

Former employee accuses county, Sheriff Davis of wrongful termination

Sheila Harris

In a civil suit filed in the Circuit Court of Barry County on June 11, 2020, Emmitt Musick, a former corrections officer at the Barry County jail, alleges that he was wrongfully terminated for refusing to create a fraudulent medical report regarding a female inmate.

Musick is petitioning for damages against Barry County and Gary Davis, both individually and in his official capacity as sheriff of Barry County, in the amount of \$25,000.

As sheriff, Davis is responsible for hiring, firing and disciplinary actions of all employees of the Barry

County Sheriff's Office, including employees of the jail.

According to Musick's suit, his supervisors within the Barry County Jail were Captain Gary Allen and Sergeant Caleb Kelly, the latter of whom is related to Sheriff Davis.

As stated in court documents, the evening of November 7, 2019, the Barry County Jail allegedly received a female inmate from the Monett Police Department. According to Musick, his shift was over and he was no longer at the jail; two other correctional officers were on duty who were both new.

Upon her alleged arrival at the jail, the female inmate

complained of chest pain. Her blood pressure was consequently checked and discovered to be high. The two new correctional officers called the plaintiff, Emmitt Musick, for guidance on how to handle the female inmate. Musick instructed them to call the nurse, who instructed them to take the inmate to the hospital.

Before doing so, the new correctional officers again called Musick to ask for guidance. He told them, per protocol, they would have to contact a female correctional officer to transport the female inmate.

Because the correctional officers were having trouble

locating a female officer, they again contacted Musick, who decided to return to the jail. Upon arrival, Musick asked the new officers if the female inmate had been booked into jail yet. Per protocol, it was necessary that inmates be booked in before being transported to the hospital, in order to create the medical questionnaire required by the hospital. When Musick was told no, that the inmate had not been booked in, he began the process himself and the medical questionnaire was generated.

At that point, a female correctional officer arrived and



A civil suit has been filed against Barry County and Sheriff Gary Davis by a former correctional officer at the Barry County Jail.

See JAILER 5A

Local elderberry harvest begins



It's all hands on deck when the elderberries ripen in mid-July, according to Purdy's Innovative Natural Solutions' marketing director, Brittany Lueckenhoff.

Sheila Harris

Purdy, merely a wide spot in the road by the standards of some, is unique in more

ways than just one. It's now home to the largest elderberry production operation in the United States, quite a boast for a town with a population of about 1,000 residents.

As you drive through Purdy, eight acres of elderberry plants lush with ripe berries can be seen on the east side of Highway 37, just north of the intersection with C Highway, just a portion of the 120 acres planted in elderberries by Innovative Natural Solutions (INS), headquartered in Purdy.

"One hundred and twenty acres might not sound like much," Devon Bennett, President of INS, said, "but when you consider that ten acres of elderberries, planted and harvested by hand, are the approximate equivalent in man-hours to 200 acres of corn or soybeans, you get a

better feel for what elderberry production really means."

In 2012, while on a class trip to Europe during his senior year at Purdy High School, Bennett's eye was caught by mature trees covered in white blossoms prevalent throughout much of Europe. Upon questioning, he was told they were elderberry trees, grown for their blue-black fruit prized for its nutritive properties for use in supplements.

After returning to Purdy,



Elderberries, shown above, are blue-black in color when ripe.

Bennett began to research the fruit's production in the United States, and discovered its use for commercial purposes was still relatively experimental.

"I've always been a jump-before-I-walk kind of guy," Bennett said. "Sometimes you have to be that way or you'll never start anything. It just seemed to me I was looking at a golden opportunity to get in on the ground floor of elderberry production at a time when the market was wide open."

After much research and discussion with agricultural experts – including Andy Thomas, a horticultural research professor at the University of Missouri's Southwest Center in Mt. Vernon – the following year Bennett plunged into his own grand elderberry experiment.

"Not much was known

about the long-term commercial prospects for elderberries in 2013," Bennett said. "Not a lot of research had been done regarding the best types of cultivars for our climate, nor how pest-resistant they would be, nor whether the market would even be receptive to the product, but I didn't let it intimidate me."

"I started by hand-planting seven acres of elderberry cuttings outside of Purdy. I had help, of course," Bennett continued. "An average acre can accommodate 750 to 1,000 plants, with rows 10 feet apart, and plants spaced four feet apart in the rows - to give you an idea of the work involved."

Elderberries do not produce berries for commercial use during their first season. Rather, any flowers produced are pinched off to encourage further growth of the plant.



Above, Devon Bennett (left) and Brittany Lueckenhoff (right) pose for a photo during the formative stage of Innovative Natural Solutions in Purdy in 2015.

See ELDERBERRIES 7A

The Trump Shop supplies supporters



The display, above, shows just a few of the items available in the Trump Shop in Cassville.

As of Monday, July 13, Cassville has its own Trump Shop, a sister shop to the one in Joplin. The Cassville store, managed by Laura Tolbert, of Cassville, carries t-shirts, caps, flags and other campaign materials that identify a person as a Trump supporter.

"Our two bestsellers so far," Tolbert said, "are t-shirts bearing the text, 'Make Democrats cry again,' and 'If you don't like Trump, then you probably won't like me...'"

According to Tolbert, the owner of the Trump Shop stores, a retired circus owner, met Trump in 2015 when he

See TRUMP 12A

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COVID-19 cases rise in Barry and Lawrence Counties

According to the Barry County Health Department and Office of Emergency Management, in a situational update released July 21, Barry County's total number of cases stand at 180 and include 177 confirmed positive cases, one presumptive case, and two antibody-positive cases. One hundred twenty-seven people have recovered, 53 are in isolation, and two are hospitalized. Close contacts currently numbering 247 are quarantined at home.

The majority of cases (61) are in the "Under 25" age bracket; of the 25 - 40 age range, 48 people have tested positive; in the 41 - 60 age group, 36 have tested positive; and the "Over 61" group has seen a total of 35 cases up to date.

The number of cases in Barry County nursing homes continues to rise. Lacoba has 40 residents and/or employees who have tested posi-

tive, and Bentonview Park is showing 22 cases as of July 21.

Barry County has extended Phase 2 mitigation practices as of July 16.

All service providers are required to wear a mask, including those serving food and beverages and personal services such as:

- Tanning salons and services, nail services, spa type services, therapeutic massage (unless under the care of a physician.)
- Hair cutting, styling, washing, or coloring services.
- Other types of non-physician dermatological services.
- Body decoration/modification services, including tattooing, piercing, branding, scarification, shaping, implants, scalpelling, and painting.

The Lawrence County Health Department is reporting a total of 132 positive cases as of July 21. Of those, 54 are active, 76 have recovered and two have died.

One positive case was reported in an Aurora High School football player. The health department has decided to allow players and coaches to continue practicing, but they must monitor for symptoms until July 30th, as well as limit social contact with others. If another player tests positive, all practice will cease immediately and all players and coaches will begin quarantine.

Washburn student recognized by Crowder College

Maggie Robbins, of Washburn, earned a place on Crowder College's 3rd Team in Softball, honored for both her athletic and academic abilities.

Crowder College athletic programs made academic history with all four sports teams being recognized by the National Junior College Athletic Association as Academic Teams of the Year and 30 players earning Academic All-American honors.

Annually, NJCAA honors teams with a 3.0 grade point average or higher. This year, Crowder Basketball topped the charts with a 3.36 gpa, followed by softball at 3.26, baseball at 3.13 and soccer with 3.08. This marks the first time all four teams have

been recognized at the same time.

Students earning recognition have to earn a minimum 3.6 gpa for 3rd team, 3.80-3.99 for 2nd team and 4.0 for 1st team. Crowder student-athletes achieved four 1st team, eleven 2nd team, and fifteen 3rd team honors. This accolade marks the highest number of student-athletes earning recognition by NJCAA.

"We strive to recruit athletes who will perform on the field and in the classroom. These young student-athletes have proven themselves to be academically outstanding and we are proud of their accomplishments," stated John Sisemore, Crowder Athletic Director/Softball coach.

Area students graduate from Harding University

More than 800 students received diplomas and will be recognized as Harding University graduates during a virtual ceremony on August 15, 2020.

Graduates include students from the College of Allied Health, College of Arts and Humanities, College of Bible and Ministry, Paul R. Carter College of Business Administration, Cannon-Clary College of Education, Carr College of Nursing, College of Pharmacy, College of Sciences, and the Honors College.

Parker Skinner, of Cassville, received a Bachelor of Music Education in vocal music education.

Megan Thomas, of Purdy, received a Bachelor of Arts in

English.

Harding University is a private Christian university located in Searcy, Arkansas. Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, it is the largest private university in the state. Harding's student body is made up of students representing 49 states and 55 nations and territories. The University offers more than 100 undergraduate majors, graduate and professional degrees at the master's, specialist and doctoral level as well as numerous international study offerings including locations in Australia, Latin America, England, France, Greece, Italy and Zambia. For more information, visit harding.edu.

New Missouri small business grant program

Missouri has announced two new programs that will send \$50 million in grants to businesses across the state. If you have a small business or farm that was interrupted due to the COVID-19 crisis, the state has funding available to reimburse some costs.

The grant includes eligibility guidelines to target the funding toward the most hard-hit businesses.

This program is available to for-profit businesses and family-owned farms that employ 50 or fewer employees. Funds can be used to

cover facility redesign and labor, air filtration systems, e-commerce website design, worker salaries during closure or reduced hours, and necessary costs to make the business more resilient as a result of COVID-19, among others.

In addition, if you are a manufacturer interested in retooling your plant to produce personal protective equipment (PPE), funds are available.



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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 due to our 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.

Fish Day!

Thursday, July 30

Cassville MFA:

Hwy. 248, Cassville MO.
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

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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.

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 re-

duced 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 25th

The Emerald Beach Women's Club Annual Ice Cream Social will be held at 7 P.M. at the Village Hall. There will be homemade ice cream, quilt raffle, door prizes. Masks are recommended and chairs and blankets can be brought for social distancing. Containers will be furnished for those who wish to carry out ice cream and dessert. For more information, call (417) 271-3374.

Hay Fields and Pasture Pest Management Virtual Class deadline for registration is July 25. To register, contact the University of Missouri Extension at wheelerjr@missouri.edu or call (417) 745-6767.

Aug 6th

Oakhill Cemetery Association will hold the 2020 business meeting and election of offices at 6:00 P.M. at The Family Life Center of First Baptist Church. The Oakhill Cemetery Association thanks all the people who made donations to the cemetery, without which care for the cemetery could not be done.

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.

Aug 11th

Corn Silage Production Workshop for Beef Cattle Operation is being offered as a virtual class by the University of Missouri Extension. Register online by August 10 at <https://extension2.missouri.edu/events/corn-silage-production-workshop-for-beef-cattle-operations> or contact Patrick Davis at (417) 988-0287 or davismp@missouri.edu

Aug 16th

Master Gardeners Virtual Class registration is due by August 16. For more information, visit: mg.missouri.edu.

Cancellation

Clio music is cancelled until further notice.

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Chick Day!

Saturday, July 25

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JAILER from FRONT

the inmate was transported to the hospital, along with the medical questionnaire.

Musick then instructed the correctional officers to finish the booking process and to write a report reflecting what occurred. Musick then returned home.

According to the court documents, when Musick returned to work at 4 a.m. the following morning, he was informed that Sergeant Kelly came in after Musick had left the previous day, grabbed the female inmate's possessions and left. He was also informed that the female inmate never returned to the jail because Sergeant Kelly had allegedly released her.

Musick then spoke with the female correctional officer who had transported to the inmate to the hospital, and was told that she had called Sergeant Kelly to relieve her. According to Musick's allegations, the female officer told him that Sergeant Kelly had come to the hospital to relieve her, sat for approximately 20 minutes, left to get the inmate's personal belongings from the jail, then had come back to the hospital and released her.

According to Musick's statement in the court documents, at approximately 7 a.m. the morning he returned to work, several jurisdictions called to inquire about the inmate, because she was a fugitive. They were told they would have to wait until Sergeant Kelly's arrival at 8 a.m. in order to ask him about the inmate.

When Sergeant Kelly arrived, Musick informed him of the other jurisdictions' desire to talk to him. According to Musick, Kelly then conferred with Captain Allen privately. They then called

Musick into their office and screamed at him for booking the inmate into the jail, with Sergeant Kelly allegedly even raising his fists to Musick, as if he was going to strike him.

Captain Allen then allegedly told Musick, "She was never here." They then deleted the inmate's booking report from the computer. Musick was told to return to work.

According to Musick's allegation, later that day Sergeant Kelly approached Musick and another correctional officer and instructed them to create a false medical refusal justification for releasing the female from jail, one which stated that she was unable to remain conscious and had to be carried into the jail. When Musick and the other officer refused to comply, Sergeant Kelly threatened them and told them if they refused, they would be held responsible because the sheriff would always back him.

According to Musick's allegation, not knowing where to turn, he (Musick) and another individual (from corrections) went to the Monett Police Department and spoke with the Chief of Police, George Daoud. Chief Daoud told them he did not want to get involved in internal issues in the Barry County Sheriff's Department, although he said he already knew his officers did in fact bring the female to the Barry County Jail that evening. Daoud advised Musick to contact the Missouri Highway Patrol.

Shortly after Musick left the Monett Police Department, he received a phone call from Chief Daoud, who allegedly told him that Sheriff Davis had just called him to inquire whether two deputies had just been to see him.

Chief Daoud told Musick that he had told Davis, yes, without revealing the deputies' names.

Shortly afterward, according to Musick's statement, Sergeant Kelly called Musick and asked him if he had gone to the Monett Police Department. Fearing for his job safety, Musick told him no.

Musick allegedly then called the Missouri Highway Patrol and informed a captain of the cover-up being attempted by Sergeant Kelly and Captain Allen.

Two days later, on November 14, 2019, Musick was allegedly called into the (Barry County Sheriff's) office with Captain Allen and Major Deputy Angela Cole - second in command at the sheriff's office. Allen and Cole allegedly demanded to know if Musick had reported the cover-up to the Monett Police Department, and stated that if Musick did not quit on the spot, he would be terminated and charged with a crime.

Fearing for his safety and freedom, and not knowing what else to do, Musick resigned, he stated in the court documents. He later appealed to his superiors for reinstatement, explaining that he had done nothing wrong, but was not allowed to return to work.

According to Musick's petition, he is seeking a Public Employee Wrongful Dis-

charge Pursuant to RSMo. § 105.055 (Plaintiff v. Barry County and Gary Davis).

Musick also alleges the conduct described above constitutes a disciplinary action against Musick in response to him disclosing misconduct, including but not necessarily limited to violations of law, mismanagement, and abuses of authority, and that he was damaged as a result of Davis's actions.

Musick is asking for damages in excess of \$25,000, for costs incurred and expended, including attorney's fees, and further relief as the court deems just.

Musick is being represented by Douglas Ponder and Jaclyn Zimmerman, of Ponder Zimmerman, LLC, a law practice in St. Louis centered on the representation of wrongfully terminated employees or those injured by the conduct of another.

As of Monday, July 20, Sheriff Davis, Presiding Barry Commissioner Gary Youngblood, and County Clerk Jill LeCompte, said they had not been served with papers regarding the lawsuit.

Sheriff Gary Davis commented that, as with a divorce, there are two sides to every story.

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Cassville City Council Meets

Mary Hagens

The Cassville City Council met on Monday, July 13th, in Council Chambers with Mayor ProTem Jerry Marple presiding in the absence of Mayor Bill Shiveley.

The Council approved the minutes of the June 8th regular session and the bills and purchase requisitions as presented. No visitors had requested to address the Board of Aldermen, so they proceeded to the consideration of bids. Seven Valleys Construction submitted a bid for the sewer man hole repairs, which was approved by the Aldermen.

Several new bills were read and approved, including the municipal court clerk and court automation fee, the revision of fireworks code amendments, the CARES grant, disposition of surplus property, and a change in credit card services.

Departmental reports were read and approved. Police Chief Kammerlohr reported that the number of calls was the highest monthly total she has seen. Officers are doing extra patrols at

the parks, and domestic calls have increased. Alderman Horner thanked Chief Kammerlohr and the police department for their handling of the recent bank fraud situation.

Among other departmental items discussed were the funding granted to the city for park improvements, including paving and a gravel trail. The citywide cleanup has been delayed due to COVID-19 and will be rescheduled. The grace period for overdue water accounts will end on July 31st, and beginning August 1st, service will be shut off after notification to customers. Street repaving projects are set to resume July 20, 2020. Isaac Peterson reported that the city's sales tax revenue is ahead of the same year-to-date period from last year.

The Council discussed plans for Trout Fest, August 14th and 15th, with fireworks on Friday. During the same weekend, the Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the Roaring River Classic softball tournament, featuring traveling softball teams.

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Above, three-year-old Ava Lubbering takes in the shade at the Purdy PPSA booth.



Above, organizer Renae Neill (left) gives wristbands to attendees from Wheaton.



Above, Brian Lee Dunning performs Elvis hits.

Haven of the Ozarks: Pet of the Week



Meet Limo, the Haven of the Ozarks Pet of the Week! He's a Haven newbie, a GORGEOUS boy, absolutely the happiest dog you'll ever meet. He gets the biggest kick out of life. Limo loves other dogs (and is perfectly fine with his friend being boss), running, playing in water, eating treats, being with people, going for walks, and pretty much everything else. He's about 10 months old and is believed to be a mix of Doberman (his looks) and hound (his voice). Limo will bring so much JOY to his new family!

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www.havenoftheozarks.org

Open daily, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. (excluding some holidays)

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Above, Jerry Henderson, of Purdy, stands between his '77 Camaro Z28 (front), which he's owned since high school, and his 2011 Camaro Super Sport (rear).

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Bible Adventures - Cool Bible Songs

Where: Mission Baptist Church -

3 Miles West of Washburn on Hwy. 90

When: August 1 / 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Lunch Provided from 12:00 to 1:00 PM

Pre-registration at Mission, Wed. July 29 - 6:30 - 7:30 PM

or on line at missionbaptistchurch.net

Ages: 3 year old to Youth. Nursery provided.

Parent's Day - Sunday August 2, 10:45 AM

Call 417-826-5232 for a ride between 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

We are having water game activities so please send a change of clothes for your child.

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1 Chronicles 16:34

VOTE AUGUST 4

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42-43rd

ELDERBERRIES from FRONT

The next year, however, in 2014, Bennett was able to sell his first crop to a gentleman in Kansas City for distribution in the Wichita, Kansas City and Jefferson City areas.

Buoyed by his success, Bennett looked to expand his production the following season, but realized he needed a firmer grasp on where the market was going before doing so.

Enter Brittany Lueckenhoff, his wife Chelsea's cousin. Lueckenhoff, also a Purdy native, had sat in on many an elderberry conversation between Bennett and her father, Ed Mareth, as they had hashed over marketing possibilities for the innovative commercial crop.

"I realized I wanted to be a part of the elderberry project," Lueckenhoff said. "I was still working on completing my elementary education degree out of state, but saw this as a unique now-or-never opportunity. I made the decision in 2014 to partner with Devon. In January of 2015, we were putting up the greenhouse that currently still sits on the back of the farm off Highway 37. That spring, we planted the eight acres adjacent to the highway in elderberries while I was finishing up my degree, set to graduate that fall."

The duo partnered up to form Innovative Natural Solutions, and put together an initial five-year business plan with an aggressive marketing strategy.

"We had three basic goals," Bennett said, "to manage a supply chain for our elderberries, to create a processing plant to supply retail products, and to create our own consumer brand."

They have been successful in all three endeavors. They have established a production facility in Purdy which operates full-time, year-round, to produce, package and label elderberry products. In numbers which show that Americans are interested in immune-support, for which elderberries are gaining renown, Innovative

Natural Solutions produces and supplies approximately 10 – 12,000 bottles of dietary supplements per week from the facility in Purdy. Their main volume, according to Bennett, is in the wellness products category.

In 2016, Innovative Natural Solutions met the owners and co-founders of Norm's Farms, a North Carolina, family-owned elderberry production business, at a trade show.

"They were in search of a consistent supply for their business," Bennett said. "It just seemed like a natural fit for us to team up with them, so we began negotiations to do so. In 2017, we acquired a majority share of Norm's Farms. With the acquisition, we were able to make Norm's Farms a nature to nurture company, starting from the farm all the way to the finished product you see on the shelves today."

The elderberry market has exploded since then.

"We now have elderberries planted on acreages in Verona, Monett, Yonkerville and Purdy, as well as on contract-grower sites throughout the United States," Lueckenhoff

said. "We like to separate the acreages, so we don't risk losing all of our crop production at once due to natural causes, such as a tornado or hailstorm."

According to Lueckenhoff, the elderberries must all be picked by hand, so it is literally all hands on deck during this time.

"Several people join our team during the harvest season to ensure we don't get behind," she said. "In addition to extra seasonal help, Innovative Natural Solutions and Norm's Farm employ just under 20 people in their sales office and production facility, and that number continues to grow at a rapid pace."

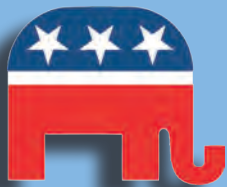
"We're now supplying major companies in the nutraceutical space across the United States," Bennett added. "We want to keep the business in Purdy, though. We may outgrow our production facility, but if we do, we'll cross that bridge when we get to it. In the meantime, our motto continues to be 'Elderberry, every day, for everyone.'"

Barry County Treatment Court Graduates

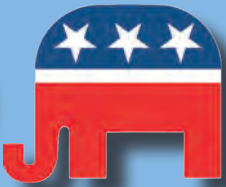


On 06/18/2020, the following individuals graduated from the Barry County Treatment Court Program. Shown above (left to right): Lynette Beck, Wilbur Rundle, April Kendrick, Ysidro Gonzalez, Judge Johnnie Cox, Heather Stark. Not in the picture but also graduated: Rodrigo Martinez

On 07/09/2020, Jimmy Coffman (left) and Dru Stewart (right) shown in photo at right graduated from the program and are pictured with Judge Cox (center).

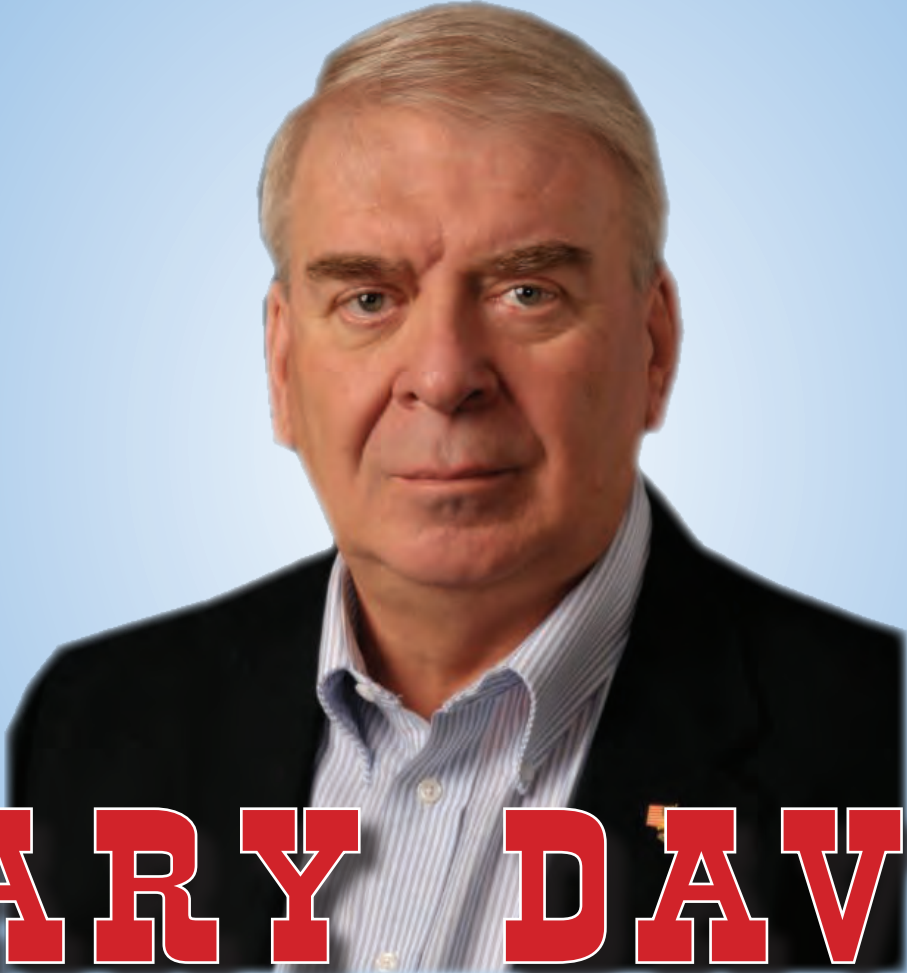


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SAMPLE BALLOT
PRIMARY ELECTION
AUGUST 4, 2020
BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI

NOTICE OF ELECTION
Notice is hereby given that the Primary Election will be held in the County of Barry on Tuesday, August 4, 2020 as certified to this office by the participating entities of Barry County. The ballot for the Election shall be in substantially the following form.

<div>REPUBLICAN PARTY</div> <div>FOR GOVERNOR (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> RALEIGH RITTER</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> MIKE PARSON</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> JAMES W. (JIM) NEELY</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> SAUNDRA McDOWELL</div> <div>FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> ARNIE C. AC DIENOFF</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> MIKE KEHOE</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> AARON T WISDOM</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> MIKE CARTER</div> <div>FOR SECRETARY OF STATE (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> JOHN R. (JAY) ASHCROFT</div> <div>FOR STATE TREASURER (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> SCOTT FITZPATRICK</div>	<div>REPUBLICAN PARTY</div> <div>FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> ERIC SCHMITT</div> <div>FOR UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 7 (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> ERIC HARLEMAN</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> KEVIN VanSTORY</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> STEVE CHENTNIK</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> BILLY LONG</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> CAMILLE LOMBARDI-OLIVE</div> <div>FOR STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 29 (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> MIKE MOON</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> DAVID COLE</div>	<div>REPUBLICAN PARTY</div> <div>FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 158 (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> SCOTT CUPPS</div> <div>FOR NORTHERN COMMISSIONER (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> GARY SCHAD</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> KYLE FORGEY</div> <div>FOR SOUTHERN COMMISSIONER (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> GENE ROBBINS</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> WADE HERMANSEN</div> <div>FOR SHERIFF (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> GARY DAVIS</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> TRAVIS HILBURN</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> DANNY BOYD</div> <div>FOR ASSESSOR (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> SHERRY SMITH</div> <div>FOR CORONER (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> JIM FOHN</div> <div>FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> SAM MADSEN</div>	<div>DEMOCRATIC PARTY</div> <div>FOR GOVERNOR (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> NICOLE GALLOWAY</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> JIMMIE MATTHEWS</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> ANTOIN JOHNSON</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> ERIC MORRISON</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> ROBIN JOHN DANIEL VAN QUAETHAM</div> <div>FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> GREGORY A UPCHURCH</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> ALISSIA CANADY</div> <div>FOR SECRETARY OF STATE (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> YINKA FALETI</div> <div>FOR STATE TREASURER (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> VICKI LORENZ ENGLUND</div> <div>FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> RICH FINNERAN</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> ELAD GROSS</div> <div>FOR UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 7 (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> TERESA MONTSENY</div> <div>FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 158 (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> BRENDA McKINNEY</div> <div>FOR SOUTHERN COMMISSIONER (Vote for ONE)</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> WAYNE HENDRIX</div>
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Cindy Carr
(Cell) 417-847-7514

60156401 - **VACANT LAND.** 4 acre m/l. MOBILE HOMES OKAY. Rural water available. **\$14,000**

60152935 - **BUILD YOUR TABLE ROCK LAKE HOME** on this walk-down lot. Walk down to TWO boat slips which are included with the lot. With a well & septic already in place, you're ready to build that dream home today. **\$175,000**

60120305 - **THIS THREE BEDROOM CHARMER** sits on a double lot, with beautiful trees, fenced in backyard, sun room and a hot tub. Wood burning fireplace has extra stainless steel liner in the flu. Shop building is fully insulated, with water, electricity, two overhead doors and two walk-in doors. **\$150,000**

60104816 - **CLOSED MOTEL WITH 17 UNITS**, an office, plus a 3-bedroom apartment. In-ground storm shelter, off street parking for 20 vehicles. **\$225,000**

60156508 - **8.42 ACRES M/L.** Great piece of property to build a home. Enough land to have some livestock. **\$50,000**

60158115 - **LAKE FRONT PROPERTY** desirable for development. 31.8 acres m/l close to Eagle Rock Bridge. **\$119,900**

60100458 - **INVESTMENT PROPERTY** on State Hwy 112. Close to commercial businesses. Home & shop. **\$31,000**

60165157 - **NICE 1 ACRE M/L LOT** close to town. Perk tested. Metered water. Mobile home accepted. **\$16,000**

60102915 - **VACANT LAND WAITING TO BE DEVELOPED!** 7.62 acres m/l. Lot #9. **\$85,000**

60159181 - **PERFECT, UPDATED HOME** for your large family. With 6 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2 living areas, an outdoor kitchen, plus many more amenities, this home checks all the marks on your wish list. Come take a look today! **\$310,000**

60107648 - **2.8 ACRES M/L.** Property located near Seligman on the south side of Freedom Bank on State Hwy 37. **\$40,000**

60161252 - **NICE NEIGHBORHOOD.** Two bedrooms and one bath on main level. Large family area and bath in basement with walkout sliding door. Newer sump pump. **\$134,900**

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42c

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Tues: Loaded nachos or Mexican chef salad, orange creamsicle dessert

Wed: Crispy chicken wrap, pasta salad, turtle brownies

Thurs: BLT, cucumber salad, key lime pie bars

Fri: Beef tip & noodles, squash, pineapple angel food cake

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Ballot
Certification

CERTIFICATION
STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss.
COUNTY OF BARRY)
I, Jill H. LeCompte, Barry County Clerk, within and for the County of Barry, State of Missouri, hereby certify that the attached form of Official Ballot is in compliance with requirement of Section 116.230 of 1984 Cumulative Supplement of the Missouri Revised Statutes.
IN TESTIMONY WHERE-OF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of my office. Done at the Barry County Courthouse this 9th day of July.

Jill H. LeCompte
Barry County Clerk
NOTICE OF VOTER REGISTRATION ACCESSABILITY
FURTHER NOTICE IS GIV-

See BALLOT 9A

NON-PARTISAN

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. 2

Proposed by Initiative Petition

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.

☐ YES

☐ NO

LIBERTARIAN PARTY

FOR GOVERNOR
(Vote for ONE)
☐ RIK COMBS

FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
(Vote for ONE)
☐ BILL SLANTZ

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE
(Vote for ONE)
☐ CARL HERMAN FREESE

FOR STATE TREASURER
(Vote for ONE)
☐ NICHOLAS (NICK) KASOFF

FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL
(Vote for ONE)
☐ KEVIN C BABCOCK

FOR UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 7
(Vote for ONE)
☐ KEVIN CRAIG

GREEN PARTY

FOR GOVERNOR
(Vote for ONE)
☐ JEROME HOWARD BAUER

FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
(Vote for ONE)
☐ KELLEY DRAGOO

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE
(Vote for ONE)
☐ PAUL LEHMANN

FOR STATE TREASURER
(Vote for ONE)
☐ JOSEPH CIVETTINI

CONSTITUTION PARTY

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE
(Vote for ONE)
☐ PAUL VENABLE

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Polling Locations

Butterfield/McDonald: Butterfield Fire Station

Cassville City: Family Life Center

Cassville Rural/Mineral: Courthouse

Exeter: Exeter Fire Station

Golden: Golden Community Building

Jenkins: Jenkins Fire Department

Kings Prairie/Pleasant Ridge: New Liberty Methodist Church

Monett City: Monett City Park Casino

Monett Rural/Capps Creek: New Site Baptist Church

Ozark/Crane Creek: Madry Christian Union Building

Purdy/McDowell: Purdy City Hall (New Location)

Roaring River: Eagle Rock Community Building

Seligman: Seligman Community Center

Shell Knob: Shell Knob/Viola Community Building

Washburn/Ash: Washburn 1st Baptist Act. Center

Wheaton: Wheaton Community Building

The polling places for said election will open at 6:00

a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m., during which time any person properly registered to vote in Barry County will be given the opportunity to cast his or her ballot.

BALLOT from 8A

EN that no less than one-half of the sites provided for voter registration shall be accessible to handicapped persons (RSMo 115.140). In addition, a disabled or elderly citizen may register to vote by alternative means, including registration by mail and curbside registration.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON REGISTRATION AND VOTING: Persons may contact their election authority by telephone at: 417-847-2561 or by mail at 700 Main, Suite 2, Cassville, MO 65625.

The Missouri Secretary of State's Office provides a toll free number for persons with hearing impairments who have access to a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) TDD users may call 800-669-8683 to obtain information on voter registration, polling place location, and accessibility, absentee balloting, and other election-related services available in their local jurisdictions and from the State of Missouri.



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VBS

July 27-31

6-8:30 p.m.

Free Registration

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42c



SINCLAIR “SY” ROGERS II

On April 19, 2020, Sy Rogers passed into eternity after struggling with cancer for nine months.

He was born Sinclair Ulrey Rogers II to the late Sinclair Rogers and Barbara (Walker) Rogers on December 15, 1956, in Cassville. He is survived by his wife, Karen; daughter, Grace Lobato, and son-in-law, Steve; two grandchildren, Avi, nine, and Lucia, four; and his mom, Jane Rogers.

Sy graduated from Monett High School after serving AFS as an international stu-

dent in Brazil for six months. When he returned, he enlisted in the United States Navy and served four years with an honorable discharge in November of 1978. He met and married Karen Ann Campbell in 1982 in Hagerstown, Md. In 1985, they had a daughter, Grace, while living in Orlando, Fla. After giving his life to the Lord in 1980, Sy became a leading communicator on God, Sex and Culture. He lived overseas in New Zealand, Singapore and back in New Zealand for a total of seventeen years. In 2012, he moved his family to Auckland, New Zealand, to be on staff at Life Church. He divided his time between the church and his itinerant global preaching/teaching ministry. Sy had a full and blessed life.

A Celebration of Sy’s life will be live streamed on the First United Methodist Church website at www.funmonett.org/watch at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, July 31,

OBITUARIES

2020. Because of current health concerns, attendance will be limited to the family. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to St. Jude Children’s Hospital in care of the funeral home. Arrangements have been entrusted to Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.

TIMOTHY JOHN MOORE

Timothy John Moore, age 45, of Exeter, passed away Monday, July 20, 2020, at Mercy Hospital in Cassville.

Cremation arrangements are under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. For service information, please contact the family.

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

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



RONNIE RAY TOLLISON

Ronnie Ray Tollison, age 72, of Eagle Rock, passed at his home on Saturday, July 18, 2020. Mr. Tollison, son of Jack and Elizabeth (Wittaker) Tollison, was born on August 8, 1947, in Modesto, California. Subsequent to graduating high school, Mr. Tollison enlisted in the United States Marines and served his country proudly for ten years, including three tours in Vietnam. On June 5, 1988, he was united in mar-

riage to Sharon Ann Davis in Modesto. Ronnie enjoyed fishing and moved to the Eagle Rock area in 2003 to be closer to the water. He had a huge heart for the community and was active in the local Eagle Rock Community Center (E.R.C.A.), he never met a stranger and would do anything to help others.

Ronnie was active in the Eagle Rock Golden Mano Fire Department and was a member of the V.F.W. Post #3199 in Modesto, California.

Survivors include four sons, John Lopez and his wife, Lisa, of Suwanee, Georgia, Laman Lopez, of Modesto, California, and Danny Tollison and James Lopez, both of Eagle Rock; one daughter, Laura Lopez, of Branson; three grandchildren, Rachael, Alex, and Cali; and one sister, Diane Duncan, of Modesto, California.

In addition to his parents, Ronnie was preceded in death by two brothers,

Danny Tollison and Donald Tollison, and two sisters, Julia Tollison and Louise Rogers.

A private family burial will be held at the Springfield Veterans Cemetery at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family and entrusted to the White Funeral Home and Crematory, Cassville.

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

White Funeral Home and Crematory

www.whitefuneralhome.org

417-847-8400 or 417-858-8400

ELDON LEE MCCRACKEN

Eldon Lee McCracken, 82, of Monett, passed away Thursday, July 16, 2020, in Lamar.

Funeral services were held today, Wednesday, July 22, 2020, at Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.

Free Adult Education classes at Crowder College in Neosho

The Crowder College Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) Program is open for classes at the Neosho Crowder College campus and ready to serve the community.

AEL assists individuals who wish to prepare to take their High School Equivalency Exam (formerly known as the GED), to review basic skills, to prepare for a college placement test, to prepare for the AS-VAB Test or to prepare for the NCRC Test. Our program also offers free College and Career Transition Services for those who are ready to move on to the next step in their lives.

The Crowder College AEL class meets at the Neosho Crowder College campus on an appointment basis only due to the ongoing pandemic. Wearing a face mask while on the campus and in the classroom is required. One-to-one tutoring, online Zoom instruction, and a newly introduced online curriculum program is available for those who would rather learn from home.

This new cutting-edge program is one of the best online curriculums in the nation. It allows student to learn on

any electronic device such as a smartphone, tablet or computer with internet access. The innovation of this unique program is not just the online platform, it’s that it teaches students lessons they need to know to pass the High School Equivalency Exam and not repeat lessons already mastered. Current students report they enjoy the new curriculum and give positive reviews about their learning success.

To learn more about Adult Education and Literacy programming or any of the learning opportunities mentioned, please call, 417.455.5521 or email leighalayne@crowder.edu. AEL is located in Newton Hall, Room 300A, Crowder College - Neosho, 601 Lacelede, Neosho, MO.

Patrol Provides Results Of High Speed Enforcement Campaign

Colonel Eric T. Olson, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, would like to provide the public with the results of the Patrol’s high speed enforcement campaign. From noon to midnight each day on July 17-18, 2020, troopers’ enforcement activity included:

- Citations for moving violations – 668
- Warnings – 1,256
- Traffic Stops – 2,557
- Speed Citations – 598
- Seat Belt Citations – 264
- Motorist Assists – 513
- Crashes – 119

It is worth noting that 200 of the 598 speed citations were to motorists traveling 20+ mph over the speed

limit.

This high speed enforcement campaign was an effort to address a drastic increase in egregious speed and hazardous moving violations during the COVID-19 pandemic. Fatal crashes have increased dramatically in Missouri, despite a period of significantly lower traffic volume. Currently, Missouri is experiencing a 16 percent increase in traffic fatalities compared to last year.

Across the state, the Missouri State Highway Patrol has seen a 58 percent increase in speeds at or above 26 mph over the speed limit from January through June 2020 when compared to the four-year average. Troopers issued 4,869 summonses to drivers traveling 26 mph or more over the speed limit during that time. The data shows the most common violators are between the ages of 15 and 29. Most of the

speed violations occur during the weekend.

Col. Olson reminds the public speed is one of the leading contributing factors to fatal traffic crashes. There is never a good reason for a motorist to exceed the speed limit and endanger others. Virus or not, troopers remain vigilant and are enforcing the law. Troopers with the Iowa State Patrol, Arkansas State Police, Nebraska State Patrol, and Kansas Highway Patrol joined Missouri’s troopers in the enforcement campaign. All officers focused on enforcing traffic laws related to excessive speed, hazardous moving/aggressive driving, and distracted driving.

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 ...”

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2 ½ miles East of Cassville FR 2180

Pastor Kevin Hilton

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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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All are welcome!

35evnc

McDowell Community Church

Non-Denominational Church

Service Times:

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Night Bible Study/Youth 7:00 p.m.

Everybody Welcome!

Trust in Him at all times, you people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us.

Psalms 62:8

42c

What will America look like without football?

Lee Stubblefield

With the uncertainty of competition casting a dark cloud over sports at all levels, athletes, coaches, parents, and fans are holding their collective breath as we steam into the uncharted waters of the Fall sports season. Everyone involved is hoping for the best, but also preparing for the worst.

The madness started with the cancellation of the NCAA basketball tournament last March. Since then, the dominoes have fallen in every direction. Baseball, softball, swimming, track. International events succumbed as well. The summer Olympics have been postponed. Boston Marathon, gone. Rose Parade, nixed. A multitude of local 5K's cancelled or reduced to "virtual races".

Still, despite the sometimes overblown cautiousness of governing bodies, athletes train because that is what athletes do. But will their efforts ever translate into official competition? Or merely become a log in a training journal?

There can be no better local example than Southwest distance runner, Travis Sickles. A journeyman runner during his freshman and sophomore years, Sickles used an intense off season to become a powerful cross country presence as a junior last fall. Then he posted personal bests of 4:39 in the 1600 and 10:28 in the 3200 last spring, both times that would have placed him in previous Class 2 state meets. But both were solo efforts with his track season erased.

My training partner, Ross Bolding, clipped a 5:59.5 mile just weeks ago at age 74. That is 19 seconds faster than the Arkansas age group record. But there are no meets available for him to display his talents. Although I am not as gifted, I did place 3rd, 10th and 11th in three national championship events last year. But even though I am even faster now after another year of intense training, my racing season is toast.

What will America look

like without football?

With no disrespect for other fall sports, the biggest question in the sports world is "What will America look like without football?" Despite the sometimes forced optimism of coaches, athletic directors, and administration, it is an elephant that cannot be confined to the corner.

Cassville's annual journey to football camp at William Jewel was an early casualty of the cancel culture. The Wildcats will instead conduct all their pre-season training in house.

Meanwhile, some college conferences have already put the brakes on the entire football season. Others have cancelled all non-conference games, a real problem for independents like Notre Dame. Even the NFL cannot seem to reach a consensus on how to move forward with this season.

With all this in mind, the directives from MSHSAA do not look promising.

"As of July 1, the Board of Directors believes it would not be in the best interest of our state to pick and choose which sports/activities would be permitted to continue to have a season while at the same time restricting other sports/activities from continuing due to public health concerns."

So if we can't get football right, we will all be sitting this season out.

It is that statement, along with the likely restriction of "tier 3" personnel - parents, spectators, and vendors - that led Bolding, a retired superintendent, to predict that there will be no high school fall sports in 2020.

"How do you justify keeping people away from the games due to perceived risks posed by the virus and then allow the kids to play in that same possibly lethal environment?" he asked. "No one will accept that liability."

So I ask again.

What will America look like without football?

Paul Taylor
Consider this a tale of two hospitals.

Four years ago, our health system was forced to shut down Ozark Community Hospital in Springfield. Two hundred employees lost their jobs, and a corner of the city lost its access to both primary and emergency care. We've since closed three other clinics in Missouri.

One hundred miles to the south, our hospital in Gravette, Arkansas, is thriving, with 350 employees on payroll at a facility that includes primary and specialty care clinics.

The difference? Arkansas expanded Medicaid in 2014. Missouri's elected leaders have consistently resisted such a move — a failure Missouri voters will now have a chance to rectify with the August 4 vote on a citizens' initiative ballot measure called Amendment 2.

It's really that simple. While OCH Health System was adding providers and employees in Arkansas, we were losing providers and shrinking staff across the border.

Small, rural hospitals are in crisis; since 2005, the number to close nationwide is approaching 200.

In Missouri, 15 hospitals have closed since 2014 – 10 in rural locations. Hundreds more remain at risk, barely hanging on even before the global pandemic. The common thread: most to close are in the 13 states that haven't expanded Medicaid.

Rural hospitals are the economic lifeblood of the communities they serve. When the hospital closes, the town dies. Or in Gravette's

case, offers a chance at rebirth.

The economic benefits of Medicaid expansion in Arkansas are apparent. Officials here have used more than \$400 million expansion savings during the last three years to cut state income taxes and reduce payments previously allocated to the uninsured.

Thanks to a 900 percent return on investment through a much higher federal matching rate, Missouri can expect the same effect on its state budget. By 2026, the projected savings will exceed \$1.3 billion annually, according to Washington University researchers.

Among the existing Medicaid recipients who would qualify for the higher federal reimbursements: expectant mothers, people with disabilities, and women diagnosed through breast and cervical cancer screening programs.

The economic impact of Missouri Medicaid expansion beyond the state budget savings would be even more sizable.

A new Missouri Foundation for Health report concludes that a Yes on 2 vote next month will generate 16,000 new jobs annually over the first five years of expansion, with a \$2.5 billion annual economic output.

Four out of five of those new jobs would be in occupations outside the health industry. And 90 percent of those sorely needed positions would be located outside of St. Louis and Kansas City.

Is it any wonder that the groups lining up to support Medicaid expansion include the likes of the Missouri

Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which calls the voter petition-driven ballot initiative a "pro-jobs measure that will help fuel economic growth throughout the state."

As a safety-net provider, our health system focuses on providing access to care for those who cannot obtain it elsewhere. Unlike most other such providers, we are a for-profit, paying real estate, sales and income taxes but ineligible for taxpayer funds, grants and donations. Our operating margins are narrow -- and Medicaid expansion makes all the difference.

Closing Ozarks Community Hospital in Springfield was incredibly painful. We held on as long as we could, but without increased coverage for uninsured patients, we were placing our entire organization at risk. We had no choice but to reduce services in Missouri.

I grew up in Joplin and lived in Missouri for almost 60 years. I've watched our Missouri-licensed physicians become licensed in Arkansas, and staff members drive hours to work across the state line. Simply put, Missouri is losing money, jobs, medical facilities and talent to Arkansas.

The past few months have shown that access to care is more important than ever.

It's time to protect frontline healthcare jobs, help keep endangered rural hospitals open and ensure that all Missourians have access to emergency care.

A similar message was heard loud and clear to our west; on June 30, Oklahoma voters approved their own Medicaid expansion ballot measure, meaning Missouri tax dollars now help subsidize Medicaid expansion in 37 other states.

On August 4, vote yes on Amendment 2.

Paul Taylor is CEO of the OCH Health System, which in addition to the Gravette hospital owns and operates 15 medical clinics in Missouri, Oklahoma and Arkansas.

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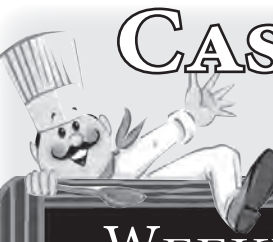
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TRUMP from FRONT



The Trump Shop manager, Laura Tolbert, indicates she will be receiving new merchandise twice weekly.

rented an elephant from said owner prior to one of his campaign rallies.

“We are the first and only



Hat with “Don’t Tread On Me” logos is one of many varieties at The Trump Shop.

Trump Shop in Barry County,” Tolbert said.

Tolbert indicates she will have more merchandise available in upcoming weeks, including more rebel flags, caps and t-shirts.

“I enjoy operating the shop,” she said. “It gives me a chance to interact with like-minded people and learn their thoughts about the world.”

The Trump Shop is located at 498 State Highway 76 in Cassville, next door to Rocky’s KO Haircuts.

For information, call 479-316-5965.

Shop hours are: Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.; and Sunday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Candidates for congress in Missouri called on to declare war stance

All candidates for Congress running this year in Missouri have been asked to sign a Pledge that commits the candidate to abiding by the Constitution when the issue of troop deployment is concerned. The Pledge, sponsored by the group Bring Our Troops Home, has been sent to all candidates.

“It is vital that citizens know where candidates stand on this core issue” said Dan McKnight Chairman of Bring Our Troops Home. “For far too long, Congress has failed in its responsibility. Under the Constitution in Article 1, it is Congress that has the sole authority to declare war and commit the sons and daughters of America to combat. By handing power to the Executive to engage in warfare without the consent of the American people, as registered through their elected representatives, is an insult to all of those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for America. It must end,” continued McKnight.

The Pledge asks candidates to commit to the following language:

I pledge to the citizens of Missouri that I will insist that Congress exercise the Constitutional authority granted solely to the Legislative Branch, “To declare war,” as stated in Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1. While Presidents may respond to sudden attacks against the United States territories or military forces, offensive deployments or extended commitments of U.S. mili-

tary forces must be debated and approved or rejected by Congress.

“We at Bring Our Troops Home plan to make sure that the public at large knows who signs and who refuses to sign this simple statement,” said McKnight. “For the life of me, I cannot see why anyone looking to be elected to

Congress would refuse to pledge to simply abide by the Constitution,” concluded McKnight.

The organization was founded in January 2019 and is composed of veterans from all corners of America dedicated to ending the war in Afghanistan, withdrawing U.S. military forces from the

Middle East and encouraging a complete reexamination of U.S. foreign policy that is now based on military intervention. Background on the group and its activities can be found at www.BringOurTroopsHome.us

★ ELECT ★

GENE ★ ★ ★ ★

ROBBINS

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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TRAVIS HILBURN

FOR BARRY COUNTY SHERIFF

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- 14 Years with the Highway Patrol
- 8 Years Missouri National Guard
- Cassville High School Graduate
- 3 Years Business Management Experience
- Longtime Barry County Resident

MEET & GREET

Saturday, August 1

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Free Live Entertainment

Starts at 7:00 p.m.

Paid for by Travis Hilburn for Sheriff, Laura Burton, Treasurer

VOTE
AUG. 4

Meet the Candidates: Barry County Sheriff



Sheriff candidate and incumbent sheriff, Gary Davis (R)



Sheriff candidate, Danny Boyd (R)



Sheriff candidate, Travis Hilburn (R)

1. Why are you running for sheriff?

I am currently the Sheriff. My experience, training, professionalism and integrity have brought a new beginning to Barry County law enforcement. I am asking the voters of Barry County to elect me for another term so I may continue what I have started. A Sheriff must focus not only on patrol but must ensure all procedures and policies are being followed. He also prepares and manages multiple budgets (Patrol and Jail), as well as managing the officers that work for him. We have made a great start on professionalizing the Barry County Sheriff's Office, but we can continue to improve and do better. That is why I want to continue as your Sheriff.

2. What type of experience do you have that makes you a good candidate for this office?

Current Sheriff of Barry County. I am a retired Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agent with over 36 years of law enforcement experience. I have conducted and supervised criminal investigations including drug trafficking, organized crime, bank robbery, counterterrorism, fraud and a host of others. My more notable investigative involvements included the attempted assassination of President Ronald Reagan, the Oklahoma City bombing, and on the Incident Command of the September 11th terror attacks. I have developed and managed multi-million-dollar budgets, HIDTA and OCDEF grants, intelligence centers and technology projects, including the personnel associated with them. Education: Bachelors of Science degree Business Administration (cum laude); FBI Executive Development Institute—Inspector Training—Certified Police Instructor—Security Officer Training, Security Seminars—Equal Employment Opportunity for Managers—Interrogation and Interviewing—Interpersonal Communications—Creating World Class Organizations—Busi-

ness Area Analysis—Management Training for Supervisors—Basic Organized Crime—Labor Racketeering—Racketeering Enterprise Investigations—High Intensity Drug Trafficking—Espionage Interrogation and Interviewing—Espionage—Criminal Intelligence—Organized Crime—Drug Trafficking—International Terrorism and Counterintelligence—Department of Defense Joint Task Force Six Threat Assessment School—Fingerprint Examiner. Numerous seminars and classes pertaining to Missouri laws and the investigation of violations thereof.

3. The budget for the Sheriff's Office is the largest in the county. Do you feel it's adequate for current operations? Are there changes you would like to see made to it?

The budget must be addressed within the context of available funds. All Barry County Offices are funded via sales tax. Only so much is available to go around and is subject to the ebb and flow of the local economy. The current budget is the result of negotiations between the County Commissioners and the Sheriff's Office. To provide major improvements to deputy equipment needs and an increase in the number of patrol deputies would require additional funds. Barry County Deputies are the lowest paid of the surrounding counties.

4. It's essential to have a good relationship with other law departments. Are there areas in the relationship between other municipalities, the Conservation Department and the Highway Patrol that could be improved? If so, how would you improve them?

Communication is the best way to improve relationships. Regular meetings, both formal and informal, help foster a positive working relationship and leads to coordinated efforts to better serve the citizens of Barry County.

1. Why are you running for sheriff?

It is a goal I have always wanted to reach in my law enforcement career. I want to be a working Sheriff and not just an Administrative Sheriff. I believe a Sheriff should lead by example. I want to make a difference and contribute to a safer and better Barry County.

2. What type of experience do you have that makes you a good candidate for this office?

In my current position as a law enforcement officer, I have had supervisory roles, trained other officers, and have had continuous training in law enforcement. I am currently an investigator, but I still take calls and work the road, which I feel makes me more qualified than my opponents. With laws changing all the time, I make it a policy to stay up with all the new and current changes in law. And I feel it is important to be active in policing on a regular basis.

3. Do you feel the budget is adequate for current operations? Are there changes you would like to see made to it?

There is no way the budget is adequate for current operations. Other resources, such as grants and other funds that can be of financial assistance in getting equipment, uniforms, etc. would be helpful. Working diligently with the Commissioners to present a budget for Sheriff's Office that will be both reasonable and necessary for the safe

and efficient operation of the department and provide core services needed, especially in these unprecedented times, to protect the citizens and visitor of Barry County is a must.

4. Are there areas in the relationship between other municipalities, the Conservation Dept. and the Highway Patrol that could be improved? If so, how would you improve them?

There can always be room for improvement, no matter what. Having a good working relationship with other agencies and the cities of Barry County can enable us to have better coverage and response to all areas of Barry County. If elected, I plan on sitting down and reaching out to all the other agencies to get a better relationship started to work together. For the County to run efficiently, all agencies need to work together.

1. Why are you running for sheriff?

I feel the sheriff's office needs some change. The office needs someone who is willing to be out around the public and assist the deputies in their daily duties, as well as take care of the administrative section. I don't make a lot of promises, but I will work as hard as I can to make the office what it should be.

2. What type of experience do you have that makes you a good candidate for this office?

- I'm a Barry County native.
 - I have worked for the Highway Patrol for 14 years.
 - I've served with the Marine Corps for 13 years.
 - I've served with the Missouri National Guard for 8 years.
 - I have three years experience in business management for a large automotive company.
- 3. The budget for the Sheriff's Office is the largest in the county. Do you feel it's**

adequate for current operations? Are there changes you would like to see made to it?

I am not aware of the current budget but I feel our Deputies and staff being fairly compensated for good work should be top priority. Many of our law enforcement officers and staff live below the poverty level and work secondary jobs to supplement their families.

4. It's essential to have a good relationship with other law departments. Are there areas in the relationship between other municipalities, the Conservation Department and the Highway Patrol that could be improved? If so, how would you improve them?

I have and will continue to work with all other Law Enforcement agencies. We all do the same job and should work side by side.

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The Real Deal: Adventures in Real Estate

Rob Lotufo Ozark Properties Group, Fathom Realty
A new kind of transaction

2020 has hurled us head-long into a new kind of business world. In just a few months, we have found ways to interact without actually meeting, we are avoiding physical contact, and have even changed rules and

laws regarding personal signings and consultations. I was raised on the "handshake and a smile" school of business. People looked each other in the eye, and decided if they liked the chemistry between themselves right then and there. Many a transaction was cemented by one person giving their word, and another believing that was good enough.

We are now in the days of nearly contactless transactions. I sold a house last week to a man in Alaska who has never been here. I recorded video tours with my phone and posted them online for him to view. He sent his son-in-law down here to preview the home. Within 48 hours of his inquiry, we were under contract. All of the signatures were digital, via computer. I was able to send him the tax report card and comparable listings by email. He wired the money to the closing company down here. He connected me with his mortgage lender, Quicken Loans. They will execute the entire transaction over the internet, without ever meeting the client.

A brave new world

It really is a brave new world out there, and maybe just a little scary. Last year several of the big boys in online real estate introduced programs where they would literally buy your house sight unseen. There is a lot more going on here than meets the eye. From what I have read, they only expect to buy 3 to 5% of those homes. On the ones that they do buy, they expect to lose an average of \$4,500 per transaction. Why do it? Well, it's a service that people want. There are some

sellers, often the heirs of a deceased owner, who wish to cash out as soon as possible with no hassles. Also in cases of divorce, bankruptcy or any extreme hardship this has become popular. But profit from buying and flipping is not really the end game for these online "ibuyers".

Side Benefits

Every inquiry into this program is an instant warm contact. That's worth a lot. Even if you don't like their instant price, you may be very likely to ask them for a market evaluation of what they thought your home could bring if it were listed on the market. Conversion to a traditional listing is a nice bonus. If they do decide to buy your house and you decide to take the offer, there are many peripheral benefits. In many cases, everything from the title work and insurance to the mortgage is handled by that agent. The double whammy is when you take the "I buyer" price, and parlay your proceeds into buying another home. It goes without saying that the buyer's agent is going to volunteer to help you buy that home and have an opportunity to earn commission on that sale as well, giving you the option to throw in mortgage, appraisal, inspection, moving services, etc. if possible. These online buyers are willing to gamble that the benefit of taking an "instant buy" home at a loss can easily be transformed into a profitable enterprise. Not to mention maintaining market share superiority and keeping sales dollar volume up.

Is this Legit?

None of this is illegal or even unethical. It is, how-

ever, not always thoroughly explained to the customer. In many cases, it may be the best situation for you to take, especially when you might not live in the area where the house is located or have adequate contacts to make a more personal assessment. I do think it's important to be aware and keep abreast of what all is really going on with your transaction.

Caveat Emptor!

I took a little trip to Branson last week. We went into a very nice restaurant in the Big Cedar Resort area. It had great decor, the menu looked delicious and the service was very efficient. After a nice meal and a couple of beverages, my waitress handed me the tab. The itemized bill showed \$35. The credit card bill showed \$53. No less than three or four attempts later, I finally flagged over our server and asked her if that was added gratuity or was there something wrong with the total. She kind of shook her head and said "my bad", went back to the register and re-rang up my bill. I guess this just illustrates that whether somebody does something intentional or not, it's always our responsibility to double-check and make sure we know what is going on. Whether it is an \$18 error on your restaurant tab or a \$10,000 "unexpected" deduction from your home sale proceeds. It behooves you to find people you can trust to help you with major transactions. I suggest you always check references and an agent's track records before making a serious real estate commitment. Find someone that you feel confident with. Be careful out there!

★ PUBLIC AUCTION ★

Friday, July 24, 2020 • 10:00 AM

LOCATION: Shell Knob, MO. From the Shell Knob Plaza, go south on Hwy. 39, 3/10 mile. Turn left on State Hwy. YY, go 3.2 miles. Auction on right.

TRACTOR – DR LAWN VAC – TOOLS – TRAILER – HOUSEHOLD – MISC



Tractor: Ford 2000 Tractor – 6' angle blade. Lawn Vac: Dr lawn & leaf vac w/ hose, motor & wheel kit. **Trailer:** 6'x12' trailer,(no title). **Tools & Mower:** Troy-Bilt 2800 PSI pressure washer – Troy -Bilt 18.5 hp, 42" cut automatic riding mower – DEK 13 hp 6500 watt generator – 150 PSI air compressor – Lincoln AC 225 amp welder – Miller Dial Arc 250 AC/DC welder – Craftsman 151/2" floor mdl drill press – McCulloch Mite-E-Lite portable generator – Craftsman metal lathe – sm shop vac – battery charger – air hose – wheel barrow – alum ext ladders – misc long handle tools – lots of nuts, bolts, screws, etc – tie down straps – misc sm power tools – chain fall – misc hand tools such as ratchets, sockets, drill bits, screw drivers, saws, pliers, wrenches, etc – welding helmets – oil cans – grinders – tool belts – ropes – tow ropes – gas cans – sm portable tool boxes – pipe & C clamps – shop lights – misc paint & elect items – 100 lb propane bottle – weed eaters – metal yard cart – Homelite chain saw – 20 lb. propane bottles – push mowers – garden hose. **Household & Misc:** Wood desk – 4 drawer metal file cabinet – Howard Miller Grandfather clock – Old Seth Thomas Giant clock – sm gas cook stove – Coo Koo clocks – folding lawn chairs – wheel chair – handicap walkers – child's rocking chairs – ventless gas wall heater – galvanized trash cans – misc household items not listed – bug zapper – white tail deer mount – old sled – fishing tackle – old lantern – bicycles – misc 2x lumber stored inside – (4) rolls of barb wire – This is only a partial list. Sure to be many surprises as we unload the barn. **Note:** Reason for sale, sold the real estate. There will be many more items that are not listed so come enjoy the day with us. Catering and restroom on site. **Terms:** Cash or good check w/2 forms of current ID. Must have current driver's license to obtain bidders number. All terms on bidders' card apply. All sells as is where is w/no warranty or guarantee expressed or implied. Any announcements made day of auction supersede any and all printed material. **No debit or credit cards.**



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Meet the Candidates: Barry County Southern Commissioner



Incumbent, Wayne Hendrix (D)

Wayne Hendrix

1. Biography

I grew up on a farm west of Washburn and graduated from Southwest R-5 High School in 1978. My wife, Jackie, and I will celebrate 42 years of marriage this year. We have two children, Johnie and Jessica, along with much loved grandchildren! Jackie has been on staff for 32 years at First Baptist Church Cassville and I have been a business owner for the past 30 years, owning Barry County Plumbing and Sportsman's Corner. For the past 12 years I have served as Southern Commissioner of Barry County.

2. What experience do you have that makes you a good candidate for this position?

Having the opportunity to serve Barry County as Southern Commissioner for nearly 12 years has provided me with knowledge and experi-

ence in the business of county government. Over these years, I have gained experience and been involved with building bridges, taking care of building and grounds, and overseeing the county budget. In addition, I have served on the Cassville School Board, the Cassville Golf Board, and Solid Waste Management Executive Board which included experience in budgets, problem solving and decision making.

3. Why did you decide to run for office (again)?

Barry County has always been my home. There is no better place to live, raise a family and retire. I want Barry County to be the best it can be now and for future generations. I enjoy serving the people of Barry County and serving as Southern Commissioner gives me the opportunity to be part of keeping and making Barry County the best it can be.

4. How would Barry County benefit from your service?

I have served three terms as Southern Commissioner, and as a result have gained knowledge and experience in the area of county government. I am fair and honest, have conservative values and Barry County common sense. I believe these qualities, along with my years of experience, would be beneficial while serving Barry County.



Gene Robbins (R)

Gene Robbins

1. Biography

My name is Gene Robbins. I am a Republican candidate running for Barry County Southern Commissioner. I have been married to my wonderful wife, Regina Murphy Robbins, for 26 years. We have one son, Gus Robbins. I have owned and operated my own business for over 30 years (Robbins Horse Auctions). I am an auctioneer and school bus driver, as well as a backhoe operator. I am a member of the Church of Christ and am currently President of Maplewood Cemetery in Exeter. I attended Cassville School as well as Missouri Auction School in Kansas City.

2. What experience do you have that makes you a good candidate for this position?

In my early twenties I worked for Flat Creek Road

District, so I know what it takes to maintain our county roads and, as I said in my bio, I have my own business, so I know how to work with a budget. I have experience with parliamentary procedure as I was President and Vice President of rodeo associations covering Missouri and Oklahoma. I have also served as Alderman on the Exeter City Council. I understand the challenges our elected officials face and I'm ready to take them head on.

3. Why did you decide to run for office?

Barry County has been good to my family, I feel it is time to give back.

4. How would Barry County benefit from your service?

Just to cut to the chase I believe after a politician has been in office two or three terms it's a good idea to change it up with a fresh set of eyes and to let someone else serve the community. I believe our elected county employees should be accessible as well as approachable no matter how great or small the problem or concern the citizens of Barry County have. I will be that person.



Wade Hermansen (R)

Wade Hermansen

1. Biography

I grew up in Cassville and went to college at the University of Missouri where I earned a degree in Business/Economics. After school, I came back to the area and reconnected with my future wife, of 22 years, Christy VanZandt, of Washburn. In 1995, I began my business, Dry Gulch Manufacturing, in Ozark. After our first daughter, Clara, was born, Christy and I decided to move "back home" to build and raise our family. A short time later, Dry Gulch Manufacturing would be relocated to Exeter, where I continue to operate and grow the business. About 10 years ago, I began to get involved with the community and currently serve on the Cassville School Board and Industrial Development Association.

2. What experience do you have that makes you a good candidate for this position?

My 25 years experience, in manufacturing and marketing, has given me an understanding of the new tools, methods and resources, available in today's economy, that can promote community and

business expansion.

3. Why did you decide to run for office?

Gov. Mike Parsons gave a speech at an event I attended 3 years ago. He spoke of the challenges that rural communities, schools and young people will face in the future. Gov. Parsons stressed the importance of local governments being active participants and partners for setting firm foundations for future economies and industries, in our communities. I agreed with the importance of Gov. Parsons' message. It was then I began considering how best to prepare my community. Southern Commissioner was the one county office that would allow me the opportunity and flexibility to connect with local communities, organizations and businesses to discuss Barry County's future.

4. How would Barry County benefit from your service?

Building and exploring economic improvement for the county will be something that benefits residents, schools and businesses for many years to come. The key to long term success is to start now and continue to put in the thought and work over the long term. As we have success, residents, county departments and businesses will begin to see less stressed county budgets and be more able to take advantage of opportunities.

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Meet the Candidates: Barry County Northern Commissioner



Incumbent, Gary Schad (R)

Gary Schad
Biography
 • Currently serving as the Northern Barry County Commissioner (Elected 2012).
 • Owner operator of Circle Dot Farms LLC, a cow/calf operation west of Purdy.
 • Married for 21 years to my lovely wife, Sara. We have three wonderful children, Randy, Robyn, and Rosa.
 • Graduated Wheaton High School '93.
 • Graduated University of Missouri '98. (major in Ag Economics and a minor in Ag Education).
 I've been a lifetime resi-

dent of Barry County, serving on several local boards. I've been a career Farmer/Rancher since I was old enough to clutch a tractor or sit a horse.
2. What experience do you have that makes you a good candidate for this position?
 I have held the position of Northern Commissioner for eight years. This job changes daily. Very rarely are any problems or issues alike. I have learned how to adapt and evolve right along with it, by using a network of resources and fellow office holders at the local, state, and federal levels. It takes time to develop these connections and compile the resources. Having these in place is beneficial in running the office efficiently.
3. Why did you decide to run for office?
 I'm not finished yet. The things we have accomplished in the eight years I have been

in office have Barry County pointed in the right direction. I want to insure that it stays the course, not just for now, but for the next generation.
4. How would Barry County benefit from your service?
 By doing the following:
 • Continue to create a fair, balanced budget
 • Continue to keep building our reserves
 • Continue approving projects that will increase the county's efficiency and services
 • Continue to serve the citizens of Barry County to the best of my ability and ensure they get the best return on their tax dollars
 I know these are not headline worthy, but they should be what every commissioner should strive for. I will not make lavish promises to gain votes. I'm a citizen of the county too and have its best interest at heart.

KYLE FORGEY
1. Biography
 I was raised and lived in Barry County my whole life. I am the son of Jerry & Rhonda (Witt) Forgey. I attended St. Mary's Grade School and graduated from Pierce City High School. I am married to Ashley (Doty) and have two sons, Ashton Medlin and Kyler Forgey. I am a farmer and own a small business. Currently, I am a commissioner on the Capps Creek Road District.
2. What experience do you have that makes you a good candidate for this position?
 My experience from the Road District Board is we need to move forward, not backwards. I've learned to take the time and listen. I've learned from owning

my own business to operate within the budget. I'd like to offer a fresh approach to our county's commission board.
3. Why did you decide to run for office?
 I am running for the Barry County Northern Commissioner to be an advocate for our citizens and make decisions that will benefit the residents of Barry County. I want to protect the people I serve and protect the taxpayer's money. I have no personal agenda to push, only to help make our county an even better place to live, to work, and to raise our families.
4. How would Barry County benefit from your service?
 My sincere desire to see success in my home county. I



Kyle Forgey (R)

think it is important to see the citizens and community succeed. I want to focus on what is best for our county and the only way to make a difference was to get involved. We need to look at what is working in our county and continue to build and grow on those assets.

Tuesday, August 4, 2020
 Primary Election Information

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. 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 • You must present one form of identification to vote. For example: Drivers 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
 Jill H. LeCompte
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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 } ss

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. 2, 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
 JOHN R. ASHCROFT
 Secretary of State

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words	price
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21-30	\$9.75
31-40	\$13.00

etc.

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Vesicular Stomatitis Virus confirmed in Missouri horse

MDC offers virtual cottonmouth program

Horse, cattle owners advised to take precautions

Today, Missouri State Veterinarian Dr. Steve Struberg announced the state's first case of Vesicular Stomatitis in a horse in Newton County. The announcement follows a positive confirmation from the United States Department of Agriculture's National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL), making Missouri the seventh state to confirm the virus this year. As a result, the Missouri Department of Agriculture is urging horse owners to monitor their livestock closely and call their veterinarian if symptoms arise.

All susceptible animals on the affected premises have been quarantined. The quarantine will continue for at least 14 days after the onset of lesions in the last affected animal. The Department has begun epidemiological work to trace back any possible sources of transmission; however, flies and midges are known to be vectors of the virus. As a preventative measure, Missouri has required a veterinary examination, Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) and an Entry Permit for hooved animals entering the state from affected areas.

Vesicular Stomatitis is a contagious, non-fatal virus that primarily affects horses and cattle by causing a fever and vesicular lesions in the mouth, on ears, near the coronary band of hooves or on teats. Horses infected with Vesicular Stomatitis may be treated with anti-inflammatory medication to minimize swelling and kept on soft feeds to ensure they continue eating and drinking. The virus occasionally affects other hooved livestock, including sheep, goats and swine. The virus has been confirmed in Arizona, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas this year in both horses and cattle.

Veterinarians

Accredited veterinarians will play a critical role in the rapid diagnosis of Vesicular Stomatitis in horses. Veterinarians can assist in collecting samples and submitting them for testing to the NVSL in Ames, Iowa. Although flies and other insects are the primary vectors for the virus, the Department encourages veterinarians to follow proper biosecurity measures as they travel to prevent spread be-

tween farms. Because of the confirmed case in Missouri, other states and Canada are likely to increase restrictions on livestock imports. Animal health officials strongly encourage all livestock owners and veterinarians to call the animal health authority in the destination location for the most current import requirements prior to travel.

Horse and Livestock Owners

All horse and livestock owners should enhance their existing biosecurity measures, including insect control programs, reducing contact between horses, and isolation protocols for horses returning to a farm. Owners should also clean and disinfect communal waterers, feed bunks, trailers and other livestock equipment regularly.

Hosts of Exhibitions, Trail Rides and Markets

The Department strongly recommends hosts of exhibitions, trail rides and markets require CVIs issued within 48

hours of arrival and a veterinary inspection upon arrival. If any horses or livestock exhibit suspicious symptoms consistent with Vesicular Stomatitis, the State Veterinarian recommends sending the animal home for isolation and testing. If adopted, these heightened recommendations may help keep horses and livestock healthy, and provide for continuity of farm and business operations. For official guidelines related to exhibitions, trail rides and markets, please click here.

Vesicular Stomatitis is a reportable disease. Individuals or veterinarians who suspect or have concerns about the virus should contact the Department at (573) 751-3377. To learn more about Vesicular Stomatitis, please click here. To view USDA's latest situation report on the spread of the virus in 2020, visit USDA APHIS online.

For many people, snakes found in or near water are presumed to be cottonmouths, also known as "water moccasins." Cottonmouths do, indeed, live in Missouri, but all of Missouri's snakes can swim and many can be found, at least occasionally, near water. Learning more about water moccasins may help you avoid confrontations with these venomous snakes and ease your worry level when you see a snake in the water.

People can learn about more about these snakes at a free virtual Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) program "Identifying the Water Moccasin." MDC's Springfield Conservation Nature Center staff will offer this online program July 30, from 1-1:30 p.m. Among the topics this class will cover is how to identify cottonmouths (i.e., "water moccasin"), their habitat and some precautions you can take to keep from being bitten. People can register for this program at: <https://mdc-event-web.s3.amazonaws.com/Event/EventDetails/173690>

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 at mdc.mo.gov/regions.

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Ruby Red w/Tan Leather, 1.5L I4 EcoBoost, Power Heated Seats, Power Liftgate, Rear Camera, 8" Screen, Come See!



5348

'18 FORD FLEX SEL FWD
SPECIAL!

\$19,900

PROGRAM!
White Gold w/Tan, 3.5L V6, Heated Leather, Sunroof, Warranty, Tow Pkg. 3 Rows & MORE!



2902

'18 FORD TAURUS SEL

\$16,980

LEATHER!
Ruby Red w/Charcoal, 3.5L V6, SYNC 3, 8" Control Screen, Push Button Start w/Remote, Rear Camera, More!



1415

'18 FORD FOCUS SE

\$10,980

GREAT MPG!
5 DR. HATCHBACK!
Grey w/Charcoal Interior, 6-Spd Auto, Alloy Wheels, Cruise, SYNC, Rear View Camera, Only 46xxx Miles.



1894

2020 FORD EDGE

OVER \$5,500 IN SAVINGS!

LES: \$32,958 / MSRP: \$38,505

CROSSOVER WITH AUTO START/STOP TECHNOLOGY!

Retail Bonus Cash \$2,250
Retail Customer Cash \$1,250
*20 Farm Bureau eCert \$500



5863

2019 FORD F-150 XLT 4X4

OVER \$11,000 IN SAVINGS!

LES: \$40,657 / LIST: \$52,030

Retail Bonus Cash \$250
Ford Credit Retail BC \$750
Special Package RBC \$1,000
F-Series Retail CC \$3,250
Bonus Customer Cash \$1,500
Select Inventory RCC \$750
*20 Farm Bureau eCert \$500



7145

2019 FORD F-150 XLT

SPECIAL DEMO PRICING!
OVER \$11,500 IN SAVINGS!

LES: \$36,799 / LIST: \$48,345

CHROME APPEARANCE PKG!

Retail Bonus Cash \$250
Ford Credit Retail BC \$750
F-Series Retail CC \$3,250
Bonus Customer Cash \$1,500
Select Inventory RCC \$750
*20 Farm Bureau eCert \$500



3426

'17 FORD ESCAPE SE FWD
SPECIAL!

\$14,900

NICE, CLEAN SUV!
EcoBoost Engine, Magnetic Metallic PS, PW, PL, SYNC, Only 34xxx Miles!



4046

'15 FORD F-150 XLT 4X4

\$20,990

NEW TRADE-IN!
White w/Black, 2.7L V6, PW, PL, PM, Alloy Wheels, Rear Camera, SuperCrew Cab!



9551

'12 FORD F-350 XL 4X4

\$30,980

CANNONBALL BED!
Red w/Grey, 6.7L Powerstroke, V8, Dually, ARM/DUMP Haybed, Step Boards, Clean w/77xxx Miles.



5043

'14 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE
SPECIAL!

\$13,500

LOCAL TRADE!
White w/Grey, 3.6L V6 6-Spd Auto, Keyless Entry, PS, PW, PL, PM, Tilt and Cruise, Fold Flat 3rd Row, 73xxx Miles!



3720

'19 LINCOLN MKT AWD

\$27,750

MOONROOF!
Silver w/Charcoal Black Heated/Cooled Leather, 3.5L V6, 6-Spd Auto, Panoramic Roof, Low Miles, Rear Cam & More!

SALES HOURS: 8AM-6PM MON-FRI 8AM-3PM SAT

LES JACOBS

23 Years

Ford

Cassville, MO

SERVICE HOURS: 7:30AM-5:30PM MON-FRI

★ CALL FOR AN OFF-SITE TEST DRIVE APPOINTMENT, TODAY! ★ 18690 HWY 37 • CASSVILLE, MO ★

888-259-3009

*See your dealer for details. Not all buyers will qualify. May require financing through Ford Credit Offer ends 07/31/20. See dealer for residency restrictions, qualifications and complete details.

CLASSIFIED WORKS



42c