

First medical marijuana licenses awarded; Cassville to get cultivation facility

Charlea Estes-Jones

It's official: Cassville will be the site of a medical marijuana cultivation operation in 2020. Holistic Missouri, LLC, part of the larger Holistic Industries, earned three of the coveted 60 licenses awarded across the state. The cultivation facilities Holistic Missouri applied for and received will be in Cassville, Kansas City and Sunrise Beach.

Holistic Industries has marijuana facilities in California, Maryland, Washington, D.C., Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and Michigan. It is owned by founder and CEO Josh Genderson who began the business after serving as president of his family's third-generation liquor store in Washington, D.C.

In the Missouri medical marijuana world, December was a big month. While initially, the Department of Health and Senior Services was slated to approve or deny all medical marijuana facility licenses by December 31, a new timeline was released, pushing the final decision on infused manufacturing facilities and dispensaries back into January. However, for testing laboratories, transportation companies and cultivation applicants, they were notified of the fate of their applications before the end of 2019.

For the companies who have heard yes or no on the fate of their medical marijuana business ventures, Barry County had only one approval thus far. Of the cultivation, transportation and testing lab applicants across the state, the only one in Barry County that made the cut was Holistic Missouri, LLC, despite other applications being filed.

In all, Holistic Missouri applied for 13 different licenses across the state: three cultivation, seven dispensaries, and three infused manufacturing licenses.

The other applicants from Barry County for cultivation and transportation were denied. The transportation company that applied for a license was under the name SickBudz, LLC, in Wheaton. That application was denied earlier in December.

Ozark Leaf Farms, LLC, in Aurora, Samuel Myers, in Seligman, and Sho Me Genetics, LLC, in Eagle Rock, were all denied cultivation licenses.

Ozark Mountain Green, LLC, in Shell Knob, applied on the Stone County side but was also denied a cultivation license. Ozark Mountain Green's infused manufacturing license is still pending.

The next deadline for businesses hoping for licenses will

be January 10 when DHSS announced they will be awarding infused manufacturing licenses. In Barry County, infused manufacturing licenses were

applied for by Choice Extracts, LLC, in Monett, Holistic Missouri, LLC, and Ozark Mountain Green, LLC.

Dispensaries will be the last

to hear the fate of their applications. DHSS will award or deny licensure on January 24. Barry County's dispensary applicants are: Dr. Lisa Roark, MD, under

The Dispensary, LLC, in Cassville, and two in Monett under Horizon Growth, LLC, and Monett Dispensary, LLC.

Horizon Growth, LLC, also

See LICENSES on 11A

Winner announced for Festival of Lights grand prize



The winner of the third annual Festival of Lights drawing was chosen on Friday, December 20. This year's winner of the \$1,000 grand prize was Teresa Harrison, of Cassville. Sponsors of the Festival of Lights drawing this year were: the Barry County Advertiser, Barry Electric Cooperative, Security Bank of Southwest Missouri, Freedom Bank, Willis Insurance, Jug n Plug, Johnson Chiropractic, Whitley's Pharmacy and Arvest Bank.

Pictured is the winner with representatives from some of the sponsors of the contest. From left to right: Raylene Hart, of Freedom Bank; Jennifer Jackson, of Arvest Bank; Teresa Harrison; Renée Bear Brooks, of the Barry County Advertiser; Laura Holycross, of Barry Electric Cooperative; and Jon Horner, of Security Bank.

\$2 million grant allows Monett Schools to fund after school program, adult education

Vinnie Roberts

In this day and age, with more parents doubling their workforce efforts than ever before, the necessity for afterschool programs

has never been higher. Recognizing this need, the Monett School District announced plans to use funds from a recently secured grant to move forward with

a variety of new after school programs for district students.

On October 4, it was announced that the district was one of 20 schools in

Missouri to be awarded a grant that will enable the district to fund two new programs. Offered through the Department of Education, the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant will provide \$2 million in funding for five years for the purposes of creating and maintaining an after school program.

The first of these programs, set to begin when the district resumes classes on January 6, is a new after school program called the Cub House.

According to David Williams, director of Monett Alternative Education Academy and writer of the grant that brought the funds to the district, this new program was founded after an underlying need was recognized within the community.

"Our demographics have a high free and reduced

rate," explained Williams. "What that means is we have some students with some economic needs. That usually also means that often times, both parents in the home are working or older siblings are having to take care of their younger siblings."

Williams, having been familiar with the program after being tasked to direct a similar program in a previous district, applied for the grant in July. He explained that programs such as these have a profound impact on the student population.

When the program begins in January, it will allow students from preschool all the way through middle school to have a place to go after school that will offer fun, educational activities in a safe environment.

"For school age children pre-k through eighth grade, we're going to be able

to fund a three hour after school program every day," said Williams. "We'll start the day off with a recess break of sorts. After that, Life360 will provide a snack for our students."

Life360 Community Services is a Springfield-based charitable organization that provides a variety of essential services, including nutrition, housing, affordable daycare and many others.

From that point, the program will shift focus, engaging students in fun, non-graded educational activities.

"Then, we will have a reading time for thirty minutes, where we'll have special guests come in and read from time to time," Williams explained. "We'll have local teachers, our superintendent and principals, as well as some politicians have been asked to come and read. Grandparents can

Inside this issue:

Second charged in robbery

The second suspect was charged in a Monett armed robbery in November where two allegedly stole a cancer patient's pain medication.

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Year in Review

Take a look back at the Barry County Advertiser's top headlines in 2019.

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Man charged with rape, sodomy

A man from Golden is charged with rape and sodomy after allegedly assaulting the victim in a rural Cassville area.

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Shore announces retirement

Longtime basketball coach Chris Shore announced his retirement. Take a look back at Shore's history as a beloved coach over the years.

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See MONETT on 10A

2019 Year in Review

As 2019 draws to a close, the staff of the Barry County Advertiser hopes that you, your friends and your family have a healthy and prosperous new year, as well as a new decade, in 2020. In the meantime, here's a look back at some of the top news items from 2019.

January
Cassville's Mr. and Miss Merry Christmas pageant reported raising a record \$16,402 to benefit OACAC's Share Your Christmas toy drive. Mr. and Miss Merry Christmas winners the previous year were senior candidates Morgan Popanz and Evan Kessinger.
Security Bank of Cassville underwent a change of leadership. After saying goodbye to long-time vice president Jeff Parsons, bank management welcomed Colorado transplant Steve Slagle to Cassville.
Southwest High School hosted its annual girls basketball Holiday Tourna-

ment. The Wheaton Lady Bulldogs took first place after a grueling series of games.
Barry County officials were sworn into office, including newly elected county clerk Jill LeCompte, who took over for Gary Youngblood. Youngblood himself vacated the seat after being elected as the county's new presiding commissioner. Other officials sworn in included: Amy Boxx, prosecuting attorney; Craig Williams, circuit clerk; Johnnie Cox, judge; Bob Foulke, judge; and Lois Lowe, treasurer.
The city of Seligman was awarded a \$50K grant from the Department of Natural Resources for the purposes of conducting a sewer improvement study.
The city of Cassville elected to form an Industrial Development authority in order to improve economic development in the area. Additionally, the city

hired full-time economic developer Isaac Petersen to aid in the same goal.
The first 2019 baby was born in Barry County. Mississippi Wade Farris was born to parents Matt and Paige on January 3.
Wheaton Lady Bulldog basketball player Hallie Mitchell scored her 1,000th point while leading her team to a 62-29 victory over Galena.
The community mourned the loss of local bull rider Mason Lowe, who tragically lost his life after sustaining injuries during a professional ride in Denver, Colo.
Two Barry County citizens were appointed to state offices by Missouri Governor Mike Parson. Shell Knob native Scott Fitzpatrick was appointed to serve as the state's 47th treasurer. Additionally, local attorney David Cole was appointed to the Health Facilities Review committee.
Governor Parson made an appearance in Cassville as the special guest speaker at Cassville's 2019 Chamber of Commerce Banquet.

February
At a public meeting, Cassville superintendent Dr. Richard Asbill revealed that a former Cassville teacher, James Doyle "J.D." Riddle, who had passed away some months prior,

had in his will to leave \$1 million of his life savings to the school. This money was used to create a new series of scholarships for Cassville graduates pursuing educational fields.
Purdy School District wrapped construction on a new facility that serves as a FEMA shelter, early childhood center and performing arts center.
Local quilter Vickie Clancy was honored with her own exhibit at the Barry County Museum from the beginning of February through March of 2019.
Mercy's Cassville Clinic bid farewell to Dr. Jamie Zengotita after 14 years of dedicated service to the community.
After some debate and a 3 to 1 vote on the council, the city of Cassville elected to allow fireworks to be detonated within city limits on selected days on and around July 4.
Amid rumor and some controversy, Cassville's Country Dodge dealership closed without warning, with the facility remaining vacant for months to come.
Exeter High named seniors Clayton Elders and Julia Grant as their 2019 Homecoming royalty ahead of their tip-off game.
Dozens of citizens met at the Clio Community

Building on February 19 to engage in a public forum regarding the fate of the historic Jenkins Bridge.
Cassville Wildcat wrestler Keaton Artherton took fourth place at the 2019 MSHSAA State Wrestling championships.
Wheaton's Lady Bulldog team went on to become district champions after a hard-fought 60-54 victory over the College Heights Lady Cougars.
To benefit a school choir trip, Purdy High School hosted a murder mystery dinner.
March
Crowder College's Cassville campus broke ground on a historic \$2.1 Million renovation plan.
The Cassville OACAC Neighborhood center hosted a benefit, where local bluegrass act the Homestead Pickers performed. The benefit raised money for the center's emergency fund for families in need.
Dr. Steven Chancellor resigned as the superintendent of Purdy Schools, and was replaced at the end of the school year by Mindi Gates.
Three Cassville Police officers, detective Danny Boyd, sergeant Donald Privett and officer Stuart Lombard, as well as one citizen, Charles Greek, were

awarded official commendations. All four individuals took crucial, life-saving measures to assist Greek's wife as she was suffering from a public cardiac episode.
Exeter School District hosted a bluegrass and barbeque event to benefit the academic team.
For the first year ever, Cassville High's girls soccer team took to the field in their first game.
Former Cassville resident and decorated astronaut, Dr. Janet Kavandi, was inducted into the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame.
Three members of the Southwest High School trap-shooting team, Ty Howard, Heather Windes and Joseph Stockton, took home medals at the 2019 Missouri Winter Games.
The city of Butterfield moved forward on the construction of a new city hall, moving from their previous location in the city's community building to a new facility located by the fire department.
A benefit concert, headlined by the Homestead Pickers from Silver Dollar City, was hosted in Wheelerville in order to raise money to save the Jenkins bridge.

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Seligman accepts bid for resurfacing project

Vinnie Roberts

At a city council meeting on Monday, December 9, the Seligman board of alderman elected to move forward on a major resurfacing project nearly a year in the making.

Since the beginning of this year, the board has been making strides to ensure that a major road in town, Frost Street, receives the repaving that it was targeted for at the beginning of the year. In order to do this, the city has accepted a bid from Hutchens Construction in the amount of \$89,486.75.

According to city clerk Brian Nichols, the repaving is a crucial step in maintaining the road's drivability. Though the road is drivable in its current condition, given the popularity of the street with commuters, city representatives elected to pursue preventive measures to keep the street from succumbing to erosion.

"It's general road maintenance," explained Nichols. "As the roads deteriorate, we need to keep them fresh. That road is heavily travelled. Out of the vast majority of the roads in town, that one sees the most use. So, it makes sense to put some money into keeping it drivable."

The process for seeking bids for this project began in April, when the board of Aldermen formally passed a resolution to seek bids for the project. According to Nichols, Hutchens was one of the first companies to enter a bid for the project at that time, and has continuously been on the city's radar since the project began.

Despite receiving bids early into the process, the city opted to continue seeking bids multiple times throughout the year. According to Nichols, this was done in an attempt to ensure that they had a diverse field of bids from which to pick.

"It turned out that a lot of asphalt companies aren't really interested in this small of a project," said Nichols.

The project will see the resurfacing of an estimated 3,000 feet of road. According to Nichols, Hutchens will put a two-inch overlay of hot mix asphalt over the existing road, evening out the driving surface and further protecting the road from erosion.

Though the city accepted the bid in the amount of \$89,486.75, according the Nichols, there is a chance that recent developments could help to project come in under budget.

"There is a possibility that Hutchens could revert back to the pricing from an earlier bid," explained Nichols. "The price was raised when Hutchens was planning on moving their Seligman asphalt plant, so there were going to be additional transportation costs. As of right now, we aren't sure if that is still going to be the case."

Nichols went on to explain that the city is currently in communications with Hutchens about both the final costs and the time line for the project moving forward. As of this publication, no time line currently exists for when the resurfacing will begin.

For any further information about the Frost Street resurfacing project or any other future projects, contact Seligman City Hall at (417) 662-3600.

Man from Golden charged with rape, sodomy

Charlea Estes-Jones

A Golden man is charged with both rape and sodomy after an incident earlier in 2019. According to affidavits of probable cause filed by detective Robert Evenson, with the Barry County Sheriff's Department, Hunter Seay Williams, 20, of Golden, raped the victim in a remote area outside of Cassville sometime between September 23 and October 4, 2019.

The report states Williams drove the victim to a remote area located on Farm Road 1135 outside of Cassville before removing the victim's clothing against their will. At

that point, Williams allegedly forced the victim to perform sex acts on him before forcibly performing sex acts on the victim. The victim reported repeatedly telling Williams no and crying. The victim also suffered bruising about the legs and thighs from the assault.

Williams was booked into the Barry County Jail on December 20. He is currently being held on a \$100,000 cash-only bond. He was charged with rape in the first degree and sodomy in the first degree on December 17.

Second suspect charged in Monett robbery

TWO ALLEGEDLY HELD PATIENT AT GUNPOINT FOR PAIN MEDICATION

Charlea Estes-Jones

The second suspect was charged in the armed robbery of a cancer patient in Monett in November. Shane Eugene Smith, 33, of Purdy, was charged earlier in December but was just booked into custody on December 26. The other suspect, Shawn Scott Ice, 30, of Monett, was booked into jail on November 20.

According to affidavits of probable cause by Detective Scott Landreth, of the Monett Police Department, Smith and Ice, while wearing masks, forced their way into a home on Broadway in Monett and demanded pain medications from one of the residents who has cancer. The incident occurred on November 4 around 11:17 p.m.

The two men allegedly

ordered the one victim to the floor with a rifle and demanded narcotics he was prescribed for his cancer. Then, the victim told the two he would get it for them, one struck him in the head, according to the report.

Smith also confronted the other two occupants in the home and ordered them to the floor.

The suspects allegedly left with \$1,200 cash, a pair of jeans and Fentanyl patches and dilaudid. Smith was identified by a photo on Facebook by the victims.

According to the victims, Ice had been at the residence about 45 minutes prior to the

robbery, asking for pain pills. An inmate in the Monett Jail also said that Ice told the informant he and Smith had committed the crime.

Smith is charged with robbery in the first degree, armed criminal action and unlawful possession of a firearm. He is currently being held in the Barry County Jail in lieu of a \$200,00 cash-only bond.

Ice is charged with robbery in the first degree, stealing - physically take, and stealing a controlled substance and is still being held in the Barry County Jail in lieu of a \$200,000 cash-only bond.



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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:

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.

Jan. 2nd

The Monett Library will host a Sock Snow People Craft at 1:30 p.m.

Jan. 3rd

The First Dance of the New Year will be hosted at the Stella Senior Center with doors opening at 6 p.m. The dance will begin at 7 p.m. with music by the band “Rangeline”. There is a \$5 cover charge for the dance. Refreshments will be available all evening. Guests are asked to bring finger food to share at break time. Call (417) 628-3314 or (417) 476-3079 for information.

Jan. 4th

Coat Give-Away will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at Monett Church of Christ, 1107 North 9th Street.

Jan. 6th

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

The Monett Library will host Rug Making/Quilting at 9 a.m. and Teen Book Club at 5 p.m.

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.

The Monett Library will host Crochet and Knitting at 1 p.m. and Story Time at 4:15 p.m.

Jan. 8th

The Monett Library will be hosting Story Time at 10:30 a.m.

Jan. 11th

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

Jan. 14th

The Monett Library will host crochet and knitting at 1 p.m. and story time at 4:15 p.m.

Jan. 15th

The Monett Library will be hosting Story Time at 10:30 a.m.

Jan. 17th

The Monett Library will host the Homeschool Program at 2 p.m.

The Purdy R-II School District will hold its 2020 Homecoming Coronation between basketball games. The first of three games against Sparta begins at 5 p.m. There will be no Athletic Hall of Fame Induction this year.

Jan. 25th

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



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Exeter: Mon: B: cereal, Pop-Tart, fruit, juice. L: hot dog/bun, french fries, baked beans, Sidekick. Tues: ham & cheese croissant, fruit, juice or cereal, graham crackers, fruit, juice. L: beef & bean burrito, cheese sauce, pinto beans, salsa, fruit. Wed: B: pancake on a stick, fruit, juice or cereal, Vertical Bar, fruit, juice. L: sweet & sour chicken, brown rice, broccoli, fortune cookie, fruit. Thurs: B: french toast sticks, fruit, juice or cereal, Pop-Tart, fruit, juice. L: pulled pork/bun, hash brown, yellow squash, fruit. Fri: B: banana muffin, yogurt, banana, juice or cereal, toast, banana, juice. L: cheese pizza, salad, corn, fruit.
Cassville PR-Int.-Middle: Mon: B: biscuit & gravy or french toast, sausage, strawberries or cereal, Teddy Grahams, applesauce. L: cheese pizza or chicken crispito, corn, pinto beans, fruit cocktail. Tues: biscuit & gravy or scrambled eggs, toast, peaches or cereal, graham crackers, fruit cocktail. L: hamburger or hot dog, tater tots, green beans, peaches. Wed: B: biscuit & gravy or chicken nuggets, hashbrown, orange or cereal, Rice Krispy Treat, apple. L: chicken sandwich or burrito, nachos, carrots, applesauce. Thurs: B: biscuit & gravy or sausage biscuit, hashbrown, applesauce or cereal, Go-Gurt, pears. L: pork chopette or country steak, corn, potatoes, gravy, juice. Fri: B: biscuit & gravy or mini cini, sausage, pears or cereal, granola bar, pineapple. tangerine chicken or chicken nuggets, rice, green beans, egg roll, mandarin oranges.
Cassville High School: Mon: B: biscuit & gravy or french toast, sausage, tropical fruit or cereal, banana muffin, peaches. L: pizza wedge, potato wedge, corn, peaches or cheeseburger meal or salad meal. Tues: B: biscuit & gravy or chicken nuggets, hashbrown, peaches or cereal, Rice Krispy Treat, apple. L: country steak, potatoes/gravy, green beans, hot roll, applesauce or chicken nugget meal or salad meal. Wed: biscuit & gravy or scrambled eggs, sausage, peaches or cereal, Pop-Tart, grapes. L: chicken sandwich, Sun Chips, baked beans, fruit cocktail or pizza meal or salad meal. Thurs: B: biscuit & gravy or breakfast pizza, hashbrown, pears or cereal, granola bars, orange. L: spaghetti, cheese stick, glazed carrots, bread stick, juice or cheeseburger meal or salad meal. Fri: B: biscuit & gravy or cinnamon rolls, yogurt cup, apple or cereal, PB&J, fruit cocktail. L: pork patty/lettuce/tomato, sour cream chips, mixed vegetables, fruit cocktail or pizza meal or salad meal.
Purdy: Mon: B: egg/cheese biscuit, toast, cereal, fruit. L: spaghetti/meat sauce, ww breadstick, romaine/tomato, ranch, fruit. Tues: B: strawberry mini pancakes, syrup, yogurt, cereal. L: chicken fried steak, wg roll, mashed potatoes/gravy, fruit. Wed: wg biscuit, gravy, sausage, cereal, fruit. L: chili, crackers, string cheese, carrots, dill pickles, fruit. Thurs: B: oatmeal, toast, cereal, fruit. L: cheese pizza, romaine/tomato, ranch, fruit. Fri: B: banana muffin, yogurt, cereal, fruit. L: hamburger on ww bun, lettuce/tomato, potato chips, baby carrots, fruit.

CHEERS TO A NEW YEAR
As I look back on this year, I'd like to thank the people of this community for being such an enjoyable part of it. We wish you a safe and prosperous year!

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Carla and Bill Hembree retire from the Justin Boot Family



Left to right: Department 1 supervisor, Gregg Yockey, Bill Hembree, Carla Hembree, Department 6 supervisor, Kayla Larson.

This is an exciting time for the Hembrees, and In some ways this is a sad time for the Cassville Justin Boot family. We are losing two outstanding colleagues, co-workers, friends. Carla Hembree was hired by Kay Hedrick in Dec. 1989. She always will greet you with a smile and was a worker we could always rely on. Bill Hembree was hired by Nancy May in Jan. 1990. With his deep and resonant voice that rivals Sam Elliot, Bill was featured in the Justin boot THANK YOU ad campaign and is also a worker we could always rely on. Over the years, their hard work and dedication has, without a doubt, helped make Justin Cassville plant what it is today. With 30 years of service each and 60 years collectively, they will be missed. Congratulations!

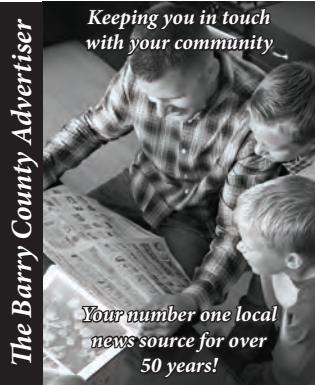
Local Jenkins resident attends New Mexico Military Institute



Melton-Hovland

Charley Melton-Hovland applied for and was accepted to attend New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell, New Mexico, beginning July 2019. New Mexico Military Institute is a military high school and junior college with a college preparatory program. The New Mexico Military Institute offers a rich history and tradition of educating tomorrow's leaders through a program of strong, challenging academics, leadership preparation and character development. Known as "The West Point of the West," NMMI remains the only state-supported co-educational college preparatory high school and junior college in the United States. As an institution of higher and secondary education, the Institute has the mission of enabling individual development through challenging academic preparation in a structured learning environment that affords extensive opportunities for leadership and character development. In support of this mission, the Institute's treatment of

all cadets places key value on trust, student knowledge, integrity, service and responsibility all within the framework of an honor code stating that "a cadet will not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do." After going through a rigorous 28-day new cadet training, in which new cadets learn customs, traditions and courtesies expected of the cadet corps, Melton-Hovland was accepted into the Corp of Cadets. Charley was awarded seven scholarships for the academic year for both academic and music excellence. She was named freshman English student of the month for the month of October 2019 and selected as Best New Cadet (BNC) for the first nine weeks in



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DOYLE EARL NICKLE

Doyle Earl Nickle, age 98, of Cassville, passed away Friday, December 20, 2019, at Mercy Hospital in Cassville.

He was born October 16, 1921, in East Purdy, the son of Earl and Genevieve (Widener) Nickle. On December 24, 1948, in Austria he was united in marriage to Edeltraud "Trudy" Verderber, who survives. Also surviving are one son, Bruce

Nickle and his wife, Debra, of Cassville; six grandchildren, David Seal, Christopher Nickle, Stacy Watson, Jared Ellis, Jordan Ellis and Jameson Ellis; and thirteen great-grandchildren, Jack, Emily, Ashley, Helen, John, Jericho, Jace, Jaylen, Jeremiah, Ryder, Remy and Lakyn and Jack Seal.

Preceding him in death were his parents; a daughter, Christine Nickle; one brother, Jim Nickle; and a sister, Pauline Coatney.

Doyle graduated from Cassville High School in 1940 and was a Charter Member of FFA. After school, he entered the United States Army. During his Army career, he served in Europe during World War II, Korea, Japan and last in Vietnam from which he retired. In 1966, he moved back to this area to make his home.

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OBITUARIES

He was a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church and was a volunteer in the Hospital Auxiliary. Some of his favorite pastimes were fishing at Roaring River, traveling in his motor home and camping. He loved his model railroad.

Masonic services were held at 2:00 p.m. followed by funeral services Thursday, December 26, 2019, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor Danny Heupel conducted the services. Burial with military honors was at Oak Hill Cemetery in Cassville.

Contributions may be made to Folds of Honor in memory of Doyle.

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

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BETTY WALKER HOPKINS TAYLOR
Betty Walker Hopkins Taylor, 98, of Monett, passed away on Monday, December 23, 2019, in Monett.

Graveside funeral services were held on Tuesday, December 31, 2019, at the Fairview Lawn Cemetery, Onancock, Va. Arrangements have been entrusted to Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.



JOYCE ELAINE BROWN

Joyce Elaine Brown, age 86, of Aurora, passed away at 10:10 a.m. on Saturday, December 21, 2019, at the Aurora Nursing Center. She was born August 16, 1933, in Cassville, the daughter of Samuel and Bernita (Sisney) Ennis.

Joyce worked for MWM Color Press in Aurora and re-

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tired after 25 years at Valley Printers in Verona. She was a member of the Clay Hill Community Church.

On June 12, 1949, she married Robert Duff Brown, in Cassville. He preceded her in death on July 25, 2004.

Joyce is survived by three daughters, Nancy Roof and her husband, Larry, of Galena, Lynn Baker and her husband, Tom, of Aurora and Carla Lester and her husband, Gary of Cassville; one son, Jesse Brown and his wife, Lynn, of Jenkins; one brother, Verdayne Ennes and his wife, Olafe, of Monett; ten grandchildren, Melanie Carter, Valerie Eden, Leah Eden, Tiffany Baker, Caleb Baker, Justin Lester, Sarah Lester, Alisha Huskey, Tyler Brown and Kerri Brown; 13 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and three nephews.

Joyce was preceded in death by her parents, Samuel and Bernita; husband, Robert; brother, J.D. Ennis, sister, Jackie Rosier; two grandsons, Warren Eden and Jerad Baker; great-grandson, Lawrence Carter; and niece, Stacey Rosier.

A visitation was held from 11:00-12:00 p.m. on

Saturday, December 28, 2019, at the Crafton-Cantrell Funeral Home in Aurora with a funeral service following at 12:00 p.m. in the funeral home chapel. Burial followed at the Mineral Springs Cemetery in Cassville.

Memorial donations may be made payable to the Mineral Springs Cemetery in care of the funeral home.

Online condolences may be shared at www.Crafton-CantrellFuneralHome.com.

IVA JEAN ROLLER

Iva Jean Roller, 81, of Purdy, passed away December 24, 2019, in Monett

Services were held Monday, December 30, 2019, at the First Baptist Church in Purdy. Arrangements under direction of Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.

DAVID W. RATZLAFF

David W. Ratzlaff, of Cassville, passed away on Saturday, December 28, 2019, in Springfield.

Services will be held at a later date.

Arrangements are under the direction of Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.

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SUE STEVERSON
 Sue Steverson, age 62, of Lee’s Summit, passed away Thursday, December 19, 2019, at Redwood of Independence in Independence.
 She was born January 29, 1957, in Springdale, Arkansas, the daughter of Leonard and Barbara (Zinn) Steverson. Sue grew up and received her education in Lee’s Summit, where she graduated from high school and Long View Junior College. She also attended modeling school. For many years, she worked as a general clerk at PAE in Lee’s Summit. She was an avid part of the Auxiliary in Lee’s Summit and loved her cat “Little Bit,” as well as her great nieces and nephews and her loving friends. Some of her favorite pastimes were lake days and boating on Table Rock Lake.
 Preceding her in death were her parents and one brother, Danny Steverson.

Surviving are one brother, Joe Steverson and his wife, Holly, of Oswego, Kansas; four nieces, Maria Kreski and her husband, Kevin, of Davisburg, Michigan, Mindi Jones and her husband, Jeff, of Pittsburg, Kansas, Hattie Wearverson and her husband, Darrin, of Silver Thorne, Colorado, and Bobbi Peplinski and her husband, Jason, of Oswego, Kansas; and one nephew, Jacob Steverson, of Pico Rivera, California.

Cremation arrangements are under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.
Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.

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MARTHA ELEANOR NORDIKE
 Martha Eleanor Nordike, age 79, of Exeter, passed away on Saturday, Decem-

OBITUARIES
 ber 28, 2019, at Cassville Healthcare and Rehab. Mrs. Nordike, daughter of John and Eleanor (Winkler) Hallstrom, was born on August 16, 1940, Melrose, Massachusetts. Following high school graduation, she was united in marriage to Kenneth C. Gilford and to this union four children were born. On April 13, 1985, Martha was united in marriage to Dean Nordike in Miami, Oklahoma; he survives. Mrs. Nordike enjoyed crocheting, quilting, and being with her family.
 Additional survivors include three sons, Kenneth Gilford and his wife, Nancy, of Elizabethton, Tennessee, Timothy Gilford and his wife, Donna, of Ipswich, Massachusetts, and Theodore Gilford, of Merrimac, Massachusetts; her stepdaughter, Patricia Gregory, of Shaddock, Illinois; nine grandchildren; one great-grandchild; two brothers, Bob Hallstrom, of New Hampshire, and Wayne Hallstrom, of Vermont; one sister, Andrea Brown, of Maine; and several nieces and nephews.
 In addition to her parents and her first husband, she was preceded in death by her

daughter, Kathi Desmond.
 No services are planned at this time.
 Cremation arrangements are under the direction of the White Funeral Home and Crematory, Cassville.

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JESSE L. “JL” CALLAWAY
 Jesse L. “JL” Callaway, age 77, of Exeter, passed away Sunday, December 29, 2019, at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.
 He was born October 8, 1942, in Woodward, Oklahoma, the son of Jesse Preston and Vada Dell (Glocksien) Callaway. On June 8, 1963, in Ridgley, he was united in marriage to Myra Cantrell, sharing fifty-six and a half

years together. Surviving are his wife, Myra; two daughters, Robin Day and her husband, Bruce, of Exeter, and Karen Mitchell and her husband, Todd, of Seligman; one sister, Shirley Moore, of Hondo, Texas; five grandchildren, Bruce Day Jr. and his wife, Amy, Megan Day, Lauren Lumpkins and her husband, Coda, Morgan Mitchell and Carlee Mitchell; two great-grandchildren, Jarrett and Shelby Pike; and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death were his parents and one sister, Joyce Beardslee.
 JL grew up and received his education in Cassville, where he graduated from high school. For twenty-six years, he worked as a printer at Litho Printers and had also worked at Efco for seven years and Able 2 Products for twenty-one years. In 2009, he retired from Exeter Fire Department where he had volunteered as a pump engineer. Some of his favorite pastimes were fishing, taking pictures, playing with his grandkids and watching St. Louis Cardinals baseball and Kansas City Chiefs football. JL was a very loving and patient husband, father and grandfather. He was a member of First Christian Church of Cassville.
 Services will be held at

10:30 a.m. Thursday, January 2, 2020, at First Christian Church in Cassville, under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor Sid Allsbury and Pastor Jerry Yarnall will conduct the services.
 The family will receive friends from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2019, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.
 Contributions may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital or First Christian Church of Cassville in memory of JL.
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 Psalm 102:25

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Gingerbread joy had at Southwest Elementary School



Above, Addison Edie, Addison Palmer, and Amy Bee won “Most Unique” in the gingerbread project during Southwest’s fourth grade holiday party.



Kayden Barker, Zackery Hoover and Molly J Hendrix won “Cleanest Build” in the gingerbread project during the party.

Alice Via

While many of us are spending the last few days before the holiday break buying presents and preparing for family gatherings, teachers spend hours preparing for holiday parties for their students. All of this preparation ends up being a gift of love that wraps each student with happiness and fun.

This year, the class party for fourth grade teachers Lauren Forste, Krystal Barnes, and Tia Morgan and their students at Southwest Elementary School was no exception. As family members entered the cafeteria at the school, they were met with an array of artfully planned and beautifully decorated gingerbread houses that teams of fourth grade students built in cooperative groups. Not only were these houses beautiful and looked delicious, the plans were made according to specs and proportionately built.


"At first, there were a lot of fails," Molly J. Hendrix of Mrs. Morgan's 4th



Sidney Roe, Holly Johnson, and Maycen Whitt won “Most Complex Design” in the Southwest fourth grade gingerbread project.



The "Overall Best" winners of the gingerbread project are pictured with their house. From left to right: Kylie Ruiz, Tynlee Harr and Jackson Douglas.




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grade class said. “The roof kept falling down, but we worked together and made it sturdy. I was very excited that we won.”

Zackery Hoover, also of Mrs. Morgan’s class, continued, “We all had really good ideas and worked together well. We all had the same ideas. We were kind and respectful to each other. When we won, I felt really good and excited.”

To add interest to this ambitious project, there were prizes awarded for the most unique, the cleanest build, the overall best, and the most complex design. Family members, any available staff members of the school, and friends of the students voted according to the four categories. It was very difficult to choose a “best” of category as each gingerbread house was truly unique and interesting. While the voting was going on, the students were busy decorating cookies at tables

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behind the gingerbread houses.

Sidney Roe and Holly Johnson, of Mrs. Forste’s class, both had their reservations about this project but thought it turned out great.

“We listened to each other and talked about it. We would take some people’s ideas and then ...” said Holly while Sidney jumped in, “Turn them into ours.”

And how do they think the project turned out? Sidney summed it up, “I was like, ‘Yes.’” Somebody got to

do something that was important to them.”

As the voting ended, the winners were announced, and the gingerbread houses made the slow trips back to their classrooms. All of this reminded one of scenes from holiday TV shows where event planners put on such programs in fancy hotels. Yet here we were at our beloved school in Washburn. Pretty sure these 4th grade students will jump on their buses with hearts full of happiness as they go home for the break.

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

also come in and read to our classes.

“After that, we’ll have what we call STEAM enrichment. STEAM is an acronym that stands for science, technology, engineering, art and math,” continued Williams. “The kids will have two half hour activities where, they just think that they’re having fun, but we’re actually teaching them science principles and helping them with reading.”

The program will run from the end of the school day until 6 p.m. Parents can pick their children up at any time during this period, and for those that can’t, the school will also run busses from the program to bus stops throughout the district.

Additionally, the district will use a portion of the funds to create another after school program. Different from the Cub House, this program will focus on adult education, with an emphasis on a special demographic.

“We also have a unique demographic here in Monett of English learners,”



Monett was one of 20 schools in the state to receive a grant to create and maintain an after school program.

Williams continued. “We have a lot of students and parents who are learning the language while working or going to school.”

According to Williams, in March the district will launch a variety of adult education classes, starting small at first, but with the capacity to expand.

“On the adult side, it also provides some funding for

adult education,” said Williams. “The sky is the limit with the adult education, but what we’re going to start with is some ELO classes. We will also provide, for our recent newcomer families, a series of ‘Welcome to Monett’ classes.”

According to Williams, these classes will cover topics like local geography, where to pay certain bills,

like water and sewer, how and where to get a driver’s license, as well as other topics geared toward helping families new to the district better assimilate to their surroundings.

Before they begin, the district plans to do some kind of public information night for the community in February. The adult education program is tentatively set to launch shortly after, in March.

For more information on either the Cub House after school program or the adult education courses being offered through the Monett School District, contact the central office at (417) 235-7422.

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Grey w/Grey Interior, 2.4L 6-Spd., Auto, Large Touchscreen, Panoramic Sunroof, Local one-owner, Factory Powertrain Warranty! 66xxx Miles.

'15 DODGE RAM 4X4

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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!

'16 LINCOLN MKZ

\$18,780

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ONLY 41xxx MILES!

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Grey w/Charcoal, 6-Spd Auto, Power Heated/Cooled Memory Leather Bucket Seats, SYNC w/Bluetooth Connectivity, Nav., Sunroof!

'16 FORD FUSION

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LOCAL TRADE!

#9965

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

'16 TOYOTA TACOMA

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19xxx MILES!

#0426

Midnight Sapphire Blue w/Cappuccino, 2.0L I4 6-Spd., Auto, Heated Steering Wheel, Keyless, Remote Start, Ford SYNC 3 System, Warranty!

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13c

SW names December Students of the Month



During the month of December, Southwest Elementary students were chosen to be Students of the Month. These students exhibited the character trait of caring. Southwest Elementary's December caring students are pictured above, from left to right, in the front row: Jayden Murphy, Joscelyn Dover, Ian Arnold, Sofia Blagburn, Cassandra Kidd and Easton Oxford. Middle row: Madisyn Barber, Danica Graves, Brody Holt, Makenzie Horn, Raelynn Curby and Liam Ramos. Back row: Emily Brooks, Tinlee Mitchell, Noah Stamper, Justice Bramlett, Radyn Costlow and Paula Callison.

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- BP 101 **Beautiful Country Church!** Just north of Cassville. Property is on 4 +/- acres and has over 4200 sq. ft. finished. Property is in wonderful condition and is currently being used for regular service. Sanctuary and altar area is over 2200 sq. ft. with additional small service rooms, all built to ADA standards. The property has concrete lot with 44 regular +5 handicap spaces. Must see! Call John!
MLS#60142970 **Reduced \$220,000**
- UL 418 **Just what you might be looking for!** 17.94 acres m/l, 9.6+/- cleared. Property has 2 ponds and a small spring. Great combination of pasture and trees. Have the hobby farm of your dreams. Well shared, private drive.
MAKE AN OFFER! MLS#60115924 **Reduced to \$54,700**
- UL 409 **Great Piece of Development Land!** Eagle Rock/Golden. Around 1000' State Highway 86 frontage. Property is flat to gentle roll and has a drive entrance in the center of property. Would be a great location for small homes, storage buildings, or commercial retail/storage.
MLS#60077561 **Make an offer! \$29,900**
- HO 301 **Tucked away on 6 acres, 3 bed., 2 bath** Cape Cod style near Campbell Point. Open kitchen/living/dining, galley type kitchen w/ 12' food bar. Vaulted ceilings w/exposed beams. Lots of windows, large front porch, and wrap around wood deck. 80x20 detached garage w/2 doors. New roof! Property Transfer Cert. Approved!
MLS# 60132893 **Motivated to sell! \$197,900**
- Elmo's Subdivision** between Eagle Rock and Golden. Lots reduced to sell! Multiple building lots between .75 and 6 acres. Community water available! Mobile/manufactured/module built homes acceptable (restrictions apply)! Residential lots beginning at \$5,900 up to \$12,800. One commercial site available for \$16,900
- UL 430 **Reduced and Ready to Sell!** 68.8 acres m/l, 5 miles east of Hilltop, just off Hwy. 76 & near the Mark Twain Forest. 15 acres +/- of fescue pasture, a small pond, well and metal building on property. Has been used for hunting and agriculture. Call John for showing! MLS#60125929
Must see @ \$159,900
- HO 306 **New Home, Pick Your Flooring!** Large 4 bd., 2-1/2 bath on over 2.5 acre lot just northeast of Cassville. Knotty alder cabinets. Private well and new septic system. Seller is builder and is **MOTIVATED!**
MLS#60149600 **Asking \$258,900**
- HO 307 **Two Story Traditional Country Farmhouse** Large bedroom on first floor and two nice sized bedrooms on the second. Large "L" shaped kitchen moves into dining room and large front living room. Detached garage. Vintage fixer-upper. City utilities. MLS#60150093
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- HO 308 **Ready for Lake Life!** 4 bed, 2 bath home in Crestwood West. Complete Update 2014. New CH/A. Det. 2 car garage. Decks X2, screened porch. Stainless appliances. Wood burning inserts. Home would make a great lake retreat or full time residence. Close to Central Crossing Bridge, and Bridgeway Plaza. Nice location in quiet lake subdivision on 1.24 ac m/l. Winter lake view.
MLS#60153012 **Asking \$174,900**





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12-13c

LICENCES from FRONT

applied for a cultivation license in Pierce City but was denied. They also have applications for manufacturing in Pierce City and dispensary applications for Sunrise Beach, Lees Summit and Springfield.

Licensing Process
In all, 554 different applications were filed for cultivation licenses in the state. DHSS approved 60 licenses, the minimum number required by Article XIV in the Missouri Constitution. Should any of the 60 approved companies choose not to utilize their license, the state will move down the list of the next top scoring business.

To file an application, cultivation facilities had to show the background of each of their owners and principal officers/managers, including their history of business success, the site's security, positive economic impact on the community and other categories. Limiting some of the smaller operations, each business also had to show \$200,000 in liquid capital on top of the \$10,000 application fee.


The scoring system, which changed after filing opened, is the subject of multiple appeals and at least one lawsuit, claiming unfairness in the rubric system that allowed for applications of out-of-state operations preferential treatment.

Sarcoxie Nursery had a hearing on Monday, December 30. Sarcoxie Nursery, owned by the Callicoat family, went for multiple licenses, including one of the dispensaries in Monett.

Legal cannabis availability
While commercial licenses are being approved, there is still no way to legally obtain cannabis within the state unless a patient has a licensed caregiver or their personal cultivation license.


Most estimated time lines show dispensaries will open and have products available in late spring or early summer, dependent on the initial success of cultivators.

For more information about the medical marijuana program in Missouri, go to: <http://medicalmarijuana.mo.gov>.

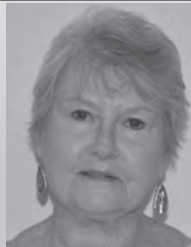


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\$155,000

60120305 - Three bedroom charmer with a sun room and a hot tub sits on a double lot. Wood burning fireplace. Shop building is fully insulated with water, electricity, cement floor, 2- 9' overhead doors.




\$239,000

60148542 - This berm home is well insulated all around. 40 solar panels heat and cool this home. Kitchen includes a Jenn Air counter top range, dishwasher, washer & dryer. Wood burning stove for back up heat. Detached garage/workshop is 32x40.



\$249,900

60099485 - PRIME COMMERCIAL PROPERTY at corner of State Hwy. 37 and Farm Road 2160. Over 1900 sq. ft. near Cassville. Shop and office on 8 acres m/l.



\$139,000

60140872- Three bedrooms, 1.5 baths. RV pad, sun room, hardwood floors, maintenance free. Outside city limits, no restrictions.

60137076 - **GREAT LAKE COMMUNITY PROPERTY.** Park-like setting. No restrictions. Paved road on two sides. Golf cart distance to water's edge. Nice homes in this area. **\$40,000**

60143378 - **NICE BUILDING LOT,** with newer nice homes in the area. Water & electricity at the street. Doublewide mobile homes 2 years old or less are allowed. Part of lots #20 & 63. **\$27,900**

60150519 - **BEAUTIFUL HOME-GREAT LOCATION.** 3 bedroom, 2 bath home includes a 2-car attached garage & vaulted ceiling in living room & dining room. Large master bedroom & large laundry room with extra storage. Come check it out! **\$174,000**

60147834 - **PRICE REDUCED!** Newer single wide mobile home with almost 11 acres. Garden area, some pasture land & some hunting land. Several outbuildings and one car carport. Nice property that is affordable. **\$89,000**

60126188 - **OVER 5,000 SQ. FT.** in this 5 bedroom, 3 bath home. Many updates including newer kitchen, and all 3 baths, newer roof. All this and 30 acres m/l of paradise. **\$459,000**

60058815 - **COMMERCIAL LOT IN SELIGMAN.** Corner of State Hwy 37 and Cemetery Street. City utilities. 1.3 acres m/l. Washburn schools. **\$15,000**

60136805 - **THREE BEDROOMS, 2 FULL BATHS.** Located in Cassville. **\$87,500**

60148911 - **ONE OF A KIND!** Over 600 feet of lake front property. Walk-down to the water. Includes 10x24 boat slip with lift. 3-car attached garage & 2-car carport. Storage building. 49x60 insulated shop with 14' side walls. Upper & lower decks face the lake. **\$500,000**

60100458 - **INVESTMENT PROPERTY** on busy State Hwy. 112. Close to commercial businesses. Home and Shop. **\$35,000**

60148813 - **GREAT SMALL FARM** with 18 acres m/l. Home has some updating. 3 bedrooms, and 2 baths. Ch/a. Hardwood floors. 32x40 shop, several out buildings including barn, storage sheds & well house. Pasture has good fencing & pond. Close to town on paved highway. **\$169,000**

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13c

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THE TURNING Point AA group meets each Monday, west corner of Mitchell Plaza, Hwy. 86, Eagle Rock, 7:00pm.

IF YOU are homebound or unable to get out to meetings but need help for the effects of living with alcoholism, become an Al-Anon or Alateen Lone Member. Contact Al-Anon Family Groups, 1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454 or e-mail wso@al-anon.org.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS New Beginnings is now meeting at Mitchell's Plaza, Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 7:00 p.m. For more info, call (417)271-1088.

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MGA’s Project 21 scholarship applications available

The Missouri Gaming Association, the statewide professional association of the Missouri casino industry, is inviting local high school seniors to enter the 24th annual Project 21 scholarship competition. This year, one \$2,500 first prize scholarship and three \$1,500-second prize scholarships will be awarded. The Project 21 scholarship program encourages students to learn and educate their peers on the illegality, dangers and consequences of underage gambling.

The deadline for submitting Project 21 scholarship entries to the Missouri Gaming Association is March 1, 2020. The competition is open to all Missouri high school seniors planning to attend an institution of higher education in the United States within four years of graduation. The scholarship application and guidelines are available for download at www.missouricasinos.org or <http://bit.ly/MGA-2020-Project21>.

Students must write and publish an original essay or article in the school newspaper, or create a poster or video. The article, poster

or video must focus on the issues and ramifications of underage gambling. Entries must be published or displayed at the student’s high school for at least one full week between December 1, 2019, and February 15, 2020. Entries will be judged for originality, content, style and educational value.

“We want students to know it is illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to gamble in a Missouri casino,” said Mike Winter, executive director of the Missouri Gaming Association. “We also want them to understand the dangers and consequences when youth participate in other types of underage gambling, such as card games and sports betting.”

All Missouri high school seniors, including those whose parents are casino employees, are eligible for the Project 21 scholarships, provided their parent is not a Missouri Gaming Association officer or a Project 21 Executive Committee member. High school seniors employed part-time (less than 32 hours per week) by a Missouri casino also are eligible.

The Project 21 scholarship application is available for download at www.missouricasinos.org or <http://bit.ly/MGA-2020-Project21> or by calling (573) 634-4001. Written requests for applications can be sent to PO Box 305, Jefferson City, MO 65102. Winners will be announced by March 31, 2020 and scholarships will be awarded by April 15, 2020.

About Missouri Gaming Association (MGA)

The Missouri Gaming Association (MGA) is the statewide trade association of the Missouri casino entertainment industry. Founded in 1993, the Missouri Gaming Association works to promote responsible gaming and increase awareness of the economic benefits of casinos in Missouri. The MGA and its casino company members sponsor year-round responsible gaming programs including the 1-888-BETSOFF crisis line and referral service, Project 21 scholarship competition, and Responsible Gaming Awareness Week. For more information, visit www.missouricasinos.org.

Seven ways to get organized in the new year

Becoming more organized is a popular resolution each new year. However, like many resolutions, people’s commitment to being more organized tends to wane as February draws near.

Being unorganized can adversely affect productivity, state of mind, motivation, and even happiness. Sixty-seven percent of people surveyed in an Alpha Phi Quarterly study believed they could save up to 30 minutes a day if they were more organized. And a Huffington Post survey determined worrying a home isn’t clean enough or organized enough is the fifth most common stress trigger for Americans.

Getting and staying organized requires commitment. Having some handy tips at the ready to facilitate the process can make things go more smoothly.

1. Determine what organization means to you. Being organized might mean one thing to you and something else entirely to someone else. Some may put form before function. Others may be interested in the aesthetics of a neat-looking space. Once you have a handle on what being organized entails to you, you can get to work.
2. Start with what motivates you most. Perhaps this is a room in the home that has become overrun with clutter. Or maybe it’s getting finances organized so you can save for a dream vacation. When you accomplish your biggest goal, the seemingly smaller ones may seem less difficult.
3. Declutter your mind.

4. Create deadlines for yourself. An open-ended timeline to get things done may promote procrastination. Deadlines may provide motivation.
5. Avoid distractions. Try to remove as many distractions as possible. When working on a chore, hire a babysitter to look after the children or step away from social media so you can focus on the task at hand. Interruptions only slow you down.
6. Think before you acquire. Once you are organized you may have challenges fitting new items into the mix. If you’re getting ready to purchase something new, carefully consider its usefulness and determine in advance where it will go, and whether or not you have the space.
7. Be accountable to another. Having help getting organized can mean delegating certain tasks or enlisting someone to check in with you to see if you’re on target. Embrace this system of checks and balances.

Becoming organized is a process, but once you get the hang of it, it can be easy to stay organized. TF201635

Row wins Johnson Chiropractic Festival of Lights gift basket



Maureen Row, of Cassville, was the winner of the Johnson Chiropractic gift basket as part of the Festival of Lights giveaways.

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LOOK BUT DON'T TOUCH!

Your electric meter is a necessary part of the system after all, reading your meter tells you how much electricity you're using. But while looking at it is encouraged, opening or tampering with it is not.

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Coach Shore leaves behind a career of excellence on and off court

Vinnie Roberts

At a school board meeting on December 17, Cassville School District received the resignation of one teacher who has been at the core of the district's athletic program for two and a half decades. Basketball and cross country coach Chris Shore announced his retirement, effective at the end of this school year.

Coach Shore, himself a Cassville graduate, went on to graduate from Missouri Southern State University, in Joplin, with a degree in physical education. Shore returned to the area to teach in 1993, beginning his career as a physical education instructor and girls basketball coach in Exeter.

"It was a lot of fun," said Shore. "I didn't really know what to expect going to a small school, but the kids were really close. It was a really good experience for me. I didn't want to leave when I left, but I had more opportunities elsewhere."

According to a former student, Kerry Mattingly, of Exeter, the coach left a lasting impression on his students.

"Coach Shore taught us more than the game of basketball," explained Mattingly. "He taught us school pride, to have self confidence, and to play hard with endurance. The game of basketball was left long ago on the hardwoods at Exeter, but the values that he instilled in each of us is something we will carry with is forever."

Beginning with the 1995 school year, Shore left Exeter to teach and coach for Cassville. Shore has remained in the position ever since, marking this year his 25th with the district.

Shore has coached both junior high and high school girls and boys basketball teams over his tenure, but his most lasting contribution to the Cassville athletic department is as the founder and sole coach of Cass-

ville's cross-country teams. "That athletic director at the time said that they wanted to start a program," said Shore. "He was actually the football coach when I went to school there, and we used to run a drill called 'the graveyard'. I would always win so, I guess he thought that I was a runner and that I would be a good fit."

According to Shore, he began the program with little background in the sport itself, starting the program from the ground up.

"It's been a blessing," said Shore. "It's been so much fun doing it. They asked me to do it and I started it from scratch. Now we have a junior high program, too. We had close to 40 runners this year. I think we had maybe 12 runners that first year."

The community has been incredibly responsive to the program. Shore explained that some of them have even stayed on to help long after their own children have graduated.

"I still have parents from that very first year who still help out when we host," Shore explained. "My start-



Coach Shore as he stands with his first team, the 1993-94 Exeter girls basketball team. Pictured above, from left to right, in the front row: Stacy Rowden Declour and Tina Bateman Blisaed, managers. Middle row: Alicia Navarre Moore, Mandy Lee Clevenger, Stephanie Davis and Jeanie Malicoat. Back row: Kristy Keen Keithly, Kellie Stephenson England, Kerry Senters Mattingly, Tammy Howe Wilson, Sherry Nelson and coach Chris Shore.

er has been Dan Philbrick, whose daughter ran for me on the first team. He's been involved with the program ever since."

Shore also stated that some of his fondest memories involve his own family getting involved with his coaching.

"One girl's team that stands out actually quali-

fied for three or four years in a row," said Shore. "It had my niece, Courtney, on it. We had a great stretch and then she ended up coming to Cassville to teach. She's been my assistant every year since, and it's been a real highlight having her here with me."

Though his lasting legacy in Cassville will always be tied to cross country, some of the coach's fondest memories come from his basketball teams over the years.

"In basketball, we always set a goal. We never won a Big 8 conference championship," explained Shore. "One group won our first conference championship then won undefeated. That was a big win for us. They knocked the door down for us and we had six winning seasons after that."

One former student, Tracey Stoufer, said that in this time, coach Shore always pushed his teams to keep going, no matter what the odds of victory were.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

City of Purdy

Candidate Filing for April 2, 2019 Election

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

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

Opening Date for Filing: Tuesday, December 17, 2019
Closing Date for Filing: Tuesday, January 21, 2020
Declaration of Candidacy may be filed with the City Clerk, 101 Front Street, Purdy, Missouri, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Hours will be extended to 5:00 p.m. on the last day of filing. No person shall be certified as a candidate for a municipal office, nor shall such person's name appear on the ballot as a candidate for such office, who shall be in arrears for any unpaid city taxes or municipal user fees on the last day to file a declaration of candidacy for the office (Section 115.346 RSMo).

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Coach Shore as he stands by a very special wall in his office, one that holds team photos from every single one of his basketball and cross country seasons throughout the years.

“Coach Shore made sure we understood that no matter what, there is still time left,” said Stoufer. “In one game our junior year, we were in the Southwest tournament. There was about 30 seconds left to play and Coach called timeout. When we came off the court he said we still have time. He drew up a play and exemplified the steps very quickly to us, but we knew we could pull it off because he told us we could. We took the ball

down the court and Holly Gureski put up the shot but didn’t go it. The rest of us did our part and blocked out. The ball fell my direction, and I put it back up to score the basket we needed to win. We ended up winning the tournament that year and the following year. No matter what we were up against, Coach Shore made sure we understood together we could win.”
Another former student, Cassville Chamber of Com-

merce director Rachael Selby, said that Shore’s coaching style had him involved beyond the court. According to her, coach Shore helped to shape her into the person that she is today.
“Coach Shore loves the game of basketball. He lives and breathes it, but that’s all it ever was, just a game,” explained Selby. “It’s been the players that he’s coaching that have kept him coming back year after year. His investment wasn’t limited to the court. He cared about us as individuals. As women that would go out into the world someday. He loved to win games but that’s not how he measures his success. He measures it through all of us and the lives we’ve gone on to lead.”
Though wins make for nice stories, coach Shore expressed that not all of his fond memories were from victories, but rather the teams that tried their hardest on the court.
“I’ve had a lot of really great groups in-between, too. It’s not all about wins,” Shore explained. “I’ve had some groups that over-achieved even though they only won like 11 games. I was still as proud of them as I was any of my winning teams.”
One school administrator, Cassville superintendent Dr. Richard Asbill, expressed his feelings on having worked with Shore and the legacy he leaves behind.
“I’ve had the privilege of working with Chris, both as colleagues and as a boss.

He’s also my neighbor. He and his family have always been good friends with mine. It’s been a real honor to work with Chris. He’s put a lot of time in during days, evenings and mornings for practices and games. His dedication to Cassville has been outstanding and we really appreciate all his service.”
This retirement hasn’t come as a surprise to many who know him, according to Shore.
“It’s just time. I got out of coaching high school two years ago, and that group of kids were really special to me,” said Shore. “They knew that my retirement is coming close and they wanted me to go out with them, and I am.”
Though the decision has been a long time coming,

Shore explained that he has made it not out exasperation, but rather comfort in knowing that he’s led a spectacular career.
“I’m not burned out or anything like that, it’s just my time. Life is short and I want to experience what comes after this for me in phase 2.”
Shore continued, explaining that he has more than a few big plans for his

newly-acquired free time.
“I’ve gotten into horses,” explained Shore. “My oldest son is actually the coach of the ranch horse team at the University of Arkansas and when he was a young man, we got into horses. So, I’m going to mess with them and see where life takes me over the next couple of years. I will stay busy.”

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Southwest High breaks the fourth wall in “Goldilocks on Trial”



On Friday, December 13, the Southwest High drama department premiered their production of the play “Goldilocks on Trial” in the school cafeteria/ auditorium. Pictured above, from left to right, Brianna Cook as Baby Bear, Austin Peterson as Attorney Wombat, Isaac Starr as The Judge.



The character of Bailiff Melvin provided the evening with more than one humorous shtick, such as eating sandwiches in-between witness testimony and ordering lunch when the judge shouts “order in the court.” The bailiff was played by Keith Davis.



In one of the many flashback scenes during the trial, a detective recalls catching the notorious Goldilocks in the act. Pictured above, Shyla Richardson, as Goldilocks, is caught in the act by police investigators.



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