

A monthly publication of the Hot Springs Village Voice

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AUGUST 2024



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The heat is on in HSV



**Another beautiful summer day in Hot Springs Village.
(Jeff Meek photo)**

Wow, it's hot out there. I think we could fry an egg on the hood of the car by mid-afternoon. Heat, humidity and sweat, sounds like an outdoor description of the month of August. Early morning dew-covered golf course fairways, 90-degree surface water temperatures on our lakes, mosquitos and other bugs hovering over Village trails and yards, that's summer in Hot Springs Village and many other parts of the country. When it's February and we're chilled to the bone, we ask for summer. Now we beg for a day of lower 70's. Such is mankind.

I did an interview with a gardener once and he told me August/early September was the perfect time to pick certain fruits. I read somewhere that meteor showers happen every August.

August, because of my interest in history, always reminds me of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima on August 6 and Nagasaki on August 9. On August 2, 1939, Albert Einstein wrote a letter to President Franklin Roosevelt about the possibilities of atomic weapons. Einstein's fears have come to fruition.

Years ago, I interviewed a few U.S. servicemen that walked through the rubble. In 2008, World War II Navy veteran Tom Hightower described what he saw at Hiroshima. "That was a very eerie sight. There were still people poking around in the ruins. Things were still smoldering. It was overwhelming. The whole landscape was laid bare." Talk about overwhelming, today's nukes make the Hiroshima bomb seem



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like a firecracker. If a nuclear war ever breaks out it will be the end of the earth.

Let's move on to something more pleasant.

Orville Wright had a birthday on August 19, 1871, in Dayton, Ohio. He and his brother Wilbur taught man that he could fly.

August 26, 1883, was Lee DeForest's birthday. Who was he? He invented wireless radio broadcasting which helped lead to television. Be sure to remember Lee tonight when you watch your favorite episode of "FBI" or "Blue Bloods."

I ran across this last week – on August 5, 1861, President Lincoln signed into law the first federal income tax. It was three percent on income over \$800 a year. He did it to help cover the cost of war. That made me wonder – if a president now raised our taxes again to cover our involvement in war half a globe away, would we be so nonchalant about our involvement in other countries military affairs?

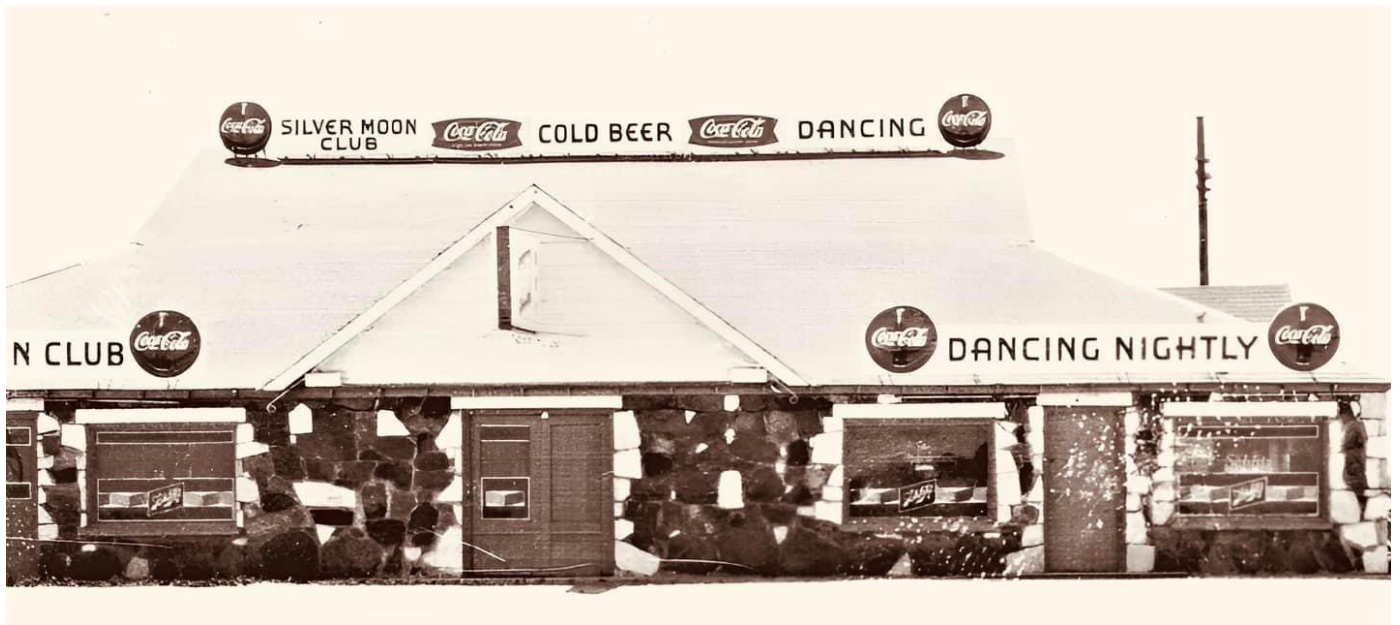
Moving on, I was reminded that Hawaii became a state on August 21, 1959. What a paradise that place is, right?

Speaking of paradise, I must say that Hot Springs Village comes close. Clubs, lakes, golf courses, trails, tennis and pick-leball courts and much more. You name it and the Village just might have it. So, enjoy HSV life.

Jeff Meek
VOICE CORRESPONDENT

ON THE COVER: Principal Broker/Owner of REMAX Hot Springs Village, Clara Nicolosi.
(Photo courtesy of Clara Nicolosi)

Newport's Silver Moon



Darrell W. Brown

The Silver Moon club as it appeared in the early 1960s.

Recently, my wife had a business meeting in Newport (Jackson County) and asked me to come along. Always up for an Arkansas adventure, I agreed, as I knew I could do some sightseeing while she met with clients. Not knowing much about Newport, I called my father who I figured knew some interesting things about the city, as well as possible historical places to visit, since he grew up in nearby Bald Knob (White County). And sure enough, I was right.

Dad told me about a nightclub and music venue in Newport that he and my mother went to while dating in high school called the Silver Moon. He even claimed they saw a young Elvis Presley on the club's stage. However, my mom has since disputed this story, as she insisted, they never saw the young singer from Memphis in Newport or any place for that matter. Regardless, my interest peaked, and I knew I had to learn more about the venue and hopefully locate where it once stood.

The Silver Moon opened for business in 1944, during the height of World War II. During the war, a large

military base, the Newport Air Field, was constructed in the city, doubling the town's population. With so many servicemen residing in the area, Newport's business owners used the boom in population as an opportunity to satisfy the need for the new residents' desire for entertainment and recreation.

The original Silver Moon was built by a local businessman with a penchant for gambling named Bob Fortune. According to the book *We Wanna Boogie: The Rockabilly Roots of Sonny Burgess and the Pacers*, the club first attracted "wild-ass Marines and sailors from Memphis always looking for a fight." For many years, the Silver Moon had a reputation as the kind of place "respectable people," especially women, did not frequent. Fights were the norm at the Silver Moon. In December 1955, U.S. Navy officer and Silver Moon regular, Francis Callis, was shot on Christmas Day.

Despite the violent atmosphere, the nightclub attracted large crowds for many years. The Silver Moon's popularity was due mostly to it hosting such musical acts as Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys,

Wanda Jackson, Glenn Miller, and a host of artists with Arkansas connections such as Johnny Cash, Conway Twitty, and Sonny Burgess and the Pacers. And yes, the future “King of Rock and Roll,” Elvis Presley also performed on the Silver Moon’s legendary stage. During its peak in the late 1950s, the Silver Moon was the most popular nightclub in the Natural State, attracting crowds of over 1,000 people on Friday and Saturday nights.

The building which housed the club was a simple one. It was a long, rectangular-shaped 7,000-square-foot dance hall with rock walls. Bare copper wire hung from its ceiling to conduct sound to the back of the club. The Silver Moon was located north of Newport along Highway 67, away from the center of town and the snooping eyes of local law enforcement. This made the club especially attractive for unsavory characters looking to lay low.

In the mid-1950s, the Silver Moon was purchased by World War II veteran, Don Washam. Along with being a hot spot for rock and roll music, the club was a place where customers could drink and gamble. Beer was sold at the Silver Moon and it was said that any sixteen-year-old with a quarter could get one. However, when it came to gambling at the Silver Moon, that was reserved for customers in an invitation-only back room.

Sadly, all good things must end, and the popularity of the Silver Moon began its decline in the late 1960s. For the most part, local police had turned a blind eye to the gambling that took place inside the club. However, all that changed during Gov. Winthrop Rockefeller’s administration as he made cracking down on illegal gambling in Arkansas a top priority. As a result, gambling ceased at the Silver Moon and the days of attracting up-and-coming musical acts did as well. In 1968, Washam sold the venue for just \$55,000 to a local farmer, Abe Jones.

The original building that housed the club burned in 1987, and all that remained was its concrete slab. A new version of the Silver Moon called the Silver Moon Banquet Hall, was built on the same lot behind the Silver Moon’s original location. The club barely resembled the original Silver Moon, but it did keep the club’s name and logo of a silhouette of a wolf howling at the moon painted on its front. On August 24, 2017, a memorial service was held there for Sonny Burgess after his passing. The second incarnation of the Silver Moon closed in March 2021.



Elvis Presley signing autographs for fans after a performance at the Silver Moon in October 1955.

So, after some research, I was able to locate the original Silver Moon’s location. Off Highway 67, I found the club’s concrete slab, as well as the building that housed the Silver Moon Banquet Hall. Walking atop the concrete slab, I thought about all the legends that frequented the legendary Silver Moon, including my mom and dad.

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 TORNADO RECOVERY



A Helping Hand

Lewis Delavan
STAFF WRITER

While gaining hundreds of hours of hands-on emergency management experience this spring, the March 14 Hot Springs Village tornado lent an unexpected challenge and learning opportunities for a young Prairie Grove woman.

Elly Stone, an Arkansas Tech University emergency management major, officially completed 400 hours for the internship this spring, but her service far exceeded those hours, says Saline County Judge Matt Brumley.

The county judge honored the intern during April's Saline County Quorum Court meeting.

Among the intern's volunteer service was "very

Arkansas Tech University journalism students who engaged in an emergency preparedness drill with Arkansas Nuclear One in February 2024: back row, from left, Ellie White and Jaci Palmer; front row, A.J. Chauffe, Doug Davis and Elly Stone. (Arkansas Tech photo)

integral" work evaluating Hot Springs Village tornado damage after the March 14 EF-2 tornado.

Stone minored in journalism and was co-editor of The Arka Tech student newspaper. In February, Stone and several other Arka Tech staff members participated in an emergency preparedness drill at Arkansas Nuclear One. Entergy Arkansas' two Arkansas Nuclear One units supply around a half of the utility's power.

After a three-day mock exercise with Russellville first responders in 2022, Stone said the Arkansas Tech students were truly practicing for their careers.

“This kind of situation could occur, and we must know how to control it. This is our job, and [assistant professor Dr. Jamie Stacy] wants us to be prepared. I can already feel myself getting more confident in stressful situations like this,” Stone said.

The future Saline County intern said the Tech students all walked away with new knowledge and experience to use in possible situations, along with no real injuries.

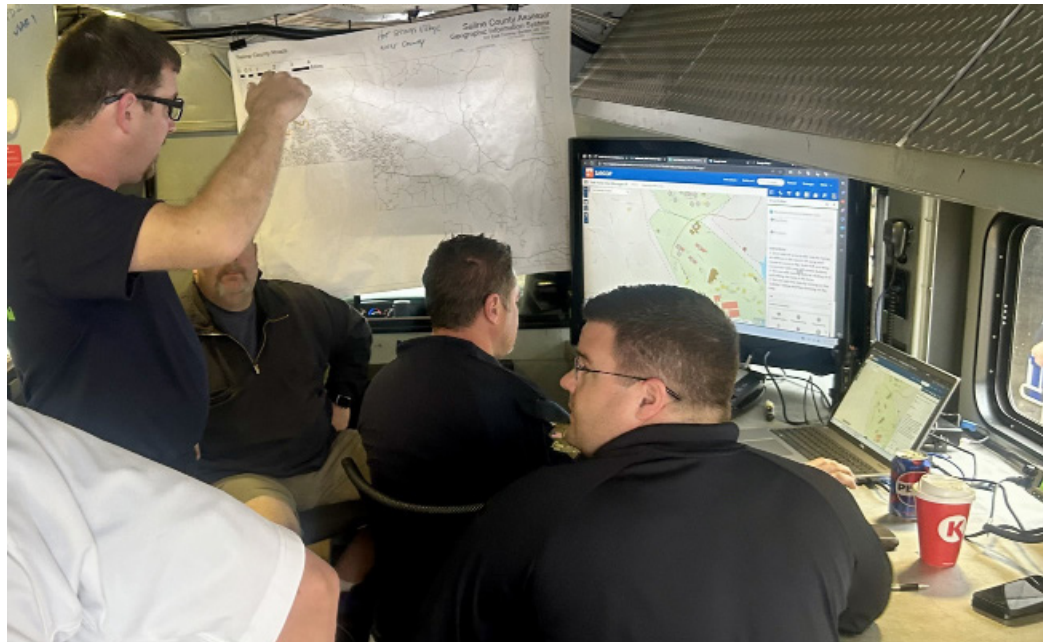
Brumley and Saline County Office of Emergency Management staff assisted HSV through an immediate response, coordinating a unified command center. Saline deputy OEM director Stuart Duke was the incident commander on scene. OEM resources remained on scene for multiple days.

For western HSV, Garland County Judge Darryl Mahoney, OEM staff and City of Hot Springs staff and equipment simultaneously deployed to serve tornado victims.

The Arkansas Tech intern participated in the damage assessments and followed up with the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management.

“Elly Stone came alongside local authorities and ADEM to do follow up damage assessments to validate all original documentation of the damage. She worked with ADEM deputy director Scott Bass as well as Saline County emergency management deputy director Stuart Duke. She served 400 hours with OEM – a full semester,” Brumley said in honoring the intern.

“I’m going to tell you a few things that I witnessed. Elly sat through OEM boards; she rounded and did walk-throughs for Act 833 money; she was active in the active shooter drills that we did throughout the county; she did ride-alongs with law enforcement and EMTs; she sat for full shifts at our 911 communication center; she did ADEM – Arkansas Department of



Responders plan efforts in Saline County’s mobile emergency response vehicle. Screens show a map based on data from the Saline County Assessor’s Office and the Search and Rescue Common Operating Platform, or SARCOP. (Saline County photos)



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A Saline County OEM pickup and mobile command center parked at Coronado Fire Department.

Emergency Management table drills to prepare her for what she was actually going to see unfold; she was very integral evaluating Hot Springs Village tornado damage, working with county officials, both Garland and Saline, and state Department of Emergency Management officials.”

“Elly, your professionalism; your attitude; your willingness to work hard are very much appreciated,” Brumley said, with county OEM staff in attendance.

Brumley further discussed the response in an email.

“Saline County Sheriff’s Department staff was enroute immediately. The Saline County Judge and Saline County Sheriff (Rodney Wright) were enroute to the Coronado Fire Department in HSV within minutes. The Saline County Road Department was

put on call for areas affected by the storm and the road department was on site Friday morning clearing streets at the direction of incident command and HSV public works.

Duke evaluated the situation on his arrival Friday night, and requested resources. He worked alongside the HSV Fire Department, the Garland County Office of Emergency Management and the Pulaski County Office of Emergency Management in coordinating the search and rescue.

“Saline County executed an immediate response, secondary to the storms of March 14. Saline County has and always will be committed to responding to the needs of our citizens and visitors with all available resources while remaining within full compliance of

the law. We remain grateful for the ability to assist and thankful there was no loss of life and very limited amount of injuries,” Brumley says.

The Salvation Army also deployed immediately, setting up base at Balboa Baptist Church to assist with feeding and shelter operations.

Arkansas State Police and many other agencies and organizations also quickly responded to the March 14 damage.

After the tornado, both county judges issued disaster proclamations.

Brumley verbally issued a proclamation on March 15, with a written proclamation on March 19.

Within minutes of the tornado touchdown, Saline County Emergency Communication was involved in dispatching emergency responders, OEM was dispatched and resounded immediately and began coordinating a unified incident command,

Arkansas Tech says it had the world’s first accredited emergency management program. “Since 1997, Arkansas Tech University has been a trailblazer in emergency management higher education,” an ATU

statement says.

Emergency management majors become proficient at these duties:

- Risk assessment and hazard analysis
- Community engagement and social dynamics
- Critical thinking
- Effective communication
- Teamwork and collaboration
- Adaptability and problem-solving

Arkansas Tech says its emergency management graduates have worked in many fields. “From private sector enterprises to non-profit organizations and government agencies at local, state, and federal levels, our alumni have excelled in roles ranging from business continuity and cybersecurity to risk assessment, preparedness, and planning. Our curriculum is meticulously crafted to provide a holistic understanding of emergency management, covering vital aspects such as emergency planning, cultural considerations, human behavior, response strategies and the intricate political and legal dimensions within the field,” the statement said.



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HSV AUDUBON

HSV Audubon recently celebrated 50 years in the Village. Officers for 2024, from left: Jeri Garcia (Bird Identification Workshop leader), Laurel Gunderson (secretary), president Norma Wall, Kathy Jurek (bluebird monitor chair), and Karen Geiger (membership chair). (Submitted photos)



A Bird-Friendly Community

HSV Audubon celebrates 50 years

Mary Eliades
VOICE CORRESPONDENT

Fifty years ago, a small group of Village residents got together with the idea of having Hot Springs Village designated an official bird sanctuary, primarily to help the recovery of the endangered eastern bluebird.

This core group decided to become an affiliate of the National Audubon Society and rounded up 22 members, joining the Society on April 24, 1974.

The first project of HSV Audubon was to install bluebird boxes on the golf courses and in members' yards. The Village was only a few years old at the time, and the group started with about 20 boxes on DeSoto Golf Course. As the Village grew, with more golf courses added, so has the bluebird monitoring program.

Kathy Jurek is the chair of the bluebird monitoring program and responsible for more than 300 bluebird boxes throughout the Village and a dedicated team of 40 volunteers. Monitors check the boxes every week from April through August; almost 2,000 eggs and 1,400 fledglings have been counted in peak years.

Audubon volunteers also make and sell bluebird houses, which are available for purchase on the group's website (<https://hsvbirds.org>). Adolph Juarez is the master craftsman and produces many of the beautiful boxes every year.

HSV Audubon has more than 250 members, who enjoy monthly programs (except July and August), field trips, and citizen science projects.



Adolph Juarez makes bluebird boxes for HSV Audubon in his home workshop.

This year alone, programs have included talks by experts on butterflies and hummingbirds, an update on glade restoration in the Ouachita National Forest, an eye-opening look at the history of climate science, and the annual Festival of Wings.

The programs are held on the second Thursday of each month at 10 a.m., usually in the Coronado Center auditorium, and are free and open to the public. Members are excited to welcome back Rodney Paul with his raptors for the Sept. 12 program.

Field trips are offered throughout the year, led by knowledgeable birders. The most recent outing was

to Bird Island in Lake Ouachita to see the thousands of purple martins that roost on the island. Another recent trip was to Heber Springs to see the trumpeter swans.

Citizen science projects are welcome opportunities for birders and outdoor enthusiasts to participate in important research.

The Christmas Bird Count is the nation's longest-running citizen science bird project, conducted every year from Dec. 14 to Jan. 5. HSV Audubon selects one day during that time and sends out teams to fields and golf courses in and around the Village to identify species and count birds. Results are tallied and

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submitted to the national Audubon Society. Those not able to join a field team can count birds at their feeders – a relaxing but satisfying way to contribute to the data.

Another important project that Audubon members participate in is Climate Watch. Chris and Jennifer Rabion head up the HSV Audubon teams that track and report on bluebirds and nuthatches in 48 locations in and around the Village. The teams go out twice a year, in winter and spring, to count birds and tally data. The Village teams are currently fourth in the country in terms of number of monitors and level of activity.

Education is another important mission of HSV Audubon. Every summer HSV Audubon provides scholarships to the Arkansas Audubon Society Halberg Ecology Camp for students leaving the fifth and sixth grades from Fountain Lake, Jessieville, and Mountain Pine schools. Two sessions of the Ecology Camp are held each June at Camp Clearfork, a U.S.

Forest Service camp between Hot Springs and Mount Ida.

The children participate in activities geared to all facets of the natural world – aquatic biology, botany, entomology, geology, ornithology, mammalogy, and herpetology, led by experienced teachers and ecologists.

HSV Audubon sponsored six children this past June – two from each of the three area schools – with an additional two children from Mountain Pine sponsored by Arkansas Audubon.

Hot Springs Village has many options for bird watching, including the trails and golf courses. The “birdiest” trail is the Magellan Beaver Dam Trail, where, on a good day, birders can spot 20 species in an hour or so. Ducks, herons, hawks, sparrows, cardinals, titmice, Carolina wrens, thrashers, vireos – the list goes on and on of species commonly seen on the trail. Master birder Vic Prislipsky often leads bird walks on this trail.



Kathy Jurek opens a bluebird box on Cortez Golf Course to find five babies. She sprays vanilla extract around the box and opening to keep buffalo gnats away. The gnats are common in Arkansas and can kill the fledglings.

The Cedar Creek Trail is a good place to spot woodpeckers and, as a bonus, wildflowers in the spring.

Golf course lakes often attract waterfowl and the landscaping on the courses attracts birds with flowers, shrubs, etc.

April 2024 was declared by POA proclamation as Native Plant Month and Audubon programs routinely feature information on plants that attract birds and butterflies.

For those who would like to learn the difference between a bluejay and an eastern bluebird, HSV Audubon offers a Bird Identification Workshop that meets once a week, usually during the month of March. Expert birders Jeri Garcia and Vic Prislipsky conduct classroom sessions with illustrations and then move outside for field work. In addition to bird identification, the classes cover bird feeders, birding resources such as bird guides and apps, and selecting and using binoculars.

Information on HSV Audubon is available at <https://hsvbirds.org>, but the website contains much more. A list of birds commonly seen in Hot Springs Village is available, as well as information about bird food, feeders, equipment, etc. – a good resource for expert birders as well as novices.

HSV Audubon president Norma Wall sums up the mission of the group: “As we celebrate our 50-year milestone, we’re focusing our efforts on making Hot Springs Village a bird-friendly community. We want to protect birds and the places they need, and to educate and inspire others to create an environment where both birds and people can thrive.”



Live birds often make appearances at Audubon meetings. Here, Rusty Scarborough holds Chahta, a 5-year-old Harris’s hawk. (Mary Eliades photo)

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COVER STORY

Searching for Beacons of Light

Principal Broker/Owner of
REMAX Hot Springs Village,
Clara Nicolosi.
(Photos courtesy of Clara
Nicolosi)

Robin Raborn Burns
VOICE CORRESPONDENT

Engage in a conversation with Clara Nicolosi, and you immediately pick up on her sense of positivity. Not the “bet your bottom dollar about the sun coming up tomorrow”, or the “glass being half full” platitudes that some may view as slightly “Pollyanna,” but rather a solid, faith-based foundation of goodness, nurtured by her church community, and a philosophy that “every man (or woman) is the architect of their own fortune” that she adopted as a result of her many years of



professional experience, both as a realtor/broker and a member of the US Coast Guard for over two decades. The word blessed comes up often when she speaks, and it is spoken with sincerity and gratitude. She feels blessed to have been successful in the careers she has chosen, blessed to have had positive relationships with co-workers, blessed to be

surrounded by great colleagues at REMAX, and blessed to live in a wonderful community with people who make it a priority to give back to the community.

Clara Nicolosi is, of course, the well-known and well-respected Principal Broker/Owner of REMAX/Hot Springs Village. Clara is also the previous HSV Community



Clara in uniform representing the Village Walk for Cancer Research.

Foundation Board Chair.

Jane Browning, Executive Director of the Community Foundation, says “Clara is the most generous person in the Village; she actively supports every good cause. Working with her in her role as HSV Community Foundation Board chair the past year has been a dream.”

Growing up in Florida, Clara was a self-described “beach rat,” constantly in and around the water. When she joined the Coast Guard, it seemed a natural choice – surrounded by all that water! She specialized in aids to navigation - buoys and lights on the water. Clara was eventually tasked to oversee some of the nation’s lighthouses. In fact, her last duty assignment was in Buffalo, New York and one of her many responsibilities was to oversee historical lighthouse maintenance on part of Lake Erie and all of Lake Ontario. Clara believes that her love of lighthouses positively impacted her career transition to Real Estate. “The property

management experience was beneficial, and I honestly just appreciate architecture, structures, and the beauty they hold,” she says. It also makes sense that given her warm, optimistic nature, she would gravitate towards and be intrigued by things that illuminate.

After retiring from the Coast Guard, Clara moved to Hot Springs Village and made the decision to put her energies into the real estate industry. In “classic Clara” fashion, her hard work and determination resulted in success - Eventually, she became the owner/broker of RE/MAX in Hot Springs Village.

Clara is also a woman known for her honesty and sense of integrity. She is a believer in transparency in all of her real estate transactions. She says being a resident of Hot Springs Village, and an engaged member of the community makes her job of helping people find houses that they transform into homes easier. “I believe that Hot Springs Village is North America’s greatest place to live,” she says.

“When I leave HSV for a business meeting, a day of shopping, or other commitment, I see the Hot



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Springs Village gate, and immediately feel a sense of safety and security, a feeling of being isolated from the sometimes craziness of the world at large.” She shares that she has heard people say that they just feel they can exhale here.” Clara shares that the real estate market here is still very active – everyone is watching the interest rates, and how that affects our market and other markets.

Does the former beach rat spend a lot of time at some of the beaches in the Village? She replies, “Truthfully I’m a little busy, but I have been ‘known to go and soak up some vitamin D, or if I just need a moment of clarity I’ll just go drive down to Balboa Beach, roll down the windows in the car and just listen to the water. Clara and her husband take cruises on occasion. “If I go on a cruise and it’s just me and hubby – I want our quality, alone time, not a lot of activities with others. Both of our schedules tend to be packed, so obviously I want to optimize timing, and I try to pick cruises that fit best into our schedules. Her husband is a retired teacher who taught in Arkansas. He is a faith-based actor, voiceover artist, and screenwriter, with several projects in the works.



Clara at the Hat's Off to Women brunch fundraiser put on by the HSV Area Chamber of Commerce.

2024 READERS' CHOICE

THE READERS' HAVE SPOKEN

Banquet set for Aug. 24 at Arlington's Crystal Ballroom

Readers have spoken – over 67,800 votes. Learn about this year's Hot Springs Village Voice Readers' Choice winners and finalists in 117 categories at the Saturday, Aug. 24 awards banquet in the Arlington Resort Hotel's Crystal Ballroom.

"Readers' Choice is all about the businesses, organizations and individuals that contribute to make Hot Springs Village great," said Hot Springs Village Voice publisher Jennifer Allen.

Winners and finalists will also be honored in a special magazine published in the Tuesday, Aug. 27 Village Voice.

Readers voted for their favorite businesses, individuals and organizations, including Man of the Year and Woman of the Year for Garland and Saline counties.

Nominations were held in May, with voting for Top 3 finalists in each category held June 11-21.

"People from our community can nominate and vote on their favorite business, organization and/or professionals that serve our Hot Springs Village area in Garland and Saline counties. Readers' Choice winners are special – they know they were selected by the voices they value the most," Allen said while announcing the annual program in May.

Last year, Clara Nicolosi was Woman of the Year, with finalists Sarah Barnett and Melanie Pederson.

Ike Eisenhower was Man of the Year, with finalists Steven Murray and John Weidert.

This year? Attend the banquet and find out. It's going to be exciting!

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QUAPAW NATION DOG TEAM

With loved ones of missing persons sitting in the foreground, Remember Every Missing Person and Victim executive member Jeremy Bennett and Quapaw Nation Dog Team handler Hugh Murray listen to Colleen Nick, founder of the Morgan Nick Foundation. The three groups work together with law enforcement and families of missing persons.



Have Dogs, Will Travel

Lewis Delavan
STAFF WRITER

Quick response is key to finding missing loved ones. The likelihood of a happy ending quickly declines and the clock ticks.

The Quapaw Nation Dog Team stands ready to assist law enforcement and other organizations with their search and rescue/search and recovery efforts.

Canine handler Hugh Murray told those attending the annual Arkansas Missing Persons Event that the Quapaw Nation Department of Public Safety and Emergency Management created its K9 Search Team in hopes of positive outcomes.

“When a person goes missing, time can be our best friend or worst enemy. The faster we are notified and on the scene, the better chance we have of tracking the individual,” the Pennsylvania native says.

“Our K9 search team is certified through a nationally recognized organization in both ‘live-find’ area searching and human-remains detection. “Please

do not hesitate to contact us if we can provide you assistance,” Murray said.

Murray says the dog team would rather respond and have the run canceled due to the missing person’s return, than to have an agency wait too long to seek help – not only making it more difficult to track a victim, but boosting the possibility of a sad outcome.

“We are happy to get turned around. We are very passionate about what we do,” Murray said.

This year the Quapaw Nation Dog Team is transitioning to the nonprofit 3R K-9 Search Foundation.

What are the 3 Rs? Rescue. Recover. Reunite.

The Quapaw Nation’s capital is Miami, Oklahoma, and the 3R K-9 Search Team will remain based there.

“Our mission is to save lives and bring home the lost through our comprehensive K9 search and rescue and recovery services. We are committed to deploying highly trained K9 teams to locate and recover missing persons in various environments and conditions.

“In addition, we are dedicated to sharing our

expertise by training search dogs for other nonprofits and law enforcement agencies, thereby expanding the reach and effectiveness of search and rescue efforts.

“Through our unwavering commitment to professionalism, compassion and excellence in training, we aim to enhance the capabilities of search and rescue teams across the region, ultimately contributing to the safety and well-being of individuals in need,” Murray said.

The Quapaw Nation/3R K-9 team have specialties.

Most search dogs are “air scent.” All humans constantly emit microscopic particles containing scent. Wind may carry millions of particles for considerable distances. Airborne scent is concentrated near its source, follows the air currents, and becomes more dilute the further it travels.

“This means we need to be out in front of the search party to have the best chance of picking up the airborne scent of the lost individual,” Murray said. The dog team strongly seeks to be accompanied by law enforcement, both for the protection of the dogs

and handlers.

Other dogs have human remains detection skills, in cases where a missing person is presumed deceased and buried.

Dogs help determine where a crime may have taken place and can help find unknown graves sites where bodies are to be exhumed.

The teams train with donated human remains so that the K9 is able to recognize human decomposition in the soil or any absorbent material such as wood, drywall, furniture or other materials.

Local examples of sad missing person endings: The remains of a missing Benton man and missing Hot Springs man were recovered in the past year, both in the Jessierville area.

North of the West Gate, Shannon Collins of Pottsville disappeared more than three years ago. The case remains under Pope County Sheriff’s Department investigation as a possible crime.

Colleen Nick, whose 6-year-old daughter Morgan Nick disappeared from a Ozark, Arkansas ballgame

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Shadow, a Belgian Malinois/German shepherd mix, points in the water. (Submitted photo)

29 years ago, gave a testimonial of the Quapaw Nation Dog Team's services.

The Morgan Nick Foundation helps grieving families across the U.S. Among available resources of the Alma, Arkansas-based nonprofit foundation are a copy of the U.S. Department of Justice's "When a Child is Missing: A Family Survival Guide" and Never Forgotten/Arkansas Takes Action, a project of the Arkansas Crime Information Center and cooperating law enforcement agencies, offers "When an Adult is Missing: A Resource Guide."

More information on the dog team, Never Forgotten and the Morgan Nick Foundation are available online:

<https://www.facebook.com/qndemK9team/>

<https://www.3rk9sf.com/>

<https://neverforgotten.ar.gov/>

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LIVING WITH AUTISM



Brother Ryan proudly holds his baby sister, Shelby, posing for a photo, along with sister Utopia, joined by father and mother, Marcus and Donna. (Oldest brother Daytona not pictured)

Once Comes an Angel

Sandy Johansen
STAFF WRITER

This story is in honor of Shelby Roling, daughter of Marcus and Donna Roling of Hot Springs, Arkansas, in remembrance of their 4-year-old daughter's short life that is absolutely well worth remembering.

Following a difficult pregnancy, Donna and Marcus Roling with their two sons, Daytona and Ryan along with their daughter Utopia, were thrilled to welcome a little sister to the family on April 19, 2019.

One of the first behavior difficulties that was

discovered was Shelby had very little eye contact with the loved ones surrounding her. It was very difficult to sooth her during crying. They noticed she babbled a lot and didn't respond to her name. Her physical movements were mainly back and forth pointing and waving.

Shelby developed and as she grew close to 2-years-old she sat on the floor and loved spinning around. At that point, the Roling family knew Shelby had autism. They arranged for special schooling for Shelby as she responded better with treatments, and she showed how much she loved going to school.

"Shelby loved all her toys and played cheerfully with each of them. When we would pick toys up and put them in a special box for her, she'd go to the box and toss them all out again. We decided it was easier just to leave the toys on the floor for her to play with whenever and wherever she wanted," said Marcus.

"Shelby would sit on the floor and spin around and around swinging her arms and legs. That's when we

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Marcus and Donna Roling. Proud to salute her life and her life-saving organ donations honoring their daughter, Shelby.

bought her a spinning floor seat. She absolutely loved it and spent much of her time holding her toys while spinning and waving at all of us,” said Donna. “She didn’t speak to us, but she had contagious giggles we all really miss now.”

Marcus and Donna shared the sad development of Shelby’s high fever which sent her into a lengthy unexpected seizure. Her passing was forecast possibly for just a week-long stay at the hospital. As her father had previously experienced a heart transplant, her parents arranged to donate Shelby’s viable organs, including her brain to Autism BrainNet. “We had to give special permission for the brain donation as it is not the same as other organ donations,” said Donna.

According to Jessica Daitch, Communications, LLC, the organization facilitates the collection, processing, storage and distribution of donated brain tissue to advance autism and related neurodevelopmental conditions research worldwide. Shelby’s passing in the fall of 2023 contributed greatly to autism brain tissue studies.

“Why do we welcome brain tissue donation? One in

36 children and 1 in 45 adults have autism in the U.S. Research using postmortem brain tissue provides one of the most direct ways to understanding the biological causes of autism. The Roling’s donation may help to normalize a difficult conversation and lead to long-term planning to understand the wishes of the autistic person in other families,” said Jessica Daitch.

“Not only was Shelby’s brain donated, but a person was granted her liver, heart valves were used and a 60-year-old man received both her kidneys,” said Donna. “Our family wanted her to leave a legacy as a ‘pay it forward’ gift inspired by Marcus’s own experience with organ donation when he underwent his heart transplant in 2022 after Shelby’s birth.”

The Roling Family was invited to the Aurora Foundation’s “Day at the Zoo” in Little Rock which honored all the families of organ donors. According to the foundation, “We restore lives and we celebrate the families of heroes who change the lives of hundreds.” “We had a wonderful time at the Zoo where hundreds of families were treated for a private day at the Zoo,” the Rolings said. “We miss Shelby so much, but she

Shelby's favorite activity. Spin, spin, spin.

lives in our hearts and in the lives of others.”

For more information on autism and Autism BrainNet go to the following websites: <https://autism.org/what-is-autism/> <https://www.autismbrainnet.org/>



Welcoming Dr. Albezargan

Dr. Fatin Albezargan is accepting new patients at the Health Center in Hot Springs. As a primary and family care doctor, Dr. Albezargan offers wellness visits, acute illness care, treatment for chronic diseases, and more. She is fluent in English and Arabic, and is an excellent choice for patients seeking a compassionate and knowledgeable family physician.

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Stepping up to the Plate

A tale of survival and resilience

As told to Sandy Johansen
SPECIAL TO HSV LIFE

This writer remembers when four Jessierville students, Lions team members riding in a truck driven by Terry Lee Anderson in 2022 was struck by an intoxicated driver. The entire town of Jessierville, Arkansas, along with friends and neighbors including many of us in Hot Springs Village, were not only shocked by the horrific accident, but amazed how all four survived, three returning back to normal, but the driver, Terry Lee, was going to be taking a very long trip to recovery. We at the Hot Springs Village Voice thought it would be a welcoming update on just how hard this young man has fought a battle to survive and sharing his progress would be welcoming news to all of us in the area. Our best to you, Terry Lee and your caring family and friends.

Following dialogue was given to the HSV Voice by Holly Anderson:

On September 10, 2022, the unthinkable happened to our family. We found ourselves in the fight of our lives. Our two youngest children, at the time of the accident, Terry Lee (17) and Levi (15), were hit head on by an intoxicated driver while coming home from the Garland County Fair. Two of their friends were also with them. We had been just ahead of them in traffic and got home about 15-20 minutes before they should have. The accident caused severe injuries in three out of four of the boys. Two of them, including our youngest son, were life flighted to Little Rock to ACH where they stayed for the better part of a week.



Terry Lee's graduation photo from Jessierville High School.

Our older son, Terry Lee sustained life-threatening injuries that required over one hundred units of blood and blood product along with multiple surgeries that first night, throughout our eight-month hospital stay and even beyond that. More than 20 surgeries in all, eight of them being brain surgeries. The fourth young man was treated and released that night, praise God!

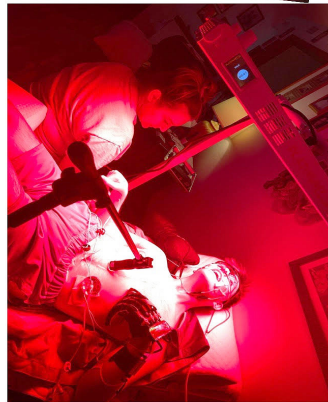
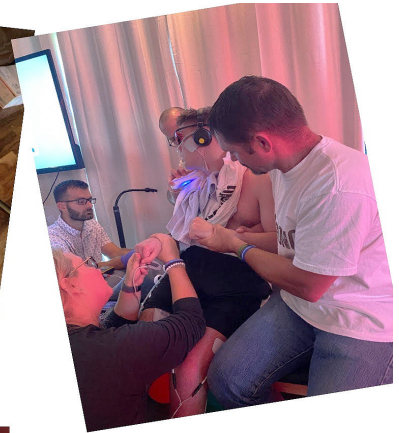
As you can imagine, recovery has been a very long and difficult road, one we will continue for years to come, although our sweet Terry Lee has come such a long way. Some of Terry Lee's injuries consisted of a severely bruised lung, a lacerated kidney, a ruptured spleen, lacerations to his liver, crushed wrist, broken fibula, a diffuse axonal brain injury, and an anoxic brain injury. He was on complete life support, in a coma for over two weeks, then semi-comatose for several months and had multiorgan failure.

The most serious of injuries are to Terry Lee's brain. The Diffuse axonal injury is from the impact of the wreck in which his brain was shaken so hard that the axons in his brain were torn. Axons are what transmit messages from the brain to the body to tell

Early intensive therapy guided by Dr. Daigle.

the body what to do. The anoxic injury is a result of cardiac arrest in which Terry Lee's heart stopped beating for at least 15 minutes and while CPR was performed, Terry Lee lost oxygen to his brain, thus the global injury.

Terry Lee was not given the hope of sustaining life that night, or even for the first week in the hospital. The second week was still very iffy, but Terry Lee pulled through again and again, I know with God working through each step, hearing the pleas of our family and many people here in our community that faithfully lifted our son up through each step we took. He is a true miracle, and our family is so grateful for it! It has been an extraordinary journey thus far, watching Terry Lee's life touch so many people



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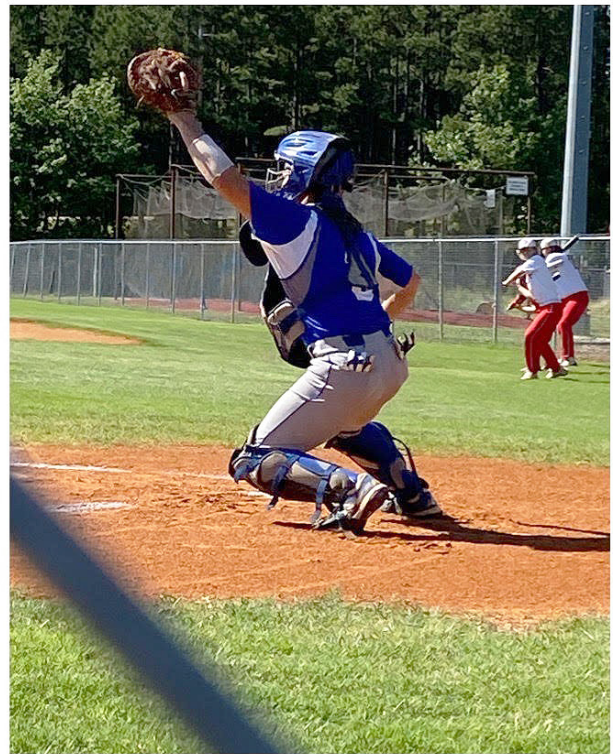
in such a positive way. He gives so much joy and hope as people watch him get better and better each day. He is such a strong young man and must be to continue to overcome his injuries that will continue to heal for years to come.

Terry Lee works hard in therapy and has shown good progress especially since beginning cutting-edge neuro-therapy, Photobiomodulation, EMS, NMES, vibrotherapy, specific supplementation, controlled diet and more. This therapy uses targeted, intense red & near infrared light and laser therapy that penetrate the brain to stimulate it and nerves with better blood flow to produce better internal communication through rewiring & rebuilding Terry's pathways thereby producing better function.

This neurotherapy is led by Dr. Kyle Daigle of Lake Charles, LA. We believe it was also a miracle that we were even able to get in to see him, let alone him take Terry Lee on as a patient, as he travels overseas and throughout the US sharing his vast knowledge and helping so many people. We went for a week of intensive therapy May 13-May 18 where we learned in depth about the therapy, how to implement it at home and more about Terry Lee's exact needs thanks to in depth gut testing and a QEEG which was able to show us the exact map of Terry's brain. We learned how his brain is communicating (or not) within itself, and Dr. Daigle and his team created a targeted plan to wake Terry's brain up.

We will return to Louisiana in 2.5-4 months depending on Terry's progress with the plan. It is a lot of work. Terry's treatments and therapy take anywhere from 3-5 hours a day, dependent upon how much physical help I have or don't have any given day. The therapy is 6 days a week, giving Sunday for us to rest and prepare for the upcoming week. It is truly a family effort and takes every bit of all we can give, but it is so worth it! Since beginning the treatments, we have noticed Terry Lee moving more physically, he is more alert, he is verbalizing more and gaining much better head control. Our goal for this leg of our journey is for Terry Lee to be able to hold a quadrupedal position while controlling his head. You must crawl before you can walk!

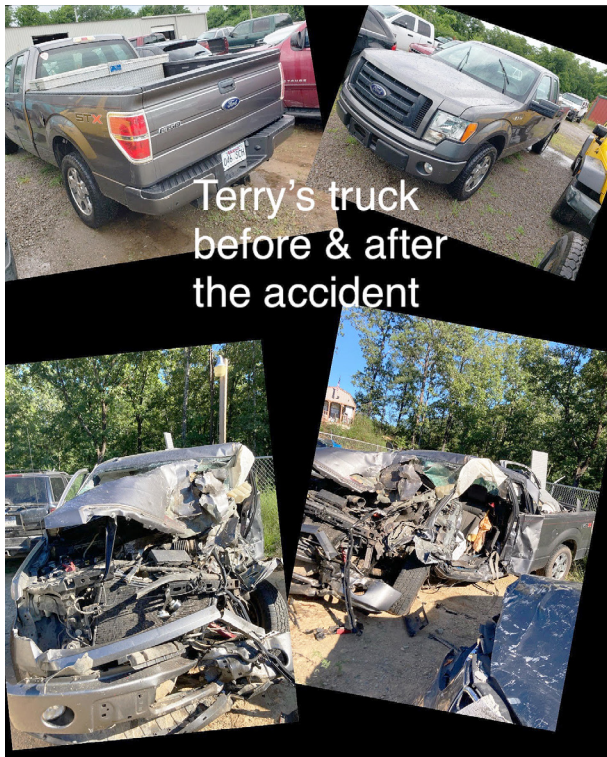
We are so thankful for the communities of Hot



At his best, Terry Lee, an awarded Jessieville Lion baseball player.



Terry Lee recently getting on the baseball field as he still loves to get his feet wet.



Terry's truck before & after the accident

Springs Village, Jessierville and Fountain Lake that have supported our journey through prayer, through friendships and through finances allowing us easier access to doctor visits, treatments and equipment to help our son in his recovery. We feel so very blessed that so many people care about our family enough to help us endure and overcome the most difficult thing we have faced as a family.

It sure makes it easier to face having so much love standing with us. I recently filled out paperwork that asked what Terry Lee's strengths are. I would say his strengths are the same now as they were before the accident. Physical strength, his humor, his positivity, and his perseverance all gifted to him by our mighty Creator! Terry Lee is our family's hero and has taught us what is truly important in life. "For with God, nothing will be Impossible." Luke 1:37



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The Best Day Ever

Sandy Johansen
STAFF WRITER



Evan Williams enjoying the parade along with his mother Janet Epperson and Craig O'Neill. (Sandy Johansen photo)

Thank you to the staff and volunteers at Hospice Home Care of Hot Springs and the Comfort Care Center of Little Rock for creating The BEST DAY EVER (BDE). The first HSV Voice news report covered Evan Vaughn's surprise. Living with his parents, Janet and Stan Epperson in Hot Springs Village, Evan's mobility is limited, but his spirit is not. According to LCSW Dianna Smith, "He's one of the bravest and happiest young men out there."

Vaughn's Best Day Ever surprise in May celebrated his 27th birthday with a parade of over 30 organizations and people along with Craig O'Neill, longtime Little Rock KTHV news anchor acting as a special comedic events announcer.

Evan's festival was planned and organized by all the staff members at Hospice Home Care under the direction of Dianna Smith. Not only was it a surprise, but it was themed around Evan's favorite characters including Iron Man, Elvis, and Star Wars characters.

The Tribute of Life Foundation supports "Best Day Ever" projects through gifts and memorials. The organization believes everyone deserves to complete their journey in a warm, clean bed, surrounded by people who are dedicated to meeting their medical, social, emotional, and spiritual needs. The 'No One is Alone' initiative is dedicated to funding two beds in the Comfort Care Center for those who cannot afford it.

Volunteers are the heart and soul of Hospice Home Care, providing essential support, compassion, and companionship to patients and their families during some of the most challenging times. Their selfless contributions make a significant difference, offering emotional comfort, respite for caregivers, and helping with daily tasks.

A patient wanted to produce one last sermon. Dr.

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Staff members submitted this photo (L-R) of Michelle Clendenin, RN and the patient is Mrs. Carol Hager enjoying her very special video of Elvis Presley on her birthday. Her reaction was priceless. (Photo courtesy of Hospice Care)

John B. Wright, Pastor Emeritus of Little Rock's First Baptist Church delivered a Facebook Live sermon on Thursday, October 1, 2020 to a world-wide audience including his beloved children Phillip, Jonya, and Patty, friends from Chenal Pines, and Hospice Home Care. The sermon was broadcast live from the Comfort Care Center on Bowman Road in Little Rock.

Another patient wanted his daughter to be able to pitch to him one last time and enjoy a Bud Light together. Given his fragile state, there were concerns, but this gentleman was beyond tough! He was so happy, and it couldn't have been a more perfect evening. Representatives from Bud Light even came and presented him with his beer, and he savored every moment.

One August the hospice team met at a patient's house to help him prepare for a day-long adventure. When his nurse asked what made him the happiest, he stated he missed the lake. Since he had been sick,

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- MAKER SPACE
- RECORDING BOOTHS
- EXTERIOR PATIO

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GARLAND COUNTY LIBRARY RENOVATION SCHEMATIC DESIGN

It's time for Evan's parade to start, and here's Fountain Lake's marching tribute band. (Sandy Johansen photo)



he hasn't been able to kayak. So, six staff and three volunteers caravanned to the state park, where his daily fee was waived. Equipped with drinking water, sunscreen, a life jacket, water shoes, a fan that blew cold water, towels, and a kayak, Mr. Smith was ready for the day. After securing his oxygen tank with floaties and helping him get comfortable in the kayak, everyone watched him paddle and rest for over an hour and a half. The day concluded with a picnic featuring

his favorite foods.

It was a Best Day Ever for Mose Verser. After talking for weeks about wanting to go fishing the staff made it happen! While he didn't catch the big one, they were biting a bit. We were able to gift a fishing hat and all the snacks and drinks as well.

There was a patient that loves Wheel of Fortune. The staff purchased a wheel and created the logo prizes and taped them in place. Christy, a staff member, was Vanna White holding the lighted board and turning the letters. The patient was asked if he wanted a vowel or consonant. With each spin, he was guaranteed to win something; perhaps a toy school bus and Razorback hat. He also had his favorite lunch of a McDonald's Happy Meal. Each team member clapped and cheered as he tried to guess the puzzles. His mom was in tears and was so full of joy when everything finished.

Mrs. Melva loved to sing and often shared stories with her aide and nurses about her time in a quartet. Though she didn't pursue a career in music, it remained



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her passion. When asked what she would love to do one last time, she replied, "I would love to sing." With this in mind, the staff from the Searcy office, along with her daughter, began making arrangements.

They secured a local community center, provided free of charge, and a volunteer prepared cake and cupcakes. Staff members brought their keyboards and sang along. Other staff members printed photos of Mrs. Melva from her younger days to place on each table, ensuring everything was decorated just right. Volunteers from the local church came to sing with her, and members of her old quartet visited during the gathering. It was a joyful experience for everyone involved.

Despite the inclement weather, the wedding for a patient at the Monticello Office location proceeded beautifully, thanks to the efforts from the staff, numerous volunteers and generous donations from individuals, companies, and the city of Crossett.

Billye Stockton, no longer with us, shared her very special 102nd birthday cake. (Photo courtesy of Hospice Care)



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Crust/Crumb topping:

- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 cup unsalted butter cold, cut into cubes
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten

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Peach layer:

- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 5 large peaches, peeled and diced
- 1 teaspoon fresh lemon juice

Icing:

- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon almond extract
- 1 tablespoon milk (more or less for desired consistency)

1. Preheat oven to 350 F if using a glass pan or dark metal pan, or 375 F for a light metal pan. Lightly grease or spray a 13 x 9-inch baking pan and set aside.

2. In a medium bowl, whisk together 1 cup of sugar, 3 cups of

flour, baking powder, salt and cinnamon. Using a pastry cutter, blend in the butter until the mixture resembles coarse sand. Add the lightly beaten egg and mix until the dough starts to hold together, but is still crumbly. Gently press a little more than half the dough into the prepared pan. (Optional: Use a food processor to process these ingredients.)

3. In a large mixing bowl, whisk together the sugar, cornstarch and cinnamon. Add the diced peaches and toss to combine. Drizzle the lemon juice over the peaches and toss to coat. Pour the peach mixture over the crust and spread evenly.

4. Using your hands, press together handfuls of the remaining crumb topping to create clumps. Scatter the clumps and remaining crumbled topping over the fruit layer, leaving some peaches showing through.

5. If using a glass pan, bake at 350 F for 50 to 55 minutes or until lightly browned. If using a metal pan, bake at 375 F for 40 to 45 minutes. Cool completely, then chill before cutting and icing.

6. Whisk together the powdered sugar, almond extract and milk. Drizzle on the bars just before serving.

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Woodlands Auditorium
August 15 at 7 p.m.

Full Moon Wine & Cheese Paddle
Coronado Boat Launch
August 19 at 7 p.m.

Marty Haggard - A Tribute to my Day
Woodlands Auditorium
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