

Garden Sass Farmers’ Market is open for business

Sheila Harris

Albert Wolfe, of Wheaton, says baking bread is a good hobby for old men. He should know. At age 82, Wolfe has been baking homemade bread since he was a young man of about 50.

"I started by making cinnamon rolls," he said. "I couldn't get anyone else to make them for me, so I decided I'd do it myself. I found a recipe in the old Thomas Hollow cookbook and went to work."

The experience was a positive one, as evidenced by the fact he hasn't quit since. The only difference, now, is that he packages and labels his baked goods and sets up shop with them at the Garden Sass farmers' market in

Cassville every Saturday during garden season.

"I've been participating in Cassville's farmers' market almost every week since 1997," he said. "It's the only one in the area I sit in on."

When Wolfe is not at the market on Saturday mornings, he fills much of the remainder of his time baking, in preparation for Saturday. It's a full-time job, Wolfe says, but one he enjoys.

"It takes most of the week to do enough baking to have enough breads and pastries to bring to the market on Saturdays," Wolfe said.

Although Wolfe still makes cinnamon rolls, massive in size and individually frosted and packaged, he's branched out from the signa-

ture product which marked his bread-baking debut. His line-up now also includes cookies, sweet breads and pies, baked to order.

Perhaps his most popular items, though, are the beautifully golden, baked-to-perfection loaves of homemade bread.

"I bring about 20 loaves a week to the farmer's market," he said, "and usually sell all of them."

Exeter resident, Sherry Lotufo, attests to his baking skills.

"His white bread is amazing," she said. "He does everything right; his loaves are consistently the same size and flavor."

Wolfe said his baking skills have come in handy for church socials and potlucks.

"My wife, Della Faye - who passed in 2004 - always made main course items for church dinners, and I made the dessert," he said.

In addition to pastries and breads, Wolfe sells farm-fresh, brown eggs gathered from his 300 chickens, almost a full-time job in itself.

"The hens lay 12 dozen eggs a day," he said.

At the other end of the Garden Sass market on 7th Street, a teenage entrepreneur peddles his wares.

For the past few years, Cassville High School FFA member, Peter Littlefield, has rented space in the school's greenhouse to grow flowers and plants to sell at the Garden Sass farmers' market for his SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience) project. John Littlefield, the Ag



David Hudson (left), of Wheaton, narrows down his choice of homemade bread, baked by Albert Wolfe (right), of Wheaton, at Cassville's Garden Sass farmers' market.

Invenergy opts out of windmill plan

Sheila Harris

Invenergy, a privately-held, Chicago-based renewable energy company, announced Friday it will not be moving forward with its wind turbine project in Barry County.

Invenergy erected two test towers on properties near Purdy nearly three years ago for the purpose of collecting data on wind patterns and velocity in the area. Based on the results of the sampling, an Invenergy representative began contacting landowners in the northwest

part of the county in 2018, for the purpose of soliciting leases for land on which to construct the 600 foot wind turbines.

Barry County recorder, Danielle Still, said, since that time, 34 leases with 33 property-owners have been recorded, one as recently as February of 2020.

However, Barry County Northern Commissioner, Gary Schad, received a telephone call Friday from a representative of Invenergy to inform him of the company's decision to opt out of con-

struction of the wind farm.

According to Schad, Invenergy cited three reasons.

"They mentioned possible conflict with the area's use by the military for a low fly-over, training zone," he said. "Apparently, the military likes our wind patterns here, too."

Another reason Invenergy gave for opting out was possible interference with a couple of radar operations within the county.

"I'm really not aware of

See WINDMILLS 9A

Secretary of State delivers supplies for upcoming elections

On Monday, Missouri Secretary of State, Jay Ashcroft, began delivering face masks, distancing strips, sanitizer, face shields and posters to local election authorities for their polling locations in the upcoming 2020 elections.

Monday, he made stops at courthouses in 16 counties, including: Moniteau, Morgan, Benton, Henry, Bates, Vernon, Barton, Jasper, Newton, McDonald, Barry, Stone, Lawrence, Dade, Cedar and St. Clair.

During Ashcroft's visits, he delivered 1,055 face masks, 3,570 distancing strips, 110 bottles of sanitizer, 1,055 face shields and 1,428 posters.

Municipal elections will take place in-person on June 2, after being changed from their original April 7 date.



County clerk, Jill LeCompte (right) accepts polling place sanitation supplies, delivered Monday by Missouri Secretary of State, Jay Ashcroft (left). Photo by Caden Swearingen.



John and Peter Littlefield, right, visit with customers at Cassville's Garden Sass farmers' market.

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No disruption in service, says E9-1-1 director

Although some databases at Barry County's E911 center were corrupted by malware about 12:35 a.m., May 6, Mike Phillips, Executive Director, assures residents service was not interrupted. "We received calls from people who had heard our service was down, so we want to let people know that's not the case," he said. "The malware damage did not impact our service." According to Phillips, when operators began noticing files on their computers with odd extension names - which are an indication of possible corruption by malware - they were able to immediately disconnect from the internet and isolate the corrupt files to one server. "The affected files primarily contained historical data, including employees' email

addresses and lists of department equipment," he added. "We immediately began rebuilding our database, but some of the files were large, so it took some time. We had most of the database restored by 8 p.m., May 6, though." According to Phillips, all files were accounted for, and no personal or protected information was released. "We have steps in place to prevent malware infiltration," he said, "and we're reviewing those protections to see what areas we can strengthen." "Barry County E9-1-1 recognizes the duty we have to protect and serve our citizens and the work we do with our emergency partners," he continued, "so we want to address any concerns citizens have regarding rumors they may have heard.

MARKET from FRONT

teacher at Cassville Schools, is his supervisor. He's also his father. For his project, the young-er Littlefield orders and receives a shipment of flower and vegetable plant plugs early in the season. "I received a shipment of these plant starts about six weeks ago," he said, pointing to the flourishing plants in front of him. "Then, I repotted them in containers for commercial sale." Tables spread with a variety of flowers and vegetable plants, including tomatoes

and marigolds, vie for attention with a flatbed trailer with tropical houseplants. Along the street, rows of hanging baskets, containing a dazzling assortment of blossoms and greens, wait to be hung over a front porch or deck. It's obvious Littlefield enjoys what he's doing. And, based on the appearance of his thriving plants, it's easy to believe his thumbs are green. "I'll be here every Saturday, all summer," he said. "The types of plants I bring will change with the season, but I'll always have something." Garden Sass Farmers' Market is open every Saturday morning on the south side of the square in Cassville. Interested vendors may stop by and chat with Albert Wolfe for information about participating in the market. According to Sherry Lotufo, the ordinances of many cities make it difficult for farmers' markets to operate. "I appreciate Cassville's welcoming attitude," she said.

Eighth positive case of COVID-19 announced

An eighth case of COVID-19 is being reported by the Barry County Health Department. The case is likely a result of essential domestic business travel to a COVID-19 Hot Spot. "The person self-isolated upon return to Barry County and has not had close contact with family or friends," health department administrator, Roger Brock, said. The person requested testing at the Barry County Health Department because of the travel, and tested positive. The individual is now under an isolation order and is being monitored daily by the Barry County Health Department staff. Barry County Office of Emergency Management Director, David Compton, applauded the actions of the person.

"This a great example of personal responsibility," he said. "Recognizing their work took them to a COVID-19 Hot Spot, they took it upon themselves to ensure the safety of our community, over and above any personal desire to see friends and family." All previous cases of COVID-19 have recovered. However, Barry County officials remind residents the best way to prevent community spread COVID-19 is to wear a cloth face covering, wash hands often, keep frequently touched surfaces cleaned, and avoid non-essential travel. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, shortness of breath, or at least two of the following: fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell. Symptoms may begin two days to two weeks after exposure. If you have symptoms, call your primary care provider and

follow their instructions. State of Missouri Emergency and Barry County Phase 1 Reopening rules remain in effect until May 31, 2020. Those rules include physical distancing requirements, required source-control masking for certain service providers, and enhanced hygiene practices. Persons at a higher risk of serious illness from COVID-19 include those greater than 65 years of age and/or those who are immuno-compromised or have chronic medical conditions. These individuals should limit travel and wear a cloth face covering in public. (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/groups-at-higher-risk.html>)

Cassville teacher accused of sexual exploitation of minors

Sheila Harris Cassville R-IV teacher, Brandon McCullough, was arrested in Greene County on May 7. Following an investigation by Immigration and Customs Enforcement, McCullough is accused of having sexually explicit communications with minors on the messenger app, Kik. He is being held without bond for U.S. marshals in the Greene County jail. Charges are pending. Dr. Richard Asbill, Superintendent of Cassville Schools, said the district is cooperating with law enforcement agencies as they investigate the allegations. "At this time, we do not believe that any of our students were involved in the allegations/charges," he said.

"Per the district's policy, the employee has been placed on administrative leave and all access to school facilities has been limited. If the allegations are substantiated, the Cassville R-IV School District will take immediate steps to comply with Board policy and Missouri state law regarding such charges." Asbill went on to say that Cassville R-IV School District takes student safety as a top priority. "I regret that one of our employees has been accused of these allegations," he added. According to Asbill, the Cassville School District requires and provides annual training to all employees regarding student safety and student/adult interactions.

National Safe Boating Week reminders

Colonel Eric T. Olson, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, would like to stress the importance of safe boating by making the public aware of National Safe Boating Week, which takes place May 16-22, 2020. National Safe Boating Week is purposefully scheduled just prior to Memorial Day weekend, which many people consider the kickoff to the boating season. "It's important that boaters are prepared before they navigate Missouri waterways," said Colonel Olson. "Checking your boat for the proper equipment and inspecting for any mechanical issues that may have developed over the winter months should be a standard boating practice."

Boaters who would like an equipment inspection done by a marine trooper can contact their local troop and make that request. Life jackets save lives and should be worn whenever possible out on the water. If

not worn, a life jacket must be readily accessible for each occupant on board a vessel. For children under seven, and for the occupants of a personal watercraft underway, wearing life jackets is required.



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 9:30 a.m. - NorthPoint

You will have four opportunities to hear the morning message. In order to follow social distancing guidelines, there will be no small groups, nursery or refreshments at this time. We look forward to the day when we can return to our normal schedule and activities.

Community Calendar

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

Notice:

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.

Polling Place Changes for Purdy For those who vote in Purdy, your polling place has changed. For the June 2, 2020, Municipal Election, and future elections, Purdy voters will vote at Purdy City Hall, located at their new location at 401 E State Hwy. C, Purdy. For more information, call the Barry County clerk's office at (417) 847-2561 or email jhlecompte@barrycountyclerk.com.

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OACAC Neighborhood Center has moved to a new location. The new location was formerly occupied by Bullets and Bows and the address is 10826 Farm Road 2172, Cassville. The clothing room will be available on a regular basis upon reopening.

Exeter Maplewood Cemetery of Exeter requests that flowers be removed 2 weeks after Memorial Day. Flowers may be left on headstones and in vases only. Please notify the cemetery association with additional veterans names. Rules are posted in the pavilion of the cemetery. Any donations would be appreciated, please mail to Maplewood Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 177, Exeter, MO 65647.

OATS Transit continues to adjust to the COVID-19 crisis. They have now returned to regular transportation service. In following social distancing requirements, bus seating is reduced to approximately 30% of normal capacity. Riders are asked to wear masks or face covering while on board the bus. Riders should refrain from riding the bus if experiencing a fever or other forms of sickness. 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 for updated information on this topic.

Colonel Eric T. Olson, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, announced 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 16th

Fields Cemetery Clean Up will be all day. The Fields Cemetery is located in Shell Knob on the way to Campbell Point. Volunteers are welcome.

May 17th

Cassville High School Graduation will consist of two 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.

May 22nd

Bluegrass in the Park is kicking off the summer music season with Memorial weekend Holiday Special. There will be two performances this weekend: Friday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. This event is a family friendly event, free and open to the public. Guests are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs. The music may also be enjoyed by those who choose to remain in parked vehicles. The Show Wagon stage will be parked near the amphitheatre at Roaring River State Park.

May 23rd

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

May 24th

Kings Cemetery Board will hold the annual meeting at the cemetery at 2 p.m.

June 6th

Purdy High School Graduation Ceremony will take place. More details will follow as the date approaches.

June 18th

Due to the current situation, Barry Electric has postponed their 73rd Annual Meeting of the members. At this time, they have tentatively rescheduled the meeting for June 18th. They will be sending out updates when they are available.

July 3rd

The Live, In Person, Cassville High School Graduation will take place. The time will be announced at a later date. This event is planned to be by ticketed entrance only.

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.

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 an edited version of a letter dated May 6, 2020, from the Barry Lawrence Regional Library: *Using the recommendations from Governor Parson, state and local health departments, the CDC and the Missouri State Library, the Barry-Lawrence Regional Library District, along with all public libraries in our state, have a preliminary 5 to 6 step plan for re-opening our libraries. A formal decision to reopen our doors will be made and shared in the near future.*

One of our first steps is to check in and shelve all the material returned to the book drops while we have been closed. These materials have been quarantined for several weeks to ensure that the virus will not be transmitted to staff or patrons. We will continue to quarantine material that is returned for at least 72 hours before it is checked in and shelved. We also plan to remain "fine free" for the next couple of months as we adjust to these new procedures. Over the next couple of weeks, library staff will be cleaning shelves, preparing virtual programming to replace in house programs, preparing a plan to provide curbside delivery and pickup of material, and preparing for the Summer Reading program along with readying the branches for social distancing.

We are also in the process of obtaining gloves, masks, shields, hand sanitizer, sanitizing wipes, and so on.

Free Wi-Fi access continues in the parking lots of our branches, and e-material services such as Hoopla and Missouri Libraries 2 Go are available with your library card. If you do not currently have a library card, you may request a free e-card via our website in order to access our e-material. The online database Creative Bug has been added on a permanent basis. Rosetta Stone has been added on a temporary basis. Please be sure to check out our website, www.blrlibrary.org, to stay informed. Be on the lookout for information about our upcoming Summer Reading plans as well. It will be different this year, but it promises to keep you and your family reading throughout the summer. "Imagine Your story" is our theme this year and we look forward to seeing where your imagination takes you this summer!

Stay tuned for updates on our reopening plans and please remember that our libraries are very popular and that we must keep the best health interests of all people on the forefront of our decisions.

Gina Milburn, Director
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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OACAC announces new “People’s Pantry”



Gail Reed, supervisor at OACAC, announced the installation of a “People’s Pantry” (shown above), in front of the Cassville Habitat for Humanity Restore at 900 W. 10th St., Cassville. According to Reed, the pantry is stocked daily. Items are free for those in need, and the community is welcome to contribute donations.

Cassville High School Senior parade info and route announced

Cassville High School seniors will be parading through the streets of Cassville, Friday, May 15, beginning at 7 p.m. Seniors will meet at the Aquatic Center parking lot. From there, they will go right on Fasco Road, then left

on Hwy. 112/248. They will turn right at the traffic light on Business Hwy. 37, parade around the downtown square, turn right on Business Hwy. 37, and end the parade at Casey’s. Well-wishers are invited to line the streets.

Gary Whyte announces retirement from Barry Electric

Gary Whyte, Metering & Plant Services Manager, announced that he will be retiring Friday, May 15, from Barry Electric. His personal note to fellow co-op members and staff follows: Barry Electric Friends, I am writing today to personally tell you that I will be retiring on May 15, 2020. Wanda and I are excited for what the future holds. I am going to greatly miss all the business and personal

time we have had throughout the years! I cannot believe that 31 years has flown by. I can truly say I loved my job and enjoyed coming to work each day. I hope that each of you will be able to say the same thing when your time comes. See you guys around, Gary Whyte Plant Services Manager Barry Electric Cooperative

Mercy announces furloughs

Like other health care systems across the country, Mercy is taking difficult steps to address the heavy economic consequences of the COVID-19 crisis. Starting next week and through the end of July as needed, we will begin furloughing co-workers across Mercy’s four-state service area. Health insurance will be continued throughout the furlough period, and an additional 80 hours of pay may be provided through Mercy’s crisis PTO fund. Mercy is also eliminating positions at every level of the organization, impacting every department and every community we serve. In doing so, we will provide severance packages to help care for our co-workers and their families. At this time, Mercy is unable to provide numbers as we are still working to keep as many co-workers employed as possible.

In addition to these measures, all leaders will earn up to 26% less this year than last, with the most significant reductions at the senior level. For all co-workers, 401k/403b service contributions and matches will not be made for 2020 and annual merit increases may be delayed, as well. No one will be hired into open positions for the foreseeable future without approval of Mercy’s senior leadership. Our hearts go out to those impacted by these changes and the unprecedented impact of this global pandemic.

County government and the local news



Sheila Harris

Call me slow, but I just realized the importance of local newspapers last week, after it occurred to me that it’s doubtful anybody in the rest of the state pays much attention to what happens in an individual county’s government.

Without local news sources - I mean, newspapers here within our county - we taxpayers wouldn’t have a clue what county and municipal organizations are doing with our hard-earned money. If it weren’t for those who are willing to ask questions - then tell what they’ve learned - you and I would be in the dark.

Too, I realized the responsibility heaped upon the shoulders of those who report the news. Some things are unpleasant to think about, let alone write about, and “kill the messenger” is not always metaphorical.

I’ll admit, I prefer pleasant fare, like this week’s farmers’ market story. I like to believe the best about people, and put allegations and rumors of wrong-doing out of my mind.

“Look the other way; maybe it’ll get better,” has always been my motto of improbable hope, even though my passivity has come back to bite me a few times.

Murray Bishoff, crack

Thoughts from the editor

reporter for The Monett Times - and the nemesis of many - told me when I took this position that I’d run across some interesting stories down here. I didn’t know exactly what he meant at the time, but I found out in short order.

I’ve already heard some negative allegations (nothing criminal) in my short time here, and have been left with two choices. I could look the other way, which was tempting, since nobody would know the difference. In one case, I was unsure of the credibility of the source, since he or she preferred to remain anonymous.

My second choice was to ask questions. I knew which choice would be easier. But then I thought of Murray Bishoff.

I knew what Murray Bishoff would do. Anybody who knows Murray, knows what Murray would do.

As I thought about Murray, I realized that asking questions is not just his job, it’s his *responsibility*. If local reporters from local newspapers don’t ask questions of our county and city officials and organizations, when necessary, nobody else will. In a very real sense, as melodramatic as it sounds, we’re the last bastion of defense, when necessary, for the enlightenment of taxpayers.

Not that I believe our

local officials are crooks and ne’er-do-wells. Far from it. I’ve met some very nice county and city officials, who carry an amazing amount of responsibility. I wouldn’t want their jobs. But I’ve also lived long enough to learn we’re all human, with human proclivities.

I’m reminded of President John F. Kennedy, who, in a 1961 address to the American Newspaper Publishers Association, beseeched the press to hold him accountable in the position he’d been entrusted with. He knew the importance of the press. (How far we have fallen! But that’s another story.)

This job of editor, I now know, is not always going to be one I can wrap up in an eight-hour shift, then go home for the evening and put out of my mind.

There will always be questions. Sometimes the question will be: should I ask more questions? Asking more questions might not be what I want to do, but it might be my responsibility.

Although I by no means equate Murray Bishoff with Jesus Christ, I can always ask myself, “What would Murray do?”

Murray’s example will stand, for me and for others, long after his retirement - and probably long past his lifetime. He’s a man who knows his responsibility.

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hospitals, also achieved the five-star rating in patient experience for the latest reporting period. Cox Monett and Cox Barton County are the only two critical access hospitals in the State of Missouri to achieve this high ranking.

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Retired Wheaton police chief honored



Cassville and Wheaton Fire Departments paid tribute to retired Wheaton Police Chief, Clint Clark, during his funeral procession in Exeter Tuesday.

Four Seasons Realtors hosted First Friday Coffee



Cassville Chamber's First Friday coffee was served drive-through style by members of Four Seasons Realty, Friday, May 1. Shown, left to right, are: Lea Hill, Kay McCullah, Keisha Drost, Cindy Carr, Larry Daniels, Patti Daniels. Photo by Caden Swearingen.

Purdy High School seniors caravan through the streets



The Purdy High School graduating class of 2020 organized an impromptu parade through the streets of Purdy, Saturday night, May 9. The procession was led by Purdy police chief, Jackie Lowe, and the Purdy Fire Department.

Don Newman feted by staff at Barry Electric



Don Newman was surprised with a social-distancing, parking-lot party, Friday, May 1, to celebrate his retirement from Barry Electric. Approximately 50 people, shown above, were in attendance. Newman, a lineman, put in 39 "long years" with the company, as he put it. After retirement, his semi-immediate plan is to go on a cruise, whenever cruise ships set sail once more. Newman is shown at left, receiving a plaque received from the company in recognition of the years he's been with them.

Cassville Senior Center staff gets creative for Mother's Day



Above, left to right: Jeannie Sartin, Kathi Zornes, and our volunteer Rowan Rawlings. To celebrate Mother's Day, while remaining closed to the public, the staff at the senior center in Cassville planted flowers in jars to distribute to the ladies who deliver meals. Completed flower pots are shown above, left. The flowers were donated by Michael's.



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CLASS OF 2020

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Class Colors: *Maroon and Rose Gold*

Class Song: *"I Lived" by One Republic*

Class Flower: *Hydrangea*

 <p>Lillian Allen</p>	 <p>Taylynn Banks</p>	 <p>Bryce Brattin</p>	 <p>Sarah Brattin</p>	 <p>Calista Burns</p>	 <p>Jacoby Butler</p>
 <p>Janessa Chang</p>	 <p>Leanna Duchene</p>	 <p>Emily Gonzalez</p>	 <p>Tasha Graves</p>	 <p>Alejandra Grimaldo</p>	 <p>Steven Hang</p>
 <p>Brittany King</p>	 <p>Galaxy Loftis</p>	 <p>Burlie Lundgren</p>	 <p>Ricky Miller</p>	 <p>Arilene Nunez</p>	 <p>Tha Par</p>
 <p>Allie Reed</p>	 <p>Kobe Robbins</p>	 <p>Riley Sherwood</p>	 <p>Zolanna Simpson</p>	 <p>Ariana Williams</p>	 <p>Kyle Wright</p>

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 <p>Brice's Towing LLC 417-847-TOWS</p>	 <p>BURCHFIELD TAX SERVICE LLC 417-847-1100</p>	 <p>"Classy Review" Consignment Shop Men's - Women's - Children's Clothing 417-835-5049</p>	 <p>20th Anniversary CROWDER COLLEGE CASSVILLE 417-847-1706</p>	 <p>D & D Oil of Wheaton 417-652-3935 417-847-2422</p>	 <p>Terri DeGraffenreid Brattin Shelter Insurance 417-847-2100</p>	 <p>EXETER CORN MAZE 417-846-3960</p>
 <p>Chad Yarnall Barry County Farm Bureau 417-847-3399</p>	 <p>State Bank Cassville, Purdy, Monett, Pierce City 417-847-6623</p>	 <p>FLAT CREEK REALTY (417) 847-0025</p>	 <p>John Funeral Home McQueen Funeral Home Wheaton 417-847-2141</p>	 <p>Freedom Bank of Southern Missouri 417-846-1719</p>	 <p>Holmes Farm Supply Wheaton • 417-652-7463</p>	 <p>Hutchens Construction AN EMERY SAPP & SONS COMPANY</p>
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Federal funds available for local food and shelter programs

OACAC has been awarded federal funds made available through the Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program.

OACAC has been chosen to receive \$29,300 to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the county. The selection was made by a National Board that is chaired by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA; The Jewish Federations of North America; The Salvation Army; and United Way Worldwide. The local board was charged to distrib-

ute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in hgh-need areas around the country.

A local board will determine how the funds awarded to Barry County are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service agencies in the area. The local board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds made available under this phase of the program.

Under the terms of the grant from the national board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must: 1) be private, voluntary non-profits or units of government, 2) be eligible to receive federal funds, 3) have an accounting system, 4) practice non-discrimination, 5) have dem-

onstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and 6) if they are a private voluntary organization, have a voluntary board. Qualifying agencies are urged to apply.

OACAC has distributed emergency food and shelter funds previously with Cassville United Methodist Church and Central Community Methodist Church. These agencies are responsible for providing food, utilities and rent.

Public or private agencies interested in applying for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must contact Gail Reed, 10826 FR 2172, Cassville, or call 417-847-2140 for an application. The deadline for applications to be received is May 19, 2020.

Missourians to Enter \$100,000 MO Money Sweepstakes

Missouri State Treasurer Scott Fitzpatrick is reminding Missourians to enter the MO Money Sweepstakes before June 4. The sweepstakes will give away \$100,000 in MOST 529 contributions, with the first drawing this Friday, May 15, and the final drawing June 4.

50 scholarships will be awarded—25 \$529 scholarships, 10 \$1,000 scholarships, and 15 \$5,029 scholarships. This is the largest sweepstakes in the program’s 20 year history.

“Saving for education is important and I hope Missourians will take a few minutes to enter this sweepstakes,” Treasurer Fitzpatrick said. “We launched this during America Saves Week to encourage Missourians to think about the cost of education. Obviously, a lot has changed in the past two and a half months, but the importance of education planning has not changed.”

Missourians can enter online at mostsweeps.com. MOST, Missouri’s 529

Education Plan, is a tax-advantaged savings plan for education expenses. Money in MOST accounts can be used to pay for K-12 tuition and trade, college, and graduate school tuition and expenses. Contributions are eligible for state tax deductions, which can save families up to \$864 a year, and assets in MOST 529 accounts grow tax free.

No purchase is necessary. Participants must be at least 18 years and a Missouri resident to enter and win the sweepstakes.

How nutritious are our crops?

Steve Groff

When COVID-19 forced Americans to eat more meals at home, the opportunity was there at least hypothetically to switch to a healthier diet, giving the body’s immune system a much-needed boost at a time when fighting off disease is critical.

Unfortunately, many crops grown on American farms aren’t as healthy and nutrient-rich as they could and should be, says Steve Groff (www.stevegroff.com) author of the upcoming book The Future-Proof Farm and founder of Cover Crop Coaching, which educates farmers and farm advisors about effective cover crop use.

Cover crops are plants that are grown not to eat, but to improve the soil. Better soil produces more nutrient-dense crops, Groff says, which in turn can provide that help to the immune system.

“Historically, farmers have not had an incentive to grow nutrient-dense food with a larger amount of vitamins and minerals,” he says. “Farmers are paid based on the quantity of their yield, not the quality. From their perspective, why enrich the

soil the crops are grown in if that doesn’t lead to a greater yield? But when the soil is enriched with healthy minerals, so are the crops.”

Change is in the air, though, and there are reasons more farmers should start focusing their attention and efforts on nutrient-dense crops, Groff says. Those include:

The evolving public attitude. The attitude of indifference toward food quality has been changing as evidenced by the existence of such businesses as Sweetgreen, the restaurant chain that specializes in salads; the Row 7 Seed Company, which specializes in organic seeds; and numerous other ventures that have taken the pulse of the public in recent years. “Individual farmers who see what’s coming have been joining that trend toward better nutrition,” Groff says.

The limits of vitamin supplements. It’s true that consumers can turn to vitamin supplements to make up for what’s lacking in their food, bolstering their immune system that way. But people also want to enjoy the taste of a good meal when they are getting their vitamins and minerals, which

a pill doesn’t provide, Groff says. “Taste is also linked to the quality of the soil,” he says.

Food companies are getting on board. Some food corporations are already turning to farmers who can provide the more nutritious food that those companies want to sell to their customers, Groff says. General Mills in particular has taken an interest in working to improve the likelihood of healthy crop yields. The company has invested more than \$5.5 million in initiatives to improve soil health.

“I feel strongly that people need to be responsible and boost their immune systems with nutritious foods as a strategic way to stay healthier,” Groff says. “And everyone seems to agree with the multi-vitamin makers who say that our food is not as nutritious as it once was. But the solution needs to directly address that deficiency in our food. It all starts with regenerating the soil. It will produce more nutritious food when we allow it to do its job.”

Steve Groff (www.stevegroff.com), a lifelong farmer, is the founder of Cover Crop Coaching.

Make safety a top priority this Memorial Day weekend

Colonel Eric T. Olson, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, recognizes Memorial Day weekend is highly anticipated, especially after these last few months. A safe, fun weekend starts with planning and good decisions. Please remember to observe social distancing and other CDC guidelines, and stay home if you are ill. If your plans include driving or boating, choose to be courteous and obey all Missouri laws. Use a seat belt when you drive and wear a life jacket when you’re on or near the water. Always pay attention, whether you’re operating a vehicle or a vessel, and choose to be a sober driver on land and on the water.

The Patrol will be participating in Operation C.A.R.E. (Crash Awareness Reduction Effort) during the long holiday weekend. This means every available trooper will be on the road enforcing traffic laws and assisting motorists.

Motorists or boaters in need of assistance or who want to report a crime should use the Highway Patrol’s Emergency Assistance number 1-800-525-5555 or *55 on a cellular phone. For road condition reports, travelers can visit the Patrol’s website

at www.msHP.dps.mo.gov. Click on the Road Condition icon to view road construction areas as well as road conditions throughout the state or call 1-888-275-6636.

Over the 2019 Memorial Day holiday weekend, eight people died and 433 were injured in 1,009 traffic crashes. Last year, troopers made 96 DWI arrests. This year’s counting period for the holiday weekend begins at 6 p.m., Friday, May 22, and ends at 11:59 p.m., Monday, May 25, 2020. Troopers will focus their attention on seat belt use, use of child safety seats, impaired drivers, hazardous moving violations, and speed violations.

Motorists are encouraged to do their part to make Missouri’s roadways safer. Speed, inattention, and impaired driving are leading causes of traffic crashes. Please do your part. Obey all traffic laws and make sure everyone in the vehicle is properly restrained in a seat belt or child restraint.

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

The Memorial Day week-

end is also an unofficial start to the boating season. During the 2019 Memorial Day weekend, there were seven boating crashes which included two fatalities and three injuries. No one drowned over last year’s holiday weekend. Troopers arrested 10 people for boating while intoxicated over the 2019 Memorial Day weekend.

Missouri provides a variety of opportunities for boating. Please be courteous to others on the water, wear a life jacket, and obey the law regarding safe operation of a vessel and no wake zones. Causing harm to another person or their property with an excessive boat wake may subject you to enforcement action or civil liability. Always treat other boaters and property owners as you want to be treated. Never operate a boat while you are impaired; never ride with an impaired operator.

Watercraft operators must consider the effect their actions have on others: Share the waterway and use common sense, good judgment, and courtesy to ensure the safety of all. Life jackets save lives. Wear It!!

Follow the Patrol on Twitter for the most current news @MSHPTrooperGHQ

April lottery awards reported

Missouri Lottery players took home more than \$79.3 million in prizes during the month of April. Of the total \$79.3 million awarded, more than \$9.8 million were prizes of \$1,000 or more.

About the Missouri Lottery (MOLottery.com)

In 1984, more than 70 percent of Missouri voters

approved a lottery. Since sales started in 1986, the Missouri Lottery has generated more than \$6 billion for the state and public education, and annual Lottery proceeds make up approximately 4 percent of the state’s funding for public education. Lottery players have won more than \$14 billion in prizes, and retailers

have earned more than \$1.35 billion in commissions. Last fiscal year, the Lottery generated more than \$300 million for vital education programs, including A+ scholarships. When you play the Missouri Lottery, you Play It Forward!

Follow the Missouri Lottery on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

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CHARLES EDWARD (ED) RAY

After a long, full life Charles Edward (Ed) Ray, 88, passed away peacefully in the company of family at his residence at Autumn Winds Senior Assisted Living in Caldwell, Idaho, on Thursday, May 7, 2020.

Ed was born in the family homestead on Conger Mesa, Colorado, on April 18, 1932, to Charlie and Josephine Ray. Ed grew up on the Mesa with his four siblings. He is survived by his older (and slightly more bossy) sister, Ruby Jorstad of Denver, Colo., and his younger (and slightly more ornery) brothers, Duane Ray, of Las Vegas, Nev., and Carl Ray, of Yampa, Colo. His younger (and slightly better looking) sister, Jan Grosshans, of Eckert, Colo., preceded him in passing.

Ed was a horseman and rancher and spent his life viewing the world from atop one of several special horses -- from the family ranch and homestead in Colorado to his adopted home in Cassville. As a young man, Ed was a cowboy for the Bureau of Land Management in Routt

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County, Colo., and his best memories were of herding cattle or spotting elk while riding the Flattops Range in the high country above Yampa, Colo.

Ed married Erin Daniels on December 24, 1952, just before serving in the Korean War. She precedes him in death. Ed and Erin moved from the family ranch in Colorado to Cassville in 1964, happy to leave all that Colorado snow in their rearview mirror, and not so happy to learn about chiggers (resulting in much cussing and fussing). Ed used to say that while he raised cattle and trained horses on the ranch in Missouri, Erin raised and trained their children (an exaggeration, to be sure, but that was his story). They made a good team.

Ed was a loving father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He is survived by his children, Jean (Tom) Korder, of Urbana, Ill., Doug (Sue)Ray, of Nampa, Idaho, and Connie (Brent) Clark, of Cache, Okla.; and grandchildren, Thomas (Shannon) Korder, Katie (Keith) Bohlin, Matt (Katie) Clark, Casey (Kelly) Clark, and Walker, Hannah, and Rachel Ray; and a six-pack of great-grandchildren whose antics he reveled in and even (shockingly) encouraged.

While his family and friends will miss him dearly, they are comforted knowing that he is reunited with Erin and a host of family who passed before him, and that there will quite likely be dancing and endless cribbage

OBITUARIES

games involved.

The family would like to gratefully acknowledge the caring staff at Autumn Winds Senior Living in Caldwell, Idaho, Treasure Valley Hospice, and their amazing home-healthcare warriors, led by Dawn Lindsey, who so generously gave their time and their hearts to care for, and support, Ed and the family on his long journey Home.

His family and friends intend to honor Ed next summer in Colorado with a celebration of a life well-lived. In keeping with his wishes, he will rest in peace next to Erin and on top of Dome Mountain, his favorite place on this earth.

Memorial donations may be made to Treasure Valley Hospice (Caldwell, Idaho) or to a Hospice Care organization in your region or hometown.

Condolences may be offered at alsippersons.com.

BETTY LAMBERSON
Betty Lavelle Higgs Bridges Lamberson, age 80, of Wheaton, passed away Wednesday, May 6, 2020, at her home.

She was born June 24, 1939, at The Wheaton Hospital in Wheaton, the daughter of Chester Oliver and Della Marguerite (Hoyt) Higgs. On September 17, 1960, she was united in marriage to Milford Edwin Bridges and to this union two daughters, Gail and Susan, were born. On June 17, 2005, she married Ralph Edgar Lamberson, who survives. Ralph and Betty grew up on neighboring farms and were lifelong friends, even dating while in school. Some 45 years later, after life changes, they found each other again. Also surviving are her two daughters, Gail Lea Bridges Powers and her husband, Craig, of Bentonville, Arkansas, and Susan Lavelle Bridges Barnes Hart and her husband, Jesse, of Wildwood; a stepdaughter, Teresa Marie Lamberson Hopper, of Monett; and four grandchildren, Eric Logan Powers, Lauren Shelby Powers Gilleran and her husband, Dale, Mya Lavelle Barnes and Tyler Fitzhugh Hopper.

Preceding her in death were her parents, one infant sister, and one brother, Gary Joe Higgs.

Betty received her elementary education in Clark School, Oklahoma School and Butterfield School, all in Barry County, one year at Ozark, and then finished at Wheaton where she graduated from high school in 1957. She attended Kansas City Airline school and then Southwest Missouri State University. In 1999, she attended Oxford University, Christ College Summer School in Oxford, England. In the beginning of her working career, Betty was employed at Rockaway Beach Resort Drugstore along with babysitting. She

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Evening - 6:30 pm

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moved to Springfield and worked at Kresge's Dime store on the square during Christmas. She worked for Colonial Dinner House, was Toy Girl at the Toy Box on the Plaza and Western Auto in Springfield. Most of her adult life was spent as a mother and homemaker, but kept busy volunteering as Girl Scout leader, PTA Officer, Home room Mother, Election board, school elections, Democrat committee registration, kitchen helper at Webb City High School, did custom sewing mostly for proms and Joplin Centennial, an adult library page for Webb City Library, and worked at JC Penney's Department Store. At age 40, she opened the Calico Corner Quilts in Webb City, where she taught quilting classes and later taught at Bernina of Joplin. For several years, she taught quilting classes in the Continuing Education Department at MSSC in Joplin. She taught quilting for a total of 20 years. She organized the Town & Country Quilters Guild of the Joplin area, where she served as president and later as treasurer for four years. For six years, she served on the Board of the Joplin Historical Society and Dortha B. Hoover Museum and also was a volunteer. She was the events chairman for Clothing and Textiles Preservation and was co-chairman of ten quilt shows and four special quilt displays. She coordinated two clothing and textile shows featuring, "100 years of wedding dresses". For three years, she judged quilts at the Ozark Empire Fair and several area guild quilt shows. Betty helped with hanging a gallery of antique quilts at a show and sale in Aspen, Colorado. She had several flea market and antique booths in Joplin, Pierce City and Ozark. She

prepared the papers for the National Register list for the Wheaton Depot. In 2007, she and her husband, Ralph, co-authored the Wheaton Centennial book, "Wheaton Echoes," and helped organize the Wheaton Historical Society, spending almost two years in the restoration of the Wheaton Depot. She served as treasurer and acquisitions chairman for the Wheaton Depot Museum.

Services were held at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, May 10, 2020, at McQueen Funeral Home in Wheaton. Pastor Tony Ball conducted the services. Burial was at Waldensian Presbyterian Cemetery in Monett.

Contributions may be made to Wheaton Historical Society or Wheaton Depot Museum in memory of Betty. Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.

MCQUEEN FUNERAL HOME
WHEATON, MO. 417-652-7268

LINDA L. WILKERSON
Linda L. Wilkerson, age 75, of Wheaton, passed away Monday, May 11, 2020, at her home.

Cremation arrangements are under direction of McQueen Funeral Home in Wheaton.

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

MCQUEEN FUNERAL HOME
WHEATON, MO. 417-652-7268

ANNABELLE (JAMES) BURNETTI
Annabelle (James) Burnett, age 80, of Monett, passed away on May 3, 2020.

A memorial rosary and Mass will be held at a future date. Arrangements are under the direction of Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.

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Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am

Sunday Evening Worship 6:30 pm

Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6:30 pm

Sunday Morning Radio Program KKBL 95.9 FM 7:45 am

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The Family of Carolyn Brattin

would like to express our sincere appreciation for all the cards, phone calls, food and prayers during our family's loss. We appreciated each and every one of you. We extend a special thank you to Fohn's Funeral Home and Jim & Janice Fohn for their professionalism and thoughtfulness during this time.

God Bless,
Charley Brattin and girls
Tonya Belk
Tammy Pueppke
Teresa Stumpff

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FRANCES “FRAN” NICOLL
Frances “Fran” Nicoll, age 85, of Monett, formerly of Cassville, passed away Monday, May 11, 2020, at Cox-Monett Hospital in Monett.

She was born September 12, 1934 in Julesburg, Colorado the daughter of Sheldon and Beulah (Harris) Shields. On June 6, 1954, she was united in marriage to Don Liddle, who passed away in 1985. To this union two daughters were born, Susan and Sharon. On February 14, 1997, she married Glen Dale Nicoll, who preceded her in death on June 4, 2015. Also preceding her in death were her parents and three brothers, Gene, Neil and Harl Shields.

Surviving are two daughters, Susan Hailicka and her husband, Paul, of Grand Island, Nebraska, and Sharon Blackketter, of Las Vegas, Nevada; one grandson, Brandon Blackketter; two nieces, Ann Lassiter and her husband, Jim, and Kay Baker; and one nephew, Nick Nicoll and his wife, Laurie.

Fran grew up and received her education in Julesburg, Colorado, where she graduated from high school and lived there fifty years. In 1985, she moved to Cassville, remaining there until a few years ago to reside in Monett. While in Cassville, she had been a legal secretary and was a bookkeeper in the Barry County Collector’s office. She was a member of First Christian Church in Cassville. Some of her favorite pastimes were playing golf, traveling and reading.

Graveside services will

OBITUARIES

be held at 1:00 p.m. today, Wednesday, May 13, 2020, at Oak Hill Cemetery in Cassville under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Dr. Chuck Terrill will conduct the services.

Contributions may be made to St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital in memory of Fran. Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.

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



SHARON DUNCAN

Sharon Duncan, age 69, of Cassville, passed away on Friday, May 8, 2020, at Cox South Hospital in Springfield. Mrs. Duncan, daughter of Raymond and Minnie (Dixon) Spivey, was born on January 20, 1951, in Grand Prairie, Texas. On December 20, 1969, she was united in marriage to Paul Duncan. Mrs. Duncan worked many years as a secretary for Community Faith Chapel where she and her husband were always willing to help when needed. She enjoyed crafts, gardening, and bird watching. Mrs. Duncan was loving and caring and would always welcome others with her contagious smile and a warm hug. She was a dear friend to many and will be greatly missed.

Survivors include her husband of fifty years, Paul Duncan, of Cassville; one daughter, Karen Brown and her husband, Erick, of Franklin, Massachusetts; four grandchildren, Christian, Taron, Damien, and Erica;

one brother, Bobby Spivey, of Grand Prairie, Texas; four sisters, Alice Mudd and her husband, Felix, of Port Lavaca, Texas, Linda Jackson and her husband, Kenneth, of Longview, Texas, Patty Bement and her husband, Jack, of Grand Prairie, Texas, and Teresa Fry and her husband, Ken, of Irving, Texas; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Sharon was preceded in death by her son, John Duncan; five brothers; and two sisters.

Memorial services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 16, 2020, at Community Faith Chapel in Cassville, with Pastor Rick Cooper and Paul Duncan officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family and entrusted to the White Funeral Home and Crematory, P.O. Box 890, Cassville, MO 65625.

Cremation arrangements are under the direction of the White Funeral Home and Crematory, Cassville.

W

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and Crematory
www.whitefuneralhome.org
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JENNY LOIS HAYES

Jenny Lois Hayes, age 68, of Monett, passed away on Sunday, May 10, 2020, at Cox South Hospital in Springfield. Mrs. Hayes, daughter

of Doyle and Ruby (Ellis) Hayes, was born on September 22, 1951, in Cassville. She was a 1969 Cassville High School graduate. Mrs. Hayes met several people throughout her life always leaving a lasting impression. She had a huge heart for others and her family was very important to her; she will be greatly missed.

Survivors include three sons, Dustin Scroggins, of Monett, Todd Scroggins and his wife, Cynthia, of Exeter, and Robbie Purdom, of Pierce City; six grandchildren, Tim Scroggins, Beau Scroggins, Drake Reese, Stormi Purdom, Tyler Purdom, and Robbie “R.J.” Purdom; three great-grandchildren, Maddox Briskey, Raelynn Briskey, and Aspen Purdom; two brothers, Lavern Hayes and his wife, Henrietta, of Purdy, and Jean Hayes and his wife, Linda, of Springfield; one sister, Lavita Rhinehart and her husband, Charles, of St. Genevieve; her aunt, Georgia Angelo, of Springfield; her uncle, Bob Hayes and his wife, Kay, of Cassville; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one son, Tim Scroggins.

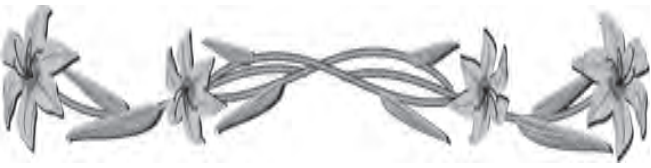
No services are scheduled at this time. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family and entrusted to the White Funeral Home and Crematory, P.O. Box 890, Cassville, MO 65625.

Cremation arrangements are under the direction of the White Funeral Home and Crematory, Cassville.

W

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Matilda Kathleen
Susan and Chris Goodwin wish to announce the birth of Matilda Kathleen, born on April 8, 2020. She weighed 8 pounds, 5 ounces, and was 21 inches long at birth. Matilda was welcomed home by 3 year old big sister, Marietta Susan, and older big sister, Samantha. Maternal grandparents are Kathy and Doyle Ray, of Cassville; paternal grandparents are Kenny Taft, of Cassville, and Becky Goodwin, of Joplin. Matilda is also welcomed by some loving big cousins, proud aunts and uncles, and blessed with some very special “stand in” grandparents, the Tuckers, and “stand in” great-grandparents, the Blankenships and Bowens.

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Name and impact of giant hornet misleading, says MU entomologist.



Asian giant hornet (*Vespa mandarinia*). Photo by Yasunori Koide / CC BY-SA.

Missourians need not worry about insects dubbed “murder hornets” in social media, says University of Missouri Extension entomologist Kevin Rice.

He hopes to put a halt to hysteria about the Asian giant hornet.

“The name circulating on social media is misleading,” Rice says. “Scientists do not use the term murderous to describe this interesting insect. These headlines sound like something from a Stephen King story and instill unnecessary fear.”

“The Asian giant hornet is not typically aggressive and only attacks people when its nest is threatened,” says MU Extension horticulturist Tamra Reall.

In Japan, fewer than 50 people per year die from the hornet’s potent venom. To put this in perspective, more than 200 people die in the U.S. each year from vehicle accidents involving deer, Reall says.

The hornet is not present in the Midwest now. “It is also extremely unlikely it will ever move here,” says Rice, with emphasis on “extremely.” In 2019, entomologists found and eradicated one nest in Vancouver, Canada. One dead wasp was found in the state of Washington.

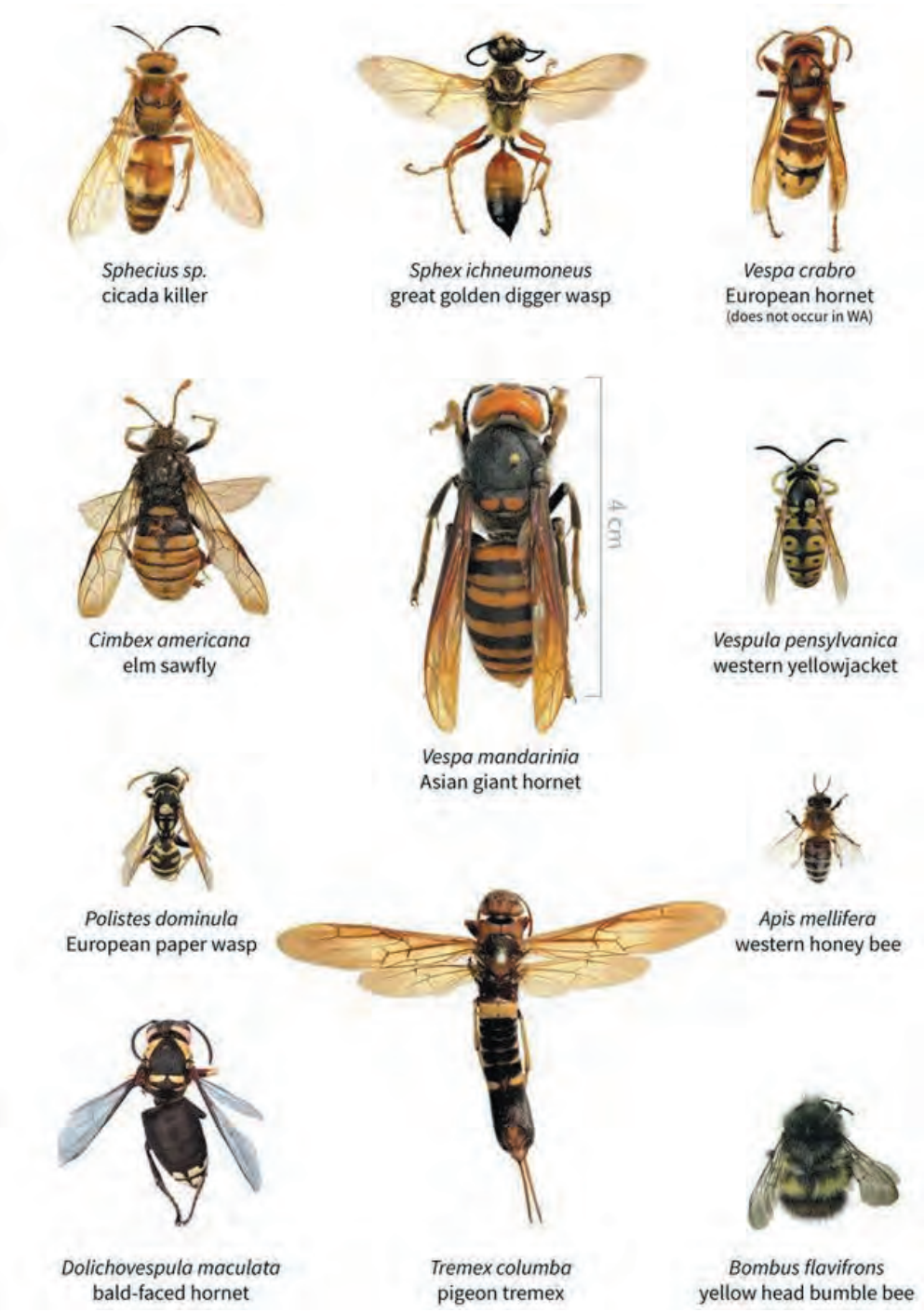
The hornet prefers mountains and lowlands. It dislikes plains, especially areas where humans live. A native of eastern Asia and Japan, the hornet can adapt to new

environments, but Rice still says it presents “minimal, if any” danger to humans in the United States.

Measuring about 2 inches long, the Asian giant hornet is the world’s largest hornet. It is about three or four times larger than other wasps in the United States. Reall and Rice are concerned that people worried about “murder hornets” will spray native wasps and hornets that pollinate plants and provide important biological controls for agriculture.

The real danger of Asian giant hornets is to bees. The hornets can kill entire hives.

Asian honeybees have found two ways to fight back. In a technique called “heat balling,” bees surround the hornet, flap their wings rapidly and generate heat that kills it. Some honeybees make a paste of flowers and smear it around their hives. The floral pheromones deter the hornets from entering. However, honeybees in North America are unlikely to express these behavioral defenses.



Comparison chart of bees, wasps and hornets. Washington State Department of Agriculture.

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