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**VOLUME 52** 

**NUMBER 10** 

CASSVILLE, MISSOURI 65625-0488

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2019

# Cassville dog issue settled: enforcement begins January 1

Charlea Estes-Iones

An announcement at the Cassville City Council on Monday night settled the debate regarding a leash law within the city limits. According to mayor Bill Shiveley, starting in January, the city's existing animal regulations will be fully enforced, meaning dogs will be required to be leashed when off of the owner's private property for any amount of time.

The announcement came just four months after Cassville Schools' guidance counselor Kristie Preddy was viciously attacked by two dogs on Main Street, leaving her with multiple dog bites and debilitating injuries. Since the incident, Preddy's mother, Nadean Davis, has appeared before city council every month to demand action.

Shiveley told the four guests at the city council meeting on Monday, December 9, the city staff and council members weighed the decision by deciding between three different options: leave the ordinance and enforcement as is, implement a full animal control department, or a hybrid of the two. The city opted to go with the third option.

Shiveley addressed all in attendance on Monday night and said, "I want to thank the citizens and everybody who has given us their feedback on the topic of animal control in Cassville. It's been on both sides.

"You can be assured the council and the alderman have taken this seriously. We aren't taking the feedback lightly. We looked at different options, and we are moving forward. We've engaged in activities to determine what actions we can take to strengthen our animal control here in Cassville."

Shiveley went on to describe the three options the city considered. City staff studied the financial impact of each option after backlash regarding the cost of operating a fully functional pound. Staff estimated around \$200,000 to build a new pound and acquire a dedicated animal control vehicle and officer with the annual recurring cost at \$75,000 each year.

In the end, the decision to enforce the existing animal code would be much less of a financial impact and would solve the issue of stray and roaming dogs within city limits. The city already acquired a dog trailer to transport animals for \$3,000, according to city administrator Steve Walensky. The ongoing forecasted expense for animal control is \$2,500 annually for the option the city went with.

Cassville's current ordinance states that dogs within city lim-

- Must wear a collar with an identification tag with owner's name and address and proof of rabies vaccination
  - Must be on a leash if off of the owner's private property

There will be no requirement for registration with the city or fees to own up to three dogs within city limits. The current ordinance also states a residence can only have three dogs inside the

# Cornerstone Bank purchases former Country Dodge land

Charlea Estes-Jones

With plans laid out two years ago, it appears 2020 will bring a new business to town. Cornerstone Bank is on track to open a new branch in Cassville this spring after the acquisition of yet another property along Highways 76/86 and 37. The bank purchased a 2.2 acre tract of land in December 2017, and as of December 4 of this year, they purchased just over four acres at the same intersection on the other side, as well. The newest property used to be the site of Country Dodge.

Cornerstone Bank CEO Charles Cross said the bank is going to use the property purchased in 2017 to put in a temporary branch while they build a permanent structure for their bank on the former Country Dodge property.

He said, "Our plan is to use the property we bought first to put a temporarily location and bank site to operate in while we construct on this property our permanent home. After we get into our permanent home, we will likely sell the property we bought first."

He added, "Once we bought [the first] property, subsequently this property came on the market, and it was intriguing to us. So we started looking at it and did some due diligence

"This is a better long term home for our bank."

Cross emphasized that Cornerstone is dedicated to moving into the Cassville community and making a positive impact. The bank's plans to expand into this community have been long established.

Along with the new bank Cornerstone construction,

See BANK on 2A

# Parades spread Christmas cheer over weekend



The first three Christmas parades in Barry County took place over the weekend. In Cassville's Christmas parade, Hungry Hollow Brewing Company took first place in the non-religious division with their Nightmare Before Christmas-themed float. See more photos from the Christmas parades on 6-7A.

See DOGS on 2A

# Inside this issue:

# **Holiday Ad Deadlines Schedule**

The Barry County Advertiser's winter holiday deadlines will be as fol-

- Pre-Christmas deadline (Dec. 18 paper): Display ads Fri., Dec. 13, at 4 p.m.; Classifieds - Mon., Dec. 16, at 5 p.m.
- Christmas deadline (Dec. 25 paper): Display ads Mon., Dec. 16, at 5 p.m., Classifieds - Thurs., Dec. 19
- New Years deadline (Jan. 1 paper): Display ads Fri., Dec. 27, at 4 p.m., Classifieds - Fri., Dec. 30, at 5 p.m.

Upcoming.....4 A Obits .....8-9 A Sports .....10-12 A Classified ...... 6-7 B Auctions ......2 B

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# Prep begins for Cassville Early Childhood Center

Vinnie Roberts

Since the beginning of 2019, Cassville R-IV School District has been hard at work on improvements to the district's facilities. Thanks to the passing of the Vision 150 Bonding Agreement in April, numerous improvements have been made to district facilities. Recently, one of the largest portions of the district's overall improvements has gotten underway.

The week before Cassville dismissed for the Thanksgiving holiday, Branco Enterprises, of Neosho, began work on the new Early Childhood Development Center. This new facility will replace and expand the current pre-school facility and services offered within the district.

To prepare the site for the new facility, Branco's crews first removed sections of the Cassville Elementary playground. Structures removed from the site include: an old wooden play cabin; a metal play structure; two basketball goals and the associated asphalt area that also reportedly doubled as a walking area; a ramp that granted access to the raised door on the end of the elementary school; and several sidewalks that lead to these structures.

According to Cassville superintendent Dr. Richard Asbill, at this time, all structural removal has been completed on the site. Additionally, the crew removed a large quantity of earth from

the site in order to lay a new foundation.

Beginning this week, Branco crews have begun moving in rock to replace the earth in preparation for foundation to be poured for the new facility. Dr. Asbill continued, explaining that construction will continue on into the near future.

"Rebar is supposed to be delivered this week, and we hope that this means that footers and a few other additional items will be poured next week, weather permitting," explained As-

The construction currently happening on the playground of Cassville Elementary isn't the only por-

See CENTER on 7A

#### **DOGS from FRONT**

city limits.

If dogs are found off of the owner's private property, they will be picked up by a city employee and transported to the city's existing pens. For the



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904 West Street P.O. Box 488 Cassville, MO 65625 (417) 847-4475 FAX (417) 847-4523 owner to pick up a dog, they will have to pay \$25 per day, including the day the dog was picked up by the city and the day the animal is picked up from impound. The owners will also be fined up to \$200 for the first incident. Any subsequent offenses will carry up to a \$500 fine.

Walensky said the city will train employees that will be handling animal control. He indicated that it will be both police officers and other staff members.

Council member Jon Horner said, "In all of the research we did going into this,

to the city."

there is no perfect solution. Cities that have leash laws have dog bites. Some of them have lots of dog bites, and it's not on the front page of the paper. We tried to come up to with a common sense and effective solution. We feel what we have done is going to be effective."

Prior to making a final decision during the budget meeting in November, Walensky spoke with Monett, Aurora, Seligman, Purdy and Exeter and researched Springfield's, St. Louis', Kansas City's and Omaha's animal control policies online.

Enforcing the existing ani-

mal control ordinances means the city will utilize the existing five kennels already built. The city will keep up to four dogs at one time, leaving the fifth pen available to move dogs to clean. The city will attempt to find owners of the dogs. If the owners cannot be located, and the animal is not vicious, the city will contact Haven of the Ozarks to see if there is room. If Haven is full, the city will have the animals transported to the Joplin Humane Society. If the animal is vicious, it will be taken to the Joplin Humane Society. The city of Cassville will not engage in adoption

facilitation.

Shiveley said, "This is going to require education and effort from our staff, and it's also going to take something from our citizens, too. As Ms. Davis said in the past, we don't have enough officers to have one at every spot, and we don't have a dedicated animal control officer. So when there appears a dog that is loose or vicious or making a nuisance of itself, we need to know about it. We need people to call it in and we need to make an attempt to catch that dog."

He continued, "We tried to consider all sides of these

issues to be realistic and factual and be logical with our choice...We'll continue to look at our animal control ordinance as we move along and see if there need to be any changes."

The enforcement of animal control within Cassville City limits begins in January. To report an animal off leash and roaming, Walensky said to call emergency dispatch so the matter can be resolved 24/7.

To read the city's complete language of the animal regulations, go to: https://ecode360. com/30649346.

#### **BANK from FRONT**

will also develop the larger In terms of the physical acre tract and bring in additional businesses. While Cross wouldn't comment on the type of businesses, he did say, "Our goal is to bring some additional things to the city of Cassville that will be beneficial to the community. I can't give a lot of details yet, but I think it's fair to say there will be more than a bank on that site. We trust that it'll be a positive addition

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bank, Cross anticipates a creation of eight to ten jobs when it opens. He said, "In all of our bank locations, we have two subsidiaries. One is Cornerstone Investment Services, and we have our home mortgage division. We do all kinds of residential lending out of there. We will have a full-service location with all types of loans available. Both subsidiaries will have representatives

This week's progressive

\$1,060.00

\* Regular Bingo at 6:30 pm

\* Early Bird at 6:15 pm

inside [the branch]. It will be a robust full-service location. "We don't ever go into a market we commit to without

> a full location." Cassville economic development director Isaac Petersen said, "I expect them coming here to be great for the community. I think whatever ends up on that property will bring traffic. It's something we can draw some good PR around that's new and exciting.

"Cornerstone is a class act. The buildings are all natural stone and nice woodwork. It's very on-brand, and that is an asset."

Cassville City administrator Steve Walenksy said, "We're just delighted that there will be some development on that important corner in our community. They indicated ing a good community member. We're just excited to see somebody take some property here at a very important inter-

While the bank never had a hard deadline for opening a local branch, the initial hold up was related to the bank's actual name. Cross explained, "We don't have a definitive time line, but we are on a fast track right now. It delayed us a little bit when we switched properties. The main thing that has delayed me is there is another Cornerstone bank that operates in Missouri. So we are having to do some finagling with that. Obviously, they were there first. We have to distinguish ourselves differently to make sure there is no confusion with consumers and that type of thing. We are our name from the one currently there."

Once the name issue is resolved, the bank will begin construction on the temporary location. Cross said the bank leadership is excited about the move and integration into a new community. He said, "The city has been very welcoming and helpful to us. I can't say enough good things about the people you have in city government. They've been open arms the entire time.

"We want to come in and be a good corporate citizen. We want to do that with banking, but also how we develop those properties and have something Cassville will be proud of."

For more information about Cornerstone Bank, go to: cstonebank.net.

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# The Great Ozarks Forgive-a-thon aims at eliminating \$2.7 million in medical debt fundraiser to help people in 20 southwest missouri counties, including barry

Charlea Estes-Jones

A charismatic host. A popular television show. \$2.7 million in medical debt. But what do those things have in common, and what does it have to do with Barry County? A lot, ends up.

A fundraiser running through the end of the year ties all of the above together. Springfield's Jeff Houghton, host and creator of The Mystery Hour, a live audience featuring comedy, music and big-name guests, created The Great Ozarks Forgive-a-thon to try to help those struggling with medical debt, including families in Barry County.

By the end of December, Houghton hopes, through his show's notoriety and reach, to give families struggling under oppressive medical debt a late Christmas gift: debt forgiveness. Through a partnership with non-profit RIP Medical Debt, all funds raised will go to satisfy medical debt owed.

In all, Houghton is hoping to raise \$27,000, which will go to eliminate debt owed in 20 different Ozarks counties, including Barry. RIP Medical Debt will then use those funds to purchase qualifying medical debt from collection agencies. The actual debt that will be satisfied through the fundraiser will total \$2.7 million. In Barry County, the qualifying debt to be forgiven is \$119,144.36.

Houghton said this is the first fundraiser The Mystery Hour has done. He said, "I first saw it on John Oliver, and it was a few years. I thought it was cool, but I didn't think much of it. I saw someone posted on Facebook that a church in Columbia also did it. I didn't realize you could designate it in specific counties in your area."

So, Houghton reached out

to RIP Medical Debt to make a plan and improve the lives those living in poverty across the Ozarks. He said, "I reached out to them, and in order to get the price of a penny on the dollar to purchase [the debt], they have to forgive at least \$1.5 million to get volume pricing. They got back to me and said, 'this is what the need looks like in your area. We can do 20 counties and reach \$2.7 million'."

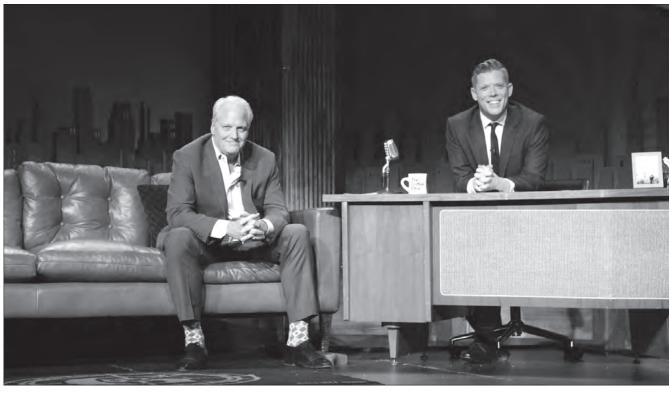
The Mystery Hour is aired on FOX, ABC, NBC and CW stations in 17 markets throughout the US. It features famous guests and musical talent, as well as provides a great avenue for a live audience show experience locally. It is through The Mystery Hour's presence Houghton is circulating the fundraiser.

Houghton shared, "There is a poverty problem in the Ozarks and I've done next to nothing about it, and I thought this is my chance to do something about it.

"The Mystery Hour doesn't have a ton of money, but we have a voice to let people know."

As of time of press, The Great Ozarks Forgive-a-thon has raised over - \$17,000 of the - \$27,000 goal. The giving period began November 30 and goes until December 31.

The counties that will be included in The Great Ozarks Forgive-a-thon and the respective debts are: Greene -\$121,817.77, Polk - \$61,779.91, Dallas - \$105,105.30, Webster - \$60,897.42, Christian -\$139,094.45, Dade - \$949.95, Lawrence - \$76,806.30, Barry - \$119,144.36, Mc-Donald \$733,869.54, Newton - \$124,237.69, Jasper -\$606,251.12, Barton - \$40,558.78, Vernon -\$56,340.37, Stone - \$53,763.51,



Pictured above, Craig Anitco, Founder and Director of Debt Operations of RIP Medical Debt, goes on The Mystery Hour to speak with host Jeff Houghton.

Taney - \$192,793.37, Cedar - \$29,099.86, Wright - \$28,870.71, Douglas - \$11,342.39, Ozark - \$25,653.39, and Laclede - \$181,290.34.

Houghton hopes the fundraiser will help those struggling, but he also said he wants to give people an avenue to help, even if it isn't a large donation. He said, "We may be able to reach the goal by a handful of big donations, but that's not the idea.

"First off, we want to reach the goal to be able to help a lot of people. Second, we want people to engage in it. We have poverty here, and we want them to engage people to do something about it. If someone can donate \$10, we welcome that with open arms. Our goal is to help."

RIP Medical Debt is a 501(c)3 non-profit that purchases medical debt from col-

lection agencies for pennies on the dollar. The individuals who qualify to have debt forgiven must: earn less than two times the federal poverty level, debts are five percent or more of annual income and is facing insolvency (debts are greater than assets).

Once debt is satisfied, RIP Medical Debt sends forgiveness letters to benefiting families. To date, they have satisfied \$1,007,537,878 million in medical debts for over 480,000 individuals and families.

To donate to The Great Ozarks Foregive-a-thon, go

to: www.themysteryhour.com/forgiveathon. For more information about RIP Medical Debt, go to: ripmedicaldebt. org. For more information about Jeff Houghton and The Mystery Hour, go to themysteryhour.com.







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# Community Calendar

Community Calendar page is free as a courtesy to local events. If your event is relying on advertising for attent-dance, then it is vital for you to place a paid ad. There is no guarantee that your event will be placed in Community Calendar. The deadline for community calendar is Friday at 4 p.m. The contact person is Elaine Phaneuf, class@4bca.com or (417) 847-4475. Thank you for keeping us informed of all updates/changes to local events.

# **Notice:**

All branches of the Barry-Lawrence Regional Library district will be closed on Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25, 2019, in observance of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and Wednesday, January 1, 2020, in observance of New Year's Day.

OATS Transit Schedule for Dec.: to Springfield: Dec. 2; to Joplin: Dec. 9 & 23; to Rogers, Ark.: Dec. 16; to Neosho: Dec. 4 & 18. To schedule a ride and for more information, call the OATS transit office at (800) 770-6287.

<u>Seligman Chamber will host a dance</u> every Saturday at 7:00 p.m. For information, call (417) 662-3612.

Golden Baptist Church Single Moms Support Group will meet every Wednesday night at 6 p.m. For information, call (417) 271-3605.

## Dec. 13th

GoldiLocks on Trial, a comedy by Ed Monk, will be presented by Southwest High School at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5

<u>A Dance</u> will be hosted at the Stella Senior Center with doors opening at 6 p.m. The dance will begin at 7 p.m. with music by Timberline Country. The cover charge is \$5. Refreshments will be available all evening.

# Dec. 14th

An Ozark Original Book Signing with Glen Garrett will be held at Monett Branch Library from 11 a.m. to 12 noon and Mt. Vernon Branch Library 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. This recent locally published biography was authored by Heno Head, of Monett.

Annual Santa and Friends will be hosted by Eagle Rock Friends of the Library from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Eagle Rock Library. This event is open to all ages and will include crafts, storytime with Mrs. Claus, cookie decorating and photos with Santa. Guests are asked to bring their camera for photos with Santa.

<u>Christmas Town</u> will begin at 9 a.m. at the Purdy School cafeteria, Purdy. The public is welcome for pictures with Santa, hot cocoa, cider, cookies, cotton candy, games and a train ride. Ticket price is \$10 for 15 tickets. Proceeds are to support the Purdy Junior class and the 2020 PHS Prom.

God's Glory Gospel Singing & Craft Event featuring The Ledbetters and special guests Ozark Mountain Revival and The Gavits will be at Stumpff's Event Center (American Legion Building), Cassville. There will be cookie decorating and face painting for the kids. And dinner will be available from Tip's Smokewagon. Doors open at 5 p.m. and singing starts at 6 p.m.

Wheaton Christmas Parade will be at 6 p.m. with line up starting at 5 p.m. at Body of Christ, 519 Gilman. Call City Hall at (417) 652-3314 to get entered in parade.

<u>Fundraiser Breakfast</u> will be served at the fire house in Eagle Rock from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

The Wheaton Historical Society will be hosting an open house at the Wheaton Depot Museum starting at 5 p.m. and continuing after after the parade. There will be refreshments.

# Dec. 16th

<u>Patron Appreciation Day</u> is being hosted by the Eagle Rock Library from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Patrons are invited to stop in for a cookie and a hot drink.

# Dec. 17th

Storytime will be at 4:15 p.m. at the Monett Library. The Barry County Republican Club will hold its monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Barry County Museum in Cassville.

# Dec. 18th

<u>Live Music</u> will be provided by the Shell Knob Strings from 11 a.m. to 12 noon at the Cassville Senior Center. <u>Storytime</u> will be at 10.30 a.m. at the Monett Library.

# Dec. 19th

A Christmas Lunch will be sponsored by Arning at the Cassville Senior Center from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. There will be a gift drawing beginning at 11:30 a.m. and Bingo sponsored by Roaring River Health and Rehab at 12 noon.

# Dec. 20th

A Free Holiday Meal will be served at the Cassville United Methodist Church, 7th & Gravel, Cassville, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be turkey, a variety of sides and salads, drinks and desserts. Everyone is invited.

<u>Christmas Lunch</u> will be held at Central Crossing Senior Center from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All ages are welcome

<u>Music</u> will be held at the Clio Community Building beginning at 6:30 p.m.

# Dec. 21st

Seligman Chamber of Commerce and Arkansas & Missouri Railroad will be having their Christmas Train Rides on Saturday, December 21st, from Seligman City Hall to Rogers, Ark., starting at 9 a.m. and again at 11 a.m. on Sunday, December 22, from Monett Soccer Fields to Exeter. Three round trips starting at 12 p.m., 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Santa will be on board on all trips giving out bags of treats to children 12 and under. Flyin Buzzards Bluegrass Band will be on all trips entertaining passengers. All passengers will receive hot cocoa and cookies. Cost is \$25 for adults, \$15 for children 3 to 12, under 3 will be \$5. Children must be with an adult. All sponsorship proceeds will go to for The Kids Foster Parent Association. If you or your business would like to be a sponsor, call Lynette Bailey (417) 489-7903 or go to bailey1228@sbcglobal.net. To make reservations call 1-800-687-8600. Walk ups are welcome, but reservations are advised.

# Dec. 28th

<u>Fundraiser Breakfast</u> will be served at the fire house in Eagle Rock from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

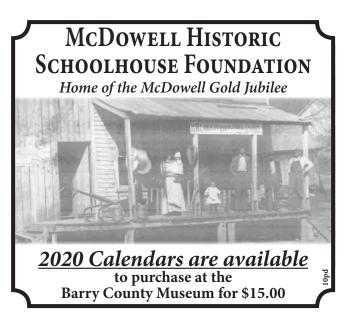
# School Menus: Dec. 16 - Dec. 20

All meals served with milk and subject to change.

Exeter: Mon: B: cinnamon roll, yogurt, fruit, juice or cereal, Pop-Tart, fruit, juice. L: popcorn chicken, baked beans, winter mix, fruit. Tues: B: ham & cheese,croissant, orange juice or cereal, Vertical Bar, orange. L: chicken tetrazzini, salad, carrots, breadstick, fruit. Wed: B: egg-stravaganza, toast, fruit, juice or cereal, toast, fruit, juice. L: sliced ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, roll, cookie, fruit. Thurs: B: sausage & egg biscuit, fruit, juice or cereal, biscuit, fruit, juice. L: general chicken, brown rice, broccoli, fortune cookie, fruit. Fri: B: cereal, Pop-Tart, fruit, juice. L: ham & cheese sandwich, chips, baby carrots, celery sticks, Sidekick.

Cassville PR-Int.-Middle: Mon: B: biscuit & gravy or pancake on stick, hashbrown, tropical fruit or cereal, granola bar, orange. L: pepperoni pizza or cheese pizza, corn, Rice Krispy Treat, peaches. Tues: B: biscuit & gravy or sausage biscuit, applesauce or cereal, chocolate muffin, pears. L: beef burrito/cheese, chicken sandwich, nachos, pinto beans, Sidekicks. Wed: B: biscuit & gravy or breakfast pizza, hashbrown, pears or cereal, blueberry muffin, applesauce. L: hot dog or hamburger, BBQ chips, green beans, mandarin oranges. Thurs: B: biscuit & gravy or breakfast burrito, sausage, pineapple or cereal, Rice Krispy Treat, apple slices. L: turkey & gravy, potatoes, green beans, hot roll, sugar cookie, juice. Fri: B: biscuit & gravy or french toast, sausage, peaches or cereal, cinnamon toast, fruit cocktail. L: turkey sandwich or ham sandwich, Sun Chips, chocolate chip cookie, fruit snacks.

Cassville High School: Mon: B: biscuit & gravy or breakfast pizza, hashbrown, pears or cereal, granola bar, orange. L: cheeseburger, Doritos, carrot sticks, tropical fruit or pizza meal or salad meal. Tues: B: biscuit & gravy or french toast, sausage, peaches or cereal, graham crackers, apple. L: popcorn chicken, mac & cheese, broccoli, breadstick, pears or cheeseburger meal or salad meal. Wed: B: biscuit & gravy or breakfast burrito, sausage, pineapple or cereal, cinnamon toast, applesauce. L: crispito, pinto beans, salad, ice cream, peaches or pizza meal or salad meal. Thurs: B: biscuit & gravy or sausage biscuit, hashbrown, applesauce or cereal, cinnamon toast, peaches. L: turkey, gravy, potatoes, green beans, cookie, juice or cheeseburger meal or salad meal. Fri: B: biscuit & gravy or chocolate muffin, yogurt cup, fruit cocktail or cereal, Pop-Tart, orange. L: pizza wedge, corn, salad, tropical fruit or chicken nugget meal or salad



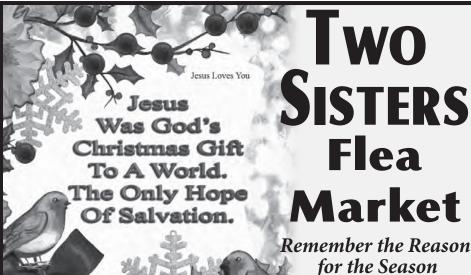
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# Merry Christmas!

To some of the best vendors around and loyal customers! Thank you for supporting my small business. May you all have a Blessed New Year!

# Stumpff Family Event Center to host Gospel sing "God's Glory"

Vinnie Roberts

Last month, the former home of Cassville's American Legion Post 118 was officially purchased by local businessman Donnie Stumpff. During this time, Stumpff and his family began renovations to turn the former meeting hall into the Stumpff Family Event Center. Now, just over a month after the deal closed, the center stands ready to open its doors for its first ever public event.

"We bought this a while ago, and it was getting to be too late in the year to do much as our first event," said Stumpff. "We wanted to kick the first event off by giving glory to God for everything that he allows us to have. What better way to do that than to have a Gospel concert around Christmas time?"

On Saturday, December 14, the Stumpff Family Event Center will host God's Glory, a gospel concert that will feature the talents of local groups The Ledbetters, Ozark Mountain Revival and the Gavits. The event will also feature several craft booths, as well as face-painting and cookie decorating for children.

Food for the event will be provided by Tip's Smokewagon, a food truck based out of Cassville that serves barbeque, among other things. Food will be offered for purchase, but the entry into the event is free of charge. Ac-

to request your statement.

go to: barrycountycollector.com.



*Members of the Stumpff family as they decorate the stage for Saturday's event. From left to right:* Teresa Stumpff, Carter Stumpff, Hadley Stumpff and Ashley Stumpff.

cording to Stumpff, there will be an offering collected during the performance.

"We will pass around a love offering at some point throughout the night, but the event itself is free," said Stumpff.

Doors will open to the public at 5 p.m. and the music will begin at 6 p.m.

With this first event officially on the books, Stumpff is looking to the occasion as a sort of barometer to test the public reception to the new center and its events.

"I'm hoping that we get a lot of really good turnout and feedback," said Stumpff. "We have a lot of good stuff coming for next year, but

SUNDAY

15 DEC

**Barry County Collector reminds** 

residents about tax statements

Barry County Collector Skyler Bowman mailed out the 2019

Tax Statements on November 4. If you have not received your

statement by now, call the collector's office at (417) 847-2113

cash, check, debit or credit card. If you pay with a debit or credit card or online, there is an additional fee. To pay online,

The 2019 taxes become delinquent on January 1, 2020. Payment can be made in person at the collector's office with I'd like for this first event to be something that everyone enjoys and leaves talking about."

This event is just the first of a variety of events that Stumpff plans to host out of the new center. Since before the deal closed, Stumpff and his family have been hard at work coming up with new ideas for future events.

"The Old Settler's Reunion will hopefully be back next year," said Stumpff. "We also have a circus planned for next year, as well as a mule jump. The American Legion Post will also continue to host the tractor pull on the grounds every July 4. We also intend to bring back the Easter egg hunt."

According to Stumpff, the purpose of the center is to bring family fun back to Cassville, so as to bring a new generation the kind of happy memories he recalls from his childhood.

"If we can bring some of these events back to town and create some of these happy memories like we used to have, that's what it's all about," concluded Stumpff. "Warm, fuzzy-feeling smalltown memories. That's what we want."

For more information, or to inquire about future events, contact Ashley Stumpff at (417) 342-2968.

# Ramos graduates from Barry County Treatment Court program



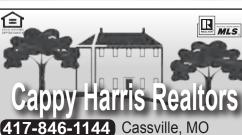
Vanessa Ramos recently graduated from the Barry County Treatment Court program on December 6. Ramos is pictured above with Barry County Judge Johnnie Cox.











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\$119,900 60152237 COUNTRY!! 30 acres m/l with a 2 BD 2 BA home, newer

CH/Air, metal roof. fireplace, deck, full unfinished basement, large pond, pole barn, private. \$169,900 60143743 COUNTRY HOME!! 3 BR, 2BA, 10 acres, working

corral, shop and pond, close to town. \$239,900 60124497 LAKE VIEW WITH A SHOP! 2 BR, 2 BA, fenced yard, sunroom, walk in closet, community pool! \$139,900

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60143940 LAND!! 40 acres mostly timber. ONLY \$60,000 60141271 **LAND!!** 44 acres with 2 barns and a pond! \$143,500 60119112 **FURNISHED LAKE CABIN**, private boat dock. Cabin has wood flooring, fireplace, 1/4 basement, private well, patio, \$119,900 30x40 garage/shop.

60137025 REMODELED 3 BR, 2 BA, log siding, double french doors. Sliding barn doors for interior doors & comes with a she shed on 2 acres M/L.

60137785 ROARING RIVER! 5 BD, 3 BA, recently remodeled, 2 living areas, sunroom, pantry, fireplace, wet bar in rec room, deck & 2 covered patio areas, fenced yard, 30x50 drive through shop, walk down to Roaring River!

60117605 TABLE ROCK LAKE LOTS! Community water and sewer. Boat slip available from third party at additional cost.





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#### **CENTER from FRONT**



Branco construction crews on Thursday, December 5, as they moved dirt from the future site of the Early Childhood Center to make way for a foundation.

being worked on. Current projections place the completion of the facility at around the end of summer

and fabrication has been ordered and is out for fabrication," continued Asbill. "It'll

tion of the project currently take some time, but we're hoping to be in the final construction phase between August and September of this coming Summer."

The current estimated "All of the metal framing cost of the Early Childhood Center is \$1,183,645, just over one fourth of the \$4.1 million dollars awarded to

the district through the Vision 150 bond agreement.

For any questions regarding any current or future improvements to the district, contact the Cassville R-IV School District Central office at (417) 847-





The winner of the Festival of Lights gift basket donated by Arvest Bank of Cassville Was Angie Corn, of Seligman! Congratulations, Angie!





NAME: PHONE: ADDRESS:

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. Illegible forms will be discarded. IF ADDRESS IS NOT SEARCHABLE BY GPS, clear driving directions must be attached to entry form to participate. No purchase necessary; some sort of holiday light must be visible from the road at address listed to win. Contest open to Barry County residents only. Must be 18 to enter. Not responsible for accidents. See www.4bcaonline for details.





On Saturday, December 7, the city of Exeter held their annual Christmas Parade. The parade featured a variety of floats and performances from organizations both in Exeter and the greater

Representing GoBec and Barry Electric's float, based on the hit Disney film "Frozen", Gary Mitchell waves at parade attendees while dressed as Olaf the snowman.

# **Exeter Christmas Parade Winners**

School: 1st Place - Exeter PTO

Religious: 1st Place -Bethlehem Free Will, 2nd Place - Assembly of God

Non-Religious: 1st Place Gus Robbins, 2nd Place -Cub Scouts #76

City Choice: Barry Electric Coop

• Bands

Musical: 1st Place - Southwest, 2nd Place - Exeter Non-Musical:

1st Place - Southwest Colorguards, 2nd Place - Exeter Cheerleaders

• Vehicles

Oldest: 1st Place - 1929 Ford - Eric Casas, 2nd Place - 1932 Bantom - Jessie Kirch

Vintage: 1st Place - 1968 Chevy Camaro - John Henderson, 2nd Place - 1953 Chevy - Ray Hornor

Most Unusual: 1st Place -Ben Miller, 2nd Place - 1956 Ford Race Car - Mike Cornelison

Best Modern:

1st Place - 2004 Ford Thunderbird - Russell Bishop

vid Colf, 2nd Place - Norman

Antique: 1st Place - Da-

Classic: 1st Place - Ayasha Ross, 2nd Place - Ben Miller • Horses

Best Presentation: 1st Place - Gene Robbins Group Best of Show: 1st Place

Southern Soul Sisters -Equine Drill Team



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2nd wk

# Christmas cheer warms hearts at holiday parades



Cassville High School FFA wished everyone a "Merry Christmas from the whole herd" with their live animal float on Sunday at the Cassville Christmas parade. The FFA chapter took the Hutchens Kids Choice Award, netting the group \$1,000.



Pictured at left, Exeter's FFA chapter brought a unique member to their parade party. The baby goat, named Cheez-It, walked dutifully alongside his group while attached to a



Washburn **Christmas** parade winners:

- Southwest Trojan

2nd - Exeter School Band 3rd - Washburn Girl Scout Troop



During Washburn's Christmas parade, Bristol Davis, 4 years, threw candy for the Barry County Sheriff's Department with her grandma, Kathy Emo, of Cassville.



Hours: Monday-Friday: 8am-5pm | Saturday: 8am-1pm | Sunday: Closed

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# Cassville **Christmas** Parade winners

**Band:** Southwest Marching Band

Non-religious: 1st - Hungry Hollow Brewing Co., 2nd -Griswold Christmas, 3rd - Cub Scout Pack 76

Religious: First Baptist of Cassville

Best Horse Drawn: Southern Soul Sister Drill Team

Most Unique Vehicle: Benny's Automotive

Best Decorated Vehicle: **Bob Crawford Corvette** 

Commercial: 1st - Barry Electric, 2nd - First State Bank, 3rd - Wright Pest Control

Hutchens Kids Choice Award: Cassville High School FFA











## WILMA JOYCE RUSSELL

Wilma Joyce Russell, age 86, of Exeter, passed away Sunday, December 1, 2019, at Roaring River Health and Rehabilitation in Cassville.

She was born August 27, 1933, in St. Francis, Arkansas, the daughter of Charles and Beulah (McMillian) Merritt. On July 5, 1952, she was united in marriage to Cletus Russell, who preceded her in death. Also preceding her in death were her parents; two sisters, Velma and Laverne; and two brothers, Paul and Leslie.

Surviving are one son, Bryan Russell, of Exeter; two daughters, Shayne Kelly, of Manchester, New Hampshire, and Tracy Johnson, of Exeter; one sister, Claudine Gardner, of Exeter; three grandchildren, Benjamin Russell, Ian Russell and Dana Russell; and one greatgrandchild, Nautica Russell.

Wilma grew up and received her education in Arkansas. For several years, she lived in New Hampshire where she was a supervisor for an insurance company. In February 1991, she moved from New Hampshire to Exeter to make her home.

No services are scheduled

in Cassville.

Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.

FOHN FUNERAL HOME CASSVILLE, MO. 417-847-2141

#### GEORGE LOUIS BOEHM JR.

George Louis Boehm Jr., age 51, of Golden, passed away Monday, December 2, 2019, at Mercy Hospital in Cassville.

Services are currently pending. Cremation arrangements are under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.

Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.

FOHN FUNERAL HOME CASSVILLE, MO. 417-847-2141

#### **HELEN ROSE**

Helen Rose, age 80, of Cassville, passed away Wednesday, December 4, 2019, at Cox Medical Center South in Springfield.

She was born April 26, 1939, in Klamath Falls, Oregon, the daughter of John and Maudie (Cooper) Periman. On June 21, 1958, she was united in marriage to Lyle Sam Rose, who survives. Also surviving are one son, Randy Rose and his wife, Danielle, of Rogers, Arkansas; one daughter, Lucinda Rose, of Rogers, Arkansas; one sister, Lou Ann Priest, of Cassville; and two grandchildren, Logan Rose and Madison Holliday and her husband, Charles.

Preceding her in death were her parents and one brother.

Helen received her edu-

# **OBITUARIES**

she was employed at Forrest Products and was currently working part-time at Four Seasons Hotel in Cassville. She was a member of Cassville First Baptist Church and Classy Red Hatter. One of her favorite pastimes was working with crafts and she had a special talent in which she could paint characters and their eyes seemed to be looking right at you. She also taught many classes in the art of painting.

Graveside services weree held Saturday, December 7, 2019, at Maplewood Cemetery in Exeter under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor James Weaver conducted the services

Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.

FOHN FUNERAL HOME CASSVILLE, MO. 417-847-2141

### RUTH VIRGINIA ERICKSON

Ruth Virginia Erickson, age 94, of Shell Knob, passed away Friday, December 6, 2019, at Roaring River Health and Rehabilitation in Cassville.

Graveside services will be held at 1:00 p.m. Friday, December 13, 2019, at Resthaven Cemetery in Wichita, Kansas.

Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook

and private condolences.

FOHN FUNERAL HOME
CASSVILLE, MO.
417-847-2141

#### ROGER R. WINCHESTER

Roger R. Winchester, age 80, of Shell Knob, passed away Thursday, December 5, 2019, at his home.

No services are scheduled at this time. Cremation arrangements are under direc-

tion of Fohn Funeral Home in Shell Knob.

Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.

FOHN FUNERAL HOME SHELL KNOB, MO. 417-858-3151

#### **GEORGE BRATTIN**

George Brattin, age 70, of Cassville, passed away Friday, December 6, 2019, at Bentonview Park Health and Rehabilitation in Monett.

Graveside services were held at 12:00 p.m. Saturday, December 7, 2019, at Creason Cemetery in Ridgley under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.

Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.

FOHN FUNERAL HOME CASSVILLE, MO. 417-847-2141

#### MIKE KURT BURTON

Mike Kurt Burton, 59, of Pierce City, passed away on Friday, December 6, 2019. Memorial services will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, December 13, 2019. at Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.

# TINA MARIE CUMMINS

Tina Marie Cummins, age 55, of Golden, passed away Saturday, December 7, 2019, at her home.

No services are scheduled at this time. Cremation arrangements are under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville, Missouri.

Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.

FOHN FUNERAL HOME CASSVILLE, MO. 417-847-2141

# PAULA HIGHTOWER

Paula Hightower, 92, of Verona, passed away Sunday, December 8, 2019. Graveside services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 12, 2019, at Calton Cemetery, southeast of Monett under direction of Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett. Friends may call upon the funeral home from noon until 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday.



# KATHLEEN "KAY" STONIS

Kathleen "Kay" Stonis, age 85, passed away Wednesday, December 4, 2019.

She was born in Berwyn, Illinois. At an early age, she married Ralph Stonis and they had two daughters, Cathy and Kimberly. In her later years, she enjoyed the company of a special friend, James Sanders, who preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death by her daughter, Cathy Morgenthaler.

Surviving are her daughter, Kimberly McCord; grandchildren, Sandra, Stephen, Eddie, Leslie, Karl and Aleene Morgenthaler and Shannon McCord; and her great-grandchildren, Eleanore and Edward Chaplin.

Kay was an avid bowler and had a voracious sweet tooth. She will be remembered fondly by many.

No services are scheduled at this time. Cremation arrangements are under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.

Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.

FOHN FUNERAL HOME CASSVILLE, MO. 417-847-2141



#### STEPHANIE LYNN MARCANO

Stephanie Lynn Marcano, age 46, of Cassville, passed away Sunday, December 8, 2019, at her home.

She was born April 23, 1973, in Lancaster, California, the daughter of Steve McAuley and Maggie Hensley McAuley, who survive. Also surviving are one son, Eduardo Marcano, of Cassville; one daughter, Kelsey McAuley, of Cassville; grandmother, Marie Swinehart, of Lancaster, California; two brothers, Eric Buchs, of Lancaster, California, and Chris Buchs and his wife, Cristina, of Rancho Cucamonga, California; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Stephanie grew up and received her education in California where she graduated from high school. Later, she put herself through college and earned her Bachelor's Degree in Business. For fifteen years, she worked at Emory Melton Inn and Conference Center as a reservation specialist. Some of her favorite pastimes were baking, crafting, and spending time with her family. She was an avid animal lover and would take in any stray she

Services will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, December 14, 2019, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor Rick Cooper will conduct the services.

Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.

FOHN FUNERAL HOME CASSVILLE, MO. 417-847-2141

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**DEC. 18:** Sweet & sour chicken, rice, oriental veggies, cookies & cream trifle, hot rolls

<u>DEC. 19</u>: Christmas Lunch! Roast beef, mashed potatoes & gravy, brussel sprouts, dessert buffet, hot rolls



<u>DEC. 20</u>: Breakfast! Biscuits & homemade gravy, sausage, veggie frittata, cinnamon streusel coffee cake

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<u>Fri:</u> Campfire skillet, cornbread, 20 min. fudge cake

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### WILLIAM JACOB "BILL" GRIPKA

William Jacob Gripka, age 84, of Cassville, passed away Friday, December 6, 2019, at Roaring River Health and Rehabilitation in Cassville.

He was born October 9, 1935, in Ritchey, the son of Tony and Stella (Clapper) Gripka. On November 11, 1960, he was united in marriage to Hazel Fetters, who survives. Also surviving are two daughters, Rhonda Harris and her husband, Rick, of Purdy, and Regina Pry and her husband, Mark, of

Cassville; a daughter-in-law, Netta Ellis and her husband, Jerry, of Seligman; nine grandchildren, Mindi Gates and her husband, Justin, Tyler Gripka and his wife, Anya, Jessie Rambo and her husband, Josh, Jake Harris, Andy Harris and his wife, Kaylynn, Kindra Eden and her husband, Kelbe, Zach Pry and his wife, Krista, Emily Pry and Brady Pry; ten great-grandchildren with two on the way; one sister, Betty Terry and her husband, Donnie, of Purdy; and two brothers, Anthony Gripka, of Monett, and Charles Gripka, of Springfield.

Preceding him in death were his parents; one son, Rob Gripka; and three sisters, Mary Helen Washick, Anna Velten and Clara Sta-

Bill received his education at Pierce City. Many years, he was employed at Jumping Jacks and then Justin Boot. For twelve years, he served in the United

# **J**BITUARIES

States National Guard. He was a long-time member of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Cassville where he served as a Deacon and was also a member of the Cassville Golf Course. Some of his favorite pastimes were fishing and he loved his garden.

Services were held at 2:00 p.m. Monday, December 9, 2019, at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Cassville under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor Danny Heupel conducted the services. Burial was at Oak Hill Cemetery in Cassville.

Contributions may be made to Emmanuel Baptist Church in memory of Bill. Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.

FOHN FUNERAL HOME CASSVILLE, MO. 417-847-2141



#### TIMOTHY ALLEN **VERMILLION**

Timothy Allen Vermillion, 63, of Golden, passed from this life on December 6, 2019, while at Bentonview Park Health and Rehab in Monett.

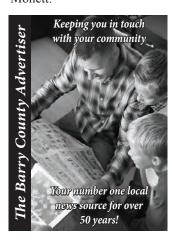
Tim was born June 13, 1956, in Granby, son of the late Kenneth and Irene (Schad) Vermillion. Being raised in Monett, Tim graduated from Monett High School with the Class of

1974. He was brought up in the Lutheran Church, being baptized as a young boy at St. John's Lutheran Church Stones Prairie and had attended St. John's Lutheran Church in Monett for many

For most of Tim's working years, he was a Truck Driver. He also had a great passion for cars, as he was very mechanically inclined. He enjoyed boating, skiing and spending any time that he could on the lake. The greatest joy in his life was being with his son, Matthew.

Tim is survived by his son, Matthew Vermillion, of Golden; brother, Stephen Vermillion (Donna), of Springfield; sister, Nancy Bass (Gary), of Monett; nephew, David Vermillion (Erin); niece, Anne Vermillion Phillips (Ty); greatniece, Allison Dillinger; great-nephews, Colin and Ian Vermillion; as well as a host of extended family and friends.

Memorial visitation will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, December 13, 2019, at Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett, with a memorial service beginning at 4:00 p.m. Pastor Jeff Griffis will be officiating. A private committal will be held at a later date at Stones Prairie Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Hospice Compassus in care of the funeral home. Arrangements have been entrusted to Buchanan Funeral Home, 301 Euclid Ave, Monett.



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Sunday Evening Worship 6:30 pm

Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6:30 pm

Sunday Morning Radio Program KKBL 95.9 FM 7:45 am

# BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor Don Veazey 10870 FR 2182, Cassville TheBibleBaptistCassville.org

417-847-4871 Sunday School - 10 a.m. Church Service - 11 a.m.

Evening Service - 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening - 7 p.m.

# McDowell Community Church

Non-Denominational Church

Service Times:

Sunday School " Worship Service ......11:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening Service ...... 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Bible Study/Youth ..... 7:00 p.m.

Everybody Welcome!



But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Luke 2:10

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# **TIS THE SEASON**

We are at the "season" time of the year. It is indeed the season." In fact, more than one season is upon us. We are celebrating the holiday season and enduring the cold and flu

Concerning the latter, I went to a local pharmacy to get some over-the-counter cold relief medications. I started looking at the packages to find one that met my symptoms. I found a variety of competing products. Every one of them was better than the other one.

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Why take two pills every 4 hours, take two every 12 hours Take me, I'm a national brand

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Buy me, I'm non-drowsy

Buy me, I'll help you sleep

Buying over-the-counter meds is a lot like today's religious world. Pick a preference and you can find someone to satisfy that desire. There are literally dozens upon dozens of "faiths." All are claiming to be "the best." All are claiming to follow Ephesians 4:4-6. "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."

The variety of choices can be confusing to those seeking the "one faith" of Ephesians chapter four. Fortunately, we have help in our choices. God's word. Make sure your choice does not contradict God's word.

Religion doesn't have to be confusing. Follow the teachings of Jesus and the inspired writers of the New Testament, without subtraction, compromise or personal agendas and you will find "all things that pertain unto life and godliness." 2 Peter 1:3.

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Sun. at 10:45 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

# Basketball teams hit the court across county

Vinnie Roberts

With football season officially wrapped and the cold weather upon us, the time of year is here for indoor sports to shine. Boys basketball season began earlier this month with teams all over Barry County taking to the court.

The Barry County team with the current strongest record is Purdy High School. The team currently sits at an even three wins and three losses after a loss suffered at the hands of College Heights on Tuesday, December 10.

According to Purdy's head basketball coach, Ryan Stokes, the team has had a solid showing thus far, and is beginning to find a rhythm on the court.

"It's been up and down," explained Stokes. "We've played okay, but our defense is our strength. We played the Pierce City Tournament, and that's a tough tournament to play anyway, and that's where Billings got us pretty good."

Stokes went on to explain speed and work ethic are crucial to the team's performance on the court.

"We're pretty quick, but I

think our biggest strength is our work ethic," said Stokes. "When we get out there and put our minds to it, we can out work anyone out there on the court. When we decide to work hard, we haven't lost."

Standout players from the Purdy team include two who lead the team in rebounds, Scottie Henry and Ociel Aldalva.

"We rebound really well," said Stokes. "I've got Scottie Henry, who is seven feet tall, and second in rebounds behind Ociel Aldava, who both lead the team right now. They really cause some problems for some people out there."

Purdy's next game will pit them against Exeter High at home on Friday, December 13. Exeter goes into the game with no wins and three losses.

Exeter's head coach, Courtney Roth said the team's early season record is due to some shifts in the roster causing some shakeups among the team.

"We've had a rough start with a couple key players quitting and the team underperforming relative to our capabilities," said Roth.

"Our biggest obstacle has been our mindset. We don't seem to fully believe we can win. It feels like we expect to lose before the ball has been tipped. It's a battle with our subconscious mind. Our basketball-specific decision making is improving, but that has been one of our obstacles as well."

Though the early roster issues have contributed to a winless record thus far, Roth remains determined that his team has the stuff to give the rest of their division a fight for the remainder of the sea-

"Our best all-around player is sophomore guard Corey Hilburn," explained Roth. "He has the potential to be one of Exeter's all-time best players. Consciously, we're committed to getting better. We keep fighting late in games that are out of reach. That's not easy to do."

Down in southern Barry County, another team with an even record is steeling their own resolve to fight through the season. Southwest High's basketball team currently holds a record of two wins and two losses.

According to head coach Rusty Roe, the team has put forth an exceptional effort December 13. It will be an this season despite a shortage of upperclassmen to pack the roster.

"We are very young, but there is a great group of talent that has really stepped up to the challenge of varsity basketball," explained Roe. "We have two seniors and the remaining 15 players on our team are either freshman or sophomore."

The Southwest team may not have much in the way of upperclassmen, but according to Roe, the returning players on this year's team are already turning up the heat on the competition.

"Cruz Marquez is a returning all conference player who has had an excellent season so far, including a career high 41 points in our tip off game," boasted Roe. "Caden Uthe is a returning starter from last season and he has done a great job so far leading our team on offense and defense. Aubrey Cornell is the only other returning varsity player from last season. Aubrey is having a good senior year so far and is a much needed player for us on both ends of the floor."

Southwest's next matchup will be on Friday,

away game against Marionville, a team also boasting an even 2-2 record this season.

Wheaton's boys basketball team currently has a record of two wins and four losses after a loss to Galena on Tuesday, December 10. Wheaton comes into this season after having only managed three wins in the 2018-19 season. According to head coach Jody Cavness, now entering his second year in the position, the inexperienced that led to his team's record last year is already looking to be a thing of the past.

"Last year, we were a three-win basketball team," explained Cavness. were very sophomore-heavy and inexperienced, varsitywise. It was a learning year for us. This year, all of my sophomores came back. I've got a good senior, a great freshman group, and fantastic eighth grade group that will be ready to join us next

With last year's experience under their belts, the Wheaton team, both old and new, came together to already nearly match their previous season's win

stormed back to tie the game

record, putting them well on track to have a stellar sea-

"We're a lot bigger, faster and stronger this year," said Cavness. "They've got a year of my coaching under their belt now, and I think that it's all starting to come together. We're all more in-tune than we were previously."

Cavness explained that the team's biggest strength comes from their offensive and defensive balance they are able to strike on the

"We're pretty balanced this year. Three of the games that we've played, I've had at least three players in the double figures," Cavness explained.

Wheaton will get the opportunity to test their newfound cohesion later this week, on Friday, December 13, when they travel to take on the team from Sparta.

Finally, Cassville's boy's basketball team currently holds a record of one win and three losses. Most recently, Cassville suffered a 65-72 loss against Neosho. Cassville coach Barrett Milleson could not be reached for comment by the time of publication.





# Lady Trojans epic win highlights tournament week

Lee Stubblefield

A week of tournaments dominated the high school basketball scene. No area school won a tournament title, but there was one notable achievement. The Southwest Lady Trojans are winless no more.

Southwest ended 48-game losing streak with a 34-32 squeaker over the Diamond Lady Wildcats at the Diamond Tournament on Tuesday, December 3.

Destiny Jalbert's squad held a 7-point lead in the final minutes, but Diamond

at 32. Southwest's Brylee Wilson missed a jumper as the clock ran down but was fouled with seven tenths of a second remaining. One free throw would secure the first victory for the Lady Trojans since December 2, 2017, when they beat the host Lady Wildcats

Wilson toed the line and shot. Miss. Miss again.

at that year's Diamond Invita-

But little sister Emily Wilson leaped into the lane and tapped the ball over the rim as the horn sounded.

Varsity girls area scores Diamond Tournament

Quarterfinals: McAuley 50, Southwest 26

Quarterfinals: Purdy 39, Verona 35

Consolation semifinals: Southwest 34, Diamond 32

Semifinals: College Heights 72, Purdy 32

7th place game: Verona 54, Southwest 35

Championship: McAuley 64, Purdy 34

Warsaw Tournament

Quarterfinals: Marionville 49, Wheaton 43 OT **Carthage Tournament** 

Pool play: Lamar 31, Cass-

Pool play: Carthage 57, Cassville 35

Varsity boys area scores

Marionville Tournament Quarterfinals: Cassville 76, Hurley 48

Quarterfinals: Spokane 70, Southwest 32

Semifinals: Miller 56, Cassville 50

Consolation semifinals: Greenfield 53, Southwest 52

3rd place game: Buffalo 59, Cassville 45

7th place game: Southwest

69, Hurley 61 Pierce City Tournament Quarterfinals: Billings 64,

Purdy 33 semifinals: Consolation

East Newton 50, Purdy 34 7th place game: Purdy 54

Verona 52

Diamond Tournament

Pool play: Thomas Jefferson 65, Wheaton 47

5th place game: Wheaton 64, McAuley 62.





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# Cassville falls to Odessa in Class 3 title game, 49-28

Lee Stubblefield

"Teams to remember play in December" read the banner in front of the Odessa student section. Indeed, the 2019 Class 3 championship was a game to remember for both squads. For Odessa, it was the finishing touch on an undefeated season. For Cassville, this game was a frustrating end to a great playoff run.

Although the sun shone brightly on a cold afternoon in Columbia, the clock struck midnight on Cassville's Cinderella season. The glass slipper became a doggie boot as the Odessa Bulldogs defeated the Wildcats 49-28 with an impressive offensive performance.

Only Blair Oaks and Seneca had scored more than 21 points against the proud Cassville defense in a long season leading to the Show-Me Bowl. Odessa posted 35 points in the first half alone on Faurot Field, the home of the Missouri Tigers. After shutting out a talented Trinity Catholic team in the semifinals, it was inconceivable that Odessa could put up nearly half a hundred points on Cassville. But the Bulldogs declawed the Wildcats' defense with over 500 yards of offense and seven scores, and that number burned on the scoreboard as the crowd filed out of Memorial Stadium.

## Just keep rowing

"Just keep rowing," the motto inspired by the book of the same name, was emblazoned on the sweatshirts of the Odessa fans that filled a good portion of the west side of the stadium. Just an hour and a half west of Columbia, the Odessa team and supporters had an easier trip to the game than the Cassville faithful.

The Bulldogs were a team on a mission. Last year, Odessa stumbled against Maryville, and that 29-6 playoff loss derailed a potential perfect season. Coach Mark Thomas preached to his team all year that "We would only worry about the things we could con-

Just keep rowing.

# **Shocking start**

Cassville won the coin toss d deferred. Facing a cold south wind, Drake Reese's kickoff fell short of the end zone. Odessa's Bryley Ray charged up the left sideline and burst through the Cassville coverage team for a 93-yard score. The PAT failed, but Odessa was on the board just 12 seconds into the contest.

Bowen Preddy gave Cassville excellent field position on the ensuing kickoff, streaking to the Odessa 33-yard line. The Wildcats reached the red zone before DJ White was thrown for a third-down loss. Reese trotted onto the field with his kicking tee for a 32-yard attempt.

Typical Cassville old school football. Kick the field goal, hold on defense, then drive the ball into the end zone.

But Reese's kick sailed wide

right, and Odessa took over at the 20-yard line.

The teams traded three and outs, and then Odessa started rolling. The Bulldogs drove 72 yards in just six plays to score again. Bell cow running back Luke Malizzi ran 46 yards to the Cassville 15-yard line and then senior quarterback Josey Meieraren flipped a pass over the Cassville secondary to big tight end Kade Kiehl in the back corner of the end zone. Malizzi barged into the end zone for the conversion, and Odessa claimed a 14-0 lead with 3:57 left in the opening quarter.

The Wildcats went to work. Aided by a roughing the passer penalty on the first play of the drive, they drove 67 yards in nine plays. Deven Bates drilled a 13-yard pass to White for the score, and Reese cut the lead to 14-7 with the PAT.

#### The bomb

But on the last play of the first quarter, Odessa rocked the Cassville defense. Ray, the hero of the opening kickoff, split wide right against Kade Hayward's single coverage. Ray shot up the sideline on a fly pattern, tracked down Meieraren's wind-aided pass, and raced 80 yards to the house with no time showing on the clock. Wade Johnson supplied the PAT to give the Bulldogs a 21-7 lead.

The Wildcats then drove to the Odessa 16-yard line on a 10-play drive, but Reese missed another 32-yard attempt.

#### Shock and awe

"We were comfortable with the preparation for Cassville's defense," said Odessa's Thomas after the game. "We wanted to put our offense on display."

The Bulldogs did just that after the missed kick. Meieraren shredded the Cassville secondary on the drive, completing all four of his passes as Odessa swept down the field for another score. Kiehl, the 6-4 tight end, caught passes for 22 and 20 yards, and Brett Duncan's 29-yard reception gave the Bulldogs a first down at the Cassville one-yard line. Ethan Uhrlaub banged into the end zone as Odessa opened a 28-7 lead with exactly five



Despite a strong effort to move the ball, the Cassville wide receiver DJ White, 3, is taken down by the Odessa defensive line while #58 Nate Boley tries to come to his aid. Photo by Priscilla Craig.

minutes left in the first half.

Odessa's multiple tight end sets seemed to confuse Cassville's defense. On running plays, the Bulldogs held a blocking advantage. When Meieraren threw, the big ends roamed the secondary, often uncovered.

"What we bring is difficult

to prepare for," coach Thomas explained. "We try to utilize all our athletes. We give them a role and let them do their job."

### Critical sequence

"I was very proud of the way our kids played," Cassville's Lance Parnell reflected after the game. "They competed hard."

The determined Wildcats cut into the Odessa lead and had a chance to pull within one score at halftime. The last five-minute sequence of the second quarter determined

See CATS on 12A



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#### CATS from 11A



Breaking through the Odessa defense, Wildcats running back #34 Bowen Preddy moves and shakes his way through a tackle on his way to the end zone. Photo by Priscilla Craig.

the ball game.

White settled under Johnson's kickoff and raced to the Odessa 48-yard line. Then, Bates directed the Wildcats on an 8-play scoring drive, throwing a scoring strike to Reese on a crossing route in the end zone. Reese added the PAT to cut the lead to 28-14 with 1:48 left in the half.

Then, Odessa's Meieraren committed a rare mistake, lobbing a deep pass into coverage. Jericho Farris intercepted and weaved his way up the field. But Odessa's Brett Duncan jarred the ball loose and the Bulldogs recovered at midfield.

If Farris could have got down safely, the Wildcats would have had an opportunity to cut the lead to one

score, and then receive the second half kickoff with a chance to tie. But in a cruel twist of fate, the Bulldogs used the reversal of fortune to drive for vet another score. Meiraren found Duncan with a 27-yard strike in the final minute of the quarter to balloon the lead to 35-14 at halftime.

#### **Fireworks**

Cassville's offense took the field to start the third quarter after Farris returned a Johnson kickoff to the 22-yard line. Two plays netted just four yards. Then, Cassville did what Cassville does: open up the play book.

"We don't call them trick plays because we run them all the time," said Parnell later after the wildest scoring play of the game.

Bates dropped into the pocket and fired a pass toward Brett Cooper in the left flat. Instead of catching the ball, Cooper batted it with a twohand shove to the trailing Bowen Preddy. The unorthodox execution of the hitchand-pitch froze the Odessa secondary momentarily. Preddy scooped up the carom in full stride ala Franco Harris and the Immaculate Reception, and flew down the sideline for a 74-yard touchdown.

Reese's PAT cut the lead to 35-21, illustrating just how important that end-of-half missed opportunity was.

## Malizzi, O-line take over

But from that point, the Bulldogs controlled the game. With Odessa's offensive front dominating the line of scrimmage, Malizzi carried the ball seven times on a 16-play, 80-yard drive. Meieraren found Carter Westerhold open for a 6-yard scoring throw to open a 42-21 lead with 4:45 left in the third quarter.

The Wildcats would respond, driving 69-yards in 10 plays. Zach Coenen rumbled into the end zone from three yards out to cut the lead to 42-28 as the quarter expired.

But then the Bulldogs drove again.

"We couldn't get off the field defensively," said Parnell.

Odessa marched the length of the field again, covering 63 yards in 11 plays. Malizzi carried seven times on the drive, and ran untouched into the end zone from three yards out to finish the drive midway through the fourth quarter.

Final score: 49-28.

#### Stats

Odessa rang up 505 yards of offense against a good Cassville defense, 280 passing and 225 on the ground. Malizzi carried 27 times for 199 yards, and Meieraren completed 19 of his 25 passes for 4 touchdowns with one interception.

Cassville posted 301 yards of total offense, 167 passing and 134 rushing. Bates completed 11 of 18 throws for 3 touchdowns and one interception. Preddy led the Cassville ground attack with 65 yards on 14 carries.

"We faced a very good Odessa team," said Parnell. "We came out for the second half and competed hard. That's the type of kids we have in Cassville. They're going to give you everything they've got and play their hearts out. That's what they've done all year long."

Odessa finishes their state championship season with a perfect 15-0 record. Cassville claims the second-place Class 3 trophy, finishing with a 12-3



We can't say thanks enough. From the parents, alumni, business community and fans, we couldn't be more thankful for your support. Thank you from Cassville R-IV and our football program."



---Lance Parnell--Head Wildcat Football Coach 2019 District Champs

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Tim Mason

Madry McCrackin Basketball Averaged 20 ppg, 3.7 rpg, 1.3 apg,

1 spg in the Carthage Tournament











# Barry County Health Department releases November Food Service Report

The Barry County Health Department divides food service code violations into two categories: Priority and Core items.

Priority items are more likely than other violations to contribute to food contamination or illness and/or injury.

Core items, although important to the overall hygiene of the establishment, do not necessarily present an immediate threat to food contamination or illness and/or injury.

A report for each establishment that is inspected shows the number of priority items, along with a short statement as to the nature of the violations. The report also shows the number of core items but doesn't list the nature of those violations.

\*Corrected on spot

• Cub's Café Monett Follow-up 11/5/19:

All priority violations from the 10/15/19 inspection were corrected.

• Monett Area YMCA Monett

Follow-Up 11/5/19:

All priority violations from the 10/22/19 inspection were corrected.

• McDonalds Monett Routine 11/5/19:

Priority Violations: 1\*
1. Four containers used to hold utensils were soiled by bacteria growth.\*

Core Violations: 2

• Lai Lai Asian Restaurant Monett

<u>Complaint 11/5/19:</u>

Priority Violations: 5

- 1. Raw shelled eggs were stored above broccoli in the walk-in cooler.\*
- 2. Dressing and fruit on the salad bar were held at 48°E\*
- 3. There were two containers of molded cream cheese in the walk-in cooler and one container of spoiled pudding in the sushi reach-in fridge.\*
- 4. Two knives put away as clean were soiled by dried raw chicken. There was one soiled bowl with soiled utensils in the sushi room.
- 5. The hand washing sink by the dish machine was leaking.

Core Violations: 5
Follow-up 11/12/19:

All priority violations from the previous inspection were corrected.

• Sunrise Family Restaurant Cassville

Routine 11/7/19:

Priority Violations: 3

- 1. Soda nozzles were soiled by bacteria growth.\*
- 2. The dish machine chemical sanitizer dispensing system was broken.
- 3. One spray bottle of chemicals was not clearly labeled.\*

Core Violations: 0
Follow-up 11/11/19:

All priority violations from the previous inspection were corrected.

• Cr-ose Cafe Cassville
Routine 11/11/19:
Priority Violations: 4

1. No one was ServSafe certified or the equivalent on

lutv.

- 2. The dish machine was not dispensing enough chemical sanitizer to effectively sanitize dishes.
- 3. Raw chicken and raw beef were prepared on the same cutting board and with the same utensils without sanitizing them between or changing them.\*
- 4. There was a spray bottle with a purple chemical not clearly labeled.\*

Core Violations: 1
Follow-up 11/18/19:

All priority violations from the previous inspection were corrected.

• Garcia's Mexican Restaurant Cassville

Routine 11/11/19: Priority Violations: 1\*

1. Raw ground beef was stored above raw whole beef.\*

Core Violations: 0

- Peking Palace Monett
  Routine 11/12/19
  Priority Violations: 2
- 1. There was an uncovered employee beverage in the kitchen.\*
- 2. No one was ServSafe certified or the equivalent on duty.

Core Violations: 0

• Plaza Mexico Monett Routine 11/12/19:

Priority Violations: 2\*

- 1. Raw chicken was stored on top of whole raw fish.\*
- 2. No one was ServSafe certified or the equivalent on duty
- Core Violations: 0
- White Oak Station #18 Seligman

Routine 11/13/19: Priority Violations: 2\*

- 1. Two containers of beans with discard dates of 11/6, a container of beans dated 10/31, potato salad 11/6 and pork roast and gravy dated 11/12 were not discarded.\*
- 2. An employee handled bread with their bare hands.\* Core Violations: 1\*
- Casa Maya Mexican Grill Shell Knob

Routine 11/14/19:

Priority Violations: 6

- 1. A food handler was not washing hands between changing tasks and before putting gloves on.
- 2. Raw shrimp, raw chicken, salsa, cut tomatoes, etc. were not labeled with discard dates
- 3. The current food service permit and most recent inspection were not posted in a conspicuous place for the public to read.
- 4. The sanitizer for dish machine was too strong.
- 5. A strainer stored as clean was soiled with food debris.\*
- 6. Pork was held at 66°F and rice on steam table was held at 96°F.\*

Core Violations: 7
Routine 11/21/19:

Priority violations from the previous inspection were corrected.

• Casey's General Store #2258 Monett

Routine 11/14/19: Priority Violations: 3

1. No one was ServSafe

certified or the equivalent on duty.

- 2. Sausage with a discard date of 11/12, ham 11/13, pulled pork 11/11, chicken, pepperoni 11/12, and two deli sandwiches 11/13 were not discarded.\*
- 3. An open can of gravy was held at 68°F on the counter\*

Core Violations: 1

• Cox Monett Hospital Monett

Routine 11/14/19: Priority Violations: 0 Core Violations: 0

- BBQ Station Cassville
  Routine 11/14/19:
  Priority Violations: 0
  Core Violations: 0
- Southwest High School Washburn

Routine 11/18/19: Priority Violations: 0 Core Violations: 0

• Southwest Elementary School Washburn

Routine 11/18/19: Priority Violations: 0 Core Violations: 0

• Tyson Cafeteria Monett Routine 11/19/19: Priority Violations: 0 Core Violations: 0

- **Big Baldy's** *Monett*<u>Routine 11/19/19:</u>

  Priority Violations: 0

  Core Violations: 0
- Prime Cut Monett

  Routine 11/19/19:
  Priority Violations: 0
  Core Violations: 1
- Wheaton Family Market Wheaton

Routine 11/26/19: Priority Violations: 2

- 1. Two pizzas held by time as a public health control had a discard time of 8:30 and had not been discarded.\*
- 2. The seal on the meat walk-in cooler was badly damaged (3rd repeat violation).

Core Violations: 0

- Main Street Café Wheaton <u>Routine 11/26/19:</u> Priority Violations: 0 Core Violations: 2
- Central Crossing Senior Center Shell Knob

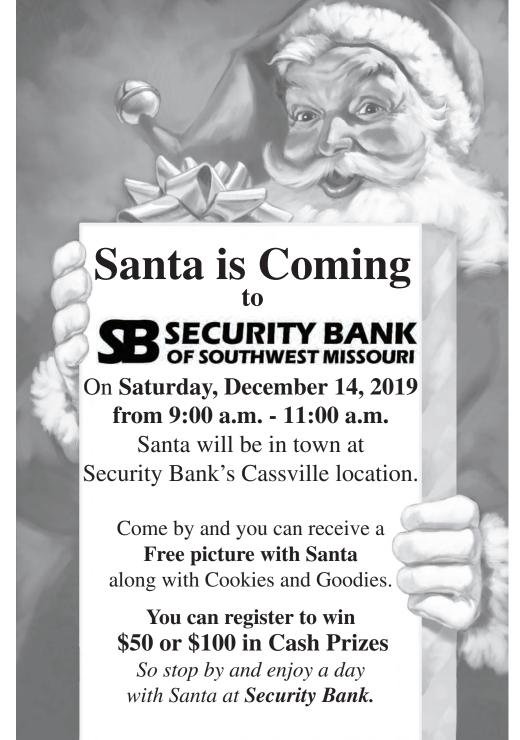
Priority Violations: 0 Core Violations: 0

Routine 11/27/19:









# What's the buzz? Exeter ag. adds beekeeping to curriculum



It is important to check on the hives regularly to see how they are producing. While the school does not plan to harvest honey until next year, ag student Jamison Nichols is pictured opening the hive and checking over the frames.



Pictured, Exeter agriculture students Hunter Reed and Halie Nelson open up the first hive to check the condition of the bees and check the frames for honey and brood.

Vinnie Roberts

This year, a new program being offered at Exeter School is getting students involved in a new kind of hands-on learning. Through the agriculture department, the district is now in the midst of the first year of a student-operated bee-keeping operation.

Rachael Brown, Exeter Agriculture teacher and FFA advisor, was charged with maintaining the program by school administration. According to Brown, school administration approached her about the program due to her experience working with bees in college.

"It all started with a simple conversation with our Superintendent Dr. Raney about my time in a beekeeping college class that lead to us deciding to get honey bee hives for our campus," explained Brown. "He asked if I wanted to get honey bee hives for the students to use in our agriculture classes and of course I said yes."

Brown continued, explaining that the program is intended to expand the horizons of agriculture students beyond typical farm

"During that conversation, we felt adding honey bee hives would open up new learning experiences for our students and started making long range plans for our program," she explained. "Ultimately, I hope students learn how to keep

honey bees and that they gain knowledge and skills during our time with the hives so that when they leave our agriculture department they are confident enough to start their own hives."

The school currently has two honey bee hives for this purpose. The hives were built and filled in June of this year and have been maintained ever since. The hives were constructed with the help of several local businesses and private citizens.

"K&B Honeybees in Cassville helped set up our two initial honeybee hives and has continued to help check our hives," said Brown. "Prepper's Bee Supply in Garfield, Ark., helped us get some of our basic supplies, Allen Apiaries helped us get our current honey bee suits, and Joplin Area Beekeepers Association (JABA); who donated \$250 to help with the cost of startup. Individuals who have helped are Dale Foley with JABA donated educational books for our program, and Bryce Stephens has helped with opening our hives and the educational side of our program."

According to Brown, students have been out to work with the hives, but before any comprehensive work can be done, the hives need to continue to grow.

"We opted not to collect any honey this fall," explained Brown. "Based on recent hive inspections, we should be able to collect honey from these hives this coming April and then again about August of next year."

According to Brown, allowing for this growth will also allow the program to expand itself.

"When spring comes around, we plan to split the two hives we currently have and add two more new hives," she said. "My goal is to have at least one hive per class, so that we have ample opportunity for students in each of my agriculture classes to be actively in-

volved in beekeeping." Brown also explained that reception to the program has been positive. Despite being limited by the weather that is inherent to the fall and winter months of the first semester, she hopes that continued interest will allow the operation to expand.

"Students have been very interested in beekeeping," explained Brown. "We did a unit in the classroom over the basics of beekeeping, then started taking students out to be handson with our bee hives. The students who have been out with the hives, have been asking to go back out. With only two hives and weather changing, we are limited to

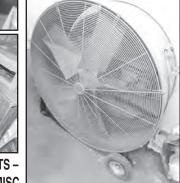
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machine - parts cabinet - large shop fan - Craftsman 5 hp 20 gal air compressor - stripping machine - shop vac – peg board brackets. Office Furniture: File cabinets – misc flat screen TV's – book shelves – coat rack – waiting room chairs – office chairs – wood desk – metal folding chairs – director chairs – old Kirby vac – podium – bar stools – dining table – oval table – shop stool – floor fan – misc office items. Misc: Wood bench w/Dodge Ram tailgate back -old metal ringer washing machine – misc 1x scrap lumber – several pallets – old chicken house fan - Sony boom box - girls' bike - Flex step exerciser - more items not listed. Note: These are items stored from a Dodge dealership that is no longer in business. New old stock parts & body parts. The building they were stored in has been sold, so we have been hired to sell all listed items to the highest bidder. See you Saturday Dec 14th at 10 AM. Terms: Cash or good check w/2 forms of current ID. Must have current drivers license to obtain bidder number. All terms on bidder card apply. All sells as is where is. Any announcements made day of auction supersede any and all printed material. No debit or credit cards.

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# Purdy awards responsibility medals



Purdy Elementary principal Julie Dalton announced the kindergarten through sixth grade responsibility medalists. Students who earned medals are pictured above, from left to right, in the front row: Aaron Salas, Noel Perez and Aubrey Schoon. Second row: Xackuree Goldsmith, Brodie Vice and Charlie Cornelius. Third row: Raylan Grant, Kayden Holloway, Lauren Lamp and Laney Lamp. Fourth row: Brianna Ramirez, Benjamin Martinez, Allison Lopez and Emily Maddocks. Back row: Hali Stokes, Karlee Goldsmith and Levi Breazzeal. Not pictured: Shelbie Patterson.

the number of times we can open the hives. I hope to have all of my classes working with the hives in the spring learning all of the aspects of honey beekeeping."

Student reactions to the program have also been positive. Two of Brown's students who have gotten hands-on with the hive spoke on the positive impact that the new program has had on them.

"Here, there aren't many options. I thought that it would be cool to do this," said Exeter student Jamison Nichols. "I really hope that it helps me go further with beekeeping."

"It's taught me how important that bees are," said Exeter student Hunter



Reed. "I originally joined just because I liked honey."

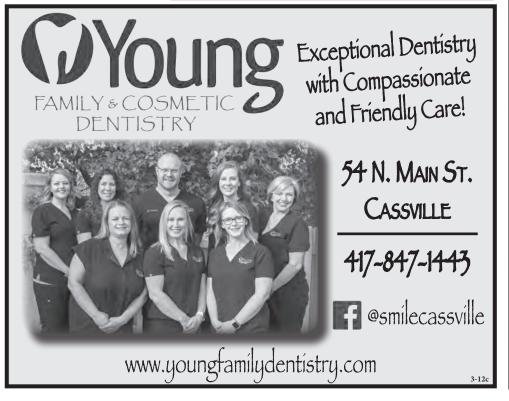
**BEES from 2B** 

With the outlook on the project being overall positive, Brown is eyeing the future of the operation. She communicated that her overall goal was to see students walk away with the knowledge needed to create and sustain their own beehives.

Brown intends to expand the program with this very purpose in mind, with the hopes that added assistance from the school will help students create their own cultures outside of the program.

"Later on in the program, we plan to have the opportunity for students to start their own hives off of a school hive when we are able to do many hive splits in the spring," Brown concluded. "This would help students cut down the startup cost of their own SAE project and keep our students learning about the importance of honey bees to agriculture."





# Mercy rural hospitals receive \$496,349 grant

For the fourth time, the USDA has awarded Mercy a substantial grant that will provide greater access to health care in some of Mercy's most rural communities in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma.

Thanks to the \$496,349 USDA Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants, Mercy Virtual will implement a project that includes hospitalists, emergency care, stroke and neurology services. Video equipment will benefit more than 210,000 residents and will be placed in nine communities, including:

Mercy Hospital Aurora
Mercy Hospital Cassville
Mercy St. Francis Mountain View
Mercy Hospital Berryville (Arkansas)
Mercy Hospital Paris (Arkansas)
Mercy Hospital Waldron (Arkansas)
Mercy Hospital Columbus (Kansas)
Mercy Hospital Healdton (Oklahoma)
Mercy Hospital Kingfisher (Oklahoma)

"Almost half of the communities Mercy serves are in some of the most remote rural areas," said Mark Saxon, vice president of clinical operations for Mercy Virtual. "These residents don't have access to the level of care found in larger cities, and in some of these communities, they have no medical care. This grant will allow

us to install video equipment that will provide access to hundreds of Mercy medical specialists and even greater access to primary care."

The grant is part of \$42.5 million the USDA is investing in 133 distance learning and telemedicine projects in 37 states and two U.S. territories. USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities and create jobs in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements, business development, housing, community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care, and high-speed internet access in rural areas.

"If you live in small community and you have a stroke, you sometimes have to travel 50 to 100 miles one way to the nearest urban area to see physicians highly trained in stroke care," said Dr. Gavin Helton, Mercy Virtual's senior vice president of population health. "Specialized physicians live and practice in highly populated areas. Many rural communities don't have the luxury or the resources to provide this level of care. But with the use of high-tech, powerful cameras providing live video, someone in Healdton, Oklahoma, can be virtually seen by

See GRANT on 7B

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# Table Rock Lake oversight committee created by Corps of Engineers

Isaac Estes-Jones

The US Army Corps of Engineers has created the Table Rock Lake Oversight Committee (TRLOC) to act in an advisory capacity as the Corps finalizes plans for Table Rock Lake. The committee will hold a series of public meetings over the next six months to gather public input on proposed changes to the Corps' plans for Table Rock Lake.

After several years of gathering information, the Corps has indicated a finalized Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) will be released to the public in May 2020.

The six member committee includes representatives of the various stakeholders in the future of Table Rock Lake. Representatives included Chairwoman Dr. Tammy Jahmke, representing conservation; Vice-Chair Ryan Benefield, representing the state of Arkansas; Secretary Sheila Thomas, of the Table Rock Lake Chamber of Commerce; Pat Cox, representing boating; Twila Harrison, of Shell Knob, representing that economic development area; and Rob Hunt, representing the state of Missouri.

The committee will hold

a series of public hearings, from December to May, to discuss revisions to the Table Rock Lake Master Plan and Shoreline Management Plan.

These meetings will be held at the Dewy Short Visitors Center in December and January, March and May, 2020. The first meeting will be held from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Thursday, December 12. The May 6, 2020, meeting will also be held from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

Seating during the committee meetings will be limited and available on a first come-first served basis.

Meetings on January 23, 2020, and March 5, will take place all day, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to allow for substantial public comment. The opening three hours will be structured so that individuals may speak before the committee for up to two minutes.

Jay Townsend, Chief of Public Affairs for the US Army Corps of Engineers, Little Rock Unit, says that two minute time will be strictly enforced. "The purpose of the committee is to take provide formalized and structured input to the Commander on [the Shoreline Management Plan]. We Table Rock Lake Oversight Committee Shoreline Management Plan Revision **Timeline** May 6, 2020 4th TRLOC Meeting Final Shoreline February 27, 2020 December 12, 2019 Management Plan Comments Due 1st TRLOC Meeting and EA released March 5, 2020 January 23, 2020 3<sup>rd</sup> TRLOC Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> TRLOC Meeting

The Army Corps of Engineers released this time line showing the plans for revisions and release of the Shoreline Management Plan.

encourage everyone who wishes to make verbal comments to have a very consolidated and concise comment to fit into that timespan," Townsend said.

Verbal comments will only be allowed during specified times of the January 23 and March 5, 2020, meetings. Three hours will be allocated at each of those meetings for

comments.

Comments can included suggestions about how you would like to see the Table Rock Lake Shoreline Management Plan revised; or provide comments on the issues that should be studied before a decision is made on Shoreline Management Plan revisions, according to the Corps of Engineers.

When submitting written comment, each page must include the following information: the author's name, title or affiliation, address, and daytime phone number.

Comments can be mailed to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Table Rock Lake Oversight Committee, P.O. Box 867, Little Rock, AR 72203. They may also be emailed to CESWL-TableRockSMP\_ FAC@usace.army.mil.

An online fillable comment card is available at https://go.usa.gov/xpZkQ.

The deadline for comments is February 27, 2020, to allow time for comments to be distributed ahead of the third meeting of the TRLOC. "That means the comments have to be to us by 27 February," Townsend said, "Not in the mail by that date."

All comments are considered public documents that will be available for review.

The TRLOC will submit their final recommendations to the Corps during the third public meeting, March 5,

The TRLOC is an independent Federal advisory committee established under of the Water Resources Development Act of 2016. The committee is advisory in nature only with duties to include providing information and recommendations to the Little Rock District

See TABLE ROCK on 5B



# **NOTICE OF RETIREMENT AND CLOSING OF PRACTICE**

After 35 years of practicing dentistry, Dr. Russ Woodbury is closing his dental practice located south of Aurora, Mo., on January 31, 2020. For his patients continued dental care and info regarding his patients' dental records, they are asked to contact:

> Dr. Ben Gallion 1402 S. Elliott, Aurora, Mo. 417-678-5958

# **PUBLIC NOTICE City of Purdy** Candidate Filing for April 2, 2019 Election

Pursuant to Section 115.127 of the Revised Missouri Statutes, notice is hereby given that the following offices are to be filled at the Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2020:

ALDERMAN - West Ward (ONE YEAR TERM) ALDERMAN – West Ward (TWO YEAR TERM) ALDERMAN - East Ward (TWO YEAR TERM)

### Opening Date for Filing: Tuesday, December 17, 2019 Closing Date for Filing: Tuesday, January 21, 2020

Declaration of Candidacy may be filed with the City Clerk, 101 Front Street, Purdy, Missouri, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Hours will be extended to 5:00 p.m. on the last day of filing. No person shall be certified as a candidate for a municipal office, nor shall such person's name appear on the ballot as a candidate for such office, who shall be in arrears for any unpaid city taxes or municipal user fees on the last day to file a declaration of candidacy for the office (Section 115.346 RSMo).

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# SOUTHWEST SCHOOL BOARD **FILING DATES SET**

Filing dates for candidacy for the Southwest R-V Board of Education election have been set for December 17, 2019, through January 21, 2020, during regular office hours {8 am – 4 pm/Monday through Friday}. Filing will begin December 17, 2019, at 8:00 a.m. and end on January 21, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. The office will be closed for the holidays on the following dates: December 20 {12:30 pm} December 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 31, January 1,2,3 and if district is closed due to inclement weather.

Qualified applicants for the Board may file for candidacy with Board Secretary Judy Brooks in the office of the Superintendent. In accordance with Policy BBB, placement of candidate names on ballot will be in the order of filing.

Three vacancies for 3-year terms will be filled at the April 7, 2020 election.

Done by Order of: Southwest R-V Board of Education



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Judy Brooks, Secretary

# Haven of the Ozarks' Pet of the Week: Heathcliff



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Haven of the Ozarks is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day of the week or call (417) 835-3647 for more information. Haven of the Ozarks Animal Sanctuary is located at 9617 Farm Road 2190 in Washburn. Visit them online at www.havenoftheozarks.org.

# Cassville Library events

- A Fun @ 4:00 after-school activity will be held Thursday, December 12, for kids K-8th grade. Holiday fuse bead projects will be offered.
- Crochet classes are held on Mondays at 6 p.m. and Fridays at 10:30 a.m. Instruction is available for beginners.
- There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, December 31, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The event will be held in the meeting room of the library.
- All branches of the Barry-Lawrence Regional Library will be closed on December 24 and 25 in observance of the Christmas holiday.
- The Barry-Lawrence Regional Library is now a member of Missouri Evergreen, a 40+ library consortium. You now have access to a vast amount of materials owned by these libraries. Visit the BLRL website for additional information.

commander on revisions to the Table Rock Lake Master Plan and Shoreline Management Plan. The TRLOC may also, at the discretion of the District Commander, review any permit to be issued under the provisions of the existing master plan and shoreline management plan until any approved revisions are finalized and become part of the formal governing documents.

A court reporter will be present at all meetings of the Table Rock Lake Oversight Committee to ensure accurate reporting.

The US Army Corps of Engineers has been developing changes to the Shoreline Management Plan and Table Rock Lake Master Plan for the past several years and is approaching a finalized version of the documents. A draft Shoreline Management Plan dated November of this year is available at https:// www.swl.usace.army.mil/ Missions/Planning/Table-Rock-Lake-Oversight-Committee/. Other documents on that site include the 2014 version of the Table Rock Lake Master Plan and other supporting documents related to the current changes proposed.

According to a timeline released by the Corps of Engineers, the final Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) and Environmental Assessment will be revealed to the public on May 6, 2020, the date of the final TRLOC public meeting.

The first shoreline management plan was released to the public in 1976 and was

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## **TABLE ROCK from 4B**

subsequently updated several times in the 1980s and 1990s before a finalized SMP was unveiled in 1996. The updated SMP will

cover the development of management strategies for the review, approval and administration of private shoreline uses on Table Rock Lake but will not consider public shoreline uses, which the draft SMP indicates includes commercial concession leases, limited motel/resort leases or public utilities. Some rules and regulations for those uses are described in the draft SMP, but overall are covered by the Master Plan and other Army Corps of Engineers policies.

The draft SMP lists several areas that the Corps considers major changes from the previous plan. Some of these changes include alterations to the locations of Limited Development Areas; a reduction in restrictions to docks in Restricted Limited Development Areas to allow the addition of swim docks and other expansions without adding slips; issuing new permits for docks; a reduction of maximum slip size to 12 foot by 30 food (down from 14 feet); and will allow the removal of certain small trees and shrubs, depending on size.

The full draft of the SMP is available online. Interested parties are encouraged to read over the document and submit any comments by February 27, 2020.

The first public meeting of the Table Rock Lake Oversight Committee will be Thursday, December 12, starting at 8 a.m. in the Dewey Short Visitor Center, 4500 MO-165, Branson.

The Table Rock Lake Master Plan development process started in 2012. The Shoreline Management Plan has been in development since 2014.

The Crane Chronicle will continue to cover these meetings and the development of the Shoreline Management Plan.



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60151682 - Very nice remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath home, laminate and tile flooring. Large double garage with drive-through door. Large fenced back yard.





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60148813 - Great small farm with 18 acres m/l. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home has some



updating. Ch/a, hardwood floors. 32x40 shop, & several outbuildings including barn, storage sheds, & well house.

60146603 - **COMMERCIAL LOT** facing State Hwy 37 in Seligman. 1.03 acres m/l. Lot #11, Walnut Heights, Seligman.

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# 10,543 deer harvested during antlerless portion

Preliminary data from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) shows that deer hunters in Missouri harvested 10,543 deer during the antlerless portion of the fall firearms deer season, Dec. 6-8. Top harvest counties were Callaway with 396 deer harvested, Pike with 303, and Osage with 301.

Barry County's totals were 10 button bucks and 61 does for a total harvested of

Last year's antlerless-harvest-portion harvest total was 6,645.

For current ongoing preliminary harvest totals by season, county, and type of deer, visit the MDC website at extra.mdc.mo.gov/

widgets/harvest\_table/

For harvest summaries from past years, visit huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/deer/deer-harvest-reports/ deer-harvest-summaries

Archery season continues through Jan. 15, 2020. The alternative methods portion will run Dec. 28 through Jan. 7, 2020.

For more information on deer hunting in Missouri, see MDC's 2019 Fall Deer & Turkey Hunting Regulations and Information booklet, available where permits are sold and online at huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/ sites/default/files/downloads/2019FDT.pdf.

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Mercy donates hats, gloves to Cassville School



Led by the efforts from the Mercy Service Team, Mercy Hospital, Cassville, made a donation of nearly 70 pairs of warm gloves and hats to the Cassville R-IV Bright Futures program. Bright Futures, established at Cassville Schools in 2011, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to bringing community members together to focus on the success of children.

Pictured, from left to right: Jessica Banks and Tyler Wallace, with Mercy Hospital, and Eric White, Director of Learning for Cassville R-IV.

# **GRANT from 3B**

a Mercy doctor hundreds of miles away."

The USDA grant is specifically designed to improve rural access to health care. In 2011, the USDA awarded Mercy a \$495,926 telemedicine grant for a three-year project that provided medical care to 900 people in some of the nation's most hard-to-reach rural arthe most chronic ailments, cess hospital. including diabetes, heart dis-

Mercy's first grant provided monitoring devices so patients could electronically transmit results directly to their physician from home via computer or telephone line. The second grant, totaling \$500,000, provided telemedicine access to 12 hospitals in rural areas, and a third \$382,748 grant targeted three school districts, six med-

Mercy Virtual, the driver

ects, creatively combines people and technology to extend Mercy's reach and services well beyond the walls of doctors' offices, hospital campuses and other traditional facilities. By studying the impact of new approaches and then putting new technologies to the test, Mercy ultimately hopes to provide better care through eas. Targeting patients with ical clinics and one critical ac- more convenient and lowercost locations.









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# Cassville Intermediate names November Character Kids

Smith.



Cassville Intermediate School counseling staff and teachers team up to present a different character trait every month. Classroom teachers then nominate students for awards in recognition of exemplifying that trait. Students were selected during the month of November for respect.

Third grade award winners are pictured above, from left to right. In the front row: Riley Doucet, Blake Lands, Benjamin Brown, Waylon Austin, Lexie Meltabarger and Harlee Gwinup. Back row: Mathew Miller, Brayden Phillips, Kingston Nichols, Baylee Taylor and Dustin Lands. Not pictured: Cash Smith.

# Cassville Intermediate School counseling staff and teachers team up to present a different character trait every month. Classroom teachers then nominate students for awards in recognition of exemplifying that trait. Students were selected during the month of November for respect. Fourth grade award winners are pictured above, from left to right. In the front row: Sammi

Stockton, Sunshine Vang, Cheyenne Hart, Brianna Still, Allison Deaver and Cassie DeLeon. Back

row: Brandt Reuter, Carson Thomas, Alex Holycross, Chance Lands, Bryson Holman and Mason

Cassville R-IV

Intermediate Scho

# Monett blood drive slated for Dec. 19

The Community Blood Center of the Ozarks (CBCO), the area's exclusive provider of blood and plasma products to patients at over forty area hospitals, is experiencing a shortage of type O negative blood and type AB plasma. Donations are needed immediately to ensure that adequate reserve levels are maintained.

Get a free long-sleeved shirt for donating in Decem-

During the month of December, participants at all CBCO blood drives will receive a maroon long-sleeved shirt just in time for colder weather.

On average, a transfusion takes place every seven minutes and around 200 donations are needed each day to meet the area's blood needs. You can help by giving blood at any of the following locations:

Monett: Thursday, December 19, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Cox Monett Hospital, 801 N. Lincoln

CBCO is the sole local provider of blood for patients at more than 40 area hospitals in southwest Missouri, northwest Arkansas and southeast Kansas. Sick and injured hospital patients depend on CBCO donors to provide the lifesaving blood they need.

Each donation will be awarded LifePoints as a part of CBCO's donor rewards program. LifePoints may be redeemed online for a variety of gift cards, or points may be assigned to other meaningful causes or charities. More information on the LifePoints donor rewards program may be found at www.cbco.org.

To be eligible to give blood, you must weigh at least 110 pounds, be in good health, and present a valid photo ID. For more information about sharing your good health with others, please visit our website at www.cbco.org, or call toll-free 1-800-280-5337. Thank you for giving life to your commu-



Cassville Intermediate School counseling staff and teachers team up to present a different character trait every month. Classroom teachers then nominate students for awards in recognition of exemplifying that trait. Students were selected during the month of November for respect.

Fifth grade award winners are pictured above, from left to right. In the front row: Alexis Lopez, Alexa McCormick, Katie Tucker, Brynn Whittenburg and Marisol Salas. Back row: Carson Cash, Terrance Kettner, Diego Ibarra, Chase Ruark, Charles Diediker and Lucas Hudson. Not pictured: Ciara Robinson.







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