



TROUT CAPITAL NEWS

Cotter, Arkansas

Vol. III Number 10

Published by the Trout Capital News Association

March 2008

Soup 'r Chili Supper March 8th!

Mark your calendars for another super Chili Supper and Action sponsored by the Cotter Voluntary Fire Department Auxiliary to raise funds to support the fire department. This year the auxiliary offers a choice of Chili or homemade Chicken Soup with all the fixin's. This is all-you-can-eat for the low cost of \$5 for adults and \$3 for children ages 5 – 12. Children under 5 eat for free.

Dinner will be served starting at **5 pm Saturday, March 8th** in the Cotter-Gassville school cafetorium. The annual auction, directed by Dave Gilpin of Dave's Auction of Gassville, begins at 5:30. There will be a tremendous selection of delicious baked goods as well as assorted items donated by area merchants and artists. Proceeds will go to help build our new fire department, to buy educational materials, and to purchase equipment for our firefighters. This is the fire departments only annual fundraiser, please bid generously! Who's baking will bring in the \$100 bid?

If you wish to donate baked goods please drop them off at the school after 2:00 pm on Saturday the 8th.

Area artists and businesses wishing to donate items or gift certificates, please contact Sue Whittington at 656-0720 or bring items to the school after 2 pm on Saturday, March 8th.



Lynn Baker at his home in Cotter.

Old Soldier Home to Stay

By Mo Mosley

Lynn Baker recently returned from a one year tour of duty with the 3rd Army in Kuwait. Lynn first entered the US Army in 1968 during the Vietnam War. He graduated from Officer Candidate School as a 2nd Lt., and as was the practice at that time in history, he went to Vietnam as a platoon leader. While in Vietnam there was a fellow named Swartzcoff that was his Company Commander, as we all recall "Stormin Norman" played a big part in the first Gulf War. Lynn served his tour of duty in the Nam and returned home to a reception that bothered him for many years. He was not welcomed home but as did so many other Vietnam Vets, he received a non-welcome home. Lynn finished a four year enlistment and returned to civilian life, remaining in the reserves. He stayed in the reserves for 24 years and retired in 1998.

In 2003 the Army decided to fill some Army planning cell slots with retired officers that might be willing to come back for one more year. In 2006 the US Army got around to asking Lynn if he wanted to try one more round and he said yes. So in November of 2006 he readied himself to go and readied his wife of many years, Pearl, to stay at home. His tour in Kuwait went well and as we talked he

seemed as though he had enjoyed the duty but not the being away from home and Pearl.

His job in a cell of planners was to insure that any organization moving into Iraq or Afghanistan through Kuwait had every thing they needed to perform their mission. No small task and one that was vital to the war effort. He said his quarters were not great but adequate and he made it just fine. He says that groups from all over the US are sending boxes of goodies for the troops all the time. This helps keep morale high and is appreciated by the troops.

Lynn has been a Dallas Cowboy fan forever and he had an encounter with the Cowboy Cheerleaders on this tour. On his 60th birthday the Cheerleaders were on a USO Tour and happened to be at his base. He asked to have a picture made with all of the cheerleaders and even though they said the request was unusual and normally not done they allowed it so he got his picture made in the middle of those ladies. It seems to me that the fact that he was a 60 year old Lt. Colonel may have had some influence on the situation. Lynn says the reception he received when he returned to the USA this time was outstanding. It helped erase the feelings from the return from Vietnam.

Lynn, we welcome you home and thank you for your service. Regardless what a person thinks of the war or the reasons for it we have to respect and admire the troops getting it done. Thanks to you and all the military doing the job.





Keep America Beautiful

by Deb Peterson

DO SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL.

On Saturday, April 5, Cotter will participate in the national Keep America Beautiful campaign. Mark your calendar and join us at the Spring House at 10 a.m. to pick up litter along our highways.

The Keep America Beautiful organization believes “that each of us holds an obligation to preserve and protect our environment. Through our everyday choices and actions, we collectively have a huge impact on our world. It’s really a simple concept, but one with far reaching effects.” Read more about the organization at www.kab.com.

Those of you who participated in the Great Cotter Cleanup last November know what a wonderful event it was. It felt so good to drive through a beautiful, litter-free Cotter afterward.

The state of Arkansas has provided everything we need, except you, for our participation in the national effort this spring. Children over 12 (for highway safety reasons) are welcome to join us. Last fall, many volunteers found it helpful to wear their own garden gloves and have some kind of picker upper. A nail on the end of a stick is ideal. If you have one, bring it.

If we have a few more volunteers this spring, we can add routes to our plan and clean up a larger area, perhaps downtown. For now, we’ll walk Harding Boulevard from 62/412 to the park (about 2 miles, and 345 from the park to the water treatment plant (about 1.5 miles).

The Saturday Club has generously offered to sponsor the event once again and will serve lunch at the Spring House when volunteers return, which we expect to be around noon.

Keep America Beautiful has a mission that “revolves around a core belief that **beauty is a silent but powerful force** that makes communities safer, healthier, and more livable.”

Come out on April 5 and do something beautiful. Help us make Cotter even more beautiful than it already is before hundreds of visitors come to town for the Great Cotter Trout Festival.

The following article is from a newspaper clipping saved by Dale Tipton. The clipping includes the following information across the top of the page “*Mountain Home, Baxter County, Arkansas January 3rd, 1936*”:

Wayne Benton, Cotter High School Boy Dies as Result of Accident

Losing control of his sled while coasting down a long hill on highway 62 in Cotter Monday at 7 p.m., Wayne Benton, a high school senior, crashed into the porch of the Jagger’s house near the bridge, crushing his chest which caused his death Wednesday morning. Riding behind him on the sled was Ida Vivian Barham who was uninjured. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. D. T. Benton of Cotter and survived by them, three sisters, Mrs. John Deatherage, Mrs. Robert Tipton and Joyce, and one brother, Jackie. Funeral services will be held at Cotter Friday but arrangements are incomplete. He was employed by the Cotter Drug Co.

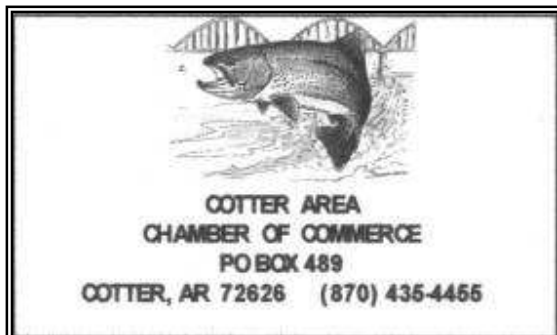
Wayne Benton was Dale Tipton’s uncle.



New Sign on Hwy 62/412

By Mo Mosley

Perhaps you have noticed the new billboard sign promoting the Trout Festival and downtown Cotter, it is located by the carwash. The sign came to pass after a lot of work by a committee of Cotter Area Chamber of Commerce members. The committee was headed by John Carr with Wendy Luna, and Olivia Terrell. The art work was done by Duane Hada and Bill Barksdale contributed the photography involved. The sign will be up through the month of April, Oxford Signs provided the sign at a price the CACC could afford and the Chamber appreciates their generosity.



Welcome To Baxter House Adult Day Services Center!

Arkansas provides low-cost day care for persons with mental or physical impairments, and for those who can no longer stay at home alone. Individuals with Alzheimer's disease, other memory problems, stroke victims, and extremely frail elderly are all welcomed and cared for by our friendly, trained, professional staff.


The goal of the program is to offer participants devoted care and attention, delicious and nutritious hot meals, structured recreational activities, physical exercise, and special contact with others, all in a cheerful, home-like atmosphere. Preserving the dignity and protecting the privacy of our participants is a high priority.

This service is available to all who need it. Transportation to and from the center in a wheelchair-accessible van is ready for those who need it.

For details please contact:

Carolyn Treat
Center Director
870-425-7585

Flight of Fancy Creations



Irene Lenihan
233 Combs Ave
Cotter AR. 72626
870 435-2487

Beaded jewelry, unique special occasion jewelry and custom scrapbooks

Business News

Toll House Gifts & Antiques, at the end of the Rainbow Arch bridge, has been remodeled. Stop by to see Tina's new, wide-open space and her new items. Shop hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Call the shop at 870-435-5577.

White Mist of Cotter Gifts at 106 Combs Avenue new hours March are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. April through December, shop hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. New artist and artisan presentation inquiries are welcome! Call the shop at 870-435-5966.

Rainbow Bridge Treasures. Nettie Tipton will be open with regular hours 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday. You are welcome to come in and see the treasures any time!

Fire House Antiques on Second Street is open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Come in and see all the great things Iva has in her shop.

The Herb Market on Second Street in downtown Cotter is open and has many interesting items. Stop in and see Lana's inventory of unique items, you'll be fascinated by her products.

Dearmore Insurance has moved to the new building at the corner of Ryan Road and

Highway 62/412. The business is staffed by Grant and David Dearmore. They can satisfy any of your insurance needs. Grant promises if you stop by with a question while on your way to ShapeFitness next door, he'll have an answer by the time you finish your workout. Stop by and let our local agents handle your insurance.

Mountain River Fly Shop has moved across the highway into the new building with ShapeFitness.

ShapeFitness. Joy Copeland has opened a fitness center at the corner of Ryan Road and Highway 62/412. The center is open around the clock for your convenience. You can reach the center at 870-449-TRIM. Give them a call to improve your health and to welcome this new business to town. ShapeFitness has individual and family plans to meet everyone's needs.

Cotter Trout Dock. Ron and Debbie Gamble have completely remodeled their digs. The office has new walls, new carpet, new counters, and fresh paint. The outside of the building and the roof also have a fresh coat of paint. Stop in and talk to Ron or Debbie about hiring one of their excellent guides for a float trip down the beautiful White River.

Visit our local merchants and see for yourself the wonderful and interesting things in Cotter's shops. You'll be glad you did.

John Lenihan	
Creative Cedar 233 Combs Ave Cotter, Ar. 72626	
870 435-2487 www.creativecedar.com	

Firehouse Antiques	
506 2nd Street (Next door to Post Office) Cotter, Arkansas 72626 Iva Duggins, Owner	
Wed. - Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. • or by appointment We Also "Buy"	
Bus: 870-435-6789 Res: 870-435-2934	We Accept Visa & Mastercard

City Council Notes

by Mo Mosley



With a full house, the February 28, 2008 Council Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm followed by roll call, invocation and pledge of allegiance. Minutes from the January meeting were approved. There were three (3) main topics on the agenda.

Topic 1 was the CVFD Dept. requesting the Council to pass resolutions indicating the support of the City for application of two grants. Chief Jin Whittington made the requests. The 1st resolution was #208-01 and is a \$30,000 non matching grant. If received it will be used to install a new automatic Warning Siren that would be activated from 911 dispatch. The only siren we have in the lower part of Cotter is a manual operated device. The grant would provide an emergency generator that would have automatic switch gear that would start the generator and it would ready incase power was lost to City Hall and the warning siren. This generator would also be self testing to insure readiness at all times. The 2nd resolution #208-02 is for a 50-50 grant of \$30,000 that would be used for design engineering and hopefully some of the dirt work and cement work for the new Fire Station. If this grant is received the matching \$15,000 will be taken from the Building Fund account. Chief Whittington further requested that all over run money from 2007 be removed from the Fire Department Account and placed in the Building Fund account. All three requests received unanimous approval from the Council. Chief Whittington then told of the work of CVFD's involvement in the Gassville tornado. The entire department showed up for the call and they firs worked in search AND RESCUE IN THE "SUNNY South Trailer Court and then helped in door to door searches in the rest of Gassville. In his final comment the Chief made it known that the CVFD Chili Supper will be March and he requests the whole town turn out. Just as the whole Fire

Department turns out when needed. As has been stated many times before, this group of men and women do outstanding service for our town and the surrounding area.

Topic 2 was Paula Flippin presenting an update on the planning for the Trout Festival which will take place on April 18 & 19 at Big Spring Park. The planning has been going on fast and furious and this is going to be the very best festival ever. There is notice and recognition from all over the state. Activities for children and adults will be better prepared and more in number than ever before. Friday night will be "Blues and Bar B Que night." The Chamber of Commerce asked the Council to lift the "No alcohol" restriction in the Park for four hours on Friday night during the Blues Band presentation The Council granted this request after hearing the plans for controlling where and how much alcohol there would be. Sheriff John Montgomery has promised training for servers and two deputies for help if needed.

Beer and wine will be served in a Beer Garden type area which will be isolated from children and those who do not wish to partake. Ms Flippins presentation was excellent and well received.

Topic 3 was about a new TV camera system for the Cotter/Gassville Sewer line crew. The system will be used to limit in line leakage and help find line breaks. This work has always been and important part of the Line crews job. The cost of the system is very high and the City is trying to reduce cost. The system in use now is obsolete and spare parts are almost nonexistent. The Council will continue to try and get the best bargain they can and are aware that a new system of some kind will be required soon. Just for a look backward— When plans were being made to build the plant that went into service a couple of years ago—A engineering design project that would have cost several thousand dollars was avoided because Jim Seaman and his crew had good records of leaks and in leakage.

That data was gathered by the system that is now nearing end of life.

Skylar Bauer was approved as a new member to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Skylar recently moved here from Memphis.

Mayor McNair expressed gratitude for our Police and Fire Departments work during and after the tornado in Gassville. He also thanked Cotter Trout Dock for their cots used at the emergency shelter. The mayor of Cotter and the Mayor of Gassville were grateful and impressed by the way the two cities pulled together and how individual citizens came out of the wood work to get things done



Recycle Cell Phones

Don't throw away old cell phones. Many parts can be reused and some phones can be programmed only for calling 911 in case of emergency. Look for the collection boxes at the following locations:

- Citco at Gassville
- Citco at Midway
- Citco on corner of College and 62 in MH
- Citco on corner of 9th at College in MH
- Conoco on Hwy 5 South
- Cotter City Hall
- Cotter Post Office
- Country Club Liquor
- First Federal Bank
- Gassville City Hall
- Muffler World in MH
- Sunfest Market
- Telephone Connection

Proceeds from cell phone collection support Serenity House.

Any business willing to serve as a collection point, please contact any member of the Saturday Club of Cotter.

Tubbie

The Rainbow Trout

By Te
2/08



The white river creature continues telling his tale to our heroes, Tubbie and Freckles.

Chamber Chatter

by Mo Mosley

The Cotter Area Chamber of Commerce met at the white Sands Restaurant Tuesday February 19, 2008. The Meeting opened with an invocation by Dave Waland, followed by approval of last months meeting.

It was announced that Jolene McWilliams was ratified as Treasurer at the February 18, 2008 Board Meeting. Jolene presented the Balance of accounts, Chamber \$5,055, Co-Op \$3709 and Scholarship fund \$841.

Moulton Storey is going to do a Fish Fry for tornado Victims of Gassville. A sign up sheet was passed around for anyone interested in helping at the fish fry. Mr. Storey will contact Mo Mosley if we can help and Mo will contact volunteers.

Paula Flippin will be making a presentation to the Cotter City Council detailing the plans for the Trout Festival and asking for the lifting of the no alcohol ban in the park for four hours on the Friday evening of the Festival. If approved beer and wine will be available for the BBQ Dinner and the Blues band. All alcohol will be consumed in a beer garden type area in the park. The alcohol proposal support was almost unanimous Pastor Steve Reush of the Nazarene Church was not in favor.

The CACC will donate \$100 to Friends of the Hatchery.

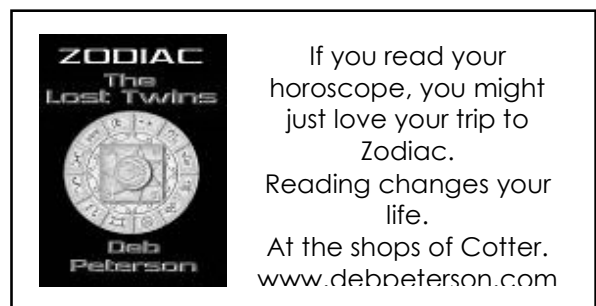
The CACC Board urges all members who can, to support the Warrior Foundation at Cotter Schools. Mr. Sharp made a presentation in November and he will direct you to help with your decision.

Jane Darr agreed to be the Membership Drive Chair with Jim Terrell working with her.

Peter Peitz and Sharon Peters will help with the Scholarship project.

Received a progress report and a pep talk about the Trout Festival planning, from Gary Flippin and Debbie Gamble.

Peter Peitz announced there will be a Co-Op Meeting March 24, 2008



Reflections: Great Arkansas Backyard Bird Count

by Deb Peterson



Downy Woodpecker

A few weeks ago, I read in the Baxter Bulletin that Arkansas was conducting one of their regular backyard bird counts the weekend of February 16. It turns out that February is National Bird-Feeding Month and this was the 11th annual *national* bird count. Last year, 80,000 checklists were submitted from around the country!

My February column was about the birds I'm slowly learning to identify in my yard. The primary focus was on my inability to distinguish between some of the little darlings. The bird count struck me as a challenge. I love a challenge.

So I parked myself in a chair at the window with my binoculars, my laminated Arkansas bird identifier, a field guide to birds, and a pad and pen. I watched. I studied my guides. I focused my crappy little binoculars the best I could. I tried to be patient. I learned.

I'm very proud to list the many birds I feel reasonably sure I identified correctly, once I took the time to really try:

- 16 Pine warblers
- 10 Cardinals (five beautiful pairs)
- 8 Chipping sparrows
- 4 White-crowned sparrows
- 2 House finches
- 2 Carolina chickadees
- 4 Carolina wrens
- 2 Starlings
- 4 Mourning doves
- 1 Tufted titmouse
- 2 Downy woodpeckers (gorgeous!)

I was hoping to add the four pileated woodpeckers that stop by on occasion, but they didn't show that weekend. A few days after reporting my count, a red-bellied woodpecker was at my suet. What a beautiful bird! And yesterday, I'm pretty sure I saw a bluebird in Cotter. It's almost spring.



Crowned White Sparrow



House Finch

My feeders are full of safflower seeds, a finch lovers mix, and thistle seed. The supply is getting expensive, so I just bought a larger, cheaper bag of a songbird seed and I'm interested in seeing if the mix of birds changes. I once bought black sunflower seeds because Mom said they're full of good oils for the birds in the winter, but I had so many grackles that I gave the seed away. The songbirds returned.

If any of my readers believes I can't possibly have seen a bird on my list, I'd love to know so I can further distinguish my backyard visitors.



Chirping Sparrow



Pine Warbler

Results from the national count will be posted at www.birdcount.org in late March. Check it out. Feeding birds is the second most popular hobby in the United States, surpassed only by gardening, so I know there are a lot of birders out there. Please share your stories with the Trout Capital News, and happy bird watching!

Spotlighting Cotter History

by Wanda Fielding

Spotlighting Cotter History is a look back in time at some of the events that made Cotter the city it is today. This month we're shining the spotlight on the great flood of 1943.

On May 6, 1943, it started raining. Record rains fell for five days, stopped for three, and started again for another week. More than twice the normal amount of rain fell. By the end of the month, seven states from Oklahoma to Michigan were under water, including Arkansas. Flood stage on the White River in Cotter is 21 feet. By May 12, the river had reached 39.7 feet. Cotter's depot, roundhouse, rails, and water tank were completely flooded, as shown in the photos. Notice the high water level on the Rainbow Arch and railroad bridges.

Other cities across the midwest had similar problems. Time magazine wrote, "The monstrously gorged rivers—the Mississippi, Missouri, Arkansas, Illinois, Wabash, Osage, White, many others—roared like millraces, rose until they overspread their banks and engulfed the land.

"Everywhere civilian-defense organizations had prepared for disaster in the form of enemy air raids. Now they met the flood emergency quickly and efficiently. The death toll was small: at week's end only twelve fatalities had been reported by the American Red Cross. But if deaths were few, discomfort was everywhere, and destruction so widespread that the Berlin radio reported the news in high glee."

Cotter suffered several floods throughout the years with major losses. The Great Flood of 1927 was the worst. The White River reached it's highest point, 42.5 feet, during that terrible flood. By 1952, the Bull Shoals Dam was completed and the White River was under control.

If you have information or stories about Cotter's history, please call Wanda Fielding at 870-435-6371, or send your stories to P. O. Box 238, Cotter, AR, 72626.

Cotter News Sought

The Trout Capital News Association encourages all businesses, citizens, churches, and organizations in the greater Cotter area to submit articles and notices to the Trout Capital News, which is published monthly. Please see the contact information on the back page.

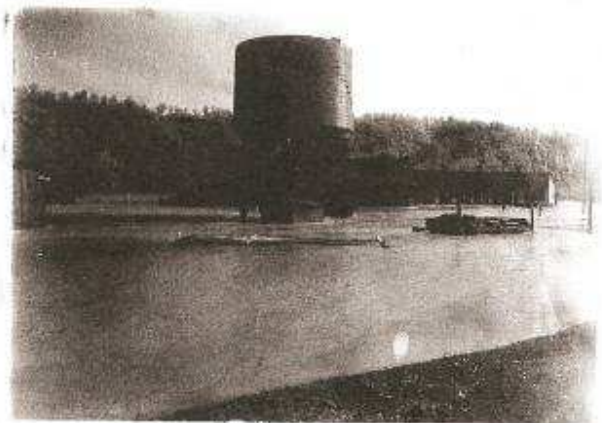
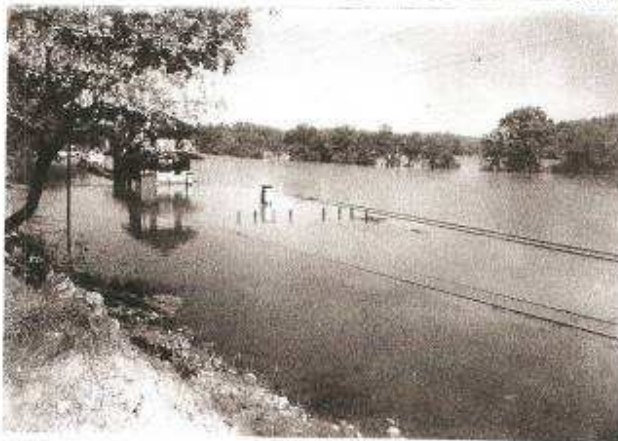
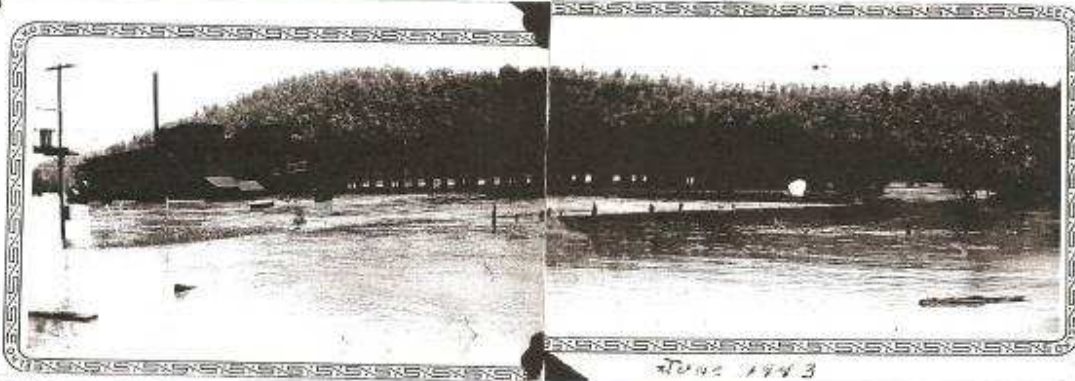
We also welcome short stories and photos of experiences of growing up in the area or related to the history of Cotter.

As always, we are looking for sponsors and advertisers to help with printing costs. Private sponsor donations of any amount are appreciated.

A business card advertisement can be included in one issue of the newsletter for only \$10, or in twelve issues for \$100. Quarter-page ads are \$25 per issue or \$250 per year; half-page ads are \$50 per issue or \$500 per year; and whole-page ads are \$100 per issue or \$1000 per year. Ads may be changed throughout the year at no additional charge.

The paper also accepts "For Sale" ads: \$5 buys you up to five column lines in one issue. Longer ads of six to ten column lines cost \$10 per issue.

All articles and advertisements must be received by 4:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday before the last full weekend of each month. See the back page for all addresses.



Coming Events

Chamber of Commerce Meeting

3rd Tuesday each month
8 a.m. at White Sands Restaurant

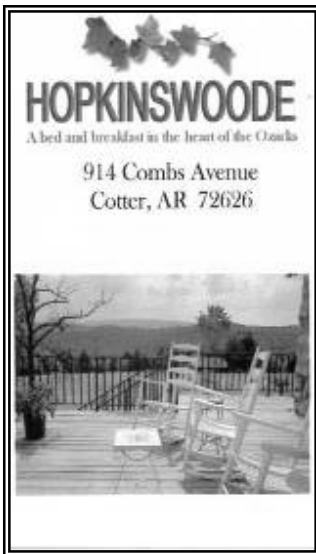
Regular City Council Meeting

4th Thursday each month
6 p.m. at City Hall (Verify time at City Hall)

Mark your calendars for these important spring events:'

Saturday, April 5: Cotter will participate in the Keep America Beautiful campaign. All interested in picking up litter will meet at the Spring House at 10 a.m. *See article on page 2.*

Friday and Saturday, April 18–19: the 7th Annual Great Cotter Trout Festival!



This newsletter is published monthly by the Trout Capital News Association and focuses on organized activities. It is printed by H&S Printing. It is also published electronically at www.troutcapitalnews.com. The paper is published monthly, or as often as cash flow allows. Circulation: 400.

The mission of the new Trout Capital News is to promote Cotter and report news of importance to Cotter citizens. We invite all of you to send news, articles, pictures, ideas, and/or suggestions to the Trout Capital News at P.O. Box 238, Cotter, AR 72626 or e-mail the editor or publisher at the addresses below. The editorial deadline is 4:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday before the last full weekend of each month. Donations to the paper are welcome.

You may also contact any association member with news:

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