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Judge presents options for jail

Pitches three plans to intergovernmental council

BY JAMES JENNINGS
The Sentinel-Record

County Judge Larry Williams unveiled three possibilities Wednesday for the expansion of the Garland County Detention Center.

Williams outlined three plans to the mayors of the county's incorporated cities at a meeting of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Council.

"Last year, I pitched to you a 96-bed expansion," Williams said. "Afterwards, I had a group of people

FIRST OPTION
96-bed expansion = \$4.5M

SECOND OPTION
368-bed expansion = \$13.4M

THIRD OPTION
724-bed expansion = \$28.2M

tell me we were being too short sighted, so I had the architect draw

up two other plans."

Williams said that the originally proposed 96-bed expansion would bring the jail's capacity to 266 beds and cost about \$4.5 million.

The second plan, which he called his "medium" plan, raises the capacity to 368 beds and would require the demolition of an existing county-owned building adjacent to the Hazel Street property where the main construction would take place. The estimated price tag on that would be \$13.4 million.

JAIL, PAGE 3A



The Sentinel-Record/Richard Rasmussen

EXPANSION PLANS: Lonsdale Mayor Steve Snellback, left, Hot Springs Mayor Mike Bush and Mountain Pine Mayor Frank Babb Jr. go over jail expansion plans with Garland County Judge Larry Williams on Wednesday.

Special pledge

Hispanic doctor calls on friend for oath

BY JAMES JENNINGS
The Sentinel-Record

The state's only Hispanic elected official administered the oath of office Wednesday to a Hispanic doctor appointed to a state committee by Gov. Mike Beebe.

Dr. Rosa Lopez-Becerra of Little Rock personally selected District 4 Justice of the Peace Jorge Garcia to swear her in as a newly appointed member of the state Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Advisory Committee at a ceremony on Arlington Lawn Wednesday afternoon.

"Jorge is my very good friend," Lopez-Becerra said. "It is very meaningful to have Jorge do this for me."

"I had it set in my head that Jorge has to do this. He's the only elected official we have."

Lopez-Becerra teaches basic science and conducts research at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock. She has been with UAMS since 1989.

She has already been involved with tobacco prevention and cessation programs in Ashley and Bradley counties.

"I know a little about chemistry and the effects of nicotine and addiction," she said.

Lopez-Becerra was born in Mexico City and came to Chicago in 1980 to study at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She later taught at The Claremont Colleges in California for three years before coming to UAMS.

OATH, PAGE 3A

SHARING history

Locals donate WWII books to mark 62nd wedding anniversary

FROM STAFF REPORTS

World War II history buffs may now take advantage of a set of books donated to Garland County Library in honor of U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Lewis E. Lyle, retired, and his wife Betty of Hot Springs.

The books, titled "A Group of Heroic 8th Air Force Comrades," include information on every man who served in the 303rd Bombardment Group at Molesworth, England, all 7,218 of them, with their rank, function and organization in which they served.

USAF Lt. Col. Edgar Miller, retired, and his wife Jill gave the books to the library to commemorate the Lyles' 62nd wedding anniversary.

Lyle demonstrated his leadership as he was promoted from a first lieutenant to a colonel during a period when he led the group in its effort to destroy Nazi rule over Europe. He holds the distinction of flying more combat missions than any other bomb group commander in the 8th Air Force. His courage in "meeting" and "beating" the enemy in more than 70 missions was unparalleled during World War II. He was awarded every medal and citation available, including the second highest award, the Distinguished Service Medal.

For the air crews, the books contain the number of the mission

BOOKS, PAGE 5A



The Sentinel-Record/Alison B. Harbour

DONATING HISTORY: Kathy White, left, of the Garland County Library, Maj. Gen. Lewis Lyle, retired, and his wife, Betty, on Wednesday show one in a set of World War II books donated to the library in honor of the Lyles.

Locals set to march for 'Jena 6'

BY LESLIE FISHER
The Sentinel-Record

At least three Hot Springs residents are traveling to Jena, La., to join thousands of protesters expected to march today in support of six black students facing criminal charges for allegedly beating up a white student.

Elmer Beard, secretary for the Hot Springs NAACP, branch number 6013, left for Jena on Wednesday, as did Brenda Hammock, a cousin of one of the defendants. Another woman, who only goes by the name of Altercation and who moved to Hot Springs following Hurricane Katrina, is also going in support of the "Jena 6," as they are known.

"This Jena case is one of extreme racism, having been building up to this point for decades," Beard said.

Last year, three white students at Jena High School were suspended after hanging nooses from a tree after a black student sat under it.

JENA 6, PAGE 3A

Hunt persists for motorist in hit-and-run

BY STEVEN MROSS
The Sentinel-Record

More than five months after the death of a local man in a hit-and-run accident, Hot Springs police and the victim's family are still seeking justice.

Gerald Dunn, 32, was killed around 8:15 p.m. April 4 while riding his Suzuki motorcycle southbound on Central Avenue, approaching the intersection with Burchwood Bay Road. He was struck by an unknown vehicle traveling north on Central, which turned into his path.

The vehicle, described only as a small dark blue or black car, was struck on the right passenger side by Dunn's motorcycle, causing Dunn to be thrown "a substantial distance" through the air before landing in the northbound lane of Central, HSPD Sgt. J.E. Mann said.

The vehicle fled the area without stopping, but evidence at the scene indicated it sustained major damage on the passenger side and it was possible a tire was busted, forcing the driver to continue on just the rim as it left.

Police combed Burchwood

HIT-AND-RUN, PAGE 5A

ALZHEIMER'S WALK: Judy Rowe, left, of St. Joseph's Mercy Senior Care Hot Springs Senior Center, shows Lesley Case, nurse manager of the Alzheimer's unit at Good Samaritan Nursing Home, the official T-shirt for the Arkansas Alzheimer's Hot Springs Walk, which is Saturday at Garvan Woodland Gardens, with Sharon Sanaghan, back left, and Linda Doherty of Hot Springs Village. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. and the walk begins at 8:30 a.m.



The Sentinel-Record/Alison B. Harbour

Annual fundraiser for Alzheimer's set

BY JOHN LOVETT
The Sentinel-Record

Supporters for Alzheimer's Arkansas will meet at Garvan Woodland Gardens Saturday morning for the fifth annual fundraising walk in Hot Springs. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and the walk begins at 8:30 a.m.

Last year, 436 locals took part to raise more than \$31,000 to pool into a statewide network that offers support groups, caregiver seminars, respite grants for stressed caregivers, and educational resources, such as the extensive lending library in Little Rock with printed and video materials, as well as a monthly newsletter. There is also a 24-hour line to "supplement the sympathetic ears" of support groups which are

WALK, PAGE 5A



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Weather
SUNNY. HIGHS AROUND 90. LOWS IN THE LOWER 60S.
SUNRISE: 6:59 A.M.
SUNSET: 7:12 P.M.



MORE ON PAGE 2A

FRIDAY:
HIGH 91° LOW 67°
SATURDAY:
HIGH 91° LOW 69°

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Quote of the day

"Men hate those to whom they have to lie." - **Victor Hugo, French author (1802-1885).**