

‘Cats headed to State! Cassville blanks Trinity Catholic in semifinals

Lee Stubblefield

Remember the WILD-CATS.

The Cassville Wildcats pitched a shutout against the Trinity Catholic Titans in their Class 3 semifinal game on Saturday at Wildcat Stadium, defeating the defending state champions, 13-0. Cassville’s stalwart defense made stop after stop, and the offense turned opportunity into scores in the biggest win so far in Lance Parnell’s tenure.

There were a lot of questions about Trinity Catholic going into Saturday’s semifinal at Cassville. The defending state champions have had an eventful season to say the least. Before their first game, star running back/receiver Deriyon Cooper withdrew from Trinity to enroll at Pattonville. Then, the school fired head coach Terrence Curry just three games into the season.

Curry led Trinity to a state title in 2018, but his Titans dropped their first two games this year before destroying Bishop Dubuorg 90-6 in a game that was mercifully called after three quarters. Curry was then dismissed by the school in what was described as a “personnel matter.”

John Randle was elevated to the head coaching position, and Trinity reeled off eight consecutive wins to reach the state semifinal on his watch.

Even without Cooper, the Titans’ roster boasts more college-bound recruits than most Missouri conferences, a roster that includes

17 seniors. Consider that the annual tuition for attending this school is over \$10,000, with a number of the athletes receiving scholarships from a booster fund that, according to the school website, exceeds \$1.9 million annually. The Trinity Catholic football program is a textbook example of the advantages of being a private school in a large metro area.

Cassville, a rare underdog at home, had survived a playoff gauntlet to reach this game. After breezing past Aurora in the first district playoff game, the Wildcats survived tough challenges from Monett and Seneca before taking down Blair Oaks, the top-ranked Class 3 team in the state and last year’s Class 2 state champions.

But Cassville had not played a team with the combination of size and skill on Trinity’s roster. Still, some stats favored Cassville. The Wildcats had a huge numbers advantage as Trinity only dressed 37 players for this contest. The weather favored the home team, too. Torrential rains softened the field, negating some of that speed advantage of the St. Louis area team.

A windy disadvantage
Then, there was the wind. A south wind howled as the game progressed, affecting both the kicking and passing games. Much of the Titans’ high octane offense comes from their passing game. But the relentless wind shredded Trinity’s long passing game as pass after pass sailed over wide open receivers.

Clay Weldy, Cassville’s



On Saturday, Cassville relied heavily on ball control and runs to gain a lead over the Titans. Pictured above, running back Zach Coenen, 23, charges through tackles to get the Wildcats to a first down.

wily offensive coordinator, seemed to read the tea leaves better than his counterpart on the opposing sideline. Weldy adjusted his play calling to account for the poor field and wind conditions. Cassville’s Deven Bates threw sparingly in the contest in stark contrast to the pass happy Trinity offense. The Wildcats committed to the run game early on, playing an old school game of field position.

There’s an old Chinese proverb that says, “He who rides the tiger can never dismount.”

Likewise, Cassville could not abandon the ball control game without playing into Trinity’s hands. Also, even though many of those runs netted only a yard or two, the cumulative effect of the

physical ground attack wore down the Titans and their short bench.

The Wildcats took the opening kickoff and drove out to the 46-yard line where they faced 4th-and-2. Parnell gambled, hoping to maintain possession in an afternoon of keepaway. But Bates gained only a yard on the option keep, and Trinity took over on downs.

The Titans swept into the red zone in four plays. But on 3rd-and-goal at the 6-yard line, DJ White made a leaping interception in the end zone.

Cassville could not move the chains, and Trinity quickly drove to the Cassville 4-yard line. Trinity’s kicking game is weak and

the Titans did not hesitate to go on 4th-and-goal. Chris Cotton, Trinity’s freshman quarterback, threw incomplete as the Wildcats dodged another bullet.

Missed chances
Wasted big plays by both teams in the second quarter capped off a scoreless half.

On the first play of the second quarter, James Frenchie broke off left tackle for an apparent 5-yard Titans touchdown, but that score was negated by a penalty.

Later, Zach Coenen broke into the secondary and raced 67 yards to the Trinity 9-yard line. But a fumble on the next play gave the ball back to the Titans.

Then, with no timeouts

and the clock running down, Cotton found Scott Preston for 51 yards to the Cassville 4-yard line. With the end-zone tantalizingly close, the clock ran out before the Titans could snap the ball.

Special teams
After winning the coin toss and deferring to the second half, the Titans quickly squandered that advantage as the third quarter started. Drake Reese boomed the wind-aided kickoff through the uprights. Then disaster struck the Titans.

Turnovers and special teams often decide big games. Especially when turnovers occur on special teams plays.

On 4th-and-12 at the 31-yard line, Trinity punter

See STATE on 12A

Local Christmas parades to march in Saturday

Charlea Estes-Jones

Just around the corner is one of the most heartwarming and fun events of the Christmas season. Holiday parades will line the streets and bring joy all across Barry County.

Saturday, December 7: Washburn, Exeter,
The Washburn Christmas parade will be held on Saturday, December 7, at 10 a.m. Parade participants will meet at the Washburn First Baptist Church at 9 a.m. and start there, heading south on North Street and then turn east on Main Street then south to Highway 90, ending at the Southwest Middle School.

The parade will have awards for first, second and third place, but no categories. There will be a trophy and cash prize for those winners.

For more information or to register, contact Washburn City Hall at (417) 826-5242 or on Facebook through the Washburn Area Chamber of Commerce.

Exeter’s Christmas parade will be on Saturday, December 7, at 1:30 p.m. Lineup for the parade is at 12:30 p.m. at Exeter School. The parade will begin on the west side of the school and travel along Front Street to Maple Street to Washburn Street and then back to the school.

First and second places in each category get trophies. One trophy is also given for the City’s Choice. Categories are: horses: best presentation and best of show; floats: schools, religious and non-religious; bands: musical and non-musical; tractors: antique (1939 and older) and classic (1940 to 1952); and vehicles: oldest, vintage, most unusual and best modern.

For more information or to register for the parade, contact Exeter City Hall at (417) 835-2823.

Sunday, December 8: Cassville
The Cassville Christmas Parade will be held Sunday, December 8, at 4 p.m. on Main Street.

See PARADES on 2A

Inside this issue:

Holiday Ad Deadlines Schedule

The Barry County Advertiser’s winter holiday deadlines will be as follows:

- Pre-Christmas deadline (Dec. 18 paper): Display ads - Fri., Dec. 13, at 4 p.m.; Classifieds - Mon., Dec. 16, at 5 p.m.
- Christmas deadline (Dec. 25 paper): Display ads - Mon., Dec. 16, at 5 p.m., Classifieds - Thurs., Dec. 19
- New Years deadline (Jan. 1 paper): Display ads - Fri., Dec. 27, at 4 p.m., Classifieds - Fri., Dec. 30, at 5 p.m.

Upcoming..... 4 A
Obits8-9 A
Sports11-12 A
Classified 6-7 B
Auctions2 B

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PARADES from FRONT

The date is a change from the original planned time of Saturday, December 7, due to the Cassville Wildcats football team traveling to compete in the State Championship.

Winners in different categories will receive trophies. Categories for judging are: commercial, religious, best horse drawn, best decorated vehicle, most unusual vehicle and band.

This year, the Kids' Choice Award will also return, with the winner taking home \$1,000 from Hutchens Construction.

All kids present can vote for Kids' Choice Award. Parents will need to take them to one of the checkpoint stations, which will be marked along the parade route.

To register for the Cassville Christmas parade or for more information regarding

the event, call the Cassville Area Chamber of Commerce at (417) 847-2814. Lineup will be at 2:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 14: Seligman and Wheaton

The Seligman Christmas parade will be on Saturday, December 14, at 2 p.m. This year's lineup begins at 1 p.m.

The parade will begin at the north side of town at the corner of Highway 37 and Business 37 before going south to the Community Center on the corner of South Main and Joan Avenue.

Awards will be handed out for the following categories: Christmas floats, band/marching units, best motorcycle or off-road vehicle, best dressed elf, best animal unit, best dressed Grinch, best antique vehicle and best non-antique vehicle. Awards for first place in each category will be \$50

and second place will be \$25.

Following the Seligman parade, there will be a Santa Claus meet and greet at the Seligman Community Center. Refreshments will be available for all of those in attendance. For more information or to register, contact Seligman City Hall at (417) 662-3600.

Wheaton's Christmas parade will be held on Saturday, December 14, with the parade beginning at 6 p.m. The line up will start at 4:30 p.m. at the Body of Christ, 519 Gilman, and go downtown.

To register to participate in the Wheaton Christmas parade or for questions regarding this year's festivities, call Wheaton City Hall at (417) 652-3314.

Due to scheduling conflicts and other issues, there will be no Purdy Christmas parade.

Wheaton announces Miss Merry Christmas candidates



Wheaton High School announced the school's 2019 Miss Merry Christmas candidates have been elected. These students will represent WHS in the Cassville and Wheaton Christmas parades and are sponsored by the FBLA Chapter. The winner will be announced later in the week.

Pictured, from left to right are: sophomore Jessica Munday, junior Kimmie Archer, senior Galaxy Loftis and freshman Adriana Barrientos.

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9c

Local Habitat to partner with National Guard to build houses

Charlea Estes-Jones

With a little luck, the next Habitat for Humanity House in Barry County will be built with plenty of extra hands next year. A potential partnership with a local Army National Guard platoon will provide the local Habitat with the boots on the ground to put up the house in just two weeks.

Habitat for Humanity board president David Hermann said a sergeant with the Pierce City National Guard reached out to him to offer to help on the group's next house.

Hermann said, "[Sergeant First Class Derek Acheson] had read an article about us, and then he contacted me and said he was interested in finding

out what they can do to work with us.

"When I asked him what they wanted to do, I asked if he was interested in, like wanting to paint and help clean up, something along those lines, and he told me 'No, we want to do the construction. We want to do the roof, framing, electrical, plumbing, everything.'"

Hermann said he was obviously shocked and overjoyed at the prospect of a group coming in and building the house from the ground up.

SFC Acheson said if the project is approved through the Guard's battalion and brigade through the state, two different platoons will be available to help the Habitat in south Barry County as well as the Habitat for Humanity in the Monett area.

Hermann said he invited Acheson to the Habitat for Humanity's board meeting on Nov. 19. Hermann said, "At the board meeting, it was great. There was great interaction. The board fielded a lot of questions to him."

Acheson said, "We spe-

cialize in vertical construction. We have everything from carpenters and electricians to plumbers in our unit. We have a new commander who came on board around April, and we are constantly looking for things for our annual training. She'd mentioned something about Habitat for Humanity, and we researched ways to be able to do it."

Acheson said that last year, the unit did a community center construction project in Guyana. For next year, they are looking to help in the local community.

Hermann said since the local Habitat can only do one house a year, the help offered by the National Guard would be much appreciated and make the construction process much quicker.

The group is nearing completion on its seventh house, and Hermann said he wants the family to be in their home by Christmas. The seventh build is located on the corner of Oak Hill and 8th Streets in Cassville. After that, the next family has already been selected

and they will begin that build in Wheaton.

Acheson is hoping to get approval to assist with that build at the same time they assist with a Monett Habitat build. However, he assures that he won't give up until they get approval in the future.

Acheson said, "It's not a definite go for this upcoming year. If we can't make it happen for the May or June time frame, then we're definitely going to pursue it for the 2021 time frame. Because we got started so late in the approval process, we may not be able to get it done in time, but we may be able to get it done for next year."

The decision on whether the project is approved for 2020 will come in February or March, according to Acheson.

Acheson added, "It's good for us because we need to practice that stuff. So it helps us and helps the Habitat. The soldiers are getting training in our Military Occupational Skill. I definitely see it getting approved, we just won't know about this year or not."

Acheson hopes that each of the two platoons of 40 soldiers each will be able to work on a house for the South Barry County Habitat and the one in the northern part of the county at the same time. He requested to Hermann that the footings be in place and the materials available, and the soldiers will come in and finish the house in two weeks. Acheson said they will complete the framing, plumbing, electricity, dry wall and even the cabinet installation.

Hermann said that while he is grateful for the help, he also wants to let the community know there is still plenty for volunteers to do. He said, "Now that the Army says they can come in and do it all, but we don't want to discourage anyone from coming in to help, because we want it to be people in the community working together."

Hermann added that the Habitat for Humanity is taking donations for the upcoming Wheaton home build for next year, and the local Habitat for Humanity ReStore is also running a

sale through the end of the year to drum up additional funding.

Hermann said, "We'll start talking with the prospective new home owners soon, and we need to raise some more money to get started. We want to make sure we have enough in our account to build that home, so we need to do some fundraising. I want people who might even have \$10 or \$15 to donate can think about us and donate to Habitat."

He added, "We are also running everything in the store is half price except for paint. The whole atmosphere inside the ReStore is great right now, too. We have anywhere between five and ten people in the back on any given day volunteering, and there is music, and people are having so much fun. I really want people to come by."

The Habitat for Humanity ReStore is located at 900 10th St. in Cassville.

To mail donations, send them to: PO Box 223 Cassville, MO 65625. To volunteer or ask about donations, call the ReStore at (417) 846-0110.



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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:

OATS Transit Schedule for Dec.: to Springfield: Dec. 2; to Joplin: Dec. 9 & 23; to Rogers, Ark.: Dec. 16; to Neosho: Dec. 4 & 18. To schedule a ride and for more information, call the OATS transit office at (800) 770-6287.

Seligman Chamber will host a dance every Saturday at 7:00 p.m. For information, call (417) 662-3612.

Golden Baptist Church Single Moms Support Group will meet every Wednesday night at 6 p.m. For information, call (417) 271-3605.

Dec. 6th

Music will be held at the Clio Community Building beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Annual Lighting of Star & Tree will be at 5:30 p.m. at Central Crossing Senior Center, Shell Knob. There will be entertainment by the Shell Knob School Choir, a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, stockings with goodies for the kids, and soup, chili and cookies for all.

Dec. 7th

Washburn Christmas Parade will be at 10 a.m., downtown Washburn. For more information, please contact Cheryl (417) 671-2819 or visit their FB page “Washburn Area Chamber of Commerce” page.

Exeter Christmas Parade will begin at 1:30 p.m. If anyone would like to enter, please call City Hall at (417) 835-2823. There is no fee to participate. Santa Claus will be handing out bags of goodies after the parade at the Community Building.

Gather at The House Event for preschoolers and their families to meet with Santa has been cancelled. Originally scheduled to be held before the Cassville Christmas Parade from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Bayless House, the event has been cancelled due to the rescheduling of the Cassville Christmas Parade.

Two Sisters Flea Market, Cassville, will be hosting a Christmas Open House with refreshments, free gifts and coupons. See their display ad on page.

Dec. 8th

Cassville Christmas Parade will be at 4 p.m. along Main Street. Line up for participants is at 2:30 p.m. in the High School parking lot.

Dec. 10th

Storytime will be at 4:15 p.m. at the Monett Library.

Dec. 11th

Storytime will be at 10:30 a.m. at the Monett Library.

Dec. 13th

GoldiLocks on Trial, a comedy by Ed Monk, will be presented by Southwest High School at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5.

Dec. 14th

God’s Glory Gospel Singing & Craft Event featuring The Ledbetters and special guests Ozark Mountain Revival and The Gavit’s will be at Stumpff’s Event Center (American Legion Building), Cassville. There will be cookie decorating and face painting for the kids. And dinner will be available from Tip’s Smokewagon. Doors open at 5 p.m. and singing starts at 6 p.m.

Wheaton Christmas Parade will be at 6 p.m. with line up starting at 5 p.m. at Body of Christ, 519 Gilman. Call City Hall at (417) 652-3314 to get entered in parade.

Fundraiser Breakfast will be served at the fire house in Eagle Rock from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

The Wheaton Historical Society will be hosting an open house at the Wheaton Depot Museum starting at 5 p.m. and continuing after the parade. There will be refreshments.

Dec. 17th

The Barry County Republican Club will hold its monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Barry County Museum in Cassville.

Dec. 20th

A Free Holiday Meal will be served at the Cassville United Methodist Church, 7th & Gravel, Cassville, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be turkey, a variety of sides and salads, drinks and desserts. Everyone is invited.

Music will be held at the Clio Community Building beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 21st

Seligman Chamber of Commerce and Arkansas & Missouri Railroad will be having their Christmas Train Rides on Saturday, December 21st, from Seligman City to Hall to Rogers, Ark., starting at 9 a.m. and again at 11 a.m. on Sunday December 22, from Monett Soccer Fields to Exeter. Three round trips starting at 12 p.m., 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Santa will be on board on all trips giving out bags of treats to children 12 and under. Flyin Buzzards Bluegrass Band will be on all trips

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School Menus: Dec. 9 - Dec. 13

All meals served with milk and subject to change.

Exeter: Mon: B: biscuit & gravy, sausage link, fruit juice or cereal, biscuit, fruit, juice. L: chicken patty, bun, baked beans, carrots, fruit. Tues: B: mini pancakes, orange, juice or cereal, Pop-Tart, orange, juice. L: chicken noodle soup, Sunbelievable, Sidekick, biscuit, fruit. Wed: B: sausage biscuit, fruit, juice or cereal, biscuit, fruit, juice. L: spaghetti with meat sauce, salad, green beans, fruit. Thurs: B: french toast stick, fruit, juice or cereal, graham crackers, fruit, juice. L: chicken alfredo, broccoli, breadstick, fruit. Fri: B: pancake on a stick, banana, juice or cereal, Vertical Bar, banana. L: pepperoni pizza, salad, corn, fruit.

Cassville PR-Int.-Middle: Mon: B: biscuit & gravy or breakfast pizza, animal crackers, mandarin oranges or cereal, blueberry muffin, applesauce. L: soft taco or chicken crispito, corn, vanilla pudding, peaches. Tues: biscuit & gravy or scrambled eggs, hashbrown, toast, pears or cereal, granola bar, peaches. L: country steak or chicken nuggets, gravy, salad, baked beans, applesauce. Wed: B: biscuit & gravy or french toast, sausage, apple-sauce or cereal, Pop-Tart, apple. L: popcorn chicken or tangerine chicken, rice, glazed carrots, egg roll, pears. Thurs: B: biscuit & gravy or breakfast burrito, hashbrown, fruit cocktail or cereal, cinnamon toast, pineapple. L: chili or little smokies, mozz cheese sticks, crackers, broccoli, Sidekicks. Fri: B: biscuit & gravy or Mini cini, Go-Gurt, fruit cocktail or cereal, graham crackers, peaches. L: hamburger or grilled cheese, Sun Chips, vegetable mix, fruit cocktail.

Cassville High School: Mon: B: biscuit & gravy or mini cini, yougurt cup, fruit cocktail or cereal, banana muffin, applesauce. L: cheeseburger, sour cream chips, baked beans, juice or pizza meal or salad meal. Thurs: B: biscuit & gravy or french toast, sausage, peaches or cereal, animal crackers, apple. L: burrito, cheese, nachos, refried beans, carrots, apple or cheeseburger meal or salad meal. Wed: B: biscuit & gravy or chicken nuggets, hashbrown, mandarin oranges or cereal, Rice Krispy Treat, tropical fruit. L: pizza wedge, Sun chips, carrots, salad, fruit cocktail or chicken nugget meal or salad meal. Thurs: B: biscuit & gravy or sausage biscuit, hashbrown, applesauce or cereal, cinnamon toast, peaches. L: popcorn chicken, potatoes, gravy, corn, breadstick, juice or cheeseburger meal or salad meal. Fri: B: biscuit & gravy or cinnamon bun, yogurt cup, fruit cocktail or cereal, Pop-Tart, apple-sauce. L: chili, crackers, mozz sticks, green beans, apple-sauce or pizza meal or salad meal.

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Barry County E9-1-1 Dispatch Center gets new improvements

Vinnie Roberts

Barry County's E9-1-1 Dispatch Center is one of the most important buildings in town when it comes to emergencies. Day after day, their work is the thing that stands between normal citizens and catastrophe. To improve the dispatch's functionality and overall comfort, recently the facility began a series of improvements.

"This was a scheduled capital improvement," explained director Mike Phillips. "The board does a pretty good job of setting money back on an annual basis for this purpose."

According to Phillips, these improvements began in early October and wrapped up toward the end of November.

The most major of these improvements was made to the center's functionality. Several hardware and software changes were made to the facility's computer system that will help make the work of the dispatch center easier.

"We got a hardware refresh," Phillips explained. "We had 19-inch monitors, but now everything is going wide-screen, so that was necessary. We also got new servers. The old ones were over five years old. We also got some updated programs and new operating systems on some computers."

While these major changes will allow the center's systems to function at its optimal capacity, the rest of the improvements were focused on making sure the center's dispatchers themselves can function at their optimal capacity.

One of the larger scale improvements made was to the seating in the dispatch area. According to Phillips, age had begun to set in on some chairs, with some pieces being unable to be replaced due to the age of their models.

"We were able to use the existing frames that we had and put some new fabric on them," said Phillips. "The furniture itself was 12 years old. We couldn't get the legs that they made for them anymore so, we had to update to the newest line of those legs."

For this portion of the updates, the Barry County E9-1-1 board awarded a bid to Zybox, the furniture's original manufacturer.

The facility also received new carpeting throughout. The carpeting was installed by Nickle's Flooring.

The center was also able to add a new workstation to the dispatch room. According to Phillips, this will serve as a backup station so that, in case of an equipment failure at any of the other stations, the center can still operate at full capacity.

Improvements were also made to the paint around the facility. For this portion, Phillips explained, the administration took steps to include the entire staff of the center as part of the selection process for some improvements.

"We formed a committee of staff members so that they could have a say on some of the color options, the scheme of the colors down in the dispatch room and the colors of the furniture."

Reportedly, much of the paint in the new paint in the facility kept the old color scheme, with the notable exception of an accent wall in the dispatch room. This wall was painted a vibrant blue at the suggestion of the dispatchers.

The overall cost of these improvements totaled just over \$100,000. According to Phillips, the funds from the improvements came from the center's capital improvement budget.

Cassville church offers Thanksgiving to homebound



On Thursday, November 28, First Baptist Church of Cassville provided prepared Thanksgiving meals to homebound individuals within the community. Pictured above, left to right, Darlene Cassity and Diann Villines load deserts into containers.



Pictured above, some of the improvements made to the dispatch room in the Barry County E9-1-1 Dispatch Center. Seen here, the new carpeting, chair upholstery, monitors and accent wall.

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Haven of the Ozarks' Pet of the Week: Susie



Meet Susie, the Haven of the Ozarks Pet of the Week. This sweet girl came to the Haven with her two brothers who have both been adopted. Susie, like many black dogs, has been overlooked, but she's such an affectionate little lady who will make her new family very happy. She likes people of all ages, enjoys leash walks, and has been started on her crate training. Susie really loves other dogs and would enjoy a home with at least one canine sibling for company. She's a petite pup and shouldn't be large when fully grown. A shelter is no place for a puppy to grow up, so come meet Susie soon!

Haven of the Ozarks is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day of the week or call (417) 835-3647 for more information. Haven of the Ozarks Animal Sanctuary is located at 9617 Farm Road 2190 in Washburn. Visit them online at www.havenoftheo-zarks.org.

McDonald's awards grant to Cassville Kinder Academy program



Cassville Kinder Academy program is the recipient of the Balanced Active Lifestyle grant from McDonald's. Funds will be used to purchase additional supplies that promote an active lifestyle and will be used in the Kinder Academy Brain Gym. Kinder Academy is a transitional kindergarten class that serves as the first year of a two-year kindergarten experience. Pictured are Cassville's Kinder Academy students along with their teachers, Mrs. Ramaeker and Mrs. Brewer.

Driver of four-wheeler injured in rural Purdy crash

Charlea Estes-Jones

A Purdy man was injured in a four wheeler crash on private property on Wednesday afternoon. Keith A. Ridenour, 57, of Purdy, was moderately injured in the crash, according to the Missouri State Highway Patrol crash re-

port. Ridenour was driving a 1986 Suzuki four wheeler on Wednesday, November 27, when he crashed around 3:10 p.m. on a private property about six miles west of Purdy. According to the report, the vehicle was southbound in a field when

a ditch was attempted to be navigated. When the four wheeler went in the ditch, it overturned and landed on Ridenour. Ridenour was transported by ambulance to Cox South Hospital in Spring-

field for treatment of moderate injuries. He was not wearing a safety device at the time of the crash. The four wheeler sustained minor damage and was left at the scene.

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DENNIS R. SWOFFORD
Dennis R. Swofford, age 65, of Jenkins, passed away Sunday, November 24, 2019, at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.
Dennis was born November 27, 1953, in Aurora, the son of Randle and Mary Ellen (Fare) Swofford. He met the love of his life and was united in marriage on October 5, 1984, to Wilma (Lee), who survives. Also surviving

are his two daughters, Tiffany Bohmke and her husband, Eric, of Cassville, and Amy Swofford, of Kansas City; two sisters, Ilene Washam, of Aurora, and Linda Wright, of Columbia. The pride of his life were his four grandsons, Ethan, Tyson, Dylan and Jaxon Bohmke.
Preceding him in death were his parents and one brother, Dale.
Dennis grew up on the family farm, loved playing sports, excelling at basketball and baseball and received his early education at Jenkins School. He graduated from high school as an Aurora Houn Dawg. He then earned his bachelor's degree in Agriculture from the University of Missouri in Columbia. MIZ! He was a proud brother of the Alpha Gamma Sigma Fraternity, where he made lifelong

friendships and memories. All of his life was spent farming, raising cattle, hogs, and dairy cattle as well as crops. For over thirty years, he was Road Commissioner for the Jenkins Special Road District. Dennis also served on the Cassville FSA Board. He was an avid golfer and a long-standing member of the Cassville Golf Club. He was instrumental in the construction and design of the current clubhouse.
Visitation was held from 9:00 until 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, November 27, 2019, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.
In lieu of flowers, we ask that any donations be made to Dennis' memorial fund in support of his beloved family and grandsons.

Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.
FOHN FUNERAL HOME
CASSVILLE, MO.
417-847-2141



BILLY D. ELLIS
Billy D. Ellis, age 57, of Cassville, passed away Sunday, December 1, 2019, at Milan Health Care Center in Milan.
He was born November 6, 1962, in Monett, the son of Bob and Letha (Greek) Ellis. He was united in marriage to Shelley McGuire and to this union a daughter was born.
Surviving are one daughter, Angie Brooks; one sister,

Cindy Carr. of Cassville; and three grandchildren, Joseph, Natalie and Leif.
Preceding him in death were his parents and a brother, Bobby Lee Ellis.
Billy grew up and received his education in Cassville, where he lived most of his life. For many years, he was a self-employed carpenter.
Graveside services will be held at 1:00 p.m. Friday, December 6, 2019, at Sparks Cemetery in Butterfield, under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor Rick Cooper will conduct the services.

The family will receive friends from 11:00 a.m. until noon, Friday, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.
Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.
FOHN FUNERAL HOME
CASSVILLE, MO.
417-847-2141



VONDA "CHRISTINE" PENDLETON
Vonda "Christine" Pendleton, age 57, of Cassville, passed away Sunday, November 24, 2019, at Cox Medical Center South in Springfield.
She was born September 15, 1962, in Cassville, the daughter of Johnny and Captola (Burbridge) Cowles, who survive, of Cassville. Also surviving are two sons, Jeremiah Pend-

leton and Johnny Strahan, both of Cassville; one sister, Tracy Roney and her husband, Steve, of Cassville; one nephew, one niece, one great-niece and one great-nephew, aunts and uncles.
Christine graduated from Cassville HS and spent her entire life in Cassville. She loved laughing, smiling and making jokes. She never met a stranger and liked to visit with everyone. She enjoyed things that sparkled and pretty lights. Christine had a kind heart full of thankfulness and love. She had an unwavering faith in God and talked about how God was in control of everything, how beautiful heaven would be and was free to give a "THANK YOU, JESUS." One of her favorite things to tell you was that when you see a frog you should remember that the letters stand for Forever Rely on God. Christine would leave you with a smile and a laugh almost every time.
Funeral services were held Friday, November 29, 2019, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor Terry Bailie and Pastor Karty Burbridge conducted the services. Burial was at Mikeman Cemetery in Shell Knob.

Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.
FOHN FUNERAL HOME
CASSVILLE, MO.
417-847-2141

ANN LAURA RICHARDS
Ann Laura Richards, 88, of Pierce City, passed away on Tuesday, November 26, 2019.
Funeral services were held today, Wednesday, December 4, 2019, at Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.

TERRY CHRISCO
Terry Chrisco, age 67, of Cassville, passed away Mon-

day, November 25, 2019, at Cedar Ridge Care Center in Cassville.
No services are scheduled at this time. Cremation arrangements are under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.
Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.
FOHN FUNERAL HOME
CASSVILLE, MO.
417-847-2141
LORETTA KAHRL
Loretta Kahrl, age 76, of Eagle Rock, passed away Friday, November 22, 2019 at her home.
Services will be held at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, December 5, 2019, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Reverend William Hodgson will conduct the services. Burial will be at Lake Park Memorial Gardens in Shell Knob. The family will receive friends from 12:30 p.m. until service time, Thursday at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.
Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.
FOHN FUNERAL HOME
CASSVILLE, MO.
417-847-2141

BETTY "JEAN" BISHOP
Betty "Jean" Bishop, age 96, of Stella, passed away Monday, November 25, 2019.
Services were held Saturday, November 30, 2019, at Body Of Christ in Wheaton under direction of McQueen Funeral Home in Wheaton. Burial will be at Macedonia Cemetery in Stella.
Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.
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60124497 **LAKE VIEW WITH A SHOP!** 2 BR, 2 BA, fenced yard, sunroom, walk in closet, community pool! **\$139,900**

60169254 **REDUCED!!** Hwy. 112/76 property with 1.8 acres M/L. Property has 10 buildings, including a 3 BR house & a 30x60 metal building! **\$135,500**

60146599 **NICE & CLEAN!** 3 BR, 2 BA on 4 lots with 34x40 shop! **\$99,500**

60144730 **LAKE VIEW CORNER LOT**, water & sewer available. Needles Eye Rd. **\$49,900**

60143940 **LAND!!** 40 acres mostly timber. **ONLY \$60,000**

60141271 **LAND!!** 44 acres with 2 barns and a pond! **\$143,500**

60119112 **FURNISHED LAKE CABIN**, private boat dock. Cabin has wood flooring, fireplace, 1/4 basement, private well, patio, 30x40 garage/shop. **\$139,900**

60137025 **REMODELED 3 BR, 2 BA**, log siding, double french doors. Sliding barn doors for interior doors & comes with a shed on 2 acres M/L. **\$129,900**

60146237 **REDUCED!** Recently remodeled home with new wiring, plex plumbing, new water heater, new stainless appliances, washer & dryer & newer metal building. On 4 acres. **\$89,900**

60137785 **ROARING RIVER!** 5 BD, 3 BA, recently remodeled, 2 living areas, sunroom, pantry, fireplace, wet bar in rec room, deck & 2 covered patio areas, fenced yard, 30x50 drive through shop, walk down to Roaring River! **\$289,000**

60117605 **TABLE ROCK LAKE LOTS!** Community water and sewer. Boat slip available from third party at additional cost. **\$80,000**

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CASSVILLE SENIOR CENTER

WEEKLY MENU

DEC. 9: Beef stew, tomatoes & zucchini, pineapple cake, cornbread

DEC. 10: Oven baked fish, BBQ chicken, potato wedges, broccoli, orange cake, hot rolls

DEC. 11: Oven fried chicken, mac & cheese, country veggies, peach crisp, hot rolls

DEC. 12: Alpine chicken, Italian veggies, banana cake, homemade tomato basil bread

DEC. 13: Jeannie's meatloaf, mashed potatoes & gravy, meadow veggies, coconut cream pie, hot rolls

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MATTHEW EDWARD SWANEPOEL

Matthew Edward Swanepoel, 52, of Seligman, died November 30, 2019, at his home.

He was born August 28, 1967, in Stillwater, Minnesota, to Charles Emil Swanepoel and Rebecka Schmidt. He married Armenda Faye Patterson August 6, 2005, in Washburn. Matt was known for his motto of ‘NBD’ (No Big Deal) and it was that positive attitude that carried him through a 2-1/2 year cancer battle. It was that same attitude that made him loved by everyone he came into contact with. He loved his job at Englander dZign-

Pak in Bentonville, Ark., where he never considered it work and was loved by all who worked with him. He was an avid NASCAR fan and enjoyed going to see many races. He was proud to be a cheesehead and loved his Green Bay Packers. Most of all, he was a family man at heart. He loved his family and watching his girls excel in school and athletically was the highlight of his life. He fought hard to be here for his girls but loved the Lord and wasn’t afraid to die because with his hope in Christ he knew he was a winner either way.

Survivors are his wife, Armenda Faye Swanepoel, of the home; three daughters, Taylor Dumas and husband, Alex, of Rogers, Ark., and Rebecca and Gracie Swanepoel, of the home; his father, Charles Swanepoel and wife, Kris Bowers, of Colorado Springs, Colorado; his mother, Rebecka Sell and husband, Marty, of Rogers, Ark.; six siblings, Charles Swanepoel, Eric Swanepoel, Melissa Swanepoel, Angie

OBITUARIES

Swanepoel, D.J. Swanepoel and Garrett Richards; two grandchildren, Vaden and Brantley Dumas, of Rogers, Ark.; his in-laws, Clifford and Cindy Patterson; and a special niece, Anna Church.

Graveside service was held at 10:00 a.m. today, Wednesday, December 4, 2019, at Antioch Cemetery in Jacket,. Arrangements are by Sisco Funeral Home in Pea Ridge, Ark.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hope Cancer Resources, 5835 W Sunset Ave. Springdale, Ark. 72762.

Online condolences may be made at siscofuneral-home.net.

JOHN ROHAN GUILFOYLE IV

John Rohan Guilfoyle IV, 68, of Monett, passed away on Saturday, November 30, 2019.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Fri-

day, December 6, 2019, at Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett. Friends are invited for visitation beginning at 10:00 a.m. Interment will follow the services at the I.O.O.F. Cemetery, Monett.



RODNEY ALLEN PIANALTO

Rodney Allen Pianalto, 59, of Cassville, died Thursday, November 28, 2019, at Circle of Life Hospice in Springdale, Arkansas. He was born April 18, 1960, in Springdale and loved his work with Reliable Poultry where he was a salesman.

Rodney enjoyed camping and trout fishing, telling jokes and making people laugh. Above all, he was devoted to his family.

He is survived by his wife, Margie (Yeager) Pianalto; two children, Nicholas Pianalto and daughter-in-law, Meaghan, of Houston, Texas, and Danielle Pianalto, of Springdale, Ark.; his parents, Richard and Antoinette Pianalto, of Springdale, Ark.; two brothers, Rick Pianalto and wife, Linda, and Joey Pianalto and wife, Kerri, all of Tontitown, Ark.; one sister, Alison Washkowiak and husband, Mike, also of Tontitown; and his mother-in-law, Sonja “Sunny” Yeager, of Fayetteville, Ark. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Adolph and Theresa Zulpo, and Silvio and Emelia Pianalto; two infant siblings, Daniel and Gina; and his father-in-law, Leonard “Red” Yeager.

The family would like to take this opportunity to thank the physicians and staff at Mercy Health System and Circle of Life Hospice for

the loving and compassionate care that was provided to Rodney and his family during his extended illness.

Visitation will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by a Rosary at 7:30 p.m. today, Wednesday, December 4, 2019, at the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Tontitown, Arkansas.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be 10 a.m. Thursday, December 5, 2019, at St. Joseph Catholic Church with burial at St. Joseph Cemetery.

Arrangements are with Heritage Funeral Home, online guestbook and obituary at www.heritageofnwa.com.

LOETA ANN AUFDENBRINK

Loeta Ann Aufdembrink, formerly of Monett, passed away on November 27, 2019.

Committal was held at Trinity Lutheran Church on Monday, December 2, 2019, followed by a memorial service, under direction of Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.

CHURCH

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Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m.

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

Everybody Welcome!

You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.

Luke 1:31

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Pastor Kevin Hilton

Sunday School 10:00 am

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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“NAGIGATOR”

“You have deviated from the selected route.”

“At the first available opportunity, make a legal U-turn.”

That’s what my electronic map guidance system told me when I took the off ramp leading to a truck stop. It didn’t stop “guiding” me as to the error of my decisions until I was back on the selected path.

At times like these, I don’t call the device a navigator, I call it a “Nagigator.”

I guess it was partially my fault. I was given a series of options as to the route. Least amount of traffic, interstates: yes or no. Fastest route: it gave me three mapped out routes and I chose one. Now, I’m locked into that route in the nagigator’s mind. Any variance is met with reminders of my previous choice. No stopping for food, fuel or fatigue. Stay the course. Satisfaction can only be found in compliance with the agreed upon plan.

Our faith is in some aspects like the Navigator. We agree upon a selected route: “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned.” Mark 16:16.

Any deviation carries a risk of becoming lost: “There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.” Proverbs 14:12.

As with the Navigator, God sends reminders to return to and remain upon the proper course. “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.” Ecclesiastes 12:13.

At the end of my journey, I heard “you have reached your destination.” Enjoy your walk with the Lord by staying the course. The trip will be worthwhile.

BIBLE CLASS

Sun. Morning at 10:00 a.m. & Wed. Evening at 7:00 p.m.

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Sun. at 10:45 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

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Church Service - 11 a.m.

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Wednesday Evening - 7 p.m.

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Church - 11:00 am
Evening - 6:30 pm
Wednesday - 6:30 pm
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CORINTH BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor, Donnie Spears - 417-236-2145

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Services:

- Sunday School 9:45 am
- Morning Service 10:45 am
- Evening Service 6:00 pm
- Wednesday Evening 6:30 pm

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Cassville, MO
417-847-4165



OBITUARIES



MATTHEW EDWARD SWANEPOEL

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He was born August 28, 1967, in Stillwater, Minnesota, to Charles Emil Swanepoel and Rebecka Schmidt. He married Armenda Faye Patterson August 6, 2005, in Washburn. Matt was known for his motto of ‘NBD’ (No Big Deal) and it was that positive attitude that carried him through a 2-1/2 year cancer battle. It was that same attitude that made him loved by everyone he came into contact with. He loved his job at Englander dZign-

Pak in Bentonville, Ark., where he never considered it work and was loved by all who worked with him. He was an avid NASCAR fan and enjoyed going to see many races. He was proud to be a cheesehead and loved his Green Bay Packers. Most of all, he was a family man at heart. He loved his family and watching his girls excel in school and athletically was the highlight of his life. He fought hard to be here for his girls but loved the Lord and wasn’t afraid to die because with his hope in Christ he knew he was a winner either way.

Survivors are his wife, Armenda Faye Swanepoel, of the home; three daughters, Taylor Dumas and husband, Alex, of Rogers, Ark., and Rebecca and Gracie Swanepoel, of the home; his father, Charles Swanepoel and wife, Kris Bowers, of Colorado Springs, Colorado; his mother, Rebecka Sell and husband, Marty, of Rogers, Ark.; six siblings, Charles Swanepoel, Eric Swanepoel, Melissa Swanepoel, Angie

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In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hope Cancer Resources, 5835 W Sunset Ave. Springdale, Ark. 72762.

Online condolences may be made at siscofuneral-home.net.

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RODNEY ALLEN PIANALTO

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Rodney enjoyed camping and trout fishing, telling jokes and making people laugh. Above all, he was devoted to his family.

He is survived by his wife, Margie (Yeager) Pianalto; two children, Nicholas Pianalto and daughter-in-law, Meaghan, of Houston, Texas, and Danielle Pianalto, of Springdale, Ark.; his parents, Richard and Antoinette Pianalto, of Springdale, Ark.; two brothers, Rick Pianalto and wife, Linda, and Joey Pianalto and wife, Kerri, all of Tontitown, Ark.; one sister, Alison Washkowiak and husband, Mike, also of Tontitown; and his mother-in-law, Sonja “Sunny” Yeager, of Fayetteville, Ark. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Adolph and Theresa Zulpo, and Silvio and Emelia Pianalto; two infant siblings, Daniel and Gina; and his father-in-law, Leonard “Red” Yeager.

The family would like to take this opportunity to thank the physicians and staff at Mercy Health System and Circle of Life Hospice for

the loving and compassionate care that was provided to Rodney and his family during his extended illness.

Visitation will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by a Rosary at 7:30 p.m. today, Wednesday, December 4, 2019, at the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Tontitown, Arkansas.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be 10 a.m. Thursday, December 5, 2019, at St. Joseph Catholic Church with burial at St. Joseph Cemetery.

Arrangements are with Heritage Funeral Home, online guestbook and obituary at www.heritageofnwa.com.

LOETA ANN AUFDEMBRINK

Loeta Ann Aufdembrink, formerly of Monett, passed away on November 27, 2019.

Committal was held at Trinity Lutheran Church on Monday, December 2, 2019, followed by a memorial service, under direction of Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.

CHURCH

Directory

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Luke 1:31

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“NAGIGATOR”
 “You have deviated from the selected route.”
 “At the first available opportunity, make a legal U-turn.”
 That’s what my electronic map guidance system told me when I took the off ramp leading to a truck stop. It didn’t stop “guiding” me as to the error of my decisions until I was back on the selected path.
 At times like these, I don’t call the device a navigator, I call it a “Nagigator.”
 I guess it was partially my fault. I was given a series of options as to the route. Least amount of traffic, interstates: yes or no. Fastest route: it gave me three mapped out routes and I chose one. Now, I’m locked into that route in the nagigator’s mind. Any variance is met with reminders of my previous choice. No stopping for food, fuel or fatigue. Stay the course. Satisfaction can only be found in compliance with the agreed upon plan.
 Our faith is in some aspects like the Navigator. We agree upon a selected route: “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned.” Mark 16:16.
 Any deviation carries a risk of becoming lost: “There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.” Proverbs 14:12.
 As with the Navigator, God sends reminders to return to and remain upon the proper course. “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.” Ecclesiastes 12:13.
 At the end of my journey, I heard “you have reached your destination.” Enjoy your walk with the Lord by staying the course. The trip will be worthwhile.

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Sunday School - 10:00 am
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 Evening - 6:30 pm
 Wednesday - 6:30 pm

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Therefore, If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.
 2 Corinthians 5:17

Are you ready for a new start in Christ?
 It’s your move!

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 • Sunday School 9:45 am
 • Morning Service 10:45 am
 • Evening Service 6:00 pm
 • Wednesday Evening 6:30 pm

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Purdy announces Mr., Miss Merry Christmas candidates



The Purdy High School Student Council announced its 2019 Mr. and Miss Merry Christmas Candidates. The organization is hard at work planning fun activities for the K-12 student body to enjoy during Winter Wonderland Week, December 9 through 13. Themed days include: flannels and fuzzy socks on Monday, Christmas Character costumes on Tuesday, pajamas on Wednesday, class colors on Thursday, and ugly sweaters, hats and scarves on Friday. The 2019 Mr. and Miss Merry Christmas will be crowned between basketball games on Friday, December 13. The Student Council will also host a Winter Wonderland Dance for students in grades 9 through 12 following the evening's games. Admission to the dance is \$3 per person or \$5 per couple.

This year's Purdy High School Mr. and Miss Merry Christmas candidates are pictured above, from left to right: freshmen Ryan Mitchell and Makayla Mazza, sophomores Weston Ellison and Caitlin Brown, juniors Clay Henderson and Aubrey Knatcal, and seniors Tony Rodriguez and Shelby Haskins.

Driver injured in Monett Farm Road crash

Charlea Estes-Jones

A Monett man was injured after a crash on a Farm Road on Wednesday night, November 27. According to the Missouri State Highway Patrol crash report, Benjamin J. Oakley, 42, of Monett, was headed southbound when the vehicle he was driving ran off the road.

Oakley was driving a 2000 Dodge Ram 3500 when the truck ran off the road and hit a fence before eventually landing in a creek beside Farm Road 1090 about one quarter of a mile south of Monett.

Oakley suffered moderate injuries and was taken by ambulance to Freeman Hospital in Joplin for treatment.

Oakley was wearing a seatbelt at the time of the crash.

The Ram was totalled and towed from the scene by Thomas Towing, of Monett.

Les Jacobs Ford partners with CCSC



Les Jacobs Ford has been a business sponsor of the Central Crossing Senior Center in Shell Knob for a number of years and is continuing their support again this year. Business sponsors provide ongoing support to help the center provide programs and services to local seniors. Pictured, from left to right: Darrin Jacobs, Les Jacobs Ford; and Regina McIlrath and Jerry Arnold, Central Crossing Senior Center.

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SW High School volleyball players
named to academic all-star team



Southwest volleyball players Bonnie Robbins and Brylee Wilson were recently named to the SWCL All-Conference team. Robbins, a junior outside hitter, led the team in aces and serve-reception percentage. while Wilson, a junior setter, was tops in assists and second in digs. Pictured, from left to right: Robbins and Wilson

Local businesses donate pullovers to CHS wrestlers



Recently, two local businesses teamed up to create and donate pull-overs for the Cassville High School wrestling team. The businesses involved were Racks and Rivers Taxidermy, of Purdy, and Quick Draw Custom Graphics, of Cassville. On Monday, December 2, representatives from both businesses stopped by wrestling practice to hand-deliver the gear. Pictured above, from left to right, in the front row: Brennen McCrary, Edgar Perez, Annie Moore, Kelsey Harris, Kailey Artherton, Gabe Hunter and Ivan Perez. Middle row: Kamryn Jaques, of Quick Draw Custom Graphics; Christian Tidwell; Mathew Whittenburg; Dallas Johnson; Wyatt Alexander; Kurt Deaver; Akhilleus Arguelles; and Stephanie Parsons, of Quick Draw Custom Graphics. Back row: Lance Parsons, of Racks and Rivers Taxidermy; Brian Barbee, coach; Nathan Fortner, coach; and Chris Fortner, coach.



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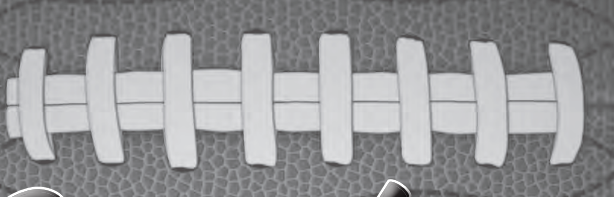
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Wildcat Players of the Week

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As picked by the Wildcats coaching staff

Football Seniors



Deven Bates Nate Boley Sam Cochran Xain Gray Troy Hagins



Carson Jacobson Zach Marlow Tim Mason Jacob Olbertz Bowen Preddy



Andrew Prier DJ White Jacob Hall Kade Hayward



Riley Morris
Basketball
12 pts, 8 reb, 2 stl & 2 chg. 46 to 37 win over Joplin on Nov. 22.



CASSVILLE WILDCATS

STATE from FRONT

Chris Moore saw the long snap dribble through his legs. Moore scrambled back to recover with Jericho Farris all over him, and Cassville took over on downs at the Trinity 9-yard line.

On 3rd-and-goal at the one-yard line, Bates squeezed into the end zone with the wishbone backs bulldozing him from behind. Reese added the PAT, and the Wildcats claimed a 7-0 lead with 7:47 left in the third quarter.

The Bates sneak would be the only touchdown of the game.

Trinity came out throwing after the Reese kickoff, and struggled to a three-and-out. A Titans punt died in the gale-force wind, and the Wildcats took over at the Trinity 28-yard line. Then, Cassville fumbled the ball

back to the Titans.

Defense

Cassville's defense rose up again. Two incompletions and a holding penalty pushed Trinity back before Cotton found Lake Wilson open for a 30-yard gain. On the next play, big Andrew Prier fought through the mammoth Trinity line and ran Cotton down in the backfield. Prier's crushing sack jarred the ball loose and a pile of Wildcats recovered at the Cassville 47-yard line.

The Cats mounted a drive to the Trinity 16-yard line, where they faced 4th-and-5. Parnell called a timeout with just seconds remaining in the quarter so Reese could attempt a field goal with the wind at his back. That 33-yard kick gave Cassville a 10-0 lead with a quarter re-

maining.

#DJ

With time slipping away, Trinity was forced to try to convert every fourth down going forward. They failed on consecutive attempts, and the Wildcats took advantage to drive close enough for another field goal attempt. This was another 33-yard try, but this one would be into the teeth of that south wind.

Bates set the ball on the tee and Reese blasted a high rainbow toward the posts. The ball, struggling in the wind, barely cleared the crossbar. Reese's true kick boosted Cassville's lead to 13-0 with just 3:50 left on the clock.

The Titans mounted their best drive of the half, reaching the Cassville 5-yard line. Three incompletions later, Cotton tried to squeeze a pass between defenders, but White came up with his second interception of the game.

Two interceptions, both in the end zone.

With the clock running down, Bates knelt twice in the victory formation to finish the win and send Cassville back to the state championship game for the first time since 2009.

Misleading stats

Trinity Catholic backs ran for 179 yards and Cotton and Frenchie combined to pass for 181 yards as the Titans rolled up 360 total

yards of offense.

Cassville ran for 171 yards but had no passing yards in the game as Bates finished 0/3. But all-conference receiver DJ White made what might be the most important catches of his career, intercepting Cotton twice in the end zone to preserve the shutout.

Big 8

Cassville's performance makes one wonder just how good the Big 8 Conference is compared to the rest of the state. Four times in the last seven years, a Big 8 team has played for the Class 3 state title. If Cassville defeats Odessa in Saturday's championship game, a strong case

could be made for ranking Seneca, Mt. Vernon and Monett in the 2-3-4 spots in the final poll.

GO CATS!

The Wildcats (12-2) will play undefeated Odessa (14-0) at 11 a.m. at Mizzou's Faurot Field in Columbia next Saturday.

GO WILDCATS!



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Head Coach Lance Parnell as he rallies his team during a time out late in the first quarter.



In a rare breakaway moment, Cassville running back Zach Coenen, 23, charged down the field for 67 yards, stopping just short of the Titans end zone.



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vs. ODESSA

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CASSVILLE WILDCATS CASSVILLE WILDCATS CASSVILLE WILDCATS CASSVILLE WILDCATS CASSVILLE WILDCATS CASSVILLE WILDCATS

Barry County courts sentence eight to incarceration during October

• **Sandra Dawn Brooks**, of Branson, pled guilty to interfering with an arrest for a felony. Brooks received a suspended imposition of sentencing and three years supervised probation.

On January 1, 2017, Brooks took her son, a wanted felon, to another location to hide when officers were looking for him.

Brooks is to serve probation until October 21, 2022.

• **Michelle Renee Bussjaeger**, of Aurora, pled guilty to possession of a controlled substance and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia. Bussjaeger received a suspended imposition of sentencing and three years supervised probation.

On April 20, 2019, Bussjaeger went into Walmart in Cassville and stole items. When officers made contact with her, she was found to have a glass pipe with methamphetamine inside.

Bussjaeger is to serve probation until October 21, 2022.

• **Ruben James Christy**, of Monett, pled guilty to property damage in the first degree and tampering with a motor vehicle in the first degree in September 2017. Christy's probation has since been revoked, and he is to serve three years incarceration with the Department of Corrections.

On September 16, 2016, Christy broke a glass door, window, window screens, flower pot, dead bolt and door handle at a residence on Private Road 2012 in Monett. In all, the damage was around \$935.

On June 18, 2017, Christy followed the victim to a location on State Highway 112. Once there, Christy stole the victim's car and would not return it.

• **Khlab Kendall Decker**, of Ash Grove, pled guilty to possession of a controlled substance and stealing of \$750 or more in May 2017. Decker's probation has since been revoked, and he is to complete a long term treatment program as part of a five year incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections.

In February 2016, Decker was at a residence in Cassville where property was stolen. The victim identified the stolen property in March at various other locations. One of the people in possession of jack stands confirmed they purchased it from Decker.

On January 2, 2017, Decker was found to be driving a stolen pickup. When officers made contact, they located a baggie of methamphetamine when he threw it toward a different vehicle to try to conceal it.

On February 19, 2016, Decker was found to be in possession of a baggie of methamphetamine.

In January 2017, Decker was found to be in possession of stolen concrete saws.

• **James Prescott Down**, of Crane, pled guilty to child molestation in the first degree in August 2019. Down was sentenced to ten years incarceration with the Department of Corrections on October 31.

Between July 2011 and May 2017, Down sexually abused a young victim beginning when she was under the age of 12. Down touched the victim

sexually as well as kissed her on the mouth and forced her to touch him sexually.

• **John Robert Allen Dunbar**, of Cassville, pled guilty to possession of a controlled substance. Dunbar received a suspended imposition of sentencing and four years supervised probation.

On November 28, 2018, Dunbar's residence was searched for possible drug activity. Officers located a baggie of methamphetamine and a lightbulb that was used to smoke methamphetamine.

Dunbar is to serve probation until October 22, 2023.

• **Ricardo Cervantes Estrada**, of Verona, pled guilty to stealing \$750 or more. Estrada received a suspended imposition of sentencing and five years supervised probation.

On May 8, 2019, an investigation was launched regarding the theft of boat docks and supplies from PlayPower/EZ Dock in Monett. It was determined that the dock and supplies were bought from Estrada, who was an employee. However, it was not reported to PlayPower or paid for. The employee cost was \$9,437.95 and retail was \$24,716.52.

Estrada is to serve probation until October 22, 2024.

• **Samantha May Hostetter**, of Aurora, pled guilty to possession of a controlled substance in March 2015. Hostetter's probation has since been

revoked, and she is to serve five years incarceration with the Department of Corrections.

On May 2, 2014, a vehicle was stopped for speeding and evading officers. Hostetter was a passenger in the vehicle. When officers searched Hostetter's purse, they located a makeup bag that contained a glass methamphetamine pipe, a plastic straw, a metal spoon and a syringe.

• **James Don Manners**, of Eagle Rock, pled guilty to two counts of possession of controlled substance. Manners received a suspended imposition of sentencing and five years supervised probation.

On August 24, 2014, Manners was in a vehicle stopped by the Missouri State Highway Patrol for expired tags. The driver moved frantically when officers pulled her over, which led to a search. Manners told officers he had a marijuana pipe. When they looked in his pocket, he also had a container of pills with Phentermine Hydrochloride and Alprazolam.

Manners is to serve probation until October 22, 2024.

• **Niles Mark Raymond McNeel**, of Fairview, pled guilty to two counts of possession of a controlled substance. McNeel received a suspended execution of a five year incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections and five years supervised probation.

The Missouri Department of Conservation was making a routine patrol of the Shoal Creek area on September 14, 2018. They made contact with McNeel, who had current warrants. In McNeel's pocket, there was a meth pipe and a needle as well as a hidden fishing pole near him with a line that was wet.

McNeel is to serve probation until October 21, 2024.

• **Benjamin Wade Paine I**, of Purdy, pled guilty to two counts of domestic assault in the second degree and one count of felonious restraint in May 2017. Paine's probation has since been revoked, and he is to serve seven years incarceration with the Department of Corrections.

On June 23, 2016, Paine was investigated by the Wheaton Police Department for a domestic assault where he held the victim against her will in an apartment while also sexually assaulting her repeatedly. Officers also found methamphetamine, paraphernalia and marijuana in the home.

• **Benjamin Wade Paine II**, of Joplin, pled guilty to two counts of possession of a controlled substance and one count of burglary in the second degree in February 2015. Paine's probation has since been revoked, and he is to serve seven years incarceration with the Department of Corrections.

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Donnie Stumpf

On June 21, 2013, Paine was in a vehicle stopped for not having a license plate. When officers searched the vehicle, they located a glass pipe with methamphetamine in it.

In June 2013, Paine and two other people pried opened a barn door and stole a transmission, transfer case, floor jack and chain saw at a location on Farm Road 1602 in Purdy.

On September 7, 2019, Paine pointed a firearm at a victim while in the presence of her child. He also shot the gun into a home with the victim and child inside in Purdy. Officers also located a baggie of methamphetamine on him at the time of the incident.

• **Jeremy David Payne**, of Monett, pled guilty to passing a bad check. Payne received a suspended imposition of sentencing and five years supervised probation.

In summer 2018, Payne wrote a bad check to H & W Oil Co. in Monett for \$145.03.

Payne is to serve probation until October 17, 2024.

• **Kristie Jo Rice** pled guilty to possession of a controlled substance. Rice received a suspended imposition of sentencing and three years supervised probation.

On March 21, 2019, Rice was taken to jail for a 12 hour hold detox and officers found her to have a glass meth pipe in her pocket as well as a two baggies of methamphetamine

in her bra.

Rice is to serve probation until October 22, 2022.

• **Duel Walker, Jr.**, of Rogers, Ark., pled guilty to burglary in the second degree in September 2017. Walker's probation has since been revoked, and he received a suspended execution of a five year incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections.

In November 2015, a car, two jet skis and a trailer, along with several home interior items and agricultural items, were stolen from a residence on State Highway DD in Seligman. A neighbor got the license plate number of the vehicle. When officers showed the witness a photo, they identified Walker as one of the men who stole from them. A search warrant served at Walker's residence yielded several of the stolen items.

Walker is to serve probation until October 22, 2024.

• **Samuel Lee Wright**, of Monett, pled guilty to possession of a controlled substance, assault in the third degree on a special victim, resisting arrest for a felony, possession of burglary tools, burglary in the second degree and stealing of \$750 or more. Wright received a suspended execution of an eight year incarceration sentence with the Department of Corrections and five years supervised probation.

On June 20, 2019, Wright was walking in an alley near Bond Street in Monett. When officers attempted to stop him for a felony warrant, he ran. While running, he threw a bag, which contained residue from methamphetamine and a baggie of methamphetamine. While running away, Wright also threw a two-liter bottle of

Dr. Pepper at officers pursuing him.

On June 11, 2019, Wright was trespassing in the park in Monett after hours while in possession of burglary tools. When officers found him, he was attempting to hide behind the water park maintenance building. He denied the bag with him was his. There had been a string of burglaries in downtown Monett recently, and Wright had been convicted of multiple burglaries in Illinois in the past.

On June 18, 2019, officers took a report of burglary at a beauty salon in Monett. When officers arrived, they found things had been rifled through with shampoo, lotions and combs on the floor and a Dell computer, television, six speakers and \$300 in cash had been stolen. When

officers found security footage from outside, the suspect looked like Wright. An informant turned in the computer Wright had stolen from the salon and had left in his residence. Wright had changed the password on the computer to his own nickname.

Wright is to serve probation until October 22, 2024.

• **Christopher Lee Youngblood**, of Exeter, pled guilty to one count of possession of a controlled substance and two counts of burglary in the second degree in May 2016. Youngblood's probation has since been revoked, and he is to serve seven years incarceration with the Department of Corrections.

On October 17, 2015, the Cassville Police Department responded to a report of unknown persons in an elderly

woman's residence. When officers arrived, the resident said an unknown man had been in the bathroom and an unknown female had been in her son's bedroom. Inside the bedroom, officers found Youngblood and two other people were inside. They also had methamphetamine and paraphernalia.

On November 8, 2015, officers found Youngblood to have entered a resident on Farm Road 2175 in Exeter illegally. Youngblood forcibly took the victim's purse after demanding money. He also bruised the victim's arm.

On December 8, 2015, Youngblood broke into a residence on Oak Street in Cassville and stole multiple items from the victim.

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1st wk c

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The Wonders of His Love

Christmas Events at CUMC

Sundays in December - 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.

The Wonders of His Love Sermon Series

CUMC, 601 Gravel Street • Children's Church Available

Sunday, December 15 - 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Open House at the Parsonage

Come and Go Event at 1006 Hickory Street

Sunday, December 15 - 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

UpRising Kids' Movie Night @ YMCA

Discussion Time for Adults - Pizza for All

Friday, December 20 - 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Christmas Dinner at the Church

Sunday, December 22 - 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Card to Cassville at the Church

A service of Music and Scripture

Tuesday, December 24 - 6:00 to 6:45 p.m. & 7:30 to 8:15 p.m.

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service at the Church

Reception 6:50 to 7:20 p.m.

8-9c

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9c

Local minister releases collection of Christmas-themed short stories

Vinnie Roberts

The Christmas season is fast approaching all across the world. The time will soon be upon us all. In the spirit of Christmas, a local minister has written an anthology designed to express his interpretation of the reason for the season.

The book is called *Christmas: Uplifting Short Stories* and its author, First Christian Church of Cassville's preaching minister, Dr. Chuck Terrill, thinks that it gets to the root of the spirit of the season.

"It's a book of short stories that I've written that, I think, get to the real meaning of Christmas," Terrill said.

He continued, "They're encouraging stories. Many of them are humorous or true-to-life stories that might help readers to find

the true meaning of Christmas. I think it's a happy little book filled with joy. I was happy to write and publish it."

Terrill is an experienced writer and says that the book uses his background in theology to bring to life real-feeling stories with an ultimately uplifting message.

The book includes inspirational stories, such as "Looks Can be Deceiving", a short piece about accepting one's appearance as a fact and facet of God's creation despite what the world might say. It also includes humorous anecdotes, such as "I See You and Jesus Sees You" about a burglar who tries to break into a family's home on Christmas and is confronted by a voice that may or may not be the Lord.

"I've been writing for a number of years and I especially enjoy Christmas," said Terrill. "Many of these stories are true stories from everyday life. It's not 'pie-in-the-sky' theology, rather, an attitude toward Christmas that's grounded in scripture."

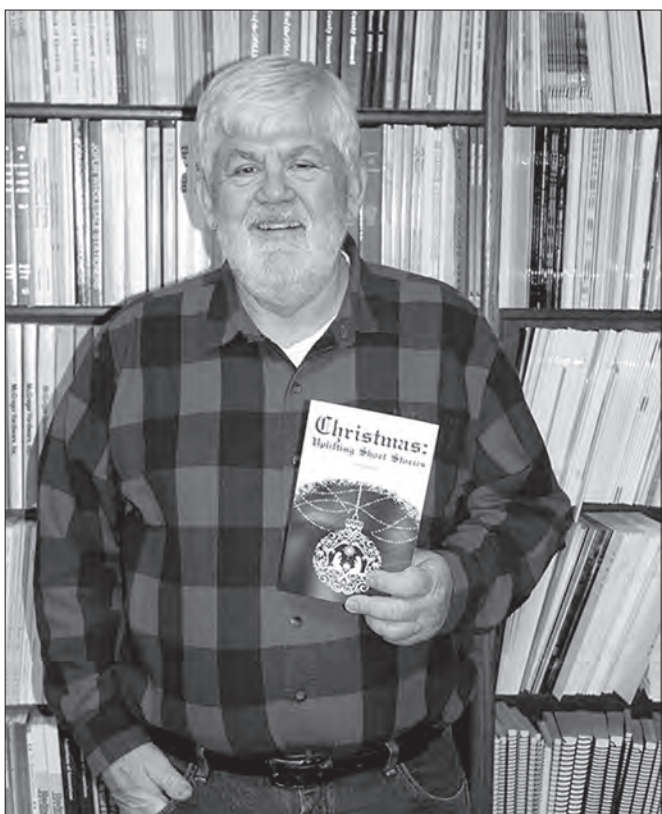
The minister went on to explain that part of his inspiration for these stories came from sermons that he had written in years prior.

"As communicator of God's word, I prepare and preach each week," he explained. "I thought that this would be a good way for some of the illustrations that I've written to receive a wider audience. That's the goal: to share the thrilling story of Christmas with a wider audience. It's all ministry. It's a good way, I think, for people to invest in the kingdom. I think that [the reader] will have a warm takeaway."

The book, printed by Litho Printers and Bindery, of Cassville, is available now through First Christian Church of Cassville for \$8. According to Terrill, all proceeds from the book go to benefit the First Christian Church of Cassville's ministry mission.

To receive a copy of the book, contact First Christian Church of Cassville, either by phone at (417) 847-2260, or via email at fccassville@gmail.com.

Dr. Chuck Terrill will also have copies of the book available at an upcoming signing of the book, slated to take place at local outdoor consignment shop At the River on Main Street in Cassville. The signing will be on Friday, December 6, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Dr. Chuck Terrill

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NOTICE OF ELECTION FILING DEADLINE

BOARD OF EDUCATION

CASSVILLE R-IV SCHOOL DISTRICT

1501 Main Street

CASSVILLE, MISSOURI

The Cassville R-IV Board of Education has set December 17, 2019 to January 21, 2020 as the dates for candidates to file for the school board election to be held on April 7, 2020. Three vacancies for 3-year terms will be filled at the election. Candidates may file at the Superintendent's office weekdays during regular office hours, 8:00-4:00, except January 21st, 8:00-5:00. Filing will also not occur on the following holidays and breaks when the school district's central offices are closed. The office will be closed on December 23rd through January 3rd, 2020. The traditional method, in order of filing, will be used for ballot placement of candidate names.

DONE BY ORDER OF:
CASSVILLE R-IV BOARD OF EDUCATION
STACEY WILLIAMS, SECRETARY

8-9c

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SOUTHWEST SCHOOL BOARD

FILING DATES SET

Filing dates for candidacy for the Southwest R-V Board of Education election have been set for December 17, 2019, through January 21, 2020, during regular office hours {8 am - 4 pm/Monday through Friday}. Filing will begin December 17, 2019, at 8:00 a.m. and end on January 21, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. The office will be closed for the holidays on the following dates: December 20 {12:30 pm} December 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 31, January 1,2,3 and if district is closed due to inclement weather.

Qualified applicants for the Board may file for candidacy with Board Secretary Judy Brooks in the office of the Superintendent. In accordance with Policy BBB, placement of candidate names on ballot will be in the order of filing.

Three vacancies for 3-year terms will be filled at the April 7, 2020 election.

Done by Order of:
Southwest R-V Board of Education
Judy Brooks, Secretary

9-10c

MDC reports November firearms deer harvest ends with 178,936

Preliminary data from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) shows that deer hunters in Missouri harvested 178,936 deer during the November portion of fall firearms deer season, Nov. 16- 26. Of the 178,936 deer harvested, 91,420 were antlered bucks, 17,237 were button bucks, and 70,279 were does.

Top harvest counties were Franklin with 4,008 deer checked, Texas with 3,734, and Callaway with 3,369.

Barry County's numbers were a total of 1,551. Of those, 870 were antlered bucks, 138 were button bucks and 543 were does.

Last year hunters checked 200,738 deer during the 2018 November portion of firearms deer season with 103,582 being antlered bucks, 20,040 being button bucks, and 77,116 being does.

For current ongoing preliminary harvest totals by season, county, and type of deer, visit the MDC website at extra.mdc.mo.gov/widgets/harvest_table/

For harvest summaries from past years, visit huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/deer/deer-harvest-reports/deer-harvest-summaries

MDC reported six firearms-related hunting incidents during the November portion of the firearms deer season with four being self-inflicted, one non-fatal incident involving a shooter and victim, and one fatal incident involving a shooter and victim.

Deer hunting in Missouri continues with archery deer hunting from Nov. 27 through Jan. 15, 2020. The late youth portion of firearms deer season runs Nov. 29 through Dec. 1. The antlerless portion of firearms deer season runs Dec. 6-8. Lastly, the alternative methods portion will run Dec. 28 through Jan. 7, 2020. Learn more about deer hunting in Missouri at huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/deer or from MDC's 2019 Fall Deer & Turkey Hunting Regulations and Information booklet, available where permits are sold and online at huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/downloads/2019FDT.pdf.

Cassville vocalists earn All District Honor Choir recognition



A group of Cassville High School students earned All District Honor Choir recognition in recent competition. CHS student Hallie Fratus was also selected from all 9th and 10th grade students to perform a solo in one of the song selections. The Cassville High School choirs are directed by Mrs. Lauren Reedy.

Pictured, from left to right, in the first row: Mrs. Reedy, Torance Davis, Mackenzie High, Sheridan Beach, Ashlyn Pulliam, Hallie Fratus and Whitney Koenig. Back row: Jacob Hall, Jesse Taylor, David Oliphant, Bradan Dickinson, Jonathan Oliphant, Hunter Annecharico and Lucas Hall.

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60126188 - Over 5,000 sq. ft. in this 5 bedroom, 3 bath home. Many updates including a newer kitchen, and newer roof. All this and 30 acres m/l of paradise.

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60150519 - Beautiful home in a great location. Features of this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home include a 2-car attached garage, and vaulted ceiling in living room and dining room. Privacy fenced back yard & large deck.

60139770 - Very large rooms in this updated home. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths home with central h/a. Fenced back yard. Located close to Monett schools.

\$155,000

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60132905 - THE WELL-KNOWN RIB RESTAURANT in Cassville is for sale. The restaurant seats 150+ people and the bar area seats another 50+ Priced below appraised value; the best part is that most of the equipment is there and ready for YOUR grand opening.

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60137076 - GREAT LAKE COMMUNITY PROPERTY. Park-like setting. No restrictions. Paved road on two sides. Golf cart distance to water's edge. Nice homes in this area.

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60139660 - THREE BEDROOM, 529 bath starter or retirement home. Close to downtown Cassville, and move-in ready.

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60148542 - 100% BERM HOME is well insulated 40 solar panels heat & cool this home. Wood burning stove for back up heat. Kitchen appliances and washer & dryer convey. Detached garage/workshop is 32x40. A must see if you want to live the country life!

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60139622 - WORKING HORSE AND CATTLE FARM. 24 acres m/l. Horse barn & working corrals with head chute. 3 wells, some pipe fencing & cattle tight fencing. Log home with metal roof has 4 bedrooms and 2.5 baths. Three loafing sheds. Gated entry.

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60120305 - CUSTOM BUILT HOME with tons of extras, fenced yard, mature trees, insulated shop and more.

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60100458 - HOME AND SHOP on busy State Hwy 112. Sits next to commercial area on the way to Roaring River.

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60147834 - NEWER SINGLE WIDE mobile home with almost 11 acres. Garden area, some pasture & some hunting land. Several outbuildings and a 1-car carport. Nice property that is affordable.

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60151172 - COMPLETE REMODEL on this home. Newer flooring, roof, windows, HVAC system, & newer garage. Large shop building is 40x50 with heat and A/C. 40x40 building for storage. 4.5 acres m/l.

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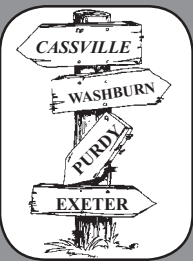
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IF YOU are homebound or unable to get out to meetings but need help for the effects of living with alcoholism, become an Al-Anon or Alateen Lone Member. Contact Al-Anon Family Groups, 1600 Corporate Landing Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454 or e-mail wso@al-anon.org.

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

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Southwest names November Students of the Month



During the month of November, Southwest Elementary students were chosen to be Students of the Month. These students exhibited the character trait of citizenship.

Southwest Elementary's November good citizen students were, from left to right, in the front row: Elias Creason, Mason Burkett, Hazel Roe, Kendall Cook, Callie Cope and Elleigh Harmon. Middle row: Preston Krull, Henry Moss, Demi Roe, Jadyn Foster, Joe Wade Henry and Randell Phillips. Back row: Atlie Uthe, James Morsani, Domenick Sierra, Ashlynn Burgess, Allie Fixico and Race Pippin.

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Every Kid Outdoors provides fourth graders free entrance to public lands

Fourth grade students can get a free annual pass to visit more than 2,000 federal recreation areas with their families, classmates, and friends. The Every Kid Outdoors Program is an interagency collaboration between the Department of the Interior, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and U.S. Forest Service that provides fourth graders with free access to explore, learn, and recreate in spectacular settings, including national parks, wildlife refuges, marine sanctuaries, and forests.

“Introducing fourth grade students to America’s public lands provides them with limitless opportunities to have fun, be active, improve fitness, and learn critical skills,” said U.S. Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt. “Visits on class trips or family vacations to the rich variety of astonishing landscapes and historic treasures located on public lands will result in unforgettable experiences and, hopefully, forge life-long connections to the outdoors.”

The bipartisan John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act authorized funding for Every Kid Outdoors for the next seven years in March 2019.

To obtain the free pass, fourth grade students visit the Every Kid Outdoors website, participate in a short educational activity, and download a voucher. The voucher is valid for multiple use between Sept. 1, 2019 and Aug. 31, 2020 to correspond to the traditional school year. The voucher may be exchanged for a keepsake pass at participating federal lands.

The voucher or pass grants free entry for fourth graders, all children under 16 in the group and up to three accompanying adults (or an entire car for drive-in parks) to most federally managed lands and waters. The pass does not cover expanded amenity fees such as camping or boat rides.

The great outdoors make a great classroom. Fourth grade educators are encouraged to take advantage of the wide range of educational programs and tools associated with the Every Kid Outdoors Program. Educational activities, field trip options, information and tools in English and Spanish, and the ability to print vouchers for passes for students are all available on the website.

The Every Kid Outdoors Program replaces the Every Kid in a Park Program that was established in 2015.

The program focuses on children 10 years of age—the age of most fourth graders—based on research that indicates children ages 9–11 are at a unique developmental stage in their learning where they begin to understand how the world around them works in more concrete ways and they are more receptive to engaging with nature and the environment. By focusing on this age group year after year, the program aims to ensure every child in the United States has the opportunity to visit their Federal lands and waters by the time he or she is 11 years old, thereby establishing a lifelong connection to enjoy and protect our American outdoor heritage.

There are seven federal agencies participating in the Every Kid Outdoors Program: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

WGU scholarships available for First Responders

In celebration of National First Responders Day, online, nonprofit university WGU Missouri has announced it will award up to \$50,000 in scholarships to EMTs, police officers, firefighters, corrections officers – and their spouses – who are interested in furthering their education. The First Responders Scholarship is open to new students and can be applied to any of WGU Missouri’s more than 60 bachelor’s or master’s degree programs in business, IT, K-12 education or healthcare. Applications are being accepted through December 31, 2019 at <https://www.wgu.edu/financial-aid-tuition/scholarships/general/first-responder.html>. Each First Responders Scholarship is worth up to \$2,500 and is open to new students and will be applied at a rate of \$625 per six-month term, renewable for up to four terms. While multiple scholar-

ships will be awarded, this is a competitive program, and scholarships will be granted based on a candidate’s academic record, financial need, readiness for online study and current competency, as well as other considerations. “Our first responders work tirelessly to protect our communities, uphold laws and save lives,” said Dr. Angie Bendorfer, WGU Missouri Chancellor. “This scholarship is our way of showing appreciation for these extraordinary men and women and recognize the daily sacrifices they make. Many of our students and alum are first responders themselves, and we hope this scholarship will give others who are interested in furthering their education an even more affordable path to earning their degrees and advancing their careers.” Designed to meet the needs of adult learners, WGU

Missouri’s competency-based education model allows students to take advantage of their knowledge and experience to move quickly through material they already know so they can focus on what they still need to learn. Students complete their programs by studying on schedules that fit their lives, advancing as soon as they demonstrate that they have mastered subject matter. WGU faculty members work one-on-one with students as mentors, offering guidance, support and individualized instruction. While WGU Missouri’s degree programs are rigorous and challenging, competency-based learning makes it possible for students to accelerate their progress, saving both time and money. For more information about WGU Missouri or available scholarships, visit missouri.wgu.edu.

Purdy FFA hosts annual Food for America Program



The Purdy FFA chapter hosted the 2019 Food for America program on Friday, October 18. Purdy FFA chapter officers and members taught Purdy Elementary students in preschool through fourth grade about the origins of their food and how it is made. Students met a variety of livestock, including dairy and beef cows, a pig, a turkey and chickens. They also learned about crops, such as wheat, fescue and pumpkins. Purdy FFA member and participant M’Kena Propps noted of the event, “Food for America was a great day.

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The program ran really well, and both the FFA members and the kids had a great time.” Above, Purdy High School FFA president Randy Schad introduces Mrs. Daniels’ first grade students to his jersey heifer at the organization’s annual Food for America program.

MDC reports young hunters checked 1,909 deer during late youth portion

Preliminary data from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) shows that young hunters ages 6 through 15 harvested 1,909 deer during Missouri’s late youth portion of the 2019 deer hunting season, Nov. 29 through Dec. 1. Of the 1,909 deer harvested, 752 were antlered bucks, 200 were button bucks, and 957 were does.

Top counties for the late youth portion were Osage with 63 deer checked, Lincoln with 45, and Callaway with 41.

Barry County youth hunters took a total of 13 deer. Of those, 4 were antlered bucks, 2 were button bucks and 7 were does.

Last year’s harvest total for the late youth portion was 2,595 with 1,160 being antlered bucks, 338 button bucks, and 1,097 does.

For current ongoing preliminary harvest totals by season, county, and type of deer, visit the MDC website at extra.mdc.mo.gov/widgets/harvest_table/

For harvest summaries from past years, visit huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/deer/deer-harvest-reports/deer-harvest-summaries

Deer hunting in Missouri continues with archery deer hunting through Jan. 15, 2020. The antlerless portion of firearms deer season runs Dec. 6-8. Lastly, the alternative methods portion will run Dec. 28 through Jan. 7, 2020. Learn more about deer hunting in Missouri at huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/deer or from MDC’s 2019 Fall Deer & Turkey Hunting Regulations and Information booklet, available where permits are sold and online at huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/downloads/2019FDT.pdf

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