had judged the competition before and they added more information. There is a video available at the Greene County Library for anyone who would like to view the program.



From left to right Carolyn Palmer, David Jones and Tabetha McFadden were awarded their 5 year certificates and pins at the regular meeting of the Greene County Master Gardeners.

NEA COOKS CD Mitchell

Grilled Ribs

You must first buy a quality cut of ribs. Try to find ribs with end bones that are round, not oblong. Oblong rib ends indicate older hogs and tougher ribs. Many people do not “skin” their ribs, but there is a membrane on the under side of the ribs that needs to be removed to allow your seasonings to penetrate. After removing the skin, season accordingly. I love to use a combination of seasonings: salt, coarse ground black pepper, course ground red pepper, dehydrated onion flakes, onion powder, garlic powder. On occasion I even add a cup of brown sugar. There are all kinds of prepared seasonings one can buy. Experiment and find the ones you love best.

Your fire must be just right. How can you tell? Depends on the charcoal. Lump charcoal burns hotter and doesn't take as many coals. Kingsford doesn't last as long as lump, and I always find myself throwing extra coals on before I am through, but never add lighter fluid while cooking or use coals pretreated with lighter fluid. Your fire should be kept around 225-250 degrees. Do not let flare-ups get out of hand.

Experiment with different woods and combinations of wood. I love to cook with a combination of apple, cherry, hickory and peach. But any good hardwood or fruit wood will work. Even persimmon.

Now you are ready to put your ribs over the coals. I prefer to put the underside down first. I also prefer to turn my ribs several times to keep check on my fire and to stop any flare-ups that might happen.

When ribs are done, pull them. Sometimes ribs are left too long on a grill or get too much smoke. One needs enough smoke to flavor the meat, but not too much so that the meat acquires a bitter taste. As with all things, perfection is acquired through attention to detail, preparation and practice. Keep trying until you get it just right.



Occupation/Family

I am a jack of all trades. I am a teacher, author, builder, historian, truck driver and cook. I have a large family. At one time when I attended Greene County Tech, there were 28 of us attending school there. We have some excellent cooks in our family: John Everett, Cameron Boxx, Mike Tucker. Like me, they all love to eat so they all love to cook.

How did you learn to cook?

In our extended family, my dad and all of my uncles were excellent cooks. It was the “manly” thing to do. But I also love to eat and that probably had as much to do with developing an expertise for cooking as anything. It was also an excellent way to impress a lady with your attention to detail on a first date. Why take a girl to a restaurant when you can fix a candlelight dinner with grilled red snapper, grilled asparagus, bone-in rib-eye cooked to that perfect stage of done-ness (perfection is a steak with a warm, red center), and a salad made just the way she likes it with fresh cucumbers, garden tomatoes, slivers of carrots and red cabbage to add color, and her favorite salad dressing!

What is your favorite dish to cook?

I love to cook seafood on the grill, especially fresh fish like red snapper, grouper, amberjack. I got tired of lousy seafood at Destin, so now whenever I go there I make sure to rent a place with a kitchen so I can cook the wonderful, fresh seafood available in that market. But I also do well with ribs.



Funniest/Worst cooking disaster?

One day at my father's house I was cooking a big pot of red beans and rice. Dad's wife was fanatically religious and did not allow any form of alcohol in the house. I made the comment to Dad that I wish I had some red wine to add to the pot to make the dish even better. He got up and walked out into the garage and came back with a big bottle of Merlot. Seems he had heard on the news somewhere that drinking red wine was good for the heart. “But don't tell anyone,” he made me promise.

Advice for others wanting to learn to cook?

Read. Educate yourself. Experiment. I have read extensively on how to select the best cuts of meat, the best woods to cook with, how to select fresh vegetables, fresh herbs and spices. If you only cook with the best, you are far more likely to produce the best. I have read and studied about canning, brazing, brining, grilling, slow cooking, fast cooking, Cajun, Italian, and even canning and baking. And I am still reading, learning and educating myself.

Beatles at the Ridge ... literally

Right past midnight on Saturday morning, September 19, 1964, the Beatles landed at the Walnut Ridge airport for the first of two stops that remain the only time the group ever sat foot in the State of Arkansas.

The group had finished a concert in Dallas the night before, the last stop on their tour, before heading for New York City and a benefit concert there. They were going to have a rare day off on Saturday, and had accepted an invitation from Reid Piggman, the owner of American Airlines, to spend the day at his dude ranch near Alton, Missouri, and the Walnut Ridge airport was the only airport in the area large enough to handle their charter plane.

After they landed early Saturday morning, two of the Beatles left in a small, single engine private plane while the other two, who were afraid of flying in the small aircraft, traveled to Alton in a Chevrolet Suburban.

Four local teenagers, who had been finishing off Friday evening at the local hangout, The Polar Freeze, saw the large plane circling the airport right about midnight and wondered if it were a commercial plane making an emergency landing, so they headed out to investigate.

When they made their discovery of "the" Beatles, word spread fast, even in the days when the only method of communication was face-to-face conversations or talking on land lines.

By Saturday morning, things were buzzing, especially after it was learned that a group

of young fans had gone to the airport and managed to break into the plane and removed some pillows and other items before its pilot took it to Houston to pick up the Oakland Raiders football team.



And the word also quickly spread that the "Fab Four" was to return to Walnut Ridge Sunday morning to board another plane for the trip to New York.

A crowd of about 300 gathered late Sunday morning at the Walnut Ridge airport for the Beatles' return. Shortly before noon, the small plane dropped down, two of the Beatles deplaned, and the other two, who had been sitting unnoticed in the Suburban, got out and joined the others as they quickly boarded and left.

For forty years the event was one of those things talked about mainly by those people who showed up the following Sunday morning and were present when the Beatles returned and left.

But an enterprising group of citizens, led by now Mayor Charles Snapp, decided to turn the historic event into a festival in 2012, and this September 16 and 17 Walnut Ridge will celebrate its fifth annual "Beatles at the Ridge" festival.

Headlining the entertainment will be the Saturday night return appearance of the

Liverpool Legends tribute band. Several other groups, including Sonny Burgess and the Legendary Pacers, will also perform over the weekend.

There will also be a two-day Authors and Artists Symposium featuring two distinguished Beatles authors, Ivor Davis and Jude Sutherland Kesler. The festival has been touted in national and international publications, including the Wall Street Journal and USA Today, which in 2014 named Walnut Ridge as one of the Ten Best Places in the World visited by the Beatles. The festival draws over 10,000 people each year.

Consider taking the short drive from Paragould, Jonesboro, or other area towns, to take advantage of the free festival entertainment. Just bring plenty of spending money for the many local food vendors, and to purchase books and other Beatles memorabilia from festival vendors and shop owners like Carrie Mae Snapp, who owns the store "Imagine" on the corner of Abbey Road and U.S. Highway 412.

And be sure to take in the Guitar Park on the Rock 'N Roll Highway 67, and do the "Beatles Walk" in Beatles Park on Abbey Road. For a complete list of festival events, visit the website "beatlesattheridge.com."

-- By Harry Truman Moore

(Editor's Note: As a 17-year-old journalist, Harry Truman Moore, now a Paragould attorney, covered the story for the Walnut Ridge Times Dispatch. His "by-line" has led to his being interviewed by media from as far away as Russia, and to a live interview on the BBC Radio in London.)

Back to School in Style

Glen Sain Ford

1301 Hwy 49 North | www.glensain.com | 870-236-8546

GOD BLESS *our* TROOPS

September

2016 Kids' Events

7, 14, 21, 28

Story Time

When: 10:30 AM

Where: 120 North 12th Street, Paragould

Cost: Free

Info: www.mylibrarynow.org

10

Harry Potter Arts & Crafts Fair

When: All Day

Where: 315 W Oak, Ave., Jonesboro

Cost: Free

Info: www.libraryinjonesboro.org

22

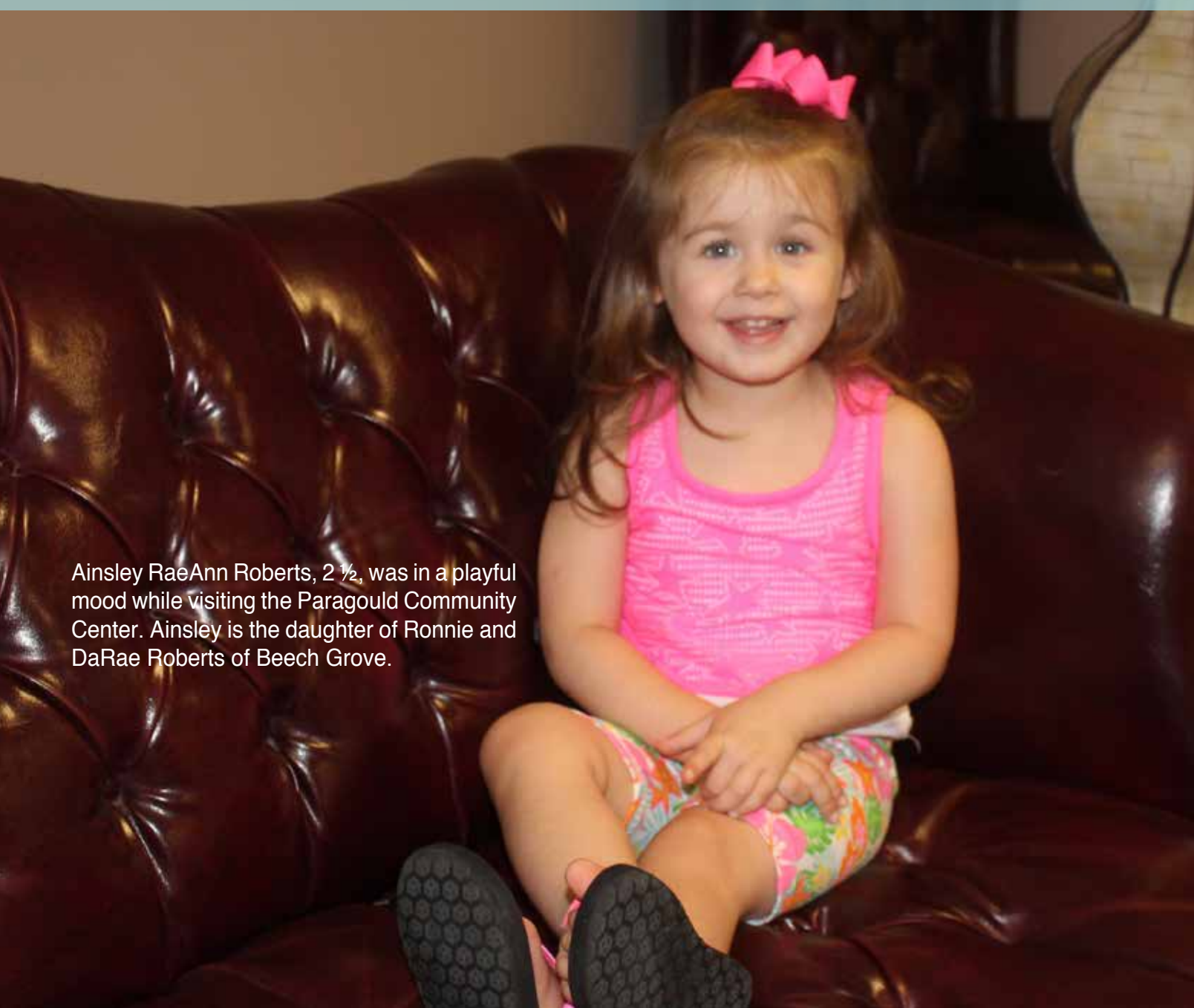
Pokemon Go Safari!

When: Thursday, 5:30 PM

Where: 315 W Oak, Ave., Jonesboro

Cost: Free

Info: www.libraryinjonesboro.org



Ainsley RaeAnn Roberts, 2 ½, was in a playful mood while visiting the Paragould Community Center. Ainsley is the daughter of Ronnie and DaRae Roberts of Beech Grove.

Gypsy Wagon

By Caitlin LaFarlette

Described by some as “home cooking at its best,” Paragould’s Downtown Gypsy shows no signs of slowing down after only two years of business.

Gypsy Wagon began as a food truck at the Paragould Farmers Market in 2014 and spent its first season with an incredible amount of hometown support.

“We could not have established our reputation without the help of those around us,” owner Tonya Hinson said.

Hinson left her job in social work in 2014 and was left looking for her next step. When her husband asked what her dream was, she immediately said she wanted a food truck. The truck’s name came from Hinson’s friend, Christen Agee, and it was the perfect suggestion.

“I wanted to be able to move our little red food wagon around and not feel the need to stay anywhere long,” Hinson said. “And it just fits my personality and my view of the world.”

During the summers of 2014 and 2015, Gypsy Wagon traveled the town offering breakfast and lunch. Hinson said in the fall of 2015, the operation moved to its brick and mortar establishment, which opened in January as Downtown Gypsy. The wagon still serves parties, rodeos and even backyard barbecues.

Downtown Gypsy is famous for its burgers and ever changing daily lunch specials. Hinson said she loves having the total freedom to create her menu, and the lunch specials are her favorite part of the day. Her cooking education came from her grandmothers and mother, and Hinson takes that family cooking and puts it into every meal.

“I take great care in planning our daily lunch specials. I want them to be comforting, but fast and ready. I want people who miss the way their momma’s or grandma cooked to come to us,” she said.

Burgers are always a safe option at any restaurant but I branched out with the lunch special of the day: buffalo chicken stuffed baked potato with green beans and macaroni and cheese. The homemade macaroni and cheese was hearty and comfort food for sure, but free of the heaviness and salt that comes with the dish at typical restaurants. The same can be said for the sauteed green beans, which tasted garden-fresh and seasoned just right. But the stunner of the lunch special was the buffalo chicken stuffed baked potato.

The baked potato itself was cooked to perfection, not too soft or tough. I was most impressed with the chicken. It wasn’t completely slathered in sauce but it was tender without any dryness. And for only \$7, Downtown Gypsy’s lunch specials are packed with enough food leftover for the next day.

Downtown Gypsy is the physical embodiment of “hometown cooking” and everyone who walks up to its window is sure to find something they will love.



AMMC Promotes Shay Willis

Arkansas Methodist Medical Center has promoted Shay Willis to the position of Director Foundation & Marketing. She has worked at AMMC since 2009 as the Marketing Coordinator and then as the Director of Marketing and Public Relations. Willis earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Radio-Television Broadcast News from Arkansas State University in 2002. She went on to complete her Master of Science in Broadcast Meteorology from Mississippi State University in 2004.



Shay Willis

Willis serves as a board member for the Northeast District for the Arkansas Society for Healthcare Marketing and Public Relations through the Arkansas Hospital Association; is a member and the Program Chair of the Rotary Club of Paragould; is a member of Paragould Young Professionals; is a Leadership Paragould Class XIII graduate; and is a member and serves on the Staff Parrish Relations Committee at First United Methodist. She and her husband, Jeremy, have a two-year old daughter, Keagan.

NEA ACA Rodeo Finals

The 2016 Arkansas Cowboys Association (ACA) Rodeo Finals will be held on October 7-8 at the Arkansas State University Equine Center in Jonesboro.

The Arkansas Cowboys Association (ACA) consists of cowboys, cowgirls and rodeo stock contractors throughout Arkansas. Formed in 1976 by a small group of rodeo contestants and stock contractors, the ACA has evolved into one of the largest rodeo associations in the state. The Finals Rodeo will mark the 40th anniversary of the ACA. Top cowboys and cowgirls in the state of Arkansas will be competing for over \$100,000 in cash and awards in the following events:

- Bull Riding
- Rough Stock Horses
- Calf Roping
- Steer Wrestling
- Breakaway Roping
- Barrel Racing
- Goat Tying
- Team Roping

Tickets are available at the venue only. Contact the Arkansas State University ticket center at 870-972-2100 for information.



GET RICH with Richard Brummett

The phrase “he was ahead of his time” has always piqued my interest but until recently I never considered it as applying to me personally. Having read some recent pieces concerning Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder I realize I was not, after all, just a fidgety kid or a daydreamer in the classroom; I was ahead of my time.

I was an ADHD kid long before we invented the acronym. The list of my infractions is a long one and I can recall a negative instance from just about every year of my schooling. I was a very good student, but paying attention for a full class period was asking a bit much. In fact, being a good student was one reason I couldn’t stay focused on the teacher’s words because I had long finished that day’s classroom assignment and was ready to move on. That’s how I wound up discovering that a freshly sharpened pencil would perform a drumstick-like bounce on the desktop many more times in succession than would a dull one, just as I learned more than once that elementary school teachers did not necessarily appreciate my one-man band performance.

Probably my best example of ADHD symptoms comes from my senior year in high school when I was placed in Mrs. Dale’s Advanced English class. Mrs. Dale was an excellent instructor, one of those incredibly tough teachers who without a doubt prepared you for college. She didn’t tell us we would do well to pass her class; she instead used the word “survive.” If we survived her class, she said, we could handle any college’s freshman English course.

While I absolutely loved English, my problem in Mrs. Dale’s class was twofold: We were asked to read literature classics that I really didn’t care that much about, and I had her class right before lunch, when my mind tended to wander more toward hot rolls than words on pages.

First of all, when she said “classics” I assumed we would be reading about baseball. What is the generally accepted reference to the World Series? It’s the *Fall Classic*. So, when we were assigned *The Old Man and the Sea*, *The Grapes of Wrath* and *Gulliver’s Travels*, I was less than

enthused. And when I read them, I just read words. I wasn’t looking for a deeper meaning or a connection to something in our everyday world. There was a man in a boat and a lot of water. Great.

I fear that Mrs. Dale died thinking I was one of the least intelligent students ever to darken her door because the majority of my answers consisted of, “I don’t really know.” That was only partly true; sometimes I actually knew the answer – though rarely – but I had not paid attention to her question. Instead, once she had used a key word that sparked something else inside my brain, that’s where my thought process had travelled.

I can’t tell you how many times I had a talk with myself and said, “Today I have got to pay attention. Today I have to give her a correct answer. Today nothing is going to distract me.”

Then I would sit down at my desk, direct all my focus toward Mrs. Dale and her hair bun and do pretty well until her lecture included a word like “rebound.” Once that word escaped her lips, all I could see was the previous night’s basketball game and the rebound I leaped high to grab, continuing on the mental journey upcourt with a crossover dribble and nice bank shot, only to have Mrs. Dale block it by saying, in a most perturbed manner, “Richard?”

That’s all I would hear. I have no idea what the words preceding my name were. She could have been calling role for all I know, but the only answer I could muster was, “I don’t really know.”

And then it was back to intense concentration on her and the bun, ready to raise my hand with a more knowledgeable answer until someone used a word like “catch” or “throw” and suddenly I was on the baseball field making plays.

Fortunately I came out of the class with some improved listening skills, although today I still struggle to make it all the way through a staff meeting, Sunday morning sermon or a conversation with my wife. It’s not that I’m disinterested, I’m just ahead of my time.

BIRTHS



Lucas John Martin

Tyler and Rachel Martin of Paragould welcomed a son, Lucas John Martin, to the family in June.

Born June 9 at St. Bernards Hospital, the baby weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces and was 20.5 inches long.

Lucas John has a sister, Lily Martin.

Grandparents are Ronnie Wood and Robert Myer, both of Paragould; John and Kay Martin of Jonesboro; and great-grandparents Loyd and Johnnie Wood, and Robert and Shirley Myer, all of Paragould.

Photo by: Melissa Donner



Xzavier Henry Brown

Dayton Brown and Crystal Barringer of Paragould announce the birth of a son, Xzavier Henry Brown.

Born June 27 at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center, the baby weighed 8 pounds, 1.4 ounces and was 20.5 inches long.

Bellamee Aspyr Rippy

Nicolas and Whitley Rippy announce the birth of a daughter, Bellamee Aspyr Rippy.

Bellamee weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces. and was 21 inches long.

She was welcomed at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center on July 14, 2016, by her big sister Kennedie.

Grandparents are Ramon and Lisa Burrow of Paragould, Michael Rippy of Paragould, and Gerald and Michele Hale of Marmaduke.



Aria Lee Bruce

Austin and Tina Bruce of Paragould announce the birth of their child, Aria Lee Bruce.

Born at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center in Paragould, Aria Lee weighed 6 pounds, 12 ounces and was 18.9 inches long.

Grandparents are Stan and Tessie Staggs of Kennett, Nancy Bruce and Paul Kolm of Paragould, Shan and Lourie Masner of Searcy, and Alan and Brenda Bruce of Paragould.

Photo by Chelsi Masterson



Dreytin Tyler Page

Dre and Madisen Page of Lafe announce the birth of their son, Dreytin Tyler Page.

Born at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center in Paragould on August 12, the baby weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and was 18.5 inches long.

Paternal grandmother is Cortney Page. Maternal grandparents are Aaron Page and Kendra Ellington.



WEDDINGS/ENGAGEMENTS



Carr-Morphis

Maxine Carr of Paragould and Aaron Morphis of Jonesboro were married in an April ceremony. Maxine is the daughter of Raymond and Tamara Carr.

Aaron's parents are Roger and Janette Morphis. The wedding took place April 26 at the Little Bell Wedding Chapel in Harrison.



Copeland-McFarland

Whitney Copeland and Skyler McFarland have announced their plans for a September wedding ceremony.

Whitney is from Paragould and her parents are Josh and Holly Copeland and Wendy and Kevin Perry.

Skyler, also from Paragould, is the son of Jimmy McFarland, and Chandra and Shannon Woodard. The wedding is scheduled to take place Saturday, September 24, at New Haven Baptist Church in Paragould.

Photo by Melissa Perry Photography



CASA Jeremy Irvin

The Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program of the 2nd Judicial District adopted a lighthouse theme to help share the message of safety and hope for children in foster care at a luncheon held at the Paragould Community Center.

The compelling keynote speaker for the event was Jeremy Irvin, a CASA Volunteer Coordinator with a background story that surprised guests and explained the depth of his mission for children. Irvin shared his past drug arrests, jail time experiences and lessons learned, and how he now works as a mentor for young men and a court advocate for kids in foster care.

"It's not easy to stand up and talk about a past that I am not proud of," said Irvin. "But, if I am able to speak about how I used that experience to make life choices that now put me in a helping position of trust and hope for children that are at risk, I will do so."

Ryan Vaughan, KAIT8 weatherman and CASA Volunteer, served as emcee for the event, which also included an appearance by

Lauren Waldon, Ms. Arkansas International. Waldon is a former child from foster care who had a CASA Volunteer and now helps provide support for the organization through educational speeches and appearances.

The event was opened with remarks and a prayer from Greene County Judge Rusty McMillon. Northeast Arkansas business and community leaders were invited to attend the event by table captains whose goal was to educate philanthropic-minded friends who wished to learn more about CASA's work and what services CASA brings to the area courts, and to the children that have been taken into foster care due to abuse or neglect.

"The real and personal stories shared at the Light of Hope event touched and inspired us all," said CASA Executive Director Donna Lamb-Bowyer.

Irvin, Vaughan and other CASA volunteers across the nation operate as investigators for the judges hearing the custody cases. They visit with all involved, investigate court ordered activities, and share information

through court reports and live testimony. CASA volunteers also meet with the children in foster care at least twice a month to check on their wellbeing for the judge. They listen to and discuss current issues and interests of the children and share items that may need attention.

CASA of the 2nd Judicial District is the second largest of 25 programs in Arkansas and one of 949 programs nationwide that recruit, train and supervise volunteer advocates for children in foster care. CASA volunteers work within their local courts, at the request of the judge, on behalf of the children. CASA of the 2nd serves children within the Northeast Arkansas counties of Clay, Craighead, Greene, Mississippi, and Poinsett. In fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, 104 CASA volunteers from the 2nd Judicial District advocated for 327 children in foster care.

For more information on the CASA program and how to become a volunteer, visit neacasa.org or call 870-935-1099.

Stay Tuned

What's in store next month

Breast Cancer Awareness



Breast Cancer Awareness Month begins on Saturday, October 1. This is an annual campaign to increase awareness of the disease. While most people are aware of breast cancer, many forget to take the steps to have a plan to detect the disease in its early stages and encourage others to do the same. We will bring you informative features to get you started in the right direction.

Family Business



Premiere will feature a section dedicated to area family businesses and the people who serve customers on a daily basis. Learn more about your neighbors in the business world in the next issue of Premiere.

Fire Prevention



October 9-15 is Fire Prevention Week. Find out what you need to know to keep your home and loved ones safe.

YOU'RE INVITED!
**ASTATE
TAILGATE
PARTY**
SEPTEMBER 24TH
TAILGATE CITY
STARTING AT 1PM
HOSTED BY ARI

ARI

NOW HIRING!

AMERICAN RAILCAR INDUSTRIES, INC.
Call your local Workforce Services (870)236-8512



Tim Rand
PHOTOGRAPHY

www.randphotography.com | 870-236-2275 | tim@randphotography.com

SCORE A TOUCHDOWN...

HOWL FOR HUMANITY

Every time A-State scores a touchdown, we'll give a **Howl for Humanity!**

Here's how it works: Families, Inc. has chosen six non-profits to benefit from each home game. For each game, we have pledged \$250 per ASU touchdown—with no cap on the payout and a minimum of \$500 per game.

So join us in cheering for each TD because pack pride includes the entire community!

FAMILIES, INC.
counseling services

2016 HOME GAMES & HOWL FOR HUMANITY RECIPIENTS

Sept. 2, 8pm // Toledo

Foundation of Arts

Sept. 24, 6pm // Central Arkansas

Greene County Animal Farm

Oct. 5, 7pm // Georgia Southern

Helping Neighbors Food Pantry

Oct. 15, 6pm // South Alabama

PACES

Oct. 29, 6pm // Louisiana-Monroe

NEA Bicycle Coalition

Nov. 12, 2pm // New Mexico State

Jonesboro Church Health Center

