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Agencies consider body armor purchases

COLBIE MCCLOUD
The Sentinel-Record

Local non-law enforcement emergency agencies are weighing whether to purchase bullet-resistant vests for their employees, but say in some cases the costs may have to be passed on to the consumer.

For example, if the local ambulance company, LifeNet, purchases body armor for its personnel, patients could incur the cost on their medical bills, LifeNet General Manager Jason Gartner said.

Metropolitan Emergency Medical Services in Little Rock is investing $275,000 to purchase 275 bullet-resistant vests for 220 medics, according to the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*. However, not having the tax subsidy that MEMS has, LifeNet in Garland County does not foresee the immediate purchase of the vests.

"Unlike them, we are not subsi-

BODY ARMOR, PAGE 3A

Wish come true

The Sentinel-Record/Mara Kuhn

Seth McDaniel, 11, of Covington, Tenn., right, takes in the Galaxy Connection on Thursday. McDaniel, who is diagnosed with Ehlers-Danlos syndrome and Dysautonomia, was visiting the "Star Wars" and superhero-themed museum, located at 906 Hobson Ave., with his family as his Make-A-Wish selection. While in town, he and his family also planned to visit Tiny Town, the Maxwell Blade Theatre of Magic and Mid-America Science Museum.

Back the Blue rally set for Wednesday

MARK GREGORY
Editor

The Arkansas Municipal Police Association will hold a Back the Blue rally at the Hot Springs Farmers & Artisans Market on Wednesday in conjunction with its annual convention, which is being held in Hot Springs this year.

The purpose of the rally is to "let the officers know that the public does support them" and show that "not all cops are bad," Jimmy Doster, executive director of the Arkansas Municipal Police Association, said Friday.

"With so much of the media and everything here lately that's giving police officers a bad eye, it's just time to show people that, hey, we're good guys, and we just try to do our jobs the best we can, and we're human just like everybody else," he said in a telephone interview.

"We just really want the citizens to come out and show their support. Like I said, with all the police officers that's been killed in the line of duty ... throughout the country, it's getting bad, and I don't foresee it getting better any time soon," Doster said.

Doster's comments were framed by the latest police shooting in San Diego. According to The Associated Press, a traffic stop led to a gun battle that killed an anti-gang police officer and seriously wounded another. The slain officer, a husband and father of two children, suffered multiple gunshot wounds and died early Friday. Officers have also been killed in Dallas and Baton Rouge, La., this month.

Doster said that law enforcement agencies from across Arkansas are expected to attend Wednesday's rally.

Officers will gather at the Hot Springs Convention Center's east

BACK THE BLUE, PAGE 3A

BIGGER ON THE INSIDE

TARDIS to land at library to promote Spa-Con

ELISHA MORRISON
The Sentinel-Record

Fans of the long-running BBC sci-fi television series "Doctor Who" will get the chance to see a full-size replica of the show's time machine and spacecraft, the TARDIS, up close thanks to local artist Zack Dryden.

Dryden was approached by Bill Solleder, special events manager for Visit Hot Springs, about bringing the big blue police box to life to promote Spa-Con in September. He asked Dryden because the job required not only a skilled craftsman, but an artist.

TARDIS, PAGE 5A

The Sentinel-Record/Richard Rasmussen

FANTASTIC: Ocean Dryden, right, peers out of the door of a TARDIS replica built by his father, Zack Dryden, left. Dryden assembled the model at the Garland County Library for the upcoming Spa-Con. The official unveiling will be at 6 p.m. Thursday at the library.

Manufacturing camp returns to National Park College

JAY BELL
The Sentinel-Record

National Park College is set to stage its second Young Manufacturers Academy camp to introduce local students to careers and opportunities in manufacturing.

The camp is made possible through grant funds from the Gene Haas Foundation. Grants were provided to 22 programs in Arkansas to host their own academies during the first two weeks of August.

Young Manufacturers Academies are the signature program of "Dream It. Do It. Arkansas," which was developed in partnership with The Manufacturing Institute, the National Association of Manufacturers, employers, the educational system, workforce development agencies and economic development organizations to address the critical shortage of qualified workers. The college hosted its first camp a year ago.

"I think it has gotten bigger and better this year," said Kelli Albrecht, vice president for workforce. "Last year, we weren't certain of a lot of things."

The camp will be held on the college campus Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. each day. Participants include 26 local students entering into grades 7-9 in the 2016-17 school year, including nine who attend-

NPC, PAGE 3A

For 8 summer nights, 2 starkly different visions of America

JULIE PACE
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For eight summer nights, there were two starkly different visions of America.

At Donald Trump's Republican convention, America was a nation spiraling into chaos and economic ruin. Immigrants were cast as criminals, or in some cases, potential terrorists. The government is rigged for the wealthy and powerful, almost past the point of repair.

"I alone can fix it," Trump said as he accepted the GOP nomination in Cleveland.

The Democratic convention in Philadelphia was a four-day rebuttal.

"America needs every one of us to lend our energy, our talents, our ambition to making our nation better and stronger," Hillary Clinton said as she became the first woman to lead a major U.S. political party toward the White House.

Clinton acknowledged Americans' economic and security anxieties, but she defended the country's greatness. Immigrants were celebrated at the Democratic gathering, including those brought to the country illegally as children. Government may be gridlocked, but it was also framed

POLITICS, PAGE 5A

Tasty work

The Sentinel-Record/Richard Rasmussen

"Aunt Bee" grazes on brush on the east side of DeSoto Park, 1700 Park Ave., on Friday as part of the city's effort to remove invasive plant species without the use of herbicides. The city hired Stafford Goat Rental, a Vilonia-based company, to thin the area at the park. The company had 36 goats on the site Friday and Saturday.

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Weather

CHANCE OF STORMS. HIGHS IN THE LOW 90S. LOWS IN THE MID 70S.

SUNRISE: 6:22 A.M.
SUNSET: 8:15 P.M.

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MONDAY:
HIGH 95° LOW 75°

TUESDAY:
HIGH 96° LOW 75°

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