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- BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
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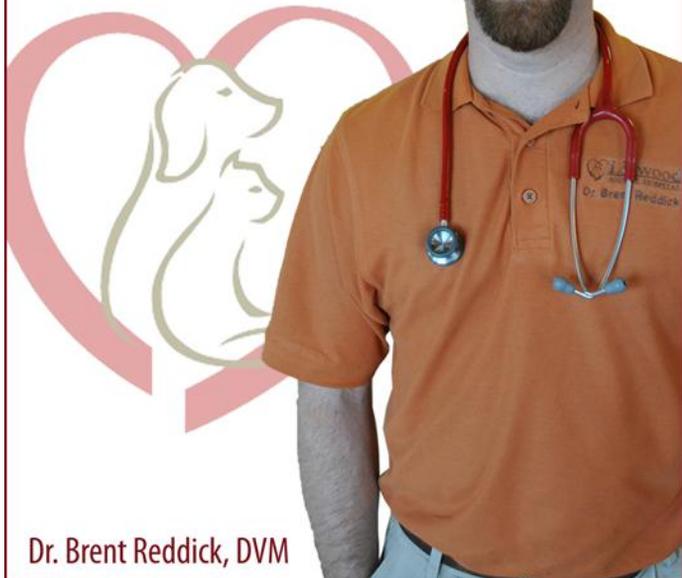
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CONTENTS



Beech Grove resident Susan Boyd incorporates a bond between humans and animals to provide a unique type of therapy. See her story on page 18.

8 SCENE 'YA

10 Giving kids a sporting chance
Boys/Girls Club

15 CALENDAR →→→→→

23 SPECIAL SECTION
What you need to know about
Prom, Wedding and Party Planning

35 Farmers Market

36 Women's History Month

40 CHAMBER SHOWCASE →→

52 HAPPENINGS

54 ENGAGEMENTS →→→→

55 Birth Announcements



On the Cover: Susan Boyd, photographed by Tim Rand Photography

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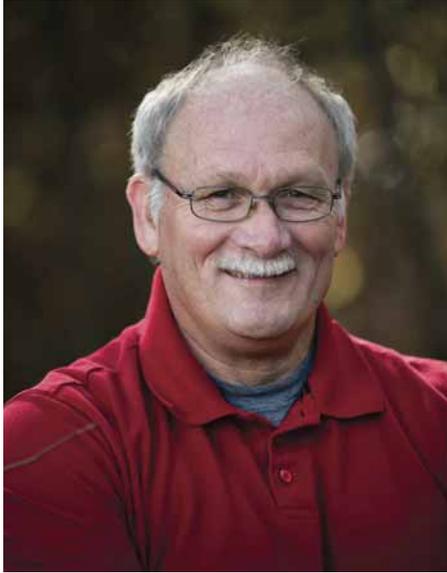
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From the Editor...



Richard Brummett, Managing Editor

March has proven to be a busy month, with plenty of things happening locally, and the month itself dedicated to various causes nationwide.

For one, it is Social Workers Month and I think sometimes the average person doesn't

understand all that goes into the daily workload of therapists and case workers in the mental health field. So many issues impact one's mental health and approach to everyday life and we should appreciate all the area agencies dealing with clients -- young and old -- and helping them cope with individual, school and family situations, to name a few.

I spent more than a decade in that line of work and can attest to the long hours and often frustrating experiences encountered, but also can relate to the great feeling of accomplishment when helping a family or a child deal with specific issues and get life headed in the right direction.

Being mentally healthy doesn't just mean that you don't have a mental health problem. A person in good mental health can realize potential, cope with life, fulfill roles in family, workplace and community and interact with friends.

Some people don't understand that problems such as stress, depression, eating disorders and anger are all mental health issues; most of us can let those feelings pass but for some people they develop into more serious circumstances that require professional help.

Our features this month -- Caitlin LaFarlette's visit with Kendell Camp of Families, Inc., and a conversation with Susan Boyd of Beech Grove -- are representative of what the various mental health providers in the area are utilizing to help their clients reach their goals.

March is also American Red Cross Month and we are all in tune with the many services the Red Cross provides, but the hard-hitting winter we have endured has added even more work for those who serve the organization.

The Red Cross offers some tips on ways to get involved and help others throughout the year, not just when severe weather hits.

Women in history also take the stage this month, and we found a couple of nice features to highlight area women and their accomplishments. Terry Austin provides an interesting and educational feature on women and their place in local history, thanks to the folks at the Greene County Historical and Genealogical Society, and I got to spend time with a longtime friend -- Shelby Faulkner -- a former professional basketball player.

All that, and plenty more for you to enjoy in this month's Premiere. ♦



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Miss AMMC Benefit Beauty Pageant

Saturday, April 19
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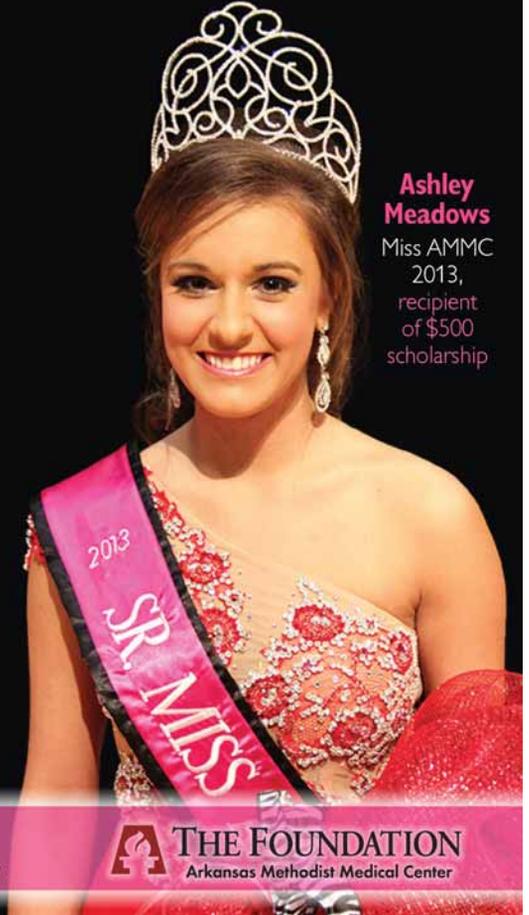
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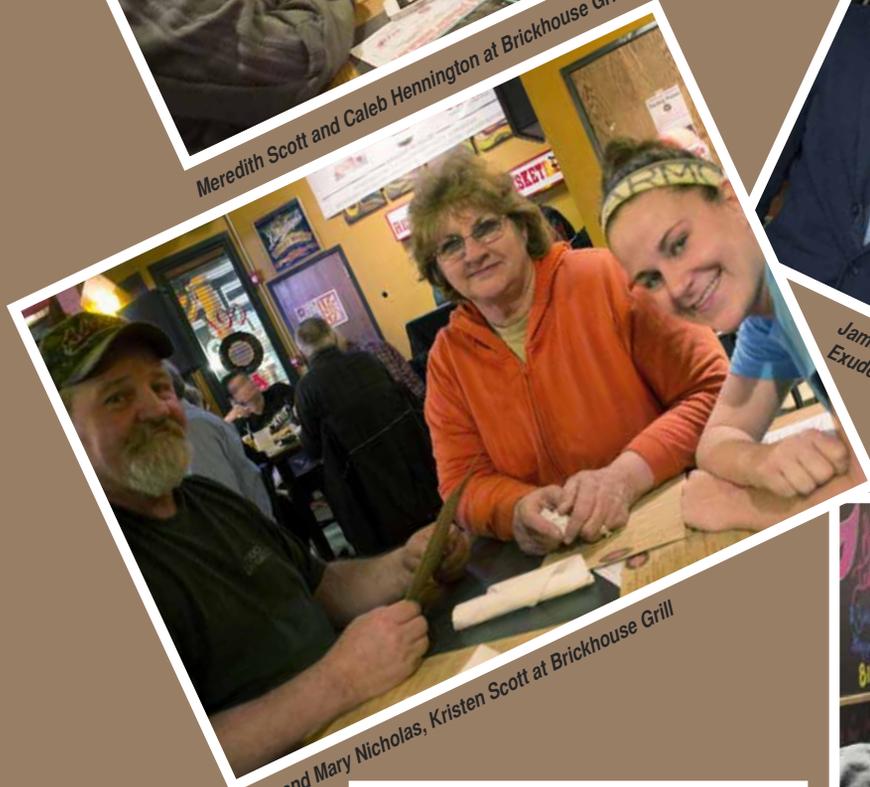
PREMIERE'S SCENE 'YA



Meredith Scott and Caleb Hennington at Brickhouse Grill



Jason Williams, Leah Honnoll, Angie Williams and Alder Mahone at Cookies N More



Pete and Mary Nicholas, Kristen Scott at Brickhouse Grill

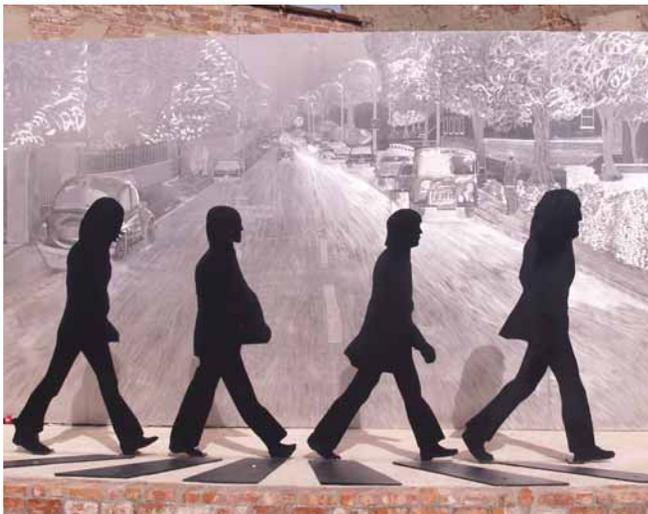


James Barker and Jazmine Washington at Exude Boutique

Naomi Lawrence and Ashley Meadows at La Bella Vita Boutique



Michael and Barbara Nelson at Brickhouse Grill



Danny West produced the life-size sculpture located in Walnut Ridge's Beatles Park, depicting the group's walk across the Abbey Road album cover.

Walnut Ridge included on list of top places for Beatles history

According to a recent story for *USA Today*, Beatles Park in Walnut Ridge is one of the 10 best places for Beatles history.



After a performance in Dallas in 1964, the band flew to a secluded ranch in Missouri for a break. They switched planes in Walnut Ridge. Word leaked out and a crowd of several hundred waited at the tiny airport for a glimpse of the stars.

The city now has a commemoration every year, and has also erected a life-size sculpture of the group in the city's downtown area. The artwork depicts the group as they appear on the Abbey Road album cover. The sculpture is called "The British Invasion of the Rock 'N' Roll Highway," in reference to Walnut Ridge's location along the historic Rock 'N' Roll Highway 67.

It has been a half-century ago

that the Beatles first appeared on The Ed Sullivan Show, changing rock 'n' roll history.

The rest of the Top 10 list for Beatles history includes:

- Ed Sullivan Theater, New York
- Hollywood Bowl, Los Angeles
- Edgewater Hotel, Seattle
- Hamburg, Germany
- Crowne Plaza, Palo Alto, Calif.
- Abbey Road Studios, London
- Brown Palace Hotel, Denver
- John Lennon's Home, Liverpool, England
- Deauville Beach Resort, Miami Beach

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Greene County Boys and Girls Club board members are Casey Horner, Lantha Garmrath, Blaine Nunn, Barry Hestand, Stan Phillips and Barry Rogers.

Giving kids a sporting chance

Maybe the fact that the Greene County Boys and Girls Club signed up a record number of young people this year indicates the group is doing something right; or, maybe, it's just a people thing altogether.

Board members Casey Horner and Barry Hestand, the longest-tenured of the six-person board with more than 20 years of service each, agree that it is the people of the Paragould/Greene County community who make the club's efforts a success.

"We couldn't do any of this without the volunteers who coach and give their time, and the parents who are willing to spend three nights a week for ten weeks helping make things work," said Horner, who is in his 29th year with the organization.

"You know, a lot of us get involved because of our kids, or our parents, and then you see what a great thing it is and you just keep going."

Greene County Boys and Girls Club provides opportunities for children and adults

The Club offers a football season for Greene County boys in grades 3-6, and basketball for boys and girls in grades 1-4. The recent basketball registration brought in 340 hopefuls.

"That makes you think you're doing something right and having a positive impact," Horner said.

Hestand, who started coaching a football team in 1991 and has remained active since, said he's "coached the kids of some of the kids. I agreed to do it because I love football and I love kids, and I've enjoyed every bit of it."

He said for some of the young ones, their club coaches are the only positive male influences they have, and that magnifies the importance of such programs.

Basketball practices and games are held at Paragould Jr. High, and Horner was quick to thank the school for making the facilities available. "We are so appreciative that they allow us to use their gyms," he said.

The football program is run at Harmon Field, which the club acquired about 10 years ago when Paragould built a new stadium.

"I think everyone who gets involved sees that this is great for our community," Horner said. "When you see the kids grow up and then come back to coach their own kids, you know you have instilled something in them and that the program has to be something they enjoyed and want their kids to be a part of. That's what it's all about, really. I've met some of the greatest people because of this program.

"It has to be in your heart," he added. "It takes a lot of time, and a lot of effort and you get paid absolutely nothing for it ... but it's really rewarding just the same." ♦

-- Richard Brummett

Boys Club provides lifelong memories for coach as well as players

I don't remember exactly who came to me and said, "We need a Boys Club basketball coach," and I certainly don't remember why I said, "Sure."

But somewhere between 35 and 40 years ago I agreed to take on the job of head coach of the Blue Devils, and we had a devil of a time.

Being a competitor, I hoped I had maybe a 6-foot center who would help us dominate; when I met the team, what I found was a collection of skinny ones and chubby ones, sort of tall ones and short ones, and ten sets of eyeballs that looked to me for guidance ... or at least for a free soda after the game.

It took only one practice for me to see that this would be a memorable experience. Being a rookie coach, I didn't think to bring a whistle because we were only given half the community center court and I figured surely I could get their attention with a shout. I was wrong.

Any time the ball bounded into the corner, so did all ten Blue Devils. Everybody wanted to touch the ball -- all the time -- and things like



Mark Rowden, Tim Fischer, Jimmy Stallcup, Fritz Workman, John Horton, Derek Boling, Chris Gardner, Scott Case, Jay Robertson and Jimmy Bradley: The undefeated Blue Devils.

floor balance, defending the basket and looking for a teammate seemed very foreign terms to kids who wanted to show the new coach their hoops stuff but really just wanted to play, and play hard.

That was the most valuable lesson I learned during that season: Kids, regardless of their athletic abilities, just want to play.

Thankfully, the Boys Club had rules about how long and how often a kid could be on the court, so running subs in and out was better understood by parents and players. When the dust settled on the season, we sat as the only undefeated team in the league, and better than any trophy was the fact that I saw ten kids have success and fun at the same time.

It was obvious some would never make great athletes, but they made great team players for one incredible season. They did the things necessary for all of us to succeed, and it was the Boys Club that gave them the chance.

Today they work in various fields -- at least one is a lawyer, a couple are farmers, one is a carpenter and another the head boys basketball coach at Greene County Tech High School. More importantly, they are forever etched into my memory as part of one of the best years of my life. If I failed to appropriately thank them and their parents back then, I want to do it now. They will forever be "my" kids. ♦

-- Richard Brummett

Celebrate American Red Cross Month

During Red Cross Month, the American Red Cross invites everyone to support their communities by giving blood or platelets, volunteering, taking a class or making a financial donation. Those involved enable the Red Cross to continue to help people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies.

Like the emergency room of a hospital, the Red Cross must be prepared to respond to patient needs around the clock. With the generous support of blood donors, the Red Cross can help ensure all patients have the blood products they need, no matter when or where.

Patients of all types regularly need transfusions. A hospital served by the Red Cross recently ordered 50 units of red blood cells and 50 units of plasma for a patient undergoing a liver transplant. Thanks to dedicated Red Cross donors, blood products were readily available for this patient and many others.

To make an appointment to donate blood or for more information about other ways to get



involved with the Red Cross, visit redcross-blood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

Want to help out? Here are some of the volunteer opportunities that may be available:

– Blood Collection Assistant

– Donor Receptionist:

You'll greet donors as they come to a Red Cross blood drive and provide them with required pre-donation information.

– Refreshment Assistant:

Help set-up the refreshment area and hand out drinks and snacks to people who have just donated blood. You can talk with the donors and thank them for the donation.

– Donor Recruiter:

You will talk with people at a drive and ask them to help in saving lives by donating blood. The top reason people don't give blood is because nobody asks them to. Now's the chance!

– Office Assistant Volunteer

Volunteer to assist the office staff with clerical tasks 2-3 days per week. Tasks may include data entry, filing, preparing mailings, fulfilling promotional item orders, making calls from the donor call center to blood donors to schedule appointments or remind donors of an upcoming blood drive, etc. Some tasks include light lifting.

– Courier Driver

Do you like driving the open road? Volunteers would deliver and/or pick up blood and blood components in a safe and efficient manner and deliver to the regional hospitals and centers. The volunteer would need a current driver's license with a good driving record, ability to lift 50 pounds and minimum age of 21.

– Warehouse Volunteer

Volunteer to assist taking inventory in the Region's warehouse 2-3 days per week boxing and organizing promotional and/or marketing materials used for blood drives. Some light lifting involved.

– Bilingual Volunteer

Volunteer to serve as bilingual volunteers "native Spanish speaking" and "non native Spanish speaking" to translate and assist at American Red Cross blood drives.

The Northeast Arkansas Chapter of the American Red Cross serves the residents of Clay, Craighead, Cross, Fulton, Greene, Izard, Jackson, Lawrence, Mississippi, Poinsett, Randolph and Sharp counties.

Office locations for NEA are found at 630 West Walnut in Blytheville (870-763-4481) and 305 West Jefferson Avenue in Jonesboro (870-932-3212). ♦

An advertisement for Warehouse Flooring. The top half shows a living room with a fireplace, a dining table with chairs, and a large window. The text "Spring for new flooring this tax season!" is overlaid in a white, cursive font. The bottom half is a dark brown banner with the text "Warehouse Flooring" in a large, white, cursive font, and "Where the Prices Won't Floor You, but the Selection Will!" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. Below that, the address "1709 N. Campground Road, Paragould, AR (870) 236-1754" is written in a white, sans-serif font.



Brandt Roberts portrays Si Robertson in the 2013 Barnyard Bash's Duck Dynasty Airlines skit, above left; Lori Dial performs, at right.

Women for CRC hosting 22nd annual "Barnyard Bash" in March

The Women for Crowley's Ridge College will present their 22nd annual "Barnyard Bash" on Friday, March 7, on the campus of Crowley's Ridge College at the Carter Activities Center.

Dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m., followed by an

evening of entertainment. Wonderful music will be presented by many local talented artists and singers, including a band comprised of Craig Morris, Gary Cremeens, Steve Goins, Barry Joiner and Kevin King.

Hilarious comedy will be provided by Junior, Lulu, Minnie Pearl and Grandpa.

Tickets (which include a BBQ meal and show) are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children. Proceeds from the event will fund extra needs for the college campus and dorms.

Call 870-236-6901 to reserve tickets, or email jlambert@crc.edu.

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AMMC, Wal-Mart team up to present diabetes program

Arkansas Methodist Medical Center and Wal-Mart are teaming up to present a community diabetes program entitled "March Into Spring A Healthier You."

AMMC Certified Diabetes Educator Pat Malone, RN, will prepare fresh menu ideas to break winter's spell and clever carb counting ideas will be shared.

Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP by Wednesday, March 26, by calling (870) 239-7016.

The event will take place Thursday, March 27, 2014, from 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. in the

Arkansas Methodist Medical Center Professional Office

Building Auditorium.

AMMC is located at 1000 W. Kingshighway in Paragould.

Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP by Wednesday, March 26, 2014, by calling (870) 239-7016.

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Additional information about AMMC is available at: www.myammc.org.

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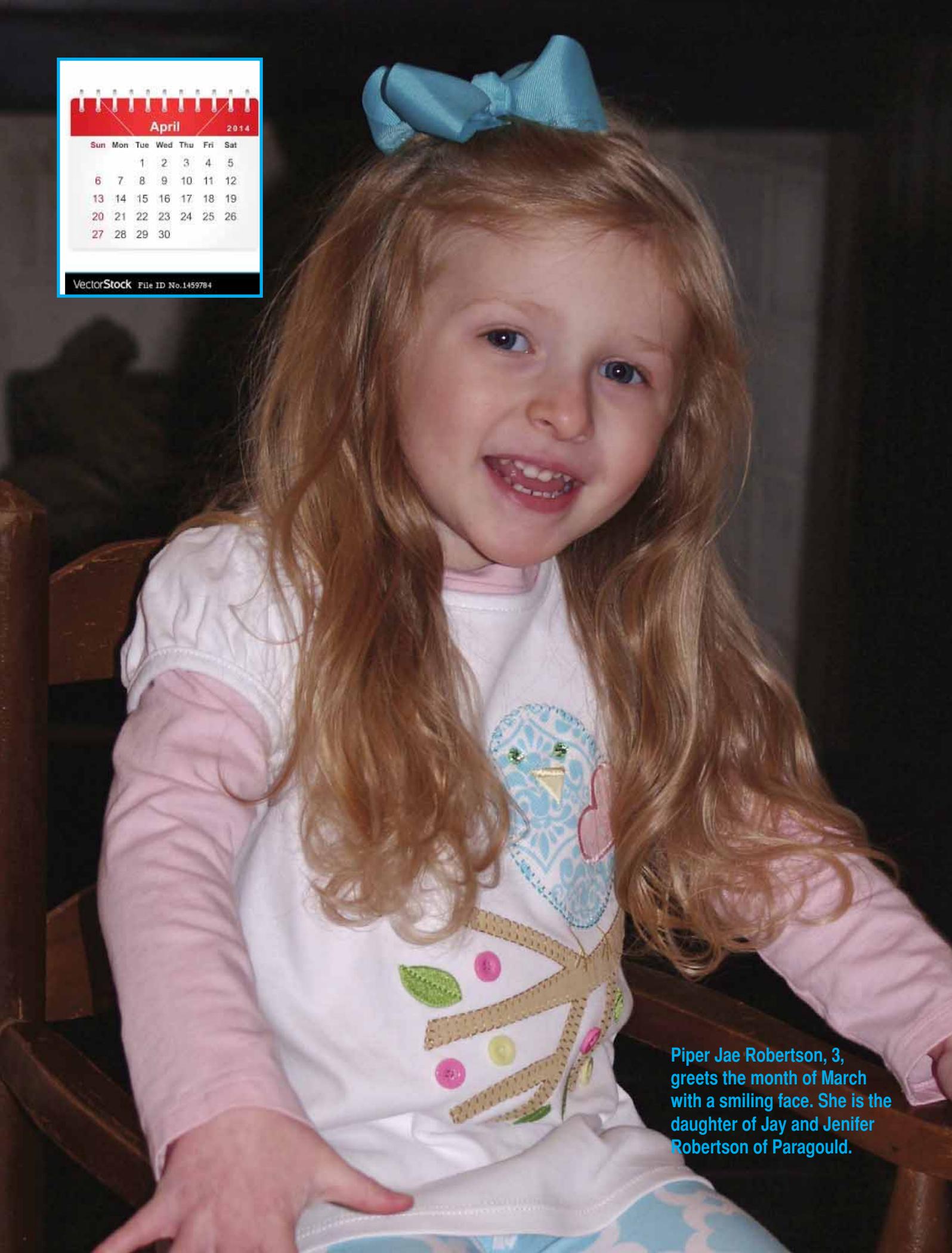


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Piper Jae Robertson, 3, greets the month of March with a smiling face. She is the daughter of Jay and Jenifer Robertson of Paragould.

No compensatory eating: You can't out-train a crummy diet

In last month's column I said diet is 80%. It still is. The first thing is diet. The second thing is also diet. You just can't out-train a crummy diet.

Unfortunately, this happens too often: A girl works out and on her way home she thinks, "I worked out HARD. I've earned a shake!" Let's look at that. Let's give her the benefit of the doubt and say she ran hard on a treadmill for one hour. Let's guess high and reward her with burning 600 calories in that hour run.

First of all, we need to subtract from that 600 calories the 125 calories she would have burned anyway by just breathing, walking around, living her normal life. We're down to 475 calories burned.

She then gets home and, because she's tired from working out, she says, "I'd better rest my legs." She then sits on the couch with her feet propped up till bedtime. Had she not worked out, she would have done some

The Get-Fit Guy

By Shannon Beasley



laundry, cleaned her shower, vacuumed, maybe. Those are all calories she didn't burn, maybe 300 or so. Subtract that from the 475 and she's now down to only a 175 actual calorie deficit.

Now, that shake she had: It's closer to 1,000 calories than 500, but we'll just call it 600, the same number of calories she thinks she burned on the treadmill. So, 175 out + 600 in = well, trouble. Her "compensatory" eating has just made her fatter. Don't do it.

Compensatory eating will wreck even the best of diets. It can destroy all the hard work you're putting in to get a fit physique. All those workouts at the gym, all those sit-ups and v-ups and toes to bar and knees to

elbows and hollow rocks and bicycle crunches you're doing in that never-ending quest for six-pack abs... I've got news for you: Abs are made in the kitchen, not the gym.

All the sit-ups in the world won't do you a world of good if your diet is out of line. I've got more news for you: You've got six-pack abs right now, right where you sit, right where you stand. Just by exerting yourself daily to sit upright, to stand erect, to bend and move, to do all your daily activities, you've got some nice washboard abs under there.

That's just it — they're *under* there! They are covered by body fat. In general, you will need to get your body fat percentage down to around ten percent to see them, but they're there. So, visible definition in your abdominal muscles doesn't necessarily mean you've got a strong stomach/a strong core; it means you've got a strong diet!

So for a first step in your diet and exercise program, let me challenge you not to compensate your hard work with poor eating. Going to the gym, working your rump off, and then rewarding yourself with insane foods instead of sane ones can leave you fatter, not fitter. Don't do it.

Exercise is Robin. Diet is Batman! Don't let compensatory eating make you a joker.

You are better than you think you are. You can do more than you think you can. Go get fit!

Shannon Beasley is a certified personal trainer. Contact him online at www.victoryfitness-studio.com, or email him at shannon.k.beasley@gmail.com.

Disclaimer: Please recognize the fact that it is your responsibility to work directly with your physician before, during, and after seeking fitness and diet consultation. As such, any information provided is not to be followed without the prior approval of your physician. If you choose to use this information without the prior consent of your physician, you are agreeing to accept full responsibility for your decision. ♦

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9. Family stress situations (i.e. domestic violence, suspected substance abuse [child or parent], gang/cult activity).
10. Any red flags reflected in assignments (i.e. poem reflecting thoughts of suicide, essay reflecting homicidal ideas).
11. Gender identity issues or confusion
12. Hyperactivity
13. Truancy or poor attention
14. Disrespectful towards adults
15. Withdrawn
16. Not interacting with peers
17. Not able to focus/concentrate on school work
18. Change in grades/performance/attitude
19. Child report of depression, suicidal thoughts or gestures or ideas
20. Noncompliance with medications
21. Actions/interactions are not age appropriate

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"If Wishes Were Horses ..."



*the
Celebration*

Susan Boyd and Royal welcome visitors to the farm.

Trying to make a better world, one life at a time

Susan Boyd has dreams and aspirations just like anyone else. One stands out above the rest, however.

“Trying to make this a better world, one life at a time,” the Beech Grove resident said, “whether for animals or humans.”

Boyd runs the *If Wishes Were Horses Farm*, and in that capacity does all she can to help people cope with life through animal assisted learning and therapy. She has contracted with Families, Inc. to allow the mental health provider the opportunity to bring young people to her farm, letting them interact with a variety of animals for a variety of reasons.

“Therapy means different things for different people,” said Boyd, who is certified to instruct equine psychotherapy. “We use different animals for desired results. With one group we may use all dogs; with another, maybe all horses.”

Recently, the theme for the day was dealing with cliques in school and the children were to take horses and have one represent each group.

“You know, the jocks, the smart kids, in the band, outcasts,” she said. “The kids had to identify the groups through the horses, then place themselves in the groups. It’s a good way to deal with issues.

“See, the horses can feed off the kids’ energy. If a kid is being a little ‘toot’, the horse will give it the same personality back. The horse kind of mimics their behavior, so they might get to see a thousand-pound version of themselves.”

She said each therapy session starts with a prayer, then the students perform some minor horse grooming before the

actual activity chosen for that day begins. Horses, donkeys, dogs and cats roam freely about the farm, and their presence offers a calming effect for the humans chosen to participate in the exercises.

Sometimes kids are given tempera paints and allowed to paint on an actual horse. “You put a kid on one side of the horse and give him half a horse to paint their family as it is,” Boyd explained. “Then on the other side you have them paint their ideal family. You can see a lot about what they’re thinking when they finish painting.”



People, dogs, horses ... all interact at Susan Boyd's Beech Grove facility.

Boyd also runs The Henry Wrinkles Foundation, a non-profit organization meant to utilize the appeal and talents of Henry-- a sharpie/lab mix dog -- to support projects that also help improve the lives of animals and children.

Currently, all profits from income and donations related to foundation go toward supporting spay/neuter programs and the animal assisted therapy. But Boyd recently has gotten the Paragould School District involved with Henry’s literacy program and hopes to eventually realize a financial gain adequate enough to start a home for boys ages 10-17 in conjunction with her farm.

“No one wants troubled boys that age,” Boyd said. “If enough funds come through I’d like to start a place to house them, educate them and give them daily chores with the horses and animals. For that to happen we will need funding, house parents and patience.”

But it is a very good dream. ♦

-- Richard Brummett

Social work is one of the fastest growing careers in the United States

According to the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), social work is one of the fastest growing careers in the United States.

Social workers are highly trained and experienced professionals. Only those who have earned social work degrees at the bachelor’s, master’s or doctoral levels — and completed a minimum number of hours in supervised fieldwork — are professional social workers.

They help individuals, families, and groups restore or enhance their capacity for social functioning, and work to create societal conditions that support communities in need.

The practice of social work requires knowledge of human development and behavior, of social, economic and cultural institutions, and of the interaction of all these factors.

Social workers help people of all backgrounds address their own needs through psychosocial services and advocacy.

Social workers help people overcome some of life’s most difficult challenges: poverty, discrimination, abuse, addiction, physical illness, divorce, loss, unemployment, educational problems, disability, and mental illness. They help prevent crises and counsel individuals, families, and communities to cope more effectively with the stresses of everyday life.

Professional social workers are found in every facet of community life — in schools, hospitals, mental health clinics, senior centers, elected office, private practices, prisons, military, corporations, and in numerous public and private agencies that serve individuals and families in need. Many also serve as social and community service directors.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), professional social workers are the nation’s largest group of mental health services providers. There are more clinically trained social workers — over 200,000 — than psychiatrists, psychologists, and psychiatric nurses combined. Federal law and the National Institutes of Health recognize social work as one of five core mental health professions.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs employs more than 10,000 professional social workers. It is one of the largest employers of MSWs in the United States.

More than 40% of all disaster mental health volunteers trained by the American Red Cross are professional social workers.

-- From the National Association of Social Workers ♦

SOCIAL WORKERS MONTH



Kendell Camp and the social workers at Families, Inc. strive to help clients and their loved ones reach their fullest potential.

Getting children “to a place where they are thriving” is goal of Families, Inc.

With innovative therapeutic practices, Families, Inc. is moving care outside of the office and into the home environment for children and families of the Northeast Arkansas area.

In 2007 the Arkansas System of Care went into effect, producing a family-driven program that provides a team-based approach for children in need, according to the Arkansas Department of Human Services. The Wraparound program falls under this system of care and is used by Families, Inc. to give out-of-the-box therapy services to children.

Kendell Camp, clinical supervisor for Families, Inc. in Paragould, said typically a parent will request services for their child, and then a therapist will determine their diagnosis and develop a treatment plan. The

System of Care adds an additional layer to this therapy.

“We’re going to let the experts do what they need to treat the symptoms. We want the family and the child to basically drive this part of it,” Camp said. The families are encouraged to use community resources to help treat their child.

Anyone in the community can make referrals to the Wraparound program, and Families, Inc. looks at the top five percent of children who are at high risk for things such as out of home placement and hospitalizations. Referrals are made to care review teams consisting of a therapist, case manager, counselor or others in the community.

“They determine whether or not these services would be helpful based on what’s

going on with the child,” Camp said. From this point, Camp said the team decides what else can assist the child, such as mentoring, tutoring or even activities like dance lessons.

One specific case from the program involved a 17-year-old girl who was being hospitalized at least twice a year. About three years later and after involvement with Wraparound, her hospitalizations dropped to zero.

“There’s been some remarkable results with these kiddos,” Camp said.

Families, Inc. shows unwavering dedication to the children and their families. The therapy is no strings attached and the counseling services pay for everything from dance to karate lessons. “We just want to help get your child to a place where they are thriving,” Camp said. ♦

-- Caitlin LaFarlette

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Get the Party Started

Prom • Wedding • Party



Brides offer tips for making yourself the best possible wedding guest by avoiding mishaps

Whether a wedding is formal or casual, large or small, brides often tell stories of wedding guest mishaps. If you've been invited to a wedding here are some quick tips from distraught brides.

To help the wedding run smoothly and to be a great wedding guest:

PLEASE RESPOND

If you receive a wedding invitation and a response is requested, please do so.

The bride needs to know how many people will be attending the wedding and the reception. Space for the wedding and food for the reception are often based on a head count. So even though it's easy to put off responding, it makes it much more difficult for the bride and groom to plan their "big day" when they don't know the number of people who will be attending.

READ YOUR INVITATION

It may sound innocent enough to ask about

bringing an extra guest, or just showing up with an uninvited guest. However, bringing extra guests may place the bride in an awkward situation. Space limitations and budget considerations often dictate the number of guests that are invited.

Check your wedding invitation to see how it is addressed. The invitation will be addressed to the people who are invited.

VISIT THE WEDDING WEB SITE

Find out if the bride and groom have a web site. A wedding web site is a great way to keep guests informed of wedding plans. A couple's web site will usually post dates, directions, RSVP's, registries, events, updates and photos.

ARRIVE ON TIME

When the service begins, the bride should be walking down the aisle, not you. If you are late to the wedding ceremony wait for the wedding coordinator to let you know when and where to sit. If there is no one to help with the seating then try to wait until the bride has walked down the aisle. Then you can quietly walk

down an outside aisle and find a seat. Usually finding a seat in the back of the church or in the balcony is the least disruptive.

TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE

Check to make sure your cell phone is either turned off, or turned to the silent position, during the ceremony. The only people speaking during the ceremony should be those in the wedding party.

RESPECT THE PHOTOGRAPHER

If a wedding photographer has been hired to take pictures of the wedding ceremony, let them do their job. Getting out of your seat and trying to take your own photographs can be distracting during the service.

DRESS APPROPRIATELY

Appropriate dress can often be confusing. If you're unsure as to what to wear, check the invitation for the following information: (1.) The type of ceremony; (2.) The location of the ceremony; (3.) The time of the ceremony. If you're uncertain as to what to wear to the wedding, don't hesitate to ask the host. If the bride and groom have a wedding web site, this type of information is often listed.

ASK WHERE TO SEND A WEDDING GIFT

Local customs vary. In some instances wedding gifts are sent before the wedding. In other instances wedding gifts are brought to the reception. If possible, try to find out what is most convenient for the bride and groom.

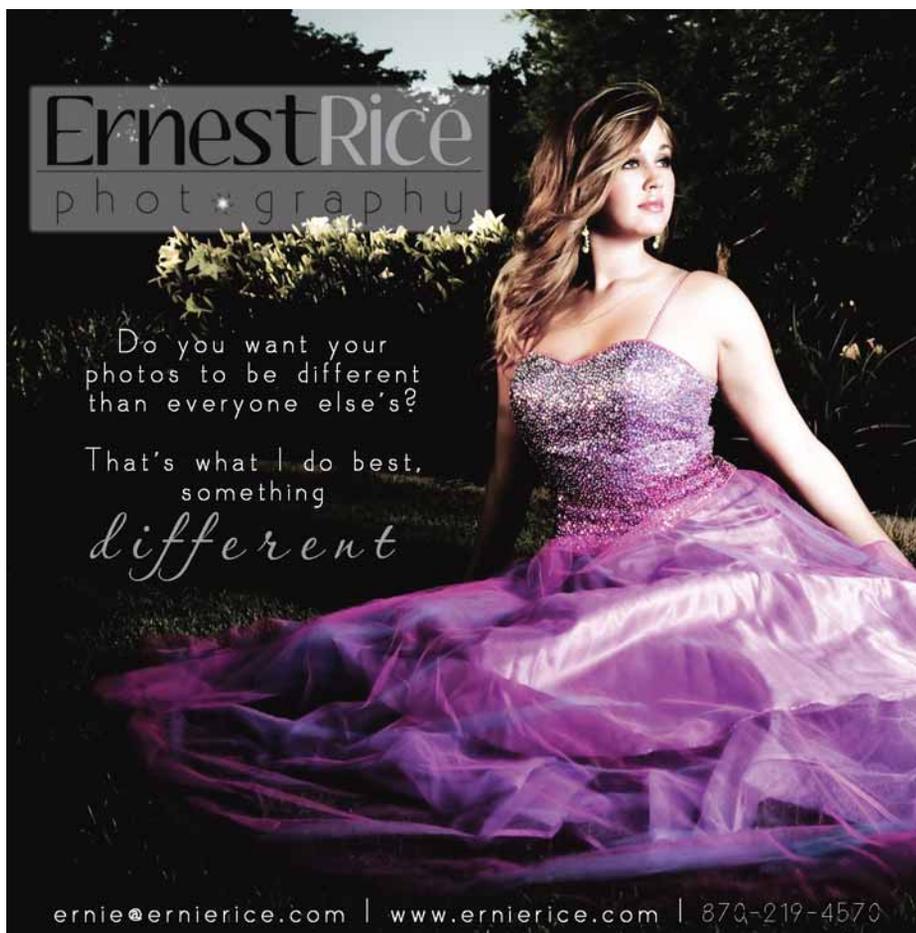
VISIT AT THE RECEPTION

The wedding reception is the perfect place to visit with the bride and groom, members of the wedding party and other guests. Extend your best wishes to the bride and groom. Be aware, however, that the couple will want to visit with others, so try not to monopolize their time.

And before you leave the reception don't forget to thank your host for inviting you!

-- Linda Lou Moore

Linda Lou Moore is trained and certified by The Protocol School of Washington. She offers business professionalism, etiquette, dining and protocol seminars for adults and etiquette programs for children and teens. She may be contacted at P.O. Box 145, Paragould 72451 or at manners@paragould.net ♦



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MARCH 22, 2014

NICKI STEELE & JACOB SMALLING
MARCH 29, 2014

KATHRYN KEEL & ALEX ROUNTREE
MAY 17, 2014

BROOKE TABOR & LOGAN LANDS
MAY 31, 2014

BRITTANY REEVES & NATHAN ANDERSON
MAY 31, 2014

FALLYN DAVENPORT & TREY OUTLAW
JUNE 7, 2014

HOLLY BLANKENSHIP & JOSHUA SMALL
JUNE 7, 2014

ELISA DIGGS & JORDAN OWEN
JUNE 7, 2014

WHITNEY McSPADDEN & ANDREW WEAVER
JUNE 7, 2014

SAVANNA MOORE & JOSHUA SMITH
JUNE 20, 2014

JULIA TAYLOR & LUKE HANSEN
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Area businesses prepared to meet any style the customers might desire

With prom and wedding season drawing near, high-fashion trends are quickly making their way into local businesses.

The wedding scene for 2014 is eager to leave the dreary winter behind and focus on warmer weather.

"A lot of people this year are wanting to get married on the beach," said Allison Martin, sales consultant at The Wedding Gallery in Jonesboro. Brides-to-be are being drawn to simple dresses of chiffon, satin or taffeta fabric that won't be too smothering in a beach climate.

Even with the prospect of digging their toes into the sand when saying, "I do," the brides aren't concerned with having a short dress to keep off the ground.

"They're still wanting the long (dresses), just not a lot of train," Martin said. Popular color schemes for the year so far include orange and fuchsia, turquoise and blue, and peacock feather palettes.

Long, flowy dresses are also in style for prom season, according to Martin. She said the main styles the Wedding Gallery receives requests for are mermaid and high-low.

"Just about any color will work," she said.

The Urban Owl, a Jonesboro boutique that consigns prom dresses, is also seeing more long dresses, with either no straps or a one shoulder strap. Co-owner Melissa Burnett said her staff is seeing a little bit of everything, but many girls are bringing in pictures from recent awards shows to achieve an A-list celebrity style.

"They want a high fashion, designer couture look," she said.

While many are searching for their dream gown for a specific event, saving money is also a priority. Burnett said many want a multi-use dress, such as a long one for a formal celebration that can then be cut off short for an informal one.

When it comes to parties and event planning, The Party Place in Jonesboro has all the supplies necessary to make every birthday, business event, graduation, wedding or reunion special.

"Whatever they can imagine we can usually make happen," owner Christina Ryan said.

Popular party themes for children this year are character types that

**"Whatever they can imagine
we can usually
make happen,"
owner Christina Ryan of
The Party Place said.**

follow movie and television show trends. Ryan said it usually depends on what kind of movie is showing at the time. Those closer to the teenage years are leaning toward exciting themes like a disco or even "The Great Gatsby."

Ryan said to make the party even more fun the kids will dress up to go along with the theme. The most interesting theme she has seen so far this year was a child who was interested in guns and zombies. "That's the excitement of being a party planner, figuring out what a kid is in to and how to make that happen," she said.

Ryan also handles wedding planning with the business. She said so far she has seen a trend in bright, happy citrus colors, coinciding with the beach theme The Wedding Gallery has tended to.

Whether looking for popular trends or a more individualized style, the businesses of Northeast Arkansas have it all.

For more information on their services, call The Urban Owl at 972-8825, The Wedding Gallery at 935-0917, and The Party Place at 275-7737. ♦



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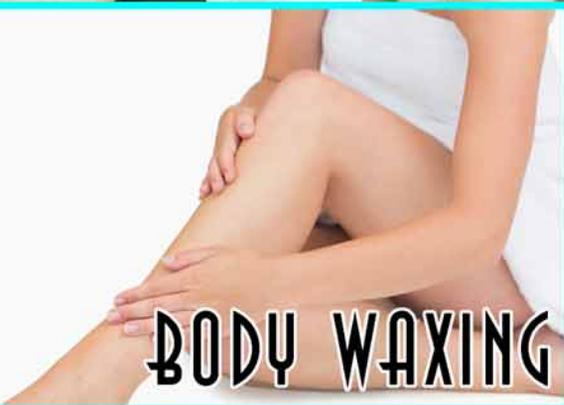
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Katy Bryant
Receptionist

Follow these tips, take this quick quiz before heading out for prom

Prom, a formal ball held for a school class toward the end of the academic year. The word Prom is short for Promenade. The word Promenade is from the French "Promener" which means to take a walk. So whether you take a walk or dance the night away, don't forget to:

PLAN AHEAD

The Prom Season is The Busy Season!

If you decide to ask a date or go with a group don't forget to make hair and make up appointments in advance. And, finding just the right dress, tux or outfit for the prom can take time. Planning ahead can help take care of any last minute problems or "wardrobe malfunctions."

For young women, whether your dress is long or short, practice wearing your dress before the big night. A dress may look beautiful on the hanger or when you are trying it on in the dressing room, but when wearing a formal or semiformal dress for several hours, it may be uncomfortable. A little practice wearing the dress can circumvent problems you may encounter the night of the

prom. And, don't forget about the shoes. Dancing the night away should be fun. However wearing new, or ill fitting shoes can make the night miserable.

For young men, if you're wearing a tuxedo, it is important to try it on and wear it a while before the night of the prom. Most tuxedos are designed and constructed differently than casual clothes. So wearing a tux may take a little getting used to.

If shoes come with the tuxedo make sure you are comfortable when you are wearing them.

FEEL CONFIDENT

Knowing what to do can help make you feel confident. When picking up your date, go to the door. This shows respect. Just driving up and honking indicates either you don't know what to do, or you don't care.

When arriving at your date's house, chances are that the parents will want to take pictures. Don't be camera shy. Taking prom pictures is part of the package. Even if you don't like having your

picture made, this is the time to stand straight and smile. Who knows, you may be the next top model.

When escorting a young lady to the prom, opening doors and pulling out chairs show you know what to do in social situations. Whether or not you are with the love of your life, or just a good friend, compliment your date. Knowing what to do in this type of situation makes you appear self confident and self assured - two very attractive traits.

Show respect for your date. Teens report that showing respect and consideration is important during this special event. Whether you are taking someone to the prom, with whom you are romantically involved, or you're taking just a good friend, try to see to it that they have a good time and let them know that you are having a good time.

SPRINGTIME SHOWERS

Check the weather before leaving for the prom. Since spring storms and showers are not unusual, take an umbrella if there is a possibility of rain. Although this may seem to be an obvious precaution, there have been many horror stories of being caught in a spring shower and arriving at your prom destination drenched.

BE SAFE

According to the Department of Transportation, prom nights are the most dangerous times for young people. It has been reported that approximately 5,000 teenagers have been injured or killed in traffic accidents during a prom weekend.

Taking this short true or false quiz will help insure a safe evening.

1. TRUE OR FALSE:

Wearing your seat belt is not necessary on prom night because it will wrinkle your tuxedo or prom dress.

FALSE. Wearing your seat belt can save your life. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 70 percent of teens injured or killed on prom weekend are not wearing seat belts.

2. TRUE OR FALSE:

The Number One Killer of young people,

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between the ages of 16 and 24, is traffic accidents.

TRUE. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, more than 3,500 young people are killed each year in traffic accidents.

One-third of these accidents are alcohol related.

3. TRUE OR FALSE:

Driving while sleepy is as dangerous as driving drunk.

TRUE. In a study by Stanford University, it was found that sleepy drivers are as dangerous on the roads as drunk drivers. Sleep deprivation can affect driving performance and reflexes just as alcohol can.

4. TRUE OR FALSE:

A designated driver is just anyone who likes to drive.

FALSE. A designated driver is a sober driver arranged for in advance. A designated driver abstains from drugs and alcoholic drinks on a social occasion in order to drive people home safely.

5. TRUE OR FALSE:

The greater number of teen passengers in a car driven by a teen, the more likely the car will be

involved in an accident.

TRUE. According to the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, the presence of teen passengers increases accident risk for the unsupervised teen driver and the risk goes up with the number of passengers.

**PLAN AHEAD, FEEL CONFIDENT
AND BE SAFE**

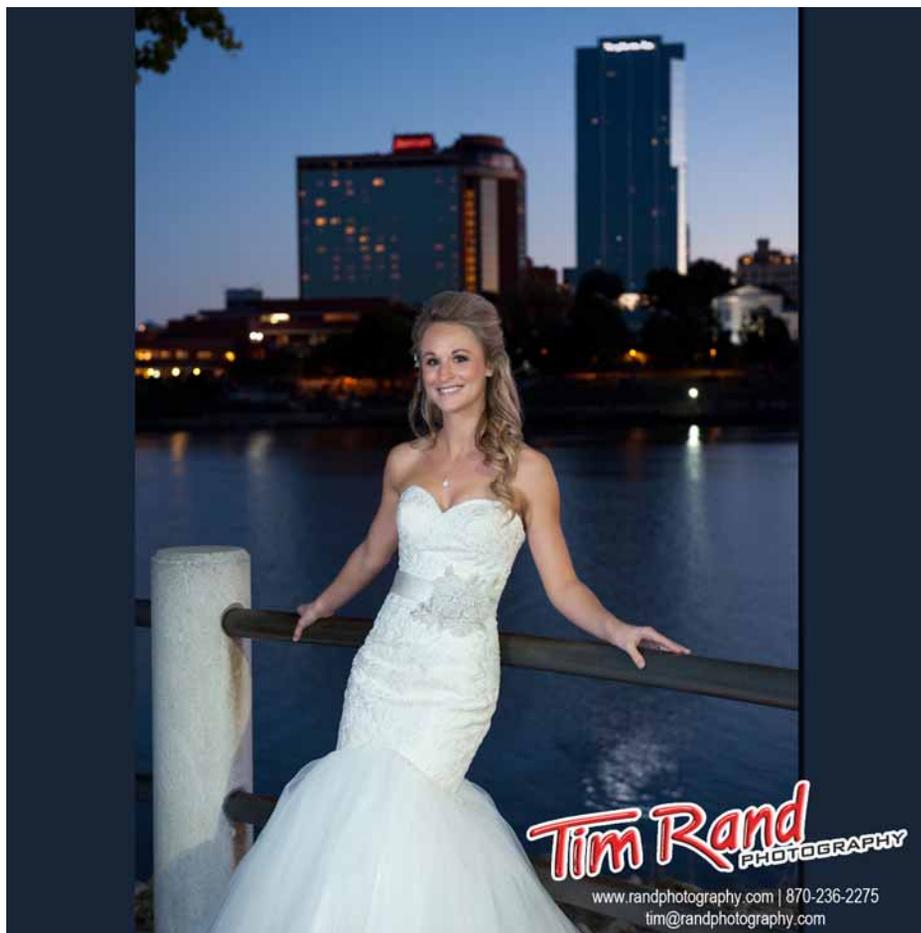
After reviewing this check list - it's time to party. Have a great prom!

You make the call ... going to college? Is Greek life right for you? Check out the Sorority and Fraternity Recruitment/Rush Workshop.

Find out the following social, academic and financial aspects of Greek Life. For details contact Linda Lou Moore.

Linda Lou Moore is trained and certified by The Protocol School of Washington, Washington, D.C. She offers business professionalism, etiquette and dining seminars for adults and etiquette and dining programs for children and teens.

Linda Lou Moore may be reached at Post Office Box 145, Paragould, Arkansas 72451 or at manners@paragould.net



Casual -to- dressy

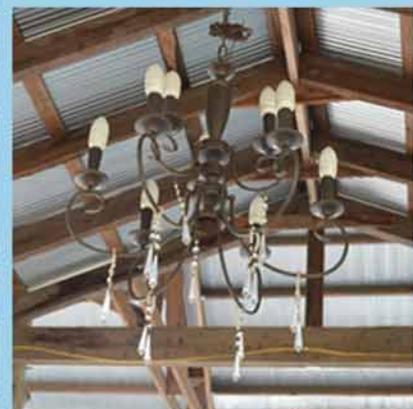
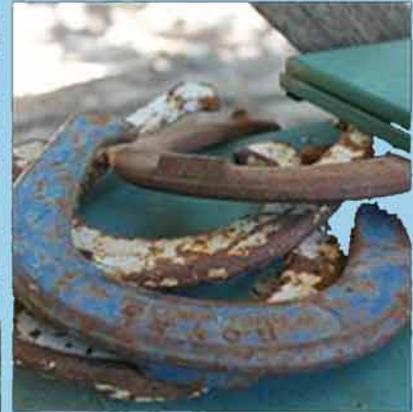
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Gina Jarrett addresses those interested in the local farmers market at the Greene County Courthouse.

Organizers of local Farmers Market hoping for mid-May opening date

With a goal of “community customer service,” several people met recently in Paragould to iron out the details for the 2014 Paragould Farmers Market.

A list of regulations was handed out and discussed, with a mid-May target date set for the opening of the market that will be housed adjacent to the Greene County Courthouse. Hours of operation will be Saturdays from 7 a.m. until 1 p.m.; however, the market may close early if all items are sold.

The Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce is leading the effort, working in conjunction with Arkansas State University and the Greene County Extension Office.

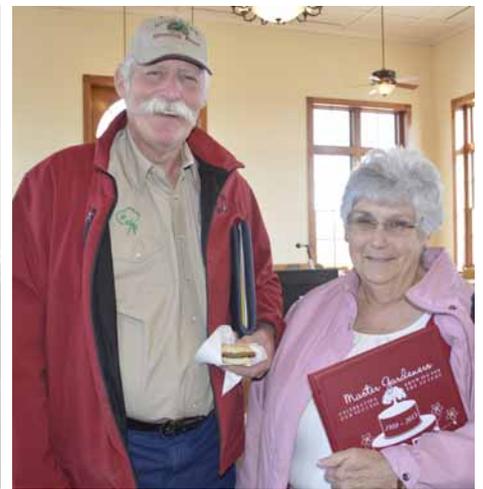
Depending upon the success of this year’s venture, a permanent structure to house the market could be possible for future endeavors.

Some of the main points of emphasis for prospective vendors to consider are:

- Booths 10x10 – fee: 10% of gross sales, up to \$200 (maximum paid is \$20 per day)
- Tables, displays provided by vendor
- Vendor is responsible for cleaning his/her booth and hauling off own trash
- Taxes/Department of Health regulations – vendor’s responsibility
- Must have a sign indicating location where products/produce are from or grown (100 mile radius)
- Vendors choosing to sell produce MUST be a grower – only produce growers are allowed to sell produce



Kimberly James, left, ASU’s Project Coordinator for its farmers market, will help in an advisory capacity; right, David Head of Nine Oaks Beef Company in Brookland and Holly Fletcher, a Master Gardener, will also participate in the market as vendors.



- All produce MUST be grown within a 100 mile radius of Greene County or within the state of Arkansas
- Prices must be displayed for buyer to see
- 100% of produce must be grown by vendor – NO resale unless Market Committee perceives product is limited, causing a higher demand. Weekly adjustments made, if needed.
- Produce vendors MUST own or rent/lease land (rented/leased must have written proof of ownership of the garden by land owner)
- All produce/baked goods must be elevated to 18 inches above the ground
- Baked goods must have a label containing: name of business/vendor, address of business/vendor, ingredients, and words, “This product is home-produced” in 10-point

type. It must NOT make any nutritional claims.

- You must bring your own power source if your product requires refrigeration, freezer unit, or you have any other need for power
- Crafts must be handmade and approved by Market Manager
- No re-sale arts and crafts permitted
- Crafters must present pictures to Market Committee for approval before bringing to market
- New crafters may be placed on a waiting list
- All permits must be approved by Market Committee
- Market Committee will conduct farm inspections throughout the season
- All rules/regulations are at Market Committee’s discretion ♦

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Trio had great impact on the lives of Greene Countians

It's a tough assignment: Find Greene County's most historically significant woman. Everybody has an opinion or two on the subject, but there's no clear-cut favorite. Even within the friendly confines of the Greene County Historical and Genealogical Society's offices in Paragould, there is still no consensus to be found.

When you think about it, that is a great problem for a county to have: An abundance of women whose collective service spans generations and makes a tangible positive impact on the lives of Greene Countians today.

Still, the list must be trimmed somehow, so we return to the experts at GCHGS. They've settled on three finalists -- but that's as far as they're taking it.

Choosing one wouldn't be fair. It's better to present the information and let the women's accomplishments speak for themselves. To borrow liberally from a conservative channel: They'll report. You decide.

So here -- presented in alphabetical order -- are the three Greene County women whose accomplishments set them apart from the rest.

EVANGELINE COTHREN: Cothren, a longtime educator in Greene County schools -- she was a teacher at Greene County Tech from 1948 until 1973 -- was named Arkansas' Teacher of the Year in 1971.

When you think about it, that is a great problem for a county to have: An abundance of women whose collective service spans generations and makes a tangible positive impact on the lives of Greene Countians today.



Evangeline Cothren

She was a founding board member

of the Endowment Foundation of Greene County (now the Arkansas Community Foundation of Greene County) and also served on the Greene County Scholarship Committee for many years.

A small business owner, Cothren ran Evangeline's Footwear in downtown Paragould for 17 years, and served as president of the Chamber of Commerce during that time.

Other community interests included serving as a member of the Auxiliary at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center, serving on the board of the Greene County Library, and holding membership in the Greene County Retired Teachers Association. She also served as a member of the Greene County Courthouse Preservation Society.

JULIA JACKSON: Jackson joined the Greene County 4-H Club as a charter member in 1917 (she was 13 years old), and in 2002 was recognized as the oldest 4-H member in the state.

In 1920, Jackson took a job in a local doctor's office and worked there for many years. She survived a bout with polio in 1939.

In 1950, she joined the AMMC Auxiliary and served the organization until 2005. Every workday from 1974 until 1991, Jackson made the flower arrangements the Auxiliary



Julia Jackson

sold in its gift shop, and in 2002, she was named the Auxiliary member of the year in Arkansas.

She also served in the American Legion Auxiliary, was active in the Paragould Chamber of Commerce, and was a member of the Greene County Historical and Genealogical Society.

MRS. W. L. SKAGGS: Born Buena Chloe "Dot" Thompson, this Marmaduke native was the daughter of Greene County pioneer James T. Thompson.



Dot Thompson Skaggs

Skaggs is described as a "lifelong student," and she was a pioneer in her own right when it came to educating women in Greene County. She was the first woman in the county to attain

a master's degree, which she received from the University of Missouri, and she taught in Greene and Lawrence counties for 50 years.

Skaggs became the first woman in Greene County to hold public office when she was elected County Superintendent of Schools. She was also instrumental in founding the county historical society.

-- Terry Austin

Premiere Magazine gratefully acknowledges the research materials provided by the Greene County Historical and Genealogical Society for this story, as well as the suggestions, guidance and support provided by the volunteer members of the organization. ♦

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



Shelby Faulkner has fond memories -- and a Hall of Fame ring --- from her days as an All American Red Head.

Paving the way for others on the hardcourt

It's not every day that you get to sit down with a Hall of Famer, but that's exactly what Shelby Faulkner and her All American Red Head teammates are.

In 2012 the professional women's basketball team was enshrined in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass., the first women's team ever to be included.

Faulkner, a 1958 graduate of Greene County Tech High School, said she wondered aloud in front of her coach, Dwight Williams, if she

might be able to play for the team upon graduation. "He said, 'Maybe,' and before I knew it Mr. (Orwell) Moore was at my house, asking me if I would be interested. He talked to my mom and dad and asked me if I wanted to travel, and it was the highlight of my life. It meant I wasn't going to have to chop cotton any more."

The 5-9 forward joined up with others and piled into the 9-passenger team station wagon, traveling up to 500 miles a day between game stops. "We played seven days a week and doubleheaders on Sunday," she said, recalling that the change from girls' halfcourt style to men's fullcourt play "was easy. Sometimes the games were rough,

but we loved to play."

Faulkner said since there were no college basketball scholarship opportunities for girls in 1950s, the Red Heads paved the way for teenage girls in the area to seek a basketball life after high school.

"I think we're part of history," she said. "When we made the Hall of Fame I thought, 'Is this really happening?' But I think we laid the groundwork for women's basketball today. They took it out of high school for a while and didn't allow girls to play, but we showed girls could be pretty good."

"I loved every minute of it and traveled to every state. It was a great time of my life." ♦

Business Is Good

Bibb hopes to bring museum art collection to Downtown Paragould

A Paragould chiropractor is setting things straight in the Arkansas arts community.

Last fall, the Hot Springs-based Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) closed its doors after struggling for years to meet expenses. But Paragould's Dr. John Bibb has moved MOCA's permanent collection to his Northeast Arkansas home town in hopes of reopening the museum, ideally as part of Paragould's burgeoning arts district in its revitalized downtown.

Bibb and his wife, Kimberly, own and operate Just Pretend Play and Party, a hands-on children's museum on South Pruett Street. And while a permanent home for MOCA has yet to be found, Bibb hopes it will land downtown as well, where an appreciation for art and music is taking root. (Recently, Main Street Paragould announced its annual May community event, long known as the Loose Caboose Festival, will be re-launched in 2014 as the Downtown Paragould Arts & Music Festival.)

According to Main Street Paragould Director Gina Jarrett, Downtown Paragould would be the ideal neighborhood for the museum.

"MOCA would be an incredible addition to Downtown and a wonderful attraction for Paragould," Jarrett said. "The economic impact alone would be beneficial for the entire community."

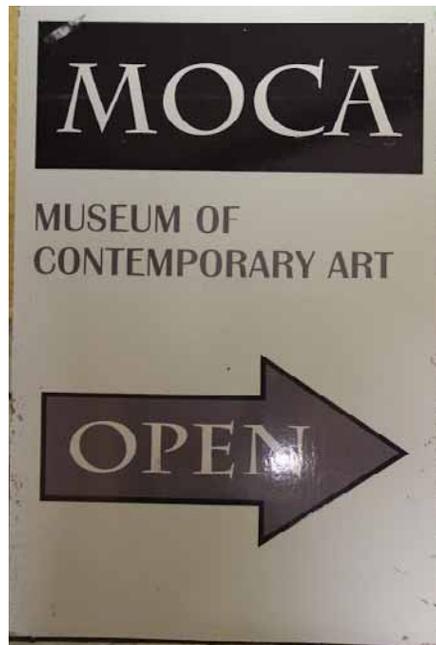
Citing statistics from Arkansas.com, Jarrett said tourists in Arkansas spent \$5.7 billion in 2012, including \$3.8 million in Greene County, which supported 248 jobs.

"Those numbers reflect that tourism dollars are big business," she said, adding that Downtown Paragould is encouraging the development and display of local talent.

"Paragould and Greene County have unbelievably talented folks," Jarrett said. "They're performing at the Collins, plays are being written and produced, they're displaying their art during our art walk, and Downtown is the location, from one end to the other,



Dr. John Bibb and MOCA board member Dina Mason display "Fusion Art," a work by Max Gold, which is one of the pieces in the collection. Below, hopefully the sign will eventually point the way to the museum for viewing works like the oil silkscreen below right, produced by Steve Kaufman, a protege of Andy Warhol, and the work atop the next page.



where bands are playing every weekend. Downtown is offering the venue for the arts to be enjoyed."

However, to be part of that scene, MOCA will have to accomplish what has eluded it before now: break even or turn a profit. Part of Bibb's vision for MOCA in Paragould is that it will be supported by the development of an artistic co-op. Under such an



arrangement, local artists would use the museum as a place for showings, classes, and other endeavors, and would also be able to sell their works in the museum. In exchange, those same artists would provide the staffing and manpower needed to operate the facility.

Initially, when Bibb read of the museum's closure, he was more interested in the fixtures, racks, and other items that might be auctioned. At the same time, he was engaged in an ongoing conversation with Rep. Mary Broadaway about the statue planted at the



front of the Broadway and Broadway law offices on Court Street.

"We were talking about ideas to get more statues placed in Paragould," Bibb said. "And then the idea struck me to look into bringing the museum's collection here."

Broadway helped the MOCA transition to Northeast Arkansas by providing a \$20,000 General Improvement Fund (GIF) grant to pay off debt and cover insurance costs.

"She has been awesome," Bibb said of Broadway. "This would not be happening without her help."

The MOCA collection features works from famed Heber Springs photographer Mike Disfarmer. Other items of note include paintings from Max Gold, Abrishami Hessam and Steve Kaufman. And while it's still very preliminary, there's been significant interest shown in MOCA by a private collector, who would put his or her collection on display in the museum.

For Bibb, the opportunity was too good to pass up.

"Art means different things to everyone," he said. "Whether it's outdoors and hunting themed or Picasso, it's all a means of expression of individual tastes.

"I just think it's great that we got to keep this in Arkansas." ♦

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Paragould Rotary Club

More than 90 exhibitors filled up the Paragould Community Center for the Chamber of Commerce Showcase in February. Chamber members traded ideas, played games, competed for prizes and shared laughs during the annual event.



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NIKKI ROBINSON MARMADUKE

Why did you choose teaching? It was one of those decisions where I just knew I wouldn't be happy doing anything else but teaching P.E. It's what God called me to do, to be a molder of dreams.

What do you enjoy most about it? The kids! A wise man, my dad, once told me that if you don't love the kids, you don't need to be in this profession.

Do you have any favorite teaching moments or memories? I have lots of them, but I just love it when my students run to tell me how hot and sweaty they are. I look at them and say, "Good! That means I'm doing my job!"

Tell us about your family. I am married to Shane Robinson, who is also a teacher/coach. We have two wonderful children, Heidi, who is 10 and Carson, who is 7. We enjoy being involved in our local church, going on mission trips, going to basketball games, taking road trips to Silver Dollar City, and playing Rummikub on family game night. ♦



ANGELA NEWBY PARAGOULD

Why did you choose teaching? Playing "teacher" was something I did a lot growing up. However, being in Bonnie Hamilton's high school English class sealed the deal. Her teaching methods inspired me.

What do you enjoy most about it? There is never a dull moment. Kids say and do the funniest things! Teaching is a career that is challenging and is constantly changing, so I am never bored. Plus, my fellow teachers are some of the most caring people in the world.

Do you have any favorite teaching moments or memories? There are too many to name! Overall, it's when my students "get it." Seeing the light bulb go off when they have been working hard on something is the best thing for them as well as for me.

Tell us about your family. My husband, Nathan, and I are high school sweethearts. We will be married 14 years in June. He works at Lowes. Our son, Owen, is 9 and in the 3rd grade at Oak Grove Elementary. ♦



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Seven from
Paragould
District
earn National
Board status

The Paragould School District recognized seven faculty members who received certificates from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

Pictured are, front from left, Karen Wheeler, Jodi Massey and Kristie Ford; and back, Kristin Jackson, Jeana Hayes, LeeAnn Dickson and Shannon Curtis. ♦



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left to right: Abe Martinez, M.D., Allen Duplantis, M.D., Ammar Hallak, M.D.

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Greene County Community Fund has new director

Kera Crafton is new to the job but has admittedly “hit the ground running” as the recently-named Executive Director of the Greene County Community Fund.

Having worked for the Crowley’s Ridge Development Council for about seven years, Kera is accustomed to the ins and outs of non-profit organizations and is undaunted by the Community Fund’s lofty goal of raising \$275,000 in the coming year. “Even when times are tough and the economy is not very good,” she said, “people still seem to give because they are helping out their community.”

She took over as director in late January and has been visiting prospective contributors along with current and former board members. The GCCF has added an additional agency to its list for this year, bringing to 17 the number it supports financially, and it also provides four scholarships each year to high school seniors -- one from each Greene County school.

There are a number of ways to contribute to the Community Fund, from individual donations to payroll deductions at work. Kera can answer those questions at 870-239-8435 or at gccf@grnco.net.

Kera and her husband Jonathon live in Paragould with their three daughters: Bailey, 16; Sable, 9; and Addie, 3. ♦

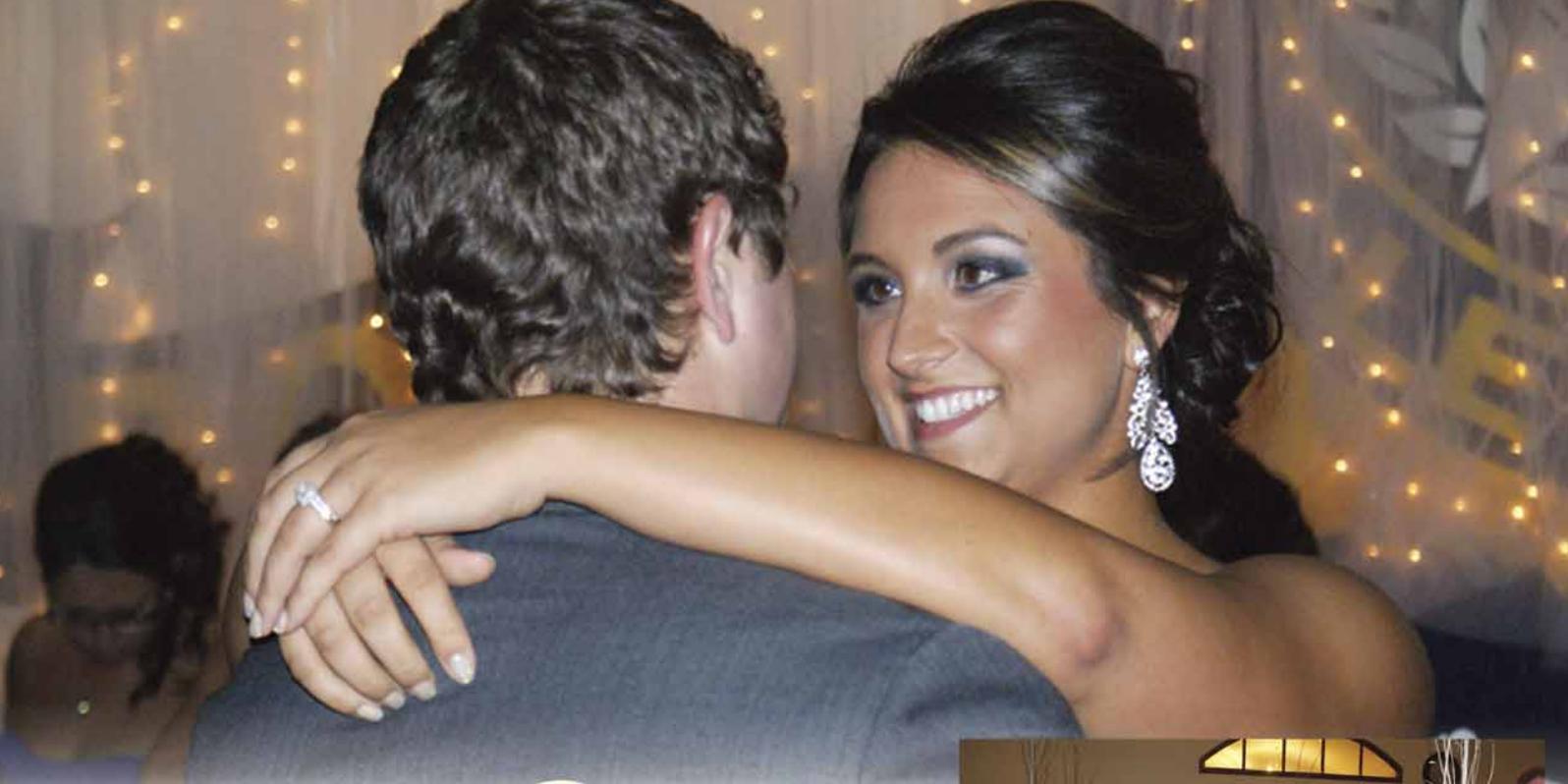


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Meant To Be

Tyler played baseball for Greene County Tech High School and was recruited by Coach Frank Lee at Williams Baptist College. Wanting to spread his wings and move away from home, Tyler instead accepted a scholarship to the University of Arkansas at Monticello and moved four-and-a-half hours away.

Briana, also wanting to get away from her home in Broseley, Missouri, accepted a scholarship to play volleyball and basketball at Williams Baptist College.

After two years at UAM Tyler decided it was time to come home and contacted Coach Lee to see if he still had a spot on the roster for him. Luckily, he did.

In January of 2011 Briana saw the “new guy” on campus in the cafeteria. To get his attention she literally threw a French fry at him and asked his name. They have been together ever since

Tyler bought an engagement ring in November of 2011 but held on to it until the time was right. On August 9, 2012, he popped the question.

The Winter theme wedding took place December 14, 2013, at Black River General Baptist Church in Broseley. Tony Williams, Tyler’s father, served as the best man and his groomsmen were his brothers, Tanner Williams and Trayce Williams, along with Tommy Hall and Conar Kries. Brittany Johnson, Briana’s sister, was the maid of honor and Samantha Luetert, Tonia Hall, Kacey Rasnic and Kaylee Mitchell were bridesmaids.

Tyler is now the assistant baseball coach at WBC and Briana works for the Paragould School District and plans to go back to school for an occupational therapy degree. The couple lives in Paragould.



Roll to the Goal 3-on-3 tourney set for March 1st in Paragould

The third annual Roll to the Goal 3-on-3 Wheelchair Basketball Tournament has been scheduled for the Paragould Community Center in March.

Hosted by the Paragould Civitan Club, the tournament will take place Saturday, March 1, 2014, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Teams will be divided into the following categories for the double elimination tournament:

Male/Co-Ed, All women, and Youth divisions.

Every participant will receive a t-shirt. Trophies will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place teams in each division.

Roll to the Goal began in 2012 as a Civitan Club fundraising effort in hopes of building the only handicap accessible public playground for the Paragould community. Because of the generosity of the people and businesses in the surrounding area, the playground will become a reality this year.

The Civitan Club plans to continue fundraising through Roll to the Goal each year to add to and improve the playground that will be built at Harmon Park in the near future.

While registration for this year's event has ended, anyone wishing to make a donation or to gain more information about the tournament may contact Mary Crawford at 870-476-7500 or by email at marylyn71@yahoo.com. ♦

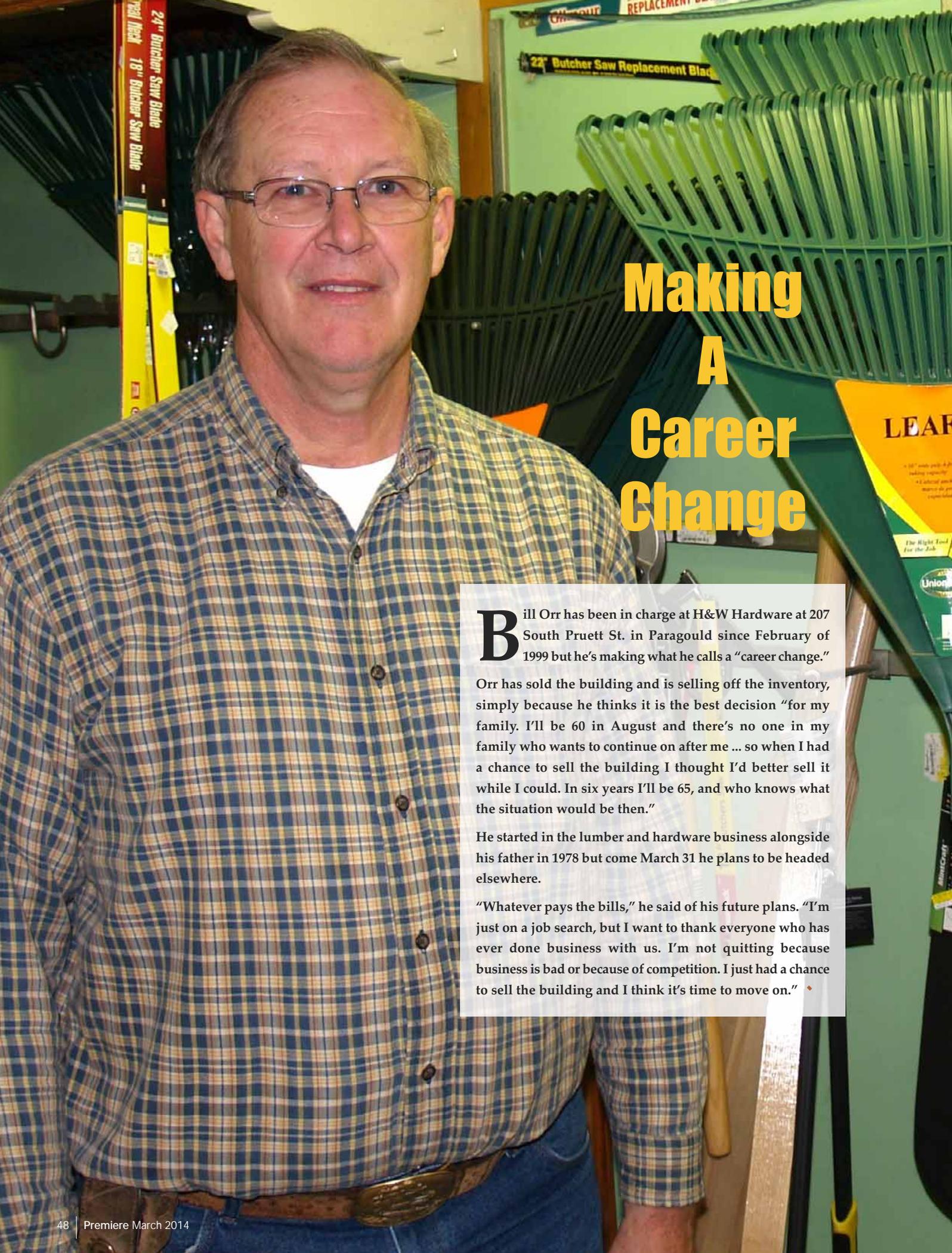
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Making A Career Change

Bill Orr has been in charge at H&W Hardware at 207 South Pruet St. in Paragould since February of 1999 but he's making what he calls a "career change."

Orr has sold the building and is selling off the inventory, simply because he thinks it is the best decision "for my family. I'll be 60 in August and there's no one in my family who wants to continue on after me ... so when I had a chance to sell the building I thought I'd better sell it while I could. In six years I'll be 65, and who knows what the situation would be then."

He started in the lumber and hardware business alongside his father in 1978 but come March 31 he plans to be headed elsewhere.

"Whatever pays the bills," he said of his future plans. "I'm just on a job search, but I want to thank everyone who has ever done business with us. I'm not quitting because business is bad or because of competition. I just had a chance to sell the building and I think it's time to move on." ♦

Greene County Retired Teachers Association celebrates 40 years

The Greene County Retired Teachers Association, which started in 1974 with 19 charter members, recently celebrated its 40th birthday.

Today the GCRTA is one of the most successful retired teachers' units in Arkansas.

In January, the GCRTA began the association's 40th birthday celebration by revisiting 1974. Forty years ago times were different, life was a little slower, things cost less, music had a different beat, polyester was in style, and technology consisted of the dial phone.

Education was also different. Iva Hicks, a longtime GCRTA member and a retired elementary school teacher, was the keynote speaker and shared her experiences as a teacher from the early 1940s to the late 1970s.

According to Hicks, education has changed dramatically since she began teaching. Her first assignment was in a one room school; she taught five grades with a total of 19 students. Her pay was \$40 a month. The next year she

taught one grade level and earned \$60 a month.

Hicks retired in 1978. She said she thoroughly enjoyed teaching. Students were respectful and well behaved because they knew they would be in trouble at home if they misbehaved. They were also eager to learn, she said.

Teachers received few supplies, usually a textbook and a few sheets of construction paper, but she learned to

improvise and make do with the things she had. For example, Hicks would dye rice for certain art projects. She said she once outlined a kangaroo in dyed rice. During her career, elementary students would present operettas.



Iva Hicks recalled her days as a teacher to help the GCRTA mark 40 years.

Hicks said she and other teachers would sew late into the night to make the costumes.

Hicks said, "I taught the best way I knew how. I tried to meet the students where they were and take them forward."

Hicks said she hopes that educational progress will continue to focus on the basics — reading, writing, and arithmetic — and include vocational training as well.

The GCRTA meets the third Monday of the month at the Grecian Steak House in Paragould at 11:30 a.m. ♦

— Doris Hagen

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You winter people have had your fun; let's have some sunshine

Once, when I was a teenager, I exited the church auditorium on a Sunday morning to find numerous vehicles slipping and sliding all over a snowy, icy parking lot.

Taking to heart the Biblical directive to be kind to others, I joined members of the male sector and began pushing cars and trucks out of harm's way and onto dry pavement so the drivers and passengers could make it to the restaurant on time for Sunday dinner.

Several helpers lost their balance and slipped to their knees, all in the name of doing a good deed. I think, probably, you're not supposed to laugh at your fellow brethren when that happens but I might have snoozed through that part of the sermon. As punishment, somewhere in the process I managed to slice my finger open. It was so cold I didn't notice until someone directed my eyes to the red droplets of blood plopping onto the white snow.

Get Rich

By Richard Brummett



Seems that a car bumper makes like a knife if you're not careful and I had cut a nice gash in my finger, necessitating a trip to the hospital emergency room. I wound up with four stitches and a lifelong scar, and that is all I need to know about winter: You can't even be The Good Samaritan in the wintertime without winding up in the hospital.

My hope is that all those whiners who complained about 100-degree temperatures last summer will take a step back, revisit our January and February days and realize sunshine is not such a bad thing.

I honestly don't mind hearing a weather forecast that makes reference to "temperatures

in excess of 90 degrees" nearly as much as I dread reading the TV information telling me it is actually 20 degrees "but feels like 7."

In the summertime you don't have to leave a faucet dripping water overnight to make sure the lines don't freeze and if you can't walk to your car the next morning without falling, it's because your a klutz ... not weather related.

Spring and summer make the world come to life while winter makes you want to stay in the house, put on your insulated hunting clothes and crawl under a blanket just to watch your favorite TV show. When the weather man calls for a string of hot days in succession you don't see people racing to the grocery store to get there before their neighbors and buy up all the milk, bread and toilet paper. You just turn the thermostat back another notch or two and stretch out in your shorts and t-shirt.

Let's say goodbye and good riddance to this winter mess and welcome some sunshine. ♦



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Ambassadors help plan AMMC Foundation Gala

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This unique fusion of philanthropy and high society makes the Gala a must-attend affair. The Great Gatsby Gala is Saturday, March 15, beginning at 6 p.m. at the Paragould Community Center. Join in an unforgettable night of great food, live music from Al Paris & The Heartbreakers, and a chance to bid on 10 great parties. Like and check out The Foundation and Arkansas Methodist Medical



Members of the AMMC Foundation Ambassadors are, seated: Lisa Gazaway and Tori Thompson; and back from left: Shay Willis, Theresa Kirk, Ann Marie Guinn, Tracy Brengard, Sonia Fonticciella and Theresa Peeples.

Center's Facebook pages for more information on them.

There are two phrases to remember for The

Gala. The first is: "A little party never killed nobody." The second: "Life's too short for ordinary jewelry." That's the tagline of Sissy's Log Cabin. This year, they're changing the life of one lucky Gala attendee. Sissy's has donated a \$5,000 tanzanite and diamond pendant to be given away at the Gala.

Party guests will be able to buy chances throughout the evening for a drawing to be held at the end of the night. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact The Foundation at 870-239-7077. ♦

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Happenings!

1. Honored Nominee

Dr. John Bibb of Paragould was nominated as Entrepreneur of the Year at the recent Arkansas Delta Byways awards banquet, held at Southland Greyhound Park in West Memphis. Pictured are Dr. Bibb and Marcel Hanzlik, representing the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism.

2. Award Winner

Gina Jarrett accepted a First Place Award for Best Special Event at the 2014 Main Street Arkansas Awards ceremony. Jarrett, the Executive Director of Main Street Paragould, listened as The Great Race was named the Best Special Event. Pictured are, from left, Ruth Hawkins, Director of Arkansas Heritage Sites at Arkansas State University, Jarrett, and Marcel Hanzlik, representing the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism.

3. Making Retirement Plans

Bobbye Brengard retired in December after 25 years in real estate in Paragould/Greene County. For many of those years she has been a

property manager, handling rental properties for local landlords.

She was honored in February by the Paragould Board of Realtors.

Pictured are Brengard, left, and Sandra Kelley, President of the local Board of Realtors.

4. Top Spellers

Three area students were proclaimed winners of the 64th Annual Greene County Spelling Bee at the Collins Theatre in Paragould on Jan. 28.

Jackson Parker, a seventh grader at Paragould Junior High School, won the first place honors by spelling "belladonna" correctly. Parker was to represent Greene County in the state competition on March 1 at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway.

Max Hooten, a fifth grader at the Oak Grove Middle School, came in second, and Kiara Culverson, a sixth grader at Marmaduke Elementary School, placed third.

Pictured are Parker, left, Hooten and Culverson.

The spelling bee is co-sponsored by the Greene County Retired Teachers Association and First National Bank. ♦



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Engagement Announcements



Jacob Smalling and Nicki Steele

Smalling-Steele

Nicki Steele and Jacob Smalling have announced their plans to be married March 29th of this year.

Nicki is the daughter of Shirley Bailey and mother of Logan and Emily Steele. Jacob is the son of Tom and Rita Smalling of Paragould.

The ceremony will take place Saturday, March 29, 2014, at the Redeemer Lutheran Church in Paragould.

The ceremony will begin at 4 p.m. with a reception to follow at the Red Goose Banquet Hall. ♦



Kathryn Lauren Keel and Alexander Hutson Rountree

Keel-Rountree

Kathryn Lauren Keel and Alexander Hutson Rountree will be married in a May ceremony held in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Lee Keel of Paragould.

The prospective groom's parents are Mr. and Mrs. John Sodec of Niceville, Florida, and Rex Rountree of Lakewood Ranch, Florida.

The couple will exchange vows on Saturday, May 17, 2014, at Highlands House in Santa Rosa Beach. ♦



Photo by Sonya Holt Images

Emily Katherine Holt and Joshua Charles McCullar

Holt-McCullar

Emily Katherine Holt and Joshua Charles McCullar have announced their plans for a March wedding ceremony.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Henry and Sonya Holt of Paragould.

The prospective groom's parents are Lynn and Rhonda McCullar, also residents of Paragould.

The couple will exchange vows on Friday, March 21, 2014, at Shiloh United Methodist Church. ♦

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Birth Announcements



Mason Alexander Cude

Jeremy and Lauren Cude of Paragould announce the birth of a son, Mason Alexander Cude.

The baby weighed 6 pounds and was 20 inches long.

He was born at St. Bernards Regional Medical Center in Jonesboro.

Grandparents include Bert and Debbie Clevenger, Dr. Stuart and Judy Rockwell, Larry and Selena Poynor, and Keith Cude. ♦



Bryleigh Claire Hammon

Bryleigh Claire Hammon was born January 2, 2014, at 1:35 p.m. at NEA Hospital in Jonesboro to Brianna Hazlewood and Caleb Hammon of Paragould.

The baby weighed 5 pounds, 15 ounces and was 18 1/2 inches long.

Grandparents are Tom and Sherry Hazlewood and Jeff and Jenny Hammon, all of Paragould. ♦



Isaac Daniel Newberry

Photo by Natalie Gray Photography

Jeremy and Stefenie Newberry of Paragould announce the birth of their son, Isaac Daniel Newberry.

The baby, born at St. Bernards Medical Center, weighed 8 pounds, 15 ounces and was 21.5 inches long.

He has a big brother, Peyton, while grandparents include Kenny and Debbie Newberry of Paragould, and Deloris and the late Don Weyer, also of Paragould. ♦

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

HEALTHY HEART 2 MILE, 2 mile run/walk and 2 mile challenge, held at the St. Bernards Auditorium. Event starts at 9:00 a.m. Pre-registration costs \$20, day of event participation costs \$25. Proceeds benefit Jonesboro Police Tactical Fitness Program. For more information, call (870) 932-6691.

HOOKED RUGS WORKSHOP

at Powhatan Historic State Park from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Participants will learn how to design patterns on canvas, cut the fabric, and use the locker hook and yarn to create mats of all styles. Please bring a sack lunch. For more information, or to register, contact the park at (870) 878-6765 or email powhatan@arkansas.com.

ANNUAL PARAGOULD KIWANIS CLUB PANCAKE DAY

at the St. Mary's Catholic Church Parish Hall from 6:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$2 for children under 5. Tickets are available at the door or from any Kiwanis Club member.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

AMMC HOSTS BREASTFEEDING CLASS, held in the Second Floor Conference Room in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This class is offered to moms who plan to breastfeed, dads and other support persons. If delivering at AMMC, classes are free of charge. Otherwise there is a small fee. Call the AMMC Education Department at (870) 239-7016 for pricing and to register.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

AMMC HOSTS INFANT SAFETY CLASS, held in the Second

Floor Conference Room in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This class is offered to expectant families and anyone caring for the infant. If delivering at AMMC, the classes are free of charge, otherwise there is a small charge. Call the AMMC Education Department at (870) 239-7016 for pricing and to register. Registration is required for all classes.

OUTDOOR PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

at Crowley's Ridge State Park from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. In this workshop you'll get some simple tips that will make a big difference in the quality of your lighting, compositions, and subject matter. There will be free time to practice what you've learned around scenic Lake Ponder. The fee is \$5 and covers the cost of all materials. Reservations are required. For more information, call (870) 573-6351 or email the park interpreter at elizabeth.bittner@arkansas.gov.

MONDAY, MARCH 17

AMMC HOSTS "MOMMY AND ME" BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

held in the Second Floor Conference Room in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Greene County Health Unit's Leisa Kennedy, Breastfeeding Peer Counselor, is available to teach and assist participants. For more information, call the Greene County Health Unit at (870) 236-7782.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

AMMC HOSTS CHILDBIRTH PREPARATION CLASS

held in the Second Floor Conference Room in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This two-week class is offered to

anyone who is expecting. If delivering at AMMC, the classes are free of charge, otherwise there is a small charge. Call the AMMC Education Department at (870) 239-7016 for pricing and to register. Registration is required for all classes. Other class dates: March 29th.

MONDAY, MARCH 24

KASU'S BLUEGRASS MONDAY, with The Bankesters. The music starts at 7:00 p.m. at the Collins Theatre, 120 West Emerson Street in Downtown Paragould.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

"MARCH INTO SPRING A HEALTHIER YOU" COMMUNITY DIABETES PROGRAM

held in the Auditorium in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. AMMC Certified Diabetes Educator Pat Malone, RN, will prepare fresh menu ideas to break winter's spell and clever carb counting ideas will be shared. Please RSVP by Wednesday, March 26, 2014 by calling (870) 239-7016.

Coming Up

APRIL 3

Young Frankenstein, by the Greene County Fine Arts Council, at 7:30 p.m. Other show dates: April 4, 6, and 7.

APRIL 5

Chad Garrett and Friends, at the Collins Theatre. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$3 for kids 10 and under and are available at The Treasure House

APRIL 12

Paragould Junior Auxiliary's Kids Kraze held at Eastside Baptist from 10 a.m. to 12. For information contact Jessica Halcomb (870) 240-6352

APRIL 26 Citywide Clean-Up, 8:00 a.m. to noon

RECURRING EVENTS

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

Every Wednesday: Perking on Pruett, 8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. At Something Sweet. Find out what is happening in the One and Only downtown Paragould. Your input is welcome and all are invited to attend.

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

Greene County Master Gardeners present a Brown Bag Lunch Program at the Greene County Library, 2nd Tuesday of the month, from 12-1. Bring a lunch and enjoy a free gardening presentation.

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

The Memory Cafe, support group for those having memory, dementia or Alzheimer's at 1:00 p.m. at Swirlz Yogurt and Coffee.

Second Wednesday of every month: St. Mary's Spaghetti Dinner, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Admission is \$5 for all you can eat spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert and drink. At St. Mary's Catholic Church in Paragould.

Every Third Tuesday: Alzheimer's Support Group with the Alzheimer's Arkansas Association and Absolute Care Management, 1:00 p.m. at the Paragould Library.

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

T.O.P.S. (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) Wednesday mornings at the Paragould Community Center in Room E. Private Weigh in at 8:00 a.m.; support meeting at 8:30 a.m. May attend one meeting as a guest. ♦

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Recipe for Strawberry Scones

Some readers tried one of our recipes from the February issue and decided something must be missing ... and it was.

Our cook forgot to include a couple of ingredients, so here is the recipe for Strawberry Scones in its entirety:

Ingredients:

2 cups flour

1 cup of strawberries, cut

1 stick (8 tbsp) of butter chilled and cubed

1 egg

5 tbsp of sugar

1 cup of cream

2 tsp baking powder

1/2 tsp baking soda

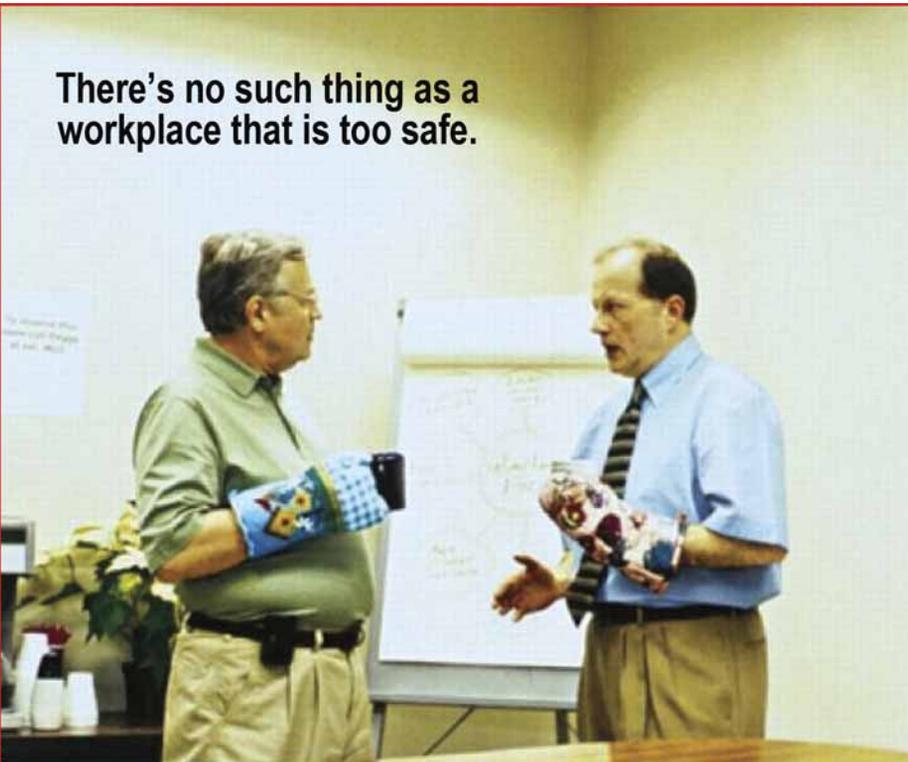
1 egg white for wash

Sugar for topping

Directions:

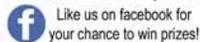
- 1) Preheat oven to 375. Mix 1 tbsp of sugar and chopped strawberries.
- 2) Separately mix flour, baking powder, baking soda and 3 tbsp of sugar. Add butter and mix until blended.
- 3) Add cream, whisked egg, and strawberries.
- 4) Stir until dough holds together. Place on floured surface and knead into a circle that is 1/2 inch thick.
- 5) Slice like pie into 8 pieces.
- 6) Dust with egg white and sugar. Bake 25 minutes. ♦

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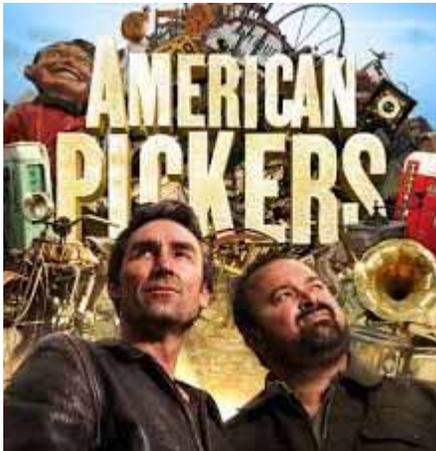


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STAY TUNED

What's in Store For Next Month

Cover



It's a popular TV show and even more popular now that Paragould's own Noah Warmath has participated. Check his story out in April's Premiere.



Master Gardeners

Greene County has its first Lifetime Master Gardener Member, Donna Jones. We'll bring you her story in April.



Premiere staffers will be out and about covering community events. Be sure to check out the April issue. ♦

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