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Out&About

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Weekend

Nov. 7-8

THINGS TO DO

Saturday

- 8 a.m. — “Masquerade - Fantasy, Reality, Illusion”: 1109 Gallery, 1109 Massachusetts St., Lawrence.
- 8 a.m. — Adult Health Fair: Ransom Memorial Hospital, 1301 S. Main St., Ottawa.
- 8 a.m. — Chris Cakes: Eisenhower Elementary School, 1404 S. Ash St., Ottawa.
- 8 a.m. — Friends of the Library Book Sale: Friends of the Library Book Sale, 209 E. Second St., Ottawa.
- 9 a.m. — Melvern Methodist Church Food Sale, Boutique and Bazaar: Melvern Community Center, 102 N.E. Main St., Melvern.
- 9 a.m. — Turn aluminum cans into Toys for Tots: Franklin County Recycling Center, 2038 S. Elm St., Ottawa.
- 9:30 a.m. — Women's Educational Society 107th Year Celebration Coffee: O'Dell Lounge of Martin Hall, Ottawa University.

Promenaders annual pig roast: Celebration Hall at the Franklin County Fairgrounds, 1737 S. Elm St., Ottawa.

- 5:30 p.m. — Quenemo Penny Supper: Quenemo Community Building.
- 7 p.m. — “The Phantoms of the Opry”: Ottawa Municipal Auditorium, Third and Hickory streets, Ottawa.

Sunday

- 8 a.m. — “Masquerade - Fantasy, Reality, Illusion”: 1109 Gallery, 1109 Massachusetts St., Lawrence.
- 1 p.m. — “Country Roads and Paths” Art Show: Carnegie Cultural Center, 515 S. Main St., Ottawa.
- 1 p.m. — Freedom's Frontier Sites Class: Franklin County Records & Research Center, 1124 W. Seventh St. Terrace, Ottawa.
- 6 p.m. — Country Gold Band at VFW Seniors Dance: Ottawa VFW Post No. 5901, 3499 N. U.S. 59, Ottawa.

MEETINGS

Saturday

- 7 p.m. — Alcoholics Anonymous Ottawa Living Sober Group: First Christian Church, 1045 S. Hickory St., Ottawa.
- 7 p.m. — Over the Road Gang Car Club: Ottawa City Hall, 101 S. Hickory St.

Sunday

- 10 a.m. — “Keep It Simple” Alcoholics Anonymous: Franklin County Mental Health Center basement, 204 E. 15th St., Ottawa.
- 8 p.m. — Alcoholics Anonymous Ottawa Group: First Baptist Church basement, Fourth and Hickory streets, Ottawa.
- 8 p.m. — Narcotics Anonymous: Ottawa First United Methodist Church, 203 E. Fourth St., Ottawa.

Monday

Nov. 9

THINGS TO DO

- 7 a.m. — Turn aluminum cans into Toys for Tots: Franklin County Recycling Center, 2038 S. Elm St., Ottawa.
- 9 a.m. — Kids Day Out: Carnegie Cultural Center, 515 S. Main St., Ottawa.
- 1 p.m. — Friends of the Library Book Sale: Friends of the Library, 209 E. Second St., Ottawa.
- 2 p.m. — TALK Book Discussion of “The Milagro Beanfield War”: Ottawa Library, 105 S. Hickory St.
- 6:30 p.m. — Frogs, frogs, frogs!: Ottawa Library, 105 S. Hickory St.
- 7 p.m. — “Living Beyond Yourself: Exploring the Fruit of the Spirit”: Westminster Presbyterian Church, 401 W. 13th St., Ottawa.
- 7 p.m. — Bingo: Eagles Hall, 524 E. 15th St., Ottawa.

Poncho's, 429 S. Main St., Ottawa.

- 1 p.m. — Peer Alliance and Listening Support: Elizabeth Layton Center for Hope and Guidance, 2537 Eisenhower Road, Ottawa.
- 4 p.m. — Ottawa City Commission Study Session: Ottawa City Hall, 101 S. Hickory St.
- 6:45 p.m. — Narcotics Anonymous: Wellsville Baptist Church, Third and Main streets, Wellsville.
- 7 p.m. — Cub Scout Pack 3118: Trinity United Methodist Church, 630 N. Cedar St., Ottawa.
- 7 p.m. — Republican Central Committee: Courthouse Square Apartments, 235 S. Main St., Ottawa.
- 7 p.m. — USD 290 Board of Education: USD 290 District Office, 416 S. Main St., Ottawa.
- 7 p.m. — Wellsville City Library Board: Wellsville City Library, 115 W. Sixth St., Wellsville.
- 7 p.m. — West Franklin USD 287 School Board: , 510 E. Franklin St., Pomona.
- 7:30 p.m. — Lane City Council: Lane City Hall, 524 W. Third St., Lane.
- 8 p.m. — Alcoholics Anonymous Ottawa Group: First Baptist Church, Fourth and Hickory streets, Ottawa.
- Noon — Lions Club:

MEETINGS

- 11:45 a.m. — Education and Health Committee: Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce, 109 E. Second St., Ottawa.
- Noon — Alcoholics Anonymous Ottawa Group: First Baptist Church, Fourth and Hickory streets, Ottawa.
- Noon — Lions Club:

Staying a cut above the rest

AUDREY LINTNER



Blooming Dells

Thanks for the kind birthday wishes, folks. I had a great day and a lot of laughs. Larry even brought home one of my favorite surprises — red roses.

There's something about a bouquet of flowers that makes you feel, well, almost spoiled. Think about it. They're not functional, edible or interactive. The sole purpose of a vase full of blooms is to cheer you up. How many other things in life can offer that?

You can choose an arrangement to match your mood, your occasion, even your drapes if that's what floats your boat. Speaking of boats, a water lily in a bowl makes an elegant statement.

So let's say your thoughtful spouse brings you flowers, or you decide you deserve a treat and buy 'em yourself. There's not a lot going on in the garden right now. Maybe you need a dash of color. Once they're sitting on your counter, you're going to want those flowers to last as long as possible.

Have you ever been excited about receiving a bouquet, only to watch the flowers wilt before your eyes within a few days? The very same air that's perfumed by your posies is the culprit. If they don't get straight into water after being cut, flower stems are basically

sucking air. Without water to keep their cells fat and sassy, leaves and petals begin to droop rather quickly.

An easy way to prevent “air profusion” is to use a sharp pair of garden shears to snip the stems. Dunk the ends in a bowl of water and cut to the desired length, keeping the blades at an angle. This allows for maximum surface area, which equals maximum water intake. Strip off any leaves that will wind up below the water line, and your bouquet is ready for bottling.

Along with water, flowers need nutrients to stay healthy, even after cutting. That little packet the florist sent home with you is one option. These packets usually contain a biocide, which kills bacteria that clog stems and cause wilting, an acidifier for helping the flowers

drink faster and some sugar as a food source.

If you don't have a handy little florist's packet, you can use one of several methods to keep your blooms beautiful. Got a penny and an aspirin? Toss 'em in your vase. The copper works as a fungicide, while the aspirin provides acid.

Lots of folks like to add lemon-lime soda to their flower water. Just make sure it's not diet. You may not want the calories, but your flowers do. If you want to get fancy, you can make a whole bucket of blossom beverage. Take two tablespoons of lemon juice, a tablespoon of sugar and half a teaspoon of bleach and add them to a quart of water.

In spite of our best efforts, cut flowers will eventually fade. Don't feel too bad about it, though. It just means you'll have to get more.

My birthday roses were especially appropriate in light of this weekend. We're celebrating veterans (hey, that includes me and my dad), and the rose is our national flower. Buy one for a veteran you love.

Well, time to re-check the set list. We're gonna make some noise in Forest Park from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. today. See you there.

E-mail Audrey Lintner at gardenherald@hotmail.com.

Perot pledges \$6.1M to Army college in Kansas

By The Associated Press

FORT LEAVENWORTH — Texas billionaire and two-time presidential candidate Ross Perot has pledged \$6.1 million to a private foundation to pay for programs at Fort Leavenworth's Command and General Staff College.

Army majors spend 10 months at the school to prepare for unit command or staff positions. The college also has educated more than 7,100 international officers who have gone on to lead their militaries and, in some cases, nations.

Perot's pledge will help the Army expand ethics training for officers and bolster communication and cooperation between the military and govern-

ment agencies, such as the FBI, Department of Homeland Security and State Department. Several agency employees are currently enrolled in the 10-month course of instruction.

He made the pledge after visiting the college's Lewis and Clark Center late last month and discussing history with a class of officers.

“That was the best part of the day,” Perot said in a telephone interview Friday from his office in Texas. “They're doing a great job, and I couldn't be more proud of them.”

The money will go to the nonprofit Command and General Staff College Foundation, which is in the midst of a five-year cam-

paign to raise \$10.5 million to support the college. Money raised will be matched with the proceeds from the sale of a commemorative coin series honoring the nation's five-star generals. The coin program must be authorized by Congress and is expected to begin in 2013.

Robert Ulin, the foundation's chief executive and a retired Army colonel, said Friday that Perot's pledge was “huge.”

“This creates enormous momentum for us,” Ulin said “It will afford us to fill all the gaps that exist at the college to ensure that the officers there receive the best possible education. It will take it to a whole new level.”

The money will go to the

Col. Arthur D. Simons Center for the Study of Interagency Cooperation and the Gen. Hugh Shelton Chair in Ethics. Simons, a special forces officer, is noted for his rescue of prisoners in Vietnam in 1970 and two of Perot's employees, who were held prisoner in Iran in 1979.

Shelton is a former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and a close friend of Perot's.

Perot, 79, graduated in 1953 from the U.S. Naval Academy and served four years before beginning his business career. Perot said he had made other gifts to the military academies over the years, including money to establish a course on terrorism at West Point.

Tuesday

Nov. 10

THINGS TO DO

- 7:30 a.m. — Big Brothers Big Sisters Breakfast: First Baptist Church, Fourth and Hickory streets, Ottawa.
- 8 a.m. — Paco Jewelry Sale: Ransom Memorial Hospital, 1301 S. Main St., Ottawa.
- 8:30 a.m. — KID-ZSmART: Carnegie Cultural Center, 515 S. Main St., Ottawa.
- 9 a.m. — “Living Beyond Yourself: Exploring the Fruit of the Spirit”: Westminster Presbyterian Church, 401 W. 13th St., Ottawa.
- 10 a.m. — Armchair Aerobics: Washburn Towers, Fifth and Main streets, Ottawa.

• 10 a.m. — Line dancing: Wellsville Nutritional Center, Seventh and Main streets, Wellsville.

• 10 a.m. — Storytime: Ottawa Library, 105 S. Hickory St.

• 10:30 a.m. — Story Hour: Williamsburg Community Library, 107 S. Louisa St., Williamsburg.

• 11 a.m. — Books and Babies: Ottawa Library, 105 S. Hickory St.

• Noon — Big Brothers Big Sisters Breakfast: First Baptist Church, Fourth and Hickory streets, Ottawa.

• 4 p.m. — Midland Care Hospice Living Wills Presentation: Ransom Memorial Hospital, 1301 S. Main St., Ottawa.

• 6 p.m. — Pomona/West Franklin Seniors Potluck Supper: Pomona Community Building, 219 W. A St., Pomona.

• 7 p.m. — Bingo: Ottawa VFW Post No. 5901, 3499 N. U.S. 59, Ottawa.

• 7 p.m. — Ottawa Promenaders square dance lessons: Ottawa First United Methodist Church, 203 E. Fourth St., Ottawa.

• 7 p.m. — Storytime: Ottawa Library, 105 S. Hickory St.

MEETINGS

• 7:30 a.m. — Chamber Board of Directors: Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce, 109 E. Second St., Ottawa.

• 9 a.m. — Personal Action to Health Exercise Group: Don Woodward Community Center, 517 E. Third St., Ottawa.

• Noon — Rotary Club: Ottawa University, 1001 S. Cedar St., Ottawa.

• 2 p.m. — Franklin County

Care Giver Support Group: East Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging, 132 S. Main St., Ottawa.

• 5:30 p.m. — Eugene Field Elementary School Families for Education Parent Teacher Committee: Eugene Field Elementary School, 720 S. Tremont St., Ottawa.

• 6:30 p.m. — Garnett City Commission: Garnett City Hall, 131 W. Fifth Ave., Garnett.

• 7:30 p.m. — Eagles Aerie: Eagles Hall, 524 E. 15th St., Ottawa.

• 7:30 p.m. — Richmond City Council: Richmond City Hall.

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