

Cassville School seeks \$4M bond for early childhood center, renovations

Charlea Estes-Jones

Cassville R-IV School District is putting a bond issue before voters that would allow the school to make renovations to the old middle school wing and build an early childhood center. The no-tax increase bond is seeking for voters to approve \$4 million to make the improvements.

School superintendent Dr. Richard Asbill said the bond was unanimously supported by school board members as a way to expand learning opportunities for students. He said, “The focus has been, over the last three years, to identify some particular needs that we wanted to emphasize, one being early childhood. We’re focusing on our Title I programs with preschool, our Kinder Academy program and expanding or renovating our facility to allow for those programs to have greater access to flexible learning space and some opportunities to grow.”

Those concepts and focuses are what led the district to seek using their bonding capacity to build a new early childhood center which will provide dedicated space for those programs. Asbill explained currently, some classrooms in the primary school are multi-use space, and in order to dedicate more time to those programs, the school would need additional room.

If the bond passes, the school will build the early childhood center at the far end of the primary school in the open space between the school and the existing primary playgrounds. The new building would include four new classrooms and make space in the primary dedicated for kindergarten and first grades.

Dr. Asbill said, “We’re sharing some spaces now, and it isn’t always productive. It limits the number of students we can serve. We have these programs like Parents As Teachers, preschool and Kinder Academy, and we need space for those programs to utilize during the day and the evenings. It would also open up the possibility to expand kindergarten, first grade and special education.”

One aspect that would not be included in the new plan is a daycare component. Dr. Asbill said he does not feel that is in the scope of the school at this time.

Dr. Asbill said that teachers were instrumental in planning the new building. “They have done such a fantastic job. They’ve gone to other districts, and they are planning and designing this project. They are having conversations with other teachers and each other and other schools,” he said.

Asbill concluded, “We want these kids to have a firm grasp on early education and improved literacy that will pay off five, ten, fifteen years in the future.”

The next component of the bond issue would be an update to the older wing of the middle school, also known as the vintage wing. The vintage wing was mostly used for storage up until a couple years ago when a flooding incident displaced the fifth grade classrooms in the intermediate building. Those classrooms

See BOND on 9A

7th Street bridge reconstruction planned

Vinnie Roberts

Since the Spring of 2017, 7th Street in Cassville has been incomplete. Before 2017, Seventh Street had a bridge that ran over Flat Creek and connected downtown Cassville directly to the park. Years of flood damage led the city to demolish the bridge after years of service.

Now, plans to reconstruct the bridge have been put in motion at City Hall. The city already has an open claim with FEMA and SEMA that began in 2015 when the structure was damaged and nearly impassable due to flooding. Now, after it was demolished nearly two years ago, the city has begun the process of using that open claim to rebuild the bridge.

David Brock, Public Works Director for the City of Cassville stated that the bridge is a crucial bit of roadway and being without it has made navigating difficult for some.

“The Seventh Street bridge links the square with the downtown park, is a favored route for funeral processions to reach Oakhill Cemetery and is used by school buses,” said Brock. “The crossing is also an important link for three residences located east of the creek on 7th and Mineral Spring Road. It sees peak usage during baseball season when families come and go from the ball fields.”

City Hall already has



The City of Cassville is moving forward with plans to reconstruct the 7th Street bridge by the park and Greenway trail. Massive flooding in the area made the bridge inoperable since 2017.

a timeline in place for the construction of the bridge. Construction of a new bridge isn’t a certainty yet, however. To begin the project, the city will have to work with FEMA and SEMA to expand the scope of the city’s claim in order to receive the bulk of the funding needed for the project.

“We are expecting to call for bids in February or early March with construction completed by late summer,” said Brock.

Brock continued, “The bid letting is contingent on receiving approval from FEMA/SEMA to increase the amount of the claim. The amount of the existing claim is based on building an exact replacement for the damaged structure. However, we are being advised that a direct replacement does not meet Army Corps of Engineers requirements. To meet these specifications, the new structure needs to pass much more water beneath the driving surface.”

In order to accomplish this, city engineers have drafted significant changes to the original design of the bridge.

“The new design will pass significantly more water under the driving surface, with almost four times the open area as the old one,” said Brock. “We expect it to remain in service during the smaller rain events that would inundate the old crossing.”

Brock explained that this new design would function much like the old one but would be built to better accommodate flooding. Other design options were considered but, ultimately scrapped due to their high cost.

“The new bridge will still be designed to be overtopped during larger rain events; a higher bridge deck would have a negative impact on flood levels upstream,” stated Brock. “An alternative would be a very large structure like the Thirteenth Street bridge but, we do not believe FEMA/SEMA would sign off on that scale of bridge since we can meet regulatory requirements with a smaller structure.”

See BRIDGE on 3A

Inside this issue:

Monett man killed in crash

A Monett man was killed in a car crash south of Monett on Sunday morning around 2:30 a.m. **3A**

Cassville to reapply for parks grant

The City of Cassville will reapply for a parks grant to improve trails and add a new trail head. The city put out a survey for citizens to offer input. **2A**

School board seats to be determined in April election

School board seats will be on the ballot for the Municipal Election on April 2. Check out whether your district will have candidates on the ballot. **11A**

Two arrested for burglary

Two suspects were arrested for allegedly attempting to burglarize a Cassville home. **11A**

Upcoming 4 A
Obits 6-7 A
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County commission approves \$4.88M budget

Charlea Estes-Jones

The Barry County commission approved this year’s county budget at \$4,887,461.39. The budget, which closely follows 2018’s budget, means county office holders requesting new employees or big ticket items will have to make-do for another year.

The Barry County Commission budget meeting was held on Tuesday, January 22, this year in the courthouse. Barry County commissioners Gary Youngblood, Wayne Hendrix and Gary Schad were present, as well as clerk Jill LeCompte, Sheriff Gary Davis and collector Janice Varner.

Youngblood said, “We’re projecting the same as we received in 2017. We’re always hoping for more, but we’re being cautious. We’re always cautious on what we expect for revenue.”

The commission used an estimated revenue of \$4,151,150 plus an additional \$786,798.80 carried over from last year. The total used for working up a budget was \$4,937,948.80. Of that, the county anticipates \$2,662,000 from the 1/2 cent and 1/8 cent sales tax, \$551,700 from inter-governmental revenues, charges for services of \$659,900 and other revenues of \$277,550.

The budget follows closely what was approved for 2018 with 2019 at \$4,887,461.39 compared to 2018’s \$4,821,971.90. Officeholders had requested around half a million more than what was approved, but commissioners explained the money was not available to allow those expenditures.

Youngblood said, “We’d love to give everyone whatever they ask for, but it just isn’t possible with the money we have.”

The officeholder seeking the most additional funding was Sheriff Gary Davis. He’d requested funds for additional staffing, including new office staff and deputies. During the budget hearing, Davis said, “I asked for more people. The money just wasn’t there to give me anything I asked

See BUDGET on 2A

Cassville to reapply for trail grant, seeks public input

Isaac Esets-Jones & Charlea Estes-Jones

After a Missouri Recreational Trail Program grant was denied last year, the City of Cassville plans to reapply for the grant to build a new trail head on city property off of Highway 76 and to pave gravel trails between the downtown park and 13th Street. Following feedback from last year's application, the city is requesting funds with a more refined focus on trail creation and improvement.

Last year's application to the Missouri Recreational Trail Program was not selected, however the city was invited to reapply and to devise a project that put more emphasis on trails as opposed to amenities. The city is again looking for public feedback on the project. An online survey is available at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3JGSLBH> or it can be accessed through the city's web site at www.cityofcassville.com. Public input will help the

city gauge interest in the two projects and determine which project the city will apply for to hopefully assure a successful application. "In the grant application, there are scoring categories for getting local donations and work to be completed by City forces. The potential for these scoring components varies between the two projects so we will weigh the results of the survey, the desires of the administration and what might make the best scoring application," said David Brock, Cassville Public Works director. "In the first application, almost 62 percent of the total project cost was for new bathrooms/site development at the downtown park," said Brock. "The committee suggested a greater emphasis on trail improvements." The trail head on Highway 76 grew from an idea mayor Bill Shiveley had to create gardens to support more wildlife, including butterflies. "The trail head concept evolved from mayor Shiveley's desire to develop natural gardens that would attract/support monarch butterflies and other insects," said Brock. The property, in the 400 block of State Highway 76, has paved drive-

for, so I'll work with them and maybe next year will be better. I realize the constraints they have on the budget. "Jail staffing-wise, we're close to that and it's okay. Structurally, we're going to have to keep talking about that. It's just not sufficient. It needs a tremendous amount of work." Davis said part of the jail that was constructed in the 1970s hasn't been updated or renovated since. He continued, "It's going to require a tax of some kind, and I think a sales tax would be more fair." Youngblood explained the commission's decision not to add any new staff this year. "My viewpoint is that a new deputy costs a lot of money. It's the car, the salary and the health insurance."

Davis estimated the additional deputy would cost the county approximately \$75,000, which the commission says Barry County simply does not have. Youngblood said, "We provided enough for each office holder to give three percent raises to their staff, but it's at their discretion as to what to give. "No one got additional employees this year." Davis said he was allowed money to give raises for his jailers and was given four new patrol cars to continue on the county's car rotation. Wayne Hendrix said, "We don't want to get into a position like we did years ago where we have

BUDGET from FRONT

2019 Barry County Budget Information				
	2018 Actual	2018 Approved	2019 Request	2019 Approved
County Departments				
County Commission	201,088.00	256,570.00	448,562.00	389,503.00
County Clerk	61,226.00	61,020.33	66,176.00	66,004.00
Elections	72,408.00	69,225.67	55,177.00	54,890.00
Building & Grounds	228,321.00	217,898.60	234,300.00	235,456.00
Employee Benefits	598,197.00	602,082.00	618,600.00	624,355.00
Treasurer	46,622.00	46,675.00	49,040.00	49,040.00
Collector	113,779.00	115,275.20	134,785.80	115,503.62
Recorder	46,262.00	48,644.00	71,450.00	69,510.00
Circuit Clerk	15,115.00	17,600.00	19,900.00	19,900.00
Circuit Court Admin.	6,715.00	7,621.00	7,822.00	7,622.00
Capital Projects	109,559.62	280,000.00	280,000.00	280,000.00
Total	1499292.62	1722611.8	1985612.8	1911783.62
Other General County Government				
Insurance(prop/liab.bonds)	117,169.82	120,000.00	118,000.00	118,000.00
Publications	9,167.80	9,000.00	9,200.00	9,200.00
Rents and Leases	29,961.79	32,500.00	30,000.00	30,000.00
Monett TIF	63,475.05	67,000.00	64,000.00	64,000.00
Miscellaneous	36,798.64	60,000.00	60,000.00	60,000.00
Surveyor	365.00	4,500.00	0.00	0.00
University Extension	33,014.00	39,960.00	32,112.00	32,112.00
Public Administrator	29,017.00	36,912.00	42,038.00	31,431.40
Office Supplies	81,437.00	106,950.00	79,275.00	78,475.00
Total	400,406.10	476,822.00	434,625.00	423,218.40
Public Safety				
Sheriff	925,074.00	833,218.99	1,053,234.48	910,920.23
Jail	491,807.00	591,881.71	626,988.52	580,988.52
Prosecuting Attorney	409,468.00	420,035.40	437,669.00	418,878.62
Juvenile Office	128,321.00	129,302.00	133,722.00	133,722.00
Coroner	30,661.00	33,500.00	32,500.00	32,500.00
Emergency Management	13,334.00	14,600.00	26,050.00	25,450.00
Total	1998665	2022538.10	2310164.00	2,102,459.37
Total all Departments	3,898,364	4221971.90	4730401.80	4437461.39
Emergency Fund	600,000	600,000.00	600,000	450,000
Total Budget	4498363.72	4821971.90	5330401.80	4887461.39

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See PARKS on 5A

cars with over 200,000 miles on them and the transmissions start going out, and they have all kinds of problems." Davis said they worked a way to hopefully improve employee retention at the jail by working in a pay increase instead of new staffing. He said, "We decided to use what we have to help fix the trouble in the jail staffing-wise. We're down three and it's a pay issue. I can give all of the jailers a pay raise and institute a raise schedule. Right now, someone here ten years makes the same as someone new. That wasn't right. I thank the commission for that." Davis said the raises were implemented on a scale dependent on years of employment instead of a flat raise across the board. Those carrying the bulk of the work will get a higher raise. Commissioner Gary Schad said, "I want to thank our officeholders. They understand that we have to make decisions based on the money we have. They make this much easier than it could be." Collector Janice Varner added, "Every year when I go to the collectors' meeting, I'm glad to be one of the few who can say I have a commission we can work with. Most of them just can't work with their commissioners."

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BRIDGE from FRONT

The biggest change to the bridge would not be in the way that it moves water around and under it but, in the makeup of the bridge itself.

“The biggest difference in flood damage protection is having an all concrete structure that is designed to withstand strong overtopping currents and to deflect debris,” said Brock

Brock explained that the project is contingent on that change in scope, otherwise the bridge would be susceptible to the same kind of flooding damage that destroyed it previously.

City engineers have already mapped out and designed the changes needed to make the structure more solid. With the FEMA/SEMA funding, the projected cost for the city is relatively low.

“Our engineers provided a preliminary construction cost estimate of \$245,000,” said Brock. “They will update the estimate prior to bid advertisement. There will be additional engineering, inspection and testing expenses during construction. Including the engineering design costs, the total project budget is \$342,761.”

The project would not require any further funding from the people of Cassville, as the City’s expected portion of the cost has already been made a part of the yearly budget.

“If our change in scope is approved by FEMA/SEMA,

75% of the cost will be funded by State and Federal Funds,” said Brock. “The remaining 15% will come from local Transportation and Stormwater budgets. Our expected portion of the project,15%, is included in the approved 2019 budget.”

The city expects there to be some temporary inconveniences brought on by the project, but nothing that would impact citizen’s ability to enjoy the public park during construction.

“Citizens will not experience much interruption, since the crossing has been out of service for two summers,” stated Brock. “A portion of the downtown park will be used for storage and staging during construction but we don’t expect any impact on the existing ballfields or available parking. We do expect to temporarily reroute the trail during construction.”

Should the FEMA funding for the project not come through, the City is ready with a back up plan that will still see improvements made to the park.

“If the change in scope is not approved by FEMA/SEMA, the claim monies could be used to improve the entrance to the downtown park off of Highway 248,” said Brock.

Monett man killed in Sunday morning wreck

Charlea Estes-Jones

A Monett man was killed in a farm road crash outside of Monett over the weekend. According to the Missouri State Highway Patrol crash report, Jason M. Cendroski, 38, of Monett, was driving southbound when his vehicle ran off the roadway on Sunday, January 27.

The report states Cendroski was driving on Farm Road 1090 about a quarter of a mile south of Monett when he crashed around 2:30 a.m.

Cendroski was driving a 2000 Jeep Grand Cherokee southbound when it ran off the roadway, struck a mailbox and an embankment. Cendroski was pronounced deceased at the scene at 3:40 a.m. by deputy coroner Gary Swearingen.

Cendroski was not wearing a seat belt at the time of the crash.

The Jeep was extensively damaged and towed from the scene by Thomas Towing, of Monett.

This is the 5th fatality for Troop D in 2019.

Cassville Chamber names new board members



The Cassville Area Chamber of Commerce released the names of its new board members. They are pictured above, from left to right: JR Smith, goBEC Fiber Network; Angela Seymour, Crowder College Cassville campus; Emily Jackson, Mercy Hospital; and Taylor Weaver, Mercy Clinic.

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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 Monday at 5 p.m. If Monday is a holiday, then deadline is 4 p.m. the preceding Friday.

January 30th

Wii Bowling will be held at Central Crossing Senior Center every Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. If you have a team, or would like to be placed on a team, talk to Janet Horine or the administrator Terry or call (913) 526-0180 or (417) 858-6952.

January 31st

A Community Farewell Party for Dr. Zengotita will be hosted at the Conference Room C in Mercy Hospital, Cassville, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

February 1st

A Dinner and Dance will be hosted at the Stella Senior Center. The doors open at 5:30 p.m. with a pot luck supper. There is a \$5 cover charge for the dance beginning at 7 p.m. with music by The McDonald County Country Band. Guests are welcome to bring a dish to share. Call (417) 628-3314 for information.

February 2nd

Purdy's Got Talent, the annual all-school talent show, will be held at 7 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center auditorium. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$2 for students.

February 3rd

The Veterans Taskforce of America, Inc. will be meeting at the Angus Branch Steakhouse in Monett at 4 p.m. All honorably discharged men, women, war time or peacetime are welcomed. *Please notice the organizational name change from Vietnam Veterans of America to Veterans Taskforce of America, Inc.*

February 4th

The Monett Dance will be held at the Monett Park Casino from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. The Timberline Country Band will be performing. Admission is \$5. Guests may bring a snack to share.

Simple Tax Preparation for Seniors will be at Central Crossing Senior Center Mondays from February 4 to April 8. Please call for a morning appointment, (417) 858-6952.

February 5th

Cassville Cruisers Monthly Meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at Sho-Me-Plaza, Cassville.

February 9th

Chili Supper and Auction Fundraiser will be hosted by Southwest Project Granduation from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the high school commons area. Two bands are scheduled to perform. More information will follow at a later date.

Chatty Crafters will meet at the Mane Station in Cassville at 10 a.m. There is no charge. Please call (417) 498-2202 for more information.

A Fund Raiser Breakfast will be held at the Eagle Rock Fire Station from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

McDowell Gold Jubilee features free stage performances open to the public and open jams for acoustic music. Show starts at 6:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be available. All proceeds go to support the Jubilee and the Historic McDowell School House Foundations.

February 14th

The Habitat ReStore, Cassville, is having 50% Off. Exclusions are paint and bundled wood.

February 19th

Southwest Community Baccalaureate Commitee will be having a meeting at 6 p.m. in the Southwest R-5 High School commons area. Pastors, parents, seniors and community are urged to come and participate and support the 2019 seniors.

Notice:

Cassville Farmers' Market will be on the square every Saturday from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. (417) 652-7308.
Seligman Chamber will host a dance every Saturday at 7:00 p.m. For information, call (417) 662-3612.

School Menus: February 4 - February 8

All meals served with milk. All meals are subject to change

Southwest: Mon: B: scrambled eggs, mini cinnis, fresh fruit or cereal, juice. L: chicken fajita, salsa, lettuce, cheese, Mexican rice, peaches or salad/fruit bar. Tues: B: biscuits & gravy, sausage links, orange wedges or cereal, juice. L: seasoned pinto beans with ham, corn muffin, roasted potatoes, pears or salad/fruit bar. Wed: B: breakfast sausage pizza, fresh fruit or cereal, juice. L: chicken strips, breadstick, mixed vegetables, tropical fruit or salad/fruit bar. Thurs: B: french toast sticks, syrup cup, yogurt cup, diced pears or cereal, juice. L: ham & cheese slider, baby carrots, potato chips, peach cups or salad/fruit bar. Fri: B: hot ham & hashbrown sandwich, fresh grapes or cereal, juice. L: general chicken, rice, cauliflower, broccoli, strawberry cup or salad/fruit bar.

Cassville Prim.-Int.-Middle: Mon: B: biscuit & gravy or sausage biscuit, hashbrown, peaches or cereal, cinnamon toast, applesauce. L: corndog or BBQ pork rib, mac & cheese, glazed carrots, fruit cocktail. Tues: B: biscuit & gravy or oatmeal, toast, sausage, mandarin oranges or cereal, Pop-Tart, peaches. L: hamburger or hot dog, BBQ chips, green beans, Sidekicks. Wed: B: biscuit & gravy or chicken nuggets, hashbrown, orange or cereal, Rice Krispy Treat, apple. L: chicken & noodles or country steak, potatoes, gravy, mixed vegetables, peaches. Thurs: B: biscuit & gravy or strawberry bagel, yogurt cup, fruit cocktail or cereal, Pop-Tart, fruit cocktail. L: pepperoni pizza or chicken alfredo, salad, mixed vegetables, pears. Fri: B: biscuit & gravy or breakfast pizza, hashbrown, applesauce or cereal, blueberry muffin, applesauce. L: chili, string cheese or chili cheese fries, saltine crackers, corn, juice.

Golden Baptist Church Single Moms Support Group will meet every Wednesday night at 6 p.m. For information, call (417) 271-3605.
Washburn First Baptist Church Clothes Closet/Free Store will be open Tuesday, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., and Wednesday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Cassville High School: Mon: B: biscuit & gravy or breakfast burrito, sausage patty, pears or cereal, blueberry muffin, applesauce. L: chicken sandwich, Sun Chips, baked beans, fruit cocktail or pizza meal or salad meal. Tues: B: biscuit & gravy or pancake on stick, hashbrown, pineapple or cereal, graham crackers, peaches. L: country fried steak, potatoes, gravy, green beans, breadstick, pears or chicken nugget meal or salad meal. Wed: B: biscuit & gravy or scrambled eggs, sausage, toast, peaches or cereal, Nutri Grain Bar, apple. L: beef burrito, cheese nachos, refried beans, carrots, juice or cheeseburger meal or salad meal. Thurs: B: biscuit & gravy or mini cinni, yogurt cup, fruit cocktail or cereal, banana muffin, peaches. L: chicken strips, mac & cheese, green beans, yogurt, peaches or chicken nugget meal or salad meal. Fri: B: biscuit & gravy or sausage biscuit, hashbrown, applesauce or cereal, cinnamon toast, peaches. L: chili, cheese, saltine crackers, green beans, cinnamon roll, juice or pizza meal or salad meal.

Purdy: Mon: B: oatmeal, ww toast, cereal, fruit. L: baked pasta, romaine salad with tomato, ranch, peas, fruit, ww breadstick. Tues: B: french toast sticks, syrup, cereal, yogurt, fresh fruit. L: tangerine chicken, brown rice, carrots, fruit. Wed: B: wg biscuit, gravy, sausage patty, cereal, fruit. L: pepperoni pizza, romaine salad with tomato, ranch, mixed veggies, fruit. Thurs: B: skillet omelet, ww toast, cereal, strawberry cup. L: wg chicken nuggets, french fries, green beans, fruit. Fri: blueberry muffin, cereal, yogurt, fruit. L: hamburger on ww bun, Sun Chips, baked beans, fresh fruit.

Exeter: Mon: B: biscuit & gravy, sausage link, fruit juice or cereal, biscuit, fruit, juice. L: pulled pork, bun, french fries, baked beans, fruit. Tues: B: breakfast burrito, apple, juice or cereal, graham crackers, apple, juice. L: tacos, salsa, corn, fruit. Wed: B: cereal, toast, orange, juice. L: country fried steak, scalloped potatoes, green beans, fruit. Thurs: waffles, fruit, juice or cereal, toast, fruit, juice. L: General Tso chicken, brown rice, oriental veggies, fortune cookie, fruit. Fri: B: sausage, egg biscuit, banana, juice or cereal, Vertical Bar, banana, juice. L: pepperoni pizza, salad, carrots, fruit.

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Sheriff’s Department-ODET partnership gets drugs off streets

Vinnie Roberts

The Ozarks Drug Enforcement Team (ODET) statistics for the year are in, and drug seizures were up significantly in Barry County.

ODET is a team of eight detectives with the primary goal to break up large scale drug trafficking operations with assistance from local law enforcement as well as the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). The ODET operates in five counties: Barry, Jasper, Barton, Newton and McDonald.

Region-wide, ODET seized a total of 6,230 grams, or roughly 14 pounds, of methamphetamine, a street value of roughly \$623,000. The organization also seized 33,448 grams (roughly 74 pounds) of marijuana with a street value of \$259,000.

Of the methamphetamine seized, almost half of that was taken off the streets of Barry County. There were 2,998 grams (6.68 pounds) seized last year. This translates to a street value of \$297,260. Of the contraband marijuana seized, 18.5 pounds were taken from Barry County, with a street value of approximately \$64,750.

ODET was also responsible for 40 meth-related

arrests, 15 fugitive arrests, 66 firearms seized, 62 investigations conducted and 36 search warrants served within Barry County last year.

“It costs us \$4,000 a year to be an ODET member, and it’s the best money that Barry County spends in my opinion,” said Barry County Sheriff Gary Davis. “If we have something drug-related that’s really important and we can’t handle it, I can call them, and they’ll be here.”

ODET works very closely with the Barry County Sheriff’s office to combat the tide of drugs coming into the county. While ODET handles the large scale busts that climb the ladder of local drug operations, according to Sheriff Davis, many of those large scale busts begin as completely unrelated calls to the sheriff’s department.

“It’s a cooperative effort,” said Davis. “We work closely with them and that’s how we get where we’re at with those figures.”

Sheriff Davis continued, “Every time (ODET) has made one of those arrests, with very few exceptions, my people were there. Opening the door, providing perimeter, everything. It’s a group effort.”

Barry County Sheriff’s deputies are crucial to the process of preventing drugs from being sold within the

county. According to Davis, this means more than just responding to drug-related calls. Maintaining situational awareness during other work in the field is critical to the work of deputies.

“We’re always on the lookout for stuff that doesn’t match the calls we’re on,” said Davis. “Some of the bigger cases we’ve worked on started as domestic calls. We have to go in the house, they can’t keep us out, and if we see dope in plain sight, we take it.”

According to Davis, those smaller busts lead deputies to hand that information over to ODET, where the team works with the deputies involved to trace the line of distribution back to the larger suppliers. This leads to larger-scale busts that, according to Davis, are the best method for keeping drugs off the streets in Barry County.

“We could go out and address drug users all day long,” said Davis. “That does nothing to deter drugs in Barry County. We have set our sights higher, to the distributors and the people who are selling it.”

ways so users will not have to park somewhere else and walk to the area.

Project descriptions are linked in the survey. With regards to the new trail head, the city emphasizes it would provide access to the already existing trail, but would also be landscaped to provide a natural habitat for area birds and insects. “The project would include landscaped berms, native trees and landscaping with species selected to attract and support birds and insects. A meandering asphalt walking path and seating area will be nestled within the natural garden,” says the description.

The trail head would be constructed on city property across the highway from the Memorial Park at the American Legion post.

The second potential trail improvement project would pave gravel portions of the Greenway Trail between the downtown park and 13th Street and would seek to mitigate damage to those trails from flooding. “As a result of the 2017 flood, the city documents \$4,384 in repairs at the downtown park,” said Brock. “Over \$3,000 was just for materials to rebuild the trails.”

In addition to paving the

PARKS from 2A

gravel walkways, the city proposes adding concrete curb to portions of the trail in the flood area. “Trail improvements on facilities lying below the 100-year base flood elevation would include 4” x 12” concrete curb edging,” says the description.

The grant application will be turned in by February 15, with results announced sometime in July or August of this year.

Beyond these trail improvements, Brock says bathroom improvements are on the city’s radar, but funding will be needed. Previous surveys had indicated that many people feel the bathrooms in the park are not adequate, which led the city to emphasize those improvements

in the previous application. “Last year’s application was focused on those facilities to address that concern. Bathrooms are allowed under the program, but do not appear to be a priority for the scoring committee,” said Brock. “Building new bathrooms at the downtown park is still a priority but a funding source has not been identified.” Bathroom improvement costs are estimated at \$155,000, according to Brock, making it difficult for the city to cover those expenses in the park’s appropriations.

The Recreational Trails Program is overseen by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources using federal funds from the Department of Transportation.



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NOLAN GENE MCNEILL
Nolan Gene McNeill, age 84, of Cassville, passed away Tuesday, January 22, 2019, at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.
He was born on March 17, 1934, in Bethlehem, Missouri, the son of John B. and Rilda Virginia (King) McNeill. On May 10, 1953, in Rocky Comfort, he was united in marriage to Barbara Lee Milligan, who survives. Also surviving are his children, Nolan McNeill II and his wife, Becky, of Wheaton, Sharen McNeill and her husband, Jim Beagle, of Purdy, Tracy McNeill, of Smithfield, North Carolina, Mark

McNeill, of Elizabethton, Tennessee, Marci LePage and her husband, John, of Anderson, and Brooks McNeill, of Exeter; two nephews, Gary McNeill and Ed Lee; twelve grandchildren, Chris, Adria, Brandon, Kristin, Devin, Ryan, Miles, Melodi, Trista, Jake, Natalie, and Luke, plus twenty-five great-grandchildren.
Preceding him in death were his parents; two sisters, Ida Sue Henderson and Virginia Lee McAlister; one brother, Thomas King McNeill; a niece, Sue Ann Doenig; a nephew, John McNeill Lee; and a daughter-in-law, Michelle McNeill.
Nolan received his education in Purdy, where he graduated from high school. Following his education, he served his country in the United States Army Reserve. He worked for the Boeing Company through the 1950s in Wichita, Kansas, and Spokane, Washington. Nolan and his family returned to Missouri in 1960, settling in Cassville. For thirteen years, he owned and operated a fur-

OBITUARIES
niture store on the Cassville Square, before establishing himself in full time farming and the political arena. Nolan served two terms, totaling eight years, as the Presiding Judge of Barry County. He was elected to serve his area and the State of Missouri in the House of Representatives for ten years. For over thirty years, he served as the President of the Board of Directors for OATS Transit. Nolan was a lifelong Democrat. He was a farmer and livestock producer who loved working with his cattle. He loved to quail hunt, worked to help others, and enjoyed spending time with his family. He was a member of the Cassville United Methodist Church since 1960.
Memorial contributions may be made to the Cassville United Methodist Church in memory of Nolan.
Services were held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, January 26, 2019, at the Cassville United Methodist Church under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor Andy Lambel conducted the services. Burial was at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in Butterfield.
Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.
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RUBY PEARL POZNIAK
Ruby Pearl Pozniak, age 87, of rural Purdy, passed away on Wednesday morning, January 23, 2019, at her residence with loving family at her side.
Ruby was born on August 12, 1931, in Exeter, daughter of the late Roy Eugene and Inez Cecil (Lakey) Brattin. She graduated from Wheaton High School with the class of 1948 and was a member of

Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church.
On May 24, 1948, in Purdy, Ruby married Earnest E. Pozniak. They were blessed with over sixty-three years together until his passing on August 6, 2011. Ruby is survived by her children, including sons, Michael Pozniak and wife, Linda, Stephen Pozniak and Kevin Pozniak; her daughter, Donna Bottorf and husband, Richard; daughter-in-law, Kathy Pozniak; eleven grandchildren; twenty-three great-grandchildren; one brother, Tom Brattin; three sisters, Betty McMillian, Mary Anne Crocker and Michelle Gudde; one sister-in-law, Rosella Renkoski; as well as a host of extended family and friends.
Ruby was preceded in death by her husband, Earnest; one son, David Pozniak; one granddaughter, Kori Pozniak; and two brothers, Durward Brattin and Ronnie Brattin.
Ruby was a devoted wife, mom and grandmother. Her life was dedicated to others by being a wonderful caregiver.
Funeral Mass was held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 26, 2019, at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Pulaskifield with Father Paul Pudhota officiating. Interment followed at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Cemetery. Memorial contributions have been requested to the Sts. Peter and Paul Funeral Circles in care of the funeral home. Arrangements are under the personal care and direction of Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.

DR. LONNIE RICHARD WALTERS
Dr. Lonnie Richard Walters, 77, of Republic, passed away Saturday, January 26, 2019, in Cox Medical Center South in Springfield.
He was born to Loren and Lucille Perriman Walters on January 5, 1942 in Aurora. Lonnie was a chiropractor in the area for many years, retiring from his practice in August of 2017, and was a U.S. Air Force Veteran.
Survivors include his wife, Sharon Walters; one son, Dr. Mark Walters and wife, Diana. of Mt. Vernon; one daughter, Sarah Walters Doke and husband, Willie, of Republic; two brothers, Dr. Larry Walters and wife, Darlene, of Albuquerque, N.M., and Dr. Sam Walters and wife, Sue, of Scottsdale, Ariz.; two sisters, Janice Stumpf and husband, Rex, of Cassville, and Joyce Welch and husband, Stan, of Texarkana, Texas; five grandchildren, Erica White and husband, Maurice, of Ozark, Jordan Walters, of Mt. Vernon, Cameron, Cooper and Carter Doke, all of Republic.
He was preceded in death by his parents and one son, Eric Walters.
Funeral services will be held Saturday, February 2, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. in the Covenant Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon under the care of Peterson Funeral Chapel. Private family burial will follow in Maple Park Cemetery.
Visitation will be held Friday from 6-8 p.m. in the funeral home.
In lieu of flowers, donations may me made to firewindministries.org/donate.

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MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL



VERLON “BUB” LEROY HAWORTH
Verlon “Bub” Leroy Haworth, age 81, of Purdy, passed away Wednesday, January 23, 2019, at Cox Monett Hospital.

He was born September 29, 1937, on his home place in Barry County, the son of Loren and Frances (Holloway) Haworth. On August 20, 1960, he was united in marriage to Joann Sparkman, who survives. Also surviving are one son, Lee Haworth, of Purdy; one daughter, Janice Ray and her husband, Ernie, of Purdy; one brother, Steve Haworth and his wife, Kay, of Purdy; one sister, Wilma Quade and her husband, Steve, of Shell Knob; two grandchildren, Amanda Miller and her husband, Justin, of Purdy, and James Ray and his wife, Tina, of Purdy; and six great grandchildren, Elijah and Isaiah Miller, Weston and Ellee Ray, and Aubry and Cason Antle.

Preceding him in death were his parents and two sisters, Lorene Aldridge and Joanie Singer.

Bub grew up in Purdy, where he graduated from high school. After school, he served in the National Guard. As a young boy, he

began farming and at age 17 started hauling milk and continued for almost 57 years. He was a strong believer in the Lord and attended Gunter Church and Arnhart Baptist Church.

Services were held at 10:00 a.m. Monday, January 28, 2019, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor Jerry Nickle conducted the services. Burial was at Maplewood Cemetery in Exeter.

Contributions may be made to Barry-Lawrence County Development Center or Ronald McDonald House in memory of Bub.

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

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JAMES W. SHERWOOD
James W. Sherwood, age 66, of Shell Knob, passed away Thursday, January 24, 2019, at his home.

He was born in California on March 29, 1952. On May 21, 1976, at Viola Baptist Church, he was united in marriage to Mary “LaVeta” McCullough, who preceded him in death on June 21, 2017. Also preceding him in

death were his parents.

Survivors include two sons, Michael Sherwood and his wife, Jenifer, of Shell Knob, and William Sherwood, of Arkansas; two daughters, April Abney and her husband, Robert, of Conway, Arkansas, and Melody Bull and her husband, Mike, of North Carolina; one sister, Dorthey Klunk and her husband, Scott, of Harrison, Arkansas; and nine grandchildren.

James received his education in Alpena, Arkansas, where he graduated from high school. Thirty-seven years ago, he moved to Shell Knob from Green Forest, Arkansas, to make his home. For several years, he was employed at Tyson’s in the sanitation department. James enjoyed fishing, watching wrestling and was a very hardworking man. He was a member of Viola Baptist Church in Viola.

Services will be held at 10:00 a.m. today, Wednesday, January 30, 2019, at Viola Baptist Church, under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Shell Knob. Pastor Scott Chisholm will conduct the services. Burial will be at McCullough Cemetery in Viola.

The family will receive friends from 9:00 until 10:00 a.m. at Viola Baptist Church.

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

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RONEL BICE
Ronel Bice, age 80, of Cassville, passed away Friday, January 25, 2019, at his home.

He was born July 27, 1938, in McAlester, Oklahoma, the son of Emery and Etta (Gray) Bice. He was a retired groundskeeper for the golf course in Noel.

Survivors include three sons, Mark Bice, of Noel, Scott Bice, of Southwest City, and Andy Bice, of Texas; two brothers, Arvil Bice, of McAlester, Oklahoma, and Larry Bice of Carthage; and special friend, Betty Sellers, of Cassville.

Preceding him in death were his parents; one son Randy; three brothers; and one sister.

Graveside services were held Sunday, January 27, 2019, at Mineral Springs Cemetery in Cassville under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.

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

**FOHN FUNERAL HOME
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417-847-2141**

THERESA (TESS) MAHAFFEY
Theresa (Tess) Mahaffey passed away on Tuesday, January 22, 2019. Private graveside services were held at Russell Cemetery under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville with Jerry Nickle officiating.

Tess is survived by two daughters, Patsy Garner, of Cassville, and Dr. Betty Jo Summers and husband, LTC Thomas Michael “Mike” Summers (retired), of Austin, Texas. She is survived by five grandchildren. The grandchildren are Patrick (Emily) Summers and Andrew (Jennifer) Summers, all of Austin, Texas, Beth Garner and Billie (Cindy) Garner, of Exeter, and Charles (Kim) Garner, of Cassville. She is also survived by seven great-grandchildren.

Tess was preceded in death by her husband, Lowell J “Jake” Mahaffey, in 2010. They were married December 27, 1941.

Contributions may be made to Russell Cemetery or Cassville Senior Center in memory of Tess.

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

**FOHN FUNERAL HOME
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CHARLES AUBREY PILANT
Charles Aubrey Pilant, age 90, of Salem, Oregon, passed away Thursday, January 24, 2019, at Cedar Village Assisted Living Community in Salem.

Graveside services will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, February 2, 2019, at Pilant Cemetery in Cassville under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.

A complete obituary will be in next week’s paper.

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

**FOHN FUNERAL HOME
CASSVILLE, MO.
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CONNIE ROSE HIPKINS
Connie Rose Hipkins, age 80, of Shell Knob, passed away Monday, January 28, 2019, at her home.

Services will be held at 10:00 a.m. Friday, February 15, 2019, at Fohn Funeral Home in Shell Knob.

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

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Cassville R-IV Speech and Language Services partners with teletherapy service

In an effort to serve Cassville R-IV students that have qualified for speech and language therapy, DotCom Therapy services are now available for pre-school through eighth grade students at the district.

“It is a very exciting time to be an educator,” said Traci Mitchell, Cassville R-IV Director of Learning. “Through the advancement in technology, we are now able to offer more opportunities for our students than ever before.”

DotCom Therapy provides face-to-face, audio and visual

real-time instruction through teletherapy from a certified Speech-Language Pathologist. Depending on services needed, students utilize the technology once or twice a week for 30 minute sessions.

In addition to teletherapy, students will continue to receive services from the district’s Speech-Language Pathologists Sheryl Fuchs and Kami Willis. Fuchs or Willis are also on site to oversee therapy sessions with the DotCom therapist as well.

“We are blessed to current-

ly have two speech pathologists on staff,” said Mitchell. “However, they are extremely busy and we have been looking for ways to help support them and their services to our students. MSBA in partnership with DotCom Therapy has provided a way, through video conferencing, to have access to another speech pathologist who can work in conjunction with our staff without having to travel to Cassville. In all honesty, we were very skeptical about this type of program and were on a trial basis at first. Our technology department has worked very hard to make sure our students have a clear and consistent connection with the therapist and we truly appreciate everyone who has strived to bring this together.”

Students at Cassville that benefit from this service receive therapy from Aliece Barklage, M.S. CCC-SLP. Barklage has been a therapist

for over 10 years and strives to ensure each child receives the most innovative and individualized services available.

“Our students are loving the new platform and we are extremely happy with their engagement and excitement while learning,” stated Mitchell. “This is another opportunity for us to put kids first.”



Pictured above are teacher Sheryl Fuchs and students Milton Aman (left) and Nathan Ruiz (right) utilizing the DotCom Therapy service.

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BOND from FRONT

were moved temporarily to the vintage wing, which showed school administrators how that area could be better utilized.

Dr. Asbill explained, “Using the space as classrooms during the flood really reemphasized that it needs to be focused on for a renovation.”

Renovations would improve the external look of the middle school, add a hallway that connects the middle school to the J.C. Duncan Gymnasium, and renovate classrooms into a shared learning space that would allow multi-grade collaboration and more flexible learning spaces for students.

He said, “We’d like to develop a multi-grade level program that would let them have a flexible space for learning. It’s not meant to be a predefined you do or don’t qualify program, but instead it’s an opportunity for us to get some creativity as well as some innovative experience for our students to focus on some different experiences that would encourage different career pathways.”

When asked what that would look like, Dr. Asbill referenced new programs that incorporate math, science and literacy already in the middle school. Those programs include an app creator class that teaches coding, a medical detective class, and a robotics class, as well as others. He added that it is possible that it would allow different grade levels to work

together, as well, giving older students an opportunity to help younger students.

“We would need more flexible space to be able to do that. We need a non-traditional space to make that work,” he said.

The remodel of the vintage wing would include six collaborative learning classrooms, an engagement classroom, a teacher center and two changing rooms outside of the hallway that leads to the rock gym to make the gym more efficient for classes and sport games.

Other improvements included in the bond plan are ADA accessibility improvements to the primary and intermediate playgrounds, new cabinets and counter tops in the first and second grade classrooms and security improvements to doors with key card accesses and a school-wide intercom system.

There would also be some maintenance items included like a roof repair to the middle school gym, band and art

rooms and electrical updates to older rooms with inadequate electrical outlet access.

Dr. Asbill said that if funds remain, the final project would be the transportation barn. He said, “We would start making improvements to our transportation barn. We would look at relocating our transportation services, and that would let us use our current facility for maintenance and custodial. It would open up parking for games and the FEMA building, as well.”

The bond request, which has been dubbed Vision 150, will be on the April Municipal Election ballot for Cassville School District voters to decide on. Dr. Asbill said, “This is about what the next 150 years of our district is going to be about, which is how we chose the name.”

The municipal election will be held on April 2, and voters within the Cassville School District will decide the fate of the school’s requested \$4 million bond.



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- CH 113 **Brick ranch in-town!** 3 bd, 2 1/2 bath, over 2000 sqft. Attached 2 car garage. City utilities. Brick fireplace. Lots of house for the price. Seller wants an offer! **MLS# 60123832 Asking \$139,900**
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- CH 202 **Just listed!** Executive abode! 3123 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths, with 3 car att. garage. Southwestern ranch style on 9 lots in Fox Ridge Subdivision, with city utilities. Very attractive and stately throughout. Private outdoor sitting area, irrigation system, and private well. Must see! Call for appointment! **Priced to sell @ \$289,000**



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60104141 - 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home with newer paint & flooring. On 6.45 acres m/l in the city limits.



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60113498 - CATTLE FARM. 35 acres m/l with working corrals and perimeter fencing. 2000 sq. ft. m/l double wide home.



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60100458 - Investment property on State Hwy. 112. Price has been reduced! Home and shop located close to commercial businesses.



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60113842 - 27 ACRES M/L. Part in city limits, part out of city limits. Possible owner finance to qualified buyers. Seller will divide. Wheaton. **\$134,900**

60107657 - 2.5 ACRES M/L on State Hwy. 112. **\$45,000**

60110574 - 1 ACRE M/L near OACAC on State Hwy. 248. **\$25,000**

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Southwest announces Homecoming Court



Southwest High School has elected its 2019 Homecoming Court. The Trojans and Lady Trojans will play host to Sparta on Friday, Feb. 8. The theme is Fire and Ice, and the winners will be announced prior to the boys varsity game. Student Council will sponsor a dance after the games.

This year's court are: freshmen Amy Reeves and Mason Bernard, sophomores Allison Corwin and Tyler Miller, juniors Kamryn Jones and Timothy Deshields, seniors Heather Windes and Timothy Bee, and student council candidates seniors Amber Cannady and Michael Foster.

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February

Monday, February 11th

2:00 p.m.

Bonworth Fashion Show !!!

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17-18c

Cassville IDC holds annual stockholder meeting

The Cassville Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) held its annual meeting of stockholders on January 17. Randy Stockton was reelected to serve a three-year term as board member and Dr. Chad Johnson was elected to fill the spot vacated by Mike McCracken who did not seek reelection.

Johnson is a graduate of Central Methodist University and Cleveland University-Kansas City. Johnson moved to the Cassville area in 2015, establishing Johnson Chiropractic Sports and Wellness Clinic. Johnson is very active in the Cassville community, serving on the Chamber board 2016-2018 and as President during 2018. He is also a Rotarian, serving on the Cassville Rotary Club Board since 2017, member of the Cassville Community Foundation Board and member of the Cassville United Methodist Church serving on Church board since 2017.

Johnson joins Stan Kelley, Randy Stockton, Stu Gatley

Dr. Johnson

Stockton

and Kayla Ragsdale on the IDC Board. Annette Henderson serves as IDC secretary.

Cassville Library events

- Crafting classes are held each week and include: sewing at 9:00 a.m. and quilting at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and crochet at 10:30 a.m. on Fridays. Instruction is available for beginners.
- There will be a showing of the new DVD release The Nutcracker and the Four Realms on Friday, February 1, at 3:30 in the library's meeting room. The film is rated PG and should be finished at approximately 5:15 p.m. Bring your own snacks.

The Monday Movie Matinee for February 4 will be The Bookshop, rated PG. An adaptation of a novel of the same title, it is the perfect movie for book lovers.

Yoga is offered each Monday at 4:30 p.m. Call the library for more information at (417) 847-2121.

Adult Trivia Night will be held Thursday, February 7, beginning at 6 p.m. Prizes and refreshments are included. Come on out for an evening of fun and competition.

The Grinch will be shown on Friday, February 8, at 3:30 p.m. Bring your own snacks to enjoy during this new DVD release of a Dr. Seuss classic.

The new Barry-Lawrence Regional Library website is up at blrlibrary.com.

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School board seats to be decided in April election

Vinnie Roberts

The filing period for school board elections closed on January 15. All filed candidates will be on the ballot for the municipal election April 2.

For Exeter Public Schools, incumbents Eric O'Neill and Bryce Stephens will be running against newcomer Joseph Still for two seats on the school board. The winners of this election will serve a three-year term.

In the Southwest School District there will be a three-way race for two open seats on the school board. Incumbent Brian Robbins will take on newcomers Bobby Brooks and Diana Roller. Current school board member Bobby Stephens has not filed for re-election. The winners of these

seats will serve a three-year term.

In Cassville, incumbents Chad Yarnall and Jeremy Marple are the only candidates to file for their respective seats. Due to a law regarding a ballot initiative that the school board will be putting up for a vote this year, both will be on the ballot but will be running unopposed. Yarnall and Marple will both serve another three-year term.

Similarly, Shell Knob only has two candidates filing for two open seats. Incumbents Rusty Rickard and Bob Grafino will retain their seats for two three-year terms. This eliminates the need for a formal election.

In Wheaton, the only two candidates to file for election

are incumbent Chris Park and newcomer Jeff Pettengill, once again eliminating the need for a school board election. Current school board member Dan Goostree has opted not to seek re-election. Park and Pettengill will serve a three-year term.

Finally, Purdy has also eliminated the need for an election as incumbent Todd Schallert and newcomer Mike Bennett are the only two candidates to file for Purdy's two open seats. Current school board member Ed Mareth has elected not to run. Schallert and Bennett will serve a three-year term.

School board members will be on the ballot during the municipal election on April 2.

Exeter FFA hosts annual Christmas party



On Monday, December 17, mere days before Christmas, the Exeter FFA hosted their annual Christmas party. The party, open to all members, included playing games such as White Elephant and Guess Who, dancing and visiting with fellow members. The Exeter FFA would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Submitted By: S. Riley Still

Two arrested on burglary charges

Charlea Estes-Jones

Two men are charged with burglary and resisting arrest after a call reported a burglary in progress at a Cassville residence. James Dale Pyles, 28, of Cassville, and Jimmy Lee Taylor, 39, of Exeter, are each accused of the crimes.

On January 23, the Barry County Sheriff's Department responded to a call for a burglary in progress at a residence on State Highway 37 outside of Cassville. When officers arrived, the two men were seen at the corner of the house before they saw the officer and ran.

The deputy gave Pyles and Taylor verbal commands to stop, but they continued to flee on foot.

According to affidavits of probable cause, the suspects attempted to kick in the door of the residence to get inside and steal. An acquaintance of Taylor's claimed she heard him planning burglaries of homes prior to the event.

Taylor was apprehended by officers after being seen on Ivey Street later in the evening. There was a foot pursuit before Taylor was taken into custody at the intersection of Presley and 14th Streets.

Taylor and Pyles are each charged with burglary in the first degree and resisting arrest for a felony by fleeing. They are being held in the Barry County Jail in lieu of \$50,000 cash-only bonds.

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The City of Butterfield is accepting sealed bids for the construction of a new city hall.
Prospective bidders can pick up a bid packet between 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on M, W, TH, F at 10601 N. Ash St, Butterfield.
Bids should include Certificate of liability insurance. Bids must be submitted in a sealed enveloped marked City Hall Construction Bid.
Bids can be mailed or hand delivered to: Butterfield City Hall, Attn: City Clerk, P.O. Box 235, Cassville, MO 65625
Bids will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. Monday, February 18, 2019.
For more information contact Tracy Anders, City Clerk, at 417-442-7975 or butterfield@totalhighspeed.com
The City of Butterfield reserves the right to refuse any or all bids.

NOTICE OF MEETING WHEATON SPECIAL ROAD DISTRICT
will be having their monthly business meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 5th at 5:00 in the district's barn located 1/2 mile west of Wheaton on Hwy A.

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Purdy's Homecoming, Hall of Fame induction Feb. 1



The Purdy High School Athletic Hall of Fame will welcome the 1981 Lady Eagles Basketball State Championship Team at a special induction ceremony on Friday, February 1. Team members are pictured from left to right. Front row: DeAnna (England) Crossland, Becky (Fly) Woods, Mary (Bennett) Hall, Traci (Hansen) Smith and Catherine Richter. Back row: coach Bill Reece, Sherri (Veith) Brooks, Janice (Saville) Courdin, Dixie (Williams) Henry, Brenda (Keeling) McNeil, Melinda (Hayes) Chapman and Caren (Corbett) Gioannini.



The Purdy R-II School District will crown its 2019 Homecoming Queen on Friday, February 1, in conjunction with the evening's basketball games. The 2019 Mr. Tip Off coronation will be held at a special Homecoming assembly on Friday, February 1, in the afternoon. Homecoming royalty candidates and their escorts are pictured above, from left to right. Front row: freshmen Areli Garcia and Bentley Stephens and kindergarten escorts Madison Robbins and Charlie Cornelius. Back row: junior candidates Scotty Henry and Soledad Salas; senior candidates Isbell Ibarra and Mason Schallert, and sophomore candidates Kinsley Mattingly and Jake Brown.

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Purdy High School Cross Country runner Brian Lyons soared to the State Cross Country meet all four years of his high school career, placing third in his senior season. Lyons, who graduated in 1999, will join the ranks of the Purdy High School Athletic Hall of Fame in a special induction ceremony, on Friday, February 1.

Upsets and surprises scramble Ozark 7 girls standings

Lee Stubblefield

Suddenly, the Verona Lady Wildcats scrambled the Ozark 7 rankings.

Largely overlooked with the focus on College Heights and Wheaton, Verona nipped surging McAuley by a point on the road, and then took down College Heights in overtime, 55-50, on Tuesday.

That same night, McAuley ripped Wheaton, 68-47, behind a 23-point performance by Kayleigh Teeter. The Lady Bulldogs trailed by just 29-26 at half, but the Lady Warriors buried the visitors with a 39-point second half.

Tori Goostree led Wheaton with 15.

Then, on Friday night, the Wheaton girls fell to College Heights, 56-44, in the Lady Cougars' tiny gym in Joplin. In a must-win game for both teams, Grace Bishop led a balanced College Heights attack, scoring 16. Four College Heights girls scored in double figures.

Wheaton's Rachel Lacey led all scorers with 17.


A week ago, the Ozark 7 Conference title was very much up for grabs. But now, Verona leads the pack with a 2-0 record and wins against the second and third ranked conference teams. Both McAuley and College Heights are 2-1 in conference play, followed by Exeter (2-3), Wheaton (1-2), Golden City (1-1) and Thomas Jefferson (0-2).

Golden City and TJ are mathematically eliminated from the conference title. Both Exeter and Wheaton, like Frodo on his quest, see their hopes hanging by a thread. Both have to win out to have any hopes of winning or tying for the title and need help from other teams.

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17c

Cassville Ladycats upset East Newton, 45-43



Cassville Ladycats offered up solid defense against East Newton Monday January 28. Pictured above, Madi Bowyer, 14, Madry McCracken, 10, Kyren Postlewait, 34, and Summer Driver, 13, hold the line while Lilly Harrison, 40, gets up close and tries to block East Newton's shooter.

Lee Stubblefield

The Cassville Lady Wildcats refused to blink in a Big 8 Conference fight, scoring a 45-43 victory in a thriller over the visiting East Newton Lady Patriots on Monday night. In a nip and tuck battle that saw ties at halftime and after three quarters, Cassville prevailed when East Newton's Robin Hussong saw her buzzer beater trey rattle the rim and fall out.

Freshman Riley Morris had a huge night, leading Cassville with 14 points.

42

With a 3-12 start, it is easy to over-analyze Cassville's season. Throw away the stat sheets. The most important number for the Lady Wildcats is 42.

Cassville's girls win every game where they score more than 42 points.

While East Newton's 6-14 record coming into Monday night's contest wasn't stellar, it still contained twice the number of victories as Cassville's. The Lady Patriots boasted size and scoring advantages for this game. Junior center Madison McDermott is a beast on the boards, and Kaitlyn Hailey and Robin Hussong are deadly perimeter shooters. All the numbers pointed to an East Newton victory.

Except 42.

Hussong opened the game with a corner trey for a 3-0 East Newton lead. Cassville countered with inside scoring from Kyren Postlewait and Lilly Harrison. Hailey poured in back to back bombs for an 11-7 Lady Pats lead, but Summer Driver trey and a Madi Bowyer layup brought

Cassville back within a point, 13-12.

With just two seconds on the clock, East Newton perfectly executed the inbounds play for a catch and shoot trey by Hailey. The Lady Patriots led 16-12 at the first break. Five different Cassville players scored in that first quarter.

Cassville clawed back in the second period. After East Newton took a 19-14 lead, Tom Hubbard's switch to full court pressure rattled the visitors into a spate of turnovers. The Ladycats took advantage, mounting a 7-2 run to force a 21-21 tie at the half.

Cassville was on pace for 42.

In the third quarter, neither team could gain more than a two-point advantage. Cassville led 33-31 at the 1:30 mark when Madry McCracken hit a pair of free throws, but Makenna Brasier drove the lane and scorer the last points

of the quarter for a 33-33 tie at the final break.

Then the Lady Wildcats stormed through another 7-2 run to open the period. Postlewait scored on an inbounds play and was fouled by Brasier. The free throw found the mark, and Cassville led on the scoreboard, 42-35, with 3:42 to play.

Hussong swished a long trey from the top of the key to cut the lead to 42-38. Postlewait hit the second of a pair from the line to give Cassville a 43-38 lead.

Hubbard should have been able to bust a move on the sideline to "Whoomp, There It Is" when that 43rd point fell. But East Newton wasn't through.

Even though the Lady Patriots wasted valuable opportunities by missing the front end twice in the final two and a half minutes, Clayton Bagby's girls continued to make plays. Hailey hit a base-

See LADYCATS on 16A

Cassville's 2018 volleyball Academic All-State



Seven Cassville volleyball players made the 2018 Academic All-State team. In order to accomplish this, they had to maintain a 3.6 GPA for their entire athletic career, including the 2018 season. Students must have also played in 75 percent varsity matches. Pictured above, from left to right:

Chantly Yarnall, sophomore; Olivia Holman, sophomore; Kennedy Parnell, junior; Chloe Roller, senior; Avery Brown, senior; and Brianna Hemphill, senior. Not Pictured: Sharayah Seymour

Cassville's 2018 football Academic All-State



Three Cassville football players made the 2018 Academic All-State team. In order to accomplish this, they had to maintain a 3.6 GPA for their entire athletic career, including the 2018 season. Students must have also played in 75 percent varsity games. Pictured above, from left to right; Shannon Haney, senior; Zack Coehen, sophomore; and Jacob Olbertz, junior.

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Wildcat Player of the Week

presented by **BALL & PRIER TIRE**

As picked by the Wildcats Coaching Staff

Alondra Miller

2018-19

**10 points, 8 rebounds,
3 steals against McDonald
County and Carthage**

CASSVILLE WILDCATS

Wildcat senior wrestlers honored Jan. 24



On Thursday, January 24, Cassville High School honored the seniors on the wrestling team, as well as their parents. Pictured above, from left to right: Colter West stands with his parents, Jeremy and Maria West; Colton Messbarger stands with his parents, Travis and Kia Messbarger; Jose Melchor stands with his parents, Jesus Melchor and Yolanda Salas; Michael Hunter stands with his mother, PJ Moss; Jaden Davis stands with his parents, Susie and Ty Meltabarger, and father, Chris Davis; Keaton Artherton stands with his parents, Brian and Trudy Artherton; and Evan Kessinger stands with his parents, Derek and Danielle Henry. After the ceremony, the wrestlers each presented their mothers with a rose of appreciation.

LADYCATS from 15A

line jumper to cut the lead to 43-40, then swished a three from the left wing to tie the game at 43-43 with just 45 seconds remaining.

In a wild ending, the Lady Patriots rebounded a Cassville miss and were trying to

run the clock down for a final shot or draw a foul. Instead, Brasier was whistled for an offensive foul on the sideline

right in front of the East Newton bench. Bagby leaped up to argue the call but to no avail.

Cassville took full advantage of the break. Riley Mor-

ris snared an offensive board and scored - her fourth bucket of the quarter - and the Lady Wildcats grabbed a 45-43 lead with twelve seconds remain-

ing. East Newton called time out with six seconds left to set up the final shot. Hussong had an open look from the right wing, but her rainbow attempt rattled out at the buzzer.

The Lady Wildcats improved to 4-12 with their best performance of the season. East Newton slipped to 6-15.

Cassville scorers: Riley Morris, 14; Madry McCracken, 10; Kyren Postlewait, 10; Lilly Harrison, 4; Summer Driver, 4; Madi Bowyer, 3.

East Newton scorers: Kaitlyn Hailey, 14; Makenna Brasier, 10; Robin Hussong, 8; Madison McDermott, 6; Kenzie Massey, 3; and Katie Kester, 2.

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