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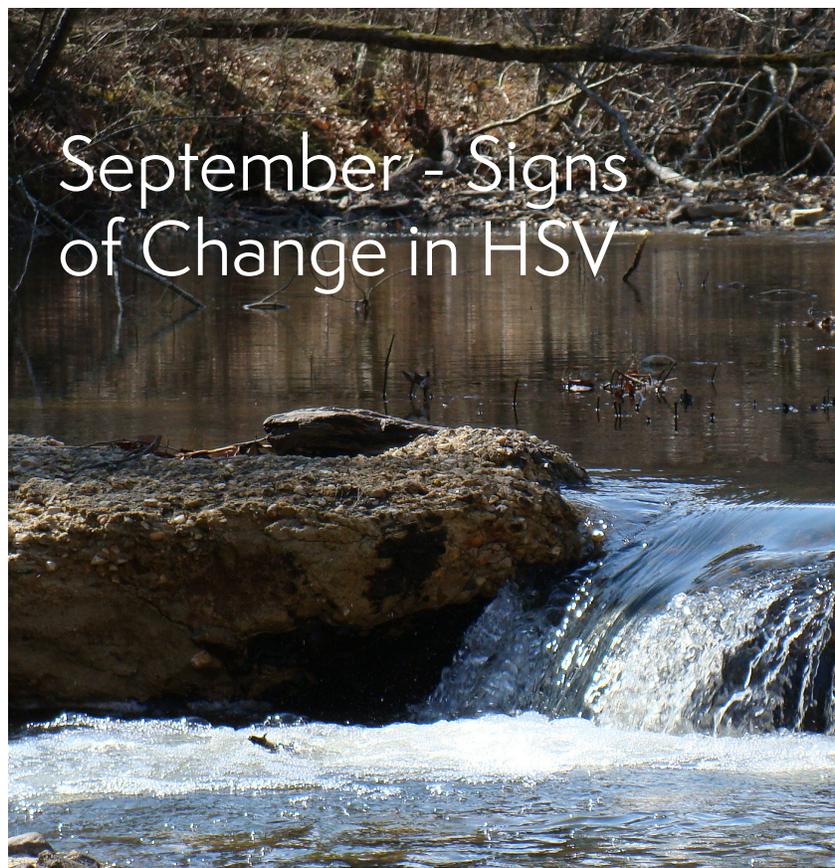
HSV Life Magazine is a monthly publication of the Hot Springs Village Voice newspaper. For additional copies, visit our office. Please send any questions or comments to us following our "Viewpoints" guidelines.

Hot Springs
Village Voice

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Hot Springs Village Voice



September - Signs of Change in HSV

As seen here, water flows from lake to lake inside Hot Springs Village. (Jeff Meek photo)

September in Hot Springs Village is a time that starts to signal a change. After mowing the grass weekly in June, July, and August, by about the third week in September, I'd notice a change. The nights were getting cooler, the grass wasn't in need of mowing every 6 or 7 days, the fish began to bite better, our electric bill began to drop, students were all back in school and football season was upon us. Sept. 23 of this year marks the first date of autumn, a sure sign of cooler days and spectacular color in the Village and in Northwest Arkansas.

In September comes Labor Day; this year on Sept. 4. After Labor Day, while driving around the Village on assignment, I would notice fewer boat trailers in parking lots and more folks walking on the HSV trail system. The peak travel season, June to August, is over. Popular destinations are less crowded and lodging and cruise rates usually drop.

September also contains something all of us should remember,



that being Sept. 11, 2001. Isn't it hard to believe those attacks took place 22 years ago. My goodness how time flies. In Hot Springs Village, resident Judy Corwin hosts an annual 9/11 remembrance event (see the article in this issue of HSV Life).

She reminds us of the tragedy and sacrifice made by first responders and airline passengers aboard Flight 93. I hope you'll take time on Monday, Sept. 11, to remember those brave souls.

September 2 also marks the official end of World War II when the Japanese signed the surrender document aboard the battleship USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay.

Whatever your September plans are, we at the Voice hope you find them full of excitement and just maybe there might be a new family tradition created or a past memory that pops up. Enjoy every minute, treasure time with family and perhaps take that long awaited trip of a lifetime.

Jeff Meek
VOICE CORRESPONDENT

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ON THE COVER: Chefs Angela Nix of Chefs for Seniors and Seth Bailey of the Beehive serve up home cooked food to Hot Springs Village residents.

ALL AROUND ARKANSAS

Three States Marker

The actual point where the Ark-La-Tex meet

Darrell W. Brown

As most people know, in Texarkana, one can stand in two states at once. There's a spot in front of the federal courthouse and post office known as Photographer's Island, where thousands of people throughout the years have taken their photo with one foot in Arkansas and the other in Texas.

But not too far from Texarkana near Atlanta, Texas (Cass County), is a place where one can actually stand in not just two, but three states at once. It's not nearly as well known as Photographer's Island, but it's a fascinating thing nonetheless.

I had never heard of what's known as the Three States Marker until I read a post about it on one of the many Arkansas-themed Facebook pages I follow. When I learned it was not too far from my in-laws' home in Wake Village, Texas, I knew I had to go. And as it happened, my wife and I were going to be traveling soon to the Lone Star State for my nephew's high school graduation.

I invited my mother-in-law, who's always up for a good adventure, if we could go and she was happy to oblige. She was excited about visiting the roadside attraction because even though she grew up in the Ark-La-Tex area, she had never heard of the Three States Marker.

Saturday morning, she and I headed out in search of the Three States Marker. We took Highway 59



The marker from the Arkansas side, above and Texas side, below right. The tree beside the marker is at far right.

out of Wake Village toward Atlanta and then turned onto Highway 77. From what I could gather from the information I found on the internet, the small concrete marker was located under a tree in some woods between a liquor store and an abandoned gas station.

We began looking for the marker as soon as Google Maps began showing that we were in the vicinity. But all we saw were the Louisiana and Texas welcome signs. So I went into the liquor store and asked for directions. One of the employees walked me outside and pointed to a tree.

According to the employee, several people per day ask about the location of the roadside attraction. After a short walk through the weeds, we found the tiny stone marker that marks the intersection of Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas.

According to the circular bronze plaque on its top, the concrete obelisk was placed there in 1930 by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey. Carved on the

marker's side are ARK, LA and TEXAS, denoting the three states that meet at the point.

Like other tourists, we had to take several pictures of us standing by and on the marker. While we were there, several other folks showed up to see the Three States Marker. If you want even more photos from your visit, the state welcome signs for Louisiana and Texas are close enough that you can get pictures of both while standing in the same spot.

There wasn't much else to see, so we headed back to my in-laws' home in Wake Village, but not before paying a visit to the dam and spillway of Wright Patman Lake (formerly Lake Texarkana), where my mother-in-law took many fishing trips with her late father. I enjoyed hearing her childhood memories and stories about the "good ol' days."

When it comes to the Three States Marker, while I wouldn't recommend going out of your way to see it, if you're in the area, definitely stop by and get a photo. After all, how many places can you be in three states at the same time and have the photographic evidence to prove it?

A proud sixth-generation Arkansan, Darrell Brown is a lover of all things Arkansas. He lives in Saline County with his wife, Amy, and their beloved Boston Terrier, Dixie. Find him on Facebook and Instagram at AllAroundArkansas.



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HSV PEOPLE



Amy's Friends came out to support her when she was nominated for Woman of the Year. (Photos courtesy of Amy Thomason)

The Spirit of Giving

Amy Thomason is a giver by nature

Robin Raborn Burns
VOICE CORRESPONDENT

Amy Thomason is a native of the Natural State. She was born in Marvell, Arkansas - the home of Lily Peter, the first Poet Laureate of Arkansas, and Levon Helm of The Band. Amy's family lived in Marvell for years. When Amy was three years old, the family moved to Fayetteville, AR.

Amy attended Mississippi State College For Women before transferring to Hendrix College in Conway, where she graduated. Amy has lived in Hot Springs

Village since 1995 and has loved every moment of it. It's a family affair as her sister, her daughter, and her family all live in HSV too. Amy shares that her parents moved here in the 1980s after her father retired. In 2020, Amy retired from Arkansas Hospice as the Development and Community Outreach Officer for the Hot Springs Office. Her territory included five counties plus all of Hot Springs Village.

As a people person, it was a job she loved. But, when the pandemic happened, the ability to continue her community outreach successfully and safely was affected. Amy's world, like all of our worlds, changed suddenly. Retirement was not an easy transition for Amy. She loved her job and loved helping people. So, when she left her job she simply filled her time with

other charitable and volunteer opportunities. Her good friend, Lee Ann Branch, says, “Amy Thomason is one of the first people I met when we moved to the Village in 2005. Amy is a giver by nature. Most of all, Amy is humble and quietly serves. She has always said her life is about who she has been lucky enough to meet, not what she has done for others.” Amy has been involved in various capacities with several organizations, including the Imagination Library of the Ouachitas as a founding board member, and serving as Chairman of the HSV Area Chamber of Commerce. She is the President of the Ouachita Speaker Series and the Vice President of PEO Chapter CU.

Amy was a former President of the Rotary Club of HSV, and past co-chair of Women’s Ministry at Village Bible Church, (she was co-chairing the Women’s Retreat for 120 women as this story was going to press!) Amy is very involved in Village Bible Church. She is also a Stephen Minister at VBC. She is part of a group of women at the church who offer “Lightning Studies” every summer- a series of 1.5 hour studies offered on Wednesdays that contain no homework and no preparation; it’s perfect for vacations and a deep dive into a portion of scripture.

As a founding member of Threshold Choir International of Hot Springs, Amy says the mission is near and dear to her heart. They provide “compassion made audible” for people at life’s thresholds. Small groups attend a bedside, or home of someone experiencing an illness or trauma. As for her busy life, and all she has accomplished, Amy says, “Nothing I have been blessed to do is due to anything but God putting people in my life who have inspired me and become friends!



Amy Thomason, with Bob Kendrick, President of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City, left.



Amy, right, with her friend Lee Ann Branch, is honored by Arkansas Hospice as Alzheimer’s Support Group Leader of the Year.

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HSV ANGELS



Dr. J getting Christmas stockings ready for delivery to Veterans. (Sandy Johansen photos)

Sandy Johansen
STAFF WRITER

Hot Springs Village Angels (HSV Angels) began in 2020 by Dr. Jade Sierra (Dr. J) of Hot Springs Village in response to the overwhelming needs of the homeless population in Hot Springs. During this time, Dr. J decided it was more important to help people than pay the administrative costs for an IRS nonprofit status. Using personal funding, HSV Angels began ministering to different folks and partnering where possible. The Angels started by providing bi-monthly clothes washing opportunities for the homeless and low-income populations in Hot Springs.

Later, the Angels added projects targeting veterans. In 2021, the veterans projects included delivering 150 Christmas stockings and 10 gift baskets to hospitals in Little Rock. This project expanded in 2023 to the delivery of 250 Christmas Stockings plus gift baskets to patients at the Veterans' Hospital in Little Rock. For 2024, the Angels are slated to donate 300 hygiene

Angels in Disguise

Dr. Jade Sierra's group helps the homeless and disadvantaged

kits and as many Trac Phone Talk cards as possible to the veteran patients.

HSV Angels is now a 501c3 nonprofit. Donations to their non-profit is tax deductible. This status also affords the opportunity to secure grants and other resources to fund missions. In 2021, Dr. J began teaching and tutoring at a daycare in Hot Springs. Later, HSV Angels added tutoring outreach programs

to support Hot Springs School District students. “I discovered most of the schools did not have tutoring programs,” said Dr. J. “Being a passionate educator, tutoring is natural expansion of the non-profit missions. To facilitate accomplish this goal, I became affiliated with the Arkansas Tutoring Corps.”

Today, the Kids Club tutoring program is located at 3 locations (Garland County Library, High Impact Movement, and HS Christian Co-Op) and is reaching multiple groups of students. The group can be very fluid depending upon student and parent availability; thus the groups composition frequently changes. In the fall after school starts, the program will continue to expand, adding to many more groups including Algebra Math Labs on Saturdays. Additionally, the Kids Club is in the planning stages of adding a “Math and Art” platform to the tutoring program.

Tutors are engaged “as-needed” basis, especially when they have the Algebra and Basic Skills Math Labs in play. They have had other teachers, computer and software engineers, science engineers, health professionals, and other high school and college students participate as tutors in the program.

To celebrate the tutoring programs’ success, parent, Braden Studhalter from the Hot Springs Christian Co-Op writes, “I am so thankful for the Algebra tutoring my daughter is receiving through Kids’ Club. For a homeschooling dad whose strength is not math, the math tutor they provided is truly an answer to prayer. She has been so patient with our advanced 6th grade daughter who is new to algebra and studying with high school kids. She is really getting it! The Kids Club actually sponsored a picnic and boat ride for tutoring students as a “reward.”

HSV Angels also has special partnership with UU-Computer 4 Kids (of HSV) from its beginning. C4K refurbishes computers (laptops, desktops, and all-in-ones) with Windows 10 Pro and Libre Office which are then made available for a small donation to persons who would not otherwise have access to a computer. A person can request a computer at the Angels’ web site www.hsvangels.com

“I’m absolutely thrilled with Dr. Jade’s professional, yet loving demeanor with each of my children and their different learning styles/techniques. She’s incredibly patient, detailed and informed on how to help them in their strengths, as well as struggles. I am so blessed to have found her and my children look forward to her visits weekly to instill the confidence and understanding they need to improve academically.



Volunteer math tutor Dillion Hefley assists Jayceon Kennedy.

I can’t say enough about this incredible teacher and woman!” Joy Camile said.

“I am so thankful for the Algebra tutoring my daughter is receiving through Kids’ Club. For a homeschooling dad whose strength is not math, the math tutor they provided is truly an answer to prayer. She has been so patient with our advanced 6th grade daughter who is new to algebra and studying with high school kids. She is really getting it” said Braden Studhalter.

“It’s all about the kids,” says Melissa Fitzsimons, Director of HS Christian Homeschool Coop.

“My main goal when tutoring students is to improve their self-esteem and instill self-efficacy in their academic skills,” said Dr. J.

Visit the HSV Angels web site at <http://www.hsvangels.com> to see the Mission and Overview pages to get an idea of the HSV Angels’ structure, projects and partners, as well as the tutoring schedule. We do not charge for our tutoring services! Parents are encouraged to register their kids at this site and support the Angels by donating financially. Helping to further the work of the Hot Springs Village Angels and their missions, they welcome all donations.

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True Patriot

Judy Corwin organizes Patriot Day event for Hot Springs Village

Judy checks the number of T2T wristbands she will need for the Walk. (Courtesy of Alliance Rubber Company)

Jeff Meek
VOICE CORRESPONDENT

“We should never forget September 11 and all the loss of life,” said Judy Corwin. “I can’t let it go, I just can’t.” Doing her part to remember 9/11, again this fall, Corwin has organized and is hosting a Patriot Day event on Monday, September 11 beginning at 8 a.m. at Grove Park.

Back in 2018 Corwin wrote a poem about the 9/11 attacks and Flight 93 that crashed near Shanksville, Penn. To her surprise, she heard from Tom Ridge, the then – National Honorary Co-Chairman of the Flight 93 Memorial. Ridge praised the Corwins for their “unique and powerful contribution to the memory of the passengers and crew of Flight 93.”

Bob and Judy Corwin visited Shanksville in 2012 and were moved to become contributors to the Memorial. Then she had an idea. She would write a poem, did so and mailed it to Ridge along with another donation. Ridge wrote back saying he was going to use the poem while speaking at the public ceremony that dedicated the Chime Tower which would chime once for each passenger and crew member killed.

She remembers: “I started crying because my little poem was going to be given, with my letter, to each of those families. I don’t want people to forget what happened on 9/11. Giving them that poem was like giving them a little hug.” The poem concludes with this: “We must never forget their brave endeavor. They will live in this field of honor (in Shanksville) forever.”

The Corwin family has another interesting connection to 9/11. Bob had worked for Phelps-Dodge

Communications and had been to the top of Tower One to take photos of the antennas atop Tower Two for the company. Two years later the Corwins watched in horror as the building and those antennas came tumbling down.

“Go to our website where you can register for the walk and donate to ‘Tunnel to Towers’ to help raise \$9,000. Come join others to enjoy live entertainment at Grove Park by the Livin’ the Dream Band and singing by Treble in the Village and Voices Rising. The walk will take place rain or shine. A short program before the walk will help us remember 9/11, then we will hit the trail for the one mile walk and wrap up by noon,” said Corwin.

Visit the event website at <http://dogood.t2t.org/campaign/hot-springs-village-patriot-day-walk/c491580>.

Look for the sneakers on the website to get signed up. Corwin can be reached at jagc3508@gmail.com.



Judy Corwin, T2t Walk Organizer with her “volunteer” husband, Bob, and patriot dog, Sweet Pea. (Photo courtesy of Judy Corwin)

“ We should never forget September 11 and all the loss of life. I can’t let it go, I just can’t. - Judy Corwin



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Ev Smyth, left, lived two doors down from Cathie Ward, the murdered girl from Bitty Martin's book "Snake Eyes." Martin lived two blocks away. (Submitted photo)

Snake Eyes

Bitty Martin's new book is focus of 'Wine and Cheese with the Author'

Mary Eliades
VOICE CORRESPONDENT



Bitty Martin, author of the true crime story "Snake Eyes" and president of the Garland County Historical Society's board of directors, recently spoke at "Wine and Cheese with the Author," sponsored by Friends of the Coronado Center Library (FOCCL). A capacity crowd, which included many local book club members, hung on Martin's every word as she talked about a series of crimes that rocked Hot Springs in the mid-1960s.

Martin had a personal interest in telling the story of the murder of 13-year-old Cathie Ward – they were childhood friends.

Martin grew up in Hot Springs and has returned there after an illustrious and varied career – first in the

Little Rock media community and later as an operating room nurse, traveling across the country, but never forgetting her childhood friend, Cathie.

Martin began her talk with a few snippets of Hot Springs history, including a photo of the old Southern Club, but said, "I'm not here to give you a history of Hot Springs," although her book paints a vivid portrait of Hot Springs in the mid-60s.

In 1966, 13-year-old Cathie Ward had gone horseback riding at Blacksnake Ranch, outside of Hot Springs, and ended up dead. The owner of the ranch, Frank Davis, told police it was an accident – her foot had caught in a stirrup and she was dragged to her death over the rough terrain, in spite of his efforts to catch

the horse. People who knew Davis were suspicious of his story – he had developed quite a reputation around Hot Springs – but authorities ruled the death accidental.

Martin’s friend Betty Jo was invited to the ranch the day Cathie was murdered, but her father wouldn’t let her go because he knew Davis.

Davis had a college degree and had served as a pilot in World War II, but was coddled by his mother even as an adult. “His mother created this monster,” said Martin. “She was basically an ATM machine.” Martin said, “People are still afraid of Frank Davis.” He was a “mean man” and a “honkytonker.”

It seemed Davis had gotten away with murder until months later, when Davis gunned down his fourth wife and her mother in broad daylight outside a Hot Springs laundromat, and authorities decided to take another look at Cathie’s case.

Cathie’s friends and schoolmates had a hard time processing her death. “We were just kids – we’d never had a friend who died,” said Martin.

Many years later, Martin had still not forgotten Cathie and decided to write a book about the murders, drawing on interviews, police and court documents, and prison records.

A couple of eerie coincidences have recently convinced Martin that Cathie is still with her. Last year Martin made 20 appearances to discuss her book, and at one – a “beauty shop book signing” – one of the women’s husbands was a juror in the Frank Davis trial.

Martin wears a necklace with a skateboard charm to honor Cathie, and lost it one day while shopping in Hot Springs. Two weeks later it showed up, and Martin thought, “Cathie’s not through with you.”

Cathie’s sister, Ruthie, and Frank’s son, Bo, were in the audience at another author event, and both have said “the book was helping them to heal.” Martin actually took Bo Davis and his wife to the ranch where Cathie was murdered.

In her spare time after her work as president of the Garland County Historical Society board, Martin is working on a new book, about a woman who murdered three husbands in Hot Springs.

For more information about Bitty Martin, visit her website at www.bittymartin.com. “Snake Eyes” is available on Amazon.

FOCCL occasionally hosts author talks and other



Hot Springs author Bitty Martin. Seated, from left, Carol Dyer and the author; standing, Mary Szczepaniak, Suellen Wiggins, Mary Koscielniak, and Dianne Jennings. (Submitted photo)

events – including the ever-popular Trivia Night (coming again November 7) – and Martin said, “FOCCL HSV is every author’s dream crowd! I really enjoyed the afternoon and meeting so many wonderful folks.”

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COVER STORY

THERE'S A NEW CHEF IN TOWN

The brother-sister team of Tamara Cull and Tim Norvell serve up home-cooked food to HSV residents

Adrienne Cohen
VOICE CONTRIBUTOR

More accurately, several professional chefs regularly prepare meals for Village residents. It's a phenomenon that is not limited to Hot Springs Village, however.

The brother-sister team of Tamara Cull and Tim Norvell purchased franchise rights for this unique service in the state of Arkansas in 2022, and currently operate in three separate locations: Little Rock-Hot Springs, Fayetteville (northern Arkansas), and Texarkana. They employ about 20 professionally trained chefs, serving clients in 22 counties in Arkansas and two in Texas.

Cull and Norvell are also the new owners of The Beehive on Minorca Drive in Hot Springs Village. The lively destination attracts Village residents for food and drink, conversation and connections, karaoke, trivia, and live music. None of that is destined to



Tamara Cull of Chefs for Seniors.

change, according to Cull, and the variety of local talent on The Beehive stage is likely to remain as upbeat and varied as always.

The ownership transfer happened quickly, with no advance fanfare and almost no speculation. The previous owners, Judy and Steve Nowak, had purchased The Beehive only this past January, in an effort to save the “neighborhood hangout” they had come to love. They moved to the Village seven years ago, and The Beehive opened two years later. The building had at one time housed a neighborhood florist shop until it was transformed into a quirky eatery that featured good drinks and live music on weekends, along with a limited menu.

The Nowaks preserved that vibe during their short tenure, revamping the menu, expanding the specialty drink list, and adding a wider selection of wines. They did not intend to become full-time restaurateurs, but they concentrated on special events, including trivia evenings and monthly art classes to build a following. In the spring, they contacted Chefs for Seniors about collaborating for a reservation-only wine-pairing dinner in May.



“Chef’s Surprise” salad of watermelon and Feta.

The event, a multi-course gourmet meal accompanied by distinctive wines, was a sell-out! But more importantly, it was also the catalyst for a change of ownership.



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Chefs Angela Nix and Seth Bailey.

Cull has assumed day-to-day oversight of the popular Village “hangout,” while her brother continues to manage ongoing operations of the duo’s Chefs for Seniors locations, although they envision somewhat overlapping roles. The French-trained lead chef for the franchise operation, Seth Bailey, assumed new duties as executive chef at The Beehive. The sale was finalized on Friday, June 9, according to Cull, and a revised, pared-down menu with an emphasis on lighter, fresher fare, debuted on June 10. Both Cull and the new chef had been as busy as bees for several weeks testing new dishes and training new staff.

A second wine-pairing dinner was held Tuesday, June 27. It, too, was highly successful, with more than 50 diners, including the Nowaks, in attendance. Angela Nix, who succeeded Bailey as executive chef at Chefs for Seniors, assisted with that event. Wines were provided by Vino Distribution of Little Rock, a relatively young family-owned company with a passion

for bringing good wine to Arkansas residents.

Bailey, who is proud of his Arkansas heritage, confesses that he once wanted to become an artist, but cooking won out. He served as a chef in various Kroger Marketplace locations for many years and has been cooking since his teens. He currently has a teenage son who also shows interest in becoming a chef, and two other sons who regularly help in the kitchen. The family maintains a home garden, with tomatoes, microgreens, and other fresh produce that they routinely incorporate into their meals.

Nix is a fourth-generation chef, who is also married to a chef. She says she learned from her grandmother how to capture the goodness of garden-fresh food. She is also a cheesemaker who supplies all the mozzarella for Deluca’s Pizza in Hot Springs. Not surprisingly, the main course at the June wine-pairing dinner was her specialty, shrimp and cheesy grits.



Wine-pairing menu with a glass of French Rose.

The two chefs agree that good food is “about the quality of the ingredients,” and that their greatest reward comes from seeing others enjoying the dishes they create.

Cull and Norvell, along with their respective spouses, view ownership of The Beehive as an extension of their ongoing commitment to help improve lives through good food and socialization.

That’s also the overriding goal of Chefs for Seniors, one that each of their professionally trained chefs embraces wholeheartedly.

History of Chefs for Seniors

The idea of a home-based meal-preparation service was initiated in 2013 by a father-son team in Madison, Wisconsin. In the years since, the personal chef company has grown to include 80 individually-owned-and-operated locations, preparing more than one and a half million meals for satisfied clients during its existence.

Although the Cull-Norvell team has no previous food service or restaurant experience, they boast complementary credentials in health service and related fields. Cull holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in social work from the University of Arkansas and a DHA from the Medical University of South Carolina in health, healthcare administration, and management. She has also taught as an adjunct professor at the University of Arkansas – Fort Smith.

Following U.S. Army service, Norvell embarked on a 25-year career in the home healthcare and hospice industry. With Chefs for Seniors, he says he is dedicated to the mission of “improving seniors’ lives through food,” and the team’s growth record in Arkansas is impressive.

What sets Chefs for Seniors apart from other home-delivery food services? It’s the reliance on professional chefs, according to this brother-sister team, as well as the ability to customize meals and scheduling to individual needs. The chefs do all the shopping, cooking, and cleanup as well as using their own cooking tools and cookware. Each typically spends between three and four hours one day a week in



Chef Nix’s specialty shrimp & cheesy grits.



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Chef Nix stirring her cheesy grits.



individual homes. Part of the benefit for recipients is the associated companionship and “wellness checks” that the chefs provide. Learn more by visiting www.chefsforseiors.com/central-arkansas/.

Adult children sometimes order the meal service for family members recuperating from surgery or for aging parents who want to remain independent as long as possible. All chefs are licensed by the state health department, and they undergo rigorous background checks. Long-term contracts are not required. Although the price is deemed quite reasonable, on a par with meal-delivery services or less in some cases, some long-term-care policies also offer partial or full reimbursement.

The emphasis is on meals that provide fresh, locally sourced, nutrition-rich food, custom-prepared and conveniently packaged for ease of heating and serving. Cull notes that, despite the name, some subscribers are busy career couples, perhaps with children, who embrace the value of fresh ingredients and home

cooking. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner selections are available, and the trained chefs work with clients to develop weekly menus that meet individual preferences and dietary needs, including diabetic and gluten-free options.

What’s Ahead for The Beehive?

The limited menu – 20 or so items – will continue to be altered, Cull notes, based on customer input, but the emphasis will remain on tasty, nutritious meals prepared with care from locally-sourced ingredients. Chef Bailey doesn’t mince words when it comes to his commitment to fresh: “Nothing frozen will be on the menu,” he says.

According to Cull, “We were fortunate to inherit good people; we have a team we can rely on,” noting that the former owners have been invaluable during the transition. The feeling seems to be mutual. The Nowaks reportedly had several offers from potential buyers. Chef Bailey confided that he believes they selected Tamara Cull for a reason: “She really cares

about the community and about her team,” he said.

Cull continues to explore new ideas, but she wants The Beehive to remain a gathering place where strangers can meet and become friends, listen to music, and participate in friendly competition with games like trivia and Pokeno. The Beehive is now open for brunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. She hopes to institute a Saturday jazz brunch, expand the take-out menu, and add catering services. One thing that will not change, she says, is the focus on high-quality, fresh, well-prepared food at reasonable prices.

Changes are coming to The Beehive. But they're all good, according to the new owners. They and their supportive spouses are eager to welcome returning customers and greet new visitors. Tamara Cull hopes that this neighborhood hangout will continue to live up to its image as “the best place to bee” in Hot Springs Village. Follow The Beehive on Facebook or learn about scheduled entertainment and special events at www.beehivehsv.com.



Dessert – chocolate mousse with Arkansas-grown strawberries paired with a Portuguese tawny port.



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HOT SPRINGS DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL



It's time to toast the opening of the 2022 Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival. More to come in 2023.

Unveiling in the Village

Sandy Johansen
STAFF WRITER

*Festival kicks off with
preview in HSV*

The Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival, a local treasure among the area's cultural and arts events, is coming to Hot Springs Village! On Tuesday, September 19 at 6:30 PM at the Woodlands Auditorium, the Doc Fest will present a 90-minute preview of the 2023 festival lineup. Doc Fest Executive Director Ken Jacobson will provide a complete overview of the festival, including highlights from the different festival sections, a discussion of Gala Events — including Opening and Closing Night, Centerpiece Screening and Awards — as well as announcements of any special guests. A highlight reel of film trailers will be shown and, as a special, exclusive treat, a short documentary from the 2023 lineup will be screened.

The 32nd annual festival will be held October 6 – 14 in downtown Hot Springs. For the first time, Opening Night (October 6) will be held entirely at Oaklawn, with the festival continuing through October 14 at the Arlington Hotel Resort & Spa. Founded in 1991, the nine-day Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival is the longest-running documentary film festival in North America. The festival has become known throughout the U.S. for its high-quality documentary programming spotlighting many Oscar® nominees and winners. Numerous celebrity filmmakers such as Beau Bridges, Louis Gossett, Jr. Kathleen Turner, Diane Ladd and world-renowned filmmakers, such as Werner Herzog, have attended the festival. An Oscar-

qualifying festival in the documentary short subject category, HSDFF has been cited as one of MovieMaker Magazine's "Top 50 Festivals Worth the Entry Fee" and was recently named as "One of the Top Film Fests in North America" by Destination Film Guide.

Hot Springs Doc Fest Executive Director Ken Jacobson said, "We are absolutely thrilled to be doing our first ever Preview event at the gorgeous Woodlands Auditorium in Hot Springs Village on September 19. This is a great opportunity for us to connect with HSV residents and unveil the exciting things that we have planned for this year's fest. We are also excited to be offering an exclusive on-site flash sale for those in attendance. Special thanks to the HSVPOA for allowing us to make use of this terrific venue."

Details: The 2023 HSDFF Preview event will take place Tuesday, September 19 at 6:30 pm at the Woodlands Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public. A cash bar will be available starting at 6:00 pm. In addition, HSDFF staff will be on-hand to sell festival passes, "six packs" of tickets and individual tickets. A special one-day Flash Sale on passes will be offered to those in attendance. For more details, go to [HSDFI.org](https://hsdfi.org) or <https://hotspringsvillage.thundertix.com/>



Lou Gossett Jr. and Beau Bridges celebrate one of the past opening nights of the Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival. Gossett won many awards including his Emmy for "Outstanding Lead Actor for a Single Appearance in a Drama or Comedy Series" appearing in the popular miniseries *Roots*. A three-time Emmy winner, Beau Bridges has also been honored two times with a Golden Globe and one time with a Grammy.



Students celebrate following a 2019 Educational Workshop at the Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival.



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www.shannonsjewelershs.com | Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Channeling Tesla

Mathias family still sparking interest in Tesla's legacy

Mary Eliades
VOICE CORRESPONDENT

Richard Mathias is one of those rare individuals who become inspired by something early in life and are lucky and talented enough to fulfill their dreams and pass them on to others.

Mathias, who has lived in Hot Springs Village since 1996 with his wife (and partner) of 64 years, Mary Ellen, visited the Griffith Observatory in the Hollywood Hills of southern California as a youngster and was awed by the Tesla coil exhibit.

The coil had been built in 1910 to Tesla's original conical design and has an estimated output of 1.3 million volts.

Nikola Tesla was a brilliant scientist who is best known for his contributions to alternating current power systems. His experiments with high-voltage, high-frequency power in attempts to transmit electricity wirelessly led to the invention of his namesake coil.

This fascinated young Mathias, who eventually constructed his own Tesla coils, entering them in the 1953 Southern California Science Fair.

After studying electrical engineering, Mathias went on to a rewarding career, starting in the electrical engineering department of Southern California Edison, where he met Mary Ellen. He worked in offshore seismic exploration for Shell Oil Company and as an industrial engineer at Westinghouse, and then spent more than 30 years in electric utility power generation for General Electric.



The Mathias family has spent time, energy and money to enlighten generations of young scientists. Shown here, David, Mary Ellen and Richard Mathias. (Mary Eliades photo)

Mathias retired and moved to the Village in 1994 and has continued his mission of keeping Tesla's life and work alive and inspiring new generations of scientists. That very first glimpse of a Tesla coil "sparked an interest" and Mathias decided, "I'd like to do the same for others."

Richard and Mary Ellen started the Tesla Coil Museum Exhibit Program (TCMEP) in 2002, when he joined the board of the Mid-America Science Museum (MASM); he served two terms on the board, until 2010.

In 2002, Richard and Mary Ellen donated a Tesla coil to MASM that has been certified as the world's most powerful conical coil, at 1.5 million volts (the exhibit is called "Caged Lightning"). The conical coil is of Tesla's original "spark gap" design and is encased in a Faraday cage to block

electromagnetic waves.

That donation led to many more and the Mathias family has now gifted 15 coils to 13 museums, “from El Paso to the East Coast,” according to Richard. Richard and son David (recently retired from a career in power generation) originally designed and built the coils, but now they are made by outside firms and are solid-state. David is vice president of TCMEP and provides technical support when required. He has recently moved to Hot Springs Village and is being trained to maintain the MASM conical coil.

Beginning in 2003, Richard and Mary Ellen revived an old program, “Sermons in Science,” originated by science popularizer Dr. Irwin Moon, traveling the country and doing presentations for more than 22,000 students and various professional organizations. Mary Ellen (aka Professor Sparky), channeling the spirit of Tesla and other “mad” scientists, donned a white smock and fright wig for the presentations, and said her goal was to “help kids find their passion – their special gift.”



David Mathias making magic at the recent Tesla Fest at the Mid-America Science Museum. (Mary Eliades photo)

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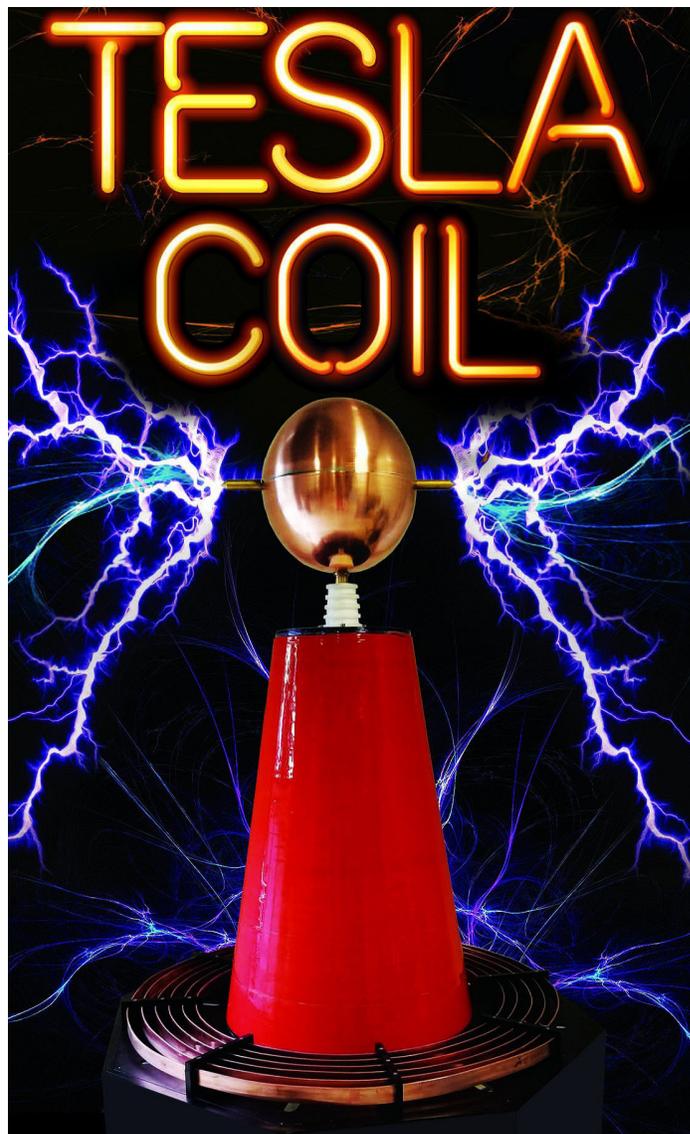
Interest in Tesla and his inventions has grown over the last few decades, as evidenced by the crowd of more than 6,000 people who participated in “Shock the Rock” – a 2019 event at the Clinton Presidential Center. Mathias was instrumental in bringing scientist Greg Leyh and his 40-foot Tesla coil to Little Rock to demonstrate the awesome power of 3.1 million volts – the world’s largest Tesla coil.

The Mid-America Science Museum recently celebrated what would have been Tesla’s 167th birthday with a Tesla Fest. Richard, Mary Ellen, and David were featured speakers and demonstrated the power of the giant Tesla coil along with smaller coils, including the crowd favorite musical coil, which converts electric sparks into music. Richard said kits are even available for budding scientists.

The newest addition to the family of Tesla coils is at EdVenture (children’s museum) in Columbia, South Carolina, scheduled for installation in August 2023. The conical musical coil is the most powerful of its kind at 500,000 volts, and a Guinness World Record certification is pending.

The Mathias family has donated countless time, energy, and money to make their dream of inspiring young scientists come true, including annual maintenance of the MASM coil since its installation. They have had a little help along the way. “The Tesla Coil Museum Exhibit Program that I created would not have been possible without the General Electric matching gifts program,” said Mathias. “They matched my personal financial funds on all museum coils except EdVenture.” Dominion Energy of Columbia provided major funding for the EdVenture exhibit.

Mathias has received many awards for his contributions, including the Tesla Spirit Award and



The most powerful musical conical coil in the world – the latest donation by the Mathias family and others – was installed at EdVenture, Columbia, South Carolina, in August 2023. (Submitted photo)



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the Tesla Medal from the Tesla Science Foundation (presented in January 2020), as well as a Gold Achievement Award from the same organization in July 2021. The TCMEP was also acknowledged with a recognition award in April 2015.

Judging by the rapt faces on children and adults alike at the Mathias’ recent presentation, Richard’s lifelong dream has come true – even into his 80s, he is still teaching and inspiring youngsters about the wonders of science.

HSV BUSINESSES

Shop & Dine

Sandy Johansen
STAFF WRITER

Watching shoppers at the recent re-opening of The Vintage Pearl Market & Boutique, one was reminded of the countless shopping selections offered at their location on Glazypeau Road. Along with The BBQ Pitts Stop and Melinda's Cafe and Coffee, Vintage Pearl celebrated July 5 showing the best of the best.



Steve and Lauren Gross with their daughter Preslie celebrate the grand opening of The Vintage Pearl Market & Boutique.

The Vintage Pearl Market was founded by Lauren Gross along with assistance from her husband, Steve, from their western ranch

An advertisement for 'White Furniture of Benton'. The top part features the company name in a stylized font with 'White' in script and 'FURNITURE of Benton' in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the name is a photograph of a brown leather sofa with two patterned pillows, a coffee table, and a vase of flowers. The bottom left of the ad contains contact information: '206 S. Market St. Benton 501-315-7482 Delivery Available'. At the bottom center are social media icons for Facebook and Instagram. The bottom right of the ad has the text 'LEATHER GALLERY' in a bold, serif font.

just a short distance from the shop.

“Lauren takes good care of this shop so I have time to take care of the horses, cattle and many other chores on our ranch,” said Steve.

Gross opened her boutique April 1, 2023, and has expanded not only what she offers for sale, but the size of her facility. Her “mini mall” also houses the aforementioned two food vendors for take-out or in-house dining.

There is a wealth of apparel, gifts, home decor and candles, giving the shopper a vast selection of fashion and gifts for any man, woman, or child. The Vintage Pearl Market & Boutique is undeniably the best place for all your shopping needs.

Located at 372 East Glazypeau, VPMB, is open Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information feel free to email them at: thevintagepearlmarket@gmail.com or call the market at 501-915-4210.



Welcome to Melinda's Cafe and Coffee, 372 E. Glazypeau Road. (Sandy Johansen photo)

Welcome Back - Melinda's Cafe & Coffee

“We’ll never forget an unlucky Friday the 13th of January this year. It was the day fire engulfed our restaurant and our cafe, coffee and catering business,” said Alanna Owen. “It was horrible, but something good did come out of it. Now, we have a bigger and more efficient kitchen and can expand dining and catering to meet anyone’s needs,” said Daniel Owen. They congratulate Steve and Lauren Gross with their vision of this wonderful destination for all of us.

Melinda’s is open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday. They offer dine-in and also call-in-pick up at 501-984-5393. Menu offerings include breakfast goodies and a variety of sandwiches. Do they have coffee? With nearly 20 choices, you should find one just for you. Brewed coffees, Lattes, Cappuccinos and more along with frozen Frappes.

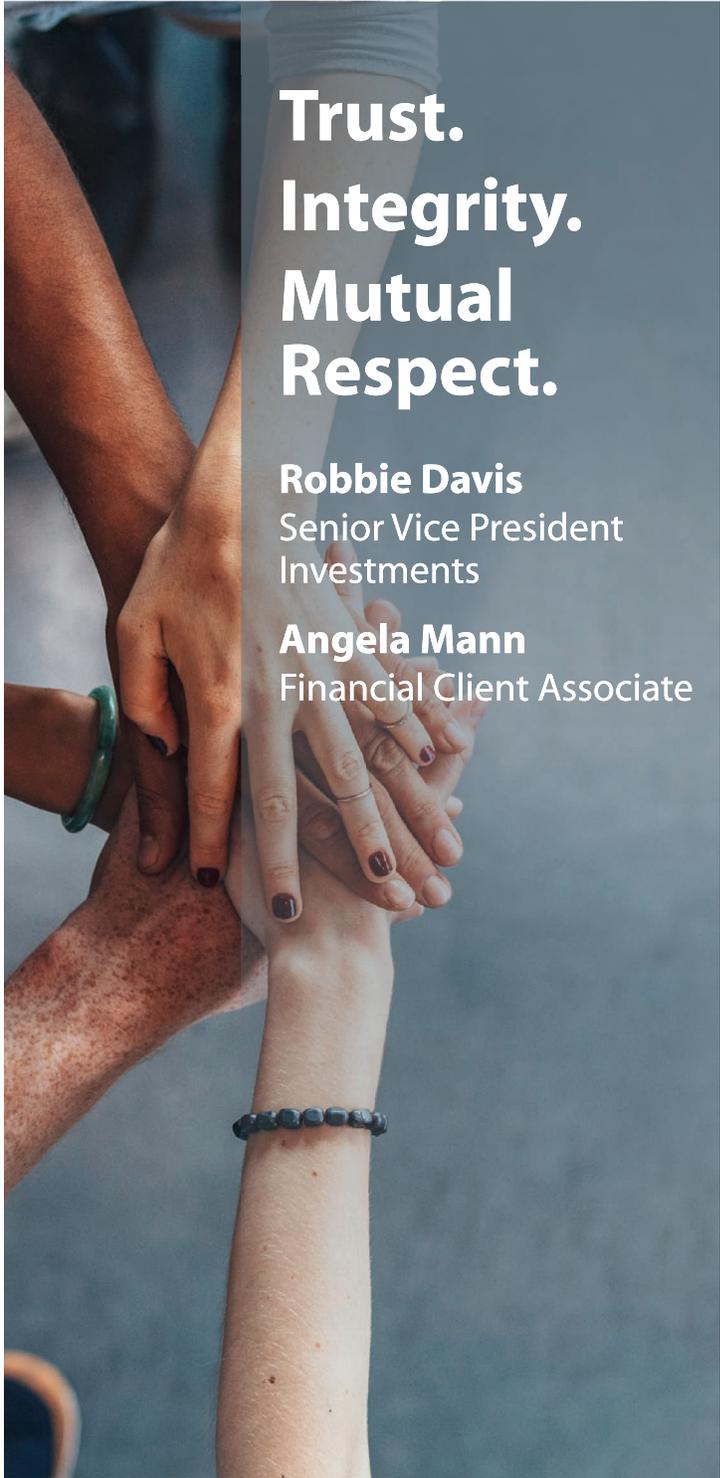
If you have an event coming up, send an email to: dnahsv@gmail.com for their catering information.



Daniel and Alanna Owen happy to celebrate and reopen Melinda's Cafe and Coffee (Submitted photo)



Entrance to Vintage Pearl Boutique.



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Get ready, set, vote

2024 election season kicks off

Lewis Delavan
STAFF WRITER

A flurry of activity toward the 2024 election will start soon.

The general election will be Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024.

The 2024 filing season opens at noon Sept 14. From then until noon Sept. 21, nonpartisan prosecutor and judicial candidates may file petitions for ballot access in the nonpartisan election without paying a filing fee.

From noon Nov. 6-noon Nov. 14, party candidates for file for the March 5 preferential primary election. The non-partisan filing period begins and ends at 3 p.m. on those days.

Early primary voting begins at 8 a.m. Feb. 19.

Two officials representing part of Saline County have announced they will not seek reelection.

And Villager Karen Crowson has announced her candidacy for Saline County Quorum Court District 13, the seat that incumbent Keith Keck has said he will leave at the end of Dec. 31, 2024.

Keck says he will remain active in working for all of Hot Springs Village.

State Rep. Lanny Fite has announced he will retire Dec. 31 from a long career in public service, including 18 years at Saline County judge. Fite looks forward to more time with family.

Crowson is a Realtor and broker and serves on the HSV Property Owners' Association Governmental Affairs Committee.

She and her husband, Mike, have been married since 1981 and are members of Balboa Baptist Church. They have two daughters, Angie Johnson and Chelsea Jones, a son-in-law, Matthew, and two grandchildren, Elijah



Karen Crowson, Saline JP candidate

and Camille, who live in Mountain View.

“This position has been held for the last three terms very capably by Keith Keck, a resident of Hot Springs Village. Keith has encouraged me to run and given me his endorsement as his successor to represent District 13,” Crowson said in announcing her candidacy.

She has been selling real estate in Saline County since 1987. “Angie and I continue to be a top-producing team for Crye-Leike Realtors.”

“Saline County has been so good to me, and I have always tried to give back to the community. I served as past Ambassador and on several committees for the Benton Area Chamber of Commerce. I served two years on the Board of Directors for New Beginnings and currently serve on the Saline County Habitat for Humanity Board. I also served on the ad-hoc committee for Hot Springs Village evaluating a key real estate acquisition.

My primary goal is to help Saline County continue along the same successful track that it has been on the last several years. I truly believe that is because we have elected the right people at the right time to

be leading our county.”

She cited her experience in governmental relations as a Realtor, adherence to the Realtor’s code of ethics and experience in working in a field that’s both competitive and cooperative. Crowson’s announcement will be in a future issue of the HS Village Voice.

Arkansas constitutional officers will be in the middle of a four-year term.

2024 is a presidential election year.

Thirteen Republicans, including former Arkansas governor Asa Hutchinson, three Democrats and a third-party hopeful have already announced their candidacy. President Joe Biden announced by video that he will seek a second term.

Here’s a list, as compiled by U.S. edition of The Guardian newspaper:

Republicans: Hutchinson, Doug Burgum, North Dakota governor; Chris Christie, former New Jersey governor; Ron DeSantis, the Florida governor who is consistently running second in polling related to the Republican nomination; Larry Elder, talk show host;

Nikki Haley, former ambassador to the United Nations and former South Carolina governor; Will Hurd, former Texas congressman; Perry Johnson, Michigan businessman; Mike Pence, former vice president and former Indiana governor; Vivek Ramaswamy, biotech entrepreneur; Tim Scott, North Carolina U.S. senator; Francis Suarez, mayor of Miami; and former president Donald Trump.

Democrats: Biden, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and Marianne Williamson. RFK Jr. is an environmental lawyer who has been outspoken in expressing doubts about existing Covid vaccines; Williamson has written self-help books.

People’s Party: Cornell West, a professor of philosophy at Union Theological Seminary, a former Harvard professor and a former Bernie Sanders presidential campaign staff member.

The Arkansas Secretary of State’s Office has mch information for voters at

<https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/for-voters/>.

Unsure of your voter status? The state hosts a secure site to check at <https://www.voterview.ar-nova.org/voterview>.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

31st Hot Springs Jazzfest
Broadway Street, downtown
September 2

Labor Day Fireworks
Lake Hamilton
September 3 at dark

School House Rock
Vapors
September 3 at 6 p.m.

HSV Country Two Steppers
Coronado Center
September 9 at 7 p.m.

Nitty Gritty Dirt Band
Oaklawn Racing Casino Resort
September 10 at 8 p.m.

Audubon Speaker Series
Coronado Center
September 14 at 9 a.m.

Beboppers Dance
Coronado Center
September 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Spa Con
Hot Springs Convention Center
September 22-24

Big Steam Music Festival
Hill Wheatley Plaza, downtown Hot Springs
September 29-30



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Village True Value Community Calendar

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Monday, September 6th at 10am:
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our General Manager
Matt will be providing us with a lot of interesting information about our wonderful deck products.



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