

A monthly publication of the Hot Springs Village Voice

HSV *life*

M A G A Z I N E

JUNE 2024

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MAXWELL BLADE

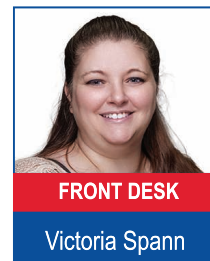
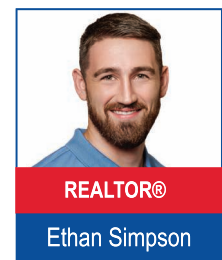
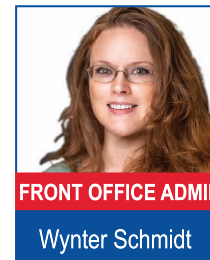
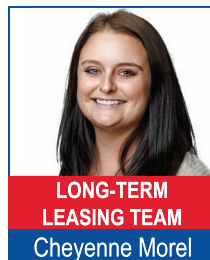
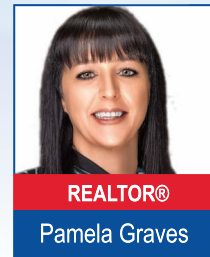
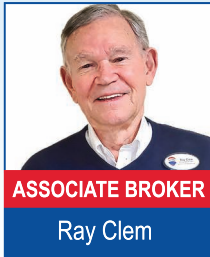
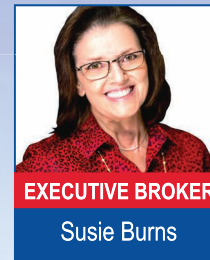
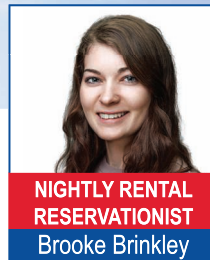




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Hot Springs Village Voice**

The month of June and summer has arrived



**Another beautiful Hot Springs Village sunset.
(Jeff Meek photo)**

Well, the fans are blowing, and the air conditioning is cranked up. Gone are the days of chilly afternoons for that special walk on a Village trail. In June comes the summer solstice signifying the official start of summer and the longest days of the year. It's said that the word June comes from the ancient Roman goddess Juno, goddess of marriage and childbirth. June remains a popular month for marriage. I tied the knot with Jeanne on June 30.

Golfers, boaters, fishermen and other outdoor recreational enthusiasts like to get out early before the temps reach even higher levels than just a few hours ago. Humidity can be so high it takes your breath away. I remember by 3 in the afternoon, the handle on our front door got so hot you didn't want to touch it. We'd go out through the garage to avoid it.

There are some special days in June. Being a guy interested in our nation's military history, D-Day in Normandy France, June 6, 1944, is always in on my radar. When I first started doing veteran oral histories back in Illinois in 2003, the first group of guys I got to know were all D-Day veterans. They called their group "The Beach Boys." They're all gone now but I still have photos and



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interview information they shared with me that I'll always cherish. I remember one veteran talked about coming ashore in a landing craft and seeing bodies floating in the water. Quite a sight for an 18-year-old kid he said.

Juneteenth comes along on June 19 and marks a day of freedom for the enslaved in Texas. And there's Father's Day on June 16. I remember a stupid Father's Day joke I once heard that asked, what's the best present for a dad on Father's Day? Answer: A new set of batteries for the remote.

June 14 marks an important, many times overlooked day we call Flag Day. It honors the commemoration of our national flag in 1777 when the official flag design was approved. June 14 is also the birthday of the United States Army, which came into existence officially in 1775.

Oh, and schools are out, and vacations begin. Teachers get a break, a chance to take a trip, decompress or find summer employment to augment their finances.

Anyway you look at it, in Hot Springs Village, despite the hot, sticky weather it's a great time to enjoy the Village and the state's beauty. It's all a part of HSV Life.

Jeff Meek
VOICE CORRESPONDENT

ON THE COVER: Maxwell Blade - Magician, Musician and much more.
(Photo courtesy of Maxwell Blade)

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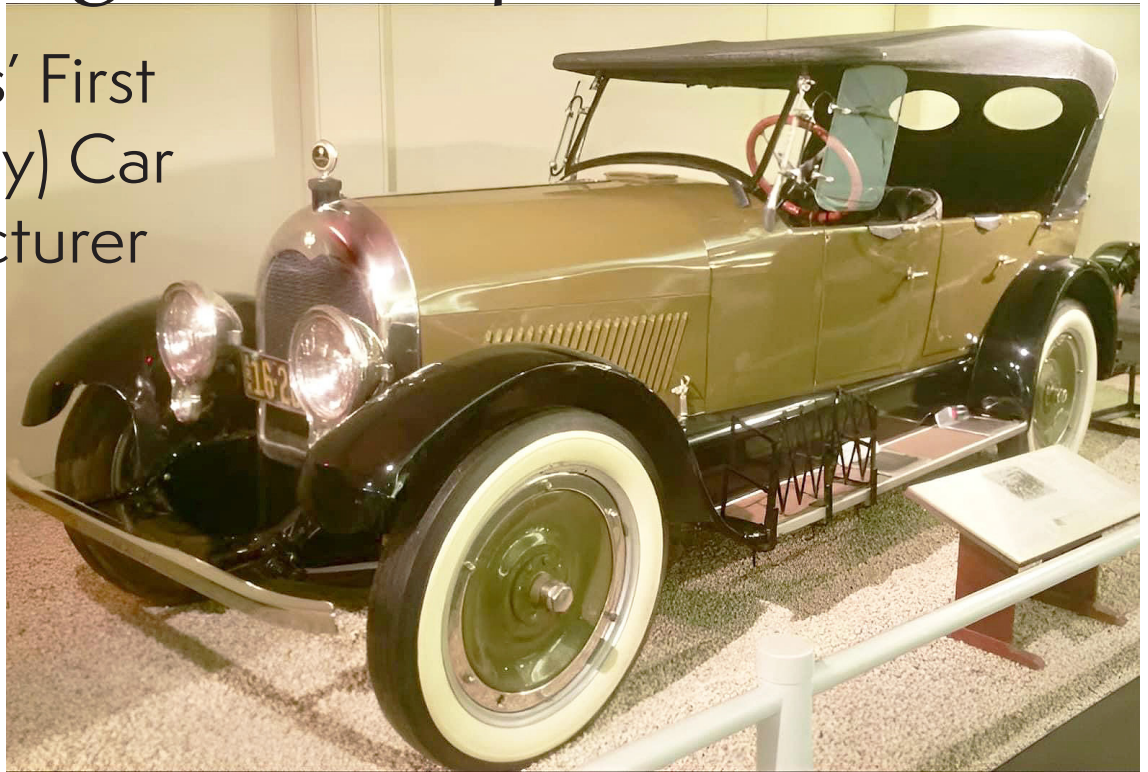
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ALL AROUND ARKANSAS

Climbing to the Top

Arkansas' First (and Only) Car Manufacturer

One of only two known Climbers cars still in existence. The vehicle is on display at The Museum of Automobiles in Morrilton.



Darrell W. Brown

Perhaps you've driven by a large old green and white building located at 1823 East 17th Street in Little Rock which appears to be a warehouse or a former factory. Hundreds of people drive past this structure every day not knowing that at one time it housed Arkansas's only automobile manufacturer--the Climber Motor Corporation.

Climber produced both cars and trucks that were meant to better handle the state's antiquated road system than previous modes of transportation. Three Little Rock businessmen, William Drake, Clarence Roth and Davis Hopson incorporated the Climber Motor Corporation in 1919. Their goal was to produce automobiles that would drive well on paved roads, as well as the primitive dirt and gravel roads once abundant in Arkansas. The men also wanted their vehicles to be able to climb (henceforth the name Climber) the steep roads in the Ozark Mountains as well as the flat long stretches of road found in

Arkansas's delta.

The company's first incarnation of its board of directors was made up of Drake as president, Roth as vice president and Hopson as secretary-treasurer. A company reorganization in October 1919 resulted in Henry Buhler, Climber's general manager, being promoted to president. Lloyd Judd became treasurer and Richard Fletcher became secretary and plant manager. Roth remained on as vice president. Two of the three founders, Drake and Hopson, both left Climber to pursue other opportunities.

For its first production facility, Climber Motor Corporation purchased a 20-acre site on East 17th Street in Little Rock. Its location was perfect, as it was both far from the city's residential areas and located next to tracks operated by the Rock Island and Missouri Pacific railroads.

Construction on Climber's first factory began in January 1919, with the truck division being the

The Climber Auto Company factory in Little Rock as it appears today.

first (and ultimately only) building built. According to blueprints located in the state archives, several other buildings were planned but never constructed. The truck factory was finished later that year. As construction began on Climber's production facility, the board of directors began raising capital, finding skilled workers and obtaining the materials and parts needed to produce automobiles.

Unfortunately, Climber production got off to a rocky start. Its factory was constantly dealing with a parts shortage to the point Climber employees were forced to design and make their own. In October 1919, the company was reorganized again and William Drake retired as its president. Eventually, most all of Climber's initial production problems were resolved by early 1920.

In an effort to drum up excitement about their vehicles, Climber paraded 19 cars up Little Rock's Main Street with Arkansas governor Charles Brough riding in the lead car. In another publicity effort, a Climber car was driven up the steps of Arkansas's state capitol building. The thought was that if a Climber car could climb up the capitol steps successfully, it could handle any terrain in the state.

Despite the board's best efforts, a constant shortage of capital plagued the company from the start. And even with an initial \$1 million stock offering and a massive marketing campaign, Climber was forced to file bankruptcy in February 1924. The Pulaski County Chancery Court placed Climber under the control of a receiver, attorney Xenophon O. Pindall. Pindall sold all of Climber's holdings and the company closed its doors. At its end, the Climber Motor Corporation



produced approximately 200 cars and about 75 trucks. Following its closure, Climber's truck factory building was used to build light aircraft, and later, toilet paper.

Out of the nearly 300 vehicles Climber manufactured, only two are known to have survived and both are part of the collection of the Museum of Automobiles atop Petit Jean Mountain near Morrilton (Conway County).

Today, the Climber Motor Corporation truck factory building is still standing and is currently in use. The historical significance of the building was recognized with it being listed on the National Register of Historic Places in June 2005.

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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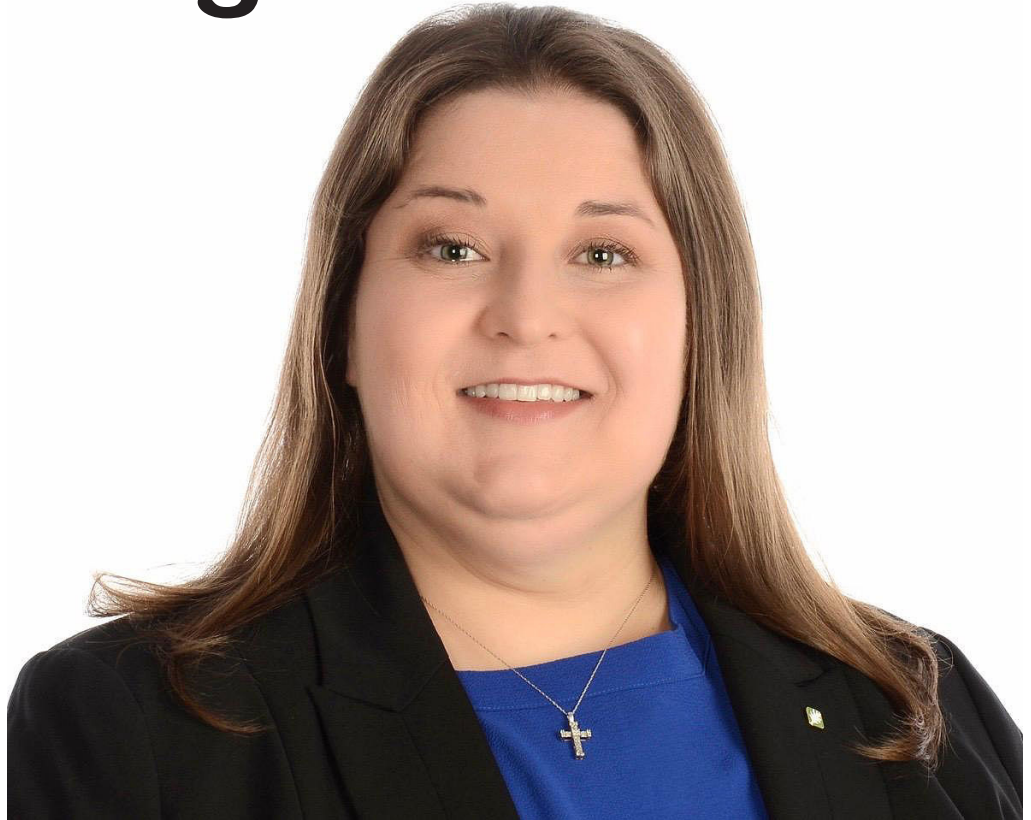
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FOSTER PARENTS

Answering the CALL

*Jennifer Milroy
believes in giving
back to your
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Foster parent Jennifer Milroy. (Photos courtesy of Jennifer Milroy)

Robin Raborn Burns
VOICE CORRESPONDENT

We are all familiar with the expression “it takes a village to raise a child.” Some have attributed the phrase to an Igbo and Yoruba proverb. Others believe it originated from an ancient African saying. Still, others credit it to sage members of a Native American tribe.

Whatever the origin, Reliance Bank Mortgage Loan Officer Jennifer Milroy believes the phrase is truth-filled. Jennifer (an Arkansas native who was born in and lives near Fountain Lake) is a strong believer that generosity begins at home. Her belief became a reality time and time again, as she has been the recipient of numerous acts of generosity from the residents of Hot Springs Village and surrounding communities. Since she became a foster parent several years ago,

Jennifer says that regardless of what she needed - a car seat, bassinet, diapers, clothes, or help with securing daycare, her needs were met. Jennifer also believes that generosity begins at home. “When needs are met in the community - if every person finds a way to donate to a wonderful cause in their neighborhood, that community and the world at large, becomes a much better place,” she says. Jennifer’s dedication to fostering children is centered on another strong belief - that everyone deserves the strong, loving foundation of a supportive family. It can be the life force of a child - the beginning that can shape a child’s future. A woman of strong faith, Jennifer shares that the idea of fostering children is one that God placed on her heart years ago.

After a personal family tragedy several years ago, God's message spoke to her even more loudly and Jennifer decided to heed that call. To date, she has fostered six children and is currently fostering an infant. Jennifer marvels that her experiences as a foster parent have not been as she expected. "It has been a journey; honestly, there have not been many lows. I have the privilege of caring for these beautiful children. It doesn't get any better than this." Jennifer says.

Jennifer credits The CALL (<https://www.thecallinarkansas.org/>) with guiding her through the fostering process. She describes the support of Tonya Ross, The CALL's county coordinator in Garland and Hot Spring counties as "invaluable." The CALL exists to recruit, train, and support families from the Christian community who will care for children in foster care. The core belief of The Call is that when a child comes into foster care, the goal is almost always reunification with the original family. The caller knows that the process is easier when everyone involved is still in the county. They know that if just one family

from each of our churches would step forward to foster and/or adopt, there could be enough foster homes here in our county, here in our communities. Their ideal goal is more than enough homes. So that when a child comes into foster care, they can be placed in the right home for their needs.

Jennifer also commends Susan Clark, director of Cedar Mountain Boys and Girls Club, (which includes Great Futures Pre-school and Daycare for providing unwavering support and guidance. Members of the congregation of her church, Walnut Valley Baptist Church, have also been tremendous with their support and generosity. And the management and colleagues of Reliance Bank "have been awesome in their willingness to be flexible."

Jennifer says that one of her most rewarding experiences was introducing the world of prayer and faith to one of her foster kids. He began asking Jennifer if they could pray and "talk to God" daily. After that child was reunited with his biological family, Jennifer heard from him that the entire family developed a



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**Reliance Bank
Mortgage Loan
Officer Jennifer Milroy
in her office.**

prayer life, including attending church. So, she did not just impact a child, she impacted an entire family. Ask Jennifer what she sees as her role as a foster parent, and she responds “I just want to give them all the love I can, for as long as I can – with the knowledge that I may not have them for long Every parent realizes that their child will leave the nest one day – that they will move on and create their own lives; usually in about eighteen years. The average time a child stays in foster care is nine to 12 months. A child may be in a foster home for a few weeks, months, or even years.

Starla Bleifus, a friend of Jennifer’s says “Jennifer was brave enough to pursue her dream of fostering children. It was not an easy decision to make. She knew it would be a lot of work and that there would be pain involved. There just isn’t any way to love and take care of children without falling in love with them. She knew it would be hard when they left to be reunited with their families. Jennifer can adapt to whatever situation comes about. She isn’t scared off by hard work or messy situations. She has already adapted to the needs of a teen, a toddler, and a newborn with ease. She truly enjoys the opportunity to help families. I often set my dreams aside because they seem “too hard”, but not Jen. I admire her for fostering. It’s hard work, but she finds it very fulfilling. She was up to the challenge!”

Friend Aimee Mason says “Our family moved to the Hot Springs area about five years ago, and since that



time, Jennifer has become a very special friend to us. Her decision to become a foster parent is evidence of how she lives out her faith in God. She has been a great example to us and our church family in how she puts other’s needs before her own. Whenever we talk of Jennifer Milroy, we just have to smile as Jennifer brings joy, laughter, and fun to our lives.” Kathryn Polczynski says “Jennifer has a natural, funny wit about her. She is a joy to work with and be around. She has such a giving heart so I was not surprised at all when she said she was pursuing being a foster mom. She always puts others before herself. The children have been such a blessing in her life, and she has been a blessing to me.”

Jennifer’s friends, co-workers, and the children whose lives she enriches, know her spirit of generosity, the love in her heart, her tremendous faith, and her willingness to share that love. Jennifer is one of those people who shines a light so bright that everyone in her presence feels the warmth.

HSV BUSINESSES

That's Amore... Pizzeria!



Amore Pizzeria and Bakery is owned by Nick Scurra (right); Bella Gutierrez works the front of the house and greets diners with a smile. (Mary Eliades photos)

Mary Eliades VOICE CORRESPONDENT

“When the moon hits your eye like a big pizza pie, that’s amore” – Amore Pizzeria and Bakery, that is.

New York native Nick Scurra, who now lives in Bismarck, Arkansas, took over Amore Pizzeria and Bakery, reopened in February, and has added dining space, menu items, and fresh desserts.

Scurra was a general contractor for 40 years but has owned pizzerias in the past. “I fell into this easily – I’m from Brooklyn and was always around pizzerias,” he said. “I’m very comfortable in the kitchen.”

Scurra has added a dining section in front of the restaurant and is planning to have outdoor seating as well.

Scurra has two employees – Jose Rodriguez and Bella Gutierrez – and has nothing but praise for them. Rodriguez, the pizza chef, spends his time prepping the fresh ingredients and manning the stone pizza oven. Gutierrez works the front of the house, welcoming



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Larry Powell, DDS
Chelsie Cooper, DDS



Jose Rodriguez is the pizza chef.

diners with a bright smile and taking orders.

All of the pizza ingredients are fresh and locally sourced, and Scurra makes his own alfredo and pizza sauce.

In addition to 14- and 16-inch pizzas (specialty pizzas or build-your-own), Amore offers 10-inch personal pizzas, which are exactly the same size as two (large) slices – only custom-made and fresh from the oven. Gluten-free pizzas are also available, in all sizes.

Amore also offers calzone, stromboli, and sub sandwiches. And then there are the desserts: cheesecakes, tiramisu, pies, cannoli, brownies, and cookies. The cannoli fillings are made fresh with ricotta cheese and various ingredients (including chocolate) and Scurra's friend Amy D. bakes cookies,

pies, brownies, and cheesecakes "to compliment the food," said Scurra.

"We're bringing the things that we know, and I want to be the best in the country. My ambition is to serve people good food."

When he's not cooking or managing the restaurant, Scurra loves to fish. He said he's been fishing his whole life and has participated in fishing tournaments in Arkansas.

Scurra traveled around the country with his contracting business, making contacts and meeting people, and a job in Little Rock first brought him to Arkansas. After that first successful job, he was brought in on several construction projects in the Historic District of Hot Springs.

He loved the area and decided to make his home here.

“Business is good,” said Scurra, “better every week.” The restaurant is family friendly, and Scurra said, “I just enjoy serving people.”

From the Voice correspondent, Mary Eliades: “I believe in a hands-on approach to my stories, especially when it comes to food (heh heh). Mr. Scurra shared some of his dough-making tips, along with his delicious cannoli filling, a fresh-baked cookie, and a sample of wonderful vanilla bean ice cream from Frozen Dilemma in Hot Springs that he serves with homemade brownies. He even made me a tiny pizza (after I played with the dough), and I took home a margarita pizza and a stromboli – both were delicious.”

Amore Pizzeria and Bakery is located at 4501 N. Highway 7 (directly across from the West Gate) and the phone number is 501-226-0401. They’re closed Mondays, but open Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Beginning May 31, Amore will offer delivery on Friday, Saturday and Sunday only.



Gutierrez delivers a pizza fresh from the oven.



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HSV PEOPLE



A Woman of Distinction

Susan McCarty - volunteer, photographer, and friend to many.

Jeff Meek
VOICE CORRESPONDENT

Each month in our HSV Life magazine we like to feature a resident, a resident of distinction, a person who makes a difference. This month that person is Susan McCarty. She's that lady you see at many Hot Springs Village events with a camera, clicking away, smiling, and exuding her magnetic personality.

McCarty was born in Jackson, Mississippi. Her father was in the U.S. Air Force at that time. Later the family moved to Birmingham, Alabama where she attended school through the sixth grade. "Then my parents moved back to their hometown of Ackerman, Mississippi and I finished high school there. My first real job was at Mississippi State University. I worked in the registrar's office part time and was also taking

classes, majoring in art and design at MSU," McCarthy told the Voice.

She got married and was blessed with a daughter and then a son during her time there. "And now, added to those two, I have a large and wonderful group of in-laws, grandchildren and great grandchildren," she explained.

Later she moved to Vicksburg, Mississippi and was there for several years, where she worked in an interior design firm.

"We moved often because of jobs, to other locations in Mississippi and then Louisiana, Florida, Arkansas, and Texas. I later ended up back in Vicksburg and owned an interior design and kitchen design business

in downtown Vicksburg. It was in a wonderful old building that was built in the late 1800s. It had a loft apartment on the third floor near the Mississippi River. I could drink coffee in my living room and watch the beautiful riverboats docking on the waterfront.”

It was there in Vicksburg where McCarty began her involvement with the Miss Mississippi Corporation, a commitment that would last 30 years, taking photos for the Miss Mississippi and Miss Mississippi Teen pageants from her different locations and producing hundreds of pages each year for the pageant’s two program books. “One year I took 40,000 photos for those two pageants,” she said. Her photos recorded performances, crownings and group shots of the many wonderful people she met in those pageants.

McCarty decided to move to Hot Springs Village from San Antonio, Texas in 2011. “I love it here. The Village is filled with amazing people from many states who have so many different stories and talents,” she said.

She loves the fact that Villagers can all enjoy

and share great entertainment brought in by many organizations and can have a pleasant relaxing time at a concert, “even while sitting next to someone you’re never met before.”

“One of the first groups I joined after moving to the Village was morning Rotary and from there I ventured out to other clubs. The size of this community makes it possible to know about the many great organizations and also the many needs of people living in the Village and outside the Village.”

Soon after joining Rotary one of the speakers was with the Human Trafficking Task Force of Garland County. “What she told us affected me so strongly that I’ve been involved with the Task Force ever since and I often speak to clubs and church organizations to help increase awareness that this is happening, everywhere, and we need to be able to know how to warn and protect others,” she said with passion.

McCarty has also been involved with the Ouachita Speaker Series for 10 years. “This organization was started to help us all continue to learn, and we’ve had

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Susan with Holly Brand, Miss Mississippi 2021.

some amazing speakers.”

She’s a thankful member of Barcelona Baptist Church. “It’s a warm loving church family,” she said.

McCarty has been a board member of the Lifelong Learning Institute and is involved with the Garland County Leadership Prayer Breakfast for Elected Officials in Hot Springs. “We have 450 to 600 attendees each year who come and pray for guidance for the people who help run our government.”

She’s also a member of the POA Communications Committee and just recently the Eclipse Committee. She attends meetings and events of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and has taken photos of thousands of students gathered together on a football field to worship.

“For years I’ve enjoyed taking photos at many events, the Cancer Walk, various concerts, Arkansas Heritage Festival, Fourth of July on the Beach, and many other celebrations. I think it’s important to capture these moments. Online I recently saw a sketch of a camera and this post by Burk Uzzle, an American photojournalist. It said, ‘Photography is a love affair with life.’ I totally agree.”



Susan at the art wall.



Red Hudson sedan marks the spot of Tanner's Classic Autos. (Lewis Delavan photo)

Look for the red Hudson in the sky

Lewis Delavan
STAFF WRITER

Just look for the red Hudson in the sky.

Tanner's Classic Autos in Malvern offers rare and classic vehicles.

From Ford Model Ts and antique Lincolns to classic Chevrolets, Cadillacs, Packards, and even an aged Tanner's wrecker, the used car dealership at 716 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive offers an eclectic, changing selection.

Selling classic vehicles fills a long-time dream and offers a rewarding break in his retirement years. "I've always enjoyed messing with cars," owner John Tanner said.

For decades, he operated a heavy wrecker and crane service on Tanner Street in Rockport, the original county seat of the area comprising Garland and Hot Spring counties.

Turning the day-to-day reins to his son, Tanner now focuses on building dreams for future antique owners. "It's really a hobby as much as business," he says.

Tanner's family has a long history in Rockport, and the street bearing his name leads to the Rockport bridge over the Ouachita River and to Arkansas Highway 171 to Lake Catherine State Park.

Many vehicles represent the 1920s and 1930s, but others have been a 1956 Chevrolet Cameo pickup, a dune buggy and an early 1970s Chevrolet Nova.

Recent offerings include a green 1972 Triumph Spitfire, restored to "mint" condition in the UK in 2017; an "excellent" silver 1940 Lincoln Zephyr, a "mint" maroon 1934 Ford Cabriolet Roadster and a 1959 Chevrolet Corvette.

Or look at the 1925 Ford Model T, a 1934 Ford pickup, a 1971 Chevrolet Corvette or various other Fords from the 1930s. Vehicles can be viewed at https://www.hemmings.com/classifieds/dealer/tanners_classic_autos, but to get the full experience or just to enjoy talking to the owner, visit his dealership at 716 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive in Malvern.

He renovated a new-car dealership's facility and offers mechanic services as well. He's often on service calls or traveling to car shows around the country. The business is open 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. weekdays.

The red Hudson? It's a real restored Hudson car on a pole at the front of his business. It can be reached from U.S. Highway 270 from Hot Springs, or from Interstate 30 Exit 98A.

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COVER STORY

MASTER OF MAGIC

The Malco's Man of Many Talents

Sandy Johansen
STAFF WRITER

Hot Springs Village Voice Staff Writer Sandy Johansen, was honored to join Maxwell Blade for a recent tour of the historic Malco Theatre where he has resided since 1996. This dialogue not only spotlights Blade's talented entertaining background, but also his dedication to the preservation of memories for this Hot Springs unique historic site named the Princess Theatre in 1910, now called The Malco Theatre - Maxwell Blade Theatre of Magic. It is nearly 100 years of Hot Springs tradition.

In 1935 a fire destroyed all but its foundation and entrance on Broadway Street. Taking the stairs to the bottom of the theatre today tells the story of an amazing footstep the Princess was built on. "This is all original concrete and foundation bricks. It is strong enough today to hold the four-story theatre above it," said Blade. Touring the structural side of the Malco showed massive steel beams and concrete walls declaring the Malco a bomb shelter during the cold war.

The front of the Princess changed in 1946 when it was sold to M. A. Lightman, owner and founder of the Malco Theatre group. It was completely remodeled with an orchestra and balcony. Sometime between 1946 and 1967, entrances were segregated. The "Colored" entrance was on the back of the building



Maxwell Blade. (Photos by Sandy Johansen and courtesy of Maxwell Blade)

while the "White" entrance was on Central Avenue. Those two historic doors were used from 1929 to 1965. According to the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program "The Broadway entrance to the theatre may be one of only two such formerly segregated entrances still in existence in the United States. Contemporary news reports stated the management of the building mandated its preservation as a reminder of America's civil rights victories."

The theatre boasts design elements such as ceiling tiles, decorative features, and lighting accents that suggest the Art Deco style of the 1920s. "These mirrors that have been incorporated to the bar were on the outside front of the theatre," said Blade. "I've tried to use whatever historic features incorporate the story

Today's Malco Theatre frontage on Central Avenue in downtown Hot Springs restored to pristine condition by Maxwell Blade.



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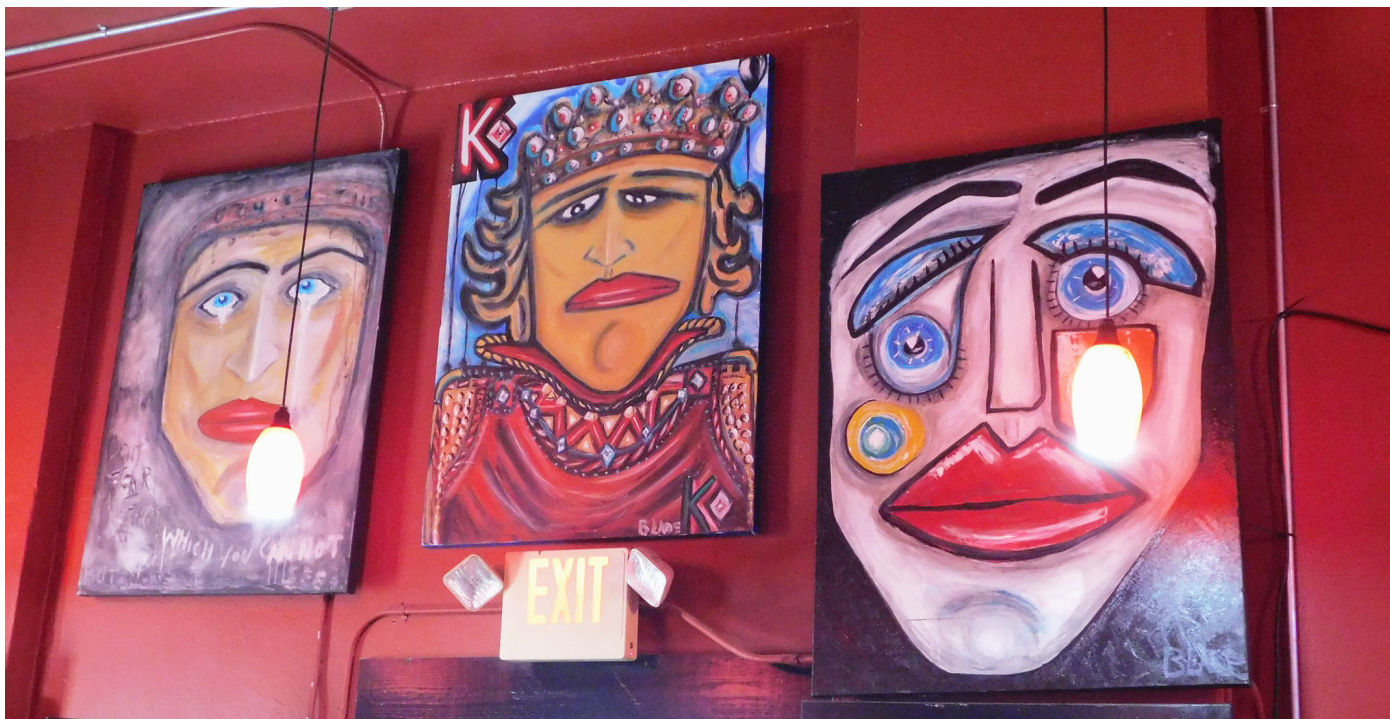
"I only have great things to say about our family's experience with Elijah and the care my mom received. She had advanced dementia and anxiety, and she reached a point where she couldn't be safely managed at a larger facility. She was falling and had multiple trips to the ER. I was distraught being far away and receiving the news that she needed more care than the larger facility could provide. Finding Senior Comfort Assisted Living was a blessing, and the handwritten notes from other families who'd had loved ones cared for there prompted me to contact Elijah. He responded right away and was so reassuring. He promised Mom would never have to move again, and he kept that promise. She also never had to go back to the hospital, which was very important to us. It just took too much out of her. The quieter home environment brought my mom more peace. My whole family felt more peace, too, which allowed us to enjoy our time with Mom. It was hard being far away and not getting to see her as often as I wanted, and I really appreciate Elijah for arranging FaceTime calls with Mom. He even initiated the call on Mother's Day, which touched my heart so much. It had been over a year since my mom could make any calls on her own. That was a precious gift I won't forget." --Michelle R.

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Three of Maxwell Blade's original artwork. Many of his creations are featured on the walls of Malco Theatre.

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of this theatre."

The Malco now has state of the art digital audio and video projections but Blade has stored some of the historic sound equipment in other rooms of the building. "This was an old sound projector and it still has sound reflections," said Blade.

The interior has been restored to look like it was in the 1940's. The Malco has one large auditorium that holds 320 in plush seats as well as 75 in the balcony. In 2016, Hot Springs' Sentinel-Record reported that Blade was "going home" to the Malco Theatre. Blade invested in restoring and renovating the aging theatre, and hosting its grand re-opening on December 8, 2017. After its renovation, existing vintage tile in the building was restored.

The Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival and Blade in a 1996 co-op took over the Malco and shared one side with Blade for 12 years. Blade continues to welcome the HSDFP now as owner and operator.

When asked about his entertainment background, Maxwell Blade shared his many experiences and learning skills. "When I was in the first grade I told everyone I was going to be a rock star," he said. His



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Hot Springs Village **Voice**

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touring lasted 10 years with 2 bands on the road. I teased all my high school buddies with my magic.”

Blade’s arts have been finely tuned and not only has his magic show earned a five-star attraction on Trip Advisor, Google Reviews, Yelp and Facebook, but his perfection in music and comedy has broadened his theatrical appearances. As the newest expression of his many talents, Blade began painting as a relaxing hobby which has now turned into an unexpected revenue loved by many and gracing the walls of the theatre.

Blade is proud of his three daughters who support him, including one who has traveled throughout Europe, especially in Italy where she invited him to perform in Medina. Not only have they been a part of his performance, but one is responsible for all his photography. Many thanks to Courtney, who is in charge of his corporation and also Lexi and Gabby who travel throughout Europe.

For more information on Maxwell Blade, the Malco Theatre and tickets feel free to go to: <https://maxwellblade.com/>



Magic, singing and also playing percussion, Blade does it all.



The art on the theatre’s stairwell was discovered when Maxwell Blade removed the wallpaper covering this historic original art.



Blade collects and saves not only his own collection of magical props, but those of other historic magicians.



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HSV BUSINESSES



Welcome to Wingers - Joseph and Jennifer Stansel. (Sandy Johansen photos)

And One becomes Two

Welcome to Wingers and Burger Dimension

Sandy Johansen
STAFF WRITER

Joseph and Jennifer Stansel spent much of their married life renovating and restoring older homes and with Jennifer's real estate broker's license, they flipped/sold many even before moving to Hot Springs Village from their homes in Georgia and Florida.



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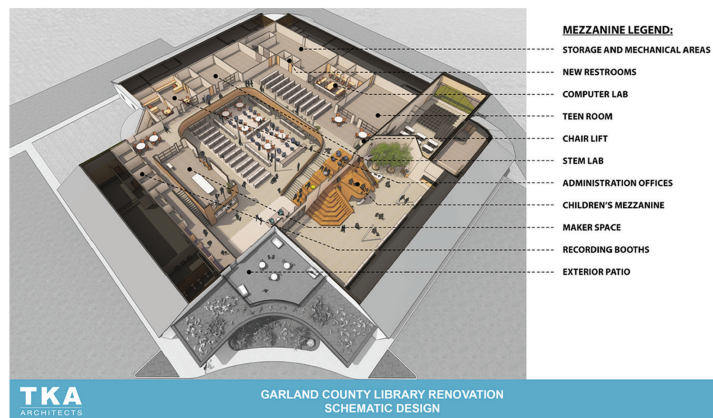
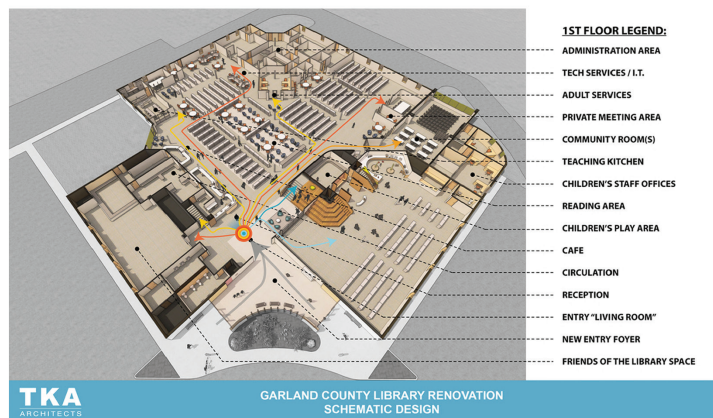
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Check out the interior of Burger Dimension and Galactic Sweets, right and Wingers, far right.



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"We were approached by a good friend inviting us to manage the Granada Golf Course restaurant. We were only at Granada for one year, when we decided we wanted to build and run our own restaurant," said Joseph. They opened shortly thereafter when Sweet Cheeks closed, naming their special location, Wingers Chicken and Biscuits, mostly known as just Wingers, in the shopping area behind Sonic on North State Highway 7, Hot Springs Village.

The locale is next to the United States Post Office and when the barbecue restaurant on the other side of USPS closed, Joseph and Jennifer decided to open an additional restaurant and named it Burger Dimension. "As both locales were on either side of the post office and there was a connection in the rear between the two, it was the perfect choice as we then expanded the dining area of Wingers and offered a rather interesting and fascinating dining experience for hamburger lovers," said Jennifer.

"We both have loved Star Wars and Star Trek and so do our children. That's where we got the ideas to design and decorate Burger Dimension and special names for burgers offered and Captain Picard's Galactic Sweets," she said. "We have nearly 13 choices of shake along



with Italian ice, gelati and Dippin' Dots."

The Stansels' most important information shared was both restaurants do not cook anything from frozen. "Our burgers don't come from a frozen package. They are completely fresh, each one specially cooked. All of our chicken menu items are also never frozen,

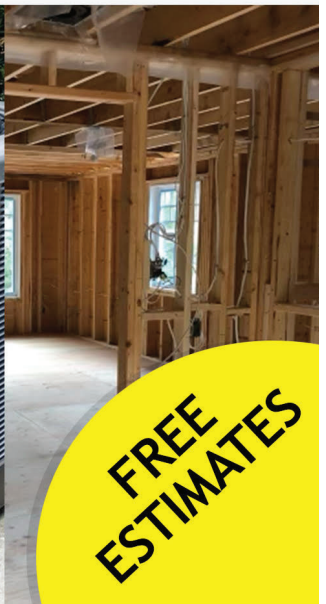
and either fried or broasted using only fresh chicken, bone in, bone out, sandwich combos and all our fish is fresh too." Chicken takes approximately 15 minutes when ordered inside. They recommend ordering online if you will be taking out at a later time and want to serve it hot and juicy. "It will be ready for you to take out based on the time you want to pick it up." To order online go to www.wingerschicken.com or www.burgerdimension.com. New open hours recently have been expanded with Wingers open 7 days a week - Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Burger Dimension days and hours as follows: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Closed on Sunday at Burger Dimension).

We don't want anyone to forget our Winger Wednesdays. "We offer 85 cent wings (minimum order of 10) with many sauce offerings including our home-style special "Wingers Sauce" which is always popular," said Jennifer. "And don't forget, if you're dining in, we have special games for your children to use when waiting at our tables while your order is being freshly cooked."

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Angler Don Langston searches for bass on Lake Cortez on a beautiful morning in HSV, below. (Jeff Meek photo)



Jeff Meek
VOICE CORRESPONDENT

People come to Hot Springs Village for many reasons. The natural beauty that comes with living in a forest with wildlife all around and many other clubs and activities. Tennis, pickleball, trail walking, boating, card playing, it's all here and much more. Another reason people come to the Village is the

fishing. Eleven lakes dot the Village landscape ranging from the largest, Lake Balboa at 950 acres, to several smaller ones within the gates. Other larger lakes are DeSoto, Coronado, and Cortez. All of them are filled with bass, bluegill, various sunfish, catfish, and white and black crappie.

Also, part of the Village fishing scene is the Hot Springs Village Anglers Club. It's one of the oldest on record here in the Village. In 1973 Villagers were fishing in the Jessieville Bass Club but wanted to start a Village Club. They first met at the Village Firehouse and since Lake DeSoto was just being formed, all the tournaments were on Lake Ouachita at Three Sisters Landing. Back in those early days the tournaments were 8 hours in length and many of the fish caught were brought to Lake DeSoto.

In 1977 the Club came up with a charter and in 1979, with John Stewart as president, the State of Arkansas

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awarded the Club incorporation. The meeting place changed to the Coronado Center and held the first Tuesday of each month.

Bass tournament rules were established. Bass 12 inches and longer were weighed, and a limit was set at 10 bass per angler. An angler would get 1 point for each pound of fish and that weight determined the winner in each tournament. Records were kept determining the



Current Anglers Club officers, from left: Kirk Bixler (Secretary), Frank Elliott (treasurer), Dave Keith (vice president), and Bob Walker (president). (Submitted photo)

Fisherman of the Year. Rex Crane won that first award and when on to win it for 3 consecutive years which meant he could keep the trophy.

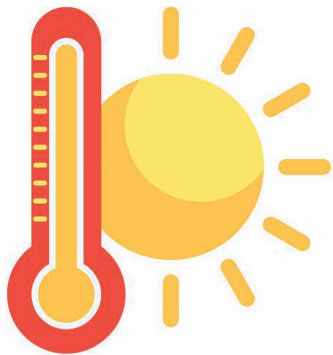
During the 1990s rules were changed to minimize the



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impact of tournament fishing. The 12-inch minimum length was still in effect, but the maximum number kept was reduced to 3 bass. And there was no actual weigh-in. The Club decided to do what's called a paper tournament, meaning each fish would be measured while in the boat and then released. The length of each bass is then converted to a weight and one point is awarded for each ounce. Records are kept of each tournament to determine the Fisherman of the Year Award.

Sixteen tournaments are held each year, the length of which is five hours. Participants then gather at a designated site, turn in their catch card, and wait for the results. Most tournaments are held on Village lakes with a few others on Hamilton and Ouachita.

Rules were changed again in 2001. Now each angler could "weigh-in" 5 bass of 11 inches or bigger. Also, there would now be 2 angler categories – Angler (boat owner) and co-angler (rider). Other changes have come along as needed and the club has enjoyed steady growth. Both male and female anglers are welcomed to join the club and participate in tournament competition.

The largest bass caught in a tournament was in 1997 by Dick Paulsen on Lake DeSoto. The monster bass was 25.5 inches long and weighed 10 pounds, 1 ounce.

The Club is led by a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and other board members. Currently Bob Walker serves as president, Dave Keith as vice president, Kirk Bixler as secretary and Frank Elliott as treasurer.

Besides actually fishing, Club members help in many other ways. They hold an annual fish fry, they sponsor a Kids Fishing Derby, participate in Village Pride Day, host an annual well attended angler seminar and help the POA Lakes Department with the placing of fish habitat in Village lakes.

Whether you are new to the Village or have been a resident for years, this Club is your place to learn what baits and colors work on Village bass, how to present baits, and when and where fish are located. Annual membership is \$35 per year (until July 1), then \$20 per year after July 1. Stop in at the Coronado Community Center on the first Tuesday of the month and enjoy the fun and information.

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Detailed information provided by Ashley Huneycutt, owner and CEO.

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serving individuals seeking a custom and holistic lifestyle. Utilizing functional medicine and cutting-edge breakthrough therapies, Beyond Wellness creates a specialized solution that promotes longevity and champions their client’s personalized wellness journey results.”

Team Members of Beyond Wellness:

Ashley Huneycutt, Owner and CEO.

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understanding of the wellness industry with the latest advancements in aesthetics and longevity, she aims to create a comprehensive approach to well-being. Through Beyond Wellness, Ashley seeks to empower individuals to achieve their optimal health and vitality.

Matt Huneycutt, owner

Dr. Matt Huneycutt's unwavering commitment to his profession and his community has positioned him as a trusted chiropractor and leader in the field. With his continued efforts and the formation of Beyond Wellness, he and the Beyond Wellness team are set to revolutionize the way people approach their overall well-being.

Christa Jackson, APRN (Little Rock)

With a holistic approach to healthcare, Christa Jackson found her passion for men's and women's health and quickly found her calling by helping her patients achieve and maintain their optimal well-being. Christa firmly believes in listening, educating, and empowering her patients to protect and restore their health. Specializing in a range of areas, including weight management, peptide therapy, hormone therapy, laser therapies, body contouring, micro-needling, radio frequency micro-needling, hair restoration, joint injections and injectables. Christa finds fulfillment in her work where she can integrate her faith into her practice.

Jordan Davidson, APRN (Lonsdale)

With a strong emphasis on patient-centered care, Jordan understands the significance of being heard and valued by a healthcare provider. She strives to create an environment where patients feel important and actively participate in their own healthcare journey. Specializing in a range of areas, including weight management, peptide therapy, hormone therapy, laser therapies, body contouring,

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Little Rock Beyond Wellness is located at 23816 Chenal Parkway, Little Rock, AR and also can be reached by calling 501-476-7171.



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~Albert Clem Beloved Pooch

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Gas Outdoor Fire Pit Honeycomb pattern with a stone look. Includes magnesium oxide base, stainless steel burner/plate, cover and glass beads. Dimensions: 11.8 D x 17.7 H in. T 108 364



19.99

Moonrays®
Solar Spotlight with Lumen Selector Adjustable lumen selector comes in 100, 200 or 300 lumens. Durable plastic construction with a black coat finish. Solar panel charges battery creating electrical power. T 113 904



24.99

Tiki®
2 ct. Merry Metal Torches Simple, one-step installation. Change size 50 in. to 65 in. or remove pole for an 8 in. centerpiece. 11 hours of burn time. L 122 079



Village True Value Community Calendar



June Charity:

Donate your change in June
& we'll match it to benefit
Village Employees
Benefit Fund



**Friday, June 28th &
Saturday, June 29th
9:00am - 4:00pm:**

Come on down and find ways
to improve your home locally with
Village True Value Home Center



DECKS DONE RIGHT.

Get Decked Out For Summer Fun. Talk to the Pros at

Village True Value
HOME CENTER • BUILDING SUPPLY • LUMBERYARD

THE AUTHORIZED DEALER OF

TimberTech Trex
YellowWood
Fortress



Pick-up the
lumber you
need right
here at
**Village True
Value Home
Center!**