

Former Missouri Senator Emory Melton Commemorated



Shown above, left to right, are: former Missouri Senator, Doyle Childers; former Missouri Senator, Gary Nodler; assisting artist, Adrienne Quiros-Zucca; “America’s Muralist,” Raine Clotfelter; Barry County Advertiser/Litho Printers Manager, Marty Jenkins; Owner of Melton Publications and Emory Melton’s son, Stan Melton; Assistant Manager of Litho Printers, Matt Willis; Missouri Treasurer, Scott Fitzpatrick; and former Barry County Commissioner, Cherry Warren. Photo by Sheila Harris.

After a childhood spent in McDowell, Melton worked his way through college and law school, and was then drafted into the U.S. military, where he served for a year as a criminal investigator. Upon his return from service, Melton established a law practice in Cassville and served as Barry County’s Prosecuting Attorney from

See MELTON 6A

The Advertiser welcomes new reporter



Ezra DeVore

Staff at The Barry County Advertiser welcome Ezra DeVore, of rural Cassville, as a reporter. DeVore has lived in Cassville since he was two-years-old, after his family relocated from Idaho. When he was young, his

See DEVORE 13A

Family Fireworks Business Sparks Community Spirit



Above, Julie Terry (left), of Terry’s Family Fireworks in Purdy, helps customer Mercedes Harris (right) fill her basket.

Terry Family Fireworks in Purdy began 11 years ago as any number of other fireworks stands in the area, with

thing which has exploded in popularity and added vitality to a community where even the local grocery store gave up hope. Their annual 4th of July gathering (held on the 3rd) now draws hundreds - if not tens of hundreds - of people from surrounding communities. Many come early and gather on lawn chairs to eat the hot dog meals that are served, to listen to the live music on tap and to socialize. While the spirit of community is prevalent among picnickers, when evening shadows begin to lengthen, the population of Purdy ap-

See FIREWORKS 7A

It’s a good time to sell, says Jacobs



Used car prices are mimicking the trend of the housing market, with vehicles increasing in value while sitting on the lot, say local auto dealers. Photo by Ezra DeVore. See story on 3A.

CoxHealth donates old facility to Life360



The former Cox Monett Hospital building has been gifted to the non-profit organization, Life360 Community Services, by CoxHealth. The transaction is expected to be complete in August. Life360 has plans to use the building for office space and service provision by multiple non-profit groups that will provide services in a variety of fields, including child care, mental health, nutrition, education and crisis pregnancy.

Life 360, a non-profit organization headquartered in Springfield, has plans to use the facility as a type of hub for several non-profit organizations in the area, perhaps as many as 24, says Monett

See LIFE360 7A

Inside this issue:

Purdy High, Middle School honor rolls	13A	Health department to host Monett vaccine clinic	3A
Thoughts from The Editor	5A	Cox Monett to host childhood vaccination clinics	3A
Used vehicles in demand	3A	SW softball players earn all-district, all-conference	8A
Some taxpayers receive refunds	3A		

Upcoming 4 A
Obits 10 A
Sports 8 A
Classified 14 - 15 A
Auctions 13 A

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Used vehicles in demand across Ozarks

Sheila Harris
Darrin Jacobs, general manager at Les Jacobs Ford in Cassville, confirms what many of us who have been thinking about trading cars are learning: good used vehicles are hard to come by, and when one is located, the sticker price is much higher than it was only a month ago. “It’s a simple matter of supply and demand,” said Jacobs, whose lot, along with the lots of other dealers in southwest Missouri, is remarkably low on inventory. “Under normal circumstances, we have about 100 cars on our lot,” Jacobs said. “Lately, we’ve had an average of about 25.” Jacobs chalks the shortage up to the inability of auto manufacturers to get microchips - also known as semiconductors - from manufacturers abroad for their new vehicles. “We have 1,000 or more

new vehicles sitting on lots at the Ford manufacturer in Kansas City, waiting on semiconductors,” Jacob said. According to Jacobs, with new car production at a near standstill, people are forced to turn to used vehicles, which, in turn, has forced the price on used cars up as a shortage developed. “When I buy a car at auction, now,” said used car dealer, Josh Wiseman, of Wiseman Auto Sales in Purdy, “I’ll pay about \$2,000 more for the same make and model than I did a couple of months ago. It’s crazy.” Wiseman, who maintains a running Facebook market for his vehicles, says he’s had people come from as far away as Louisiana to buy vehicles he’s had on his lot. “Some people speak for them without even test-driving them,” he said. “All they care about is whether it has good tires and runs.”

Mike Wormington, of Highway 112 Sales in Cassville, says he has to pull a new ADA reference sheet regularly to check the current suggested retail prices for his vehicles. “They’re gaining \$2,000 in value just sitting on my lot,” he said. “It’s the reverse of how things usually work.” Both Wormington and Jacobs don’t expect the market to return to normal anytime soon, although Jacobs is a bit more optimistic than Wormington. “They’re telling me the supply will come back beginning in September,” Jacobs said, “but we’re not sure what will happen from there with prices as inflated as they are.” Regardless of what happens, now’s a great time to sell your vehicle, Jacobs says. “Just be sure you can find a replacement,” he was quick to add.

Health department to conduct Pfizer vaccine clinic in Monett

The Barry County Health Department will conduct a community-wide vaccine clinic on Monday July 12, beginning at 4:00 p.m. at the Monett Middle School. This vaccine clinic is open to all Missouri residents aged 12 and older who are eligible to receive the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccination. There is no cost to individuals receiving the vaccine. Residents must call 417-847-2114 to schedule an appointment.

Over 11,000 (or 31 percent of) Barry County residents have begun the vaccine regimen. Summer time events, travel, and the return to school in just over a month will continue to place unvaccinated people at great risk of contracting COVID-19. The rise of COVID-19 variants, particularly the Delta variant, have added to the rise of cases in Barry County and Southwest Missouri. Unvaccinated persons are at risk of contracting COVID and experiencing serious illness. Vaccination continues to be our best defense to the effects of COVID and it remains extremely important that people

get their vaccination. Why should I get vaccinated? The CDC recommendations for those who are fully vaccinated (2 weeks after second dose.):

- Travel domestically without pre or post travel CoVID testing.
- Travel domestically without quarantining.
- Travel internationally (depending on destination) without a pre-travel CoVID test.
- Travel internationally without post-travel quarantining.

Masking and physical distancing continues to be recommended for non-vaccinated persons.

CoxHealth adds pop-up childhood vaccination clinics

Despite the hectic pace of today’s world, childhood vaccinations remain very important to helping kids and communities stay safe and healthy. To offer greater convenience in keeping these shots up to date, CoxHealth is offering three pop-up vaccination clinics in the coming days for school-aged children. The vaccinations will be given in the CARE Mobile, which will be available on the following dates/location:

- July 1: Cox Monett Hospital, 1 – 6 p.m.
- July 22: Cox Monett Hospital, 7 – 11 a.m.

Vaccinations include DTaP and Tdap (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis); Polio; MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella); Varicella (Chickenpox); Meningitis; HPV (Human Papillomavirus); and Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B. Appointments are required, and may be set by calling 417-269-INFO. Patients need to bring immunization records and insurance information, and be accompanied by a parent or guardian. There is no cost for children who are uninsured, and they do not have to be CoxHealth patients to participate.

Cassville announces lane closure on Gravel

According to Cassville public works director, David Brock, construction at Mercy Hospital will require the temporary closure of the northbound driving lane of Gravel Street near 1st Street. The lane closure is expected to begin on the morning of July 8th and last through the end of August, weather

permitting. A detour route on Main Street will be marked for through traffic; local traffic to and from the hospital should adjust their driving routes accordingly. Questions or concerns about this road closure may be directed to City Hall at 847-4441.

Some county taxpayers receive refunds

Ezra DeVore / Sheila Harris
If you paid your 2020 taxes before March 1 of this year, you may have received a check (or checks) from the Barry County Collector’s office. According to collector, Skyler Bowman, 30,907 checks totaling \$399,176.59, bearing the words “levy correction,” were mailed to certain recipients throughout the county.

According to a statement from Barry County Clerk, Joyce Ennis, “Certification errors of the 2020 tax levies for Barry-Lawrence Ambulance District and Barry County Developmentally Disabled were discovered. Taxpayers were over-taxed for these two entities. Patrons that paid before March 1, 2021 will receive refunds of the over-taxed amounts paid to these entities.” Presiding commissioner Gary Youngblood said that due to the legal requirements set forth by their auditor the checks had to be mailed, instead of credited to a taxpayer’s 2021 statement - even though many of them were for a small amount.

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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:

The Barry County Courthouse and Judicial Center will be closed Monday, July 5, 2021, in observance of Independence Day.

The Missouri State Highway Patrol would like to remind the public that driver examination stations throughout the state will be closed Monday, July 5, in observance of the July Fourth holiday. Normal operations will resume on Tuesday, July 6, 2021.

Purdy City Hall announced that fireworks within the Purdy city limits can be shot off beginning June 25, continuing through July 4, 11 A.M. to 11 P.M. each day.

Seligman Chamber of Commerce will be selling fireworks from June 20th to July 5th for Halles Fireworks just west of the Chamber Event Center on Hwy. 37 north of Seligman. There will be a drawing for a \$100 package of fireworks to be given away July 3rd. This is a fund raiser for the Chamber. For more information, call (417) 662-3612.

Seligman Chamber Event Center is having a country dance with live bands every Saturday night from 7 P.M. to 10 P.M. No alcohol allowed. Admission is \$10 per person. 18 and under are free. There is pot luck, 50/50 and door prices. For more information, call (417) 662-3612.

Discovery Quilters meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 9:30 A.M. at the Shell Knob Central Community United Methodist Church. New members are welcome.



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Sign-ups for the Annual School Fair hosted by OACAC will run until July 2, 2021. To sign up students from Pre-K to 12th grade, call 417-846-2140.

Bluegrass Music at Roaring River State Park is a family friendly free event every Friday night 7 P.M. to 9 P.M. starting May 28 through September 24. Performances will be held at the River Shelter.

Garden Sass Farmers Market will be held every Saturday, rain or shine, 8 A.M. to noon on the south side of the square in Cassville.

The Old Church Gallery Farmers' Market runs every Thursday from 8 A.M. to 11 A.M. Visitors are encouraged to wear face coverings and practice six-foot physical distancing while shopping. Old Church Gallery is located on Farm Road 1240 in Shell Knob and can be reached at (417) 858-2510.

Cassville Pantry is currently well stocked and offering free food assistance via a curbside method. The agency is a Feeding America Pantry located at 800 W. 10th Street, Cassville. It provides fresh produce, meat, bakery, dry goods, and personal care products. Pantry is open every Monday through Thursday morning from 9 A.M. to 11:15 A.M. and every Thursday afternoon from 3:15 to 6 P.M. Pantry director, Janet Mills, can be reached at (417) 846-7871.

The Wheaton Depot Museum in Wheaton will be open on Sundays from 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. Visitors are encouraged to check out the history of Wheaton and the Missouri and North Arkansas Railroad (M&NA).

Southwest Missouri Coalition of Charities provides a network where non profits can belong, share knowledge and support one another. The organization hosts meetings via Zoom. More information can be found on their Facebook page.

Soil samples need to be received at the MU B.C. Extension office by 12 P.M. on Thursday. Shipments go out once a week on Friday. The fee for the soil sample test is \$15. A \$6 shipping fee will be added if you choose to have your soil samples mailed the same day you bring it in. Contact the Extension Office at (417) 847-3161 with any questions.

OATS Transit is open for regular transportation service, however, face masks are required on the bus due to COVID-19. Please call the OATS Transit office at 417-887-9272 or 800-770-6287 to schedule a ride or find out about service in your area. Visit their website at www.oatstransit.org and click on the bus schedules tab for your county to see the full schedule. OATS Transit is available to the rural general public of any age, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. They also contract with a number of agencies to serve their clients.

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). The pantry is supported by area churches, business associations and private donations.

July 2
A Meet, Greet and Eat will be held from 11 A.M. to 1 P.M. at the Fohn Funeral Home, 1303 Main St., Cassville. Everyone is welcomed and encouraged to come and meet and welcome Todd and Bethany McCoy to the area. A free lunch of pulled pork sandwiches plus sides will be served.

July 3
Barry County Truck and Tractor Pull will be held at 7 P.M. at the American Legion Grounds, Hwy. 112, Cassville. Admission is \$10 adults, children 10 and under are free. Entry fee is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. For more information, call Angie Welters (417) 489-3985 or Donnie Stumpf (417) 847-2507.

July 10
Cassville Cruisers Cruise In will held at the Barry County Museum, south of Cassville on Highway 112/76/86, from 5 P.M. to dusk. The theme is Watermelon for Everyone - Free! There will be live music as well. Visitors and those interested in becoming members are welcome. For more information, look for the Cassville Cruisers on Facebook or www.cassvillecruisers.com.

July 12
A Community Wide Vaccine Clinic will be conducted by The Barry County Health Department. This clinic is open to all Missouri residents aged 12 and older who are eligible to receive the Pfizer CoVID-19 vaccination. There is no cost to individuals receiving the vaccine. Residents must call (417) 847-2114 to schedule an appointment.

July 16
Annual Stones Prairie Picnic will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church on the church grounds, located two and a half miles north of Purdy, with serving to begin at 6 P.M. In case of inclement weather, the picnic will be held on Saturday, July 17. The traditional menu will consist of hamburgers, chips, hot dogs, bratwurst sandwiches, ice cream, beverages, and an abundance of homemade desserts. The event will feature games, baked goods, many handcrafted items, bingo, along with a showing of antique farm equipment, jeeps, and motorcycles. a home made quilt, crafted by the quilting society, will be given to the holder of the winning ticket. Tickets for the drawing will be available at the picnic. For questions, you may call the church office on Wednesdays at (417) 442-3836.

July 17
Drury Monett is hosting their first annual 5K Run & Walk at 8 A.M. There is a \$25 cash entry fee for 3 divisions, men's, women's, and children under 12; and 3 medals in each division. Register at Drury Monett, 400 4th St., Monett, to guarantee T-shirt. Call (417) 873-6621 for more information.

10th Annual Purdy Festival will be held at the Purdy City Park from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Thunder in the Park Car Truck & Bike Show will be held at the Purdy Veterans' Park from 8 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.

July 20
Habitat for Humanity of South Barry County will hold their annual meeting at the OACAC building at 5 P.M. Everyone is invited to attend.



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Thoughts from The Editor



Sheila Harris

About 40 years, I worked as a temporary mail sorter for the post office in Purdy. Then, everything mailed within Purdy to be delivered to a Purdy address, stayed within Purdy. That mail was sorted directly into recipients' boxes for next-day delivery by rural carriers or even same-day pick-up for those with post-office boxes. It seems that's not the case now in Purdy or anywhere else - a fact I was oblivious to until last week. However, getting confirmation of this fact turned out to be a lesson in perseverance, and not a simple one.

Disclaimer:

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

This pursuit started when Marty Jenkins (our publisher here at The Barry County Advertiser) was charged a late fee on the office's water and sewer bill. He mailed the payment from the Cassville Post Office to the City of Cassville **four days prior** to the city's monthly due date of the 15th. Cassville's exorbitant \$25 late fee for water and sewer payments is bound to get anyone's attention and rightfully so. (I've checked with other cities in the county and, while most of their penalties fall within the \$5 to \$10 range, some are based on a percentage of water usage, which typically would never achieve a \$25 penalty-status.) However, I'm not here to debate the propriety of Cassville's pricey late fee. I'm more concerned about the reason for the alleged four-day or more delivery time of a piece of mail sent to an address within the same city. I started locally by asking the Cassville postmaster whether mail stayed within Cassville if it was intended for a Cassville recipient. He wouldn't answer, which took me by surprise. I didn't realize I was asking for classified information. Instead, he referred me up the chain to his superiors in Kansas City. I wasn't allowed to contact them directly, though. I was instructed to leave my name and number with him and was told that his superior would call me at his convenience. To his credit, Mark Inglett, in Strategic Communications

(a portentous title, it turns out) with the USPS, called me fairly promptly. However, he told me I'd have to send him my questions by email in a bullet-point format. I did so. Here follows the questions I asked and the replies I received:

- **Is everything (that's) mailed in Cassville to another Cassville address sorted in a hub in Springfield now?** He confirmed that this was the case.
- **How long ago did the policy change, and what was the rationale for it?** His reply: "Many years ago, local mail was kept on site; however, as automation has continued to grow, it is much more efficient for all mail to be worked through automation to ensure timely delivery."
- I was a little surprised by this answer (although strategic, it definitely *was*) as efficiency and timely delivery seem to have suffered, given the example I first mentioned.
- **What would be the time difference in delivery, now, as opposed to when mail stayed within a town?** I received no reply to this question, other than a request for me to cite a particular case he could investigate.
- **I reworded the question by asking, "What would the expectation for delivery of a (same-town) piece of mail be, that now goes through an automated hub? Next day, two days, more?** So far, no answer has been forthcoming. In other words, "Expect *nothing* when you drop a payment (addressed

to the same town) in the mail, and just hope for the best." Here's my advice to Cassville residents: to avoid the possibility of a \$25 late fee, it might be a good idea to drop your Cassville water payments off in the collection box across from the police department or, better yet, hand-deliver them to the city clerk. I feel bad about offering this advice, since I've grown fond of the stalwart tradition of the postal system throughout my lifetime. Like many other people, I look forward to getting my mail. On a political note, it has been said that delays in postal service have been deliberately manufactured by Louis DeJoy, our current postmaster general, in an attempt to privatize the USPS for the financial gain of various corporate entities. It's also been said that the delays have been orchestrated to discourage mail-in voting during an election cycle. Perhaps there's truth to both allegations. If so, it saddens me that one of the postal service's basic functions of "binding the nation together" (as described in its mission statement) has been cast aside in favor of partisan interests. My fear is that the phrase "one nation" will soon be simply a bygone, unrealistic ideal - much like next-day, same-town delivery.

Advertiser Closed

The Barry County Advertiser will be closed Monday, July 5, in observance of Independence Day. Our deadline is 5 p.m., Friday, July 1, for display and classified ads for the June 7 newspaper.

Motorcycle crash injures driver

Ezra DeVore

According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, Justin Farris, 33, of Cassville, was seriously injured in a Highway 76 wreck June 24 at 5:35 p.m. Approximately seven miles east of Cassville, Farris was driving a westbound 2008 Suzuki

EZR 1800 motorcycle when he failed to negotiate a curve and impacted a barbed-wire fence. Farris was wearing a safety device, and was then transported by South Barry County Ambulance to Mercy Hospital in Rogers, Arkansas. The motorcycle sustained heavy damage.

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The preliminary draft of the **BARRY COUNTY MULTIJURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN** is now available for review and comment at www.smcog.org until Wednesday, July 21st, 2021. The public is encouraged to comment on the plan and ensure that the needs and values of residents are being addressed by Barry County in mitigating the potential damages to people and property in the event of natural hazards.

If you would like to view a copy of the plan or make comments, please contact Thomas Cunningham, Associate Planner, Southwest Missouri Council of Governments, at TCunningham@MissouriState.edu.

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MELTON from FRONT



Above, ribbon-cutting attendees line up for cookies, coffee and Raine Clotfelter’s signature Saturday at The Barry County Advertiser.



Above, Stan Melton shares memories of his father, Emory Melton, at Saturday’s mural dedication ceremony at The Barry County Advertiser.



Above, former Missouri Senator, Doyle Childers (left) visits with America’s Muralist, Raine Clotfelter (right), Saturday at a mural dedication ceremony held at The Barry County Advertiser to honor the late Senator Emory Melton.

1947 until 1951. During that period of time, he married Jean Sanders (of Shell Knob) and the couple subsequently had two sons, Russ and Stan.

The Meltons began Litho Printers and The Barry County Advertiser in 1967, and while the faces of personnel changed over the years, the businesses remain in constant production.

Melton served in the Missouri State Senate for the 29th district from 1973 until

1997. While there, he impressed his colleagues with his diligence and integrity. His successor in the senate, Doyle Childers, of Reed Spring, called Melton “the voice of reason.”

“As I got to know Emory better,” Childers said, “I realized just what an influence he had. In the senate, when a bill was contested, he’d say, ‘Let’s stop and look at this for a minute.’ He didn’t speak a lot, but when he *did* speak, he

was able to influence people.”

Former Barry County commissioner Cherry Warren called Melton one of his biggest mentors and spoke, too, of his influence and integrity.

“Emory would defend people in his law practice whether they could afford his counsel or not,” Warren said, citing the example of an accused murderer who Melton successfully defended for \$100.

Warren added that Melton, always seen in his signature coat, tie and white shirt, was “so much fun to be around.”

“When you think of Emory, you think of history,” Warren said.

Melton, known as the go-to man for information about Barry County’s history, hand-penned two books and wrote numerous historical pieces for various publica-

tions.

Warren attributes the construction of Roaring River Lodge to Melton’s influence, too, due in large part to his 20-year service on the tourism commission in the senate.

Former Missouri Senator Gary Nodler also painted a glowing portrait of Emory Melton, with particular focus on the late senator’s wit in reference to the proposed passage of a bill that would negatively affect law enforcement in Barry County.

“When Emory said, ‘let’s just take Barry County’s sheriff’s office for an example,’ he was asked by a senator from Kansas City if he thought residents of Barry County were smarter than those in Kansas City,” Nodler said. “Emory answered, ‘well, yes. Everybody in Barry County knows where Kansas City is,

but I bet only one person out of ten people in Kansas City knows where Cassville is.”

Stan Melton, son of Emory Melton and owner of Melton Publications, called his father his hero.

“He lived an amazing life of service and truly loved what he did,” Melton said.

All who spoke at the dedication ceremony were in agreement that the murals were a great way to commemorate Melton.

Barry County Advertiser publisher and Litho Printers manager, Marty Jenkins, added that Emory Melton may have had some reservations about them, though.

“The first thing he would have asked,” Jenkins said, “is ‘how much are they going to cost?’



Above, former Barry County commissioner, Cherry Warren, shares memories of Emory Melton at a mural dedication Saturday at the offices of Litho Printers and The Barry County Advertiser.

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LIFE360 from FRONT

Although the transfer of ownership isn't expected to be complete until sometime in August, and Life360's plans for it after acquisition are still evolving, Darren Bass is excited that the building, constructed in 1953, will continue to provide services to the community, after having provided medical services for almost 70 years.

Some of the initial service providers anticipated by Life360 are for mental health, foster care, crisis pregnancy, nutrition services, employment services, education, community meeting space and youth and childcare, with an onsite preschool.

Bass is particularly excited

about the childcare, which will be provided by Kiddie City, an established day care facility in Monett which will now have space for expansion.

"More childcare availability will affect our workforce in Monett," Bass said. "We have a labor shortage simply because many parents don't have anyone to watch their kids. I truly believe that the existence of this non-profit resource center in Monett will have a (positive) ripple effect on the entire community."

Life360 CEO, Ted Cederblom, and executive vice-president, Jeremy Hahn, were both present for Thursday's

announcement. Hahn credited Purdy resident, Rachel Luebbering, for facilitating Life360's pending acquisition of the building.

Luebbering, along with Kiddie City owner, Robyn Chrysler, has worked tirelessly to organize a coalition of charities in southwest Missouri over the past year.

"I spoke to Darren in March of 2020 about the possibility of donating the old Cox Monett building to serve as a coalition hub," Luebbering said, "and he told me it wasn't off the table; I'd just have to find a non-profit organization big enough to sustain it."

Because she was friends

with Monett Life360 director, Andrew Foresman, she approached him with the idea of Life360 taking on the building. He, in turn, took it up the chain of command. In April of this year, Luebbering said, she was able to bring Darren Bass to the table with the Life360 team, which resulted in the win/win move for the community.

According to Andrew Foresman, Life 360 began to serve Monett and surrounding communities in 2019.

"We are excited to partner with the Monett community to see this facility into its next chapter," said Ted Cederblom, CEO of Life360 Community Services.

FIREWORKS from FRONT

pears to double before one's eyes. A steady stream of vehicles - most of them loaded with children - pours into town and drivers fill every available parking spot for blocks around the "stage" from which one of the area's largest fireworks displays is launched.

"It didn't start out like this," said Julie Terry, who, along with her husband, Ken, owns and operates Terry Family Fireworks. "Eleven years ago, we bought the old Red Swadley place on the corner of C Highway and Business Highway 37 with the intention of building storage units where the house once stood. The first year, we didn't have a building up, so we sold fireworks from a tent. By the next summer, we had the metal building up, but hadn't divided it into separate storage units yet, so we sold our fireworks from inside the building. It went over so well we thought, 'Hey, let's hold off on the storage unit idea.'"

Instead of dividing the building into separate interior units, the Terrys christened it "The Gathering Place," and lease it out for community events - including garage sales - when it's not being used for fireworks sales or owner-hosted events to benefit the community.

"About the fourth season of fireworks sales," Julie Terry said, "we set off a small fireworks display on the evening of July 3. People loved it so much that several of them came up to us afterward and insisted on giving us money as a way of showing their appreciation and to help cover expenses. They even sug-

gested that maybe next year we could increase the size of the event by soliciting donations from businesses in the surrounding area.

"It wasn't something we were comfortable doing at first," Terry said, "until we came up with the idea of matching the contributions of each of our sponsors with our own funds. The response has been incredible. Last year, we were able to put on a 40-minute firework show with the help of some 30 or 40 sponsors."

This year's show should be comparable, Terry says.

Terry says, as far as she knows, theirs is the only family-owned fireworks busi-

ness in the area. The Terrys' four sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren all get in on the seasonal flurry. The women man the cash register, while the guys light up the skies on July 3.

Julie Terry wants to give credit, too, to the friends and family members who grill and serve the meals that are available for purchase at the event.

"The names of those people change every year," she said, "but we couldn't do it without them."

This year, Terry says, the picnic will begin at 6 p.m. Meals will consist of hot dogs (provided by Tyson's), homemade baked beans, chips, a

cookie and a drink for \$6.

Live music will be performed by Lancaster Station, a vocal group from Springfield, beginning at 6 p.m. Children from Vacation Bible School at First Free-will Baptist Church in Purdy will also perform (around 7 p.m.).

Terry Family Fireworks recently expanded to additional locations in Monett and Cassville. Landon Terry operates a tent at the junction of Highways 37 and 60 in Monett; Purdy High School baseball coach, Josh Hughes, operates a tent at Baywash (across from Walmart) in Cassville.

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New fish-cleaning station seeing heavy use



Shown above, left to right, fishermen Gary and Steve Horn, of Pevely; Leonard Killman, of Park City, Kansas; and Derek Eason, of Eldorado Springs, give the new fish-cleaning station at Roaring River State Park a workout.

Schallert named a “Softball Player of The Year”



Lauren Schallert (above), of Purdy High School, was selected as one of the Springfield Sports Commission Softball Players of the Year at an awards banquet on June 22nd.

Schallert helped lead the Purdy softball team to the first State Softball Championship in school history. She finished the season 26-1, .46 ERA in 144 innings pitched. She struck out 284 batters and hit .600 with 10 home runs and 46 RBIS.

She played the entire season without striking out once.

All-Conference, District players named at Southwest High School



Shown above, left to right, are Southwest High School All-Conference softball players: Bonnie Robbins, 1st Team Infield; Anna Church, 2nd Team Catcher; Natalie Johnson, 1st Team Outfield; Alli Fosse, 2nd Team Infield; Khloe Holder, Honorable Mention Infield.

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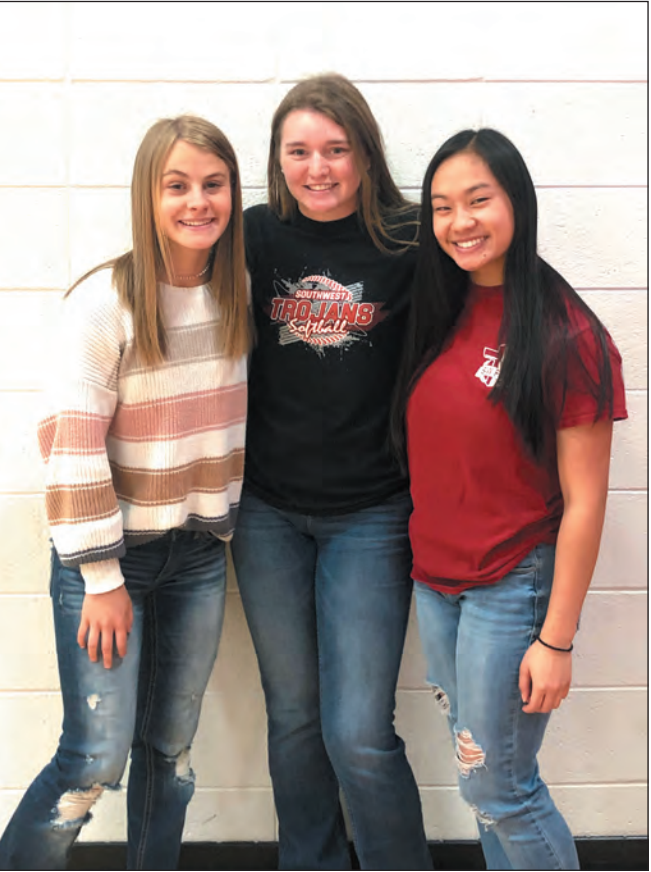
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Shown above, left to right, are Southwest High School All-District softball players: Alli Fosse, 2nd Team Utility; Bonnie Robbins, 1st Team Infield; Natalie Johnson, 1st Team Outfield & 2nd Team All-Region.

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The E.R.G.M. Fire Department would like to acknowledge and Thank you all our outstanding volunteers for the tireless hours given to pull this year's Fireworks Show and Breakfast together. Thanks to the Mo. State Water Patrol and the Barry County Sheriff's Office for all their help. Many thanks to the businesses, affiliates and friends & those of you who return our mailers with contributions to this event. Without any of the above, this annual event would not be possible. Thank You!

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HAVE a SAFE & HAPPY 4th of July!

OBITUARIES



JERRY PETE SHELTON
Jerry Pete Shelton, age 85, of Shell Knob, passed away Thursday, June 24, 2021, at Mercy Hospital in Springfield from Covid. Jerry was born June 13, 1936, in LeRoy, Kansas, the son of John Douglas and Freda Stokes. On June 5, 1960, in Osage City, Kansas he was united in marriage to Bonnie Sue Brock. They had no children. He was raised by Stacy Pete and Sadie Stokes. He is survived by his wife of the home and several cousins.

Preceding him in death were his parents, grandparents and three half brothers.

He received his education in several schools in several states due to living with his grandfather who worked on a bridge gang for the railroad. He ended up at School of the Ozarks, now known as College of the Ozarks. He left school his junior year and joined the U.S. Army. He was a paratrooper in the 11th Airborne, Company 503. He

was stationed in Germany during the Korean War.

After his service, he joined his grandfather in Osage City, Kansas, where he met his wife, Bonnie, in 1957.

He worked several jobs and ended up with Universal Foods Corp as a Regional Sales Manager covering 13 states. He worked there for 35 years, retiring in 1997. At that time, he was the only employee who had been there that long. In 1997, he and his wife moved to Shell Knob to make their home.

He was a member of the Shell Knob Lions Club, Central Crossing Masonic Lodge #674, Shell Knob Shrine Club and the VFW Post 2203. He also volunteered at the Central Crossing Senior Center.

Some of his favorite pastimes were traveling with Bonnie on their motorcycle, golfing, boating and taking cruises. He wanted to take just one more cruise to make it 10 last year, but had to cancel due to covid.

Services were held Monday, June 28, 2021, with a ceremony held by VFW Post 2203 at Fohn Funeral Home in Shell Knob. Elder Jerry Arnold conducted the services.

Following services lunch was served at the Shell Knob VFW.

Burial with military honors was Tuesday, June 29,

2021, at Osage City Cemetery in Osage City, Kansas. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to VFW Post 2203, Shriners Hospital for Children, Central Crossing Senior Center or Haven of the Ozarks in memory of Jerry.

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

**FOHN FUNERAL HOME
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JOHN WILKINSON
John Wilkinson passed away peacefully at his home on Saturday, June 26, 2021.

He was preceded in death by many dear friends and is survived by many more dearly loved friends.

John was born on November 3, 1941, in Eakly, Oklahoma. As a young boy, he moved to California for a time. John operated John's Tractor Shop in Wheaton for many years. He had a passion for flying, aerial acrobatic maneuvers and restoring antique tractors and cars. He also had a huge love of mu-

sic his entire life and played guitar and sang since the age of 14 years old up until the time of his death. Later in life, he loved to travel to various areas throughout the United States. He grew up in a religious family and carried a deep faith in the Lord his entire life.

No services are planned at this time.



**DAVID WAYNE
"DAVE" BEESON**
David Wayne "Dave" Beeson, age 66, of Monett, passed away Friday, June 25, 2021, at Cox Medical Center South in Springfield.

Graveside services will be held at 10:00 A.M. Thursday, July 1, 2021, at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in Butterfield, under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Reverend Jerry Nickle will conduct the services.

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

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Discover red, white, and blue in nature

With the Fourth-of-July weekend coming up, the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) encourage people to look for red, white, and blue in nature through a holiday hike, bird watching, backyard fun, fishing, and other outdoor activities.

MDC offers some suggestions to get started finding red, white, and blue in nature:

- Red Royal Catchfly Flowers,
- Red Male Summer Tanagers,
- White Beard-Tongues or Foxgloves,
- White Great Egrets,
- Blue False Indigos, and
- Male Indigo Buntings.

Want more information on these and other Missouri plants and animals, including where to find them? Use the handy and helpful MDC online Field Guide at mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/field-guide.

Want to learn more about birds in Missouri? Check out GreatMissouriBirdingTrail.com for a list of the best-of-the-best places to birdwatch in Missouri, and more.

Need suggestions on things to do for outdoor adventures? Find Things to Do with MDC online at mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/activities. Offerings include: cycling on trails, backyard nature fun, birdwatching, fishing, camping, floating, outdoor cooking, hiking, hunting, nature photography, wildlife watching, and more.

Need to find Places to Go for outdoor adventures? Visit MDC online at mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places.

With the MDC free mobile app -- MO Outdoors -- nature lovers can quickly and easily find MDC outdoor offerings based on the types of outdoor activities they want -- close to home, work, or even while traveling.

MO Outdoors can help folks find MDC conservation areas, fishing accesses, hiking trails, and more around the state based on the desired types of outdoor activities. Users can also mark "favorite" locations to quickly find them in future searches.

MO Outdoors also connects users to MDC-area regulations and season information, hours of operation, images, area closings, interactive maps of area boundaries and features, parking lots, boat ramps, and wildlife viewing areas using their device's GPS. Users can also download maps for offline use.

MO Outdoors is available for download through Google Play for Android devices or the App Store for Apple devices. Learn more at mdc.mo.gov/contact-engage/mobile-apps/mo-outdoors.

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Drivers, boaters asked to drive safely

Colonel Eric T. Olson, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, wants to remind Missourians that thunderstorms are expected over the next several days which may lead to flooding in certain areas. Flooding, especially flash flooding, is dangerous and can be fatal. Drivers and boaters are encouraged to make smart decisions.

Drivers

Drivers are urged to avoid attempting to cross a flooded low water crossing simply because they were able to do so in the past. Don't be tempted to drive into floodwater because it appears shallow. Looks are deceiving and the roadway may not be intact. Floodwater often washes out roads or compromises their structural integrity.

Did you know less than a foot of moving water is enough to push a vehicle? Cars will float when the force of the water is greater than the force of friction. Flash flooding brings sand and mud, which reduces the friction force of gravity holding the vehicle in place. Think about everything you could lose before trying to save a few minutes by not turning around.

Barricades closing a roadway are there to protect you. Drivers must respect barriers or barricades put in place by MoDOT — it is extremely dangerous and a violation of state law to drive around them. For information regarding road closures consult the Missouri Department of Transportation's "MoDOT traveler" app or visit MoDOT's road condition map at the Missouri State Highway Patrol's website www.state-patrol.dps.mo.gov. (Select the "Road Conditions" box.)

Road conditions can change often with flash floods or heavy rains. The map is updated regularly, but it is not possible to predict future road closings or water levels of specific rivers, lakes, or streams. Drivers are encouraged to check for updates often when planning their route and just prior to traveling.

Boaters

Flooding also affects safety on Missouri's waterways. The Patrol asks boaters across the state to take extra precautions when boating in flooded areas. Large amounts of rainfall cause rivers and lakes to become swollen. Many times, the right decision is to stay off the water. In areas where lakes or rivers spill over the banks, erosion and damage can occur to flooded structures, docks, or water laden levees by boat wakes. Boaters should avoid operating in these areas. If operation in these areas is necessary, boaters should operate at idle speed to avoid causing a wake.

Flooded rivers and streams with moving currents present some of the most dangerous situations a boater can encounter. Fast moving water can easily capsize or flip a boat—or personal watercraft—especially when combined with fixed objects such as trees and buildings. Boaters should avoid any operations in these swift flowing waters.

Follow the Missouri State Highway Patrol on Twitter @MSHPTrooperGHQ.

Apply for MDC managed deer hunts

Beginning July 1, deer hunters can apply online through the Missouri Department of Conservation's (MDC) website for a shot at more than 100 managed deer hunts throughout the state this fall and winter.

MDC offers managed deer hunts for archery, muzzle-loading, crossbow, and modern firearms from mid-September through mid-January at conservation areas, state and other parks, national wildlife refuges, and other public areas. Some managed deer hunts are held specifically for youth or for people with disabilities.

The managed deer hunt application period is July 1 - 31. Hunters are selected by a weighted random drawing.

Draw results will be available Aug. 15 through Jan. 15. Applicants who are drawn will receive area maps and other hunt information by email, or mail if an email address is not located on the customer's account.

Get more information on managed deer hunts, preview hunt details, and apply starting July 1 at mdc.mo.gov/managedhunt.

Details about managed hunts can also be found in the MDC "2021 Fall Deer & Turkey Hunting Regulations and Information" booklet, available starting in early July at MDC offices and nature centers, from permit vendors around the state, and online at mdc.mo.gov.

Exeter FFA members earn state degrees



On April 30, 2021, Exeter FFA members Lane Willis and Jamison Nichols got the opportunity to go to Missouri FFA State Convention and receive their State Degrees. The Exeter FFA Chapter members are 2 of 858 degree recipients receiving the honor during the State FFA Degree Ceremony at the 93rd Missouri FFA Convention, April 30 - May 1, on the Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia.

Awarding of the degree is based on a member's supervised agricultural experience program in agribusiness or production agriculture and leadership ability as demonstrated through involvement in FFA, school and community activities.

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4-H'ers flock to new American Sign Language project

Aynsley Harmon, a 12-year-old from Kahoka, wanted to be able to talk with a deaf relative she sees at family reunions. So she did what any resourceful 4-H'er does: She looked for a project to help her accomplish her goal.

With a lot of support and collaboration along the way, her determination resulted in a statewide Missouri 4-H project that highlights the best features of university extension and engagement,

said Katie Hogan, University of Missouri Extension engagement specialist in 4-H youth development in Clark County.

Missouri 4-H piloted the American Sign Language project this spring for youths grades six and up. Aynsley and the 11 other members of the inaugural online class learned to sign the alphabet, introductions, greetings, feelings, family members and how to answer basic ques-

tions. Their final assignment? Reciting the 4-H pledge in ASL. Two more six-week sessions are already filled, and there is a growing waiting list of dozens of youths from across Missouri. "I know how frustrated I get when nobody listens to me," Aynsley said. "I thought about what it would be like to feel that way all the time and not have people understand what I was saying. I think

you would feel really alone in the world, and I don't want anyone to experience that." When Aynsley first explored learning sign language, her mother, Ardith Harmon, helped her find online tutorials. Aynsley quickly mastered "basic baby sign language, like thank you and please," but Ardith Harmon realized they needed help to ensure the quality of the instruction.

The Harmons approached Hogan with the idea of offering ASL as a 4-H project. Hogan saw a chance to build on growing interest in statewide virtual classes available through the Canvas online learning platform.

"This format offers us a way to meet specialized interests that would be hard to replicate in person in individual counties," Hogan said. To gauge interest, Hogan and 4-H specialist Sarah Morefield conducted a statewide survey of 4-H'ers age 6 and above. "I received a response from 38 families within the first 24 hours," Hogan said. "They recognized this is something new and different and not something available in their home communities."

The response was just as enthusiastic when she reached out for resources at MU and in the deaf commu-

nity. The project got support from the MU Hearing Clinic, the MU Disability Center and DeafLEAD, a national nonprofit advocacy and services center based in Columbia.

In addition to instruction in ASL, youths learn about career possibilities from students and professionals in speech pathology, audiology and interpretation. Starting in fall, youths will be able to register for the ASL project as an event in the 4-H Online system. Missouri 4-H has added ASL in Canvas to the Clover Catalog for 2021-2022.

"This is more than about learning American Sign Language," Hogan said. "This is about addressing an opportunity gap that exists in many areas around our state where our youth are disadvantaged because they don't see what else is out there. If we can empower our youth to understand different people and cultures and expose them to other career possibilities, it will help open up their world and future opportunities."

In the U.S., more than 48 million adults and 30 out of every 1,000 school-age children have hearing loss, said Angela Branson, assistant director at the MU Disability Center. Branson, an ASL interpreter for more than 20 years, helps teach the 4-H class.

"There is such a great need for interpreting services, as well as a need for direct communication with deaf and hard of hearing people in other related professions," Branson said. "With so many people feeling isolated and not having anyone else to talk with, wouldn't it be great if there were more Aynsleys of the world to help spread the love a little bit by helping us all learn to connect?"

"Whatever else students take away from this 4-H project, I hope the main idea is inclusiveness," said Deaf-LEAD language coordinator Nicole Hohlt. "A lot of times people are afraid when they encounter someone who is deaf, and they end up avoiding that person altogether. My main goal is to let the students know that there is a whole deaf community out there ready to accept and bring them in and teach them their language and culture. This exposure lets the students know that this is exciting and fun and also opens the door to exploring so many career possibilities out there."

For Aynsley Harmon, one of the best parts of the ASL project — besides looking forward to a more in-depth conversation with her relative — has been realizing so many peers have a similar interest.

Aynsley lives in "a really small community" of about 2,000 residents in far northeastern Missouri. "It's so cool and amazing to realize that there are other people around the whole state like me who want to learn how to do this, too," she said. "And now we have the chance."

Learn more about Missouri 4-H at 4h.missouri.edu.

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Moreland named to MU Leader's Honor Roll



Each year, the Barry County Extension Council is given the opportunity to name an outstanding community leader to the University of Missouri Leader's Honor Roll. This award recognizes individuals who have gone above and beyond their call of duty on behalf of the Extension. The 2020 recipient is Marcia Moreland. Marcia has been a

great advocate for the Barry County Extension Office. She has dedicated herself by providing her time and energy to the Extension office and the residents of Barry County. Shown above is Marcia Moreland (left) receiving the award and Karla Deaver (right), Barry County Interim CES, presenting the award.

The names of honor roll students for the second semester at Purdy High School and Middle School have been announced.

A Honor Roll:
12th Grade: Osiel Aldava, Jacob Brown, Drew Graham, Clay Henderson, Audrey Lowe, Kinsley Mattingly, Lauren Schallert.
11th Grade: Daniel Aldava, Zachary Henderson, M'kena Propps.
10th Grade: Josh Brown, Destiny Clevenger, Bosten Goetz, Alli Hayes, Anna Hoffman.
9th Grade: Sarah Bowers, Alexis Davidson, Gauge Davidson, Deisy Gonzalez, Raelley Henderson, Preston Hibbard, Ruby Knight, Audra Mahurin
8th Grade: Nathan Harris, Will Henderson, Leanna

Purdy High School, Middle School Honor Rolls Announced

Moore, Rosa Schad, Cristian Villa, Marlene Villa, Zoey Webb.
7th Grade: SuaNa Lee, Luz Ramirez Hernandez, Hannah Rickman, Merely Salas, Hali Stokes, Simon Walker.

B Honor Roll:
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mother worked for many years cleaning the offices of a local newspaper on Sunday afternoons, and DeVore would often help her.

“The buildings were so still and hushed,” he said, “as if they were resting after a week of serving the town. The police radio would mutter after-hours speeches through the faint scent of coffee, and, to me, as a young boy, it was the scent of adulthood.”

It was there that DeVore developed the optimistic ideal of caring for one’s community and its history.

DeVore says writing and music are his passions (he’s a multi-instrumentalist), and, as a reporter for The Barry County Advertiser, he has the opportunity to pursue those twin flames: one during office hours, the other afterward.

If you have a story suggestion for DeVore, please contact The Barry County Advertiser at 417-847-4475.

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Roaring River State Park

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District Specialist I

74 S. Main Street, Cassville, MO 65625

Located in the USDA Service Center

The Barry county Soil & Water Conservation District is accepting applications for a full time

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Job duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to, completion of quarterly reports, accounting, billing and scheduling, answering phone, and face to face questions for multiple programs as well as regularly aiding Technicians with technical, agricultural related duties. Applicants must have the ability to communicate effectively with the public and co-workers, exercise sound judgement and discretion, and work independently. General agriculture related knowledge and computer skills required.

High School diploma or GED required, background in agriculture a bonus but not required. Must be willing to work outdoors under all types of weather conditions and terrain.

Starting wage is \$13/hour with promotion potential. Must have valid driver's license and be able to pass a federal background check.

Interested applicants can drop off a resume in the dropbox at the address listed above, M-F between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., or submit a resume by mail to:

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Resumes must be received by 4:30 p.m. July 9th.

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Tim Homesley

We have had a little rain this week, but so far it has not affected the river at all; in fact, it has dropped a little bit today, and we are now down to 59 CFS.

Fishing should remain very good this week. The water is still clear. I suggest two-pound line.

When selecting a fishing line for your casting or spinning rods, it is always best to get a line that is 100 percent clear, like Fluorocarbon, or get a line that will merge with the water and disappear. Maxima and gamma in the moss green always work well.

We had a good week fishing black beetles, black ants, green crackle-backs, elk-hair caddis, blue-wing olives, and small grasshoppers. We also did very well on light cahills in the evening.

These dry flies work very well most of the year, but beetles, ants, and small hoppers are working extremely well up on top. They are a lot of fun right now. If I am throwing dry flies right now, I will be throwing a 9 - 7X leader or longer sometimes. If I am going to fish a nymph a glow ball or thread-jig or some other fly fished under the surface, I will usually use a nine-foot 6X leader.

We have been doing pretty well on black woolly-buggers and olive woolly-buggers. I like to start in the morning with one of these flies, unless I am seeing fish rising; then, I'll try a dry. If you enjoy nymph-fishing, pheasant-tail nymphs, sow bugs, burlaps which imitate caddis, and copper-johns, in sizes 16 and 18 seem to work best right now.

Plastic worms in the cheese-yellow, the orange and the bubble-gum pink work very well this week. If you were fishing plastic eggs, the white was very good most of the time; orange and yellow eggs worked well also. If you are lucky enough to have some of the one-inch crawlers made by power-bait, those things will work very well. They are hard to come by right now, so if you have them, enjoy them. Black, brown, olive, and pink spinners did very well this week.

When the water is clear, we seem to do better with the dark colors when fishing spinners (30-minute wonders).

If you like to throw small crank-baits, the little rebel weecraws work very well, as do flatfish.

Little gold spoons were very good last week.

Haven of The Ozarks: Pet of The Week



Meet Dunkin D, the Haven of the Ozarks Pet of the Week! Dunkin is a two-year-old girl who weighs in at just under 60 pounds. She's great on a leash, likes children, is house-trained, and gets along well with male dogs. Dunkin prefers no canine sisters, and we're unsure of how she does with cats. She has just the right amount of energy to be the perfect dog for an active family. This well-mannered girl would love to find her forever home soon, so come see her at the Haven.

Haven of the Ozarks Animal Sanctuary

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Tiny Shell Knob eatery boasts gourmet delights

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Sheila Harris
When mother and daughter, Sue and Terri Trausch, of Shell Knob, decided to repurpose one end of the family's floor-covering store, the idea of a small cafe was the first thing that came to mind, but not just any type of cafe.

"Because indoor seating space is limited, we knew we had to serve food to go," Terri Trausch said.

With limited space, the Trausches set about creating the Root Cellar on the west side of the Totally Home carpet store in Shell Knob and proving to the community that carry-out food doesn't have to be the stereotypical burger and fries associated with fast food.

The Root Cellar is open Wednesday through Saturday from 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. They have both a breakfast and lunch menu, with orders made fresh, on site.

"We use fresh ingredients, including herbs and vegetables, many of which we grow outside of our cafe," Terri Trausch said.

Biscuits and gravy are a breakfast specialty.



Thursday night boxed-dinners are a take-out hit. The menu varies weekly. Shown above is a dinner featuring herb & garlic stuffed pork loin, broccoli, and rosemary-seasoned potatoes.



Cheesecakes topped with a variety of fresh fruits are a signature dessert at the Root Cellar, in Shell Knob.



Cheese, meat and cracker picnic baskets are available at the Root Cellar for 4th of July gatherings.

Lunch includes a large variety of sandwiches stuffed with sliced meats and cheeses, made extra delicious when eaten with Sue Trausch's famous homemade potato salad.

Thursday nights the Root Cellar is popular for their dinners-to-go, served between 4:30 and 6 p.m. Every week's dinner is different, but all of them are home-cooked, with many of them featuring smoked meats, a specialty of Terri Trausch's boyfriend, Beau Shelton, who cooks with a Cajun flair.

"Beau's smoked tri-tips are wonderful," Terri Trausch said. "We do ask people to pre-order if they'd like some."

In addition to carry-out meals, the Trausches carry Edgewood Creamery milk, farm fresh eggs (when available), homemade jams and desserts and all-natural beau-



The Root Cellar's sandwiches are stuffed with sliced meats, cheeses and fresh vegetables, and bear names reminiscent of local sites in Shell Knob.



Above, Sue Trausch (left) and Terri Trausch (right) visit with a lunch customer at Root Cellar over a bag of fresh, local blueberries to be used in jams and baked goodies.

ty products.

A full coffee menu completes the shop's gigantic list of amenities.

"For the holidays," Terri Trausch said, "we are taking orders for custom picnic baskets and meat and cheese trays to go."

Orders may be placed at 417-858-6855.

The Root Cellar is located at 23608 State Hwy. 39, Shell Knob. More information can be found on their Facebook page.



Above right, the Root Cellar (left) occupies floor space once used by Totally Home (right). Above left, homemade jams and muffins made with locally-grown fruits are a hit with patrons at the Root Cellar.



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