

## Barry County residents share Christmas traditions

Vinnie Roberts

Christmas time is upon Barry County. In just a week's time, businesses will shut down, the last of the lights will go up and the children of Barry County will awake with excitement to see what made its way under the tree.

Everyone's Christmas is a little different. Some people travel, while some make an effort to stay as close to home as possible. Some even go as far as to take to the streets in song to share their merriment with the world.

In the spirit of the season, several Barry County residents reminisced about some of their favorite Christmas traditions, from memories of Christmases past, to the joy of the current season.

For some in Barry County, Christmas means togetherness with family. Tina Bass, nursery care provider for God's Little Kingdom Daycare in Cassville, explained that Christmas in her family is about everyone having the time to be present for the holiday.

"All of my aunts and uncles and cousins of all ages gather at my aunt's house on Christmas night," explained Bass. "We have a Christmas dinner. We exchange presents, have a big dinner and drink wine after dinner."

"It's the one time of the year that everyone is off work and we can all just spend time together as a family," Bass concluded.

Bass isn't the only Barry County resident who enjoys the togetherness of the holiday season. Security Bank president Jon Horner has been spending Christmas getting together with his family for as long as he can remember.

"Growing up, my grandparents, my parents and my cousins all spent Christmas together on the family farm," explained Horner. "Being able to see each other and play with our presents while we ran around the farm was great."

Though Horner has since grown up and started a family of his own, togetherness is still a part of the tradition in his home.

"Nowadays, my family and I also go to candlelight communion service at the United Methodist Church here in town," said Horner. "Then, we gather for food, fun and games on Christmas Eve and meet again the next day for Christmas dinner."

While togetherness is a common thread in most Christmas traditions, Kenneth Phillips, a patrol officer with the Wheaton Police Department, explained that his family has a few unique



Jon Horner

TRADITIONS on 16A

## Tinsel Tea event raises \$6K to benefit food pantry

Vinnie Roberts

For the last for over a decade and a half, one Cassville church has been doing everything in their power to put on a holiday event that spreads the spirit of the season throughout the year. For the last 17 years, United Methodist Church of Cassville has hosted an event called Tinsel Tea, an annual Christmas-themed brunch.

According to Janet Mills, the director of the United Methodist Food Pantry, the event began years ago as a way to bring in community members to support a fundraiser for the church's outreach services.

"It was an idea that was initiated when we were exploring ideas to help promote a fundraiser," said Mills. "It was instigated out of the desire to promote the services we provide through our food pantry and also to have that coincide with the way the community would gather abroad. We wanted to create something that wasn't just isolated to our church family, but open to the community at large."

Mills explained that the Christmas season was chosen for the event as it is the time of the year people feel most giving, hoping that the charitable spirit of the event will help carry that spirit throughout the year.

"The Christmas season was the perfect time to bring people together, celebrate and have a good fellowshiping experience where everyone is enjoying good food, but also give us a platform for our fundraising goal," said Mills. "It serves two purposes: to celebrate Christmas and the meaning behind it, which is loving each



Cassville United Methodist food pantry director Janet Mills on Saturday, December 7, as she and other hostesses set up tables for the event.

other and community; and also give us the finances to launch something that could help us do that for the entire year."

The money generated from Tinsel Tea every year goes to fund the United Methodist Food Pantry, a community outreach program that the church uses to help food insecure families acquire the goods that they need to feed their households.

Mills also explained that part of the popularity of the event comes from its ability to draw the community together, regardless of their faith and disposition.

"Over the years, I think that it has provided a time for many people who may not have family here or are feeling a little lost during the holidays to have an experience that is warm and embracing during the holidays," explained Mills.

The event sees people from all over the community gather together at United Method-

ist to partake in a traditional English tea-time menu, featuring English tea and a variety of small-plate and finger foods. During this time, guests are also treated to a variety of entertainments. This year's event, hosted on Saturday, December 7, featured Christmas music, United Methodist's church bell choir and a holiday-themed skit. Additionally, there was a silent auction component, available for bids before and during the event.

According to Mills, this year's event was able to raise a net total of \$6,000, well over the goal needed to keep the pantry operational.

"It's a way to celebrate the birth of Christ together and projecting that in a way that we can serve him throughout the year by funding the food pantry," Mills explained. "It brings a lot of components together that are appropriate for Christmas time and launches us forward into our service throughout the year."

Mills explained that the event is important, not just to the significance of the season, but also to aid the church in bringing happiness and health to the community. She explained that continued support, not just for the event itself, but also for food pantries, is crucial to the health of the community.

"The needs of the hungry and the food insecure are not just limited to December, but are throughout the year," concluded Mills. "If we can convey to the community at large what we're doing in providing services to the food insecure population, then we can show them all the ways that they can get involved in helping us throughout the year."

United Methodist Church of Cassville accepts donations throughout the year. For any questions regarding donations or getting involved, contact United Methodist at (417) 847-2328.

## Longtime Cassville attorney Jim LeCompte passes away

Charlea Estes-Jones

Well-known local attorney Jim LeCompte passed away on Sunday, December 15, and funeral services are planned for Thursday, December 19.

LeCompte graduated from Cassville High School in 1969 before going to the University of Missouri - Columbia for his bachelor's degree and eventually the University of Arkansas School of Law.

He opened up his law practice in Cassville, which he operated for 40 years up until his death.

LeCompte was a lifetime member of the Cassville United Methodist Church and also devoted time to his family through the Barry County Tax Board for the Developmentally Disabled.

LeCompte is survived by his wife, Gayle Ann LeCompte, and his three children, Danielle LeCompte, Gabrielle LeCompte and Wil LeCompte.

Businesses in Cassville are asked to close their doors or dim their lights from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. during the funeral service as a sign of respect.

LeCompte's full obituary and service information is on page 5A.



LeCompte

### Inside this issue:

#### Holiday Ad Deadlines Schedule

The Barry County Advertiser's winter holiday deadlines will be as follows:

- 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 .....6-7 A  
Sports ..... 15 A  
Classified ..... 10-11 B  
Auctions .....2 B

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Festival of Lights basket

Holiday scavenger hunt  
to bring fun and prizes Thursday evening

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County

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Publisher

Marty Jenkins

Manager

Charlea Estes-Jones

Editor

editor@4bca.com

Renée Bear Brooks

ads@4bca.com

Advertising Design

Elaine Phaneuf

Classified Ads/Society

class@4bca.com

Reception/Community

News

office@4bca.com

Shana Harter

Accounting

litho.billing@gmail.com

Adriana Keeton

Ad Sales

sales@4bca.com

Vinnie Roberts

Reporter/Sports

events@4bca.com

sports@4bca.com

904 West Street

P.O. Box 488

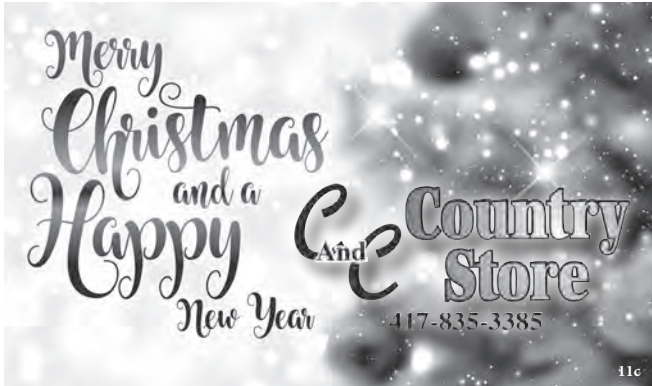
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FAX (417) 847-4523



Angie Corn, of Seligman, was the first winner of the Festival of Lights contest. She won a gift basket donated by Festival of Lights sponsor Arvest Bank of Cassville. The grand prize of \$1,000 will be drawn on Friday, December 20.



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goodwill this Christmas  
and all the New Year

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Charlea Estes-Jones

For an added dose of holiday cheer and fun, eight Cassville businesses are hosting a scavenger hunt on Thursday and staying open late to help last minute shoppers.

Charli Jo Epperly organized the event on behalf of Tomblin's and invited other businesses to participate. She said, "I was thinking about things they used to do around the square when I was little. They would stay open late. Mom would always do that. But I thought we should make it fun for people. I thought we could have a scavenger hunt in the store, but then I thought if we had more people involved, it would be better. So I did a Google search and found a resource that a community posted for an event for Small Business Saturday. It was a little different, but it was a scavenger hunt."

Epperly invited other businesses and formed a plan to have a scavenger hunt that included after hours shopping to help those who work during the day. It was a win-win in Epperly's opinion and other business owners agreed and joined in on the fun.

The premise is that shoppers can visit businesses during participation hours on Thursday afternoon and into the evening and look for clues.

Each business will have a sheet with a clue as well as sheets for participants to pick up and collect answers on. Epperly said the clue could be a riddle or a question. The participants will search the store for the answer and then confirm their answers with an employee.

Participants are encouraged to find clues at any or all of the stores participating. For each correct answer, shoppers will have an entry into the drawing for a large prize package full of goodies from each business participating.

Epperly said, "I thought if we had a hint and a prize in the pot at each store, the more prizes in the pot, the more people would get out and participate."

Eight businesses donated a \$10 to \$20 item or more to the prize package and agreed to host the scavenger hunters in their shops.

The businesses participating and the times they will be open for the hunt are:

At the River Consignment, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Carey's Cassville Florist, 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Designs by Debbie, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Forever Yours Embroidery, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Sports World 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The Little Shop Children's

Resale, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Tomblin's Jewelry, 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Whitley Pharmacy, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Epperly said that she thinks the event will help shoppers and businesses alike. She said, "They'll come find the clue and then go through the store and look for the answers. Open houses are great because it gets people in the store, but we are trying to get individuals in the store to really look at inventory. It's so busy during open houses that it's hard to even see the items in the store, because it's so crowded."

Those participating in the scavenger hunt can get eight entries from visiting stores on Thursday, December 19. However, they can also get an additional eight entries by taking a picture at each store they visit, posting it on Facebook and tagging the store and the Cassville Area Chamber of Commerce. Each store will submit the names of those who tag them on social media for extra entries. In all, each participant can have 16 entries in the drawing.

Once participants are done, they just leave their form at their last stop. The winner of the grand prize will be drawn on Saturday, December 21, through a Facebook live drawing done by Tomblin's.

Epperly said she is excited about the event and hopes it draws business to local shops for last minute gifts. The extended hours are to offer that opportunity to everyone. She said, "We wanted to make sure people who get off work at 5 and give them the opportunity to come shop in town."

For more information, go to Tomblin's Facebook page.

Wishing You A  
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and A Happy New Year!

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2019 Cassville  
Small Business  
Scavenger Hunt  
12-19-2019

Participating Businesses:

At the River Consignment  
Carey's Cassville Florist  
Designs by Debbie  
Forever Yours Embroidery  
Sports World  
The Little Shop Children's Resale  
Tomblin's Jewelry & Gift  
Whitley's Pharmacy

All Items donated by sponsoring businesses will be given to the winner drawn on 12-21-19

We (Small Businesses of Cassville) would like to invite you to our 2019 Small Business Holiday Scavenger Hunt! The sponsoring businesses have donated a gift item to create a "GRAND" Prize for the winner. Come join us in an opportunity to shop local, save on travel time and find hidden treasures while supporting YOUR Small Businesses.

Here's how it works:

• Pick up Scavenger Hunt form at your first stop! You may go to 1 or all of the businesses listed.

• Locate the businesses hint to complete your scavenger hunt of the sponsoring businesses.

• Fill out the answers to each question and have an employee at the business initial your correct answer. For every answer you submit correctly, you qualify for a raffle of the Grand Prize donated by the participating businesses. (one winner only)

• Potentially 16 opportunities to win the "Grand Prize". 8 by correct answers & 8 by Facebook post

• Once you have completed your hunt, simply leave the form at your last stop of the night.

• Winners will be announced on Saturday, December 21st.



# Three year old loses life in Washburn crash

## FUND ESTABLISHED TO HELP FAMILY WITH EXPENSES

Charlea Estes-Jones

A three year old died after a two-vehicle crash outside of Washburn on Sunday afternoon. According to the Missouri State Highway Patrol Crash report, one vehicle was stopped in traffic and was rear-ended by a second vehicle.

Johnny Eggleston, 39, of Seligman, was driving a 2006 Honda van northbound on Highway 37 when he stopped in traffic about two miles south of Washburn. While stopped, a second vehicle, a 2014 GMC pickup driven by Jorge J. Habet, 40, of Seymour, was also headed

northbound and struck the van in the rear.

The three year old, identified as Dylan Egglston, 3, of Seligman, was seriously injured in the crash and transported to Mercy Hospital in Springfield. He was later pronounced deceased by Dr. Kyle Lemley at 10:27 p.m. on December 16.

Two other passengers in the GMC pickup, Patricia M. Thompson 33, of Rogersville, and an unidentified 12 year old, also from Rogersville, suffered minor injuries and were transported to Mercy Hospital in Springfield for treatment.

Everyone in the crash was wearing a seatbelt at the time of the crash.

The Honda was totalled and towed from the scene by Wilson's Wrecker, of Washburn, and the GMC was moderately damaged and towed by Brice's Towing, of Cassville.

Eggleston's family opted to have his organs donated to save at least two other lives, as of the time of publication. To contribute to Dylan's final expenses, there is a donation fund at: <https://www.gofund-me.com/f/dylan-eggleston-final-expense-fund>.

# Historic tree removed from King's Cemetery



On Thursday, December 12, the largest and reportedly one of the oldest trees in Barry County, the tree that stands in the center of King's Cemetery, just outside of Seligman was removed slowly over a period of several days, with cranes, much like the one pictured above, being attached to limbs as they were being cut down to avoid damage to the surrounding headstones. The tree was removed by Bessman Tree Services, of Stella.

# Icy roads lead to death of Monett woman

Charlea Estes-Jones

A Monett woman died after being struck by a sliding pickup on Monday afternoon outside of Purdy. According to the Missouri State Highway Patrol crash report, the woman was standing outside of a vehicle that had crashed prior when she was hit by a second vehicle.

Joe W. Deboer, 43, of Wheaton, was driving a 2006 Chevrolet Colorado eastbound on Highway C, about 5.5 miles east of Purdy. The Colorado lost control on the icy roadway and ran off the right side of the

roadway. Bonnie S. Hawser, 59, of Monett, was standing next to a vehicle that had crashed earlier, a 1988 Ford pickup.

Hawser was pronounced deceased at the scene by Barry County deputy coroner Gary Swearingen at 3:10 p.m.

There were no other reported injuries. The Colorado was extensively damaged, and the Ford had minor damage. Both were towed from the scene by Thomas Towing, of Monett.

This was the 110th fatality for Missouri State Highway Patrol Troop D for 2019.

Amanda Horrie  
Purdy School 4th

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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 attendance, 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:

**The Barry County Courthouse and Judicial Center** will be closed Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24, and Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25.

**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.

**Central Crossing Senior Center** will be closed on December 24, 25, 26, 31, 2019, and January 1, 2020.

**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.

**Seligman Chamber will host a dance** 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. 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.

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

**Music** will be held at the Clio Community Building beginning at 6:30 p.m.

**A Christmas Dance** will be hosted at the Stella Senior Center with the doors opening at 6 p.m. and the dance beginning at 7 p.m. The cover charge is \$5. The band will be Moccasin Bend. Guests are asked to bring finger foods to share at break time.

## 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](mailto:bailey1228@sbcglobal.net). To make reservations, call 1-800-687-8600. Walk ups are welcome, but reservations are advised.



## Dec. 23rd

**Local Author, Sharon Mellinger Sanders**, will be hosting a book signing at Forever Yours Embroidery, 603 Main Street, Cassville, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. *The Shell Is Broken* is a memoir detailing her personal journey in life through her faith.

## Dec. 28th

**Fundraiser Breakfast** will be served at the fire house in Eagle Rock from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

# Help make your poinsettias last longer

Poinsettias are synonymous with the holiday season. These colorful plants brighten up homes with their vibrant hues in variations of red, white and pink, making them a holiday decoration many people cannot live without.

While they're most visible during the often chilly holiday season, poinsettias prefer warm weather. Poinsettias are native to Central America and originally flourished in an area of southern Mexico. The Aztecs used the plant for decorative and medicinal purposes.

The poinsettia may have remained a regional plant if not for the efforts of Joel Roberts Poinsett, who was the first United States Ambassador to Mexico under President James Madison. Poinsett, who would later found the Smithsonian Institution, had a love of botany and became enamored with the brilliant red plants he saw in Mexico. Eventually, Poinsett began growing the plants at home in South Carolina, and friends and others soon coveted them.

Poinsettias are beautiful and the bracts (modified leaves) can be vibrantly colored. That signature vibrancy is why many people would like to preserve their poinsettias to last beyond the New Year, which is possible with the right care. The following are some tips, courtesy of Mother Nature's Network, Habersham Gardens, Oregon Live, and Phoenix Flower Shops, to keep poinsettias thriving past the holiday season.

- Start with healthy plants that have full leaves, bracts

## Jan. 6th

**The Monett City Dance** will be from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Monett Park Casino weather permitting.

## Jan. 7th

**Computer/Technology Help** will be offered at Central Crossing Senior Center from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. All ages are welcome. Help sessions will meet monthly on the first Tuesday.

and deep colors.

- Poinsettias do best when the temperature is between 65 and 75 F. Temperatures below that or drafts from cold windows can cause leaves to drop.

- Position the plant in a room that gets indirect sunlight for at least six hours per day. If direct sunlight can't be avoided, diffuse the light with a sheer curtain.

- Poinsettias need well-drained soil. Overwatering or allowing roots to sit in wet soil can cause the leaves to fall off prematurely. Water thoroughly only when the pot looks dry. In households with temperatures around 70 F, the plant should be watered about once a week.

- Fertilize the plant after the blooming season with a balanced, all-purpose fertilizer.

- Try placing poinsettias in or near a bathroom, as they prefer high humidity.

It may be possible to get poinsettias to rebloom next season. Allow the poinsettias to dry out a little more in the spring. In May, cut about four inches from each stem to produce a lush, full plant during the winter. The plants can be moved outside in June and during the summer, but keep them away from direct sunlight. Return the poinsettias indoors beginning around October. Make sure the plants get at least 12 hours of darkness per day for around eight weeks in October and November. This will help them develop a deep hue and bloom on time for Christmas.

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# MERRY CHRISTMAS

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11c

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**FREDA LOU PLUMB**  
Freda Lou Plumb, age 81, of Cassville, passed away Tuesday, December 10, 2019, at Roaring River Health and Rehabilitation in Cassville.  
She was born January 29, 1938, in Washburn, the daughter of Vadis and Velma Lou (Henry) Morgan. She was married to Billie Wess Keene for nineteen years and to this union eight children were born. Billie preceded her in death. Later, she mar-

ried Ralph Shae, who died in 1990. She then married John Plumb, who also passed away. Others preceding her in death were her parents; four sisters; three brothers; and two grandchildren.  
Surviving are two daughters, Debra A. Luder, of Sparta, and Kathy E. Russell, of Ulysses, Kansas; six sons, Wesley Vernon Keene, of Cassville, Lesley “Bud” Keene, of Wichita, Kansas, Norman J. Keene, of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, William F. Keene, of Bella Vista, Arkansas, Curtis A. Keene, of Breese, Illinois, and Monte D.P. Keene, of Pea Ridge, Arkansas; three stepsons, David Shae, of Sherman, Texas, Billy Shae, of Lexington, Oklahoma, and Chance Shae, of Edmond, Oklahoma; one stepdaughter, Dana Hartlee, of Wayne, Oklahoma; two brothers, Clint C. Morgan and Danny W.

OBITUARIES

Morgan, both of Washburn; forty-one grandchildren; fifty-three great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.  
Freda grew up and received her education in Washburn. For decades, she was a cook at retirement homes (Kan., Okla. and Missouri). She was a member of Mill Street Church of Christ in Cassville.  
Services were held Friday, December 13, 2019, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Ken West conducted the services. Burial was at Dent Cemetery west of Seligman.  
Contributions may be made to Clio Music Hall in memory of Freda.  
*Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.*  
**FOHN FUNERAL HOME**  
**CASSVILLE, MO.**  
**417-847-2141**



**MARY HILDA DAVIS**  
Mary Hilda Davis, age 86, of Hollister, passed away Friday, December 13, 2019, at Point Lookout Nursing and Rehab in Hollister.  
She was born September 24, 1933 in Longview, Texas, the daughter of Roger Q. and Katie (Wright) Tekell. On May 31, 1952, in Gregton, Texas, she was united in marriage to Gerald Davis, who preceded her in death on January 21, 1995. Also preceding her in death were her parents; one brother, Doug-

las Tekell; and one sister, Que Calder.  
Surviving are one daughter, Debbie Cooner and her husband, Gary, of Hollister; three grandchildren, Joseph Cooner and his wife, Julia, Jason Cooner and his wife, Kim, and Robyn Cooner Woodruff and her husband, Bill; eleven great-grandchildren; one nephew, Billy Calder; and two nieces, Barbara Alexander and Que Kay Rust.  
Mary grew up and received her education in East Mountain, Texas, where she graduated from high school. For many years, she was employed as a line worker at the Army Ammunition Plant in Karnack, Texas. Nineteen years ago, she moved from Texas to Missouri to make her home. Some of her favorite pastimes were vacationing with family and singing in the church choir. She loved Pepsi, milkshakes and sweets. Family was her life and she was supportive of everything her daughter and grandkids did. She was a member of Morton Baptist Church in Diana, Texas.  
The family would like to give a special thank you to Point Lookout Nursing and Rehab and Preferred Hospice.  
Services will be held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, December 21, 2019, at Morton Baptist Church in Diana, Texas. Burial will be at Eagle Creek Cemetery in Harleton, Texas. Arrangements are under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.  
The family will receive friends from 1:00 p.m. until service time at Morton Baptist Church in Diana, Texas.  
*Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.*  
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**CASSVILLE, MO.**  
**417-847-2141**

**LEONA MAE (ALLMAN) THOMPSON**  
Leona Mae (Allman) Thompson passed away one December 14, 2019, at Oak Pointe in Monett.  
A family memorial will be held in Arizona. Arrangements have been entrusted to Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.

**GENE M. GIFFIN**  
Gene M. Giffin, 91, of Monett, passed away on December 7, 2019.  
No formal services are planned at this time. Arrangements have been entrusted to Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.

**Shell Knob** Thursday Night • Smoke Free  
**LIONS BINGO**  
This week's progressive **\$1,080.00**  
\* Early Bird at 6:15 pm  
\* Regular Bingo at 6:30 pm  
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*Sending Christmas "Shears" to all of our beautiful clients and a Styling New Year!*  
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**WEEKLY MENU**  
**DEC. 23:** Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes & gravy, meadow veggies, apple cobbler, biscuits  
**DEC. 24-26:** Closed for Christmas  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
**DEC. 27: Birthday Lunch!**  
Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, California veggies, birthday cake, biscuits  
Salad Bar Available Every Day During Serving Hours  
AD SPONSORED BY LOCAL BUSINESSES  
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**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 10-11c

**We know if you've been Naughty or Nice!**  
**Merry Christmas**  
From  
**The Barry County Prosecutor's Office** 11c





**MARY EMILY PIERCE**  
Mary Emily Pierce, age 91, of Purdy, passed away Thursday, December 12, 2019, in her home.  
She was born January 17, 1928, in Grand Island, Nebraska, the daughter of Earl and Emily (Lauritsen) Pierce. On August 12, 1946, she was united in marriage to Wayne Henry Dyer, who is deceased.  
Surviving are seven daughters, Avon Cote and her significant other, Devin, of Dora, Florida, Ruth Collins and her husband, Don, of Bristol, Wisconsin, Donna Spittle and her husband, Bob, of Salem, Wisconsin, Irene Bakker, of Purdy, Dianna

Dyer and her fiancé, Fred, of Cassville, Carla Francisco and her husband, Don (Cisco), of Aurora, and Linda Garner and her husband, David, of Verona; three sons, David Dyer and his wife, Jerri Cay, of Butterfield, Stan Dyer and his wife, Lorelei, of Salem, Wisconsin, and Glen Dyer and his wife, Sabrina, of McHenry, Illinois; twenty-six grandchildren, Russell, Patrick, Jeffrey, Monica, Deborah, Kori, Jason, Donna Jean, Adam, Ariane, Steven, Bruce, Jeni, Krisi, Kenny, Amanda, Gayla, Josh, Alex, Austin, Daniel, Tanner, Sydney, Brandon, Cody and Kailley; forty great-grandchildren, Tyler, Travis, Trevor, Ronnie, Mathew, Alex, Jake, Nick, Tyler, Phillip, Raymond, Chase, Drew, Parker, Craig, Andrew, Ellie, Debra, Trenton, Storm, Raina, Steel, Hailey, Deuce, Lauren, Aidan, Kaylin, James, Brayden, Gabby, Lane, Ramsey, Eli, Carmen, Nick, Everly, Rhett, Evan, Blain and Emma Lu; four great-great grandchildren, RJ, Hudson, Arries and Layne; two nieces,

**OBITUARIES**  
Vera Williams, of Carpenter, Wyoming, and Carol Bolt, of Grand Island, Nebraska; and three sisters-in law, Nora Dyer, of Kearney, Nebraska, Patricia Scoville and her husband, Keith, of Holdrege, Nebraska, and Jan Dyer, of Grand Island, Nebraska  
Preceding her in death were her husband, Wayne Dyer; two brothers, Earl Berndt and Albert; one sister, Verna, and a nephew, Leslie.  
Mary grew up in Miller, Nebraska, where she received her education. She met Wayne at a dance in Miller, Nebraska, and married him shortly after. They were happily married 70 years! She was a dedicated wife and a loving mother to their ten children. She enjoyed dancing with Wayne, caring for her children and being a grandmother. She has lived in Purdy 30 years.  
Memorial services will be held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, May 23, 2020, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.



**PATRICIA JEAN BOWDEN**  
Patricia Jean Bowden, age 51, of Seligman, passed away at her home on Wednesday, December 4, 2019.  
Memorial services were held at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 15, 2019, at the New Beginning Church in

Seligman.  
Cremation arrangements are under the direction of the White Funeral Home and Crematory, Cassville.  
**White Funeral Home and Crematory**  
www.whitefuneralhome.org  
417-847-8400 or 417-858-8400  
**FREDRICK ROBERT SCHOEN**  
Fredrick Robert Schoen, 71, of Freistatt, passed away on Tuesday, December 10, 2019.  
Services were held Sunday, December 15, 2019, at Trinity Lutheran Church under direction of Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.  
**ANDY SMITH**  
Andy Smith, 48, of Monett, passed away on Monday, December 16, 2019.  
Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, December 20, 2019, at Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett. Visitation will begin at 1:00 p.m. prior to the service. Interment will be in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery.



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 Therefore, If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.  
 2 Corinthians 5:17  
 Are you ready for a new start in Christ?  
 It's your move!

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 • Morning Service 10:45 am  
 • Evening Service 6:00 pm  
 • Wednesday Evening 6:30 pm  
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**Mount Olive Baptist Church**  
 2 ½ miles East of Cassville FR 2180  
 Pastor Kevin Hilton  
 Sunday School 10:00 am  
 Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am  
 Sunday Evening Worship 6:30 pm  
 Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6:30 pm  
 Sunday Morning Radio Program KKBL 95.9 FM 7:45 am  
 MtOliveBaptistCassville.com

**BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 Pastor Don Veazey  
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 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 10:00 a.m.  
 Worship Service 11:00 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday Night Bible Study/Youth 7:00 p.m.  
 Everybody Welcome!  
 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.  
 Luke 2:11  
 Pastor: Bryan Ozbun

**MILL STREET CHURCH of CHRIST**  
 1104 Mill Street • Cassville, MO 65625  
 417-847-2374  
**MEDI-CAT**  
 My wife has a cat named Medi-cat. He showed up at the ambulance station and she adopted him. He has a distinct voice. It sounds like he has been gargling with Drain-O. Every night at about 3 a.m. he comes into the bedroom: Meow, Meow, Meow. He wants attention. All day long he sleeps so soundly I check to see if he is breathing. Now, I want him to sleep.  
 Anyway, Meow, Meow, and Meow. Guess which of us is the lighter sleeper? I get up to let him outside. He won't go. He wants attention. Even though he is overweight and on insulin, I put food in his dish, just to distract him. After he finishes eating: Meow, Meow, Meow.  
 He reminds me of the persistent neighbor in Luke 11:5-7. He asks for bread and is not given any because it is late. But, he doesn't stop asking. Because of his persistence he finally succeeds: "I say unto you, though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth." Luke 11:8.  
 If we know we are right, there are times that we must persist. If you are on the path set out in the New Testament, stay the course. It will be worth it. God's reward will exceed any earthly gain or convenience.  
**BIBLE CLASS**  
 Sun. Morning at 10:00 a.m. & Wed. Evening at 7:00 p.m.  
**WORSHIP**  
 Sun. at 10:45 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.



# Cassville R-IV hosts Christmas open house



On Friday, December 13, Cassville R-IV School District held a Christmas Open House event, inviting parents and members of the community to partake in a festive holiday dinner and hear updates on how the first half of the school year progressed. Pictured above, Sheila Littlefield and Bobbi Blankenship tried to pick from an abundance of delicious foods provided by the district.



With the J.C. Duncan gymnasium packed full of hungry patrons, the Cassville Central Office staff was in charge of making sure that guests were fed and the food kept coming. Pictured above, co-directors of learning Traci Mitchell and Eric White, clad in holiday aprons, insure that the dessert table is well stocked.

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Merry Christmas

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

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# Wheaton hosts annual Christmas parade



The big man himself was the final attraction of the Wheaton Christmas parade on Saturday, December 14. Santa hitched a ride on the antique Wheaton Fire truck.

## Wheaton Christmas Parade Winners

- Religious floats:**  
1st place- Living Word Mission  
2nd Place- Body of Christ  
3rd Place- Wheaton Southern Baptist

**Non-Religious floats:**  
1st place- Barry Electric  
2nd place- Robins Horse Auction  
3rd place- Tiny Tots Daycare and Pre-school

**Bands/Marching Units:**  
1st place- Southwest Trojan Band  
2nd place- Exeter cheer squad  
3rd place- Purdy Eagle Band
- Cars and Trucks:**  
1st place- David and April Shockley  
2nd place- Donnie Mitchell  
3rd place- Benny's Automotive

**Miscellaneous:**  
1st place- Zoey Martell  
2nd place- Martell Razr  
3rd place- Benny's Automotive

**Horses/Wagons:**  
1st place- Sarah Catron  
2nd place- Edgar Schreiner

**Tractors:**  
1st place- Lindell Mitchell  
2nd place- Benny's Automotive



Wheaton Southern Baptist Church took third place with their float in the Wheaton Christmas parade this year.



The Grand Marshal of this year's Wheaton Christmas parade was Clint Clark, longtime police chief for the town.

WE WISH YOU A

# Merry Christmas

— & —

## A HAPPY NEW YEAR

**ARNING**  
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Colored by Jaiden Engle, age 12, daughter of Heidi & Kevin Engle of Cassville.

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

LAW OFFICE OF  
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NEW '19 FORD ESCAPE SEL

**\$23,999\***SAVE!  
**\$7,036**  
MSRP: \$31,035

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Ruby Red with Charcoal Black Interior, 6-Spd Automatic, 1.5L EcoBoost Engine with Auto Start/Stop Technology, Privacy Glass, Rear View Camera, Remote Start System, 1 Touch up/down Windows, 12V Powerpoints and more!

Ford Credit Retail Bonus Customer Cash ..... \$1,000  
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Retail Customer Cash ..... \$2,750  
Retail Bonus Customer Cash ..... \$1,000  
Holiday Retail Bonus Customer Cash ..... \$175  
2019 Farm Bureau Association eCertificate Offer ..... \$500

NEW '19 FORD EDGE SEL

**\$33,299\***SAVE!  
**\$8,091**  
MSRP: \$41,390

#3350

White Platinum with Ebony Interior, 8-Spd Auto, Twin-Scroll 2.0L EcoBoost Engine, Blind Spot Sensor, Leather Upholstery, Wireless Phone Connectivity, Fully Automatic Headlights, Keyless Entry, Come and Drive!

Select Inventory Retail Customer Cash ..... \$500  
Retail Customer Cash ..... \$800  
Retail Bonus Customer Cash ..... \$3,700  
Holiday Retail Bonus Customer Cash ..... \$1,050  
2019 Farm Bureau Association eCertificate Offer ..... \$500

NEW '19 FORD F-150 XL

**\$30,699\***SAVE!  
**\$6,271**  
MSRP: \$36,970

#6810

Oxford White with Medium Earth Gray Interior, 4x4, 3.3L Ti-VCT V6 6-Spd Auto with Auto Start/Stop Technology, Daytime Running Lights, Locking Removable Tailgate, Rear View Camera, Curve Control, Hill Start Assist, and Front 12V Powerpoint!

Select Inventory Retail Customer Cash ..... \$750  
F-Series Retail Customer Cash ..... \$2,000  
Bonus Customer Cash ..... \$750  
Retail Bonus Customer Cash ..... \$750  
2019 Farm Bureau Association eCertificate Offer ..... \$500

NEW '19 FORD F-150 XLT

**\$42,223\***SAVE!  
**\$11,297**  
MSRP: \$53,520

#8955

Blue Jeans with Medium Earth Gray Interior, 4x4, 3.5L EcoBoost V6 Engine with Auto Start/Stop Technology, Daytime Running Lights, Locking Removable Tailgate, Rear Privacy Glass, MyKey, Rear View Cam, SYNC3 with 8" Touchscreen and More!

Select Inventory Retail Customer Cash ..... \$750  
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Retail Bonus Customer Cash ..... \$750  
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'06 FORD MUSTANG

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85xxx MILES!  
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Black w/Charcoal Black Interior, 4.6L V8 6-Spd Auto, Keyless, Alloy Wheels, Stripe Pkg., Power Leather Bucket Seats, Local Trade In!

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LOCAL TRADE!  
#1194

Sunburst w/Grey Interior, 2.2L, 5-Speed Manual, P/W, P/L, Tilt, Only 78xxx Miles, Clean Car!

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**\$22,950**

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#5944

Red with Grey Interior, 6.2L V8 6-Speed Auto, Hydra-Bed Haybed, Tow Pkg. w/integrated Trailer Brake, NEW RUBBER, Ready to work!

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**\$15,500**

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Grey with Grey Interior, 5.0L V8, 6-Speed Auto, Alloy Wheels, Chrome Tube Steps, Tilt/Cruise, Tailgate Step, Local Trade!

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SUPERCREW 4X2 LARIAT



SUNROOF!  
#3242

3.5 EcoBoost, Short Bed, Oxford White w/Tan Interior, 6-Spd Auto, Tow Pkg., Heated Power Leather Memory Bucket Seats, LOADED!

'15 HYUNDAI SONATA

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LIMITED LOADED!



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1500D SLT



DIESEL CREW  
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Blue with Grey Interior, 3.0L V6 8-Speed Auto, Heated Power Bucket Seats, Backup Camera, Fog Lamps, Keyless, Tube Steps, Local Trade In!

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**\$18,780**

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ONLY 41xxx MILES!  
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**\$12,480**

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#9965

White w/Charcoal Black, Eco-Boost, Trunk Release, Rear Spoiler, Fog Lamps, PS, Reverse Sensing w/Backup Camera.

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44xxx MILES!  
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Ruby Red, Leather, EcoBoost, Nav., Bluetooth Connectivity, Power Rear Liftgate, Reverse Sensing w/Backup Camera, Alloy Wheels!

**\$31,980**

4X4 TRD SUNROOF!



34xxx MILES!  
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**\$25,990**

XLT 4X4



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Ruby Red w/Tan Interior 3.5L V6, Keyless Entry with Remote Start, Power Heated Leather Bucket Seats, Still under Factory Powertrain Warranty!

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PROGRAM CAR  
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30th wedding anniversary



Ronald W. and Velveeta J. (Anderson) Steinbach, of Rocky Comfort, were united in marriage on December 22, 1989, by Billy Jo Gentry at Ronnie's parents home. They are the parents if two sons and one daughter: Jerry Steinbach and wife Jo, Brian Steinbach and wife Marie, and Samantha(Sam) Steinbach. They are the grandparents of five amazing granddaughters, Kylie, Jaci, Anna, Leah and Ella.

Christmas piano recital



The students of Mrs. Ruth Burnside presented their annual Christmas recital on Sunday, Dec. 1, at the First Christian Church in Cassville. Connie Lee and Mrs. Burnside opened the recital with a rendition of "Jingle Bells" (a duet). Those students performing and the songs the played are pictured above, front row, left to right: Calvin Pointer, "Jolly Old St. Nicholas"; Kuper Eden, "This Is Not Jingle Bells" and "Rudolph"; Quinn Bergeron, "Joy To The World"; Kaleb Bergeron, "How Great Thou Art" (duet with Mrs. Burnside) and "Angels We Have Heard On High"; Eden LaCaze, "Jingle Bells"; Jaideon Pointer, "Little Drummer Boy"; Sierra Cheatham, "Deck The Halls." Back row: Ramona Fletcher, "O Christmas Tree" (duet with Mrs. Burnside) and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas"; Andi LaCaze, "Away in a Manger" (duet with Mrs. Burnside) and "Carol of the Bells"; Zoe LaCaze, "Silent Night"; Gracie Lea, "Auld Lang Syne"; Cole Bergeron, "We Three Kings"; Heidi Sehrbrock, "Do You Hear What I Hear?"; Mallie Clifton, "Do You Hear What I Hear?"; Connie Lee, "Sing Noel, Sing." In the middle of the recital, three girls performed "Holly Jolly Christmas" together in a trio. They were Mallie Clifton, Heidi Sehrbrock and Gracie Lea. Certificates and trophies were awarded to all the students after the recital.

Merry Christmas!

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Cassville, Mo.

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Merry Christmas!

Merry Christmas

Carey's Cassville Florist

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Merry Christmas

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from Sherry Smith

Assessor

Jill LeCompte

Clerk

Danielle Still

Recorder

Skyler Bowman

Collector and Staff

Experience A Candlelight

Christmas Eve

with us at

Cassville United Methodist Church

Services at 6:00 and 7:30 p.m.

Cider & hot chocolate reception 6:50-7:20 p.m.

Live Nativity & Photo Booth

601 Gravel St.

Come Make Meaningful Memories



# Share Your Christmas brings the joy of the holidays to those in need

Vinnie Roberts

For a countless number of years, one community program in Barry County has been making sure Christmas comes to as many children in Barry County as possible. Annually, the Share Your Christmas program is the only thing that stands between some families and empty stockings.

According to Gail Reed, supervisor of the Cassville branch of the Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation (OACAC), the program is currently on track to assist 131 families and 342 individual children across Barry County this holiday season.

Share Your Christmas is a yearly toy drive that takes donations and distributes toys to families in need. Families that sign up for the

program submit a Christmas wish list from their children with their applications. From there, donors can either donate money or toys listed on the wishlists. After all donations are collected, the toys are distributed to the families to be wrapped in time for Christmas morning.

“Share Your Christmas covers all of Barry County, except for Shell Knob and Monett, who both have their own programs,” Reed explained. “It just amazes me all the people that volunteer and the level of generosity that they have towards these kids at Christmas.”

Local businesses also get involved in the program throughout the year. Many businesses in Barry County have Christmas trees on display that feature these

Christmas wish items. These ornaments can be taken and provide inspiration to buy gifts for SYC families. These donations, like most others, are then taken to the OACAC Neighborhood Center in Cassville, located on MO-248, near the Cassville YMCA.

“People can come in, pick a family out to adopt, and they purchase Christmas for that family,” explained Reed. “We take toy donations any time here at the office. Toys, money, whatever can be donated.”

Share Your Christmas has helped countless families throughout the years. One parent of six, who chose to remain nameless, told her story of how the program helped her family through a difficult time.

After the death of her

partner and the subsequent incarceration of another, the family’s mother was left in a difficult position where her wages could barely cover her children’s needs.

“My family has pretty much always struggled,” said the mother. “It was very hard. I did everything on my own. It was a really difficult time for us. Share Your Christmas was the only way that my kids got Christmas every year. I couldn’t do it all by myself with all of my kids. It was hard enough to keep food on the table for all six of them.”

It was at this time that she was advised to sign up for the program. She reported that the program was a tremendous success for her family.

“It’s so wonderful to see the happiness that those

presents bring,” she continued. “It was a joy to know that those presents were there for them under the tree when I couldn’t do it myself.”

The family’s mother holds a deep respect for the program as well as the volunteers that help to keep it operational.

“They really are here for the people,” she explained. “They really are trying to make a difference in these little kids’ lives and to the parents that are struggling.”

Though she has since been able to move on with her life, remarrying and moving away from Barry County, she highly recommends any parents who are on the fence about seeking aid through the program should sign up.

“There’s nothing better than knowing that your child is going to be happy on Christmas morning,” she concluded. “It’s a shame that people have to go through everything that they have to go through, but that shouldn’t keep them from

helping their children be happy.”

Donations were accepted until December 17 for this year, and the donations were separated out by family with extra items purchased to fill lists.

Additionally, families receive a cash voucher to purchase clothing after the toys have been received. They also get a “hygiene basket” assembled by First Baptist Church of Cassville that include things like soaps, toothpaste and other grooming essentials.

“We do a lot of the logistics through the Neighborhood Center here,” said Reed. “We make sure that when people want to adopt a family, or needs a sign up, we have applications here. We also help to make sure that all of the local businesses participating get the ornaments for their trees.”

For any further information, or to inquire about donations, contact the OACAC Neighborhood in Cassville at (417) 847-2140.



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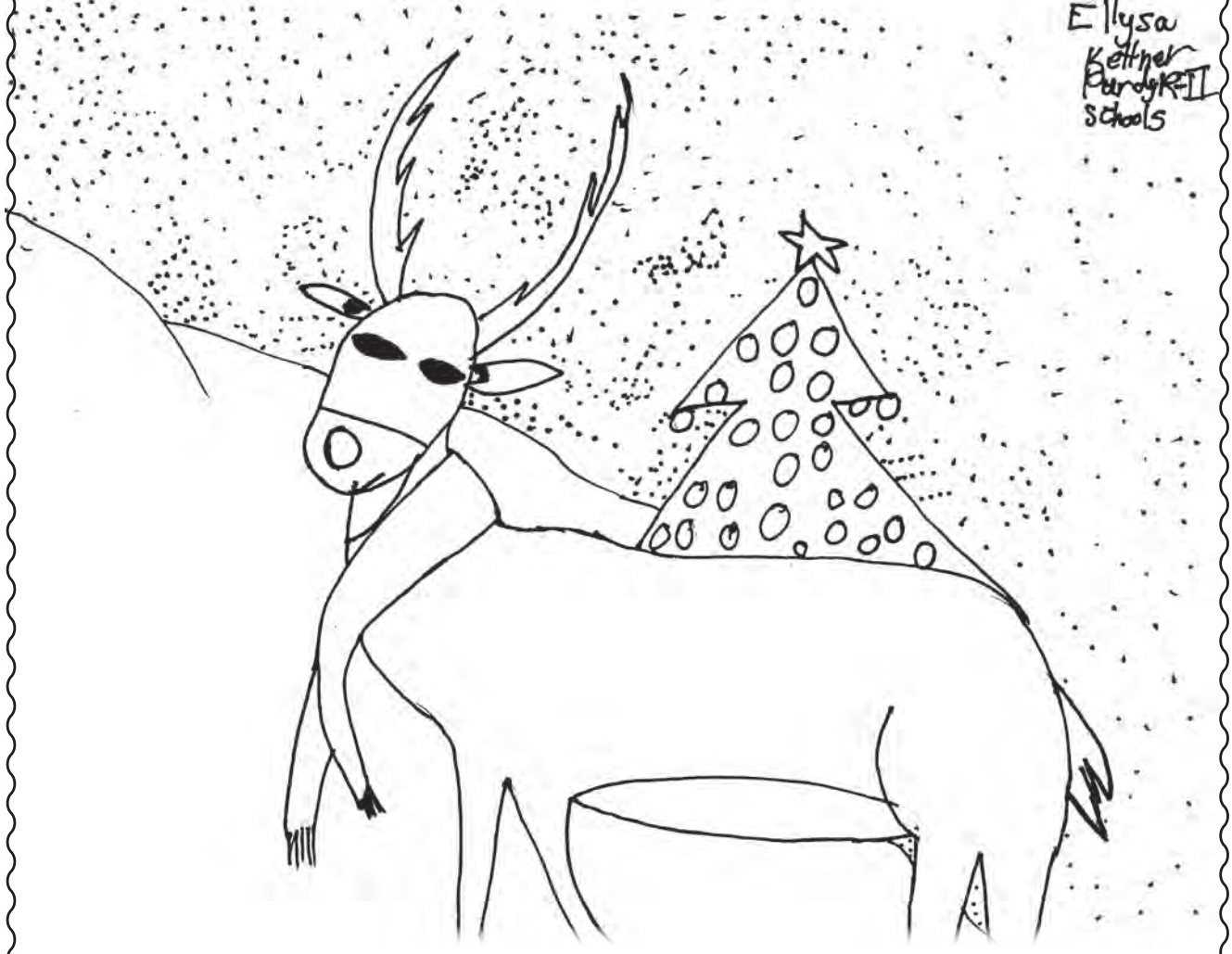


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## Jenkins woman injured in ice-related crash

Charlea Estes-Jones

A Jenkins woman suffered moderate injuries after crashing due to icy road conditions on Monday evening. According to the Missouri State Highway Patrol crash report, Theresa L. Owens, 64, of Jenkins, slid in her vehicle before overturning.

Owens was driving a 2003 Honda CRV eastbound on Farm Road 2185 about five miles east of Cassville. The vehicle lost control and slid off the left side of the roadway and overturned.

Owens suffered moderate injuries and was transported to Mercy Hospital in Cassville by ambulance.

The CRV was totalled and left at the scene.

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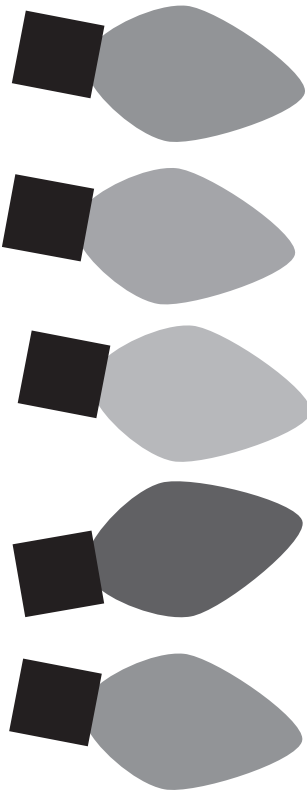
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# CCSC hosts 16th annual lighting of the tree and star

Jeff Harp

The hugely popular Lighting of the Tree and Star kicked off the Christmas Season in Shell Knob at the Central Crossing Senior Center on Friday, December 6. The entire community was invited, and the event was jam-packed with family fun.

Doors opened at 5 p.m., and the community seemed to be waiting for the event to begin. Upon entering the Center, everyone enjoyed complimentary soup, desserts and soft drinks provided by the Shell Knob Elementary School and Shell Knob Seniors, Inc.

The event then officially kicked off with CEO of the Shell Knob Seniors, Inc. giving

an invocation and sharing the Christmas story with everyone present.

Following that, the Shell Knob Elementary students,

kindergarten through fourth grade entertained the masses with their special Christmas Program. Santa, his wife, Mrs. Claus, and one of his

special elves broke into their busy schedule and visited with the many children who wished to share with Santa their hopes and dreams for

this Christmas. All in all, a fantastic and festive time was had by all.



## Cassville woman hurt on icy roads Monday afternoon

Isaac Estes-Jones

A Cassville woman was hurt Monday afternoon after her vehicle slid off the icy highway south of Crane. According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol crash report, Kellie N. Worley, 23, was driving a 1996 Honda Accord south on D Highway when the crash occurred about three miles south of Crane at 4:30 p.m. The ve-

hicle lost control on the slick road and ran off the highway, hitting a utility pole.

Worley suffered minor injuries in the crash. She was not wearing a seat belt. She reportedly would seek her own treatment.

The 1996 Honda Accord was totalled and towed from the scene by Johnson's Towing, of Crane.

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## Seligman Council moves on equipment purchases, new hours

Vinnie Roberts

At the Seligman City Council meeting on Monday, December 9, the board of aldermen moved forward on several items that will resolve several long-running issues for city officials.

The first issue ruled on by the council changed the hours for Seligman City Hall from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. According to Seligman city clerk Brian Nichols, this was to maximize City Hall's efficiency and prevent city employees from working the front desk during dead time.

"Prior to this year, we've been open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.," explained Nichols. "It's been very dead in the morning, and there's hardly anyone in after 4:30 wanting to get stuff done."

The new hours will be effective as of January 1. To keep the public informed on the matter, an explanation of the change will be posted

on this month's water bills.

City council also moved forward on pursuing deals with local vendors to acquire new equipment. The first of the equipment is a new tractor the public works department will use for both mowing and hauling.

"We're looking to either replace or upgrade the mower," explained Nichols. "We've been using a batwing brush hog that we purchased two years ago to take some of the burden off our lawn mowing equipment."

According to Nichols, the city's reliance on the tractor, as well as its multiple uses, led the council to conclude budgeting originally set aside for new mowing equipment would be better put to use purchasing a new tractor.

"Our current tractor is undersized for the brush hog," explained Nichols. "We have multiple uses for the city tractor aside from that. It makes more sense to invest the money into another tractor rather than a new mower."

According to Nichols, the new tractor will come from LS Tractors, of Stark City. The city will trade in their

current tractor, lowering the cost of the new model to fall to \$19,800.

The second major equipment purchase authorized by the board of aldermen begins what Nichols hopes will be the end of an ongoing saga regarding police vehicles.

"We've had horrible luck with Dodge Chargers," said Nichols. "Out of the two 2014 Chargers that we've had, both have spent more than a year at a time at the dealership with warranty work on the motors."

Currently, only one of the two police Chargers in Seligman is in service. Acknowledging the need for more than one police vehicle for their department, the council authorized city representatives to move forward with the purchase of a new vehicle.

"We're moving forward with purchasing a Chevy Tahoe," explained Nichols. "I'm currently awaiting the lease agreement paperwork. We'll either finish that all up in January or with a special session later this month, provided we can get it quicker."

In order to keep costs on the new vehicle low, the non-operational vehicle in the Seligman fleet will be traded in. In another cost-saving maneuver, all special equipment for the Tahoe

will be installed by police chief Matt Phillips and city clerk Brian Nichols.

The expected costs of the new vehicle, after trade-in and equipment, will be approximately \$36,493 over the life of the lease agreement.

The final major action taken by the board of aldermen on December 9 authorized city officials to close the books on a piece of land within city limits, the ownership of which was previously the matter of some dispute.

"When the railroad decided that they were going to abandon a chunk of property that they owned, they offered it up to the local municipalities," explained Nichols. "They deeded one chunk of property to the Sugar Creek Road District and then turned around and accidentally deeded the same property to the city."

According to Nichols, a paperwork error led to the city being the technical owner of a piece of property operated by the rural road district. In order to resolve this issue, the board of aldermen authorized Nichols to work with city attorney Darlene Parrigon, at cost, to the city, to draw up a deed agreement that will formally put the property under correct ownership.

## Wheaton names October Students of the Month



Wheaton Junior and Senior High School recently announced the school's October Students of the Month. Pictured, from left to right, are: Abbey Bowling, 10th grade daughter of Robbie and Margaret Bowling, and Adriana Barrientos, 9th grade daughter of Juan and Sulema Barrientos.

## Two hurt after SUV hits tree

Isaac Estes-Jones

Two people from Monett were hurt after a wreck over the weekend. According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol crash report, Courtney D. Quessenberry, 33, of Pierce City, was driving a 2004 Buick SUV when the wreck occurred at 12:50 p.m. on Saturday, December 14.

According to the report, the vehicle was heading east on Stallion Bluff Road, five miles north of Shell Knob, when the driver lost control. The SUV ran off the road and hit a tree.

Quessenberry did not report any injuries in the crash. However, two passengers suffered moderate injuries. Misti D. Bradford, 41, of Shell Knob, and an unnamed 16 year old female were taken to Cox Monett hospital for treatment.

The 2004 Buick SUV had extensive damage. It was towed from the scene by Chris's Towing, of Lampe.

This incident was investigated by Trooper DeHaan, of Missouri State Highway Patrol Troop D.



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# Berryville clips Cassville, 62-61

Lee Stubblefield

The visiting Berryville Bobcats overcame an 11-point fourth quarter deficit to edge Cassville 62-61 in an interstate contest on Friday night. It was a frustrating finish for Barrett Milleson's team after the Wildcats led by as many as 14 in the third period.

Early on, this game looked like it was headed for the same one-sided conclusion as Cassville's season opener at Berryville last year, when the Bobcats ran away to a 74-65 victory. The Bobcats broke out of the gate to claim a 6-0 lead at the 6:38 mark, prompting an early Cassville time out.

Berryville would build an 11-2 lead on Landon Chester's trey and subsequent steal-and-score.

But the Wildcats finally came alive. Led by the hustle of the two players with the least practice minutes, Cassville roared back with an 11-1 run to tie the game at 13-13. DJ White and Bowen Preddy, still rusty from a long football campaign, sparked a ferocious comeback.

**Hitch and pitch**

Carson Roller's three from the left wing started the Cassville scoring blitz.

Then, Preddy pitched in a trey from the left corner to cut the lead to 13-8 at the 2:52 mark. White drove the baseline for a layup, then Carson Whittemire buried a trey to tie the score.

But Berryville finally responded, scoring the final 7 points of the quarter to take a 20-13 lead.

Chester gave Berryville another big lead with his bomb to open the second quarter. Then it was Cassville's turn to explode.

White scored and added a free throw, and Roller swished back-to-back treys to trim the lead to 23-22. The Bobcats pushed the lead back to 6 points twice, but Cassville finished the half with a 9-0 run to take a 33-30 halftime lead.

**20-14**

The Wildcats played a strong third quarter, outscoring Berryville 20-14. Leading 44-37 at the 3:54 mark, Cassville used a 7-0 run to open a 14-point lead, 51-37. Dane Martin buried two free throws, Roller tossed in a short jumper on an inbounds play, and White connected on a long trey from the top of the key

to give the Wildcats their biggest lead.

White set the tone when he leapt to intercept a back-court pass, and then finished with a flying layup.

Although Berryville chipped away as the quarter ran out, the Wildcats held a 53-44 advantage at the final break.

**No safe lead**

With a big lead and Berryville's 6-8 center Weston Teague in foul trouble, Cassville was in great position to earn a W. But with the Bobcats ramping up the defensive pressure, turnovers and missed free throws led to the lead draining away. With a double digit lead, the Wildcats wouldn't commit to scoring or stalling and wound up doing neither. White hit two free throws with 1:12 to play to give Cassville a 60-55 lead. But the Wildcats would only score one more point after that.

Chester hit a clutch three at the 1:01 mark to pull the Bobcats within a single score. Jacob Thomas hit the second of two free throws to give Cassville a 61-58 lead. Then Kade Davidson

donned the hero jersey for Berryville.

Davidson drove for a layup to cut the lead to 61-60 with 40 seconds remaining, then drew a foul and canned both free throws to give the Bobcats their first lead since the 1:08 mark of the second quarter. A wild finish saw a Cassville miss at the buzzer, and Berryville claimed a 62-61 victory.

Cassville only managed

8 points in the pivotal final quarter, while Berryville erupted for 18. Davidson led the Berryville comeback with 10 fourth quarter points. Free throws were critical. For the game, Berryville made 14 of 18 attempts while Cassville only converted 8 of 16.

Berryville improved to 6-2 with the win, while Cassville slipped to 1-4.

Cassville scorers:  
Carson Roller, 21; DJ White, 19; Bowen Preddy, 8; Kel Wilson, 4; Jacob Thomas, 4; Carson Whittemire, 3; Dane Martin, 2.

Berryville scorers:  
Landon Chester, 22; Kade Davidson, 21; JD Smith, 7; Chris Lehr, 5; Weston Teague, 3; Austin Franklin, 2; Kelton Davidson, 2.



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All Tournament Team

Carson Roller

Basketball

All Tournament Team

Gabe Hunter

Wrestling

Gabe has been a good leader for our team and took third place at the NWA tournament this past weekend

CASSVILLE WILDCATS

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# Cassville brings *Nutcracker* to life



Cassville fifth graders brought *The Nutcracker* to life in the annual performance last week. Above, from left to right, Aubrey Conrad, Shailey Hodge and Abby Robertson belt out a tune.



Pictured, the nutcracker, played by Kami Stough, leads the toy soldiers into battle. In the second row, left to right: Braxton Baker and Kole Fry. Third row: Rylen Holman and Jacob Roden. Back: Ian Wallace and Terrance Kettner.

TRADITIONS from FRONT

spins on the usual traditions.

“We do the same thing every year,” said Phillips. “We all gather at my grandma’s house to exchange gifts on Christmas Day. My grandma makes her tacos that everyone in the family loves so much. She makes her own tortilla shells, flour and all. Everything about the tacos is from scratch.”

Phillips, as well as many other members of his family, is an accomplished musician. For Christmas, the family combines their talents to provide the gathering with live entertainment.

“There’s lots of music, too. Me and my dad bring our guitars and play music while we’re there,” explained Phillips. “I feel really fortunate that my family is as close as they are. I feel very blessed in that sense.”

For some, past Christmases have given them the opportunity to travel and see an amazing site or two. For Purdy mayor Bo Prock, his fondest Christmas memory takes him several hundred miles south, to the happiest place on Earth.

“My most memorable Christmas was from sixth grade. My family spent three weeks at Disney World in Florida. We had Christmas in a hotel,” said Prock. “We really didn’t want to go in the summer because of all the people.”

Prock recounted his wonder at seeing one of the world’s largest theme parks decorated to fit the season.

“They decorated Cinderella’s castle for Christmas,”



Wheaton officer Kenneth Phillips, pictured with his daughter Reagan and wife, Tori.

explained Prock. “The whole park was decorated for Christmas. We had never seen that side of it before and that was one of the perks of getting to go during the holidays. It was a very different experience than what we’ve ever done up here. It was awesome. We even got to swim on Christmas morning.”

Few would debate that the most important people on Christmas are the children. Nikki Tolbert, bakery and deli production manager for Wal-Mart Cassville, recounted adding a new tradition to her Christmas Eve to help ease her children’s fears that a certain magical elf’s pets don’t get enough to eat when they’re working.

“Our biggest family tradition is making cookies for Santa and setting out carrots for his reindeer,” said Tolbert. “My daughter came home from

school one year and was all about making sure that Santa’s reindeer get fed. That’s been a part of our tradition ever since. We set out cookies for Santa, but we’ll also set out carrots and some kind of oatmeal-based reindeer food to make sure that they get something to eat.”

Everyone’s Christmas traditions are just a little bit different. For all involved, one thing remains true: Christmas is about love and togetherness. It’s a holiday about families coming together to spend a day being thankful for one another.

Though some traditions may be different, one tradition remains consistent throughout every household on Christmas: the tradition of loving one another.

Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year!  
From our families to yours

Marty Jenkins  
Charlea Estes-Jones  
Renée Bear Brooks  
Elaine Phaneuf  
Richard Wagener

Nate Stepp  
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# Seligman parade, Santa brings Christmas cheer



On Saturday, December 14, the city of Seligman hosted its annual Christmas Parade. Pictured above, first place winners of the parade’s marching category, the Southwest band, marched through town square at full volume before stopping at the judge’s table for their routine.



The parade closed with the appearance of Seligman Chief of Police Matt Phillips in his 2014 Dodge Charger that the officer reportedly decorated himself for the holidays.



Seligman mayor Michael Avers made several appearances before the parade costumed as beloved Dr. Seuss character, The Grinch. In an uncharacteristic move, however, this Grinch distributed candy rather than take it away.



After the parade, Ruby Phillips, 10, of Seligman, and her siblings got to talk to Santa Claus about what they hope to see under the tree this Christmas.

## Seligman Parade and Lighting Contest results

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Light Contest</b><br>1st place - Angie Corn - \$100; 2nd place - Ben Salmon - \$50; 3rd place - Brenda McKinney - \$25<br><b>Parade Winners</b><br><u>Floats:</u> 1st - Barry Electric/GoBec - \$50; 2nd - Seligman | <u>Super Stop</u> - \$25<br><u>Band:</u> 1st - Southwest - \$50<br><u>Motorcycle/Off-road:</u> 1st - Ayasha Ross - \$50<br>2nd - Wayne Selleck - \$25<br><u>Best Elf:</u> Angie Corn \$50<br><u>Best Grinch:</u> Kaden Kissinger - \$50 | <u>Best animal:</u> Pyper Ginn - \$50<br><u>Best Antique:</u> James Townsend - \$50<br><u>Best non-antique:</u> Luther McMath - \$50 |
|--|---|--|



Ayasha Ross, 10, of Washburn, makes a splash in her John Deere tractor decorated to look like the most famous deer of all time, Rudolph.

# Happy Holidays

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## Treasurer Fitzpatrick named Hunt-Kean Fellow

Missouri State Treasurer Scott Fitzpatrick today announced that he has been named a Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellow for the program's sixth cohort. The education policy fellowship will bring together a group of 23 bipartisan state leaders to examine state-level education policy over the next nine months.

"Education policy is important to me, not only as the administrator of MOST, Missouri's 529 Education Plan, but also as a parent and a taxpayer," Treasurer Fitzpatrick said. "I am honored and grateful for the opportunity to learn from this diverse group of education policy leaders and experts from across the country."

The fellowship kicks off today with a three-day visit to Washington, D.C. during which the fellows will explore the importance of K-12 standards and assessments, school funding, early learning, school choice, and effective teachers and school leaders with some of the nation's leading experts in education, policy, and

politics. Throughout his time in Jefferson City, Treasurer Fitzpatrick has been a consistent advocate for public education. As budget chairman, he fully funded the foundation formula for the first time in nearly a decade in addition to expanding access to preschool across the state. As State Treasurer,

Treasurer Fitzpatrick oversees MOST, Missouri's 529 Education Plan. MOST accounts are designed to help families save for the costs of education, including K-12, college, trade, or technical school. Federal and state tax benefits enhance the value of 529 plans.

The Hunt Institute is an affiliate of the Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy and a recognized leader in the movement to transform public education. The Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellows program seeks to partner with senior-level political leaders who have

the knowledge, skill, and will to be effective, reform-minded education policy-makers at the state level. The national, nonpartisan fellowship was named for governors Jim Hunt (D-NC) and Tom Kean (R-NJ) and launched in 2014.

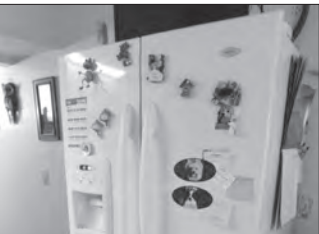
For more information about Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellows, visit <http://www.hunt-institute.org/hunt-kean-leadership-fellows>. More information about MOST accounts can be found at [missourimost.org](http://missourimost.org).

## ESTATE AUCTION

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**GAS GOLF CART – GUNS – TOOLS – (2) PROPANE TANKS – POOL TABLE – FURNITURE & APPLIANCES  
ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES – MISC**



**Golf Cart:** EZ Go gas golf cart w/rear bench seat, top & windshield. (G498 1102914). **Guns:** Colt Trooper MKIII 357 mag revolver – Browning lever action rifle w/banner 22 scope, 22 short & long – Browning Belgian made lever action .308 – Winchester Ranger 30-30 – Winchester mdl 1897, 12 ga pump – Winchester mdl 12, 12 ga pump, full choke, nickel steel – Remington mdl 550 I Semi auto .22 short & long – Remington Gamemaster mdl 141 .35 pump – Mossberg 410 – Riverside Arms single shot 410 – Remington Target Master mdl 510 bolt action .22 short & long – Savage mdl 6D .22 short & long semi auto – Harrington & Richardson Arms Co 410 – Ithaca mdl 300, 12 ga auto – Benjamin Franklin pump pellet rifle – Crossman Air Rifle – Daisy BB gun – 760 Pump master pellet gun – Buck hunting knife – leather pistol holster – misc ammo – 11x80 Celestron binoculars. **Gun Safe:** Sentinel metal gun safe. **Propane Tanks:** (2) 500 gal propane tanks. **Tools:** misc sm hand tools such as Hammers, wrenches, screwdrivers, etc.- misc long handle tools – misc power tools such as skil saws, drills, saws all, etc – battery powered tools, drills, etc – sm air compressor's – dolly – drop lights – extension cords – hedge trimmers – weed eaters – elect pressure washer – floor jack – Diamond plate truck tool box – Reese 5th wheel hitch – mech creeper – leaf blower – many more not listed. **Pool Table:** Fisher pool table (nice old table). **Furniture & Appliances:** Howard Miller Grandfather clock (nice) – Lighted curio cabinets – vintage sofa – vintage rocking chair & arm chair w/ottoman – matching rocking/recliners – misc coffee tables – misc end tables – dining hutch – dining table & 6 chairs – microwave stand – glass door cabinet – ant look cabinet – jewelry chest – king size bed & matching dresser, night stand & chest – chest of drawers – sm table – chest of drawers – Lane cedar chest – queen bed, matching dresser, chest & night stand – quilt rack – oak storage cabinet – octagon dining table & 4 roll around chairs – sm elect fireplace – wood TV stand – floor lamps – table lamps – sm Samsung flat screen TV – misc wood desks – computer desk – Large Pioneer speakers – office chairs – file cabinets – sofa & matching ottoman – rocking/recliner – loveseat w/dual recliners – brass coat rack – book case – portable cocktail bar – misc wall clocks – misc wall hangings – pictures – decorative bench – matching LG Tromm Super Cap SS drum quiet operation washer & dryer – Maytag side by side refrigerator w/bottom freezer – large Gibson chest freezer (full) – sm Frigidaire chest freezer (Full) – Frigidaire side by side refrigerator. **Antiques & Collectibles:** Brass tea cart – a few arrow heads & chips – lots & lots of costume jewelry – misc pocket watches & mens watches – vintage ice bucket – bar light – vintage step stool – typewriter & desk – die cast car & truck collection – lots of figurines of all kinds – misc glassware, Carnival pitcher & glasses – cup & saucers – tea pitchers – Sure to be many oldies found as we unpack this home and get ready for auction. **Misc:** PFAFF sewing machine in cabinet – Scholastic sewing machine – sewing notion basket – craft items – several machine made quilts – little red wagon – several lawn chairs – Casio LK 55 keyboard – John Deere bird house – misc bird houses – misc coolers – glass thermometer – office supplies – copiers – carpet cleaner – Hoover vac – misc holiday décor – lots of throw rugs of all kinds, some new – exercise bike – heated throws (new) – space heaters – weather radio – handicap walker w/break & seat – books – cookbooks – artificial flowers – wreaths – windchimes – lots of towels & linens – misc bathroom items – lot of laundry detergent, cleaners, etc – lots of food of all kinds – Mag lights – kitchen wares such as, pots & pans, silverware, utensils, cannister sets, Corning ware, plates, bowls, cups, baking sheets, Tupperware, graniteware, etc – sm kitchen appliances – patio swing & misc patio furniture – sm chain link dog pen – ant garden cart – yard ornaments – hose reel – yard cart – trash cans – flower planters – CB radios – Rubbermaid patio storage shed – many more items not listed. **Note:** Mr. Norman built this home and over the years built many subdivisions in the area. The Normans have been collectors of all kinds of things over the years and every closet & cubbyhole is stuffed full. There will be many surprises on auction day so come join in on the treasure hunt with us. In case of inclement weather, we can sell part time under cover. Catering and restroom on site. **Terms:** Cash or good check w/2 forms of current ID. Must have current drivers license to obtain bidder number. Positive ID scan on site. All terms on bidder card apply. All sells as is where is with no warranty or guarantee. Any announcements made day of auction supersede any and all printed material. No debit or credit cards accepted.

Estate of Patricia Norman • Owner: Jimmie Norman



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Cassville R-IV breaks ground on Early Childhood Learning Center



Cassville R-IV Schools held an official ground breaking ceremony for the school's new Early Childhood Learning Center on Friday, December 13. Pictured, from left to right: Dusty Reid, director of facilities and operations; Richard Asbill, superintendent of schools; Jon Horner, school board member; Becky Henningson, school board president; Jeremy Marple, school board member; Stephanie Marple, preschool teacher; Pam Ralls, preschool teacher; Angela Brown, preschool teacher; Nola Nickols, Parents as Teachers director; Chad Yarnall, school board member; Wade Hermansen, school board member; Steven Henbest, school board member; and David Haddock, school board member.

Lindsey Nelson accepted to Culver-Stockton College

Lindsey Nelson, of Exeter, was accepted into Culver-Stockton College's incoming class for fall 2020. Nelson is a senior at Exeter High School and was also awarded the President's Scholarship, an \$11,500 per year scholarship for four years. This scholarship is awarded based upon academic credentials and is renewable provided the student remains in good academic standing.

Culver-Stockton College, located in Canton, is a four-year residential institution in affiliation with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). C-SC is one of only two colleges in the nation to offer the 12-week/3-week academic semester calendar, where the typical 15-week semester is divided

into a 12-week term and a 3-week term that allows students to focus on a class, an internship or international or domestic travel study with classmates.

C-SC is a member of the Heart of America Athletic Conference and the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

The Shell Is Broken book signing slated for Dec. 23

A local author will host a book signing on Monday just in time for Christmas. Sharon Mellinger Sanders, author of *The Shell Is Broken*, will sign copies of the book at Forever Yours Embroidery on Monday, December 23, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Each book purchased at the event will come with a free pen. Sanders' book is a memoir detailing her personal journey in life through her faith. Originally from Wiggins, Miss., Sanders moved to Cassville after purchasing a small resort property with her husband, Jon, and their three children in 2007. The book is a brief peek into Sanders' life experiences where the reader also sees glimpses of her Savior.



Forever Yours Embroidery is located at 603 Main Street in Cassville.

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# MSHP: Have A Safe Christmas Season

Office parties, family gatherings, and school programs mark a busy holiday season. Listening to Christmas carols is commonplace as people work, wrap presents, and bake cookies. These are sounds everyone wants to hear during the holidays. Unfortunately, other sounds, like breaking glass, crunching metal, and calls for assistance, are heard all too often ... no matter what season it is. The Missouri State Highway Patrol asks motorists to make safety a priority this Christmas season.

Last year during the 108-hour Christmas counting period, there were 1,155 traffic crashes. In those crashes, 11 people were killed and another 421 were injured. During the 2018 Christmas holiday, troopers arrested 106 people for driving while impaired.

"A traffic crash can't be undone," said Colonel Eric T. Olson, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. "Please be a safe, courteous driver this holiday season."

Every driver can help make our roadways safer this holiday season. Obey all traffic laws, drive sober, and pay attention every time you get behind the wheel. Make sure you are well rested and your vehicle is in good working condition before driving to your destination, no matter how short the distance. Keep an eye on the weather, and allow extra driving time. The Road Condition Report number is 1-888-275-6636.

The 2019 Christmas holiday counting period begins at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, December 24, 2019, and ends at 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, December 25, 2019.

If faced with a traffic emergency, motorists can contact the Missouri State Highway Patrol at 1-800-525-5555 or \*55 on a cellular phone. This emergency number will ring into the nearest Highway Patrol headquarters. Motorists should use this number if they are in a traffic crash, witness a crash or crime, or observe a stranded motorist in need of assistance, or other traffic emergencies.

"If your plans include alcohol, designate a sober driver," said Col. Olson. "On behalf of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, I want to wish everyone a safe, merry Christmas!"

Too many people die in traffic crashes each year in Missouri. The choices you make when you're behind the wheel matter. Make good choices, so you'll never have to say, "If I could just go back."

Follow the Missouri State Highway Patrol on Twitter @MSHPTrooperGHQ

There's no place like home for the holidays. Please, plan ahead, pay attention, and arrive safely.

# Haven of the Ozarks' Pets of the Week: Scout and Brownie



Meet Scout and Brownie, the Haven of the Ozarks Pets of the Week. This friendly pair came to Haven when their owner's health became too poor to care for the dogs anymore. They've lived on a farm with all kinds of animals and have done well with all of them. They've never lived with children, but they seem like they would do well with school-aged kids and up. Scout and Brownie have only been outdoor dogs, but we're sure they would love the indoor life if given the chance. Going back to a farm would also be to their liking. They just want to go together. Haven staff wants to get these two home by Christmas.

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](http://www.havenoftheozarks.org).

*From all our staff,  
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# Cassville Primary names October Character Kids



Cassville Primary 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 October for kindness.

Kindergarten and Kinder Academy award winners are pictured above, from left to right. In the front row: Aubree Humphrey, Karma Perez, Adelynn Whittington, Gracelynn Glidewell, Maggie Miller, Frankie Tucker and Lamarah Smith. Back row: Zade Dunfee, Connor Ewing, Ulysseus Arguelles, Caiden Fox, Easton Long, Gabriel Vargas, Marcus Norris and Ryder Ellis. Not pictured: Justis Houston.



Cassville Primary 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 October for kindness.

Second grade award winners are pictured above, from left to right. In the front row: Jazlynn Hamilton, Layla Rivera, Lynkin Carter, Chazlyn Artherton and Kylie Strahan. Back row: Will Ray, Kyler Artherton, Jakobey Wilderbuer, Kobhe Ware, Kelby Lee and Dustion Libertus. Not pictured: Lilly Ashwell.



Cassville Primary 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 October for kindness.

First grade award winners are pictured above, from left to right. In the front row: Caitlin Gahagan, Nevaeh Whittenburg, Emilie Vickers, Gabriela Conner and Aubrey Vinson-Davis. Back row: Tatyn Meltabarger, Carson Slavens, Bill Davis, Vann Babb and Aiden Harris. Not pictured: Rylan Murray and Riley Clifford.

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# Holidays are a prime time to donate, volunteer at food pantry

Charlea Estes-Jones

For most families in the area, the holidays means warm fires, hot cocoa, presents and a big family meal. However for a lot of Barry County families, the worry is about much more than just gifts. Food insecurity is a real issue in Barry County.

Around 16 percent of Barry County residents live in poverty. For many families, they are only one small circumstance away from being unable to put food on the table. A single illness, job loss or accident could mean no food on the table not just for a Christmas dinner, but on a

daily basis.

Across Barry County, food pantries are vital in the event of those emergencies. Cassville Food Pantry director Janet Mills said there are 325 families signed up through the food pantry program each month. For the walk-in program, there are approximately 80 families a week that utilize the service.

In order to make sure those families have memorable holidays, Mills says she asks people to donate the types of things they enjoy around the holidays to help those families in need. She said, "I tell people to donate

things people would use for their own holiday celebration: stuffing, potato flakes, yams, cranberries, things like that. Bring what people would want for their own holiday meals, that way we can elevate the standard box where they feel like they are receiving something special."

She added to also consider items that people use to make traditional holiday casseroles and side dishes. She said, "Think about green beans, cream of mushroom soup, the things they would buy for themselves to make holiday favorites."

The Cassville Food Pantry is limited to low income families within Barry County. Mills said families have to provide some verification of their need as well as a piece of mail showing they live in the county. She said, "The basic criteria is a statement of need. We do go by government poverty guidelines as a basis, but we consider special needs and special circumstances. We are

always a listening ear. We are always here to listen to their concerns, and issues are well-evaluated and considered. They can call me or drop by if they have questions."

Mills said the food pantry also has the capacity to take non-shelf stable items. She said, "One thing that would be helpful and people don't necessarily think of is we can store perishable foods. If people want to donate butter or margarine, that helps. I know it's perishable, but it is something we can always use and people use in recipes."

Mills said milk, butter, oil and other foods that are commonly used in baking and cooking homemade meals are helpful and always in need at the pantry.

They will also accept personal care items and paper goods to families utilizing the food pantry, as well.

For those who would like to help, but don't have the financial ability to donate monetarily or food items,

there are also volunteer opportunities. She said, "We are always seeking new volunteers. There are many, many different ways to volunteer in different capacities. Some involve interacting with the public, and some just involve sorting produce and stocking shelves. We are pretty much limited to weekday opportunities, but there are different facets and ways they can serve."

She added, "We are definitely in need of helpers. We don't mandate that they need to lift heavy boxes. The team of volunteers is really what keeps it going, and it's a sensitive job. We want it to be a more human experience for people coming to the pantry to be treated with compassion. It's more than just handing a box. We want to be an encouragement and uplifting moment where they don't feel embarrassed to come in. We are fulfilling our mission by helping them to come through our doors."

Mills stressed the compassion element is fundamentally important to the volunteer process. She said the goal is to make sure every family feels uplifted by their experience at the food pantry.

The hours for the Feeding America Pantry are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. For questions about who qualifies for the pantry or to sign up, call (417) 847-2328.

Mills added the pantry is also seeking monetary donations to help purchase food for the food pantry's various programs available to families in need.

She said, "Instead of just food items, we welcome and appreciate monetary gifts, as well. Our budget is pretty large to feed all of the folks that we do. We partner with the Ozarks Food Harvest and acquire most of our food products from them, which is below wholesale value. Monetary donations are very welcome and well-received."

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Aubrey Antle named  
Exeter Student of the Month



People's Community Bank Selected Aubry Antle for the November Student of the Month. Antle is a sophomore at Exeter High. She will receive a certificate and a \$50 Graduate Certificate of Deposit. It is a great reward for a well-deserving scholar athlete. Pictured are Aubry Antle and Alissa Porter, of People's Community Bank, presenting the certificate.

Holiday cactus can provide years of color

While poinsettias are the most popular blooming holiday plant, if you are looking for a plant that can bloom for many years to come, try a holiday cactus, said a University of Missouri horticulturist.

"Given proper care, the holiday cacti have been known to outlive their caretakers and provide years of brilliant color around Christmas," said David Trinklein. "The small effort required by these plants is well worth it when you consider the reward of seeing an 'heirloom' plant bloom year after year."

Holiday cacti can tolerate low light, but they do best in bright, indirect light. If you're going to put them outdoors during the summer, keep them in a shady or semi-shady location.

Like most cacti, holiday cacti tolerate too little water better than too much water. Water only when the growing medium is dry to the touch. If you put a saucer under the pot to collect drainage, empty the saucer regularly and don't let excess water wick back into the pot, which can cause root rot.

Fertilize only during the growth period of early spring through late summer. Apply a regular fertilizer at one-quarter strength or a houseplant fertilizer according to the label directions.

Keep holiday cacti slight-

ly pot-bound to induce prolific flowering. You might need to repot about every three years. The growing medium should be very porous and well-drained.

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 to request your statement.

The 2019 taxes become delinquent on January 1, 2020. Payment can be made in person at the collector's office with 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, go to: barrycountycollector.com.

The most prolific blooming occurs when the plant can dry out and have at least 13 hours of darkness each night in mild temperatures, beginning in mid-October.

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# Barry County courts sentence eight to incarceration in November

• **Lucas Aaron Baldwin**, of Conway, pled guilty to delivery of a controlled substance. Baldwin received seven years incarceration with the Department of Corrections.

On April 23, 2019, the Ozarks Drug Enforcement Team was contacted by the Purdy Police Department related to a traffic crash. After the vehicle crashed, officers found a black bag under the open hood of the truck involved in the crash. ODET investigated and determined the bag had 105 grams of methamphetamine, which is trafficking amount. There were also baggies, a digital scale, two spoons and a glass pipe with residue.

Baldwin reported to have left a house in Springfield before driving home to Conway and had no explanation as to how he arrived in Purdy.

• **Shannon Lee Barlow**, of Monett, pled guilty to burglary in the second degree and theft/stealing of \$500 or \$25,000 in value in April 2016. Barlow's probation has since been revoked, and he is to serve five years incarceration with the Department of Corrections.

On October 23, 2006, Barlow stole a Taurus .39 special which was found in his possession.

• **Sandra K. Barton**, of Shell Knob, entered an Alford plea to possession of a controlled substance. Barton received a suspended imposition of sentencing and five years supervised probation.

On August 11, 2016, the Missouri State Highway Patrol executed a search warrant at Barton's residence. Officers located a black digital scale, a glass smoking device with marijuana residue, a baggie of methamphetamine and baggies of marijuana. They also located eight marijuana plants as well as paraphernalia. There were also children in the home.

Barton is to serve probation until November 5, 2024.

• **Paul Jean Benz**, of Branson, pled guilty to stealing \$750 or more, stealing a firearm/explosive weapon and property damage in the first degree. Benz received a suspended execution of a ten year incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections and five years supervised probation.

On February 2, 2018, officers were dispatched to a residence in Eagle Rock where there was over \$1,000 worth of damage to the property. There were also multiple items stolen, including a crossbow, checks, ammunition, coins and money. A separate investigation resulted in the checks being found and a

third investigation discovered other stolen property and the pry bars used by Benz and another person.

Benz is to serve probation until November 21, 2024.

• **Dylan Lee Boydston**, of Nevada, pled guilty to possession of a controlled substance and tampering with a motor vehicle in the first degree in June 2017. Boydston's probation has since been revoked, and he is to serve seven years incarceration with the Department of Corrections.

On September 16, 2016, Boydston was investigated by the Cassville Police. In his car, officers found three baggies of methamphetamine as well as paraphernalia.

• **Andy Allen Breeden**, of Exeter, pled guilty to domestic assault in the third degree and unlawful use of a weapon. Breeden received a suspended imposition of sentencing.

On August 28, 2018, Breeden pointed a semi automatic handgun at the victim and threatened to shoot them. He told the victim to "get out of I'll kill you".

• **Scottie Duane Daniels**, of Seligman, pled guilty to delivery of a controlled substance. Daniels received a suspended execution of an eight year incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections and give years supervised probation.

On March 7, 2018, a search warrant was executed at Daniels' residence by the Ozarks Drug Enforcement Team. Inside, officers found baggies containing 3.7 grams of methamphetamine as well as syringes, baggies and scales.

Daniels is to serve probation until November 21, 2024.

• **Amanda Jean Fitzpatrick**, of Sarcoxie, pled guilty to assault in the third degree on a special victim in December 2017. Fitzpatrick's probation has since been revoked, and she is to serve 120 days shock time as part of a seven year incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections.

On July 18, 2017, Fitzpatrick broke into a residence in Purdy to engage in a fight with the person inside who is disabled. When he refused to give her a cell phone she asked for, she struck him in the chest, preventing him from breathing and took the phone from his hand.

• **Jacob Michael Hartel**, of Springfield, pled guilty to property damage in the first degree. Hartel received a suspended execution of a four year incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections and five years supervised probation.

In March 2019, Hartel broke into a home on Woodland Lane in Monett. The owner of the residence was notified by the security company that a person was in his home. Hartel gave the security company the owner's son in law's name. When the owner of the property called his son in law, he was at work and said he would go to the residence, where he found Hartel. There was damage to an exterior window and



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several exterior doors.

Hartel is to serve probation until November 21, 2019.

• **Randon Hillhouse**, of Eureka Springs, Ark., pled guilty to burglary in the second degree in May 2017. Hillhouse's probation has since been revoked, and he is to serve 200 hours of community service and received a suspended execution of a seven year incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections and five years supervised probation.

On September 18, 2014, Hillhouse burglarized a trailer on St. Johns Woods Lane in Shell Knob. He told officers he was looking for items to steal.

Hillhouse is to serve probation until November 26, 2024.

• **Anthony Wayne Hinten**, of Purdy, pled guilty to possession of a controlled substance in August 2019. Hinten's probation has since been revoked, and he is to serve 120 days shock time as part of a five year incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections.

On December 3, 2018, Hinten was trespassing on railroad property. When the officer made contact, Hinten had a glass pipe for smoking methamphetamine. When officers looked in the area they found Hinten, they found 3.7 grams of methamphetamine.

• **Amber Rose Merritt**, of Ozark, pled guilty to possession of a controlled substance. Merritt received a suspended execution of a four year incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections and five years supervised probation.

On April 14, 2019, Merritt was a passenger in a vehicle stopped by the Cassville Police Department. While searching the car, officers found a baggie of methamphetamine.

Merritt is to serve probation until November 21, 2024.

• **Malissa K. Osterhoudt**, of Springfield, pled guilty to two counts of forgery in February 2014. Osterhoudt's probation has since been revoked, and she is to serve seven years incarceration with the Department of Corrections.

On October 1, 2012, Osterhoudt wrote two checks that were not her's to Murphy USA for \$35 and Walmart for \$117.88.

On April 28, 2014, Osterhoudt was found to have stolen checks from another person in Purdy and using them.

• **Jacob Miles Parsons**, of Eagle Rock, pled guilty to possession of a controlled substance. Parsons received a suspended execution of a five year incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections.

On December 28, 2018, Parsons was stopped in Carroll County and then fled. After coming in Barry County, he was stopped in Golden. When officers searched the vehicle, they located methamphetamine, a syringe and two glass pipes.

Parsons is to serve probation until November 22, 2024.

• **James Keaton Pittman**, of Monett, pled guilty to two counts of possession of a controlled substance. Pittman received a suspended imposition of sentencing and five years supervised probation.

On December 3, 2018,

Pittman was found to be driving while impaired by an unknown drug. He was also in possession of a baggie of methamphetamine, multiple prescription medications and paraphernalia.

Pittman is to serve probation until November 22, 2024.

• **Caleb Eddy Wayne Ross**, of Cassville, pled entered an Alford plea to tampering with a motor vehicle in the first degree. Ross received a suspended imposition of sentencing and five years supervised probation.

On March 24, 2019, Ross was found to have stolen a Ford F150.

Ross is to serve probation until November 22, 2024.

• **Victor S. Sekscinski, Jr.**, of Aurora, was found guilty by jury of receiving stolen property and property damage in the first degree in June 2019. Sekscinski has since received a suspended execution of a four year incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections and five years supervised probation.

Beginning in March 2017, Sekscinski was re-

ported for trespassing and cutting logs without permission on different properties. He was taking the lumber and selling it.

Sekscinski is to serve probation until November 16, 2024.

• **Richard Kyle Steele**, of Fairview, pled guilty to two counts of possession of a controlled substance. Steele received a suspended execution of a six year incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections and five years supervised probation.

On February 11, 2016, Steele was found in a vehicle on Farm Road 140. When officers made contact, they found a baggie of methamphetamine in the car.

On April 2, 2016, Steele was questioned about a stolen vehicle. Officers found a baggie of methamphetamine in his clothing.

Steele is to serve probation until November 21, 2024.

• **Bradley Ryan Trowbridge**, of Boonville, pled guilty to possession of a controlled substance. Trowbridge received a suspended execution of a three year

incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections and five years supervised probation.

On October 30, 2015, Trowbridge was arrested for a warrant. When officers took him into custody, they found a baggie with hydrocodones, alprazolam and marijuana. In the residence, officers found more drug paraphernalia and methamphetamine residue.

Trowbridge is to serve probation until December 25, 2024.

• **Angel Rachelle Vaughn**, of Verona, made an Alford plea to possession of a controlled substance in February 2019. Vaughn's probation has since been revoked, and he is to serve 120 days shock time as part

of a seven year incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections.

On March 12, 2018, Vaughn was at a residence investigated by the Barry County Sheriff's Department. Officers located three syringes and a methamphetamine pipe.

• **Ronald Neall Willis, III**, of Aurora, pled guilty to burglary in the second degree. Willis received a four year incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections.


On February 5, 2017, Willis broke into a residence in Aurora. Willis forced a door open and damaged it, however, he didn't steal anything.

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**STANLEY CONSTRUCTION**  
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL  
RED IRON BUILDINGS  
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Home: 417-662-3320  
Email: leslie138@centurytel.net

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"All Types" Homeowners  
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*Peace & Love*  
**AT CHRISTMAS TIME**

HELP WANTED

**ARNING COMPANIES INC.**  
*is now accepting applications for*

- Production Mig Welders
- Weld Shop Supervisor
- Production Workers, Sheet Metal

Structural steel and fabrication  
experience a plus. Blueprint  
reading is required.

Apply in person or online at  
[www.arningco.com/employment](http://www.arningco.com/employment)

**INTENSIVE IN-HOME/  
FAMILY REUNIFICATION SERVICES SPECIALIST**

Family Facets is seeking dedicated II/FRS Specialists for Barry, Stone &/or Lawrence Counties to provide intensive home-based services to prevent out-of-home placement of children and/or to re-unify children with their family. Full-time, 2-4 family caseload; on-call for crisis, as needed. Salary commensurate with education and experience. Work out of your home, company car issued. Employer sponsored Health Plan; option for family enrollment. Bachelor's degree required.

Application documents at [www.familyfacets.com](http://www.familyfacets.com).

**HARDWOOD  
LUMBER, INC.  
and PALLET  
LUMBER, LLC**  
*are taking applications for  
Machine Operators and  
General Laborers*

40 hours a week Monday-Friday, 7:00 am to 3:30 pm with occasional overtime. Starting pay is \$10 per hour. Benefits include Paid Vacation, Health insurance (we pay half), Vision Insurance, Life insurance.

**Please apply in person  
at 9193 State Highway 76  
Exeter, MO**

**LANDSCAPE HELP  
NEEDED**

Need current drivers license. Also, verifiable previous employment

Self-motivated, with some knowledge of landscaping

Please apply at  
Roots Greenhouse  
Hwy 39 Shell Knob - 3  
miles south of bridge  
or call  
**417-671-2412**

**ROARING RIVER  
Health and Rehab**  
812 Old Exeter Road  
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**417-847-2184**

WE NEED TO HIRE MORE  
CARING STAFF  
CURRENTLY WE NEED  
QUALITY:

**LPNs, RNs AND  
CNAs**

**HELP WANTED  
TIRE TECH**  
Shumaker Tire  
Golden, Missouri  
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417-271-3490**

**PEACHTREE VILLAGE  
ASSISTED LIVING  
at Holiday Island**  
*is hiring a  
Driver/  
Activity Assistant  
to join our team*

*Do you like to have fun while  
working? Do you have a  
desire to care for others?  
If so, we are looking for YOU!  
Join our team and you will see  
how one of the lives you will  
change, will be your own!*

*Immediate opening for  
Full-Time, year around  
Driver/Activity Assistant  
(No experience needed,  
will train).*

**Please apply in person  
Mon-Fri (9a-4p) at  
Peachtree Village  
Assisted Living -  
Holiday Island, 5 Park  
Drive, Holiday Island, AR  
or call 479-253-9933  
to inquire**

**Dairy Margin Coverage,  
Market Facilitation Programs deadline extended**

Due to the prolonged and extensive impacts of weather events this year, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today extended the deadline to December 20 for producers to enroll in the Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) program for the 2020 calendar year. The deadline had been December 13. USDA announced is also continuing to accept applications for the Market Facilitation Program through December 20.

"2019 has challenged the country's ag sector - prevented or late planting followed by a delayed harvest has been further complicated by wet and cold weather," said Bill Northey, USDA Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation. "Because some of our producers are still in the field, time to conduct business at the local USDA office is at a premium. We hope this deadline extension will allow producers the opportunity to participate in these important programs."

Authorized by the 2018 Farm Bill and available through USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), the program offers reasonably priced protection to dairy producers when the difference between the all-milk price and the average feed

cost (the margin) falls below a certain dollar amount selected by the producer. The Market Facilitation Program is part of a relief strategy to support American agricultural producers while the Administration continues to work on free, fair, and reciprocal trade deals to open more markets to help American farmers compete globally. MFP payments are aimed at assisting farmers suffering from damage due to unjustified trade retaliation by foreign nations.

For more information, visit the DMC webpage, the MFP webpage or your local USDA service center. To

locate your local FSA office, visit [farmers.gov/service-locator](http://farmers.gov/service-locator).

**Farmers Mutual Insurance Company  
of Nodaway County**  
  
**Ron Beaver**  
**Michelle Matzenbacher**  
**Homes - Farms - Commercial - Auto - Mobile Homes**  
**417-271-3528**

Alex Holycross  
Cassville

**Christmas Blessings to You and Yours!**

**goBEC  
FIBER NETWORK**

**Barry Electric  
Cooperative**

**Cassville  
Library  
events**

- Get crafty with crochet on Mondays at 6 p.m. and Fridays at 10:30 a.m. Beginners welcome.
- All branches of the Barry-Lawrence Regional Library will be closed December 24 and 25 for the Christmas holiday and January 1, 2020, for New Year's Day.
- A Red Cross Blood Drive will take place at the Cassville Branch on Tuesday, December 31, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Donors welcome.
- Many holiday books, DVDs, and music are available at your local library. Come choose a few to liven your Christmas season.

**READ ALL ABOUT IT!**

**IN THE BARRY  
COUNTY ADVERTISER**

**Enter  
For a chance to win  
\$1,000  
Festival of Lights**

OR WEEKLY  
PRIZES during  
Barry County  
Advertiser's

ADDITIONAL ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE AT:  
**Johnson Chiropractic, Willis Insurance, Security Bank, Barry Electric,  
Arvest Bank, Whitley's Pharmacy, Freedom Bank, Jug and Plug**

Last day to enter: December 19 • Drawing: December 20

**Festival of Lights Entry Form**

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.bcaonline](http://www.bcaonline) for details.



