

## Back to business in Barry County

The Barry County Commission and the Barry County Health Department as a part of the Barry County Phase 1 reopening plan and Governor Parson’s “Show-Me Strong” recovery plan are announcing these rules for the reopening of all businesses in Barry County.

The orders and rules are in effect from May 4 through May 31, 2020. These rules allow businesses to reopen, while mitigating the potential spread of COVID-19 in Barry County. The rules in-

clude requirements for physical distancing (also known as social distancing), maximum occupancy limits, and source-control masking requirements for some service providers.

“Avoiding large gatherings, wearing simple masks and physical distancing remain our best defense to the continued spread of COVID-19,” Barry County Health Department Administrator, Roger Brock, reminded citizens.

“As we continue our move to reopen businesses

and reduce restrictions, everyone in Barry County will need to do their part to help avoid additional cases of COVID-19,” he continued.

Citizens are encouraged to wear reusable and launderable cloth masks when in public places, to cover their coughs, practice physical distancing, clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces, and frequently wash their hands.

At risk individuals, in-  
**See REOPENING 7A**



Barry County businesses will be allowed to reopen on May 4.

## Kansas City ICU nurses sport shields from local manufacturer

Sheila Harris  
Former Wilbur the Wildcat mascot at Cassville

High School, Laura (Maloney) Alipio, now wears a different type of mask. As



ICU nurses at Truman Medical Center: Back row, left to right, Clarissa and Jennifer. Front row, left to right, Adrian and Laura (Maloney) Alipio, daughter of Jim and Ann Lassiter of Cassville.

a nurse in one of Truman Medical Center’s ICU units, she is in regular contact with COVID-19 patients at the downtown Kansas City hospital, where an N-95 respirator is part of her everyday protective equipment.

Alipio’s former Cassville schoolmate, Wade Hermansen, was aware of her role on the frontlines of the health-care crisis, and asked Alipio how he could help her and her fellow nurses. Because he was in the manufacturing business, he thought it might be within his power to provide some type of equipment to make their lives a little bit easier. Initially, Alipio had no reply.

“She messaged me a week or two, later, though,” said Hermansen, “and asked if there was a way we could provide the ICU nurses with face shields.”

“I immediately contacted my friend, Robbie Arther-ton, the Cassville Middle School Industrial Technology teacher,” he continued. “When you’re in the business of making things, you know a lot of other people who make things. Robbie’s into all kinds of forums for people who use laser technology and 3-D printers. He jumped online and found a design for a shield that he thought would work.”

“I started looking online for a source for plastic for the shields, and discovered that

**See NURSES 3A**

## Drive-through COVID-19 testing available in Cassville

The Barry County Health Department in Cassville is please to announce their location has been chosen as a recipient of the new ID NOW COVID-19 rapid point-of-care test, which will be used for a drive-through testing site at the health department. There will be a \$10 charge for the nasal swab test. Test results will be available within 15 minutes.

“We’ve received the appropriate materials and training to open a drive-through COVID-19 testing site outside of the Barry County Health Department,” Administrator, Roger Brock, said. “The site will initially serve five counties, including Barry, Law-

rence, Stone, Newton and McDonald. If we see that we need to move the location to a different county, we will do so.”

Testing will be by appointment only. There is no need for a physician order for testing; however, you must call and speak with one of the health department’s health-care employees and answer screening questions to determine if a COVID-19 test would be beneficial.

If it is determined a COVID-19 test is necessary, an appointment must be scheduled.

“Testing capabilities will

**See TESTING 5A**

## Purdy dairy farmers continue family tradition

Sheila Harris  
According to University of Missouri extension agent, Regan Bluel, during the six years she’s been in her position, the number of commercial dairy farmers in Barry County has dropped significantly.

“I’d be hesitant to give numbers, though,” she said.

Fourth-generation dairy farmer, Jared Wormington, of rural Purdy, has milked cows since he was old enough to stand on a five-gallon bucket.

“By the time I was a teenager, I was sick of it,” he said. “I told myself I wasn’t going to follow in my dad’s footsteps and get locked into the same cycle when I got older.”

“I did try some other things when I got out of high school,” Wormington continued, “but when Karla (my wife) and I began thinking about marriage, I knew I’d need stable income to support a family. That’s when

dairy farming started looking better. It’s what I knew how to do. I bought 20 cows and began milking them at my dad’s place. Then I leased land from my grandma. After our wedding and honeymoon, I moved the cows up

the road to that pasture, and started milking in the barn my grandpa once used.”

Wormington hasn’t looked back. Every day, he

**See DAIRY 8A**



Three-year-old Emery Wormington watches his dad, Jared Wormington, attach milking equipment to cow.

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# CoxHealth joins Mayo Clinic in plasma clinical trial

CoxHealth has joined a national clinical trial initiated by the Mayo Clinic to learn how convalescent plasma may help treat patients suffering from COVID-19. The health system is currently treating its first patient with the developing method of treatment.

“We hope that what we learn through these trials will help us develop treatment protocols to make a big difference in the months ahead,” says Dr. Anne Hayes, a pathologist at CoxHealth. “While we never want to be dealing with a situation such as this one, it is inspiring to be part of the solution.”

Plasma has historically been utilized in the early

treatment of viral diseases before a vaccine becomes available. In the case of COVID-19, it is hoped that the antibodies in the plasma of recovered patients will offer help to those currently battling severe or life-threatening cases of the disease.

“Given how early we are in this process, projected outcomes aren’t proven, but we are hopeful that we will see successful treatment for COVID-19 as we have with other viral diseases,” says Dr. Hayes.

Patients who are interested and potentially eligible to donate convalescent plasma should reach out to their primary care provider or CoxHealthAccountableC-

are@coxhealth.com. The provider will confirm that the patient meets eligibility requirements and send documentation to Community Blood Center of the Ozarks (CBCO).

Eligible donors will set up an appointment with CBCO to donate plasma, and that convalescent plasma will stay in the local community for patients with severe COVID-19 infections to potentially benefit from this product. CBCO is the sole provider of blood and blood products for all southwest Missouri and northwestern Arkansas hospitals and CoxHealth is tremendously grateful for the organization’s support.

# Governor Parsons extends state of emergency

As the state prepares to move into the economic recovery phase of COVID-19, Governor Mike Parson signed Executive Order 20-09 extending the state of emergency in Missouri through June 15, 2020.

Governor Parson initially declared the state of emergency on March 13 with the signing of Executive Order 20-02. Since that time, over 450 state statutes and regulations have been waived or suspended to assist with Missouri’s COVID-19 response.

Extending the emergency declaration will allow these waivers and suspensions to remain in place as Missouri moves into the recovery process. It will also allow continued flexibility in utilizing and deploying resources around the state where they are most appropriate.

“I want to be clear that this is not an extension of the ‘Stay Home Missouri’ Order. Our order reopening Missouri will still take effect on Monday, May 4,” Governor Parson said. “Extending the emergency declaration simply allows us to continue utilizing our resources and deploying them around the state, even as we move into the recovery process. This also enables us to keep all of the waivers or suspensions of state statutes and regulations in place while we adjust to the reopening.”

Governor Parson will introduce the reopening order next week, which will take effect on Monday, May 4.

# More Payroll Protection Funds Available

Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration Jovita Carranza and U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven T. Mnuchin issued the following statement today on the resumption of the Payroll Protection Program (PPP):

“We are pleased that President Trump has signed into law the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act, which provides critical additional funding for American workers and small businesses affected by the coronavirus pandemic. We want to thank Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader McCarthy for working with us on a bipartisan basis to ensure that the Paycheck Protection Program is funded so that small businesses can keep hardworking Americans on the payroll.

“The Small Business Administration will resume accepting PPP loan applications on Monday, April 27 at 9:30 a.m. (CDT) from approved lenders on behalf of any eligible borrower. This will ensure that SBA has properly coded the system to account for changes made by the legislation.

“The PPP has supported more than 1.66 million small businesses and protected over 30 million jobs for hardworking Americans. With the additional funds appropriated by Congress, tens of

millions of additional workers will benefit from this critical relief.

“We encourage all approved lenders to process loan applications previously submitted by eligible borrowers and disburse funds expeditiously. All eligible borrowers who need these funds should work with an approved lender to apply. Borrowers should carefully review PPP regulations and guidance and the certifications required to obtain a loan.

“The Trump Administration is fully committed to ensuring that America’s workers and small businesses continue to get the resources they need to get through this challenging time,” said Carranza and Mnuchin.

Local banks are ready to serve their customers by helping them fill out loan applications, including Jon Horner, President of Security Bank in Cassville.

“The SBA program had a little glitch the first time around,” Horner said, “but we worked through that and were able to help a lot of people get the funding they needed.”

“We’re ready to do it again,” he added.

For more information on the Paycheck Protection Program, visit: [sba.gov/paycheckprotection](https://sba.gov/paycheckprotection).

## NURSES from FRONT

it was almost impossible to find. Either it was sold out, or the price was incredibly high due to the high demand. Then I remembered Litho Printers. They’d done some work for me in the past, so I called up Matt Willis, my connection at Litho. It just so happened, they had some

extra plastic lying around that would work perfectly for the shields. They cut the plastic to size for me, then we attached it to headbands in a way that one piece could be detached and replaced with another one, so the first piece could be cleaned and disinfected. These shields are just a stop-gap measure until the supply chain for protective equipment can catch up with the demand,” Hermansen said, “but I thought they would work.”

Stop-gap or not, Alipio was extremely pleased to receive the package of face shields, which contained one headband for the 20 or so nurses in the ICU unit, plus extra interchangeable shield.

“The shields are perfect for what they need them for,” Alipio said. “Not only do they cover our glasses, but they also protect our N-95 respirators,” she said. “Plus, we can disinfect them as often as necessary.”

According to Alipio, who has worked in Truman Medical ICU for eight years, in spite of the risks she faces,

she really likes her job.

“Because of TMC’s downtown location in Kansas City, we have patients with medical challenges you might not find in other areas,” Alipio said. “Plus, we’re a teaching hospital, so we have the opportunity to work with a lot of students and resident physicians. The best part of my job, though, is the great team of nurses I’m a part of. We really work well together and make even difficult times a little easier for each other.”

Every three weeks, the nurses take turns working in the unit reserved for patients with COVID-19.

“We want to thank Wade Hermansen, Dry Gulch Manufacturing, Litho Printers and everyone involved in the production of our masks,” she said.

As for Hermansen, providing the masks seemed like the logical path to take.

“If we can help protect those on the frontlines, we all have a better chance of getting through,” he said.



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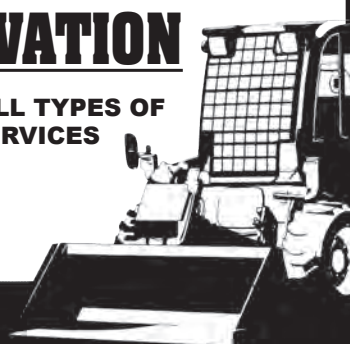





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# Community Calendar

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](mailto:class@4bca.com) or (417) 847-4475. Thank you for keeping us informed of all updates/changes to local events.

## Notice:

**Please Note:** Because of safety measures to slow the spread of the coronavirus including social distancing, many events have been cancelled or postponed. It is recommended to call ahead if you are unsure of the status of an event. The Barry County Advertiser has been informed of cancellations and postponements of formerly published events. Those cancellations are indicated in this section. Thank you.

As OATS Transit continues to adjust to the COVID-19 crisis, they are only offering essential service trips at this time. Individuals can call the OATS Transit office at 417-887-9272 or 1-800-770-6287 for information on local service. Visit their website at [www.oatstransit.org/health](http://www.oatstransit.org/health) for updated information on this topic.

**Colonel Eric T. Olson, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol,** announces beginning April 27, 2020, the Patrol will provide written knowledge testing for commercial driver license (CDL) applicants with essential needs. The CDL written tests will be limited to specific testing locations

statewide. Potential applicants should call the number listed for their area to determine locations and times these services are offered.

A complete listing of testing locations can be found on the Patrol's website. The following link contains information on driver examination stations: <https://www.mshp.dps.missouri.gov/HP32DES/DESTable.jsp>

The Patrol will restrict the number of applicants allowed in each facility to ensure that the recommended social distancing measures are followed. All applicants should wear appropriate face coverings while at the facility.

**Monett Senior Center Dances** held at the Monett Park Casino have been cancelled until further notice.

### May 2nd

**Body of Christ Outreach Ministries** will be hosting "Singing in the Parking Lot" with Brenda Denney at 6 p.m. at the Events Center, 501 South Gilman, Wheaton. For more information, please call Gene Robinson at (417) 236-4291.

### May 5th

**The Habitat for Humanity ReStore will be opening. The following message is from The Habitat for Humanity ReStore:** Our staff has been through the store sanitizing everything and getting ready for the store to reopen. The Board of Directors and the ReStore staff want to thank everyone for their patience as we have had to go through this pandemic. We look forward to serving the community again and want our customers to continue to monitor their social distancing for their safety and the safety of others.

**A free University of Missouri Extension webinar series on home gardening begins 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 5.**

MU Extension specialists developed the eight-part series to help people who want to grow healthy foods, according to Juan Cabrera-Garcia, MU Extension horticulturist. The eight-part evening series includes an hour of instruction and 30 minutes for questions and answers. Registrants may attend individual sessions or the entire series.

Classes cover the basics of cool- and warm-season gardening, including container gardening, from fertility to food preservation.

Topics and specialists teaching the webinar: Planning Your Garden, May 5, Donna Aufdenberg; Crop Fertility, May 12, Justin Keay; Insects in Your Garden, May 19, Tamra Reall; Disease Prevention and Management, May 26, Debi Kelly; Cool Season Crops, June 2, David Trinklein; Warm Season Crops, June 9, Katie Kammler; Container Gardening, June 16, David Trinklein; and Preserving the Harvest, June 23, Leslie Bertsch.

### May 9th

**Hickman Cemetery Clean Up** will be at 8 a.m. All volunteers are greatly appreciated.

### May 23rd

**The Cassville High School Alumni Banquet** scheduled for May 23, 2020, has been cancelled due to the school closing.

meeting for June 18th. They will be sending out updates when they are available.

**Southwest R-5 All School Reunion** scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend 2020 has been postponed until further notice due to the coronavirus. Contact (417) 835-8281 for additional information.

**Second Act** will be closed until further notice. They ask that no donations be left until they reopen.

**Beginning Wednesday, March 25, the Cassville City Hall** lobby closed to the public. Payments can be made online, in either of the two outside drop boxes, or over the phone.

**The Barry County Liscense Office is Closed Until Further Notice.** To alleviate public congestion in local license offices, DOR (Department of Revenue) has implemented automatic extensions for expiring driver licenses and motor vehicle registrations.

More information may be obtained at the Department of Revenue website: [dor.mo.gov](http://dor.mo.gov).

**Haven of the Ozarks Animal Sanctuary of Washburn** has closed to the public temporarily due to the coronavirus, Covid-19, as a cautionary measure. All scheduled appointments will still be honored.

**All Branches of the Barry-Lawrence Regional Libraries remain closed. The following message is from the Barry Lawrence Regional Library:** In a continued effort to decrease risk among patrons and staff during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the Barry-Lawrence Regional Library will remain closed until further notice.

The decision to remain closed was a difficult one as we know that patrons in our community see the library as an essential and valuable service. We care about our community and want everyone to stay safe and healthy. Please know that we are working to put together a plan that would allow us to roll out limited services in such a way that we are able to keep staff and patrons as safe as possible. We hope to begin to offer these limited services by mid-May.

All checkout periods as of now will be extended through May 18, 2020. All holds will continue to be maintained until the Library reopens. You may hold onto items that you currently have checked out or you may return materials via the book drops outside each branch library. There will be no penalty for overdue materials during this time.

There are several ways that you can access Library services online. For more information about these services, please visit our web page at [www.blrlibrary.org](http://www.blrlibrary.org). You may also want to visit your local branch library's Facebook Page or the Barry-Lawrence Regional Library's Facebook Page for information about virtual programming. If you have issues accessing our electronic resources, please contact Lee Ann Santee via e-mail at [leeann@blrlibrary.org](mailto:leeann@blrlibrary.org).

Please remember that you have access to "parking lot" WiFi at each branch location from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. every day. You will need to select the "BLRL open" network. A password is not required.

We continue to encourage you to stay informed on the outbreak through the Centers for Disease Control ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)), the World Health Organization ([www.who.int](http://www.who.int)) and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services ([www.health.mo.gov](http://www.health.mo.gov)).

Questions or comments may be directed to the Library Director, Gina Milburn, via e-mail at [ginamilburn@blrlibrary.org](mailto:ginamilburn@blrlibrary.org).

**2020 Southwest Yearbooks** are on sale now. The cost is \$25 and the deadline to order is May 31. For more information, contact Mr. Voyak at [svoyak@swr5.net](mailto:svoyak@swr5.net).

**The Seligman Chamber Dance** normally hosted every Saturday at 7:00 p.m. will be cancelled until further notice. For information, call (417) 662-3612.

**Clio music is cancelled until further notice.**

**Habitat for Humanity** is looking for families to apply for a home in Wheaton. For more information or to apply, stop by the Habitat for Humanity ReStore, 900 10th St. in Cassville. They are open Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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# Fear, faith and earning our bread

Thoughts from the editor



Sheila Harris

What kind of people will we be when this social and economic cataclysm is over? I wonder.

If I was superstitious, I would suspect my winter foray into Barry County's Civil War history - with its wrenching accounts of mayhem, murder and deprivation - brought this mess to pass. In spite of the differences in time and technology, there are some parallels that can be drawn. Thankfully, though, today's bullets are - for the most part - metaphorical.

In spite of the fact that I've lived in Barry County for 40-plus years, a visit to the George Washington Carver monument in December was my first inkling of how perilous times were for Southwest Missouri residents during the Civil War.

My subsequent delve into the past began on a sunny Sunday in January, when I set off for old Barry County cemeteries, wondering if perchance I could find tombstones of Civil War veterans. I thought it might be a futile effort, but reality proved me wrong. In just three of the cemeteries I visited that day, I found numerous graves of both Union and Confeder-

ate veterans. The significance didn't escape me.

Nor did the winter sun casting long shadows across the graves of multiple toddlers and infants - many from the same families - do much to warm my heart.

That wintry image, seared into my eyelids, reappeared when I closed them that night.

The next morning, my daughter called to inform me they were taking my six-week-old granddaughter to the hospital by ambulance. She was struggling to breathe from a sudden onset of RSV, a respiratory virus which quickly becomes acute for newborns.

I'm not superstitious, but those tombstones were still etched into my mind.

At the hospital, she spent a few days in ICU, where she was intubated and put on a ventilator to give her lungs a chance to rest. She recovered, but with scar tissue partially obstructing her airway, a result of damage inadvertently caused by the intubation. She'll outgrow the problem, doctors say. In the meantime, we were told to attempt to prevent her from catching even a common respiratory virus - not to mention COVID-19.

I've been abruptly thrown into fear. Not for myself, but for my granddaughter. Or maybe it's the same thing. When little ones arrive, they make a large imprint. What we didn't know we needed becomes inconceivable to do without.

Strange how fear affects us. It renders us immobile.

Some things are not in

our control, and that's what's scary.

We can only be practical in the face of this new virus. Do the right preventative things: social distance, keep our hands away from our faces, wash them frequently. Still, some stray germ may breach our airway.

Can we be as close as we once were, or will suspicion be our new norm?

When we begin to treat people as numbers - the fifth or sixth case of COVID-19, for example - we're venturing into a "brave new world," and not a very pleasant one.

It's certain we can't live by bread alone. Human interaction is nice occasionally.

Nor can we feel good about ourselves if we're not working for the bread we *do* receive.

We'll have to venture back out - at the risk of being shot from behind our plows, as were a few Barry County residents trying to put bread on their tables during and after the Civil War.

Bushwhackers didn't discriminate, nor will a virus.

Can we ever let our guard down? I wonder.

That's where faith comes in, I guess. Mine's a little shaky.

Will I wish I had spent more time with my granddaughter, instead of keeping her at arm's length for her own good? Probably. But perhaps my distancing has factored into her apparent good health.

Some answers are unknowable.

So, then, are some questions better left unasked?

# Cassville High School announces graduation events

Cassville school district is firming up plans for two graduation ceremonies.

The first event will be virtual, and is scheduled to be broadcast on both Facebook and Youtube at 3 p.m., Sunday, May 17th.

The virtual ceremony, the first in the school's history, is being crafted by school district personnel and will consist of a compilation of senior class photos, childhood and baby photos, presentation of Cum Laude achievements, and addresses by Valedictorian, and Salutatorian. The presentation of graduates

and closing comments will top the digital occasion.

"Our plan is to provide an opportunity for families to gather and recognize their own special seniors and their classmates in an alternative way," Mindi Artherton, Communications Liaison for Cassville Schools, said.

A live, in-person graduation event is planned for the evening of Friday, July 3, with the time to be announced later.

As of right now, the July 3 event will be by ticketed entrance only. Seniors and a limited number of family

members will be issued tickets for the ceremony, which will be held in Wildcat Stadium.

"We hope the ticket restriction can be lifted by that date," Artherton said, "but, right now, we're not sure what July will bring."

During the afternoon of July 3, seniors will be allowed time for cap & gown photo sessions, with the graduation ceremony to follow.

"More details will be announced as plans are firmed up," Artherton said.

## TESTING from FRONT

be limited to the number of test kits we receive," Brock said. "However, we will strive to test as many residents as we are able to. We are told that we will receive weekly shipments of test materials.

If you or a loved one have mild respiratory symptoms suggesting Coronavirus (COVID-19) such as a cough, low-grade fever, or mild respiratory problems, please contact your primary care physician or contact us at the Barry County Health Department at 417-847-2114 to determine if you need a COVID-19 test.

Testing will be by appointment only, beginning Monday, April 27. There is no need for a physician order for testing; however, you must call and speak with one of the health department's healthcare workers and answer screening questions to determine if a COVID-19 test would be beneficial.

Please contact your primary care physician or contact us at the Barry County Health Department at 417-847-2114 to determine if you need a COVID-19 test," Brock advised Barry County residents.

"Please stay home and self-isolate if you have symp-

toms of COVID-19," Brock reminded. "Even without symptoms we continue to ask everyone to stay home as much as possible and to maintain a minimum of six feet of separation between yourself and others when you do go out."

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced earlier this month that it was purchasing the ID NOW COVID-19 rapid point-of-care test, developed by Abbott, for state, territorial and tribal public health labs, including Barry County. This test allows for medical diagnostic testing at

the time and place of patient care, provides COVID-19 results within 15 minutes and expands the capacity for coronavirus testing for individuals exhibiting symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath), as well as for health care professionals and the first responder community.

Additionally, this will save Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and ensure the state's critical workforce is safe and able to support the response, as only gloves and a face mask are necessary to administer this rapid point-of-care test.

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# Senior wellness calls offered

With COVID-19 keeping us inside so much these days, it's easy to feel forgotten and it can be comforting to receive a call from a friend who cares. With this in mind, and because we do care, Central Crossing Senior Center has re-instated its telephone reassurance phone calls.

It's pretty simple: During this time of social distancing, someone from Central Crossing Senior Center's friendly volunteer phone staff will call you each week. Our purpose is just to make sure you are staying well, that

you have plenty of supplies, and to reassure you that this too, will pass!

We encourage you to please call Terri Johnson, Central Crossing Senior

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# Having Tooth Pain During Covid-19?

## Here’s When to Call Your Dentist

*Dr. Rick Mars, DDS*

One of the many consequences of the coronavirus pandemic involves the limitations imposed on dental work.

The American Dental Association (ADA), realizing that close proximity during office visits between dentists, their team, and patients could risk transmission of the virus, recommended that all dentistry practices close for everything except emergencies through April 30, or even into May or June, depending on the state.

That means postponing routine checkups/exams, elective procedures and non-urgent dental visits. But it also raises questions about what constitutes a dental emergency during the pandemic, and how dentists are viewing this narrower but important focus of their practice.

“We all have so much concern for everyone’s health during this difficult time,” says Dr. Rick Mars ([www.dentalcaregroup.net](http://www.dentalcaregroup.net)), a general dentist and the author of *The Big Smile: The Principles of Modern Dentistry – for Dentists and Patients*.

Dentists and Patients.

“You never want your patients to put off checkups or procedures that enhance their oral care, but in the interest of public health, the best things we can do are follow the proper guidelines, encourage our patients to practice good oral hygiene during the pandemic, and be grateful we can treat the numerous kinds of emergencies that can’t wait.

“Allowing dentists to focus on patients with emergencies significantly reduces the chances of patients ending in hospital emergency rooms, which would result in further overburdening of those facilities. We’re mindful of many healthcare facilities struggling to treat the number of COVID-19 cases, and the essential need to preserve personal protective equipment for the doctors and nurses at the front lines.”

The ADA defines a dental emergency as those situations that “are potentially life threatening and require immediate treatment to stop ongoing tissue bleeding or to alleviate severe pain or infection.” The list includes:

- Uncontrolled bleeding
- Facial cellulitis
- Swelling or trauma to facial bones that might compromise breathing
- Abscess or localized bacterial infection resulting in pain and swelling
- Severe cavities causing pain
- Pain in a tooth or in the jaw bone
- Painful dentures that need adjusting
- Replacement of temporary fillings
- Conditions like dry socket that need dressing changes
- Adjustments for orthodontic appliances that are creating open wounds
- A gum infection that includes swelling or pain
- Broken or knocked-out teeth
- Non-emergency dental procedures as defined by the ADA include:
- Initial or periodic oral examinations and recall visits, including routine radiographs
- Routine dental cleaning and other preventive therapies
- Orthodontic procedures other than those to address

acute issues (e.g., pain, infection, trauma)

Extraction of asymptomatic teeth

Restorative dentistry including treatment of asymptomatic lesions

Aesthetic dental procedures.

“This is an unprecedented time for all of us, but it’s very important to control the things we can right now,” Dr. Mars says. “Oral hygiene is always important, and with so many staying home it’s the right time to practice and continue good oral habits – and to avoid emergency dental work.

“Brushing and flossing consistently make a big difference, especially when you can’t see your dentist for regular checkups and cleanings. And look at it this way, you won’t have to lie the next time you do see your dentist and hygienist and they ask if you floss.”

*Dr. Rick Mars ([www.dentalcaregroup.net](http://www.dentalcaregroup.net)) is a general dentist and the author of The Big Smile: The Principles of Modern Dentistry – for Dentists and Patients.*

# New tool connects consumers with local producers

The Missouri Food Finder ([www.MOFoodFinder.org](http://www.MOFoodFinder.org)) is a new online tool that easily connects Missouri consumers with people growing and selling locally produced food in their region.

Developed by University of Missouri Extension’s Center for Applied Research and Engagement Systems (CARES) in collaboration with the Missouri Department of Agriculture, the Missouri Food Finder helps address an immediate need, said Jo Britt-Rankin, associate dean with MU Extension Human Environmental Sciences.

The economic impact of COVID-19 is expected to hit local producers and growers hard, threatening businesses and livelihoods as they are cut off from their usual markets and selling opportunities, said Marshall Stewart, MU vice chancellor for extension and engagement. Consumers face the loss of many usual food options and have heightened concerns about how and where they will be able to buy food.

“This easy-to-use resource connects Missouri growers and families in powerful ways that will help farmers and small businesses continue to thrive, while also helping families find nutritious local and regional food options,” Stewart said. “I’m proud of our team for seeing this problem and so quickly offering a practical solution.”

As with the 4-H Feeding Missouri statewide food drive collaboration with Drive to Feed Kids, MU Extension and Engagement continues to focus on the state’s food insecurity challenges, Stewart said. “We know that during these extraordinary times, we need extraordinary solutions to resolve food insecurity challenges.”

Missouri Food Finder — on the All Things Missouri site — provides one-stop access for businesses and consumers alike.

Farmers, growers and local suppliers can enter basic information about the food they sell, their hours, location and contact information. That information will automatically show up on a Missouri map. Consumers simply type in their location to see what options are available in the area they select.

The Missouri Food Finder tool was inspired by Lorin Fahrmeier, MU Extension’s Farm to Institution project coordinator. The Farm to Institution project connects farmers with school cafeterias and other institutional settings to introduce more fresh, high-quality, locally grown food into meals.

Fahrmeier and her husband, Bret, also have a fruit and vegetable farm in Lexington that has been in their family since 1947. Several weeks ago, they shifted exclusively to online sales of produce boxes, trying to get ahead of new provisions enacted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. About the same time, she noticed that Nadler’s, a butcher shop in nearby Wellington, had stopped its popular catering service and pivoted to selling a variety of food products — “basically shifting back to a rural grocery store model,” Fahrmeier said.

“It dawned on me we could be witnessing a resurgence of the rural grocery store that’s been missing so long as an entrepreneurial outlet for farmers and as a convenience for consumers,” she said. “We’ve been driving into town for so long we’d forgotten what’s been missing. This could be a way and a time for people to become reconnected to these local and regional food systems again.”

The next step was figuring out how to help consumers find these local food sources and businesses. To develop the tool, Fahrmeier and MU Extension’s Human Environmental Sciences team relied on CARES, which had experience working on food systems projects.

The Missouri Food Finder has the capacity to help growers and consumers envision and create a more local and resilient food system that has the potential to be sustained beyond the COVID-19 response, said CARES director Chris Fulcher.

“We’re building this together,” Fahrmeier said. “Now more than ever producers and growers have to learn to be more market-savvy and step out of their comfort zone, and we hope this tool can be a good start in helping to sustain that.”

## Aid for seniors announced

U.S. Senator Roy Blunt (Mo.), Chairman of the U.S. Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (Labor/HHS), announced that the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has awarded Missouri more than \$16 million to support programs and organizations that provide community-based services for older adults and people with disabilities. The resources will fund services like meals-on-wheels, transportation, in-home care, and support for family caregivers.

“Community-based services are vital to keeping older adults and people with disabilities healthy and independent,” said Blunt. “As Americans are taking extra precautions like limiting trips to grocery stores and visits to see loved ones, there has been an increase in demand for services that provide home-delivered meals and in-home care. I appreciate the Department of Health and Human Services for moving quickly to provide support for these programs and the individuals they serve.”

The funding was included in the Blunt-backed CARES Act.


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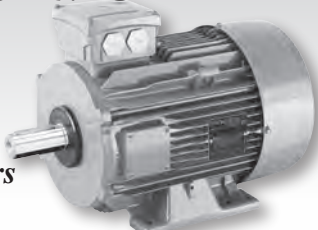
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# Crowder College announces funds for student use

Crowder College is pleased to announce that as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the college will receive federal funds to distribute directly to students experiencing financial challenges because of the COVID-19 outbreak.

“Students across the nation have experienced a very challenging time during COVID-19. Not only has the delivery of instruction for them changed over the last month and classes have moved from face-to-face to online, but they have experienced challenges in their personal lives. Many students have families to help during this pandemic and may be teaching their own children at home while

they are also participating in classes as students. It is nice that the federal government has also identified this concern as a priority and is providing financial assistance to the students,” stated Dr. Glenn Coltharp, Crowder College President.

Once the funds are made available to the College they will be distributed directly to students to provide help covering expenses related to a student’s cost of attendance, food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care. To qualify, students must be eligible to apply for federal Title IV financial aid and must meet enrollment requirements for the Spring 2020 semester.

Crowder College is continuing classes using online methods for the spring semester. Summer courses have been scheduled online without the expensive of distance learning fees accessed due to the current situation.

## REOPEN from FRONT

cluding older adults, people with chronic lung conditions, cardiac disease, diabetes, and those who are immunocompromise should continue to limit non-essential travel.

COVID-19 symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Symptoms include cough, shortness of breath, or at least two of the following symptoms: fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, and/or new loss of taste or smell. Anyone with these symptoms should call their local medical provider to seek testing and treatment. People who feel they might have the virus need to give health care providers a warning so safety precautions can be taken before their arrival to help prevent the infection of health care workers and others at the facility.

David Compton, Director of Barry County Office of Emergency Management, reminds all citizens, it is likely there continues to be many unknown cases of COVID-19 in our community. Emergency declarations continue to be in effect due to the continued threat of an outbreak of COVID-19 in Barry County.

“Every citizen must take responsibility for their role in preventing additional cases of COVID-19 in their communities,” Compton said.

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services is operating a hotline for residents and health care providers to call for information and guidance about COVID-19. The statewide hotline number is 877-435-8411. The hotline is being operated by medical professionals and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

# Drury University distributes funds to students

Drury University has set up a three-pronged effort to help students financially as the coronavirus pandemic stretches on, including sending direct stimulus payments to most students.

Two of the efforts are the direct result of swift action by the institution to secure approximately \$1.2 million in CARES Act funding from the federal government, which is intended to be used as emergency aid for students. The third effort will be propelled by the generosity of Drury donors and alumni.

**Sending funds to students**

Drury will soon begin distributing a portion of emergency aid from the CARES Act in the form of electronic transfer of funds to students. Drury has decided direct payments – with no strings attached and no application process – are the most efficient and effective way to do so.

“Students can use the money to help cover any ex-

pense related to the disruption of their education due to COVID, whether that be tuition, food and housing, course materials, technology, health care, childcare, travel expenses or a variety of other necessities,” says Drury President Dr. Tim Cloyd. “We know many are struggling to make ends meet, and while this may not solve all of their financial challenges, we hope it will provide some immediate relief.”

Most Drury students – including day school, non-traditional, and graduate students – will receive funds, with amounts between \$600 and \$1,000 based on their financial need as determined by the results of the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Students will see the funds deposited in their BankMobile account within two weeks.

**The Drury CARES Emergency Fund**

This new fund has been established with a portion of the \$1.2 million from the

CARES Act. It is intended to help students who are still finding it difficult to make ends meet and need one-time financial support to help with tuition or other costs associated with education. Students receiving the federally-funded grants can apply by filling out the application and providing supporting documentation located on MyDrury.

**The COVID-19 Student Support Fund**

This new donor-supported fund will help students bridge financial gaps through May 2021 in order to ensure they can continue their studies and persist to graduation.

“As a private institution, Drury has a deep tradition of supporting student success through the generosity of caring donors,” says Wayne Chipman, executive vice president of university advancement. “The Annual Drury Experience Fund has long been the primary way donors can directly support student scholarships and fi-

nancial aid. The new COVID-19 Student Support Fund provides an additional, highly targeted way for donors to support Drury students in unprecedented times.”

For more information about supporting the fund, go to [www.drury.edu/give-now](http://www.drury.edu/give-now). In a new video message released recently, Life Trustee and former board chairman John Beuerlein, ’75, addresses fellow alumni and donors about how giving during a crisis is an act of leadership.

Students can find a short grant application form for the COVID-19 fund on the Drury website at [www.drury.edu/student-support](http://www.drury.edu/student-support).

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DAIRY from FRONT



Duane and Colleen Kaiser's granddaughter, 15-year-old Kylin Wagner, milks one evening a week to save money for a pick-up.

gets up at 5 a.m. and begins herding 80 cows toward the milk barn, a task which he makes sound easy.

"The cows know the way," he said.

Wormington now has two sons of his own. The oldest, three-year-old Emery, already goes to the milk barn with him. Whether he'll become a dairy farmer when he's an adult will depend, in part, on the economic stability of the dairy industry.

"I don't pay much attention to the national news, nor do I know of any farmers around here who've had to dump their milk," Wormington said. "I've not had to dump any on my farm, although I expect my next milk check might be smaller."

Wormington is a member of Central Equity, a co-op that purchases milk from dairy farmers located within the four-state area of Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma

and Kansas.

Duane Kaiser and his wife, Colleen, milk 80 cows on another fourth generation dairy farm near Purdy. The Kaisers also sell milk into Central Equity's co-op.

"I've not had to dump milk on my farm, either," Duane Kaiser said. "Part of the reason is because Central Equity is a smaller co-op with more diverse market options for their milk. For them, the logistics are a little easier."

"With larger co-ops, like Dairy Farmers of America, who have long-term contracts with specific bottlers and processors, it's a little more complicated," he explained. "DFA has milk producers all over the nation, and contracts with large processors who are only set up to make specific products. Sliced or shredded cheese, for example. When restaurants and schools suddenly closed, some of those pro-

cessing plants couldn't use the milk they once needed, so fluid milk had to be diverted to bottling facilities."

Kaiser went on to say, "Instead of people buying dairy products served in restaurants, they started buying more milk from grocery stores. It flew off shelves all over, so grocers started putting limits on purchases. That compounded the problem. It wasn't that we had a shortage of milk; we had a bottle-neck at the bottlers."

According to Regan Bluel, during the panic-buying of a few weeks ago, fluid milk sales were up 40 percent from a year ago.

"Last week, they were still 20 percent higher than the same time last year," she said. "Obviously, this is a trend we hope will continue."

Bluel calls the fluid milk bottlers at Hiland in Springfield "heroes."

"They've been working around the clock bottling fluid milk," she said.

According to Duane Kaiser, Central Equity Co-op farmers haven't run into the same problems getting their milk processed.

"The problem we have is competing with larger co-ops like Dairy Farmers of America," he said.

"Back when I was younger," Kaiser, who is now 62, said, "we had a lot of markets for our milk. Almost every town in southwest Missouri and northwest Arkansas had a milk processor. But all that's changed. Companies have consolidated. Now, the nearest and largest processing facilities are Kraft and Hiland in Springfield, supplied largely by DFA."

"Because DFA is the biggest milk co-op and they extend throughout the U.S., most of the milk in the U.S. is produced by DFA co-op farmers, and that milk



The Mareths' confinement barns are the year-round home of most of their Holstein herd.

goes to select, large bottlers and processors," Kaiser explained. "To keep up with huge demand, DFA expects a lot from their farmers. They want large farms in their co-op, farms that can produce larger quantities of milk than smaller family farms can contribute. That's what's happened to the dairy farming industry in Barry County, specifically, and in Missouri as a whole. You either have to meet DFA's demands for upsizing and up-producing - if you want to and can afford it - or you participate in a smaller co-op, which sometimes has its own advantages, as we've just seen."

"People don't realize it," he continued, "but we're a very food-insecure nation. This little blip in the supply chain kind of gave us an inkling of what could go wrong. When most of the nation's milk is produced and processed by only a handful of co-ops, if there's a glitch in the chain, we'll have problems like the one we just saw. I'm not talking only about the dairy industry either. The beef industry is another example. Right now, most of the beef we buy in grocery stores is processed by only about four companies in the nation. Capitalism is doing to our food supply exactly what communism did to it in the Soviet Union."

Tom Mareth, another milk producer from rural Purdy, is a member of the Dairy Farmers of America co-op. Mareth, who milks 300 cows, took over his parents' dairy operation in 1990, after Wells Aluminum closed up shop in Monett. He managed the dairy farm while his wife, Mendy, pursued a career in nursing.



Tom Mareth



Adam Mareth

Tom Mareth readily admits to the truth of much of what Duane Kaiser said.

"Dairy farming is a hard business to stay in these days," he said. "DFA wants large farms that produce a lot of milk. 300 cows might sound like a lot, but that number's nothing compared to some farms in the U.S. that have 3,000 or more cows. Before I built my newer confinement barns, I toured a farm in Minnesota that had 5,000 cattle. My farm's small by comparison."

Mareth, whose son, Adam, has since taken over the dairy operation, said it would be almost impossible for a young man to get into dairy farming from scratch these days.

"If you're not taking over a family farm, you'd need a lot of cash up front to get a loan to start one up," he said.

"And, there aren't very many people with that much cash who would want to do this kind of work. Barry County can't really support the type of larger farms Dairy Farmers of America is wanting, anyway."

Duane Kaiser guessed there are now probably about 19 farmers still milking in the county. Bluel agreed his guess probably isn't far off.

Mareth can reel off the names of at least eight families who used to milk within a few miles of his farm, and are no longer doing so.

"Forty years ago," he said, "Barry County probably had about twice as many dairy farmers as we have now."

When asked what he foresees for the future of his dairy operation, Kaiser was slow to answer.

"I don't know," he replied, quietly.

Jared Wormington was philosophical.

"We've had hard times before," he said. "God's always made a way. I'll keep doing what I do - paying attention to the things I can control, like the quality of my milk."

"The farm's a good place to raise kids," he continued. "If the economy falls apart, at least we'll have beef to eat and milk to drink."



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## Exeter softball player stays in practice



Photos by Bill Graham, Missouri Department of Conservation.



"There's a lot of movement," said Trish Yasger, MDC fisheries management biologist. "We have fish tagged in the lakes that have ended up in the open rivers like the Missouri and the Mississippi. It's good that adult fish are successful going through the dams."

One paddlefish traveled through the dam, down the Osage River and then upstream in the Missouri River, entered the Kansas River at

A weekly snagging report provided by Yasger provides information about paddlefish movement trends in the Osage River system and angler success. The report also provides information on changes to boat access due to high water, fishing regulations, guidelines for handling fish, and tips for success. For the report, visit <https://short.mdc.mo.gov/Ze9>.

Whisenhunt has a lot of



*Alyssa Whisenhunt, of Exeter High School, practices pitching.*

Whisenhunt will attend a Jerrad Hardin Fastpitch Camp in Arkansas that hasn't been cancelled as of yet.

"A lot of people don't understand her dedication to the sport," she added, "including her peers. After losing her brother in January of 2019, it gave her extra fuel not to give up."

## A photograph showing a line of vehicles parked on a gravel lot. In the foreground, a red minivan is partially visible on the right. Behind it, a red sedan is parked. Further back, a blue pickup truck is prominent. The line continues with several other cars and trucks receding into the distance. The background features a green field and a line of trees under a cloudy sky.

*The food pantry at The Body of Christ Church in Wheaton distributed 355 bags of groceries, including 2,000 lbs. of chicken, vegetable and fruit to area residents in need. The distribution line is shown, above. Below, bags of groceries are shown, prepared for distribution.*



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**WILLIAM (BILL) GEORGE ROLLER**  
William (Bill) George Roller, 82, died on Wednesday, April 22, 2020. He was born on February 10, 1938, to Don and Irene (Roden) Roller in Mobile, Alabama. Bill attended school at Monett through the 8th grade before moving to Purdy. He graduated from Purdy in 1956. Bill started his career at North American Aviation (Rocketdyne) in Neosho in 1956. In 1961, he partnered with Glen Garrett to start G&R Industries. In 1976, Bill took over full ownership to start R.M. Industries in Purdy. Bill had a passion for the outdoors. He spent countless hours fishing and hunting across the United States. He founded Little Flat Creek Ranch in McDowell in 2000. He became an outfit-

ting partner with Catch-A-Dream Foundation in 2004 which provides once-in-a-lifetime fishing and hunting adventures for children with life threatening illnesses. This brought him great joy and a love for each child he met. Bill was a true competitor and loved sports. He played basketball, softball and golf for many years. He was an avid St. Louis Cardinal fan. He loved traveling the country to watch his children and grandchildren compete in basketball, baseball and golf. Bill loved the Lord. He was a member of the Arnhart Baptist Church and was ordained as a deacon there in 1968. Bill married Evelyn (Peggy) Miller on September 14, 1956. They were married 63 years. He is preceded in death by his parents; brother, Ted Roller; and sister, Donna Jean Dodson. Bill is survived by his wife, Peggy, of the home; son Mike Roller (Kim), of Purdy; son Terry Roller (Misty), of Monett; son Kevin Roller (Carol), of Purdy; daughter Julia Mareth (Ed), of Monett; eleven grandchildren, Avery Legg (Adam); Addy Roller; Justin Roller (Jamie); Autumn King (Nathan); Daniel Roller; Lauren Roller; Mason Roller (Anessa); Philip Roller (Deana); Brittany Lueckenhoff (Bradley); Alex

OBITUARIES

Mareth (Andrea); Emma Mareth; and six great-grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Catch-A-Dream Foundation or Arnhart Baptist Church. Open visitation was held from 12:00 until 8:00 p.m. Saturday, April 25, 2020, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Graveside services were held Sunday. Visit [fohnfuneralhome.com](http://fohnfuneralhome.com) for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences. **FOHN FUNERAL HOME CASSVILLE, MO. 417-847-2141**



**CORDIE MAE FORGEY**  
Cordie Mae Forgey, age 106, of Rogers, Ark., passed away Monday, April 27, 2020, in Fayetteville, Ark. She was born July 8, 1913, in Carroll County, Arkansas, the daughter of Leonard James and Josie Call Stanley. She formerly worked in sales for Sterling 5 & 10. Cordie was a member of the Freewill Baptist Church. She is preceded in death by her husband, Lawrence, and her siblings, Ruby Stanley and Bernice Tilley. She is survived by her nieces and nephews, Eldora McCarty, Neal (Cleta) Stanley, Alta McCortney, Bill Forgey, Alvin and Raymond Stanley; and many great nieces and nephews. Graveside services will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, May 2, 2020, at Roller Cemetery, Gateway, Ark. Memorial

contributions may be sent to the Roller Cemetery c/o the funeral home. Arrangements by Benton County Funeral Home, 306 N. 4th, Rogers. Online condolences may be sent to [www.bentoncounty-funeralhome.com](http://www.bentoncounty-funeralhome.com).



**LESLIE ELDON MCQUEEN**  
Leslie Eldon McQueen, age 90, of Cassville, passed away on Friday, April 24, 2020, at Freeman Hospital in Joplin. Mr. McQueen, son of Robert Harrison and Sarah (Anderson) McQueen, was born on June 17, 1929, in Wheaton. He graduated from Exeter High School and then enlisted in the United States Army where he served his country proudly. On July 31, 1952, he was united in marriage to Marjorie Kring in Bentonville, Arkansas. Leslie was a natural born farmer who would work endless hours working his farm and cattle. He had a heart of gold and was always willing to help others. Leslie never met a stranger, was a dear friend, and will be greatly missed. Survivors include his loving wife of sixty-seven years, Marjorie McQueen, of Cassville; one son, Eldon McQueen, of Okeechobee, Florida; one daughter, LeAnn Standlee and her husband, Darrell, of Joplin; two granddaughters, Melissa Jankoski and her husband, Eric, of Bangor, Maine, and Lauren

Peterson and her husband, Will, of Joplin; six great-grandchildren, Alex, Ava, Fred, Georgia, Eloise, and Beatrice; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Leslie was preceded in death by six brothers and sisters. No services are scheduled at this time. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of the White Funeral Home and Crematory, Cassville. **White Funeral Home and Crematory** [www.whitefuneralhome.org](http://www.whitefuneralhome.org) 417-847-8400 or 417-858-8400



**ELSIE EDNA WILLIAMS**  
Private graveside services for Elsie Edna Williams, 95, of Kilgore, Texas, are being held at Lake Park Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Shell Knob. Mrs. Williams passed away on Tuesday, April 21, 2020, in Kilgore, Texas. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society 1301 South Broadway, Tyler, Texas 75701. Visit [fohnfuneralhome.com](http://fohnfuneralhome.com) for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences. **FOHN FUNERAL HOME SHELL KNOB, MO. 417-858-3151**



**DOUGLAS E. PALMQUIST**  
Douglas E. Palmquist, age 83, of Cassville, passed away Sunday, April 26, 2020, at his home. Memorial services will be announced at a later date. Cremation arrangements are under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Contributions may be made to Hospice Compassus in memory of Douglas. Visit [fohnfuneralhome.com](http://fohnfuneralhome.com) for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences. **FOHN FUNERAL HOME CASSVILLE, MO. 417-847-2141**

**HENRY JONES**  
Henry Jones, age 97, of Exeter, passed away Wednesday, April 22, 2020, at Cedar Ridge in Cassville. Graveside services were held at 11:00 a.m. Monday, April 27, 2020, at Westlawn Hillcrest Cemetery in Omaha, Nebraska. Local arrangements are under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Visit [fohnfuneralhome.com](http://fohnfuneralhome.com) for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences. **FOHN FUNERAL HOME CASSVILLE, MO. 417-847-2141**

**LANOR JEAN ROSS**  
Lanor Jean Ross (Jeanie), age 68, of Batavia, Ill., passed away Sunday, Feb. 2, 2020, at her home. She was born March 13, 1951, in Cassville, the daughter of Eugene and Beulah Henbest.

**DONNA SUE HUTCHENS**  
Donna Sue Hutchens, age 75, of Seligman, passed away Tuesday, April 21, 2020, at Cassville Health and Rehabilitation Center. She was born July 18, 1944, in Joplin, the daughter of James Edward and Ella Mae (Crabough) Burns. On March 6, 1965, she was united in marriage to Maynard Ross Hutchens, who preceded her in death on September 18, 2002. Also preceding her in death were her parents; one sister, Jean Sparks; and brother-in-law, Gordan Denney. Surviving are two brothers, Howard Burns and his wife, Jackie, of Exeter, and Edward Burns and his wife, Donna, of Seligman; and two sisters, Pat Denney, of Washburn, and Mary Gabbard and her husband, Sherman, of Seligman.

Donna grew up in Seligman and received her education in Washburn where she graduated from Southwest High School. She was a homemaker and sold Avon. Occasionally she cleaned at the Bank of Seligman. Some of her favorite pastimes were fishing, flower gardening, music and spending time with her family and friends. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Seligman and in her later years attended OK Assembly of God Church in Washburn. Graveside services were held at 11:00 a.m. Friday, April 24, 2020 at Seligman Cemetery, under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor Gary Griffin conducted the services. Visit [fohnfuneralhome.com](http://fohnfuneralhome.com) for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences. **FOHN FUNERAL HOME CASSVILLE, MO. 417-847-2141**

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## Libraries remain closed until further notice

In a continued effort to decrease risk among patrons and staff during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the Barry-Lawrence Regional Library will remain closed until further notice.

The decision to remain closed was a difficult one as we know that patrons in our community see the library as an essential and valuable service. We care about our community and want everyone to stay safe and healthy. Please know that we are working to put together a plan that would allow us to roll out limited services in such a way that we are able to keep staff and patrons as safe as possible. We hope to begin to offer these limited services by mid-May.

All checkout periods as of now will be extended through May 18, 2020. All holds will continue to be maintained until the Library reopens. You may hold onto items that you currently have checked out or you may return materials via the book drops outside each branch library. There will be no penalty for overdue materials during this time.

There are several ways that you can access Library services online. For more information about these services please visit our web page at [www.blrlibrary.org](http://www.blrlibrary.org). You may also want to visit your local branch library's Facebook Page or the Barry-Lawrence Regional Library's Facebook Page for information about virtual programming. If you have issues accessing our electronic resources please contact Lee Ann Santee via e-mail at [leeann@blrlibrary.org](mailto:leeann@blrlibrary.org).

Please remember that you have access to "parking lot" WiFi at each branch location from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. every day. You will need to select the "BLRL open" network. A password is not required.

## MoDOT Kids' Page for safety awareness

It's never too early to start teaching kids about roadway safety.

In conjunction with Work Zone Awareness Week, the Missouri Department of Transportation has launched a web page that features printable mazes, word games, a comic book and coloring pages designed to share safety messages for future drivers.

It's also a great tool for parents unexpectedly home-schooling due to local and state stay-at-home directives. Parents are encouraged to print out these activities and work with their kids to help build a foundation for roadway safety.

Located at [www.modot.org/kids](http://www.modot.org/kids), the coloring sheets and multiple activity booklets are designed for children 4-years-old and up.

The comic book, The Adventures of The Safety Friends, can be enjoyed by older kids of any age. It can be read online on computers with up-to-date browsers or

## Farmers Market Roundtable

As summer approaches, Missouri's estimated 240 farmers markets are struggling with how they will comply with COVID-19-related restrictions. Regarded by many as vital and vibrant community hubs, farmers markets will need to rethink how to work with their vendors and still serve a public hungry for locally grown food.

To help with that transition, University of Missouri Extension will host its second COVID-19 Zoom roundtable, Innovative Ideas Emerging Among Farmers Markets in Missouri, at 3:15 p.m. Thursday, April 30.

Registration and details are at [extension2.missouri.edu/events/2nd-covid-19-zoom-roundtable-innovative-ideas-emerging-among-farmers-markets-in-missouri](https://extension2.missouri.edu/events/2nd-covid-19-zoom-roundtable-innovative-ideas-emerging-among-farmers-markets-in-missouri).

"Farmers markets represent a big part of Missouri's entrepreneurial presence," said Maria Rodriguez-Alcalá, MU Extension county en-

gagement specialist in community economic development in Jasper County. "This is an opportunity — forced of necessity — for markets and vendors to find different ways to continue to share their resources."

Four small Missouri farmers markets will share strategies they are implementing to remain open during the pandemic crisis.

Ivanhoe Farmers' Market (west central region)

Oregon County Farmers Market (southeast region)

Nixa Farmers Market (southwest region)

Southside Junction Farmers' Market (northwest region)

The panel will start at 3:30 p.m. For security reasons, participants are asked to join 10-15 minutes earlier to allow time to admit people from the virtual "waiting room." A recording of a panel featuring larger farmers markets is available at [youtu.be/l1oQp\\_tinOw](https://youtu.be/l1oQp_tinOw).

## Zoom course offered for beginning farmers

An eight-session Zoom course, Ozark Ag 101, explores options for beginning farmers.

University of Missouri Extension offers the course to benefit beginning farmers, those who are new to the Ozarks and those who want to diversify their operations, says MU Extension instructor Eric Meusch.

Classes will be 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays from April 28 through May 21. After registering at [extension2.missouri.edu/events/ozark-ag-101-zoom-sessions](https://extension2.missouri.edu/events/ozark-ag-101-zoom-sessions),

participants will receive a Zoom link to the classes.

Topics include soils and fertilization, growing fruits and vegetables, livestock, forages, grazing and hay, structures, specialty crops, and growing a farm business. In addition to Meusch, MU Extension specialists Ted Probert, Sarah Kenyon, Patrick Byers, Taylor Young, Kyle Whitaker and Scott Poock lead the sessions.

For more information, contact Meusch at 417-967-4545 or [meusche@missouri.edu](mailto:meusche@missouri.edu).

opened as a PDF.

Items on the page include:

A printable Work Zone Awareness Week poster.

A printable poster featuring "Barrel Bob," MoDOT's work zone safety spokes character.

A double-sided "Activity Sheet" with road sign identification puzzle, word search, trivia questions and connect-the-dot challenge.

Four different activ-

ity booklets for children just learning to read and those who won't need any help finishing these quizzes and puzzles on their own.

Work Zone Awareness Week runs April 20-24 and is designed to promote work zone safety during the start of construction and maintenance season. The week focuses on the urgency of seat belt use and putting cell-phones down while driving.

## Letter to the Editor

As you drive along any roadway in Barry County, you will see evidence of their presence. Plastic bags, drink cups, food containers, beer cans are thoughtlessly thrown out of car windows and left alongside the road. (Keystone beer? Seriously? You and I need to have a discussion about how to enjoy good beer...).

This has been a problem for as long as I've lived here and is a symptom of the lack of respect these people have for the rest of us. It really needs to stop.

They may be your neighbors, friends, family members...even you.

According to a recent article in the Barry County Advertiser, roadside trash removal cost Missouri taxpayers \$6.4 million last year. This burden is shared by all of us even though the people who create this cost are a small minority. Let's see if we can make a difference.

It takes literally no effort to help reduce this cost. Just keep your trash in your car. Dispose of it when you get home. Better yet, don't put it in your car. Since manufacturers and retailers cause the problem of disposable packaging, make them deal with it. When you take your purchases to your car leave

the packaging behind. Keep a plastic bin or reusable bags in your car, remove your groceries or other items from the packaging and place them in the bin or bags. Put all of the packaging in the store's trash can or recycle bin. Don't put it in your car and you won't be tempted to throw it out on the way home.

After you drink your soda, just hang onto the cup. Paper drink cups make great pots for planting seeds. They work very well to keep cutworms and slugs away from your veggies. They also compost easily. Need to change your oil but don't have a funnel? Cut the bottom of the cup off, slice it along its edge, roll it into a funnel and problem solved! I use mine to keep loose bolts, screws and nuts where I can find them. They work great for small amounts of twine, wire and tubing. Have a houseplant that you forget to water? Poke a small hole in the bottom of a cup, place it in the pot and let it slowly keep your plant alive.

Even those horrible plastic grocery bags can have a second life other than hanging off fence lines. Save them to package loose items in your garage or shop.

Use your position to help influence people. If you run

a church, speak to your congregation. I don't remember reading about Jesus trashing up the place. If you are a merchant, have adequate trash and recycle bins where people load their cars. Offer to take back packaging and really push that. Move back to paper bags. Don't use plastic drink cups. Make trash reduction a marketing message. I know I'll shop there more often. Politician? Oh sorry, you are beyond hope...

This is not a trivial issue. \$6.4 million is not a trivial amount. Barry County and the rest of the Ozarks is a beautiful place! Do what you can to make it even more beautiful. We will all thank you!

*Brian Wright*  
*Cassville*

### Disclaimer:

The editor of the Barry County Advertiser reserves the right to edit or withhold from publication any letter for any reason whatsoever. Letters to the Editor reflect the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the Barry County Advertiser or its staff. Email your letters to [editor@4bca.com](mailto:editor@4bca.com)

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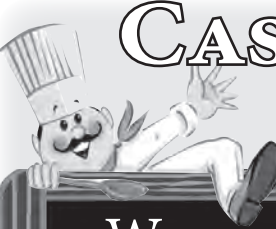
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FINANCIAL TIPS from  
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vital to have a well worked-out plan of personal life insurance, which means not tied to a job.”

Find an independent financial advisor. “An independent advisor doesn’t have a company telling them what to invest clients’ money in,” says Kruman. “A client’s best interest should always be the number one priority for an advisor, and it’s easier to maintain that focus by being independent of any parent company’s fee goals or investment selection limitations.”

Consider making a Roth conversion now. When you move money from a tax-deferred retirement account into a Roth account, the money is taxed at that time. “But by making that conversion, you are putting yourself in a position to get tax-free income for life if you comply with two requirements,” Kruman says. Those requirements: be at least age 59 ½ and don’t take any gains out of the Roth for five years. Most financial professionals expect taxes to go up sometime in the future. One reason is that the recent economic stimulus will need to be paid for at some point. Another reason is that the tax cuts passed in 2017 will expire at the end of 2025 for personal rates. “So paying the taxes now at a lower rate when you make the Roth conversion is the better bet for the long run,” he says.

“Now is a tough time for many,” Kruman says, “but it is time that can be used wisely to consider the things you can differently to protect yourself and your family financially from the next period of economic uncertainty.”

Steve Kruman (www.brycewealth.com) is a financial planner, investment advisor and insurance agent at Bryce Wealth Management. He’s also a licensed attorney in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, focusing on estate planning. Kruman is a Life & Qualifying Member of the Million Dollar Round Table.

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contact us at havenozark-sanctuary@gmail.com for more information, or to get an application. Haven of the Ozarks Animal Sanctuary 9617 Farm Road 2190 Washburn www.havenoftheozarks.org 417-835-3647 Open daily, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. (excluding some holidays) Follow us on Facebook!

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The Real Deal:  
Real estate market sees uptick

Robert Lotufo, Rural Realtor

Real estate market sees uptick, based on consumer optimism, buyer's interest in moving to less populated areas.

Based on a recent report by Missouri Realtors, we have some very optimistic findings to share. Home sales in the Springfield area (which includes Barry County) are looking good. Total number of homes sold in March is up 14% from 2019; total dollar volume is up 27.2%. Time on market - the number of days between listing and closing - is down to 42 days, 9 days less than last year's figure. Median sales price is \$175,000, up 11.5 percent from last March.

Statewide, total sales are down 19.4 percent, with a -14.1 percent movement in sales volume. Reasons for this activity definitely are not easy to determine. Personally I have had quite a few calls from clients in Wichita, Kansas City, and as far out as Colorado and Texas, looking for less populated areas to live in, that still have the necessary amenities. Homes in our area are far less expensive than most parts of the country, and we have a great

quality of life. Lake homes are in high demand right now, as well as small rural properties with 5 to 40 acres. Many of these deals are predicated on the contingency of buyers selling their existing homes. Large farm sales seem to be in a precarious state right now, with a lot of uncertainty about the future of the agricultural economy. Inventories of listed properties are still very very low, with demand from buyers far outweighing the supply of listings. After a short pause, it seems like the lending institutions have opened up, and the secondary loans such as Rural Development and FHA, which are crucial to our residential sales, are back in circulation. Stimulus checks and PPA money are definitely giving a shot in the arm to some of this activity. Less Direct influences such as the rebound of the

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Garage has guest quarters for guest privacy. Washer & dryer in garage does convey with the property.  
60159181 - **PERFECT, UPDATED HOME** for your large family. With 6 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2 living area, an outdoor kitchen, plus many more amenities, this home checks all the marks on you wish list. Come take a look! **\$310,000**  
60158115 - **GOOD PIECE OF LAKE FRONT PROPERTY!** 31.8 acres m/l. Would be desirable for development. **\$119,900**  
Close to Eagle Rock Bridge.  
60150519 - **BEAUTIFUL HOME** in great location. Keep your golf cart in the garage & drive it to the Cassville Golf Course. 3-bedroom, 2 bath home with a 2-car attached garage. Newer paint and carpet in 2 bedrooms. Privacy fenced back yard, and large deck. This is comfortable well laid out home. **\$161,000**  
60156508 - **8.42 ACRES M/L.** Great piece of property to build a home. Enough land to have some livestock. **\$50,000**  
60120305 - **THIS 3-BEDROOM CHARMER** sits on a double lot. Has sunroom and hot tub. Wood burning fireplace with stainless steel liner in the flue. Shop building is fully insulated, with water, electricity, cement floor, 2-9' overhead doors & 2-walkin doors. **\$150,000**  
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60146428 - **TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!** Remodeled restaurant and a 2-bedroom detached living quarters. Two Highway 37 entries and the large parking area make this an extremely desirable property. **\$199,000**  
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Point AA group meets each Monday, west corner of Mitchell Plaza, Hwy. 86, Eagle Rock, 7:00pm.

IF SOMEONE

in your family has a drinking problem, you can see what it is doing to them, but can you see what it is doing to you? The Cassville Al-Anon Family Group meets Thursday at 8 p.m. at the Cassville First United Methodist Church, Townsend Street entrance. Call (417)847-2068.

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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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- Answers inquiries about the company.
- Assists personnel with filing paperwork.
- Assists personnel with mail including stuffing envelopes and using the postage machine.
- Ensures office maintenance is performed including but not limited to contacting lawn and maintenance service providers and changing air filters.
- Keep the office common areas (restrooms, break room, entrance) clean, well-stocked, and organized.
- Maintains company-wide contacts and calendars in Microsoft Outlook.
- Able to work in a dynamic, flexible work environment in which duties and responsibilities may shift over time.

Qualifications

Requirements:

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BCA YEARS PAST



**50 YEARS AGO... BCA Volume 3, Number 21, Wednesday, April 29, 1970. USDA Announces Housing Program for Small Towns** The United States Department of Agriculture's Farmers Home Administration recently announced the initiation of a conditional commitment program that will permit financing small subdivision type housing developments in America's small towns. The primary goal of this new program is to enable housing constructors, developers, sellers and other segments of the construction industry to pursue an increased program to upgrade low and moderate cost housing in rural communities. **Vogue Beauty Shop**, 905 Main St., Cassville, advertised a "Mothers Day Special". "Buy her a WIG, WIGLET or Fall." **Roy Edmondson of Cassville** proudly displayed a 23 ½ pound gobbler which he killed Monday morning. Edmondson bagged the beautifully plumed bird in Butler Hollow near Seligman. **The Piggly Wiggly** offered a coupon special, 3

lb. can of Maxwell House coffee for \$1.99. And rhubarb was advertised for 25 cents/lb. "Down with litter, down with trash," was the cry from Mrs. Malone's third grade class at the Cassville Elementary School as they observed Earth Day in a very practical way. Sporting signs and chanting slogans pertaining to keeping America clean, the students made their way through Cassville streets picking up litter with enthusiasm. **Practical jokers always crop out in the spring**, as Mrs. Loreta Stanton discovered to her dismay when she went home Monday night to find this "unique" (commode) container full of flowers gracing her front lawn. **Wheaton Junior Class Presents "The Whiz Kids"**, a three act comedy with Mrs. Pruda Carter as director. The cast of characters included: Donald Brattin, Angela Renkoski, Donna Mahurin, Rick Brattin, Brenda Brattin, Millie Bruton, Raymond Cooper, Debbie Bixler, Larry Butler, Dennis Warner, Beth Prewitt, Masha Elbert and Mike England.

**40 YEARS AGO... BCA Volume 13, Number 23, Wednesday, April 30, 1980. S.K. Lions to Host Foreign Exchange Students** The Shell Knob Lions Club families announced they would be hosting 13 Lions International Youth Exchange students. Nine students were from Finland and four from Italy. **Edmondson and Cowherd Honor Grads at CHS** Jon Edmondson, son of Dr. and Mrs. Max Edmondson of Cassville was named Valedictorian for the Cassville High School graduating class of 1979-80. Randy Cowherd, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Cowherd of Purdy, was named Salutatorian. **Monett Jumping Jacks Sells to New Corporation** U.S. Shoe announced an agreement in principle to sell Jumping Jacks, the children's wholesale footwear division located in Monett, to a newly formed corporation headed

by John McPhee. U.S. Shoe was to continue to operate the Cassville shoe plant and maintain a close relationship with Jumping Jacks. **Bowman to retire as Principal** Doyle Bowman announced he would be retiring as principal of Purdy R-II Elementary School at the end of the school year. **Governor Invited to Exeter Centennial** Missouri Governor Joseph P. Teasdale was presented a handwritten parchment scroll invitation by Senator Emory Melton to attend the Exeter Centennial Celebration on July 4, 5, and 6, 1980. **Brattin Sets Fastest Half-Mile** Cassville's John Brattin flashed through the 800 meter run in 1:57.4, setting a record in the Big 12 Conference meet at Missouri Southern in Joplin. The Wildcat Junior had set a new course record at the Monett Relays previously with 1:59.8 minutes in the 800 yard run.

**20 YEARS AGO... BCA Volume 23, Number 26, Wednesday, April 26, 2000. Shannon Marbut**, son of Mary Ann and Ben Fine, Eagle Rock, and Gregory and Mary Marbut, Springfield, has been selected as one of The Missouri Ambassadors of Music to tour Europe. The Ambassadors are comprised of a highly select group of concert band, choir, string orchestra and jazz band members. **Amber Beck**, 14, of Exeter, caught a 39 pound, 40 inch spoonbill. Amber is the daughter of Mike and Patsy Beck. **Every Day is Earth Day for Farmers** The 30th Anniversary of Earth Day was celebrated on Saturday, April 22, 2000. Celebrating Earth Day on one par-

ticular day misses the point. We must practice what Earth Day preaches every single day of the year if we expect to make a real difference. Few of us would stop to pick up roadside litter. People will not tolerate a trashy car, but have no concern about trashing Mother Earth. Just ask a farmer - farmers face a huge litter problem. Many people avoid landfill fees by using farmland as a dump. The farmers' care and concern for the Earth goes far beyond cleaning up the litter for others. The farmer depends on fertile topsoil, pure water and clean air to produce the food we non-farmers take for granted. Everyday is Earth Day to farmers.

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## Arning donates to Subs for Heroes



Pictured above, left to right: Krista Clay, Arning; Carol Taylor, Subway; Samantha Persons, Subway; Angie Edie, Arning; and Ryan Stockton, Arning.

On Friday, April 24, Arning Companies, Inc. teamed up with Cassville Subway to support Subs for Heroes. Arning donated \$500.00 for meals to go to the Cassville Police Department, Barry County Sheriff's Department and to our medical professionals at the Cassville Mercy Hospital. Cassville Subway matched this donation and the meals will be delivered by April 30th. The \$500.00 donation from Arning was raised through their Casual Friday for Charity program.

## Exeter residents plant tree in city park



Exeter Tree Board observed its 25th year Arbor Day Saturday, April 18, 2020, in the city park. Shown, left to right are Kelly Asbury, Susie Sorenson, and Sheila Raney. In the back is Kirk Wynns, Municipal Arborist.

## A wrinkle in time



The old M.C. Messer home at the corner of 9th and Townsend Streets, Cassville, was the first in town to have electricity.

A photo of the house in its glory days, left, and as it is now.



Sheila Harris

Melville C. and Mary Messer raised six daughters in this historic Cassville home, built shortly after the Civil War. According to youngest daughter, Maco (Messer) Farwell, the rear portion of the house was built first, by her (step) grandfather, Edward Smith, after he and her grandmother, Arabella Messer Smith, moved to the area from Rogers, Arkansas, after the war.

The larger front portion of the house was added later. The dining room in the smaller portion was once used as the Cassville post office, where M.C. Messer's sister, Eglentine Messer, served as postmistress from January of 1870 through December of 1884.

M.C. Messer was a Cassville druggist for 40 years, until his death.

According to Farwell, her mother, Mary Messer, kept boarders in the house, including visiting teachers and preachers. She also kept a fine garden, hogs, a milk cow and laying hens.

The Messer home was the first house to have electricity installed when it was offered to Cassville residents in 1904.

For more information about this and other historic homes, visit the Barry County Museum at 15858 Highway 76, Cassville. Or visit their website at [www.barry-countymuseum.org](http://www.barry-countymuseum.org).

Use Cassville Masonic Lodge 18th & Main St. for your next meeting or event. For availability and fees Contact: Kevin Lingle 417-846-6709

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