

# PREMIERE

*Jack Hailey*

# TAKING *the* D.A.R.E.

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- OUTSTANDING TEACHERS
- HALLOWEEN HOUSE
- COOKING SHOW
- ZOMBIE WALK RETURNS!

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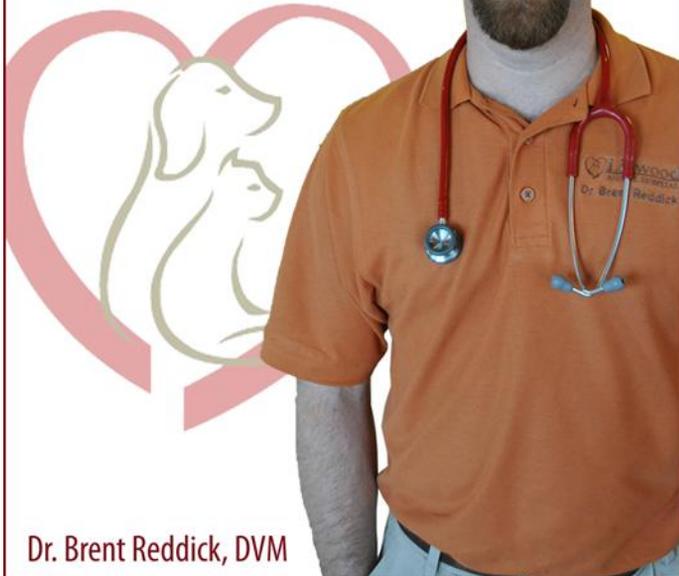
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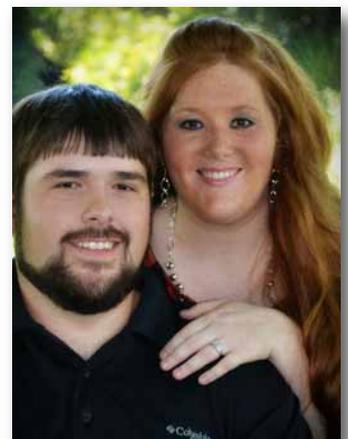
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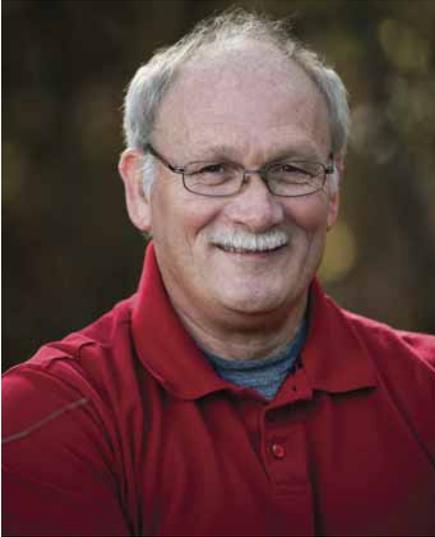
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## From The Editor...



Richard Brummett, Managing Editor

**F**or more than a decade I worked in the mental health field, and part of my daily job was to deal with individuals and families caught up in the world of drug and alcohol abuse.

Once a week I directed a discussion group for adults trying to throw off the chains of

addiction and rediscover their lives, and some of the most meaningful conversations I ever participated in came from those gatherings. We sat around a table and shared views from opposite sides of the drug world, and while my goal was to help educate them they, in reality, educated me.

Each week I threw out a topic for discussion and debate, and one particular evening each participant was asked to name the person or persons they loved the most. Then my question to them was this: If you love these people and know what your actions are doing to them, how can you continue to hurt them so?

Everyone there had a comment but one man in particular, a fellow I had known since he was just a child and by that time someone who had bounced in and out of jails and prison repeatedly, waited for his turn to speak and looked at me with all sincerity and said, *“Richard, that’s what we do.”*

It was not said sarcastically or in an effort to draw attention to himself, but spoken straight from the heart of one so deeply swallowed up by the drug world that he had

resigned himself to the belief that any hope of resurrection to a normal life was nonexistent.

In that one short but powerful sentence, he summed up drug addiction for those of us who have a hard time understanding it. Regardless of the pain it causes our family and loved ones, regardless of how much we have disappointed ourselves and want to quit and start a new life, *that’s what we do*. We hurt the ones we love because we no longer know any other way.

November is designated as Red Ribbon Month and we turn our attention to area drug awareness and prevention programs, starting with the cover story featuring Paragould Police officer Jack Hailey. He heads up the PPD’s D.A.R.E. unit, striving to reach children at a young age and impress upon them the dangers of drug use.

But there’s also a lot of “fun” stuff in this month’s issue when you are ready to get away from the serious side of life, and we hope you’ll look at the various features offered and see if you or someone you know made the pages of this month’s Premiere. ♦

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# PREMIERE MAGAZINE

**publisher/advertising sales**  
Dina Mason • dina@kdrs.com

**managing editor**  
Richard Brummett •  
editor@premiere-magazine.com

**prepress**  
Brian Powell • brianpowell@centurylink.net

**reporters**  
Caitlin LaFarlette •  
caitlin.lafarlette@smail.astate.edu

**graphic designers — advertising**  
Leisa Rae • leisa@kdrs.com  
Megan Koller • megan@kdrs.com

**advertising sales team**  
Dina Mason • dina@kdrs.com  
Ashley Mason • ashley@kdrs.com  
Brian Osborn • brian@kdrs.com  
Mike Dickerson • mike@kdrs.com

**contributing photographers**  
Tim Rand Photography

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# Marmaduke church members finish labor of love for family

Just over a year ago Marmaduke First Baptist Church pastor Kim Bridges made a home visit to a congregation member and left knowing he had a mission to complete.

Joan Cudd's house "was literally falling in," Bridges recalled. "It was last spring when we had all that rain and she had pots and pans everywhere, and I looked up and could see the western sky. And the Lord spoke to me and told me we needed to build her a house."



Pastor Kim Bridges and Joan Cudd.

Church members agreed with Bridges and today Cudd and her son, Dennis, live in a brand new 1,140-square-foot home, featuring two bedrooms, a handicapped accessible bathroom, a utility area with a safe room, and kitchen, dining and living room sections.

"Sometimes people don't understand when you say the Lord told you to do something," Bridges said. "But He spoke to me and we all knew this was something we had to do."

Cudd had a difficult time putting her thoughts into words. "I don't really know what to say," she offered. "This is just wonderful ... just wonderful." ♦



Calling their project "Mission Marmaduke Extreme Home Makeover," First Baptist Church members built the house above for Joan Cudd. Led by pastor Kim Bridges, left, the FBC group designed the home to be wheelchair friendly with a spacious kitchen and dining room area, handicapped accessible shower and even a safe room.




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I have a long history of community and church service and business experience. I have been your **Mayor** for over 16 years. It has been an honor and a privilege.

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# Greene County Fair

Carnival rides to provide thrills, games to play, treats to enjoy and booths to visit ... all combined to make the 127th version of the Greene County Fair another rousing success.







While there was plenty of activity outside at the Greene County Fair, the exhibit buildings were home to a bevy of award-winning entries in a number of categories.



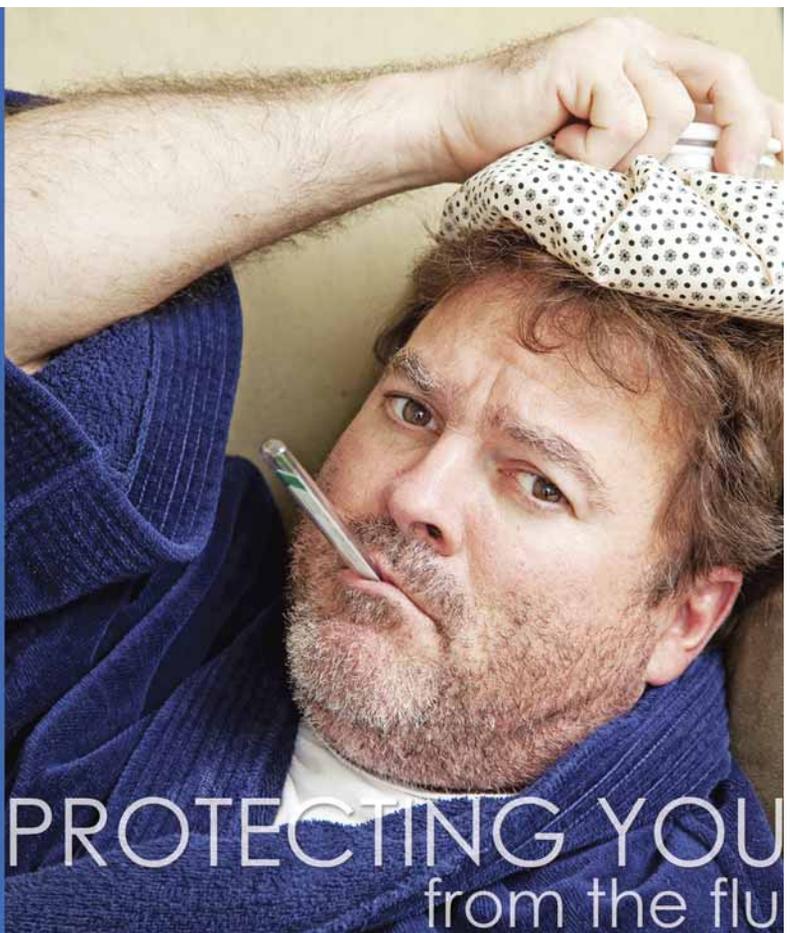
  
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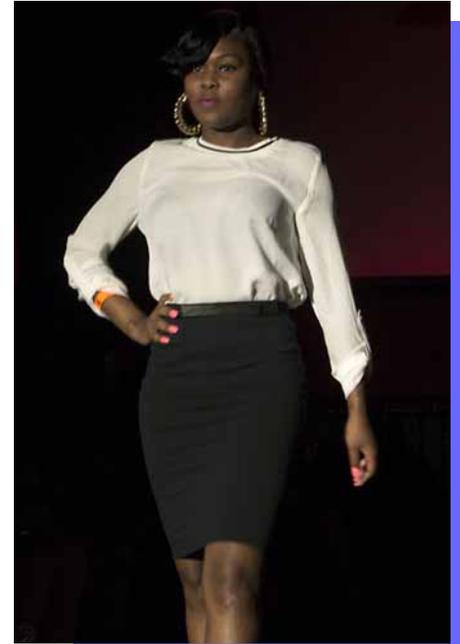
# PREMIERE'S SCENE 'YA



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Jordan Brooks, Keep Our Women Safe Fashion Show at Brickhouse Grill



Keo Taylor, Keep Our Women Safe Fashion Show at Brickhouse Grill



Shawnda James, Alexis Benson and Kaitlin Poe, Keep Our Women Safe Fashion Show at Brickhouse Grill



Carla Lane and Nola Burney, Keep Our Women Safe Fashion Show at Brickhouse Grill



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David Pryor and H.T. Moore, Senator Pryor Meet and Greet at Red Goose Deli

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# Outstanding Teachers



Erin Holland

**G**etting to know Erin Holland, First Grade Teacher at Greene County Tech Primary School:

This is my second year teaching. I started teaching first grade at GCT in the fall of 2013.

I decided to become a teacher because of the impact my second grade teacher, Ms. Faye Haney, had on me. She was creative and made learning so much fun. She was so sweet and encouraging. She cared about me as a person, not just how I did in school.

After graduating college with my degree in Psychology, I realized that teaching was my true passion and so I started back to school. I

absolutely love working with kids and helping them learn!

One of my favorite teaching memories is from the beginning of the school year, last year. About the second or third week into the year, I lost my voice. Since I could barely talk, my students decided that they would just whisper too! I thought it was sweet and considerate of them to try to keep our class calm and quiet!

I am blessed with a wonderful family. My husband and I have been married for four years, we live in Paragould, and we love spending time with our eight nieces and nephews. ♦

Nominate your favorite teacher today. Send information to:

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Each monthly winner receives a gift package and becomes eligible for the Teacher of the Year award and a chance to be featured on the cover of Premiere Magazine.

**G**etting to know Ginger Richey, General Music, Vocal Music and Piano Teacher with the Marmaduke School District:

I am starting my 25th year as a school teacher.

I was inspired by those teachers that made a difference in my life, and I wanted to be able to do the same.

One of my many favorite memories happened while I was directing a children's Christmas musical involving children dressed as toys. My Jack-in-the-Box toppled over on his side during an otherwise serious moment in the play.

I am happily married to Marmaduke Coach Steve Richey, and have five daughters and nine grandchildren that keep me pretty busy, and there is never a dull moment! ♦



Ginger Richey

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Penelope Grace Richardson, 4, is in the Halloween spirit. She is the daughter of Matthew and Jessica Richardson of Paragould.

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**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
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Tiffany Kirklin of the Chamber helped welcome guests to the luncheon.

The Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce held its annual Chamber Member Appreciation BBQ on the lawn at the historic Greene County Courthouse.

Chamber members were invited to stop by and enjoy a free lunch and door prizes at the Chamber office, located in the courthouse. ♦



Guests enjoyed a beautiful day for an outdoor meal.



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**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
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Keith Milligan and Chamber CEO Sue McGowan watch as others enjoy the meal and fellowship.



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# PAINT the town RED

Arkansas State fans gathered to recognize winners in the annual competition



Terry Mohajir, Director of Athletics at Arkansas State University, pumps up Red Wolves boosters, above, while below employees of Elements Salon -- Tamra Woods, Sabrina Smith, Jessica Kelsey, Samantha Jaramillo and June Woods accept the award for First Place in Outdoor Decor from Judy Blevins, right.



Cassidy Boyd and Scott Ryan enjoyed the awards ceremony, while above, Holly Gordon presents Cylon England of Express Employment with the plaque for Second Place in Interior Decorations.



Carol Fleszar of the Sr. B.E.E.S., left, accepts the top award for Indoor Decorations.



Alvin Taylor wrestles with Howl during a break in the action.

# Big Great A-State Tailgate



Downtown Jonesboro was the place to be during the week prior to Arkansas State University's football home opener, as Red Wolves' boosters gathered for an evening that featured good food, shopping, a pep rally, music and a chance to howl their support.



While some people shopped others tuned in to the music of the Callie MaRae Band, or focused their attention on cheerleaders, dance team members and ASU head football coach Blake Anderson, who addressed the large crowd.



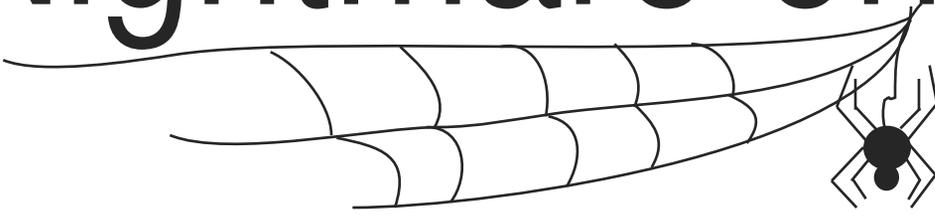


# IT'S GAME DAY

Tailgating on campus at ASU football games combines food, fashion and school spirit to make for a fun-filled experience.



# Nightmare on 7th Street



Just off South 7th Street in Paragould sits what some may believe to be a haunted house as Halloween draws closer. But Something Sweet owner Tracy Mothershed just puts a lot of effort into creating a spooky atmosphere with witches, ghosts and goblins.

"I love Halloween," Mothershed explained.

With her husband being in the military, Mothershed said the family's schedule around Christmas didn't allow for much decorating. Instead, she set out to find another time of year in which to invest her crafting skills.

"It just grew and grew. And then when we moved into our house it looked old and spooky, and it needed a paint job," she said. "I just went with it."

In the past, the decorations have included a witch with a bubbling cauldron, a cemetery complete with a gate, clowns hiding in the trees and even a life size coffin.

"Sometimes at Halloween we'll put a kid in



there to scream and yell at trick-or-treaters," Mothershed laughed.

Mothershed has become known around Paragould as the woman with the "Halloween House," and she said people often drive by each year to see the ghouls creeping along her lawn. In fact, she gets questions during the summer months on when she will begin decorating.

The displays take around two to three full days to set up but Mothershed and her family add and create the majority of the pieces throughout the year. Her cemetery gate is made of PVC pipe and wood, and the pumpkins dotting her porch steps are actually carved Styrofoam. The dedication of crafting pays off on October 31 when Mothershed gets to see the town's reaction to her hauntings.

"The kids always ask if it's real," she said.

Yet trick-or-treaters aren't the only ones fooled by the boarded up windows and ghosts hanging from trees. Mothershed recalled one year when she was still selling cakes from her home. A customer stopped by to pick up an order and was convinced the cemetery in the yard was real.

"That's absolutely the best, when you do all that work and they think it's real," she said with a smile. ♦

--Caitlin LaFarlette



# Zombie Walk creeps back to Paragould

As October draws to a close, those passing through downtown Paragould may stumble upon what seems to be a scene straight out of a George A. Romero film as the undead creep and crawl through the streets.

The third annual Downtown Paragould Zombie Walk kicks off October 25 with a little something extra after the zombies complete their march. Live music from Inside Marsellus Wallace and beverages will be available to keep the party going.

"I think this year will be bigger and better than ever," said Mandy Maxwell, a member of the planning committee for the walk. "A lot of new things are happening downtown. With some of the best restaurants, unique shopping and a budding atmosphere, I think this event helps bring a lot of much needed attention to the downtown area."

During last year's Zombie Walk, Maxwell participated as a zombie photographer. She said taking photos for the event allowed her to get up close and personal with the marchers as they made their way down the street.

"We have some pretty creepy local zombies," she said. "From the tiniest kids to adults of all ages, you never knew who or what you would see around the corner."

Matt Poe said thanks to his involvement with Night of the Living Dead and his love for zombies, he was very excited when the walk first came to Paragould.

"To me, it honestly feels like you're on the set of The Walking Dead," he said, recalling his participation in the walks. "You literally had people cheering, laughing and even getting scared of some of the zombies because the makeup on them was that good. Just one fun, dead parade."

Registration begins at 5 p.m. and entry fee is \$4, children under three get in free. The costume contest begins at 6:30 and the walk at 7:30. ♦

--Caitlin LaFarlette



Photo courtesy of Mandy Maxwell

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# D.A.R.E.-ing students to accept the challenge



Paragould Police Department Cpl. Jack Hailey heads up the local D.A.R.E. program efforts.

Photo by Tim Rand Photography

**W**hen people ask Cpl. Jack Hailey to prove that the Paragould Police Department's Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program works, he can't answer them with statistics.

"I can't give them an exact number," he said. "I can't say six or eight kids didn't go astray. What I *can* tell them is this: When kids I worked with three years ago see me in Wal-Mart or on the street today and they come running up to give me a high five, I know we are building relationships with kids that will last forever. That's how I know it's working."

D.A.R.E.'s international focus is to prevent use of controlled drugs, membership in gangs, and violent behavior. Students who enter the program sign a pledge not to use drugs or join gangs and are taught by local

police officers about the dangers of drug use in an interactive in-school curriculum which lasts ten weeks.

"It's more than just 'stay away from drugs and alcohol.' It's lessons you will use for a lifetime," Hailey said. "It's about making right choices, smart choices. We take them through step by step. You know, we tell them it's not *if* someone is going to try to get you to use drugs; it's going to happen, so when it comes along, what choices will you make?"

Hailey said many of the fifth- and sixth-graders he instructs are at first uncertain

of how to deal with a policeman in the classroom. Over time, the students tend to see Hailey and fellow officer Chris Gray as adults they can come to instead of run from.

"Unfortunately, for a lot of these kids, the police are the bad guys because Mom or Dad

has been taken to jail, and the police are the ones who took them there," Hailey said. "But after a few weeks most of the kids come to realize we're

**"You know, we tell them it's not if someone is going to try to get you to use drugs; it's going to happen, so when it comes along, what choices will you make?"**

**-- Officer Jack Hailey**

just guys, and we're guys they can come to if they need something ... need anything. They know they can come talk to us at any time, but

especially if they have a situation they don't know how to get out of."

Hailey uses the D.A.R.E. letters to help kids look at the difficult situations they are faced with and to reach a workable solution.

"D ... define," he explained. "Know that a problem exists. A ... assess. What are your choices? R ... respond. Make a choice, get all the facts and information. E ... evaluate. Was your decision good? Was it bad? If it was bad, go back and look at your response and say, 'Where did I mess up?' It's all about how you make your choices."

He said during the 10-week session they address a multitude of issues today's young people must face. "We look at health issues related to using tobacco and alcohol," he said, "we talk about peer pressure, about bullying, about the risks and consequences of their actions.

"We hope to make them understand we all make bad decisions, even grownups," he said. "The key is to learn that if we did make a bad decision recognize where we made it and what we have to do to keep from making it again."

Hailey said it is unfortunate that so many of our young students see drug issues in the home on a daily basis, and growing up around the ever-increasing number of adults who abuse drugs makes life more difficult for the children of today as opposed to generations past.

"They see their parents doing bad things and maybe feel like there's nowhere they can go," he said. "Through D.A.R.E., they learn that they can always come talk to me, or come find me. More than that, it's building that feeling of trust between them and the police.

"No fifth- or sixth-grader wants to hear you say that their parents made a bad choice. They're looking for some kind of justification. We're helping them understand that you can't complicate one bad decision by making another one."

He called his involvement in the program "a wonderful thing. When I'm out in public and a seventh-grade boy yells my name and runs up to fist bump with me, I know we are reaching young people in a way that makes a difference ... in a good way." ♦



## Paragould Police D.A.R.E. program sponsors car show

Owners of cars and motorcycles gathered at Reynolds Park in Paragould for the D.A.R.E. Car Show and Swap Meet.

Vehicles old and new were on display during the Police Department's fundraising event. ♦



Mayor Mike Gaskill, above, poses by his Corvette alongside George Fisher; below, Jackie, Chad, Carson and Dash McMillon enjoy the show.



# The changing face of DRUG ADDICTION

As soon as the case manager pulled up to the house, he knew something was amiss. His job required him to make multiple visits to the downtrodden neighborhood each week to provide mental health services to a teenage boy and his family, and the attractive young woman sitting sheepishly on the front porch was most certainly out of place.

He recognized her as having been a cheerleader at one of the local high schools just a couple of years before, and her nice clothes and neat appearance struck a definite contrast to the rickety chair that once belonged to a 1960s dinette set and the paint-chipped porch that was falling through in more than one spot.

She didn't belong in that setting, yet there she was, a pretty picture in an ugly world.

When the teenage boy came outside, the case manager at first teased him, asking if the female on the porch was his new girlfriend.

"Man, she's hot, isn't she?" the boy said.

"And what's she doing here?" the case manager asked.

He explained that she had been stopping by two or three times a week to buy pills from "Tony," a man his parents had invited to live with them for the time being. In exchange for a place to live, "Tony" provided the boy's parents with pills; the remainder of his stash he sold on the street to anyone who had the money, including the former cheerleader.

And in that one moment, the case manager saw a true-to-life picture of the changing face of drug addiction.

No longer are we talking about stressed out veterans who came home from war addicted to drugs or rock stars and celebrities who have fallen victim to the lure of the night lights and party atmosphere. Today's drug addict can be that pretty cheerleader, the high school star athlete, the church youth group member, your neighbor.

The current face of addiction is taking on a much younger look, with prescription drugs rapidly moving up the charts as the drug of



choice. Terrell Jenkins, a drug and alcohol counselor with Life Strategies, Inc., conducts weekly sessions with young drug abusers and said the overall picture of addiction "keeps getting younger and younger. Prescription meds have pretty much taken over, because they are so easy to get. You can get your mom's, or your grandma's, or steal from a friend's parents and then pass them back and forth."

As with most drugs, Jenkins said teens don't always understand the dangers involved in taking someone else's medication.

"They think it has to be OK if the doctor prescribed it," he said, "but they don't take into consideration the dosage and so forth. They just know they got a 'buzz' last time and want to do it again and, like I said, it's just too easy to get ahold of. For a lot of people who get prescription meds, they don't even plan to ever *take* them. They *sell* them because it helps pay the bills. They actually have their 'scrips' added to the monthly budget."

Drug usage has historically changed from decade to decade. Immediately after World War II, the pharmaceutical industry began to churn out new drugs to address almost any issue Americans could face -- those to prevent

and cure diseases, to alleviate pain, to keep us alert or make us sleep, to give us less worry or to help us deal with hyperactivity or depression.

As the 1960s rolled around it became fab to abuse the aforementioned, adding to that menu a host of psychedelic drugs popularized by the rock music world and setting the stage for the next decade, when drug abuse would become the leading cause of death among Americans ages 15-35. Think about that for a minute: Teenagers and young adults dying at a record pace due to drug use. Cocaine and heroin had moved to the forefront because of availability -- coke also was inexpensive -- and they dominated the addiction charts until the '90s, when methamphetamines charged to the top.

Methamphetamine use among high school students more than doubled in the years from 1990-96, and as we try to survive the 2000s we are witnessing a resurgence in the popularity of marijuana and an unprecedented abuse of prescription drugs, a habit that has more than tripled in the last 20 years.

"I don't know that there is an end to it," Jenkins said. "When the attention gets on one thing, people just switch to another. What we

have to do is concentrate on teaching them the dangers and help them with their decision making."

Paragould Police Chief Todd Stovall concurred, calling pills "an easy access drug. Everyone's got pills in the house. They are an answer to every ache we have. What we're seeing is due to the choice of drugs -- pills -- and their availability. Meth is probably still our No. 1 drug problem here, but No. 2 has got to be prescription drugs."

Stovall said the general public would be "shocked to see how many drugs we get out of the drug drop box," which he described as resembling an old roadside mailbox. "We could empty it every two weeks," he said. "Back in the day when marijuana and cocaine were the big drugs, you kind of had to know somebody to get your hands on them. Now we're seeing a much younger crowd using drugs because pills are everywhere.

"It's part of the culture today," he added. "The amount of violence and drugs kids are subjected to today through the movies they watch and the video games they play ... they grow up believing it's just something you do."

In 2005, 4.4 million teenagers (aged 12-17) in the U.S. admitted taking prescription painkillers, and 2.3 million took a prescription stimulant such as Ritalin; 2.2 million abused over-the-counter drugs such as cough syrup. The average age for first-time users is now 13. Depressants, opioids and antidepressants are

**Drug Facts:**

\* Arkansas has the 25th Highest Drug Overdose Mortality Rate in the United States

\* 63% of teens get drugs from parents' medicine cabinets (PAT Study, 2009)

\* Arkansas has one of the highest rates of nonmedical pain reliever use among 12 to 25 year olds. (DHHS)

\* 21% of Arkansas high school seniors say they've abused Rx drugs. (APNA Student Survey, 2009)

33% of teens think "there's nothing wrong" with using Rx drugs

\* Most commonly abused prescription medication: opioids (narcotic painkillers), Central Nervous System depressants (sedatives, tranquilizers), and stimulants (amphetamines).

\* The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) reported that 9 million Americans 18-25 have used prescriptive medication for non-intended/non-medical use. For adolescents and teens who fall in the 12-17 range -- 3 million.

responsible for more overdose deaths (45%) than cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine and amphetamines (39%) combined. In the United States, the most deaths used to take place in inner cities in African-American neighborhoods, but they have now been overtaken by white rural communities. The same trend can be seen in the rates of hospitalization for substance abuse and emergency hospitalization for overdoses. Of the 1.4 million drug-related emergency room admissions in 2005, 598,542 were associated with abuse of pharmaceuticals alone or with other drugs.

Teenagers and young adults are abusing prescription painkillers at a rate 40 percent higher than what would be expected for their age group, a new study finds.

Researchers at the University of Colorado Denver evaluated data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health, and found Americans ages 15-27 are driving prescription drug abuse.

"Prescription drug use is the next big epidemic," lead researcher Richard Miech, Ph.D., said in a news release. "Everyone in this field has recognized that there is a big increase in the abuse of nonmedical analgesics but our study shows that it is accelerating among today's generation of adolescents."

The study notes that the total number of hydrocodone and oxycodone products prescribed legally in the U.S. increased more than fourfold, from about 40 million in 1991, to nearly 180 million in 2007.

This increase in painkiller availability makes it easier for teens to start using the drugs than in the past, because more homes have prescription painkillers in their medicine cabinets, the researchers said. "While most people recognize the dangers of leaving a loaded gun lying around the house, what few people realize is that far more people die as a result of unsecured prescription medications," Miech said.

The study appears in the Journal of Adolescent Health. ♦

-- Richard Brummett

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# Paragould Jr. Auxiliary marks 20th anniversary

Organization continues growth, dedication to serving community

Original officers for the Junior Auxiliary were, from left, Dot Kennett, Teresa Morgan, Andrea Buck, Rosalind Highfill and Angela Cothren.

From a starting crew of just the minimum number of members required in 1994, the Junior Auxiliary of Paragould has grown tremendously as it heads into its 20th year of service to the Northeast Arkansas area.

Today the group boasts 40 members and 15 Provisionals (who will become members during their first year) and the plans for even more community service projects continue.

Junior Auxiliary of Paragould is a chapter of the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries, Inc. According to the NAJA website: "Junior

Auxiliary represents a serious endeavor on the part of women to be active and constructive community participants and to assume leadership roles in meeting community needs. Junior Auxiliary provides the member with the opportunity to serve and to be a vital part of the community. The objectives of the Association are to unite in one body all Junior Auxiliary Chapters and members to

**RE-ELECT**

# DIANE SIMONS

## GREENE COUNTY ASSESSOR

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Paragould members traveled to Dallas to receive the club's initial charter in 1994. promote National and individual Chapter purposes; to encourage members to render charitable services which are beneficial to the general public, with particular emphasis on children; to cooperate with other Charitable 501 (c)(3) organizations."

Andrea Buck, one of the founding members of the local chapter, recalls a lot of hard work in getting the organization up and running. Her sister was a JA member in Cabot, which piqued her interest, and when she was approached about starting a local chapter she agreed.

"We got busy putting it together," she said, "and with an enormous amount of help from Anna Schreit Smith, who served as an advisor to us -- and she was awesome -- Rosalind Highfill and I did a lot of the groundwork to get it going. Rosalind was the first president. We worked so hard. I was typing up our constitution for hours on end and doing a 501 (c)(3) and I didn't even know what a 501 (c)(3) was.

"I think there were times when as a group we may not have even liked each other because it was so hard to do and it required so much effort," she said, "but we all knew we were working for a common goal and we got along and got it done. And it was worth it for us all."

When the local organization was formed in 1994, Highfill served as the initial President, joined by members Buck, Teresa Morgan, Angela Cothren, Dot Kennett, Rebecca Hoskins, Karin Dudley, Libby Taylor, Kelly Colbert and Christy Blackshear.

Current president Mimi Mangrum said JA is "100 percent committed to children and community." JA of Paragould is currently a Partner in Education through the Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce with the Marmaduke School District and assists in their needs on a monthly basis, and stages fundraisers like Blue Jeans and BBQ, the Stable Project in conjunction with Mission Outreach, and Kids Kraze, which focuses on art, music and literacy issues for children.

"Blue Jeans and BBQ is our main fundraiser," Mangrum said, "and we've tried to revamp it a little this year. We've listened to comments from people over the years and we're trying to do more for the kids this time."

Officers for the current year include: Mangrum, President; Stacie Reddick, Vice President; Andrea Spence, Treasurer; Heidi Anderson, Assistant Treasurer; Jessica Halcomb, Recording Secretary; Mandy Goodman, Corresponding Secretary; and Amber Farmer, Ex-Officio.

Mangrum said anyone seeking more information about local JA efforts may contact her at 870-450-8612, or via email at [mimi@owattorneys.com](mailto:mimi@owattorneys.com). ♦

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# 2014

## NEA

### District Fair

Whether inside the exhibit building or out on the midway, the Northeast Arkansas District Fair provided plenty of activities for young and old alike to enjoy. Games, rides, animals and exhibitors' booths kept the action going nonstop for fairgoers.







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## AMMC Women's Council raises awareness, support

"Lighting the path for all families to shine physically, spiritually and emotionally." That's the mission of the Women's Council of Arkansas Methodist Medical Center in Paragould.

The AMMC Women's Council helps raise awareness and support for AMMC through its participation in numerous events, such as the upcoming Home for the Holidays Cooking Show. The Women's Council will also be very involved in December's Holiday Tour of Homes.

The Council may be best known for its Project Hope initiative, which funds mammograms for women in Northeast Arkansas and Southeast Missouri who cannot afford the cancer screening.

At its quarterly luncheons, the next of which will be held Friday, Oct. 17, at noon in the AMMC Auditorium, the council gathers for an opportunity to learn more about the medical center and to make plans for how it can be involved. For more information, call the AMMC Foundation at (870) 239-7077. ♦

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Club members display some of the school supplies targeted for students in need.



## Smoking Skulls stage 3rd Annual Ride For Knowledge

The Smoking Skulls Motorcycle Club held its 3rd Annual Ride For Knowledge skills challenge in August.

Entrants were asked to supply either a bag full of school supplies to be distributed to area students in need, or \$10 per hand to participate in the event, which started at the Smoking Skulls Clubhouse on South 2nd Avenue in Paragould.

The challenge also featured an auction, door prizes, food and plenty of entertainment. ♦



# RE-ELECT

# CATHY CJ HAYS

## GREENE COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR

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PAID FOR BY COMMITTEE TO ELECT CATHY CJ HAYS

# Business Is Good

## Lachowsky is new vice president with Arkansas Electric Cooperative

**A**ndrew Lachowsky has been named vice president of planning, rates and market operations for Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation (AECC). He replaces



Andrew Lachowsky

“Andrew will direct AECC’s wholesale power planning process, rate analysis and market operations within the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. and Southwest Power Pool regional transmission organizations,” said Duane Highley, president/CEO for the Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas. “He has

been a valuable employee for more than 20 years and is uniquely qualified to help AECC continue to be one of the top generation and transmission cooperatives in the United States.”

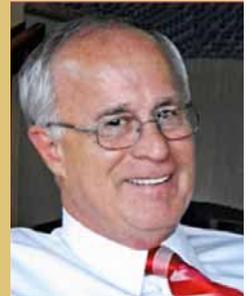
**R**icky Bittle, who will retire after more than 40 years with the cooperative.

Lachowsky joined AECC as assistant planning engineer in 1990 and has held several related positions since that time. He most recently served as director of planning and economic studies. A resident of Little Rock, he holds a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

“I look forward to my new role with AECC and will continue our efforts to provide reliable, affordable and responsible wholesale electric service to electric cooperative members throughout Arkansas,” Lachowsky said. ♦

## Company promotes Euliss to VP of Sales and Marketing

**J**ay Allen, President of Allen Engineering Corp. (AEC), recently announced that Roger Euliss has been promoted to the position of Vice President of Sales and Marketing. Euliss has been with AEC for the past two years serving as Sales and Marketing Director and will continue leading the AEC Sales and Marketing Team worldwide. As an officer of the company, he will also work closely with Allen regarding strategic direction and new opportunities for AEC.



Roger Euliss

Euliss will also continue as President of Equipment Synergy International (ESI), which is a manufacturer and distributor of small-to-medium construction equipment including light compaction, concrete placing and finishing, concrete cutting, dewatering pumps, portable generators and related specialized equipment. Prior to founding ESI and joining AEC, Euliss was President and COO of Multiquip, Inc., where he served the equipment rental industry for over 28 years.

AEC is headquartered in Paragould. The company designs, engineers, manufactures, and markets equipment that is used on construction work-sites by concrete placing, finishing, and paving professionals. AEC’s number one goal is total customer satisfaction.

AEC is a family-owned, American Manufacturer of high quality equipment that is sold and rented through a network of dealers and rental centers around the world. For more information, visit the AEC web site at [www.alleneng.com](http://www.alleneng.com). ♦



### Robert Thompson A Dad Fighting to Keep Our Families Safe

#### A Former Prosecutor Who Put Criminals Away

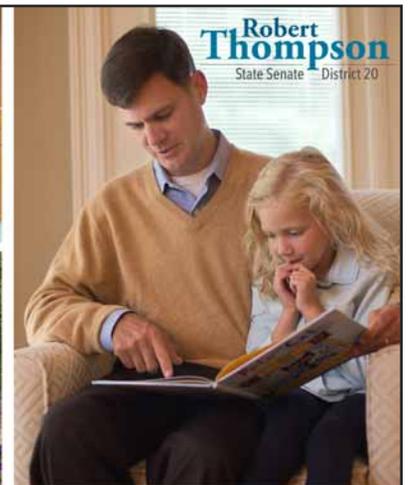
Robert Thompson spent five years as a Greene County prosecutor putting dangerous criminals away and keeping our families safe. As our Senator, he has always made sure that our law enforcement officials have the tools they need.

#### A Father and Husband Who Made It Easier to Prosecute Domestic Violence

Robert Thompson was named the Public Official of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers for fighting and passing a law that made it easier for law enforcement to protect women and children from abuse by allowing medical doctors to report cases of domestic abuse.



“Act 1004 will make an enormous difference in protecting victims of physical abuse.”



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## Assisted Living Week

Chateau On The Ridge ceremony honors Police, Firemen, Rescue Squad and EMTs

Residents and staff members at Paragould's Chateau On The Ridge staged a program to honor local first responders during Assisted Living Week.

Former State Treasurer and Chateau resident Jimmie Lou Fisher was the featured speaker for the event, which included a welcome by administrator Debra Vassar and a musical number by Diann Roming called, "Somebody Died For Me." ♦



Members and guests rose for the presentation of the colors, then listened as Jimmie Lou Fisher, below left, served as the featured speaker.



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Check our Facebook page for Yoga & Balance Barre class times.



AMMC Education Director Shannon Gomer, above left, and Something Sweet owner Tracy Mothershed enjoy a lighthearted moment during the 2013 Home for the Holidays Cooking Show. At right, Skinny J's chef Matt Bearden works on an appetizer.

## Cooking Show set for November 6 in Paragould

**Y**ou can trust the late, great Perry Como: There really is no place like home for the holidays.

Premiere Magazine and the Women's Council of Arkansas Methodist Medical Center are sponsoring the third annual Home for the Holidays Cooking Show on Thursday, November 6.

The cooking show, which features local chefs sharing holiday-themed recipes and food preparation tips, has quickly become a community favorite.

The list of chefs is still being finalized, but it

**Tickets for the show are \$10 in advance (\$15 at the door), and they can be purchased at Swirlz, or at the AMMC Education Department.**

will include AMMC's Pat Malone, a certified diabetes educator. Malone will present holiday appetizers that are both delicious and healthy. Malone has presented every year and is very popular with the audiences.

Also confirmed for this year's show is Dave Aronson, owner of Iron Horse BBQ in Paragould. Aronson will present the

evening's main course recipe: turkey and dressing.

(At press time, the evening's dessert chef was not yet confirmed, but an announcement will be made soon regarding that person's identity.)

All attendees will receive samples of one of the evening's prepared dishes – either appetizer, main course, or dessert – as well as complimentary holiday refreshments provided by the AMMC Auxiliary.

The show also will feature booths staffed by local businesses displaying their goods and

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services for the holiday shopping season. It's a great opportunity to do a lot of local shopping in one place.

There will also be door prizes given away, including a portrait package from professional photographer Clint Eubanks; a year's supply of frozen yogurt from Swirlz; and a Christmas tree decorated by Liv Home & Holiday.

"We have a lot of fun with this show," said Terry Austin, director of the AMMC Foundation. "The chefs are smart, talented and funny, and we try to cook up a few surprises during the evening to go along with their presentations."

Proceeds from the Home for the Holidays Cooking Show benefit the AMMC Education Department's efforts to raise awareness of the growing threat of diabetes in American culture. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that more than 29 million Americans have diabetes, and another 86 million have blood sugar levels high enough to be classified as "pre-diabetes."

Home for the Holidays Cooking Show will be held at the Paragould Community Center. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m., and a parking shuttle will be available. Tickets are \$10 in advance (\$15 at the door), and can be purchased at Swirlz, or at the AMMC Education Department.

To reserve tickets for the show, or to learn more about the event or vendor booth rates, call (870) 239-7016. ♦

## Plans in motion for 2014 Paragould Christmas Parade

**T**he 2014 Paragould Christmas Parade will be held on Tuesday, December 2, at 7 p.m. in Downtown Paragould with a theme of "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree."

Registration is available on the website [www.paragouldparade.com](http://www.paragouldparade.com). There are also pages set up for the Entry Types, and Parade Entrant Rules and a contact page for anyone with questions. Nominations for parade Grand Marshal are now open. Submit your nomination to Gina Jarrett at Main Street Paragould at [mainstr@paragould.net](mailto:mainstr@paragould.net) or by mail to: Paragould Christmas Parade P.O. Box 1462 Paragould, AR 72451. ♦



AMMC Certified Diabetes Educator Pat Malone talks the audience through her recipe for crown roast of pork at the 2013 Home for the Holidays Cooking Show.

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# HAPPENINGS



1

## 1. New Car Owner

Members of the James Oralls family came away as winners in MOR Media's drawing for an ABC Racer Gravity Car at the conclusion of the NEA District Fair. Seated in the new car is Skylar Ivey while standing from left are Jim Clester, designer/inventor of the vehicle; Stephanie Oralls; James Oralls; and MOR Media's Brian Osborn.



2

## 2. Pay It Forward

The Pay It Forward Paragould program and representatives of the Arkansas Dental Clinic teamed up recently to give a helping hand to Mission Outreach of Northeast Arkansas. The folks at Arkansas Dental Clinic donated 100 dental "goody bags" to be distributed to those in need. ♦

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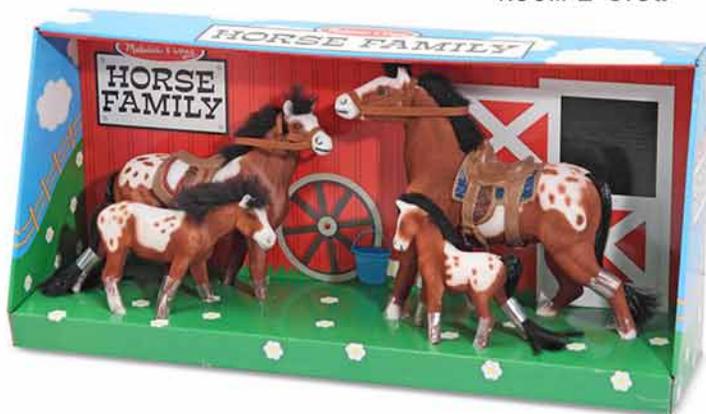


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# Is it too late to file a lawsuit for the way we were mistreated?

I've been contemplating asking my sister if she wants to join me in filing a lawsuit *ex post facto* against our parents.

When we were kids we were instructed not to say rude or crude or unkind things to others, and we weren't allowed to use words like stupid, fat or dumb around the house.

Apparently, we were the only ones raised under those strenuous guidelines, because it seems that today everyone everywhere lets the first thing that comes to mind slide right on out the mouth, and I don't think that's fair. My parents made me be nice and that just seems unreasonable now, so I'm wondering if a guy can sue his parents this many years after the fact.

I was grocery shopping the other day and saw at the far end of the aisle a woman who used to live in our neighborhood. As we drew closer I spoke to her, because my parents raised me to be polite and friendly, and the first thing the woman said was, "Well, I wasn't sure that was you. I thought it was but I believe you've got a lot bigger since the last time I seen you."

## Get Rich

By Richard Brummett



Thanks for that happy greeting. It's not like I don't know I've gotten fat; each morning when I try to fasten my belt it screams at me as if I'm tightening a tourniquet around a gunshot wound, but I would have thought after not having seen each other for a long, long time my former neighbor could have come up with a more appropriate greeting.

After all, I didn't listen to her and then respond with, "Yes, I certainly have put on some weight, and I see that your grammar ain't got no gooder, neither."

I never listened to someone who felt compelled to point out that what little hair I have left has turned gray, or that I certainly don't look like the ballplayer I once was by saying, "You know, I never noticed that you had that Sergeant Snorkel

tooth on the bottom row until just now," or "Wow! You used to be so pretty when we were young."

Nope, I just smile and nod and follow the rules set down by my parents, and take whatever it is everyone else gets to say without delivering a nasty response of my own.

I was going to confront my mom about this unfair treatment just last week but while I was visiting her, my older daughter Kelly and her son David stopped by. As Mom and Kelly talked about school teacher stuff, David and I carried on our own conversation.

He was looking around the room and commenting on the many pictures that hang on Mom's wall and, pointing to one in particular, asked, "Who's the dude in that picture?"

"That's me, when I was in high school," I told him.

"Oh, you really had a nice head of hair," he replied. "What happened?"

Can a guy sue his grandson? ♦

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# Birth Announcements



Grayson William Adkins

## Adkins

**Z**ac and Crystal Adkins of Paragould announce the birth of their son, Grayson William Adkins.

Born at NEA Baptist Hospital in Jonesboro, the baby weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces, and was 21 inches long.

Grandparents are Larry and Virginia Willis, Judy and Tim Dearin, and Dean and Paula Adkins. ♦



Daxton Levi Halliburton



Cadence Jay Brackin

## Brackin

**B**rittany Nailling and Nick Brackin of Brookland announce the birth of their child, Cadence Jay Brackin.

Born at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center in Paragould, the baby weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces and was 20.2 inches long.

Grandparents are Mark and Jeanine Wilbur, Tim and Nancy Brackin, and Mark Nailling.

Great-grandparents are Eddie and LouElla Tedder, James and Carolyn Nailling, and Ronald and Hiroko Howell. ♦

## Halliburton

**C**olten Halliburton and Jordan Agee announce the birth of their son, Daxton Levi Halliburton.

The baby weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and was 21 inches long.

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

Grandparents are Mike and Danette Halliburton, and Wade and Susanne Agee. ♦

# Engagement Announcements

## Wooldridge-McClelland

**K**imberly Wooldridge and Jeremy McClelland have announced their plans for an October wedding.

Kimberly is the daughter of Dean and Beverly Wooldridge.

Jeremy is the son of Bob and Renea McClelland and Charlotte and Ray Ashcraft, all of Paragould.



Jeremy McClelland and Kimberly Wooldridge

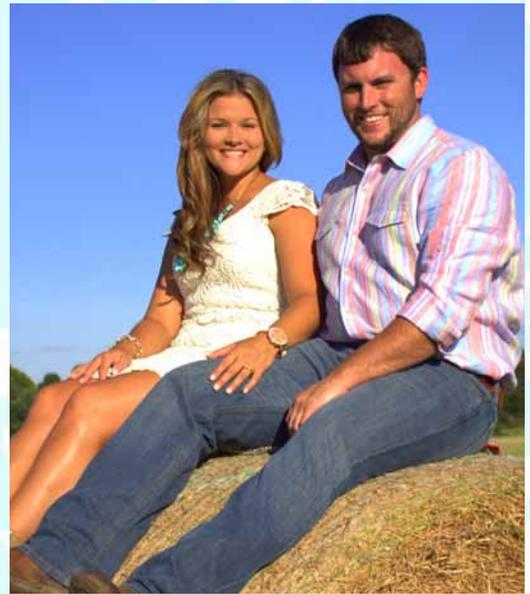
The wedding will take place Friday, October 24, 2014, at Union Central Church of Christ at 7:00 p.m. All friends and family are invited to attend the ceremony. ♦

## Cunningham-Ryan

**B**rittany Cunningham and Alex Ryan have announced their plans for a November wedding.

Brittany is the daughter of Pam Cunningham of Senath, Missouri, and Dennis Cunningham of Deering, Missouri.

Alex's parents are Al and Harriet Ryan of Lafa.



Brittany Cunningham and Alex Ryan

The wedding will take place Saturday, November 1, 2014, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Lafa at 5 p.m.

All family and friends are invited to attend the ceremony. ♦



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Brittany Whiteside and Josh McKay

## Whiteside-McKay

**B**rittany Whiteside and Josh McKay will be married in an October ceremony.

Brittany is the daughter of Tim and Linda Whiteside of Paragould.

Josh's parents are Rodger and Teresa McKay of Marmaduke.

The couple will exchange vows Saturday, October 4, 2014, at Browns Chapel Baptist Church in Paragould. ♦



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# ..... October Calendar of Events .....

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

### SAINT MARY'S SHRIMP SHAK.

from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the Parish Hall, 301 N. 2nd Street. Tickets are \$10.00 for ½ lb. of shrimp or 1 lb. for \$15.00, meal includes corn, potato, rice, drink, and the best desserts. Tickets purchased at the door are \$1.00 extra. The live auction will be at 7:00 pm and the silent auction ends at 8:00 pm. To buy tickets or donate to the auction call (870) 236-3681, (870) 335-6048, or (870) 476-0552.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

### AMMC HOSTS BREAST-FEEDING CLASS.

held in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Call the AMMC Education Department at (870) 239-7016 for pricing and to register.

### AMMC HOSTS INFANT SAFETY CLASS.

held in the Second Floor Conference Room in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Call the AMMC Education Department at (870) 239-7016 for pricing and to register.

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7

### AMMC HOSTS CHILDBIRTH PREPARATION CLASS.

held in the Second Floor Conference Room in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Call the AMMC Education Department at (870) 239-7016 for pricing and to register. **Other class dates:** October 14th, 21st and 28th

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10

### PAJAMA PARTY PARENTS NIGHT OUT.

at Champions Gymnastics from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Tickets are \$10 per person with a snack included. There will be a pajama fashion show and hide and seek, glow in the dark style. Call Champions at (870) 236-3286 for more info.

### "NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD: A ROCK OPERA."

at the Collins Theatre. Show time at 7:30 pm.

**Other Show Dates:** October 11th at 7:30 pm & Midnight.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

### GIRL SCOUTS RECRUITMENT CARNIVAL.

from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at Reynolds Park in Paragould. Area girls in grades K-12 who are interested in joining the Girl Scouts are eligible and welcome! The organization will also be seeking adult volunteers. For more information, call (870) 215-9667.

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14

### DOWNTOWN ON DISPLAY.

5:30 pm at the Red Goose. Every business owner and their employees in the Main Street Paragould service area are invited! Get inspired for the holidays with tips, tricks and tools from Interior Designer, Susan Shaddox - Your windows will be the best in Northeast Arkansas. This program is brought to you by Main Street Paragould. Please RSVP to mainstr@paragould.net to help us plan for food.

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

### TRU BOUTIQUE'S FALL FESTIVAL.

with live music, the Gypsy Wagon

will be selling food, amazing sales in store and t-shirts for sale (proceeds benefit the Susan G. Komen Foundation).

## AMMC HOSTS BLOOD DRIVE WITH THE AMERICAN RED CROSS.

in the Auditorium of the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center from 11:00 am to 5:30 pm. Each person who successfully donates blood will receive three \$5 coupons to be used at the Auxiliary Gift Shop, Beacon's Deli, Cafeteria, or The Foundation Station.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

### CHAD GARRETT & FRIENDS AT THE COLLINS.

featuring Ken Wadley, Kevin King, Randy Aden, Brad Owen and special guest Niki Martin. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3 for kids 10 and under. Show starts at 7:00 pm. Advance tickets are available at The Treasure House starting October 11th.

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 20

### MOMMY AND ME BREAST-FEEDING SUPPORT GROUP MEETING.

brought to you by Arkansas Methodist Medical Center and the Greene County Health Unit. This is an opportunity to for new and expectant mothers to share experiences. Held in the Second Floor conference room in the Professional Office Building at AMMC. 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm. For more information, call the Greene County Health Unit at (870) 236-7782.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

### 3rd ANNUAL DOWNTOWN

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## PARAGOULD ZOMBIE WALK

Northeast Arkansas' Original Zombie Walk! Registration begins at 5:00 pm, costume contest at 6:30 pm, walk at 7:30 pm and Inside Marsellus Wallace on stage at 8:00 pm. Tickets are \$4, children 3 and under are free. Find more info at [www.facebook.com/DowntownZombieWalkParagould](http://www.facebook.com/DowntownZombieWalkParagould)

## HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL PARENTS NIGHT OUT

at Champions Gymnastics from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Cost is \$15 with a snack included. There will be \$2 face painting and \$2 finger nail art starting at 6:30 pm, goody bags to take home, a haunted maze, costume picture wall and hide and seek spooky style! Call (870) 236-3286 for more information.

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 27 AMMC HOSTS HEALTHY PREGNANCY CLASS

held in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Call the AMMC Education Department at (870) 239-7016 for pricing and to register.

## KASU'S BLUEGRASS MONDAYS

at the Collins Theatre, starting at 7:00 pm.

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28 STROKE SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

held in the Arkansas Methodist Medical Center Rehab Dining Room on the Fourth Floor from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. This meeting is open to stroke survivors, their friends, families and/or caregivers. For more information, please call (870) 239-7289.

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31 THE COLLINS THEATRE PRESENTS A SPECIAL HALLOWEEN SHOW

featuring The Kinders. The show starts at 6:00 pm and tickets are \$3 a person. All kids get a trick or treat bag. For more information, call the Collins Theatre at (870) 573-6454.

## RECURRING EVENTS

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

**Every Wednesday:** Perking on Pruet, 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.

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

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](mailto:tcfofnortheastarkansas@yahoo.com).

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

**Second Wednesday of every month:** St. Mary's Spaghetti Dinner, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Admission is \$6 for all you can eat spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert and drink. At St. Mary's Catholic Church in Paragould.

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

**Fourth Tuesday of every month:** Greene County Master Gardener Meeting, Greene County Library, 6 pm, 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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Casey Lyles

Perhaps one of the best aspects of cooking is the freedom to explore and not always follow directions. This is exactly how Casey Lyles discovered her favorite meatloaf dish.

"I started making this recipe right after my husband and I bought our house," Lyles said. "I had it in my mind I wanted to cook every night and make something special every night. I looked up a recipe online for regular meatloaf. I realized that I didn't have exactly everything I needed so I improvised and now this is my family's favorite meal."

**Family:** My husband Wade and our dog Smokey and cat Rajah.

**Who taught you how to cook?** My mom and my cousin Mandy Foster taught me to cook. My mom cooks a lot of southern foods and my cousin is half Italian, so she cooks Italian mostly. I have my own way of blending them together.

**What is your favorite thing to cook?** My favorite thing to make is probably my meatloaf with mashed potatoes and fresh green beans.

**What is your most memorable cooking**

# NEA COOKS



## Meatloaf

**Ingredients:**

- 1.5 pounds ground beef
- 1 egg
- 1 package onion soup mix

- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup stove top stuffing mix
- 2 tbs sugar
- 2 tbs mustard
- Salt and pepper to taste

**Directions:**

Preheat oven to 350.

In a large bowl combine all ingredients and mix well.

Bake for one hour. ♦

**disaster?** Definitely Thanksgiving of 1998. I was glad my mom was cooking at our house that year because she said I could help. My version of helping was adding butter to something or occasionally stirring one thing or another. Just as everyone arrived my mom went to take the turkey out of the oven and the pan broke. All the juices went all over the floor and she slid from one side of the room to

the other. I was screaming and the smoke alarm was going off and something was burning inside the oven.

**What advice do you have for other cooks?** Experiment! Don't just go by the recipe, swap one thing out for another, use what you have lying around. You would be surprised how things turn out when you improvise. ♦

Would you like to be featured in Premiere's NEA Cooks, or would you like to nominate someone else for consideration? All you have to do is email your information to:  
[editor@premiere-magazine.com](mailto:editor@premiere-magazine.com)

or call 870-236-7627 for more information.

## STAY TUNED

What's in Store For Next Month

Feature



November is National Diabetes Month and Premiere writers will bring you stories of area people and how they are dealing with the disease.

Thanksgiving



We will again bring you interesting stories related to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Events



ASU Tailgating for the home opener.

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