

PREMIERE

May
2015

Mental Health Awareness Month

- PARAGOULD CHAMBER BANQUET
- JONESBORO BUSINESS EXPO
- JR. AUXILIARY KIDZ KRAZE
- AR CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL RADIOTHON
- DECADES OF DEDICATION

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Bridal Registry

Whitney Hester - Michael Morales
April, 11 2015

Jessica Esquivel - Ryan Tripod
May 16, 2015

Sandy Henson - Ryan Rowe
May 20, 2015

Anna Flanney - Jordan Blake
May 30, 2015

Sarah Loftin - Jake Bolt
June 6, 2015

Angel Messer - Payton Snodgrass
June 12, 2015

Katie Davis - Jordan Leatherman
June 13, 2015

Whitney Hale - Ben Lindsey
July 14, 2015

Megan Sanders - Noah Vann
August 8, 2015

Tiffani Johnson - Eli Newsom
October 4, 2015



Baby Registry

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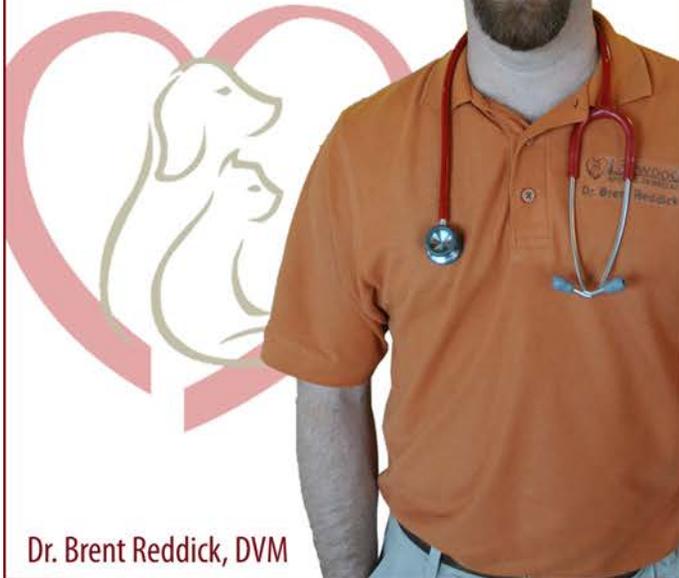
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CONTENTS



May is Mental Health Month. Area professionals help us try to understand the many issues involved in dealing with mental health matters. See page 36.

10 PREMIERE PEOPLE
Meggie Hodge

12 Vote for your favorites

16 CHAMBER BANQUET → →
Evening of entertainment

18 New idea in music

24 JONESBORO EXPO → →
Rockin' in the '80s

26 Scene 'Ya

27 Outstanding Teachers

28 Greene County
Community Fund Luncheon

42 St. Bernards Expo → →
Health and Wellness

45 Decades of Dedication
Businesses that have stood
the test of time



Cover photo by Tim Rand Photography



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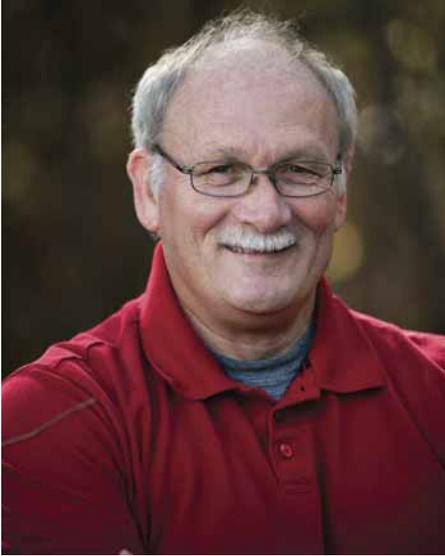


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From the Managing Editor ...



Richard Brummett, Managing Editor

Sometimes they are so much a part of our lives we tend to overlook them, failing to appreciate the roles they play in our communities.

We're talking about those businesses and business owners who set up shop, stay for the

long haul and provide services the average citizen needs on a consistent basis.

When your child is attempting to sell something for fundraising activities, local business people are almost always there to make a donation.

When our schools need contributions for projects, or advertisers for yearbooks and programs, local business people are there.

When moms and dads require specific items to finish around-the-house tasks, local business people are there.

This month in our *Decades of Dedication* section we salute several area businesses that have dug their heels in and stayed put. Businesses that develop into dependable, trustworthy entities contribute immensely to community well-being. They add to local character and promote prosperity in a variety of ways.

The business community does more than just provide a means for keeping dollars at home; it is made up of men and women who are hometown decision makers and understand the impact of resolutions on the local economy, people who help bring diversity,

jobs and wages to us all. They promote a spirit of competition and bolster success, helping sustain vibrant town centers, linking neighbors in economic and social relationships, and contributing to local causes.

Please read about each of the businesses featured in this month's Premiere and then take time to thank them for their continued belief in our communities.

--

Another area of focus this month is on mental health, a broad spectrum that most people -- unfortunately -- misunderstand.

May is Mental Health Month and we have targeted for our readers some areas that deserve attention.

Our mental health involves emotional, behavioral and social aspects of life and one's ability to cope with the normal stresses of everyday existence.

We present features that address only a small portion of those topics but hope readers will have a better understanding of the complexity of mental health issues when they are through with this issue of 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

contributing writers
Cheryl Nichols •
nicholsdevelopment@gmail.com

Terry Austin •
terry.austin@gmail.com

Tara Piatt •
tara@mormediainc.com

graphic designers — advertising
Leisa Rae • leisa@kdrs.com
Tara Piatt • tara@mormediainc.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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Paragould hosts Special Olympians



Rain may have cut the activities short but it couldn't dampen the spirits of those involved with the Area I Special Olympics at Paragould High School.



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Circle of Friends, local sponsors stage Radiothon for ACH

Volunteers and contributors raised more than \$30,000 for Arkansas Children's Hospital in the annual Circle of Friends Radiothon, co-sponsored by MOR Media. Southern Bank hosted the event at both its Paragould and Jonesboro locations and volunteers worked the phone lines to bring in pledges for the worthy cause. ♦



Ashley Dean, left, shared her family's ACH experience revolving around her daughter Hallyn, enjoying a Batten's doughnut, above, while volunteers worked the phones inside Southern Bank, below.



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PREMIERE PEOPLE



Meggie Hodge has traveled many roads since graduating from Paragould High School in 2004, but the path she chose at an early age certainly seems to be the right one.

Today, Meggie, 28, is freelancer in apparel design and also the head designer for Century Martial Arts, holder of all rights to padded equipment for UFC (Ultimate Fighting Championship).

"I design equipment for them," she told Karen Snyder's students in the Advanced Learning Program at PHS, "working over the phone or on my computer, designing around their parameters. MMA is sort of my specialty. I don't beat up people -- I just sort of fell into it."

Even as early as age 6 Meggie was sewing and cutting pictures out of magazines to dream up outfits, and her mother predicted at that time that "I would be a designer someday. I went to Texas Tech University and got a degree in design and a minor in art, and then I set out.

"I think 59 people started in the major program, and soon it was down to 30 (most went to merchandising) and we graduated 13," she said of the difficulty of actually becoming a designer. "Most quit. It's not an easy job and when you actually get out there and start work, it's not what I thought designing was in high school. I don't get to wear fancy clothes and sit in a fancy office. I spend a lot of time alone ... just me and my computer."

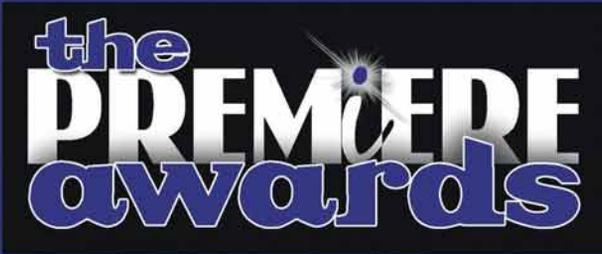
Internships and jobs have taken her to places like Brazil, Los Angeles, Denver and now Austin, Texas, but each stop along the way has added to her knowledge of the craft.

"At age 23, in Denver, I started my own line of women's wear," she said, "and I learned everything *not* to do. I was in business 2 1/2 years and realized it's really hard to make money. That's when I realized freelancing was another good source of income. When you freelance, you work on one contract at a time, and you can freelance for more than one client."

Her talent was quickly noticed by a multitude of people in the industry and when a friend suggested the MMA line as something that might interest her, "I checked it out and it turned out to be the real thing. They owned the training facility, knew the gear, and hired me as head designer. I design it, send it to the factory, get it back and watch a fighter in it. They might say, 'It needs a little more stretch here, or needs to be a little tighter here.' And then we fix it to suit their needs."

While admitting her career choice is not the easiest one in which to find early success, she told the students it has been a worthwhile journey.

"I love it," she said. "It's hard, but I love it." ♦



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NEA Baptist hosts luncheon in honor of auxiliary volunteers

NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital hosted a catered luncheon in appreciation of the NEA Baptist auxiliary volunteers in April.

To kick off National Volunteer Week, NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital hosted a catered

luncheon to recognize all of its auxiliary volunteers. Several volunteers were recognized for their service, and door prizes were given out.

There are many ways to volunteer at NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital. Auxiliary

volunteers help by greeting patients, families and visitors at the hospital entrance, working in the gift shop, delivering newspapers to patient rooms, delivering kiddie bags to children who are in the hospital, hosting ICU/Surgical waiting rooms for families and visitors, and escorting patients, families and visitors to their destinations. They also host a variety of fundraisers such as scrub and jewelry sales, with proceeds going back to the gift shop, scholarships, kiddie bags, and other hospitality services.

"I love volunteering at NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital," says Ginny Presgrove, an auxiliary volunteer. "I love being a friendly face when patients and their families first walk in. You can sometimes see the relief in patients' eyes when they realize they have someone to help them through their hospital visit."

At the beginning of 2014, before the move to the NEA Baptist medical campus, there were 34 members in the auxiliary volunteer program; they have now grown to 43 members and are actively recruiting more volunteers.

NEA Baptist officials said they are committed to offering great care to the people of Northeast Arkansas and volunteers are a vital part of this mission, contributing in many ways to helping patients feel more comfortable. If you are interested in making a difference in your community through volunteer work at NEA Baptist, call 870-936-1000. ♦



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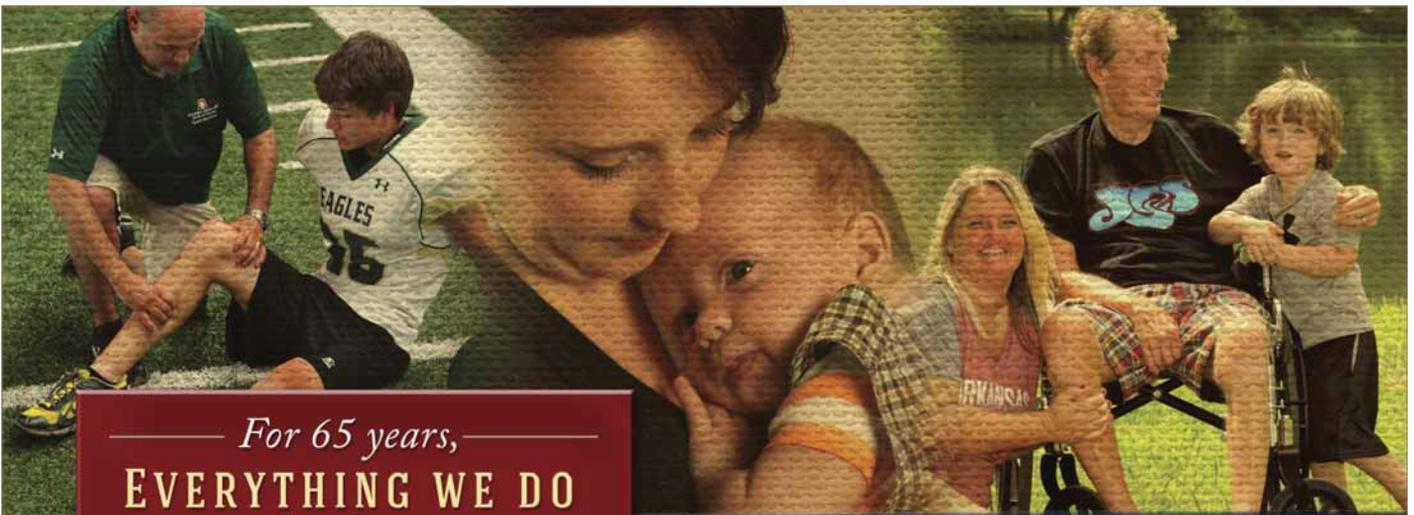
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GCT Quiz Bowl team earns trip to state competition



The Greene County Tech Senior High Quiz Bowl team placed 3rd in the regional tournament at Valley View in March. Mollie Mason, a junior pictured at right, was the tournament high point player of the day averaging 7.2 questions per game. The team advanced to state competition at Maumelle. Pictured above, front: Freshman Tim Rowland, junior Cassie Pirtle, junior Mollie Mason, freshman Eli Mason; back: Freshman Jay Brotemarkle, freshman Conner Justus, junior Ryan McAllister, and sophomore Alex Forschler. Not pictured: Freshmen Markus Pillow and Logan Smith.



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Arkansas Lieutenant Governor Tim Griffin was the featured speaker for the 2015 Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce banquet.

Community Center hosts Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce Banquet

On a night when awards were handed out and good natured jabs were exchanged, the Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce recognized members for outstanding achievement at its annual banquet, hosted by the Paragould Community Center.



Terry Melton

Arkansas Lieutenant Governor Tim Griffin served as the featured speaker, following comments by emcee Mike Gaskill, Mayor of Paragould, and outgoing Chamber President Terry Melton. ♦



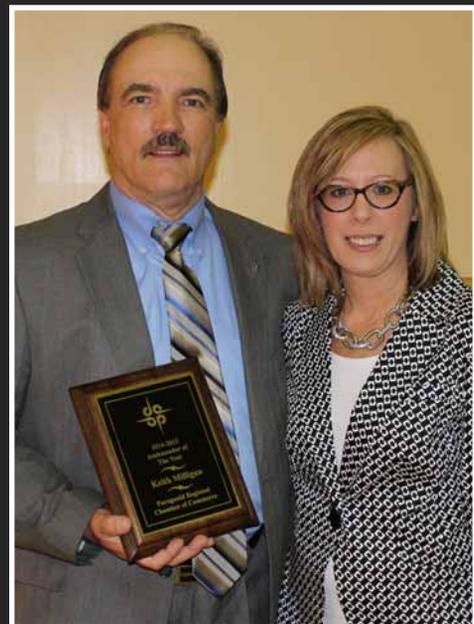
Jerry Crocker, left, was presented the Lifetime Achievement Award by Paragould Mayor Mike Gaskill.

Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce Banquet



Honored Recipients

Several people were recognized at the Chamber banquet. Above, Gene Weeks of Greene County Tech, Debbie Smith of Paragould, and Bill Muse of Marmaduke display \$500 checks presented to their schools by the Leadership Paragould program. The money is to be used in each district's Backpack Program. At right, Keith Milligan accepts the Ambassador of the Year Award from presenter Dina Mason; below left, Ty Sims is given the Paragould Young Professionals Member of the Year Award by Jeremy Biggs; and below right, Kevin Lange earned the Member of the Year Award, presented by Micah Brinkley. At far left, guests took time before the dinner to make bids on items featured in the silent auction, or to just visit with friends and acquaintances.



Online music lessons offered at Music Crate

That long list of excuses for not taking music lessons just got smaller, thanks to the efforts of Michael Kimble and Nick Brown with their new idea, Music Crate.

Kimble, a musician who grew up in the small town of Harrisburg, said he can identify with those who struggle to find someone to teach them how to play a musical instrument, having lived that life himself. That frustration is what helped spark Music Crate, a means for computer owners to take instruction at home, on their time schedule.

"The website gives people who work 9-5 and can't stop to go get lessons or go to music shops the opportunity to learn," Kimble said. "You can basically find anybody, anywhere and establish one-on-one time with instructors."

Kimble said all one needs to do is go to the website, create a page for free, search for an instructor on the web in the chosen field, and book instruction time. The individual instructor sets up the pay rate, depending upon whether sessions last 15 minutes, 30 minutes or longer, and students pay them via PayPal or Dwolla.

"It's a free sign-up," Kimble said. "You pay the instructor. It tends to be cheaper for the student because there is no travel involved and no setup time. If you have a computer, a webcam and a microphone, as soon as the camera is up you start."

Kimble said their goal is to be "all-inclusive, everything for the musician -- give lessons, sell your music, start a band. Everyone thinks it's a good idea. The concept is there, the concept is very good. Bands can sell their music and videos for a significantly higher profit margin than with other online music services. It's a website to do everything for the music lover."

Learn all you need to know at www.MusicCrate.com, www.facebook.com/musiccrate, Twitter: @MusicCr8, Michael@MusicCrate.com or Nick@MusicCrate.com. ♦



Michael Kimble is one of the founders of Music Crate.

Southern Bank included among top 100 community banks

Southern Bank is included in the 2014 edition of SNL Financial's annual listing of top 100 community banks. Among all publicly traded community banks in the United States, Southern Bank's 2014 performance was ranked 10th.

Among all public and privately owned community banks in the listing, Southern Bank was ranked 63rd.

Southern Bank was selected by SNL Financial based on criteria including its profitability,

asset quality, efficiency, and loan growth. This marks the fifth consecutive year that Southern Bank has been included in SNL's annual listing of top community banks.

Southern Bank is a subsidiary of Southern Missouri Bancorp, Inc., which trades under the ticker "SMBC" on the NASDAQ Global Market. Information which may be of interest to current or potential investors is available at <http://investors.bankwithsouthern.com>.

From its 1887 founding as a building and

loan association, Southern Bank has grown to a full service commercial bank focused on pairing community bank service with the latest technology in delivering financial services to its valued customers. The bank operates 35 physical banking facilities in Missouri and Arkansas, and also makes electronic banking services available through its website at <http://www.bankwithsouthern.com>. At December 31, 2014, Southern Bank reported assets of \$1.3 billion, up from \$941 million a year earlier. ♦

Downtown Jonesboro Association earns National Main Street Accreditation

The Downtown Jonesboro Association has been designated as an accredited National Main Street Program for meeting the commercial district revitalization performance standards set by the National Main Street Center®, a subsidiary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Each year, the National Main Street Center and its partners announce the list of accredited Main Street® programs in recognition of their exemplary commitment to historic preservation and community revitalization through the Main Street Four Point Approach®.

“We congratulate this year’s nationally accredited Main Street programs for their outstanding accomplishment in meeting the National Main Street Center’s 10 Standards of Performance,” said Patrice Frey, President and CEO of the National Main Street Center. “As the National Main Street Center celebrates its 35th anniversary, it is also important to celebrate the achievements of the local Main Street programs across the country, some of whom have been around since the beginning. These local programs work hard

every day to make their communities great places to work, live, play and visit while still preserving their historic character.”

The organization’s performance is annually evaluated by Main Street Arkansas, which works in partnership with the National Main Street Center to identify the local programs that meet ten performance standards. These standards set the benchmarks for measuring an individual Main Street program’s application of the Main Street

Four Point Approach® to commercial district revitalization. Evaluation criteria determines the communities that are building comprehensive and sustainable revitalization efforts and include standards such as fostering strong public-private partnerships, securing an operating budget, tracking programmatic progress and actively preserving historic buildings.

“Receiving National Main Street accreditation is a significant designation,” said Hailey Knight, Executive Director for the Downtown Jonesboro Association. “Our organization mission is to promote the Downtown as the

place to eat, shop and live while stimulating economic development in our community.”

In 2014, Downtown Jonesboro generated over \$1.8 million dollars in private/public investment, garnered 154 net jobs, 19 new businesses, obtained over \$18,200 in grant money, facilitated over 24 small business consultations, launched the first facade grant program and logged 614 volunteer hours. Established in 2010, the Downtown Jonesboro Association is a non-profit organization that seeks to provide community outreach, and is made up of a board of directors, four committees, staff personnel and many local volunteers.

Established by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1980, the National Main Street Center helps communities revitalize their older and historic commercial districts. Working in more than 2,000 downtowns and urban neighborhoods, the Main Street program has leveraged more than \$61.7 billion in new public and private investment. Participating communities have created 528,557 net new jobs and 120,510 net new businesses, and rehabilitated more than 251,838 buildings, leveraging an average of \$26.52 in new investment for every dollar spent on their Main Street district revitalization efforts. ♦

“Our organization mission is to promote the Downtown as the place to eat, shop and live while stimulating economic development in our community.”

– Hailey Knight, Executive Director for the Downtown Jonesboro Association



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Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas to benefit from Walmart campaign

Walmart has launched the Fight Hunger. Spark Change campaign, a nationwide initiative calling on the public to take action in the fight against hunger.

Feeding America, the Food Bank of Northeast

Arkansas, and other Feeding America member food banks across the country stand to benefit from up to \$3 million in potential Walmart donations based on participation in the #WeSparkChange social media challenge. In addition, Walmart's suppliers aim to donate enough to help Feeding America

secure the equivalent of 75 million meals on behalf of the Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas and other member food banks.

Additionally,

Walmart customers can make a donation to the Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas at the register during checkout. The campaign runs through May 3.

The Fight Hunger. Spark Change. campaign comes at a critical time, with one in six people in America struggling with hunger at some point during the year.

In addition, many food banks are facing the time of year known as the "spring hunger gap" when the food supply they rely on to help feed local families is often at its lowest level. Hunger is a nationwide problem with local implications in every community across the United States.

Here in Northeast Arkansas, the need is even greater with one in five people struggling with hunger.

"We are thrilled about Walmart's Fight Hunger. Spark Change. campaign and grateful for their ongoing commitment to fight hunger," said Christie Jordan, CEO of the Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas. ♦



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University Heights Lions Club holds 26th Annual Jonesboro Auto Show

The Lions Club, along with corporate sponsors, staged its annual car show -- adding a carnival this year as well -- raising thousands of dollars to assist individuals with sight and hearing impairments.

The show features custom cars, modified stock cars, cars restored to original factory condition, late model cars and trucks in show condition, as well as motorcycles and other interesting exhibits. ♦



Vintage cars and trucks were on display for visitors at the University Heights Lions Club Auto show.



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| 31 | | | | | | |

Talyn Wooldridge, 8, is ready for softball season to be in full swing. Talyn is the daughter of Mike and Shannon Wooldridge of Paragould.

Get Rich

By Richard Brummett



Mothers certainly deserve a special day of their own

Once when my daughter Kelly was in elementary school she was sent to the nurse's office. When it was determined that she needed to be sent home, she was asked if they should call her mother or her father.

"You'd better call my dad," she said. "My mom has an important job."

You can imagine the fun school personnel had with that one as I arrived to pick up my ailing child but, in a sense, Kelly was correct without even knowing it: Moms do have important jobs.

This Mother's Day will be my first without a mother, mine having passed away just a few weeks ago, but that in no way diminishes the importance of mothers in our lives.

In most households, Mom gets to be the main cook and the house cleaner, the one who makes sure homework is completed and little ones are tucked in. It is usually Mom who drives the young ones to and from music lessons and ball practice, Mom who needs to know how to braid hair and keep up with the latest clothing styles, Mom who applies the cool rags to a fever and bandages to a scratch.

We dads generally watch the ballgame on TV.

Days before my mother died she was in the hospital's Intensive Care Unit and one day when I stopped by to check on her, she said, "You look tired; you'd better get some rest."

She was in ICU but I was the one drawing the concern?

That's what moms do. They give birth to us, baby us, raise us, teach us, scold us, correct us and love us, which makes giving them their own special day just seem appropriate. Happy Mother's Day to all you deserving moms out there. ♦

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Jonesboro Chamber Expo provides '80s flashback

Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce members flashed back to the '80s for their annual Chamber Expo at the ASU Convocation Center.

With 234 exhibitors for a total of 245 booths, the event brought in around 5,000 visitors. Exhibitors got into the '80s spirit by decorating booths and dressing up as famous characters from the decade of MTV, Back to the Future, Cheers, big hair and neon. ♦

At right, John Travis, Dave Pelletier and Michael Curbo; below, the MOR Media rockers, from left, Bill "Axl Rose" Pressley; Leisa "Slash" Rae; Tara "Madonna" Piatt; Mike "Bruce Springsteen" Dickerson; Brian "Boy George" Osborn; Perry "Prince" Mason; and Ashley "Cindy Lauper" Mason.





Above, Nanette Heard, Jenny Keller and Ellen Hakenewerth; at right, Penny Oswald and Crystal Rinehart.

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PREMIERE'S SCENE 'YA



Meagan Louder and Wendy Alexander at the St. Bernards Health Expo in Jonesboro.



Lisbeth Jurgenson and Kaitlyn Gilliam at a Marmaduke High School softball game.

At right, Alyssa Parsons and Abby Rapert, at the St. Bernards Expo.



At right, Kayla Mealer, Brandi Newsom and Amy Dickson at the Team Dickson benefit softball tournament in Trumann.



Linda Harvey and Angelia Herren at the Jonesboro Business Expo.



ASU basketball players Aaliyah Warren and Lauren Bradshaw with the MOR Media rockers at the Jonesboro Business Expo.



Outstanding Teachers



STEPHANE DAVIS GREENE COUNTY TECH

Getting to know Stephane Davis, 7th grade teacher at GCT:

I've been teaching 30 years: 8 years in the second grade, 17 years in the sixth grade, and 5 years in the seventh grade. Every year is different with new students and new challenges. I can't think of anything I would have rather done.

My father and mother both worked in the school system, so I grew up around the inner workings of a school, and around many of their friends who were educators as well. I always knew that I wanted to teach and continue the tradition of being a positive influence on young people as my parents had been.

I have such a passion for teaching history to my students; it is something I feel is so important for our children to know. I have had so many positive experiences, and made some wonderful teacher friends throughout my career. I hope that throughout my years of teaching, and the hundreds of students I've had, that I have some former students who smile when they think of their year with me. I hope they also remember the enjoyment I received from teaching and sharing my love of history.

I have two grown children: Tyson, who has continued the family tradition and is a middle school teacher, and Trase, who works at Paragould Cable, Light, and Water. I'm extremely proud of the young men they've become. I also have one grandchild, Reagan Virginia Lynn. She's one the most precious gifts I've ever received. ♦



DESSIRA WEGNER GREENE COUNTY TECH

Getting to know Dessira Wegner, 7th grade teacher at GCT:

I am currently in my 5th year of teaching.

I decided to become a teacher while in college. I was worried about having to take a college algebra class. While in high school, math was not my best subject. Once I took the college class, I had a wonderful, inspirational teacher. It was at that moment that I had learned the teacher makes a difference as to understanding any material.

From that moment on, I wanted to become a math teacher to help children who struggle like I did.

My favorite teaching moments are when the students have the "ah ha" moments. It just makes my day!

I have been married to Jeremy Wegner for 13 years. We have three beautiful children: Destiny Wegner (12), Emily Wegner (8), and Andrew Wegner (5). ♦



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Greene County Community Fund recognizes contributors at annual Awards Luncheon

The Greene County Community Fund paid tribute to volunteers, industries, businesses and agencies providing support to the organization in its annual Awards Luncheon at the Paragould Community Center.

Various presenters recognized outstanding contributions in these categories:

- * Superior Award -- \$50,000 and above
- * Excellence Award -- \$10,000-\$50,000
- * Leadership Award -- \$5,000-\$9,999
- * Community Service Awards -- \$1,000-\$4,999 and \$500-\$999
- * 100 Percent Employee Participation Award
- * Community and Volunteerism Award
- * Campaign Stars

The proceedings were directed by GCCF President Brian Brightwell, who received the President's Award plaque for his year's efforts, and GCCF Executive Director Kera Crafton.

Prior to the awards presentation, guests were free to visit the displays set up by many of the 17 organizations backed by the Community Fund and talk with representatives of those groups, and a video was shown to demonstrate where how the money is collected and where it is used. ♦



Greene County Community Fund Executive Director Kera Crafton, above, opened the day's events with introductions and the presentation of a video detailing her group's fundraising efforts. At right, Brian Brightwell poses with the 2014 President's Award in recognition of his efforts in leading the many volunteers who made the campaign a successful one.



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Greene County Community Fund Awards Luncheon



David Neighbors, Scott Maxwell and John Oliver of Utility Trailer, and Misty Carr of Tenneco accept Superior Awards for donations of \$50,000 and above.



The GCCF luncheon provided plenty of time for lively conversation, in addition to the presentation of awards and opportunities to smile for the camera.



Breastfeeding Class
Tuesday, May 5 6:00pm-8:00pm
Professional Office Building
 Class discusses the importance of breastfeeding and offers tips for success. Class is free for those delivering at AMMC with a small charge for others. There is a \$10 fee for materials. For classroom location, more information or to register, call 239-7016.

The Foundation Fiesta
Saturday, May 9 6:00pm
Paragould Community Center
 The AMMC Foundation is hosting The Foundation Fiesta, a casual evening of great food, fun, music and prizes. The event is casual so feel free to wear your favorite blue jeans or if you want, wear Cinco de Mayo-themed attire. Tickets for this event are just \$150 each and can be purchased online at www.myammc.org or by calling The Foundation at (870) 239-7077.

Childbirth Preparation Class
Saturday, May 9 & May 16
10:00am-3:00pm
Professional Office Building
 This two-week class is offered to anyone who is expecting. It is recommended to take the class when you are 5-8 weeks from your due date. Register early to ensure availability. If delivering at AMMC, the classes are free of charge. Otherwise, there is a small fee. There is a \$10 materials fee. Call the AMMC Education Department at 870-239-7016 for classroom location, pricing and to register. Registration is required for all classes.

Infant Safety Class
Tuesday, May 12 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Professional Office Building
 This class is offered to expectant families and anyone caring for an infant. Class is free for those delivering at AMMC with a small charge for others. There is a \$10 fee for materials. For classroom location, more information or to register, call 239-7016.

Healthy Pregnancy Class
Monday, May 18 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Professional Office Building
 One-time class for expectant mothers who are prior to 16 weeks into their pregnancy. Class is free for those delivering at AMMC

Mommy and Me Breastfeeding Support Group Meeting
Monday, May 18 6:00pm-7:00pm
Second Floor Conference Room, Professional Office Building
 Greene County Health Unit's Leisa Kennedy, Breastfeeding Peer Councilor teaches this class for new and expectant mothers. For more information, call the Greene County Health Unit at 236-7782.

Blood Drive with American Red Cross
Tuesday, May 26 4:30pm - 8:30pm
Auditorium Professional Office Building
 If you would like to donate life-saving blood, please call AMMC for details on requirements for donors. You can also find more information at www.myammc.org.

Exercise Your Mind & Body with Food-Community Diabetes Program
Thursday, May 28 6:00pm - 7:30pm
Auditorium Professional Office Building
 Presented by AMMC & Wal-Mart. Please RSVP by Wednesday, May 27, 2015 by calling (870) 239-7016.

2-Mile Glow Run
NE Arkansas Diabetes Organization Support Group Event
Friday, June 5 8:00pm
Greene County Tech Old High School Campus ("Eagle Mile" course)
 Register online at <http://www.racesonline.com>. Pre-registration closes at midnight on Thursday, June 4. Cost is \$20.00 for both walkers and runners. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Register by Wednesday, May 20 to be guaranteed an event t-shirt. For more information, please call 870-239-7467 or email allison.hitt@arkansasmethodist.org.



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Mary Keith, Eastern Arkansas Regional Director,
 Billy Ward, Eastern Arkansas Recruiter and
 Kassie Haynes, Greene County Connector
 for Arkansas PROMISE.

Meet Kassie Haynes, Greene County Connector for Arkansas PROMISE

Arkansas PROMISE is a free community-based education and employment experience for youth currently receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.

PROMISE helps youth set goals to be connected, included and successful in their communities. This is a five-year demonstration grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Education to the University of Arkansas College of Education and Health Professions and the Arkansas Department of Education. Enrollment is limited to 2,000 youth ages 14-16.

Cheryl Nichols: Kassie, tell our readers a little more about Arkansas PROMISE?

Kassie Haynes: This is a unique and progressive program for youth. As a “connector” for Greene County, I meet with youth and their families to make sure the youth are on track to graduate from high school. I also coordinate a paid summer job experience through our partnership with Arkansas Department of Workforce Services. Youth receiving SSI benefits and between the ages 14-16 are eligible to enroll.

CN: I can tell you enjoy working with youth.

What did you do prior to your work with Arkansas PROMISE?

KH: I was a junior high school counselor and I also worked with a TRIO program, which is a student services program.

CN: Oh my. It takes a special individual with unique skills to work with teens.

KH: Yes, but I love it. I get to know my youth and families and support their goals. The ultimate goal is to make sure the youth are gainfully employed at the end of this



experience. I can help make the connections necessary for continued education and job training – whatever I can reasonably do to support that end goal.

Our Community

By Cheryl Nichols



CN: Are there counties, other than Greene County, participating in this program?

KH: Yes, there are 25 total counties in Arkansas, seven are in the eastern Arkansas region – Craighead, Greene, Poinsett, Mississippi, St. Francis, Phillips, and Crittenden. Our website has a full listing of all the participating counties.

CN: Kassie, here is my Barbara Walters inspired question: What is your superhero name and what is your superpower?

KH: My superhero name would be “The Helper.” My superpower would be helping with any need.

CN: How can people learn more about Arkansas PROMISE?

KH: Feel free to contact me by calling (870) 215-2737 or emailing me at kjhaynes@uark.edu. Our website is another source of information and can be accessed at <http://promise.uark.edu> . ♦

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Youngsters and celebrities shared the spotlight at the annual Jr. Auxiliary of Paragould's Kidz Kraze.

Paragould Jr. Auxiliary presents Kidz Kraze

First Baptist Church in Paragould hosted the annual Kidz Kraze, a health and book fair dedicated to children and sponsored by the Jr. Auxiliary of Paragould.

Various vendors, games and activities were provided for the young participants. ♦



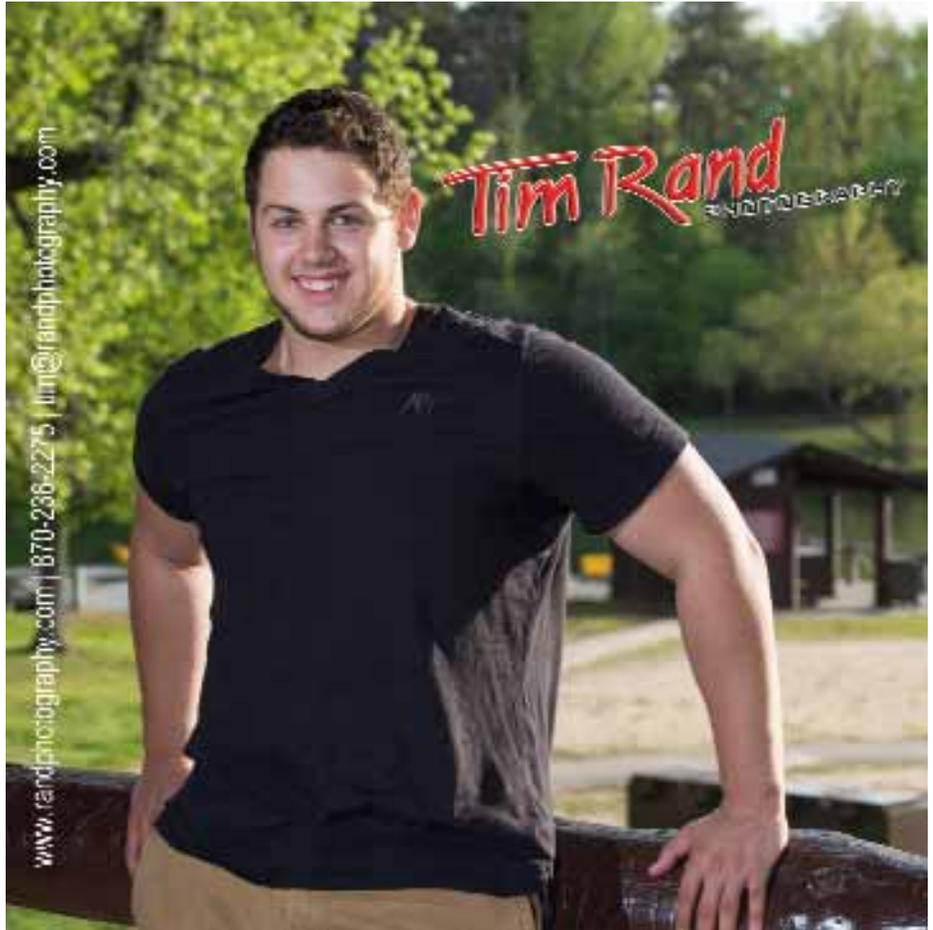
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Get Up and Go...

*... to Historic
Hardy, Arkansas*

Spring River float trips are one of the main attractions at Hardy, but the downtown area offers arts and crafts, food and the opportunity to just sit and watch life go by.

Hardy maintains old-time flavor

History buffs should appreciate downtown Hardy, an area that looks very much the same way it did during the Roaring '20s, filled with buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

But there's much more to accommodate the modern day traveler, with antique shops, craft stores, specialty shops, gift nooks and a variety of museums, not to mention great restaurants and some of the best fishing around.

Bring your own canoe or kayak -- or rent one -- to experience the cold waters of the Spring River, or just sit back and relax while sitting on one of the many benches along the covered sidewalks on Main Street.

To reach Hardy from Paragould, take U.S. Hwy 412 West through Walnut Ridge, Portia and Imboden, and you'll arrive in just over one hour. ♦



Historic Hardy, Arkansas



Historic buildings, shops filled with hand-crafted items and easily-accessible city parks make downtown Hardy an inviting place to visit. Campgrounds, cabins, motels, or bed and breakfast sites are available for lodging.





*The complicated
task of
understanding
mental health
issues*

By Richard Brummett

MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

Exactly what does *mental health* mean?

There was a time when someone heard the phrase “mental illness” used and their first thoughts drifted to words like *crazy* or *demented*, and a belief that the person in question was in need of being institutionalized.

It was a general lack of knowledge that caused such inaccurate responses but today, with about one-fifth of all Americans dealing with some sort of mental health issue, we are headed for a better understanding of the many facets of mental health care.

According to information provided by Matt Knight, LPC, and Gary Taber, LCSW, with Mid-South Health Systems, mental illness “has long been stigmatized in the general public. Fueled by fear or misunderstanding we tend to become uncomfortable when we are confronted with behavior out of the ordinary. It is a continual challenge for mental health providers to address this stigma.”

For many, the misconception is that mental illness affects only a select few and is some sort of incurable condition. In reality, mental health issues encompass an almost unimaginable range of everyday situations faced by the majority. Stress, depression, anxiety, anger, eating disorders, oppositional behavior, panic attacks -- all are forms of mental issues.

Matthew Richardson, LPC, at Life Strategies, Inc., said he thinks society is coming around to the realization that treating such situations is not something to be feared or swept under the rug.

“From my own perspective, when I was in high school I didn’t know anyone who was in therapy,” he said. But now, because insurance companies have included therapeutic sessions in coverage, legislation has been passed to improve treatment opportunities and more politicians have come on board, “Mental health services are more available and more people have

access to them. More people today have an issue and can talk to someone about it who will say, ‘I had the same thing and I talked to this therapist ...’ where in the past, that didn’t happen so much. More people know someone who has been in therapy today than ever before.”

Richardson said years ago many people considered it a weakness when a family member or acquaintance was seeing a therapist. Not so today, he said.

“Anger, for instance,” he said. “If an adult can’t go through the day without screaming at the kids, many think it actually shows courage to go to therapy and address it. They know of others who have said, ‘If I have to get help ... so be it’ and they’ve decided to also get help and not let it build up to a point where it breaks down the family.”

He said both individual sessions and support groups -- offered for clients through mental health providers or sponsored for the general public -- can help one cope.

Knight and Taber say that nearly everyone will face mental, emotional, behavioral or relational challenges during their lifetime, but “tragically only one third of individuals who struggle with mental health challenges receive the proper services he/she needs.”

Part of that is due to the negative connotations attached to the diagnosis by generations past, or by those who today simply do not understand the broad spectrum.

“While there are several factors that contribute to a mental illness (i.e. genetics, substance abuse, environmental/social triggers), there is no one treatment that will address every diagnosis,” according to

the Mid-South professionals. “So, the effectiveness of treatment methods becomes a critical issue.

“Medication and therapy can both offer assistance to the reduction of symptoms and improvement of living quality. Many studies show that it is the combination of the two that is most successful in treating mental health problems.”

So, how do we as a society better equip ourselves to understand this complex reality?

Early intervention is one way, Richardson said. “A lot of people discredit mental health services,” he said. “They say, ‘We didn’t have counselors or therapists, and we turned out fine.’ But if we can intervene when a child is 5 or 6 and begin to address behavioral issues instead of letting it run its course for seven or eight or nine years there is so much more potential for improvement -- they can have so much more potential in life.”

While many people will have the same diagnosis, each person will require their own unique course of treatment, Taber says. “This is another reason why building a strong therapeutic relationship is so vital to the development of an individualized plan of care.”

Can change occur? “Of course,” the Mid-South team says. “Caring mental health providers can continue to be effective in the delivery of various treatment methods as well as providing advocacy on their clients’ behalf. Services can continue to become more easily accessible. Accurate information on mental health topics can become more openly available. People with mental illnesses can more effectively, and with increased support, voice their cause to end stigma. And, hopefully, as a society we will better learn to see mental health the same as we view common medical issues.” ♦

Mental health is defined by the World Health Organization as: A state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease.

It is often identified as a trigger or underlying cause to serious crime or social deficit. In actuality, mental illness is a medical condition that has, in these situations, gone untreated. Statically, a seriously mentally ill person is less likely to commit a crime than a person without mental illness.

-- Matt Knight, LPC, and Gary Taber, LCSW



Mental Health Month:

Dealing with stress from both sides of the coin

Clint Dickson, a therapist with Families, Inc., is learning to practice what he preaches.

BY RICHARD BRUMMETT

When he returned to the doctor's office, Clint Dickson expected to be chided for not taking asthma medication as prescribed.

What he wasn't expecting was to hear that he had Stage 4 lung cancer.

"The doctor said they found lesions on the lung, liver and spine," said Dickson, a Licensed Masters Level Social Worker with Families, Inc. "I just thought, 'Okay, this is what we have to deal with' and started looking at the next options."

One of the best options was to begin practicing what he preached, following the same coping strategies he suggests to his

clients when they are faced with life-altering situations.

"I would be lying if I didn't say my training has helped some," Dickson admitted. "I'm forever telling others that worry never changes the outcome, doesn't make things any easier. We have to live for the day; people with anxiety are always too worried about tomorrow."

He likened those who dwell on stressful situations to a hamster on a spinning wheel, where worry "just makes you go around in circles and you get nowhere. If you put worry off to the side, you can actually make some ground.

"What my grandmother used to say when I

was a kid is real good advice. She said don't get in a hurry ... be patient. That's something I've had to learn. If you start looking at the statistics, none of them are very good. The survival rate is low. But with patience, I focus on today and change today. I worry about tomorrow, tomorrow."

His official diagnosis is Anaplastic Lymphoma Kinase (ALK Positive), a form of non-small cell lung cancer, a kind he describes as "not as aggressive as some." At the time of this interview, he had just returned from a session where he learned treatment has resulted in tumor shrinkage in the brain, and in the body as well.

"That's a real positive thing," he said. "The



Team Dickson T-shirts popped up all over Northeast Arkansas as a fundraising effort.

biggest thing for me has been to be realistic. I'm coping really well because I have a great support group -- especially my wife, my mother and my sisters. But my faith has grown tenfold in the last three months, too. I know God will help me through this."

Leaning once more on the guidance he gives his clients and their families, Dickson said developing a dependable support group and letting it share the emotional ride is vital to recovery.

"For me, this whole town ... well, all of Northeast Arkansas has been real supportive of my family and me," he said. "When you realize you have that many people behind you, it's a real boost. I certainly don't feel alone, as far as stress goes."

As an example, he made mention of a recent softball tournament where players, former players, coaches, fans and kids all came together to raise money to help him with medical expenses.

"Softball is a big deal to me," he said fondly. "I've been playing close to 20 years and for guys from all over the state to come up here ... for that group of people to not be so competitive for a weekend but just be laid back and try to help me ... man, that says a lot about the softball community."

The Trumann tournament and another in Hot Springs raised more than \$7,000 for the Dickson family.

"I know I'm blessed to have the family I do and the friends I do," Dickson said. "And, just like I tell people I work with, no one can do this alone. You have to have a lot of support and, boy, I've got plenty. I've got a lot." ♦

Bullying can lead to a long list of mental health issues

Professional Counselor Kari Crawford (LPC, RPT, NCC) makes some interesting observations about one of today's rapidly growing social issues: Bullying.

"Lots of times when you hear of bullying, a lot of the focus is toward the victim," said Crawford, who works for Families, Inc., mainly out of its Trumann office. "Depression, stress, anxiety and -- at the very worst -- suicide are things we learn the victim experiences or considers.

"But the other half of the story is the bully itself. Research shows quite often the bully is dealing with some form of depression, something they are struggling with. Both sides need support and help -- from teachers, parents and friends."

Crawford said statistically, bullying is much more widespread than most parents might realize.

"Statistics show that 77 percent admit to being bullied at some point in their lives," she pointed out. "Typically, 46 percent of males are victims while 26 percent of females admit they have been victims. And 58 percent of kids admit they never told anyone about being bullied. That's why it is so important for teachers and parents to be aware."

She said looking for symptoms of depression --long periods of crying, being unable to be happy, becoming withdrawn, loss of appetite -- all could be signals that life away from home is not an enjoyable experience.

And what about the bully? What do we look for to know if our child might be the one inflicting the pain upon others?

"To begin with, always look for signs of aggression," she advised, "being aggressive toward others or toward themselves. Look for signs of physical and verbal aggression and outbursts, and if you see them, refer that child for treatment so we can determine just what the issue is. If a child at age 3, 4, 5, 6



shows some symptoms, they might just be modeling behaviors seen in others.

"But especially in teens we see a lot of anger," Crawford said. "They may suffer from a bad home life, one filled with anger and aggression. But is what we're seeing anger or true sadness? Maybe their home life is so bad that they had no dinner, or they are enduring powerful struggles at home. We see that in a lot of adolescent boys. Studies show, though, that bullying from elementary to high school can lead to adult mental health issues. That's why it's so important to address it early on."

Crawford holds out faith that society today can do just that: Catch signs early and turn the tide of the bullying outburst.

"Absolutely," she said. "Having teachers, the school system and the mental health field being aware is the first big step. We have to find out what's behind the changes by listening to kids. Statistics show that depression often leads to suicide and that mental disorders are highly related to bullying."

She said in our ever-growing technological world it is a "sad case that cyber bullying is more harmful than actual bullying, just because when you're bullying face-to-face there are others around. When you can hide behind a computer screen a lot of those filters are not there and it escalates to something bad rapidly."

Crawford said it is important for kids to know "someone is there for them, someone in the school district, or family or church to talk to. And if you hear or see something, tell someone. That's not snitching; that's being a good person." ♦

Out of the Dark: Addressing drug abuse issues

“You’re fooling yourself if you think it can’t happen.”

Those are chilling words on any subject, but perhaps especially so when the topic is your child’s potential to become a drug addict.

Kevin Richardson, board chairman and president of Out of the Dark, a Jonesboro-based non-profit organization that battles drug addiction, said he was motivated to become more deeply involved in the group’s work when he realized his own son was at a crossroads.

“At 11 years old, he was at that age,” Richardson said. “He would soon be approached (to use drugs) by some of his friends. And the more I got involved, the more I realized I’d been living with my head in the sand.”

As he became more engaged in its mission, Richardson -- the CEO and president of PCS OnCall in Jonesboro -- became more passionate about the work of OOTD, which

was founded by Jonesboro attorney Skip Mooney Jr.

“We as a society have created this problem,” he said. “So now we have to step up and take control.”

Out of the Dark uses a community-based model to address the issue at the root of America’s drug problem: Addiction itself. Relying on government agencies or bureaucracies to solve the problem won’t cut it, Richardson said.

“Every dollar spent on prevention will yield \$17 in return,” he said. “But on the federal level, they’ve cut prevention spending by 48 percent. They’re going in the wrong direction.”

Out of the Dark has established chapters in 17 school buildings in Craighead County, with plans to grow within that county and to branch out regionally, Richardson said. The effectiveness of OOTD’s community-based

model, which draws on the resources of multiple sectors -- “faith-based, business, medical, education... we’ve got them all looking at what they can do to make a difference,” he said -- has drawn attention.

“What we’re doing works,” Richardson said. “It produces results. And we receive calls all the time from outside Craighead County and from across the U.S.”

Those calls are encouraging for OOTD’s work, but they’re also a somber reminder of America’s addiction problem. Drug abuse has infiltrated every area of western culture, Richardson said.

“It doesn’t matter your race, neighborhood, church, background, school, whatever -- it’s there,” Richardson said. “There are families all around us who said it could not happen to their kids.

“You’re fooling yourself. Just get involved.” ♦

-- Terry Austin

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Greene County Community Fund accepting applications for 2016

The Greene County Community Fund is currently accepting applications for the 2016 funding year, running through May 15, 2015.

Non-Profit organizations and agencies throughout Greene County are welcome to apply. In order to be considered for funding, applicants must submit a complete application packet, be a 501 (c)3 organization, and must utilize the money specifically for residents of Greene County.

Applications are available at the Greene County Community Fund office, which is located at 120 N. 2nd St. (inside the Rhine

Building – basement).

For additional information or questions regarding the 2016 applications, call the Greene County Community Fund office at 870-239-8435 or email the Executive Director at gccf@grnco.net.

The Greene County Community Fund is a non-profit organization which solicits and receives contributions for charitable agencies from local residents, businesses, and industries. The

Greene County Community Fund allocates and distributes the contributions through grants which benefit Greene County.

The Greene County Community Fund is currently assisting 17 agencies in Greene County and provides four scholarships to graduating Greene County Seniors.

For more information about the Greene County Community Fund, visit its website at www.gccfar.com.

For additional information or questions regarding the 2016 applications, call the Greene County Community Fund office at 870-239-8435 or email the Executive Director at gccf@grnco.net.

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Thousands visited the Convocation Center to take advantage of the educational opportunities at the St. Bernards Health and Fitness Expo.

St. Bernards stages annual health/fitness expo

The Convocation Center at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro was filled with booths, manned by volunteers and workers offering health products, fitness gear and more to their visitors.

All the commotion was connected to the annual St. Bernards Health and Fitness Expo, an event that provides information on all phases of health and healthy living.

The public could also enjoy cooking demonstrations and ask health officials pressing questions about various topics, including cancer, orthopedics and heart failure.

Activities included the Doc Rock and Run 1/2 Marathon and 5K, plus panel discussions on a variety of health issues. There were also demonstrations related to technology, physical fitness and many other topics. ♦





In addition to the booth attractions, free health screenings were offered at the Expo. At right, Brittany McLeod toughs it out while getting a shot from Heather Johnson, an RN with the Craighead County Health Department.



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Affordable Medical

Affordable Medical was founded by the late Martha Johns and her daughter, Nancy Spillman, in 1996. In that year, Martha moved the existing home business in Greene County to Paragould.

Martha had no particular plans for a white house that already existed on the property so she decided to open a business in it. It was with this inspiration and her background in medical equipment and supplies for professionals, she opened Affordable Home Healthcare in 1996.

The company grew and in 2000 moved to its current location. Affordable Medical has expanded to specialize in respiratory equipment including life support ventilators, non-invasive ventilation for Chronic Respiratory Failure and COPD, high flow home oxygen, and sleep apnea products like CPAPs and BiPaps.

Recently, a second full-time respiratory therapist was hired due to the company's growth. ♦

The cozy first site for Affordable Medical, right, has given way to a more modern facility, below.



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Gearhead Outfitters

Gearhead Outfitters is an Arkansas based, family owned and operated shop that specializes in outdoor lifestyle clothing and footwear.

Gearhead is known for its relaxed environment, specialized inventory and customer service for those pursuing an active lifestyle. They are currently in the process of establishing the Gearhead Outfitters Charitable Foundation. The non-profit's mission will be to promote and encourage active, healthy lifestyles. Gearhead will support the mission through projects such as Women Can Run, the Gearhead Triathlon, Project 90, and the Gearhead Endurance Challenge.

Founder Ted Herget started the business in a

friend's living room in Jonesboro in 1997. It soon moved into a 700 square foot store where it thrived for five years before moving into a downtown location on Main St. in 2003.

In 2006, Gearhead opened its second location in Jonesboro's Mall at Turtle Creek and has since branched out to Central Arkansas with the opening of a location in Little Rock.

Gearhead also owns and operates Northeast Arkansas' largest full service bike shop, Gearhead Cycle House. Gearhead has now expanded out of its home state of Arkansas for the first time, with a location in Shreveport, LA. In April of 2014 they opened a sixth

in-state store and the first in Northwest Arkansas in Rogers, and will open new locations in Fayetteville and Bentonville soon.

Ted and Amanda Herget build Gearhead around an active, healthy lifestyle they are passionate about. Gearhead is about more than selling outdoor gear: It's about making an impact on the lives of others. Gearhead is where a running shoe comes with a lesson on proper form. True to Gearhead's local roots, the company employs local people at each location and gives back to each store's community. ♦

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Paragould Allergy & Wellness

Dr. Lisa Hendrix began her practice in Paragould in 1998, eventually establishing Paragould Allergy & Wellness in September of 2004.

She said she always knew she wanted to be a doctor, so she followed that path through medical school before returning to her hometown.

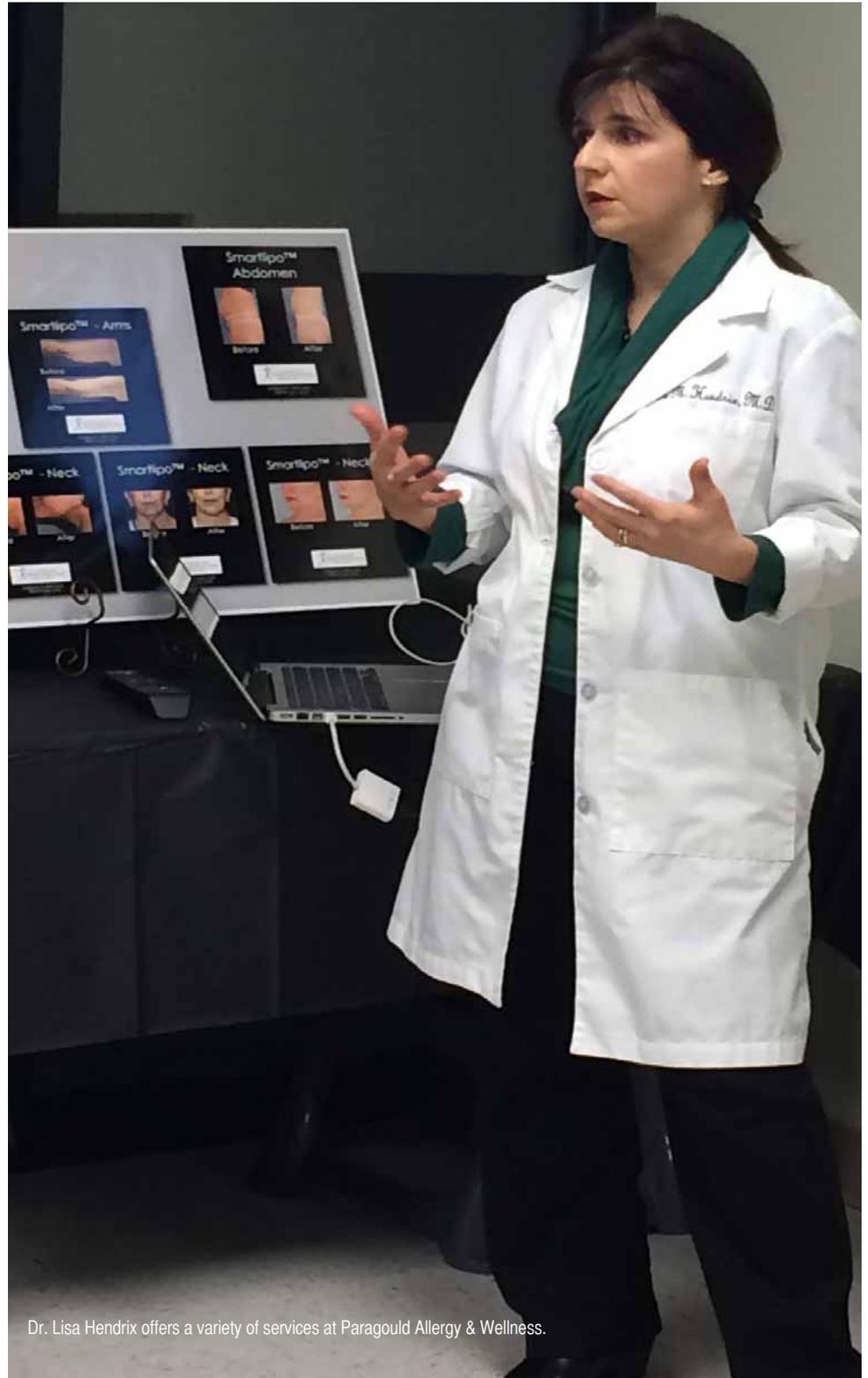
Dr. Hendrix expertly administers medical care, wellness, vitamins and supplement consultation, in addition to nutritional consultation, bio-identical hormone therapy for men and women, allergy consultation and therapy.

Today, Paragould Allergy & Wellness and Hendrix Cosmetic Medspa provide a wide range of services for clients who want

to feel better, or just feel better about themselves.

Dr. Hendrix expertly administers medical care, wellness, vitamins and supplement consultation, in addition to nutritional consultation, bio-identical hormone therapy for men and women, thyroid therapy, allergy consultation and therapy.

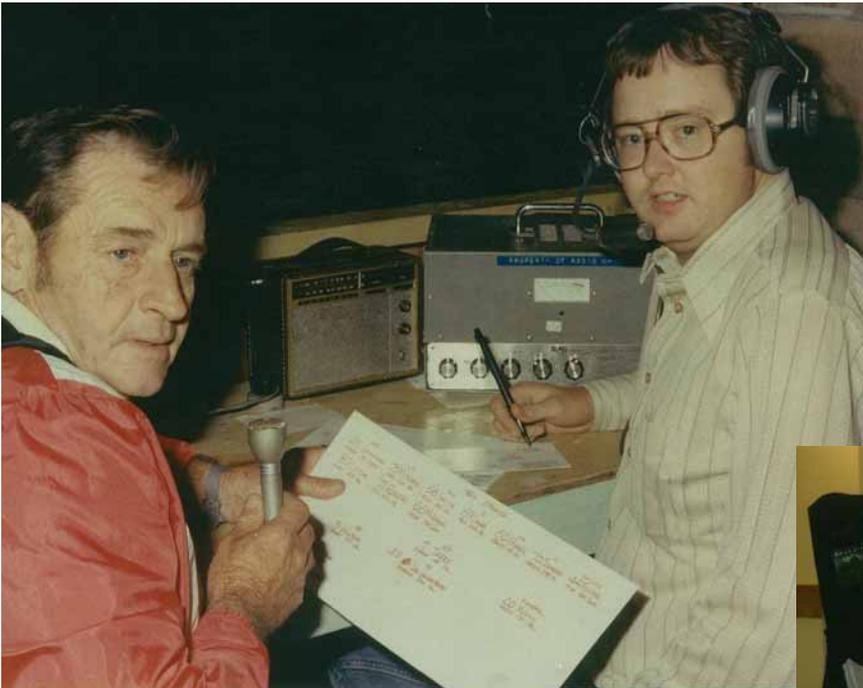
While the business began strictly as one dedicated to medical care, it later was expanded into allergy, wellness, hormone therapy, age-management and integrative medicine, as well as holistic therapies, and aesthetic treatments like Botox and dermal fillers, and laser liposuction. Find out about all of the services Dr. Hendrix can provide by calling the office at 870-236-3388, or checking it out online at www.paragouldsmartlipomedspa.com. ♦



Dr. Lisa Hendrix offers a variety of services at Paragould Allergy & Wellness.



MOR Media Incorporated



From the radio days of KDRS and oldtimers like Lloyd Emmert and Terry Wood, above, to the transition to the ownership under the guidance of Dina Mason, Brian Osborn and Peggy Richardson and the launching of Premiere Magazine, MOR Media has grown with the times.



MOR MEDIA INCORPORATED began as a partnership between Dina Mason, Brian Osborn and Peggy Richardson in April 2002.

At that time the company included radio stations KDRS-FM and KDRS-AM. KDRS-AM hit the airwaves on January 1, 1947, and KDRS-FM in March of 1983. Partners Eads Douglas and Ted Rand, along with Ted's father-in-law T.M. Self, signed on the AM station, and Ted's son Tim did the same for the FM.

The stations then changed hands four times before being acquired by MOR Media.

Currently, MOR Media offers three different music formats broadcast over four different signals.

KDRS-FM is 107.1 JACK FM ... playing what

we want! Newly acquired KTPG-FM is the all new JILL @ 99 dot 3 ... Less talk -- way more music. And I-ROCK 103nine ... Rock for the 21st century, debuted on both KCJF-FM and KDRS-AM in November 2014.

Each station is focused on Northeast Arkansas listeners. JACK FM offers a variety of hits, mainly from the '80s, but with a good dose of the '70s, '90s and today thrown in.

JILL is based more on today's hits ranging from Bruno Mars to Maroon 5 and I ROCK offers an evolution in rock radio with an edgy mix of rock hits from the '90s through today.

The one constant is that each station does not have DJs, focusing MORE on the music and presentations that are entertaining in a very uncommon way.

Each station features websites and apps that allow you to turn any computer or smart

phone into a radio.

In 2007 MOR MEDIA entered the publishing arena with Premiere Magazine. Available for free and originally a bi-monthly publication, demand for reading about the good news happening our area soon turned it in to a monthly offering.

Each issue of Premiere is filled with interesting stories from people from all parts of Northeast Arkansas, complimented with beautiful, full color photography. Over 6,000 issues are distributed both in racks across Jonesboro and Paragould as well as a complete online edition at premiere-magazine.com!

Last year, Premiere NEA Seniors began as a quarterly offering, focusing on features and information relevant to the senior citizens of Northeast Arkansas. ♦

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Atwill Media



Atwill Media met with Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce representative for a ribbon cutting at their new building, seen before and after at right.



The Flower Shop Network began in 1999. A career change prompted Brock and Lorraine to think about how the internet was going to impact retail florists and what they could do capitalize on the changes that were coming. The internet was still uncharted territory for most businesses and consumers.

Lorraine had spent the previous 13 years in the floral industry with Redbook Florist Services. Brock's background was in sales and advertising.

They decided that an online directory of florists would give consumers direct access to

local florists, and help florists reach the predicted millions of consumers on the internet.

The company expanded into website development and hosting for retail florists, along with florist-to-florist order transfer service and many other marketing services.

They have also added other online directories ... Wedding and Party Network.com, providing advertising and exposure for vendors in the wedding and event industries, and FGMarket.com, and online directory of wholesale gift vendors. The company also provides website development for these customers.

The strength of the company is dedicated,

passionate employees that offer outstanding service. Flower Shop Network, Inc., has over 9,000 customers in the U.S., Canada, Mexico and is currently expanding into Europe.

Providing custom websites is something the company has done very well, and in 2014 Brock and Lorraine formed Atwill Media, Inc., in order to provide web development and hosting services to any business or organization, outside the niche industries they have serviced for the past 15 years.

Atwill Media provides affordable custom websites and personal service. The company is marketing nationwide, and has customers across the United States. ♦



The Hair Loft

The Hair Loft opened its doors in October of 1986, beside the Dairy Queen. It moved to its Downtown Paragould location at 213 South Pruet St. in 1992.

Since its beginning, The Hair Loft staff soon grew from four stylists to eight stylists and two nail techs; currently it has nine stylists in addition to a nail tech.

Owner/Stylist Ann Morten said, "I received my cosmetology license in April of 1974. I always knew this was something I would love to do, while raising my family. With the support of a good husband I was able to fulfill my dream of owning my own salon."

The Hair Loft offers a full-service salon for the entire family. The staff specializes in all the latest color and cutting trends.

"We also have a nail tech, Natalie Stone," Ann said, "offering pedi and manicures."

Joining Ann and Natalie at The Hair Loft are Beverly Wooldridge, Brenda Reddick, Judy Rasberry, Roberta Williams, Rachelle Scott, Ruth Ann Prater, Denelle Steele and Lindsay Williams. ♦



Owner/Stylist Ann Morten

The Hair Loft

Ann Morten Brenda Reddick Roberta Williams Denelle Steele Lindsay Williams
 Beverly Wooldridge Ruth Ann Prater Judy Rasberry Natalie Stone
 Rachelle Scott (not pictured)

279 years combined experience!

213 S. Pruet St., Paragould
 870.239.2707
 thehairloft@hotmail.com



John Roades, owner of Supertints started detailing cars at a young age. In 1987, after thinking window tinting was just "cool" he dove into the window tinting business with a small location on Gee street. Since then, Supertints has exploded into the largest window tint and vehicle wrap business in the state, located at 3212 East Nettleton in Jonesboro.

Superior quality and a lifetime guarantee have always been John's motto. The "Super" crew includes vehicle tint manager Josh Johnson, who has been with John for 12-plus years, residential and commercial graphic and tint director Travis Adams, John's daughter Laci Roades, and Letty Thompson is among the best you can get for graphic design work. If you see a vehicle wrap in the four-state area, more than likely it was designed and wrapped at Supertints.

Family owned, and voted Best of The Best for years, Supertints does banners, signs, posters ... if you can print it, they do the best high quality work in the business -- from one to 1,000! ♦

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John Roades, Owner



Hedge's Portable Toilet Rental and Roto Rooter

When Randy and Betty Hedge started their business in Paragould back in the early 1980s, both went at it part-time due to full-time jobs elsewhere.

They started out with pump trucks to clear septic tanks and similar tasks, but eventually came across the opportunity to purchase the Roto Rooter franchise and took it.

Today they have expanded their services to include not only the plumbing expertise that Roto Rooter provides, but have added a line of portable toilets that can be seen at any number of

area events.

The plumbing service addresses problems like leaky faucets, water leaks, commode problems, water heater issues and sewer and drain cleanouts. They can clean out the lines to the commodes or kitchen sink, as well as pumping septic tanks, grease traps and car wash pits.

“Basic plumbing, sewer and drain work,” a spokesperson said in summation, “for commercial, industrial or residential.”

Hedge's uses a TV camera for inspections, scoping the lines to see exactly where the problem areas are. They also perform gas line tests and repair.

“Basic plumbing, sewer and drain work,” a spokesperson said in summation, “for commercial, industrial or residential.”

The portable toilets are used for many different venues and occasions -- picnics, fairs, job construction, reunions and sports events.

One of their newest items is a luxury portable toilet, something very suitable for outside weddings and reunions. It has flushable toilets and is “a little more pleasing to the eye. If you see it sitting somewhere, you really won't know what it is until you get there and see the door sticker, and that sort of gives it away.

“I guess you could say it's a little more luxurious or elegant than the blue box,” the spokesman said.

Find out about all of Hedge's services by calling 870-236-8966 in Paragould, 870-935-0300 in Jonesboro or 870-763-4708 in Blytheville. ♦

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Enhancements

When Lisa Davis was a 7th-grader at Westside, her mother, Susie Gibson-Turney, opened up Enhancements at 1904 South Main in Jonesboro in October of 1980.

Her mom started the business carrying Borghese and Orlane cosmetics in addition to a few gift items. Lisa said she was always around the store and would even go to Dallas Market with her mom, but she didn't start working full-time until she graduated high school.

"But now our main focus is ladies' apparel and accessories," Lisa said. "We carry Joseph Ribkoff, Karen Kane, Erin London and Symplici. We carry Arkansas designer jewelry by G. Spinelli, and Debra Barnes handmade jewelry from Memphis."

"I worked all through college," she said. "Even though my degree is in Plant Science, I always loved the store. It is what I love to do and our customers are our friends -- or have become our friends." In 2000, Enhancements moved to 1903 Grant, Suite H, after Walgreens bought their

building and two other businesses.

Today, they still sell the Borghese and Orlane cosmetics lines and also have Aveda.

"But now our main focus is ladies' apparel and accessories," Lisa said. "We carry Joseph Ribkoff, Karen Kane, Erin London and Symplici. We carry Arkansas designer jewelry by G. Spinelli, and Debra Barnes handmade jewelry from Memphis.

"We do really well with Julio Designs from Fresco, Texas," she continued. "My mom has partly retired but she still comes in and still is a buyer at market, and now my daughter helps out working and buying. She helps give us a look for what younger customers like. We say we are a boutique that has looks for three generations." ♦

Enhancements

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Karen Kane
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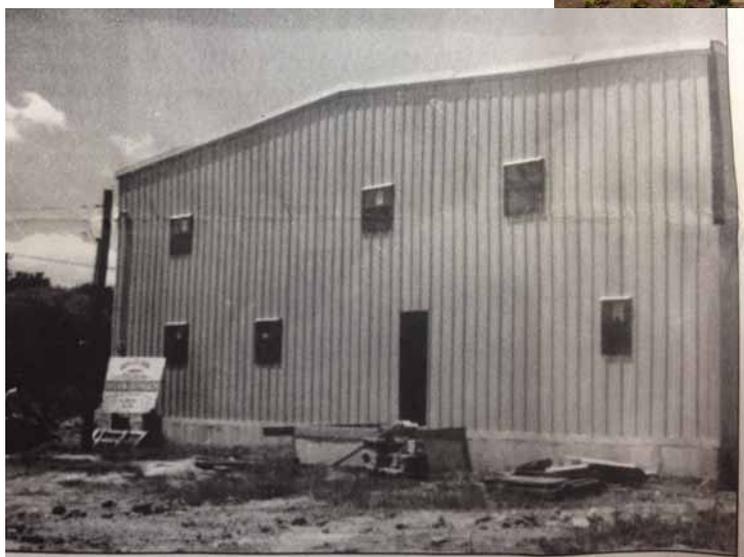
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Mission Outreach of Northeast Arkansas, Inc.



The Mission Outreach building in Paragould has seen immense changes in the 30-plus years it has been in existence. The Mission serves homeless and needy throughout the Northeast Arkansas area.

It's easy to stereotype homelessness. But doing so produces an inaccurate and overly simplistic picture of a very complex and personal issue.

Homelessness can be brought on in a variety of ways, sometimes suddenly, as in the case of a residential fire, flood domestic violence or loss of employment. Often individuals struggle over a period of years, which may happen when disability, mental illness, drug dependency or other poor choices combine to create a fragile existence.

Whatever the case may be, Mission Outreach of Northeast Arkansas, Inc. is committed to changing lives every day by providing stability, love and visible steps to success. Mission Outreach has grown in both physical size and the amount of services offered since the beginning in a small three-bedroom house



more than 34 years ago. The organization has become a beacon of hope for those in need.

In most cases, homeless individuals lack structure in their lives, which turns out to be a detrimental factor in their having no place to live. The Mission staff focuses on instilling structure on a daily basis while addressing the root causes that led to an individual's becoming homeless. Expectations are high for each client who walks through the door.

On average, 520 men, women and children

alike seek refuge and a new beginning at Mission Outreach each and every year. They focus on attitude, responsibility, and communication, problem solving, budgeting and preparing for the workplace to make sure that an instance of homelessness is not repeated in the near future.

The Mission offers assistance with job search, transportation, financial decisions and eliminating barriers to employment, such as fines, fees or acquiring proper documentation (i.e. birth certificates, Social Security cards or photo identification).

The staff at the Mission is proud to serve the impoverished population in Paragould and throughout Northeast Arkansas and looks forward to strengthening our community.

If you would like to become a partner of theirs, please contact them at 870-236-8080. ♦



Mr. T's at Riverside

In 1912 the land where Mr. T's Riverside is located was owned by the Shelton family, long before cell phones, television and even walk-in coolers.

In October of 1977, the property was purchased from a descendant of the Shelton family by Tommy and Betty Hyde. Bob and Bonida Poynor later purchased the property and have completed several renovations and expansions making Mr. T's Northeast Arkansas' and Southeast Missouri's largest wine and liquor supermarket ... and the rest is history.

Since that transition period, Brian and Nicole Poynor have joined the team and Bonida looks for the business to be passed down for generations to come.

Family owned and operated since 1983, Mr. T's at Riverside features over 13,000 square feet of fine wines, spirits, beer and tobacco products at low prices. They also have a cafe, fuel station and market.

Mr. T's at Riverside is truly a one-stop shop for the community. The customers can get fuel, food, beverages, tobacco and more at the lowest prices around in one convenient location.

Mr. T's at Riverside features wines from over 15 countries, including a large selection of 90 + rated wines. Their beer selection contains over 200 options from microbrews, domestics, imports and Belgian beer. They also have a fine selection of spirits and one of the largest smoke shops in the area with the Missouri state line low prices.

In fact, Mr. T's is number one in the state of



Today, the Poynor family -- Brian, Nicole, Bonida and Bob -- above, operates Mr. T's at Riverside. One of the early owners included Betty Ross Hyde, right, who purchased the property in 1977 along with her husband, Tommy.

Missouri for lottery sales and has made four One Million Dollar winners and several \$100,000 winners.

Brian Poynor says "it's just luckier" here in Cardwell, Missouri.

So today, or any day, take that drive to Mr. T's Riverside across those Kahluacoloored waters of the St. Francis River in the scenic resort town of Cardwell, Missouri. ♦



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Sunshine Manor

When the Edwards family decided to start Sunshine Manor in January of 1983, there was no such thing as “assisted living” services in Paragould.

“It was pretty much home or the nursing home,” Danny Edwards said.

Today, Sunshine Manor offers an alternative to nursing home services, helping the elderly with everyday living activities – things like cooking, housekeeping, laundry, the taking of medication and more.

“One of the main things,” Danny said, “is security. They feel safe here as opposed to living alone. We provide comfort and safety.”

All the rooms are private – again, another big

thing for people who have lived alone for many years or who have recently lost a spouse – and residents are allowed to decorate as they choose, using their own furnishings from home. All utilities are paid and meals are furnished, along with niceties like a beauty shop (“hair appointment day is a big day”) and personal laundry service. Trips to the doctor’s office and clinics are also available and there is a constant stream of group activities like Bingo, popcorn and movie nights, birthday parties and special singing performances from church groups and the Sr. BEES.

Danny said one of the most important factors is the staff’s vigilance at helping residents take their medication correctly. “Sometimes the elderly get their medicine mixed up,” he

said, “and then they don’t do so well. We check to make sure they are taking them, and taking them the right way.”

He said the many activities scheduled help residents “relieve some of the depression or anxiety. If you just sit and look at the door and wait for someone to come visit you, it turns into some long, lonely hours. Being around other people is a big help.”

Financial assistance is available through the VA and Arkansas Medicaid.

Danny said about 80 percent of Sunshine Manor residents are over the age of 80. “We’ve had some come short-term, go home, and say they’re ready to come back,” he said. “It is a good alternative to the nursing home for someone that age.” ♦

Sunshine Manor
Retirement Home

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West Dry Cleaners

For Rob and Susan Henegar in Jonesboro, the dry cleaning business for them really began in 1975. Rob was just back from the Army and offered to help his mom, Darlene, with the business for a few months. Forty years later, here they are.



Ed and Francis West

West started in 1958 with Ed and Francis West, and 58 years later the family tradition lives on.

Locally family owned and operated, West Dry Cleaners specializes in dry cleaning, laundry,

and alterations -- in by 9:00 a.m. and out by 2:00 p.m.

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1-800-871-0691



Glen Sain, Inc.



Old newspaper clippings show Glen Sain, the original owner, working on the GMC parking lot, left, and posing in the store with a much younger son-in-law Danny Ford, above. Ford now runs dealerships in Paragould, Rector and Kennett, Mo.

The Glen Sain automobile business started in Rector in 1954 as a GMC truck dealership and auto parts store.

Mr. Sain purchased the business from his father-in-law, R.C. Tracer, then sort of followed suit years later, selling it to his son-in-law, Danny Ford.

Danny said he came along in 1972 “washing cars part-time and listening and learning the selling part from Mr. Sain,” and 11 years later he and his wife, Gail, were suddenly the owners. Since that time, the growth of the business has been phenomenal. For instance:

* in 1989, Ford purchased the Oldsmobile/Chevrolet, Cadillac dealership in Kennett

* in 1999 he added the Pontiac/Buick/GMC dealership in Kennett and consolidated the two into one business under the name Glen Sain

* in 2005 he bought Pannell Ford in Paragould

* in 2008 he added Horner Motor Co. in Paragould

* in 2010 he bought Tom Kirk Chevrolet.

“Well, we’ve been lucky to add the dealerships that we have,” Ford said. “We’ve made a lot of new friends by selling them vehicles and we hope to keep it that way. My father-in-law used to say, ‘Never forget service. Make it a high priority in your operations.’ We try to maintain high standards in service and keep it at a level we want it to be, where service comes first.” Dedicated, longterm employees like Mike Benson, (25 years) Service Manager and Parts Operations Manager, Joey Pruett (31 years) help ensure that quality of service.

Ford said such an approach often leads to “not just one sale ... we have four generations of customers buying from us, in some instances. They come from a pretty good area and a far distance, too. That makes you feel pretty good, especially for a small town like Rector.”

He said the Glen Sain staff has always tried to do as much as possible in the communities they inhabit, becoming an active part of those

communities. “We sponsor things like different charities or ball teams,” he said. “I think at the last count, there were 17 teams that we were sponsoring through the four locations. We enjoy doing that and feel fortunate to be able to.”

He said the sponsorships are a good way to be visible and supportive. “Academics are extremely important, but your sports are also what keeps a lot of young people interested in school today, so if we can be a part of that we feel like we’re doing something worthwhile because parents are certainly going to a lot of ballgames.”

Along with sons Todd and Kirk, Danny is proud of the ownership role they have assumed but admitted the multiple dealerships keep him on the run. “The bad thing about owning so many is I can’t be at one for very long and enjoy visiting with the customers,” he said. “If I’m at a dealership and we make a sale I want someone to come get me so I can personally thank them for doing business with us.” ♦



Forrest Office Machines

Like many people whose parents started a business, Barry Forrest found himself plying the family trade at an early age.

His father, James W., founded Forrest Office Machines in 1965 and it followed that his children would spend time on the job.

Barry and his brothers were all “in the business,” he said. “I started at about 14 or 15 making deliveries and helping deliver equipment. I started selling when I was about 17.”

He said his father built a background in the

industry as an employee of the A.B. Dick Company, founding his own business in Forrest City before coming to Jonesboro.

It has been located at 1005 Gee St. for about 30 years.

“Things change so fast and so often,” he said, “you constantly have to go out and resell the customer. That’s why we have to stay on top of things.”

Today, Forrest Office Machines handles a variety of brands but is, according to Barry, “mainly a Sharp and Canon dealer.”

He said a large part of the job today is keeping up with current trends, since his is an ever-changing industry, moving from simple black and white copies to the world of faxing, scanning and color printing.

“The trend for copiers in business is to go from analog copiers to the digital field,” he explained. “The copier industry has been pretty strong at keeping up with the changes, though.”

Admitting he’s not the most computer-savvy person around, he attends continuing education courses to be able to better serve clients. That helps him know what is important to them and, even better, what is important for them.

“Things change so fast and so often,” he said, “you constantly have to go out and resell the customer. That’s why we have to stay on top of things. Something that is the thing you have to have today won’t be the thing you have to have next month. It changes pretty quickly in this business.” ♦

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Farm Parts Company, Inc.

Phillip Miles was 13 when his father started Farm Parts Company, Inc., in 1963, and he said he was drafted to work during the after-school hours.

More than 50 years later, Phillip is now in charge of the company that just recently moved into a new, larger building on East Kingshighway in Paragould.

His interest in providing services to the farming community grew over the years, especially when he took notice of the rapid and constant transformation in the industry. "Needless to say, the farm life has changed," he stated. "You used to have a lot of people with 500 to 600 acres; you can't do anything with that now."

With those advances, Farm Parts has also broadened its scope to provide parts, service and information to today's technological-savvy farmer while still

being able to communicate and help those with the smallest of problems as well. The new building has more than 11,000 square feet of sales and showroom space and a service department that can get tractors, generators, ATVs and lawn mowers

back in action fast.

Phillip said he wants everyone to understand that "just because you don't have a tractor it doesn't mean we don't have something in here for you. Once they walk in, people will see what we've got. We can save you a lot of trips across town."

In addition to the farming implements and lawn and garden necessities, Farm Parts stocks items as varied as swimming pool supplies, shop vacs, dog food, lights, batteries, tools, paint and plumbing needs.

"People need to come in and take a look," Phillip said. ♦

In addition to the farming implements and lawn and garden necessities, Farm Parts stocks items as varied as swimming pool supplies, shop vacs, dog food, lights, batteries, tools, paint and plumbing needs.



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Greene Acres Nursing Home has been offering skilled nursing services and rehabilitation in Paragould since its beginning in 1956.

Over the years the facility's offerings have expanded to include outpatient therapy and services with state of the art equipment and therapy techniques.

Greene Acres boasts more than 140 beds and primarily serves the Paragould area, but also has become a reliable referral site for hospitals and nursing homes in neighboring communities, like Jonesboro.

In 2014 Greene Acres was able to send 68 residents back into the community due to the success of the therapy services provided.

Recently, Greene Acres has gained recognition for its success in treating and healing pressure ulcers and other wounds that many area facilities could not. Administrator Marlisa Thompson said, "In some cases, we have healed Stage IV wounds in



An old photograph shows the original Greene Acres building.

residents who were not expected to survive" through the Compass program, which provides staff with the resources and clinical support needed.

You can learn more about those and many other services by calling Greene Acres at 870-236-8771. ♦

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First National Bank

Throughout First National Bank's 126-year history its purpose has been to provide the community with quality banking service.

First National Bank began in Northeast Arkansas as the Bank of Paragould in 1889. In 1903, the bank was granted a national bank charter. FNB expanded to the Corning area in 1984, into Jonesboro in 1998, and the Piggott office opened in 2013. In 2014, they opened branches in the Arkansas cities of Rogers and Heber Springs. Bentonville opened in February of this year.

The purpose of its growth is to reach more people with sound community banking service.

Today First National Bank is a locally owned and operated community bank with 12 branches in Arkansas. Throughout history they have focused exclusively on serving local banking needs of individuals, families, businesses, and farmers.

Personal customer service is the top priority at First National Bank. FNB services include: deposit services with free checking accounts, FDIC insured certificates of deposit, IRAs and savings accounts. The bank has 26 experienced loan officers that provide a full range of lending services. The experienced loan officers in each city are friendly bankers eager to provide loans for consumer, commercial, agricultural and mortgage purposes. The

people of First National Bank are working to serve the community. Lending decisions are made by local people who live here and who understand the needs of families, businesses, industries and farmers in the area.

Even though FNB is locally based, its customers enjoy worldwide account access via the latest technological banking services such as: internet, mobile and text banking. Thousands of FNB customers are now taking advantage of FNB mobile banking services and managing their accounts loans and recurring payments via their mobile device. This new technology provides even greater banking flexibility for the bank's employees to provide better personal service. ♦

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May

CALENDAR

Friday, May 1

CIVIL WAR SCHOOL DAYS, at the Powhatan State Park. Celebrate the sesqui-centennial of the Civil War with an unforgettable learning experience. Students may visit the antebellum log cabin, see a cannon firing demonstration, taste Johnny cakes, and participate in other activities. Students \$3, Adults \$5, Teachers and Bus Drivers Free.

Thursday, May 7

LIVE UNITED WITH THE STARS, at the Cooper Alumni Center on the ASU Campus. Special VIP Sneak Preview starts at 5:15 with the presentation to be held 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Meet Rudy Ruettiger from the inspiring movie, "Rudy."

Saturday, May 9

AMMC FOUNDATION FIESTA, "nacho average night in Paragould!" At the Paragould Community Center.

A casual evening of great food, fun, music and prizes. The event is casual so feel free to wear your favorite blue jeans or if you want, wear Cinco de Mayo-themed attire. Entertainment by Everyday Life and prizes include a trip to Cancun and a beautiful piece of jewelry. Tickets for this event are just \$150 each and can be purchased online at www.myammc.org or by calling The Foundation at (870) 239-7077.

Monday, May 11

CARING FOR A LOVED ONE? HELP

COMBAT THE CHALLENGES OF CAREGIVING, with events held in

Paragould and Jonesboro. Paragould's will be held in the Paragould Community Center and Jonesboro's in the St. Bernards Auditorium. Both are from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm with pre-registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. The program is free but registration is required by calling 207-7595 or (800) 745-0557. Enjoy refreshments, door prizes, panel discussion, vendor booths and guest speakers. Topics include "Organizing Your Life: Under the Strain of Caregiving" and "Tough Conversations: Getting Things in Place".

Friday, May 15

FREE SKIN CANCER SCREENINGS, at the Mall at Turtle Creek by the NEA Baptist Clinic of Dermatology. Screening only takes a few minutes, yet it could save your life. For more information, call 870-936-8000.

Saturday, May 16

2015 PAWS FOR A CAUSE ANNUAL DOG SHOW, at the BC Lloyd Building on the Greene County Fairgrounds. Hosted by the Paragould Rotary Club. Registration runs from 9:00am - 10:00am with the show immediately following.

Saturday, May 16

5K RACE FOR A CHANGE & SPREAD YOUR CHANGE FESTIVAL, at University Lions Park, 502 1/2 N. Bridge Street (Behind SUCCESS School). 5K begins at 8am and Festival begins at 10am.

Monday, May 18

KASU'S BLUEGRASS MONDAY, with the Darrell Webb Band at the Collins Theatre at 7:00 pm.

Friday, June 5

TWO MILE GLOW RUN FOR DIABETES, at the old Greene County Tech High School Campus (Eagle Mile" course). Register online at <http://www.raceonline.com>. Pre-registration closes at midnight on Thursday, June 4. Cost is \$20.00 for both runners and walkers. Event is hosted by AMMC and the Northeast Arkansas Diabetes Organization and proceeds benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) and the American Diabetes Association. For more information, call 870-239-7467 or email allison.hitt@arkansasmethodist.org.

Saturday, June 6

GARY SCHUCHARDT 13TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL WALK AND KIDS MUD RUN, at Pavilion #1 in Craighead Forest Park. 5K Run/Walk & 10k Run registers 6:30-8:15am with race beginning at 8:30. Kids Mud Run registers 6:30 - 7:30am and race starts at 8:00am. For more information, call 870-935-3658.

Saturday, June 6

RALLY ON THE RIDGE, in downtown Jonesboro. For more information, visit rorrally.com.

Recurring EVENTS

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

First & Third Wednesday: Perking on Pruett, 8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. At Something Sweet. Find out what's 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.

Third Thursday of every month: Alive After Five, Downtown street market in Downtown Jonesboro.

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.

Second Thursday of every month: 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 Monday: Greene County Retired Teachers Meeting, 11:30 a.m. at Grecian Steak house. All retired Greene County school personnel are invited.

Every Third Thursday: Alzheimer's Support Group with the Alzheimer's Arkansas Association and Home Instead Senior Care, 2:00 pm at Chateau on the Ridge.

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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Engagement Announcements

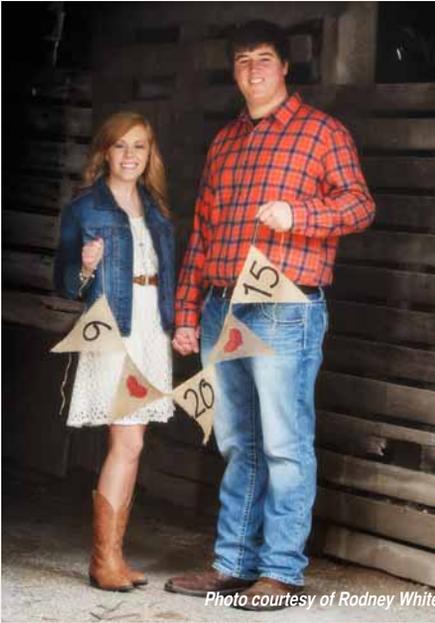


Photo courtesy of Rodney White

Taylor Autumn Mullins and Andrew Louis Edrington

Mullins - Edrington

Taylor Autumn Mullins and Andrew Louis Edrington have revealed their plans for a June wedding.

The bride-to-be's parents are Robbie and Heather Mullins of Paragould.

The prospective groom's parents are David and Tamara Powell, and Chris Edrington of Paragould.

The wedding will take place Saturday, June 20, 2015, at Swindle Farms in Paragould. ♦



Photo courtesy of Brandi Schulz

Amanda Holland and Kyle Jaques

Holland - Jaques

Amanda Holland and Kyle Jaques will be united in marriage in a May ceremony.

Amanda's parents are Mike and Lisa Holland of Imboden.

Kyle is the son of Melody Jaques of Paragould and Paul and Theresa Jaques of Mountain Home.

The wedding is scheduled for Saturday, May 23, 2015. ♦



Photo courtesy of Kelsey Cherry

Byron Fair and McKenzie Cagle

Cagle - Fair

Mckenzie Cagle and Byron Fair will be married in a May ceremony.

McKenzie is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Roger Cagle of Paragould.

Byron's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Pete Fair, also of Paragould.

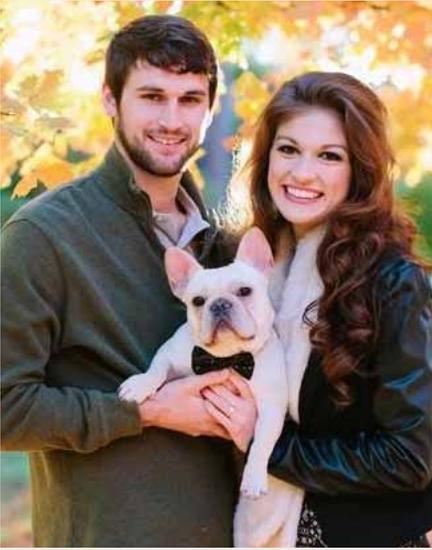
The wedding will take place on Friday, May 15, 2015, in Paragould. ♦



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Jacob Allen Bolt and Sarah Michelle Loftin

Loftin - Bolt

Sarah Michelle Loftin and Jacob Allen Bolt have announced their plans for a June wedding.

The prospective bride's parents are Joe and Sunny Loftin of Paragould.

Jacob's parents are Paul and Jackie Bolt of Rogers.

The wedding is set for Saturday, June 6, 2015, in Rosmary Beach, Florida. ♦



Whitley Boggs and Kasey Reagans

Boggs - Reagans

Whitley Boggs and Kasey Reagans are happy to announce their engagement and approaching marriage.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Darrin Boggs of Marmaduke. The groom-to-be is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Kelvin Reagans of Rector.

The couple will exchange vows Saturday, May 30, in an outdoor ceremony at the groom's parents' home outside of Rector. ♦



Treka Freer and Ethan Clark

Freer - Clark

Treka Freer and Ethan Clark have announced plans for a June wedding.

Treka is the daughter of Mrs. and Mrs. Wayne Freer of Paragould.

The groom-to-be is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Randy Clark of Beech Grove.

The couple will exchange vows on Saturday, June 6, 2015, at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Bruce Taylor in Jonesboro. ♦



Photo courtesy of Jody Robinson

Brad Poe and Amanda Sue Horne

Poe - Horne

Amanda Sue Horne and Brad Poe will be united in marriage during the month of May.

Amanda's parents are Tony and Susan Horne of Paragould.

Brad is the son of Dennis Poe and Kathleen Gaglione of Paragould.

The wedding is set for Saturday, May 16, 2015, at Swindle Farms in Paragould. ♦

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Birth Announcements



Elijah Carol Edgar

Edgar

Jeremy and Brittany Edgar of Paragould announce the birth of their daughter, Elijah Carol Edgar.

Elijah weighed 8 pounds and was 20 1/2 inches long.

She was born at NEA Baptist Hospital.

Siblings include a proud big brother, Eli.

Grandparents are Nathan and Lea Edgar, Joe and Carol Fleszar and Ashley and Teresa Presson. ♦

Share your birth announcements
with Premiere readers.

Send them to:
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STAY TUNED

What's in Store For Next Month

Features



In June's Premiere, we will focus on outdoor activities for the summer months ... things to do, places to go, things to see. Look for those features in the next issue of Premiere. ♦

Dog Show



The Paragould Rotary Club's Paws For A Cause Dog Show is a popular event every year, and we'll bring you the winners in the June edition of Premiere. ♦

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