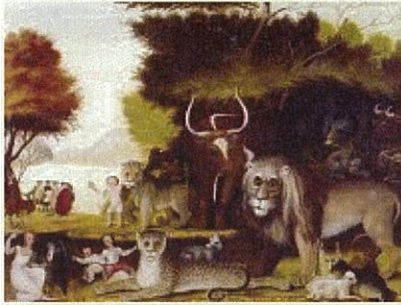


WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2009

What's the Matter with Fayetteville



Something is happening here, and I don't know what it is. Neither does Mr. Jones. Fayetteville is not living up to one of its its reputations.

Up in Tontitown last night, Alderman Arthur Penzo told Mayor Joe Edgmon, "You will not work with this City Council. You will not work with the lawyer. You will not work with the recorder-treasurer. You veto everything." That was sometime after Mayor Edgmon filed a motion to disqualify Tontitown City Attorney Mark Dossett from representing the City Council members that he is suing, and it was after the County Quorum Court started moving to stop providing the town's police force. It was about the same time that the City Council voted to override the latest batch of vetoes. Got that?

Springdale is equally fubar. Some citizen filed suit yesterday against the City and Aldermen Jeff Watson, Jim Reed, Mike Overton and Bobby Stout seeking \$65,162 in restitution for their voting to provide unauthorized health insurance to themselves. Most recently that was about the same time that they voted to cut funding for the library and museum because expenses were exceeding revenue, but they rejected a motion to stop making the taxpayers provide health insurance for aldermen.

In Fayetteville everything seems to be just peachy. Last night the Mayor and City Council must have set some kind of record, another pleasant council meeting and done in record time. Maybe 40 minutes, tops, to zip through the agenda with alacrity and without acrimony. That's not the bickering bunch of years past. Even if Alderman Gray had been there and if Airport Idler Ray Boudreaux had been prepared, it wouldn't have gone more than an hour. That's just not right.