

MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY
CCR CERTIFICATION
CALENDAR YEAR 2013

2014 JUN 13 AM 9:42

Central Yazoo Water Assoc Inc
Public Water Supply Name

820004, 820029, 820030, 820031, 820033
List PWS ID #s for all Community Water Systems included in this CCR

The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires each Community public water system to develop and distribute a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to its customers each year. Depending on the population served by the public water system, this CCR must be mailed or delivered to the customers, published in a newspaper of local circulation, or provided to the customers upon request. Make sure you follow the proper procedures when distributing the CCR. **You must mail, fax or email a copy of the CCR and Certification to MSDH. Please check all boxes that apply.**

Customers were informed of availability of CCR by: *(Attach copy of publication, water bill or other)*

- Advertisement in local paper (attach copy of advertisement)
- On water bills (attach copy of bill)
- Email message (MUST Email the message to the address below)
- Other _____

Date(s) customers were informed: 5 / 3 / 14 , _____ / _____ / _____

CCR was distributed by U.S. Postal Service or other direct delivery. Must specify other direct delivery methods used _____

Date Mailed/Distributed: _____ / _____ / _____

CCR was distributed by Email (MUST Email MSDH a copy) Date Emailed: _____ / _____ / _____
As a URL (Provide URL _____)
As an attachment
As text within the body of the email message

CCR was published in local newspaper. *(Attach copy of published CCR or proof of publication)*

Name of Newspaper: The Yazoo Herald

Date Published: 5 / 3 / 14

CCR was posted in public places. *(Attach list of locations)* Date Posted: _____ / _____ / _____

CCR was posted on a publicly accessible internet site at the following address (**DIRECT URL REQUIRED**):

www.centralyazoo.com

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the 2013 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) has been distributed to the customers of this public water system in the form and manner identified above and that I used distribution methods allowed by the SDWA. I further certify that the information included in this CCR is true and correct and is consistent with the water quality monitoring data provided to the public water system officials by the Mississippi State Department of Health, Bureau of Public Water Supply.

Polly Carter / Secretary
Name/Title (President/Mayor, Owner, etc.)

6-12-2014
Date

Deliver or send via U.S. Postal Service:
Bureau of Public Water Supply
P.O. Box 1700
Jackson, MS 39215

May be faxed to:
(601)576-7800

May be emailed to:
Melanie.Yankowski@msdh.state.ms.us

MW

2014 MAY -1 PM 4:34

2013 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Central Yazoo Water Association, Inc.
PWS#: 0820004, 0820029, 0820030, 0820031 & 0820033
April 2014

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is from wells drawing from the Sparta Sand and the Meridian Upper Wilcox Aquifer.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Mike Laborde at 662-746-7531. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Monday of each month at 5:00 PM at the main office located at 37 Witherspoon Road, Yazoo City, MS 39194.

The source water assessment has been completed for our public water system to determine the overall susceptibility of its drinking water supply to identify potential sources of contamination. A report containing detailed information on how the susceptibility determinations were made has been furnished to our public water system and is available for viewing upon request. The wells for the Central Yazoo Water Association, Inc. have received lower to moderate susceptibility rankings to contamination.

We routinely monitor for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2013. In cases where monitoring wasn't required in 2013, the table reflects the most recent results. As water travels over the surface of land or underground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials and can pick up substances or contaminants from the presence of animals or from human activity; microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm-water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations and septic systems; radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

- Action Level* - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)* - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)* - The "Goal"(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)* - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control microbial contaminants.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)* - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

PWS#:0820004		TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants								
10. Barium	N	2013	.007	No Range	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
13. Chromium	N	2013	2.6	No Range	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2009/11*	.5	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

16. Fluoride	N	2013	.502	No Range	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2009/11*	2	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection By-Products								
81. HAA5	N	2011*	12	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.
82. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2011*	15.89	No Range	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chlorine	N	2013	1.3	.6 – 1.6	mg/l	0	MDRL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

* Most recent sample. No sample required for 2013

PWS#:0820029									TEST RESULTS								
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination									
Inorganic Contaminants																	
10. Barium	N	2013	.011	No Range	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits									
13. Chromium	N	2013	2.2	No Range	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits									
14. Copper	N	2009/11*	.1	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives									
16. Fluoride	N	2013	.729	No Range	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories									
17. Lead	N	2009/11*	1	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits									
Disinfection By-Products																	
81. HAA5	N	2013	1	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.									
82. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2013	10	No Range	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination.									
Chlorine	N	2013	1.1	.7 – 1.5	mg/l	0	MDRL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes									

* Most recent sample. No sample required for 2013

PWS#:0820030									TEST RESULTS								
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination									
Inorganic Contaminants																	
8. Arsenic	N	2011*	.6	No Range	ppb	n/a	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes									

10. Barium	N	2011*	.001	No Range	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
13. Chromium	N	2011*	1.5	No Range	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
16. Fluoride	N	2011*	.117	No Range	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Disinfection By-Products

81. HAA5	N	2013	22	3 - 22	ppb	0	60	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.
82. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2013	52	26 - 52	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chlorine	N	2013	1.40	.80- 1.8	mg/l	0	MDRL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

* Most recent sample. No sample required for 2013

PWS#:0820031

TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
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Inorganic Contaminants

10. Barium	N	2013	.011	No Range	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
13. Chromium	N	2013	.008	No Range	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2009/11*	.9	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
16. Fluoride	N	2013	1.1	No Range	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2009/11*	1	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection By-Products

81. HAA5	N	2011*	35	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.
82. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2011*	55.7	No Range	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chlorine	N	2013	1.4	.70 - 1.90	mg/l	0	MDRL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

* Most recent sample. No sample required for 2013

PWS#:0820033

TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
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Inorganic Contaminants

10. Barium	N	2013	.01	No Range	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
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13. Chromium	N	2013	2.7	No Range	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2009/11*	.1	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
16. Fluoride	N	2013	.782	No Range	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2009/11*	1	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection By-Products

81. HAA5	N	2013	2	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.
82. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2013	1.5	No Range	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chlorine	N	2013	1.2	.7 – 1.7	mg/l	0	MDRL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

* Most recent sample. No sample required for 2013.

As you can see by the table, our system had no contaminate violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected however the EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific constituents on a monthly basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. We did complete the monitoring requirements for bacteriological sampling that showed no coliform present. In an effort to ensure systems complete all monitoring requirements, MSDH now notifies systems of any missing samples prior to the end of the compliance period.

Significant Deficiencies - System ID 0820004

During a sanitary survey conducted on 9/29/10, the Mississippi State Department of Health cited the following deficiency:

Failure to meet water supply demands (overloaded)

Corrective actions: This system is has entered into a Bilateral Compliance Agreement with the Mississippi State Department of Health to correct this deficiency by 6/30/2014.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Our Water Association is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>. The Mississippi State Department of Health Public Health Laboratory offers lead testing. Please contact 601.576.7582 if you wish to have your water tested.

To comply with the "Regulation Governing Fluoridation of Community Water Supplies", our system is required to report certain results pertaining to fluoridation of our water system. For System # 820004 – Fletcher Ch., the number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 1. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 17%. For System # 820029 – the number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 10. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 100%. For System # 820030 – the number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 3. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 38%. For System # 820031 – the number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 10. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 91%. For System # 820033 – the number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 9. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 100%.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune

system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791.

The MS State Health Department loan project has begun, which includes a new well on Paradise Road and upgrades to distribution lines on Myrleville Road, Green Road and Scotland. Thank you for your patients during the construction process.

The Central Yazoo Water Association, Inc. works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

PROOF OF PUBLICATION OF NOTICE
The State of Mississippi
County of YAZOO

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid JASON PATTERSON, who being by me first duly sworn state on oath, that he is PUBLISHER of the YAZOO HERALD, a newspaper published in the City of Yazoo City, State and County aforesaid, and that the publication of the notice, a copy of which is hereto attached, has been made in said paper 1 times as follows.

Vol. No. 143
Number 3
Dated May 3, 2014

Vol. No. _____
Number _____
Dated _____, 20 _____

Vol. No. _____
Number _____
Dated _____, 20 _____

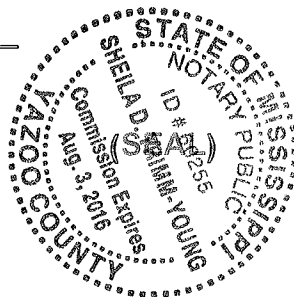
Vol. No. _____
Number _____
Dated _____, 20 _____

Affiant further states that said newspaper has been established for at least twelve months next prior to the first publication of said notice.

(Signed) [Signature]
Jason Patterson, Publisher

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 11th day of June, 2014

(Signed) [Signature]
Sheila D. Trimm-Young
Notary Public



Words 3x16
Time 1 319.20
Amount of legal \$ 319.20
Proof of Publication \$ 3
Total Amount \$ 322.20

2014 JUN 13 AM 9:43

82/04

2013 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
 City of Geneva, Madison County, Kentucky
 1000 S. MAIN ST., MADISON COUNTY, KY 40341
 502-333-2222

Drinking water is essential to our health and well-being. We are pleased to provide you with this report on the quality of the water you drink in Geneva, Kentucky. The information in this report is based on the results of tests conducted during the year 2013. The tests were conducted by the Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection (KDEP) and the Madison County Health Department. The tests were conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and the Kentucky Drinking Water Regulations. The results of the tests are shown in the tables below. The tables are organized by type of contaminant and by the number of samples collected. The tables show the results of the tests, the maximum contaminant level (MCL) or action level (AL), and the number of samples that exceeded the MCL or AL. The tables also show the number of samples that were analyzed for each contaminant. The tables are organized by type of contaminant and by the number of samples collected. The tables show the results of the tests, the maximum contaminant level (MCL) or action level (AL), and the number of samples that exceeded the MCL or AL. The tables also show the number of samples that were analyzed for each contaminant.

Contaminant	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6	Sample 7	Sample 8	Sample 9	Sample 10	Sample 11	Sample 12	Sample 13	Sample 14	Sample 15	Sample 16	Sample 17	Sample 18	Sample 19	Sample 20
Lead	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Copper	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Chlorine	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Chlorine Dioxide	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Total Hardness	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
Total Dissolved Solids	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
Calcium	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Magnesium	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
Fluoride	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Iron	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Manganese	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
Nitrate	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Nitrite	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Ammonia	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Phosphate	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Sulfate	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Saying goodbye to senior athletes is never easy



From the Kitchen by Lee Ann Flemming

Benton Academy held its annual Athletic Banquet this past week. It was a covered dish dinner with lots and lots of delicious food. The assortment of dishes was something to behold. The dessert table alone was a feast.

I always enjoy the end of the year athletic banquet to reflect on the year's successes in sports. This year has truly been a red banner year for the Benton Academy Raiders.

*Softball: District 4-A Champion
 North A Runner-Up
 *Football: Varsity District 4-A Champion
 North A Division Runner-Up
 *Basketball: Jr. Varsity Boys District 4-A Champion
 Varsity Boys District 4-A Champion
 *Baseball: District 4-A Champion
 *Track: Varsity Boys

games doesn't overshadow the fact that you won't be coming to watch your own children play. I would be hard pressed to pick a favorite dish from the food served at the banquet. I'll just include one today that I think most people will enjoy and is one of my favorites.

BROCCOLI SALAD

2 bunches broccoli, cut and soaked in ice water for 2 hours
 1/2 cup raising
 1/2 cup chopped pecans
 8 - 10 slices bacon, cooked crisp and crumbled
 Dressing:
 1 cup mayonnaise
 1/2 cup sugar
 2 Tbsp. white vinegar

Drain broccoli. Immediately before serving, toss salad ingredients together with dressing. Served 8 - 10.

Emmerich (from page 4A): We will never know the mind of God

my eyes. In retrospect, it was incredibly ignorant of me to trust my eyes to begin with. The human eye is capable of seeing less than one one thousandth of the known electro-magnetic spectrum.

Last year, there was much ado about the discovery of the Higgs boson at the Geneva Hadron Collider — 18 miles of underground tunnel lined with cables, magnets, computers and electronics. It is designed to reproduce conditions 14 billion years ago when the universe exploded into somethingness from nothingness.

Yet 95 percent of the universe is composed of "dark matter" and "dark energy" about which we know absolutely nothing. Try as we must, we will never know the mind of God. That is not our calling. All of our scientific advancement has barely scratched the surface.

How did a poor carpenter born in the middle of nowhere 2,000 years ago transform all of humanity? The simplest explanation is that he was the son of God and rose from the dead. His miracles convinced a naturally unbelieving populace.

If you simply acknowledge that supernatural events are possible, this conclusion is overwhelmingly probable.

To not believe in the supernatural, is to believe human science has discovered all that's out there. No rational man could ever come to that conclusion.

It is perfectly logical that Christ rose from the dead. Not that human logic means a hoot. Is it logical that the sun is 400 times larger than the moon yet is exactly 400 times farther away, so the sun and moon appear exactly the same size?

Is it logical that the moon rotates on its axis exactly in the same amount of time that it revolves around Earth so we never see the dark side of the moon?

There are clues in the heavenly bodies. Physicists are now looking at mathematical models of the universe that infer multiple dimensions beyond our comprehension. We cannot see or touch or feel them, but the math shows they're there.

The disciple Thomas was a doubter until he placed his hand in the wound in Christ's side. His reaction was immediate, "My Lord and God," he said. Jesus then told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Which brings me to Easter brunch at River Hills. Moments earlier, I was praying for God to bless me with faith, so I could truly believe, like Thomas did.

Lawrence didn't like the lamb. "It's not an American meat," he complained. "It tastes funny."

Hating waste, I told him to hand the lamb over to me. It tasted succulent and delicious to

me, not overcooked. I gobbled it down quickly.

As I reached for my iced tea, I noticed something peculiar out of the corner of my eye. Drops of blood from the juicy lamb had formed perfect little crosses along the linen tablecloth and on my napkin. Ten crosses in all. All perfectly formed.

I reflected for the briefest moment on this curiosity and continued to stuff my face, then my eyes slowly opened and I had a moment of realization. The lamb. The blood. The cross. Easter Sunday. My prayer.

I showed this to my family and several nearby friends, asking for an explanation. I thought maybe it was the weave of the fabric, but the crosses appeared on both the napkin and tablecloth. I took several liquids and spilled drops on the tablecloth trying to reproduce a cross. All I got were irregular circular blobs.

"You're making a mess," Ginny chided me.

I asked the great Google for an answer, but got nothing in return. I suppose there are still mysteries left. Maybe a reader can come up with a good explanation.

But it doesn't really matter, does it? Faith is and will always be a gift, plain and simple, beyond any measure of science or logic.

Incidents like these have become so frequent in my life, they are more reassuring than profound. I went off to enjoy the day, happy my profession allows me to tell such stories.