

60-year courthouse employee tells tales



Shown above, photo of Barry County courthouse, taken during the 1960s.



2020 retirement photo depicts, front row, left to right: Kami Stanton, Terra Stockton, Reta Voelker, Katie Epling, Hannah Henson; 2nd row, left to right: Daryl Rose, Kristina Hayes, Rosanna Miller, Cortni Newman, Sherry Allie, Katie Correia; back row, left to right: Judge Robert Foulke, Circuit Clerk, Craig Williams.

Sheila Harris

Long-time Barry County employee, Reta Voelker, has finally retired!

“I’d been getting that question - when are you going to retire? - from people for a lot of years,” said Voelker, who most recently served as Deputy Circuit Clerk. “They’d come into the office and ask, ‘are you still here?’ as if they couldn’t believe their eyes. It was a little awkward, but it didn’t worry me. I’d actually

been thinking about retiring for the last several years but I wasn’t quite ready yet. Now I am.”

Her official retirement began July 1.

Voelker started working for the county courthouse in 1960, in an era when most women didn’t go to college and their employment options were limited.

“I had just graduated from high school,” Voelker said. “I was young, single, and still living with my parents. It just so happened, my aunt was married to a presiding judge, Lester Loftin. He put in a word for me with the Barry County Treasurer at the time, Lloyd Dilbeck.”

Voelker landed a job in Mr. Dilbeck’s office in the old courthouse, back in the days when old men filled the benches in the hallways, swapping stories and spitting into strategically located brass spittoons.

Voelker’s first job in the treasurer’s office involved counting lots of change.

“All of the Barry County

schools brought the lunch money they collected from students each day into the treasurer’s office. A lot of it was in coins. It was my job to count it and credit it to each school district’s funds,” she explained.

“I remember being very nervous when I first started,” she admitted, “but Mr. Dilbeck set my mind at rest. He always said, ‘There’s no way you can make a mistake that can’t be fixed.’”

Lloyd Dilbeck turned out to be an easy-going boss in other ways as well. When times were slow in the office - as they sometimes were - Dilbeck encouraged



Shown above, teenage Reta Voelker.

her to bring her embroidery to work with her, an offer she took him up on.

“I’d sit in the office and

See VOELKER 5A



1988 photo depicts, left to right: Recorder Dick Sanders, Marina Stillings, Pat Henderson, Deanna McCullough and Reta Voelker.

Purdy gears up for 9th annual festival, car show biggest yet



Kiddie carnival rides provided by Party Station of Nixa are always a hit at the Purdy Festival.

Sheila Harris

The 9th Annual Purdy Festival is scheduled for this Saturday, July 18.

According to festival committee spokesperson, Renae Neill, this year’s event will boast many of the same activities as in year’s past, including free kiddie carnival rides brought by Party Station in Nixa.

“In addition to outside food vendors, we’ll have lots of craft and vendor booths set up inside the gymnasium where it’s nice and cool,” Neill said.

According to Neill, one major change to this year’s itinerary will be the return of the FFA-sponsored petting zoo, which will be set up under a tent to provide shade for the

little ones: both children and livestock. The petting zoo will take the place of the FFA Livestock Show at the festival this year.

“We had the petting zoo in years past, and it was always a huge hit with the younger kids,” Neill said.

A perennial favorite at the festival, for contestants and spectators alike, are the bath-

tub races, which are expected to begin around 2 p.m.

Austin Drake, the organizer for this year’s festival car show, “Thunder in the Park,” anticipates that this year’s show will be bigger and better than ever. The entry fee is \$20 per car, with no pre-reg-

See PURDY 6A

Lacoba Homes, Bentonview Park see surge in COVID-19 cases

Sheila Harris

According to data released this morning by the Barry County Health Department and Office of Emergency Management, two nursing homes in Barry County are experiencing an upward surge in the number of positive cases of COVID-19 among employees and residents.

The total number of positive cases in Barry County has jumped to 151, up from 105 at last reporting. Of the 151 positive cases, 38 are being reported from Lacoba Homes and 19 from Benton-

view Park Health Care, both located in Monett.

Employee cases (either active or resolved) are also being reported from George’s, Lai Lai Asian Buffet, PlayPower, EFCO, Walmart (Monett), Lowe’s, Tyson’s, Cricket and IDF.

Four individuals, adults and children, have tested positive at God’s Little Kingdom Preschool in Cassville. The preschool will remain closed until July 21, while a quarantine period is observed and deep-cleaning is performed.

The Barry County Health

Department also reports that an employee of MO Wings in Monett tested positive for COVID-19.

The Lawrence County Health Department reported at total of 105 cases Tuesday, July 14, up 36 from their previous reporting. Of those, 63 are active cases, 40 have recovered and two people have died. Fifteen of the positive cases are linked to Lacoba Homes in Monett.

As of last reporting, eight of the Lawrence County positive cases of COVID-19 were

See COVID-19

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Ashcroft details August 4 primary voting options

Last week, Missouri Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft traveled the state to discuss election law changes brought about by SB 631, which created a COVID-related option to vote by absentee ballot and offers every registered voter an opportunity to vote by mail-in ballot with notarization. Missouri's next election is the August 4 primary.

In-person voting remains a secure option to cast a ballot. "I want to assure Missouri voters that their local election authorities (LEAs) are taking many precautions to make voting in person safe and secure," Ashcroft said. "My office has distributed \$4.5 million in federal and state funds and provided them with sanitizer, floor distancing strips, face masks, face shields and other items to assist with creating a safe voting environment. Voting in person is the most secure way to cast a ballot."

In-Person Voting
On the August 4 election, you may cast your ballot at your polling place. Curb-side voting is also available; call your local election official for details. Local election officials are preparing polling places to provide space between voters and poll workers, and providing other safeguards, like hand sanitizer, face masks and face shields for poll workers.

To find your polling place, visit the Voter Outreach Portal at www.voteroutreach.sos.mo.gov. Find contact information for your local election authority at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/>

goVoteMissouri/localelectionauthority.
Absentee Ballot Voting
Voting by absentee has been available for more than 30 years. Until recently, six excuses existed to obtain an absentee ballot, all but one of which require a notary.

If you are incapacitated or confined due to illness, you are not required to have your ballot envelope notarized.

If you are voting absentee due to any of the other reasons – religious beliefs or practice, working as an election worker, incarcerated but still eligible to vote, being absent from your election jurisdiction on election day or being a certified participant in an address confidentiality program – you are required to have your ballot envelope notarized.

SB 631 created another justification to vote by absentee ballot. The new, seventh option allows voters to be eligible if they have coronavirus or are at risk because they fall into any of the following categories: are age 65 or older; live in a long term care facility; have chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma; have serious heart conditions; are immunocompromised; have diabetes; have chronic kidney disease and are undergoing dialysis; or have liver disease. Under this exemption, you are not required to have your ballot notarized.

Absentee ballots may be requested in person, by mail, facsimile or email. An in-

person request may be made up until the day before the election and the ballot completed in the office of the election official; other methods of request must be made by July 22. A dual absentee/mail-in ballot application may be found here: <https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/ElectionGoVoteMissouri/2020FillableBallotApplication.pdf>

Absentee ballots may be returned to the local election authority in person or by mail. Absentee ballots must be received in the election office by the close of the election, 7 p.m. on Aug. 4.

Mail-in Voting
SB 631 created a mail-in ballot option available to all registered voters. This is a temporary option available in 2020 due to COVID-19. Any registered voter may request a mail-in ballot in person or by mail. Requests must be made by July 22. A dual absentee/mail-in application may be found here: <https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/ElectionGoVoteMissouri/2020FillableBallotApplication.pdf>

The ballot envelope, per state law, must be notarized. Additionally, state law requires mail-in ballots to be delivered to the local election authority by U.S. mail only. Ballots must be received in the local election authority's office by the close of the election, 7 p.m. on Aug. 4.

Notary Required
Several voting options require a ballot envelope to be notarized. A Notary Public provides this service. Notarization helps to assure that the person who requested the ballot is the same person who is submitting it.

State law forbids notaries from charging a fee to notarize an absentee ballot. However, SB 631 did not forbid notaries from charging to notarize a mail-in ballot. As a result, the Secretary of State's office is compiling a list of organizations and individuals who are volunteering to provide both services free of charge.

A list of volunteer notaries may be found here: <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/MailinNotary>

Absentee voting continues for August 4 primary

Absentee voting continues for the August 4, 2020 Primary Election through Monday, August 3, 2020, at the Barry County Clerk's Office in Cassville, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

If unable to vote absentee in person, you may request an absentee ballot to be mailed to you. You can pick up an absentee ballot request form at the Monett Chamber of Commerce or you may send a written request to the office of: Jill H. LeCompte, Barry County Clerk, 700 Main St. Suite 2, Cassville, MO 65625 or by fax at 417-847-5311. If you are requesting an absentee ballot by mail we will need: Date of Election, Name of voter, Physical ad-

dress, Mailing address, Date of birth, Last four (4) digits of social security number, Phone number, Reason for voting absentee (absent from your voting location on election day or physical disability), Party Preference, and Signature.

- You may also print an absentee application from sos.mo.gov and mail it to our office.
- Last day to request an absentee ballot to be mailed is Wednesday, July 22, 2020, for the August 4, 2020, Primary election.
- For additional information, call Barry County Clerk, Jill H. LeCompte at 417-847-2561 or email jhlecompte@barrycountyclerk.com.

University of Missouri Dean's List

Cassville:

- Jessica Ellen Edie Junior, Arts & Science
- Hailey E Matthew Junior, Nursing
- Cole Scott Stringer, Journalism

Purdy

- Bayleigh Madison Schad Sophomore, Engineering
- Seligman**
- Tanner C Leonhardt Junior, Health Professions

Information for August 4 primary election

If you have mobility issues like walking or standing in lines please send us a written request (with the information listed below) or stop by our office and vote absentee!

- You may vote absentee in person through Monday, August 3, 2020, at the Barry County Clerk's Office in Cassville, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- You must present one form of identification to vote. For example: driver's license or voter registration card.
- If unable to vote absentee in person, you may request an absentee ballot to be mailed to you. You can pick up an absentee ballot request form at the Monett Chamber of Commerce, Shell Knob Chamber of Commerce, or

you may send a written request and include the following information: Date of election, name of voter, physical address, mailing address, date of birth, last four (4) digits of social security number, phone number, reason you are voting absentee, also the party ballot you wish to vote, and your signature. Mail to Jill LeCompte at 700 Main St. Suite 2, Cassville, MO 65625 or fax to 417-847-5311. Our email address is jhlecompte@barrycountyclerk.com

- The last day to request a ballot to be mailed is Wednesday, July 22, 2020 for the Primary Election.
- For additional information, call Barry County Clerk, Jill LeCompte at 417-847-2561 or email jhlecompte@barrycountyclerk.com.

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Community Calendar

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

Notice:

Barry County Health Department would like to announce that we will be shifting Covid-19 testing days to Thursday and Fridays only for July and August do to our

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WIC program moving to EWIC cards and back to school shots. If you need to be tested for Covid-19, please contact your physician or utilize telemedicine for a referral to be tested as well. For testing at Barry County Health Dept., call (417) 847-2114.

Seligman Chamber Dance will be held every Saturday night from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Chamber Event Center. Guests are asked to bring a dish for potluck.

The Old Church Gallery Farmers' Market runs every Thursday from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Items for sale include produce, eggs, jellies, relishes, baked goods, cut flowers, and handmade crafts. Visitors are asked to please follow the health guidelines and wear face coverings and practice six-foot physical distancing while shopping. Old Church Gallery is located on Farm Road 1240, Shell Knob, and can be reached for questions or information by calling (417) 858-2510.

Cassville Library is open. The hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday. The first hour Monday through Friday is reserved for senior citizens and the medically compromised patrons. Call (417) 847-2121 for more information.

Cassville Branch Library's summer reading program has gone virtual. If you would like to know more, please contact the library at (417) 847-2121. Ask to speak to Verna Fry for information about the youth programming and Donna Lawson for the adult programming.

Farm Road 2140 will be closed beginning June 24, 2020, for low water crossing repairs. Road will be closed until further notice.

BARRY COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES E9-1-1	
BUDGET FY 20-21	
INCOME	
Sales Tax Revenue.....	\$1,575,000.00
Interest.....	\$7,000.00
Petty Cash.....	\$100.00
Other Income	\$750.00
(maps/signs/restitution)	
Pre-Paid.....	\$15,000.00
Contracted Services	\$18,350.00
(Barry Lawrence)	
Grants.....	\$0.00
Revenue Total.....	\$1,616,200.00
OPERATING EXPENSES	
6000-Payroll Total.....	\$1,100,900.00
6200-Training Total.....	\$35,800.00
6300-Supplies Total.....	\$16,550.00
6400-Insurance Total.....	\$17,600.00
6500-Sign Installation Total	\$17,000.00
6600-Board & Executives Total....	\$18,000.00
7000-Advertising Total.....	\$1,700.00
7200-Professional Services Total...	\$24,300.00
7300-Utilities Total	\$23,275.00
7400-Communications Total.....	\$72,700.00
8000-Equipment Total.....	\$109,950.00
8100-Vehicle Total	\$4,950.00
8200-Facility Total.....	\$36,250.00
8600-Maintenance Agreement....	\$75,000.00
9600-Building Payment/Miscellaneous Total	
Operating Expenses Subtotal...	
Capital Projects-BREAKDOWN	
(INCLUDED ABOVE)	
8016 Radio 5th station/ CAD intergration	\$60,000.00
8038- Radio/Tower Repairs/Purchase	\$15,000.00
NON CATERGORIZED PAYMENTS	
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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.

The Helping Hands Food Pantry services the citizens of Eagle Rock, Golden and Mano and is open from 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. every Saturday and Tuesday, and also 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month.

Questions for the pantry can be answered by calling 417-271-1301 or visiting at 32685 State Hwy. 86 in Eagle Rock. (Just 1/4 mile east of the Hwy. P intersection).

Blue Grass in The Park is a family friendly free outdoor event every Friday evening - weather permitting - from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the amphitheater at Roaring River State Park. These bluegrass performances will take place until September 27.

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.

July 16th

MU Extension Office, Cassville is offering Boost your Brain and Memory - virtual class. Registration is at <https://extension2.missouri.edu/events/boost-your-brain-and-memory-via-zoom>. This is a series of classes meeting every Thursday, July 16 to September 3, from 1 P.M. to 3 P.M.

MU Extension Office, Cassville is offering Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body - virtual class. Registration is at <https://action.alz.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Default.aspx?TabID=1357&productId=70594394>

July 17th

The Annual Stones Prairie Picnic has been postponed. Call the Church office at (417) 442-3836 for more information.

July 21st

The Southwest Missouri Waste Mangement District N will hold its monthly Executive Board Meeting at 11:50 A.M. on Tuesday, July 21, 2020. This meeting is open to the public and will be held at th Angus Branch Steakhouse in Monett.

Aug 10th

The Barry County Democrats will meet on Monday, August 10, at 7 P.M. The monthly meeting will be in Golden at the Golden Community Center, 28686 State Hwy. J, Golden, MO 65658. For questions, please contact Maella Blalock at (231) 343-2727.

Cancellation

Clio music is cancelled until further notice.



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VOELKER from FRONT

embroidery,” she said. “It was my favorite past-time at the time.”

Voelker later left Lloyd Dilbeck’s office to help the county in other capacities.

“I was a ‘rover’ for a while,” she said. “I helped out wherever I was needed. I’ve worked for a judge, the assessor, the county clerk, the collector, and the recorder. In fact, I spent 15 years working for Dick Sanders in the Recorder’s office.”

During her time spent working in an unnamed judge’s office, according to a story oft-repeated by her co-workers, Voelker and her female counterparts were responsible for ensuring that the judge looked presentable for court appearances by touching up his hair and straightening his tie.

“I’ve heard it was part of their job description at the time,” one such employee, Kristina Hayes, said.

From county offices, Voelker moved to state, where she spent the last 26 years of her career working in the circuit clerk’s office.

In addition to Voelker’s expanded job portfolio, she added a few more favorites to her list of past-times through

the years.

“I love fishing at Roaring River,” she said, “although I’ve backed off a bit since they took the fish-cleaning stations out.”

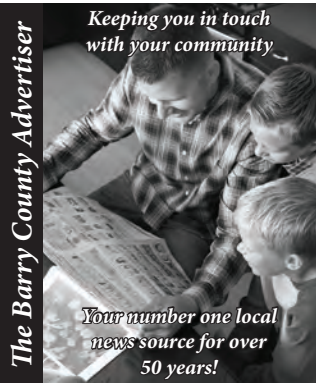
Farther afield, she’s made motorcycle and camping trips out west with her brother to visit relatives in that direction. A hot air balloon ride is still on her bucket list. In the meantime, she substituted a bit of parasailing, in spite of her fear of the water.

“I’d parasail again if I had the chance to,” she said.

For the time being, she plans to take things slower and just tend to the garden behind her house in Mineral Springs, where, in its heyday, her parents once owned the general store.

We wish you all the best, Reta!

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MSSU and Crowder College fall opening announcement

Missouri Southern State University & Crowder College announced plans to require masks when fall classes begin to create a safe environment for its students, faculty, staff and campus community.

Both institutions will have detailed plans for their campus communities that promotes a safe environment while providing the needed educational opportunities.

“Missouri Southern is committed to providing an engaging on-campus experience for students this fall, while also prioritizing the safety of our faculty, staff, students and community,” said Dr. Dean Van Galen, president of Missouri Southern. “We will continue to implement best practices and promote a campus culture that supports both high-quality education and the well-being

of all.”

“Our team has been working since March on a plan to provide a safe educational environment for our students and employees. Crowder College and Missouri Southern State University have many similar issues to address and each school also has unique issues to consider. Studying the data in the region and determining whether to wear face coverings was a common issue where both schools could collaborate and determine the best solution for higher education in Southwest Missouri,” stated Dr. Glenn Coltharp, president of Crowder College.



Safety measures at both institutions include increased cleaning and disinfecting of all areas in a effort to keep campus as safe as possible.

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 JOHN DEERE



Savings based upon Maritz January 2019 Customer Purchase Funnel Study. Some restrictions apply. See dealer for details. Offer good through 10/31/2020.

41c

PURDY from FRONT

COVID-19 from FRONT

istration required. Opening time for the event is scheduled for 8 a.m.

Drake, who travels the car show circuit throughout the Midwest and beyond with his 1972 restored, red and white Chevy pickup, has many connections with both car show enthusiasts and the companies who sponsor them throughout the United States.

“I hope to see Purdy’s car show entries stretched from one end of town to the other, and possibly all the way out to Highway 37,” he said. “It could happen. Some of the larger Midwest shows – some which typically see a turnout of about 2,000 cars - have canceled their events due to COVID-19, so a lot of the

contestants have plans to come to Purdy instead. Parts City, a major auto parts retailer, has been advertising the event on their corporate website as well.”

This is Drake’s second year to organize Purdy Festival’s car show.

“Last year,” he said, “it was kind of thrown on me at the last minute, so I didn’t have a lot of time to organize. This year, though, I’ve had almost all year to plan for this weekend’s event. We have lots of great prizes for participants and winners. Awards go to the top five cars in each class, plus Best Custom, Best Paint, “Best Engine,” Best Interior, 89 and Under Best in Show, and 90 and Above Best in Show.”

Something new to the car show this year, according to Drake, are the customized valve-cover races, with prizes for ages 13 and under, and ages 14 and up.

“With the help of local sponsors, we have \$800 dollars in gifts and merchandise to raffle, plus some really great music lined up, including the Eddie Valen Band and Brian Lee Dunning, who performs the music of Elvis and Johnny Cash,” Drake added.

Shortly before noon, according to Drake, activity will pause while the band plays the national anthem. This will be followed by “thunder in the park,” when all cars will rev up their engines simultaneously.

According to organizer, Michelle Jones, a reception for area veterans will be held in the park pavilion from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. She encourages veterans to stop in for refreshments.

A car parade through the streets of Purdy will wrap up the car show around 3 p.m, with a cruise-in at Angus Branch in Monett planned afterward.

According to Renae Neill, all events at the festival are scheduled to wrap up at 3 p.m. this year, heralded by the popular “Firemen Cool-off,” when fire hoses will be turned on in the street to allow kids – and maybe a few adults – to refresh themselves in the water.

linked to worship services at Freedom Christian Center, north of Aurora on Highway 39.

Some of the positive cases visited the following locations:

- July 5th: Several attended Freedom Christian Church A.M. service 17044 State Hwy 39, Aurora.
- July 6th: Visited Mt. Vernon License Bureau at 2:45 (no mask), shopped at Walmart in Mt. Vernon at 3:30 (masked).
- July 7th: Grande Tire in Aurora 1:00 p.m. (symptomatic, no mask), ate at Texas Roadhouse Springfield, approx. 8:00 – 9:00 p.m. (symptomatic, no mask).
- July 8th: Ate at The Red Barn in Mt. Vernon (had symptoms, no mask).
- Crown Power Equipment, July 6th, 9 or 10 a.m. (no mask)
- Freedom Christian Center, July 6th, p.m. service
- Walmart (Aurora), July 9th, 10 - 11 a.m. (no mask); July 10th, 3 p.m. (masked); July 11th, 12 - 12:15 p.m. (no mask)
- Flat Creek Resort (Republic), July 9th, 12 p.m. (no mask)
- Dollar General (Auro-

ra), July 9th, 6 - 6:30 p.m. (masked)

- El Azteca (Mt. Vernon), July 10th, 6:30 or 7 p.m. (no mask)
- Walmart (Monett), July 11th, 6:30 p.m. (no mask)
- Walmart (Mt. Vernon), July 12th, 2:30 p.m. (no mask)
- Dollar General (Monett), July 12th, 1:45 - 2 p.m. (masked)
- Casey’s (806 Elliott, Aurora), 6:30 p.m. (no mask)
- Kum and Go (Monett), July 8th, 9th, 10th, 6:30 a.m. (no mask), July 10th, 11th, 12th, 7:30 or 8 p.m. (masked)
- Casey’s (Pierce City), July 12th, 13th, 7:30 or 8 a.m. (masked)
- Tonto’s Liquor (Pierce City) 9 p.m. (no mask).

If you were at these locations, please monitor for symptoms for 14 days. Call your provider if symptoms develop. If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop symptoms, call your health care provider, or use the CoxHealth virtual visit <https://www.coxhealth.com/services/virtualvisits/>. com.

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.

EXETER R-VI SCHOOL

ACCEPTING BIDS FOR MILK

The Exeter R-VI School Board is accepting bids for milk for the 2020 - 2021 school year. Interested parties are invited to present sealed bids to the office of the Superintendent, Exeter R-VI School District no later than 12:30 p.m. August 12, 2020.

41c

Pisces Moon Abstracts

Adriana Keeton

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40-41pd

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of Missouri

To be submitted to the qualified voters of the State of Missouri at the Special Election to be held on Tuesday, the 4th day of August, 2020.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. 2

[Proposed by Initiative Petition]

OFFICIAL BALLOT TITLE:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to:

- adopt Medicaid Expansion for persons 19 to 64 years old with an income level at or below 133% of the federal poverty level, as set forth in the Affordable Care Act;
- prohibit placing greater or additional burdens on eligibility or enrollment standards, methodologies or practices on persons covered under Medicaid Expansion than on any other population eligible for Medicaid; and
- require state agencies to take all actions necessary to maximize federal financial participation in funding medical assistance under Medicaid Expansion?

State government entities are estimated to have one-time costs of approximately \$6.4 million and an unknown annual net fiscal impact by 2026 ranging from increased costs of at least \$200 million to savings of \$1 billion. Local governments expect costs to decrease by an unknown amount.

Be it resolved by the people of the state of Missouri that the Constitution be amended:

Article IV of the Constitution is revised by adding one new section to be known as Article IV, Section 36(c) to read as follows:

Section 36(c). 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, beginning July 1, 2021, individuals nineteen years of age or older and under sixty-five years of age who qualify for MO HealthNet services under 42 U.S.C. Section 1396a(a)(10)(A)(i) (VIII) and as set forth in 42 C.F.R. 435.119, and who have income at or below one hundred thirty-three percent of the federal poverty level plus five percent of the applicable family size as determined under 42 U.S.C. Section 1396a(e)(14) and as set forth in 42 C.F.R. 435.603, shall be eligible for medical assistance under MO HealthNet and shall receive coverage for the health benefits service package.

2. For purposes of this section “health benefits service package” shall mean benefits covered by the MO HealthNet program as determined by the

department of social services to meet the benchmark or benchmark-equivalent coverage requirement under 42 U.S.C. Section 1396a(k)(1) and any implementing regulations.

3. No later than March 1, 2021, the Department of Social Services and the MO HealthNet Division shall submit all state plan amendments necessary to implement this section to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

4. The Department of Social Services and the MO HealthNet Division shall take all actions necessary to maximize federal financial participation in funding medical assistance pursuant to this section.

5. No greater or additional burdens or restrictions on eligibility or enrollment standards, methodologies, or practices shall be imposed on persons eligible for MO HealthNet services pursuant to this section than on any other population eligible for medical assistance.

6. All references to federal or state statutes, regulations or rules in this section shall be to the version of those statutes, regulations or rules that existed on January 1, 2019.

STATE OF MISSOURI

Secretary of State

I, John R. Ashcroft, Secretary of State of the State of Missouri, hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and complete copy of Constitutional Amendment No. 1, to be submitted to the qualified voters of the State of Missouri at the Special Election to be held the fourth day of August, 2020.

In TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affix the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, done at the City of Jefferson, this 26th day of May, 2020.

JOHN R. ASHCROFT

Secretary of State

41-42c

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BARRY COUNTY ADVERTISER

EXETER R-VI SCHOOL

ACCEPTING BIDS FOR BREAD

The Exeter R-VI School Board is accepting bids for bread for the 2020 - 2021 school year. Interested parties are invited to present sealed bids to the office of the Superintendent, Exeter R-VI School District no later than 12:30 p.m. August 12, 2020.

41c

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Kay McCullah

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Lea Hill

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Cindy Carr

(Cell) 417-847-7514

60167603 - CUTE 2 BEDROOM BUNGALOW. Newer 12x20 carport, newer h/a, & newer cabin/studio. House has a front balcony overlooking downtown. Lot is terraced with vintage rock retaining walls. **\$89,900**

60158257 - PRIME MAIN LAKE FRONTAGE & desirable neighborhood ready for your custom home. Plenty of trees and easy access to the water. **\$45,900**

60132905 - THE WELL-KNOWN RIB is your super business opportunity! Located enroute to Roaring River State Park & Table Rock Lake, the restaurant seats 150+, and the bar area seats 50+.Priced below appraised value, the best part is the equipment is there & ready for your grand opening. **\$234,500**

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60165480 - NEWLY UPDATED with newer interior paint, bathroom fixtures, counter tops, newer flooring, & newer light fixtures. The home has fireplace, it's own well & septic system. Some outbuildings for chickens or other animals. Dead end road. **\$149,900**

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

60163125 - PRICE REDUCED! Beautiful home on 2+ acres at the edge of Cassville. Fenced yard, mature trees, original wood floors and more. **\$94,500**

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41c

Thoughts from the editor



Francisca Perez Salas
9/17/1960 - 2/19/2020

Sheila Harris

“Salt of the earth,” my dad calls them, people who go quietly about their business, and in so doing, make the world a better place for those around them.

Three such people in my hometown of Purdy passed away recently.

Last week, I was brought up short when I learned of the death of Shirley Darby. Her name may not sound familiar to you, but I'm sure you've seen her. For years, until her health failed, she could be seen walking through town, soda in hand, pulling a red wagon of laundry behind her.

I first got to know Shirley when I worked at Ramey's for a time when we were both much younger. She regularly stopped in the store to buy a can of pop. I was initially intimidated by her. Her speech pattern was unique, and I had a great fear that I wouldn't be able to understand her if she spoke to me. My fear made me reticent to engage with her. I discovered, though, that when I began to talk to her, the more easily I understood her speech... and the more rapidly she talked.

I learned that Shirley was a hero within her realm. She ventured bravely forth on foot to take care of her family's needs. Nothing stopped her. Her family could count on her until she became too unsteady to be out on her own. To learn that she was 80 years old at her passing took me by surprise. In my mind, she was ever-young and spry.

If you've lived in Purdy long enough, the name Bill Roller comes to mind in connection with the town. His passing, too, on April 22, left a rift. He was a founder of G&R (later, R.M.) Industries, a partner with Catch-A-Dream Foundation, and one of the Purdy Eagles' biggest fans. Although I didn't know Bill well, I've always known *of* him.

Not long after I moved to Purdy and married a native, I heard Bill Roller's name used in the context of fish-gigging. Apparently, he was one of the gigging buddies of my then-husband and his father. I'd never heard of gigging for fish until then. It was a primitive-sounding endeavor, certainly not one practiced



Bill Roller
2/10/1938 - 4/22/2020

by my father and brother in the urban environs of Des Moines when I was growing up.

It turns out that giggering for fish is a uniquely Ozarkian sport, one which probably evolved from a time when it was a necessity. To give me credit, I did try it once, but once was enough. Whether Bill Roller often giggered for fish, I don't know, but his name and the sport are linked together in my mind for whatever reason these types of associations are formed.

The passing of Francisca Perez Salas on February 19 was a shock to all of us, and



Shirley Darby
12/10/1939 - 7/05/2020

a great loss to our community. Francisca – known as “Nanny” in the Hispanic community – lived a quiet life, but one of great courage. Francisca left Mexico with her husband, Pedro Perez, in order to provide a better life for their children in the United States. There are many stories similar to hers, but hers had a unique twist. Shortly after they settled in Purdy in 1994, a car accident left Pedro a quadriplegic. Francisca picked up the reins and became the sole breadwinner for their family of four children. I never heard her complain.

Francisca was one month

older than me, a fact I discovered early in our friendship, a fact which made her feel like a sister to me. We labored together for many years at George's in positions which I often felt stifled by. For Francisca, though, with little English at her command, the work at George's represented bread on the table for her children. I practiced my Spanish on her and taught her a little English, until I left for employment elsewhere and the years slipped away.

I was shocked and saddened when I learned that her car was hit by the train that rolled through Purdy on February 19. She died in-

The Exeter R-VI School District will be accepting applications for a Maintenance/Custodial position. Benefits include retirement, health insurance and personal and sick leave. Qualified applicants may pick up an application in the Superintendent's Office weekdays 8:30a.m. – 2:00p.m. Please call 417-835-2922 ext. 5 with any questions.

41c

Those who aren't out for personal glory sometimes leave the deepest impressions on the world, I've discovered. They're the salt of the earth.



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Race Red w/Medium Earth Gray, Electronic 10-Spd., 3.5L EcoBoost V6, 40/20/40, Rear View Cam., Super Crew!

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Stumpff's presented with Shriner Plaque of Appreciation



On July 8, 2020, Donnie and Teresa Stumpff of Stumpff's Realty & Auction Service Inc. presented to Jimmy Litzsinger, Rajah of the Shell Knob Shrine Club, their donation of \$1,000. This donation will help provide transportation for the children to and from their Shrine Hospital destination.

The Shell Knob Shrine Club presented Donnie and Teresa with a plaque of appreciation for their unsolicited generosity and for all they do for our community, above and beyond.



Above, Teresa and Donnie Stumpff present check to the Shell Knob Shriners.



Above, Teresa and Donnie Stumpff hold their plaque.

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Haven of the Ozarks Pet of the Week

Meet Andre, the Haven of the Ozarks Pet of the Week! Andre is an awesome kitty. He weighs in at a whopping 18 pounds! Andre is about six years old and was originally found as a stray. His finder couldn't keep him but found him a loving home. Unfortunately, Andre was no longer able to stay there. He's now looking for a new family to love. Andre is a good snuggler and has a great (purring) motor. He would love to be your only pet. Andre is getting depressed about being at the Haven. He needs a new home as soon as possible. Please visit or call 417-835-3647 if you can help.

Haven of the Ozarks Animal



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Community Outreach

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July 17 and 18 - 7 p.m. • July 19 - 10:40 a.m.

Joel Stough will provide special music and Joy Thompson will be preaching on the "Butterfly Effect."
This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, call
417-847-2460

41c

COVID-19 shut-in time results in closet-cleaning, yard sales



Yard-saler, Madison Phinney of Fayetteville, Arkansas, admires her find.

Caden Swearingen

During enforced time at home due to COVID-19, it has been a major challenge to find things to do. Some people got tired of the clutter, which made it a perfect time to clean and host a yard sale. Before hosting a yard sale at your home and allowing people to come look at your unwanted treasure, it's important to keep you and your family safe from harm's way. Here are some things to consider:

- Make sure you clean the items that you put out for sale to protect others.
- Keep a bottle of hand sanitizer nearby for easy access.
- Clean items after others have touched them, including money and other supplies you might be using through out the day.
- Place tables 6 feet apart to keep people away from each other, or consider promoting social distancing.
- A "not responsible for accidents and sickness" sign is a way to keep you legally safe in case of an emergency or sick-

ness.

• If you are sick, or feel sickish, the safe thing to do is to stay away from everyone to make sure you do not infect others. Preferably, stay home.

After a long and successful day, what you do with your unwanted items can help others. Habitat for Humanity Restore is a great place to get rid of your items that didn't sell.

Habitat for Humanity Restore is a good place to take everyday items. They will not take computers, clothing or TVs. Everything that comes in to the Habitat Restore gets sanitized and cleaned up. They also ask that you drop items off with them only when the store is open.

Walmart require masks for everyone entering store

Caden Swearingen

Beginning Monday, July 20, 2020, all Walmart stores nationwide will require everyone entering their stores to wear a mask. This decision comes after other major retailers across

the U.S. applied the same rule to their stores, making masks mandatory for entry. The new rule requiring face-coverings will also apply to Sam's Clubs and Walmart Neighborhood Markets.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

We own some apartments at the edge of town, in the county. We have had several problems with homeless people going in our empty units and sleeping. We have tried keeping them out. Around 12 a.m., July 14, we got a call about a fire at our apartments. When my wife arrived, the Butterfield Fire Department was working hard to stop the fire. There were two city officers there, too. My wife was crying, and they went out of their way to help her calm down. They were very respectful and professional. With both Butterfield and Cassville Fire Departments, they were able to put out the fire. They did an awesome job. My renters also talked very highly of the fire departments and the two city officers. I just want to say, "Thank you guys very much!" In a time when our

country is in the shape it's in, it's nice to see such professionalism.

Thank you Cassville PD, and to both fire departments.

Juri Johnson,

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

Central Crossing Senior Center continues to serve

Although the Central Crossing Senior Center is not open due to COVID-19, the lunch program is going strong. In June, the center passed out 2,100 frozen meals by drive-up delivery. On July 2, the center provided hot dogs and brats in celebration of Independence Day. That day was a huge success and so another Lunch Special is being planned for August 7.

Mark your calendars for Friday, August 7. We will announce what we are serving next week.

Our frozen meals are served Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For information on the center and our usual activities, please call 417-858-6952 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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 1 Chronicles 16:34

OBITUARIES



DR. JAMES CLARK “J.C.” “DOC” FLANARY
Dr. James Clark “J.C.” “Doc” Flanary, age 78, of Cassville, passed away Thursday, July 2, 2020, at his home. He was born December 27, 1941, in Kansas City, the son of John Christopher and Mary Ann (Taylor) Flanary. On August 28, 1971, in Merriam, Kansas, he was united in marriage to Smith Ann Coolbaugh, who preceded him in death on July 31, 2013. Also preceding him in death were his parents and one brother. Surviving are one son, James Clark “Jay” Flanary, Jr. and his wife, Tommi, of Ocoee, Florida; two sisters, Christie Coffey, of Platte City, and Peggy Pepper of Blanco, Texas; and two grandchildren, Matthew and Sebastian. Doc graduated from

North Kansas City High School in 1960. He then received a degree in Nuclear Physics with a minor in Mathematics from the University of Missouri in Columbia. During the Vietnam War, he served in the United States Air Force. After his service, he attended the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kirksville where he received his Doctorate Degree. He served his residency in Flint, Michigan, and practiced in Farmington before starting his Cassville practice in 1985. After closing his practice in Cassville, he worked at the VA Hospital in Fayetteville, Arkansas, until his retirement. While at MU, he was a member of Delta Upsilon Fraternity. Doc was a distinguished patron of Cassville Golf Club. No services are scheduled at this time. Cremation arrangements are under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. *Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.* **MCQUEEN FUNERAL HOME** WHEATON, MO. 417-652-7268 **FOHN FUNERAL HOME** CASSVILLE, MO. 417-847-2141 **HAROLD E. SMITH** Harold E. Smith, age

79, of Purdy, passed away Sunday, July 12, 2020, at his home. No services are scheduled at this time. 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



CLIFFORD LYN PATTERSON
Clifford Lyn Patterson, 60, of Jacket, died July 14, 2020, at his home. He was born February 22, 1960, in Bentonville, Ark., to Leonard Patterson and Margie Faye Solley Patterson. He worked for Big Hammer Contractors in Avoca as a dump truck driver. He loved Nascar, fishing and taking

vacations with his family. Clifford was a huge PBR fan and enjoyed riding bulls as a teenager. He lived for his family and loved being “Paw-Paw”. Clifford was saved and baptised at Mountain Bible Church in Jacket. He is preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Kenneth Patterson; and a son-in-law, Matt Swanepoel. Survivors are his wife, Lucinda Mae Patterson, of the home; children, Brandon Patterson (Samara), of Seligman, Eric Patterson (Jessica), of Exeter, Mindy Swanepoel, of Jacket, Alissa Walker, of Clinton, and Anna Mae Church, of Jacket; two sisters, Patricia Bashaw, of Cassville, and Stacy Pendergraft (Jamie), also of Cassville; twelve grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Graveside services will be held at 10:00 a.m., Friday, July 17, 2020, at Antioch Cemetery in Jacket. Arrangements are by Sisco Funeral Home in Pea Ridge, Ark. Visitation will be from 1-4 p.m. Thursday, July 16, at the funeral home. State mandated rules for Covid-19 will be followed. Online condolences may be made at siscofuneralhome.net.

Wedding announcement



Eric and Donna O'Neill, of Exeter, would like to announce the wedding of their daughter, Baillie Morgan, to Trevor Allen Nelson. Baillie is a graduate of Exeter High School class of 2015. She is the granddaughter of Norma Morgan, of Exeter; Anna O'Neill (late Tom O'Neill), of Exeter; and Nancy Morgan (late Donnie Morgan), of Rogers, Ark. Trevor is a graduate of Exeter High School class of 2018. He is the son of Kimberly Davis, of Ridgley. He is the grandson of Charlie and Patty Nelson, of Exeter; and James and Dorene Adams, of Wheaton. The two plan to unite in marriage on August 20, 2020, in Florida. The couple will reside in Exeter.

Eagle Rock open house postponed indefinitely

In light of increasing COVID-19 infections in the region, the open house and blessing for the new Eagle Rock Emergency Medical Services building is postponed indefinitely. The event was originally scheduled for July 18, 2020, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The building is next to the Eagle Rock Golden Mano Fire Protection Headquarters on State Highway 86. The fire district donated the land to the South Barry County Ambulance District and its contractor, Mercy EMS, to bring emergency services together in one location for the community. The new Eagle Rock facility is 4,000 square feet and includes two ambulance bays, living quarters, a supervisor's office, work room, a decontamination room, supply room and a safe room for personnel assigned to the facility. A helicopter landing pad is also part of the project and provides an additional landing location when multiple aircraft are needed at an incident in the area. The site is strategically located to better serve Eagle Rock and the immediate area. Before the new station went in, the area was served from either Cassville or Shell Knob.

Read all about it in

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The Family of Earl Adams
would like to thank everyone for food, flowers, cards, and phone calls. Thank you to Fohn Funeral Home staff for the wonderful care you have always provided. Your prayers are appreciated.

Mary Lou
Kelly, Kim, Kent and families

Andy Ostmeyer: Sometimes, fishing isn't about fishing

Courtesy of The Joplin Globe
Yes, Roaring River has that beautiful spring and spring-fed stream.

Yes, it has a hatchery, and thousands of trout are stocked every night in that stream.

And yes, hundreds of thousands of anglers try their hands at those trout each season.

Me and mine among 'em. But don't be fooled for a second: Roaring River isn't about fishing.

It's about memories, stringers of memories.

Like helping each of your children catch their first fish.

And of a young boy buying his first pocketknife and slicing his thumb open seconds later, and the dumb-founded look he gave you that said, "I don't know how that just happened."

And of buying donuts at 4 a.m. and driving to Roaring River with a car full of sleeping kids when you can't get away for the entire week-end. And of a dad who drove halfway there on one of those day trips, only to discover he'd left his billfold — with fishing license and cash — behind. So he drove home, grumpy, thinking that was the end of that, until Mom said, 'Go back anyway.' And you did — and had one of your best days.

It's about memories of woodsmoke and campfires. Of downpours and incinerator July afternoons. Of crisp October nights. Of a warm breakfast in the lodge on mornings where your fingers have frozen and desserts of ice cream there at night looking out over the park at dusk. Of raccoons raiding the cooler during one camping trip, making off with the fish because, as the kids said, they're smarter than you.

It's memories of grilled trout, trout almondine, trout cakes and more.

And of those children becoming self-sufficient, no longer needing Dad to fix poles, untangle lines, or clean and cook the day's catch, although the older they got the more help they needed getting out of bed at 4 a.m.

Is that young man now filleting rainbows at the cleaning station the same boy who nearly sliced off his thumb a few years ago?

Yes. When did that happen? Now you're watching those same kids grow up and move away and begin to make lives for themselves, and they're coming to the realization what an extraordinary place Roaring River is and how lucky we all are to be linked together by it and how much they want to re-

turn to make memories for their own children.

Roaring River is about memories with our own dads, too, who always jumped at the chance to go, who found it easy to fish there when it got too hard to wade in the swifter, slicker streams in the Rockies. And of that dad who is gone now, and you find yourself the grandfather helping your granddaughter land her first fish, just as you have pictures of him laughing while he helped your children.

Wasn't she born about the same time he passed? And was that just a coincidence or part of a larger plan?

Either way, it sure filled a hole he left behind. With your dad gone, you now find yourself the older generation — standing guard, standing watch — hoping the next generation continues to hold on to each other, to count on each other to navigate past

life's harder edges, all the while building more memories around this place.

This was not the column I set out to write.

I set out to write a more straightforward piece about U.S. Senate passage recently of the Great American Outdoors Act, which among other things will provide full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The fund supports parks at all levels, from Joplin's Spiva Park to Yellowstone National Park. And Roaring River. Seven times since 1967, that money has been used to acquire land for Roaring River or for utility and campground improvements there.

My memories of family would be less without Roaring River and other parks where we've been regulars — Devil's Den, Mesa Verde, Grand Canyon, Buffalo National River and Ozark National Scenic Riverways — all

of which have received these funds. Those parks wouldn't be what they are without that funding.

So I'll offer thanks — and a warning.

Thanks to those members of Congress who made it happen, this round of funding for the parks. Just don't stop there. This is an important step, but more must follow. There are more generations coming, more who need this place and other places like it — more than you can know. Aldo Leopold's warning that the greatest threat to the outdoor way of life comes from those who think they can live without it is a bigger concern than it was when we said it 80 years ago.

Roaring River is a shallow

stream but runs deep — generations deep — for some families. When my granddaughter made her first trip there last year, at age 2, we became four generations deep, four generations who have fished the river first thing in the morning, made s'mores around the campfire at night, and goofed off and hiked and napped the day away in between. With any luck, I'll live long enough to help a fifth generation make a connection to the park.

Roaring River isn't about fishing.

It's about memories — memories of family. Stringers of memories.

Andy Ostmeyer is the editor of The Joplin Globe.

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Face Covers Required for Springfield Airport Customers & Employees

To make the Springfield Airport as safe and clean as possible, effective Thursday morning, July 16, all terminal visitors and employees are required to wear face-covers, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and now mandated by Springfield City Council at its Monday meeting.

Besides requiring face covers, the following has already been done to make air travel at the Springfield Airport as safe and clean as possible:

- Airport custodial staff is deep cleaning the terminal at all times.
- Hand sanitizing stations are located at strategic locations throughout terminal.
- Sneeze guards are on airline and rental car counters.
- Social distancing messages are on terminal video screens and public address system.
- Social distancing floor markers are in terminal.
- TSA staff are wearing face covers, gloves, and face shields at the security checkpoint.
- Staff is cleaning gray bins after every use.
- All airlines require customers to wear face covers on aircraft.
- Airlines are deep cleaning aircraft.
- The gift store has face covers for sale (in case customers forgot to bring one).
- Restaurant workers have their temperature taken every day; they wear face covers at all times; and continually clean counters.
- TSA allows customers to bring liquid hand sanitizer containers up to 12 oz in their carry-on bags. Other liquids, gels and aerosols are

still limited to 3.4 oz.

For those who must travel, the airport recommends the following:

- Don't fly if you're sick!
- Wear a face cover.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- When possible, maintain at least six feet of social distance between others.

Remember — if you must fly, be safe!

Registration open for online Master Gardener training

Even in the era of COVID-19, Master Gardener learning options continue to grow.

Registration is open for online core training classes through University of Missouri Extension. Classes begin Aug. 23 and run through Dec. 31, said David Trinklein, Missouri Master Gardener program coordinator and MU Extension horticulturist. Trinklein teaches the class with Sarah Denkler, MU Extension regional director for southwestern Missouri.

In the past, those interested in becoming Master Gardeners had to attend weeks of classes. However, traveling to a bricks-and-mortar classroom is not practical for everyone. So online classes were born in 2013.

Using an online learning platform called Canvas, MU Extension horticulturists deliver classes as a series of scripted and narrated PowerPoint presentations.

With online training, you can do the class work whenever it is convenient for you," Trinklein said. "It is accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

Topics include basic botany, soils and plant nutrition, vegetable gardening, fruit production, plant propagation, insects, plant diseases, landscape plants, landscape design and pesticide safety.

After each module, students are tested on their understanding of the materials.

"Trainees are expected to achieve a composite score of at least 70 percent on chapter quizzes," Trinklein said.

"Master Gardener trainees are also required to donate 30 hours of service, helping others learn to grow," he said. "Local Master Gardener chapters can help online trainees find volunteer positions so they can meet the service hour requirements."

Once certified, Master Gardeners continue to learn and share.

"You have to continue to educate yourself and to serve the public," Trinklein said. To maintain certification, Master Gardeners are required to do six hours of continuing education and 20 hours of community service each year.

The registration deadline is Aug. 16. For more information, visit mg.missouri.edu.

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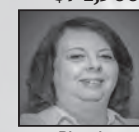
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The Real Deal: Make them an offer they can't refuse

Rob Lotufo, Ozark Properties Group, Fathom Realty

I have a client that I have been working with for nearly six months now. They're looking for a starter home. They will be using a government loan, either FHA or rural development. Locating this kind of home in today's market is about like finding a needle in a haystack, especially when you want one in or around the hundred-thousand-dollar mark.

Game On

We found one. It was a late-model double-wide on a solid foundation with a shop and above ground pool and everything they needed. Posting came out late Wednesday afternoon. We set up a showing for early Thursday morning. It was love at first sight. Everything fit their needs and they were ready to place the offer. I had had their loan pre-approved for several months and I got that updated and had a letter ready. We offered some earnest money and the quickest closing date we thought we could muster. We offer full price, and added some money for a closing cost contribution. My client signed the contract and I promptly hand-carried it over to the listing agents office.

Nail Biter

Out of professional courtesy, I gave the selling agent until 3 p.m. to get a decision. In a situation like this, the main thing that can go wrong for the buyer is if a better offer comes through before his is accepted. After a few hours, the listing agent told me that he probably could not get a decision by 3 and would need till 6 or 7 that night. Again out of professional courtesy I agreed to his request. We waited with bated breath. Unfortunately, at 3 p.m. the selling agent called me to let me know that he had received a cash offer for full price and that his client would be accepting that one.

Bummer

We all followed protocol, and he served his client by providing him with the most favorable contract for the highest price. Unfortunately my buyers did not get the house they had hoped for. I had done everything within my power to present a favorable offer and in the end we did not succeed. What's the take back here?

Take a Deep Breath

A good home is hard to find. A good home at the right price is even harder to find. In today's market, when you're out looking, you must use all the resources available to you. Quite possibly the most important is a good realtor. You want a realtor that has good rapport with other agents, knows the rules and regulations, and can use all the tools available to him to get your offer presented and accepted.

Prepare

Be ready to act fast. Fifteen

minutes may make the difference between you getting a deal and someone else getting it. Make sure your realtor is making you a priority. If you ask for a showing and he is delinquent in responding to you or put you're showing off to another day, he may be too busy you take good care of you. You should always make sure you feel like your are important to him and your business is at the top of his list.

Keep your act together

Have your financial situation under control. Whether it's a letter from a lender, or just a game plan for how you plan to pay for this transaction, it is critical that you have confidence and the ability to perform on whatever your contract calls for.

Upside

We didn't get that home this time, but you know what? There are other fish in the sea. We did all we could and acted ethically, so did

everyone else involved. In a case like this, a good realtor will be supportive, continue to help you look for properties, and try to be as proactive as possible when something comes up. Many times the home may seem perfect at the time, and be a big disappointment when it does not come through, but often it's followed by an even better opportunity. We'll keep looking until we find the home and the situation that is just right for this client. That's what we do, and we try to do it in the best way we can.

Good luck out there, house hunters, and be prepared!

MDC offers free virtual archery program

Archery is gaining in popularity among people who are looking for a challenging way to pursue game and also with those who enjoy recreational target shooting.

People who are interested in learning more about archery should sign up for the Missouri Department of Conservation's (MDC) virtual program "Introduction to Archery." MDC's Andy Dalton Shooting Range and Outdoor Education staff will offer this program July 25, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Among the topics this free class will cover are shooting fundamentals, equipment selection and maintenance, safety, and proper storage techniques. People can register for this program at: <https://mdc-event-web.s3licensing.com/Event/EventDetails/171719>

Though this program is free, registration is required

to participate using the link above. Registrants must provide an e-mail, so a program link can be sent to them. This program will include a chat-based question-and-answer period where participants can interact with the presenters.

Staff at MDC facilities across the state are holding virtual programs. A listing of these programs can be found

MDC's Andy Dalton Range, which is located at 4897 N. Greene County Farm Road 61, has re-opened to the public. For more information about the Dalton Range, call 417-742-4361 across the state are holding virtual programs. A listing of these programs can be found at mdc.mo.gov/ regions.

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Deadline to apply:
Mon., July 20, 2020 4PM
Center: Monett Head
Start, Monett, MO
Work Status: F/T
Monday thru Friday

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Applicants may apply online at
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Applicants may also apply
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Hats off for Southwest Class of 2020!

Photos by Caden Swearingen



Southwest High School Valedictorian, Rachel Jimenez, delivers her address.



Southwest 2020 graduates throw hats to the wind.



Southwest High School Salutatorian, Leland Colf, delivers his address.

Forty-eight graduates of Southwest High School enjoyed an outdoor commencement ceremony Thursday, July 9, marked by addresses by Valedictorian, Rachel Jimenez, and Salutatorian, Leland Colf, followed by the reception of diplomas and a traditional hat toss.

Congratulations to area high school graduates!

from the staff of The Barry County Advertiser



Southwest graduate, Jada Nichols (right), receives her diploma from school board president, Daniel Dalton (left).



Above, Southwest graduate, Nathan Wallace (right), receives his diploma from school board president, Daniel Dalton (left).

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