

# Virus surges, hospitals inundated, health department closes



Above, healthcare workers at Cox South in Springfield, treat a patient in the COVID ICU ward. Photo by Kaitlyn McConnell, used with permission from CoxHealth.

**Sheila Harris**

In a media briefing Thursday, CoxHealth CEO Steve Edwards said the death of every COVID-19 patient since the development of a vaccine has been avoidable.

Since the appearance of the Delta variant in May, the COVID-ICU ward at CoxHealth in Springfield is again near overflowing, and the staff of physicians, nurses and respiratory therapists are battling to save lives.

On behalf of his staff, Edwards takes personally the anti-vaccination information being circulated.

“When the staff leaves the COVID-ICU ward and the hospital after physically and emotionally exhausting shifts to hear people opposing the vaccine, it’s like a spit in the eye,” Edwards said. “Kind of like what some Vietnam veterans faced upon their return home.”

“By one physician’s count,” he said, “at one point we had 15 physicians, nurses and therapists intensively treating just two patients. Staffing is at a premium, even when beds are available. Typically, we have one nurse responsible for the care of two to three patients, but now we’re looking at one nurse for one to two patients.”

According to Edwards, help is on the way in the form of traveling nurses and respiratory therapists, who will be arriving in weekly increments.

As of July 22, the CoxHealth system had 163 COVID inpatients, compared to only 14 in May. Of those patients, approximately two-thirds were from outside of Green County. Five of those patients were in Cox Monett.

**See COXHEALTH 6A**

# Cassville Fourth Grader to play in Cal Ripken World Series



Roper Wiseman (above), a Fourth Grade student at Cassville Intermediate School, is a member of an All-Star Babe Ruth team in Ozark that’s headed to the 10-Year-Old World Series in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida.

According to his grandmother, Christine Shepherd, nine-year-old Roper Wiseman, of Cassville, began playing baseball when he was five years old.

“He played on a Cassville team until last fall, when his parents let him try out for a league team in Ozark through Ballparks of America in Branson,” Shepherd said. “That’s when he really took off.”

In spite of the fact that he was just nine, Wiseman, the son of Josh and Kanisha Wiseman and Andrew and Cierra Parada, tried out for the 10U Central Ozark All Star Team out of Branson this spring, and was chosen to play.

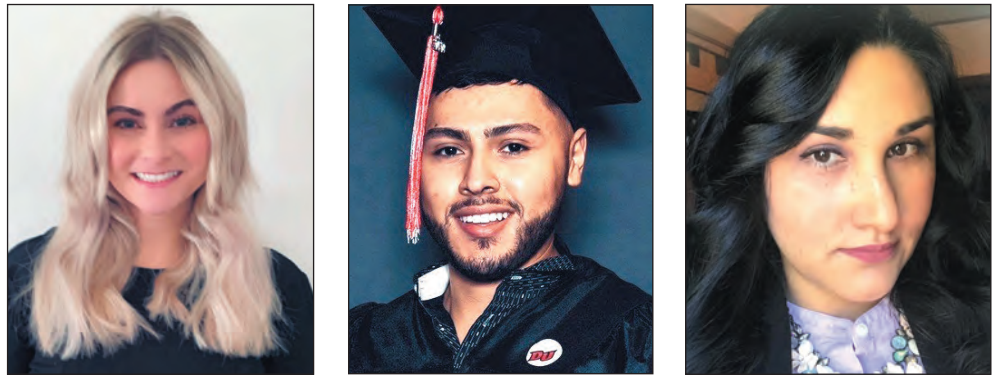
“He’s playing with boys who are one and two years older than him,” Shepherd said, “but he’s pulling his

See WISEMAN 16A



Nine-year-old Roper Wiseman (bottom left) is shown above with older teammates after their July 24 win at the Cal Ripken regional playoffs in Minot, North Dakota.

# College education opens doors



Sierra McCaffreyOsvaldo GarciaSonia Canales

**Ezra DeVore & Sheila Harris**

College is widely seen as a key to higher rungs on the income ladder, with local college options making that ladder easier to climb in their quest to uplift local citizens.

After high school, Sierra McCaffrey, of Monett, began attending OTC in Springfield for a degree in Psychology, but decided she would rather be involved in business. She graduated from OTC in 2009 with an Associates in Business Marketing, a degree analyzing business in the real world.

After completing her Associates, she began a career at Jack Henry, but felt a need to pursue further education. Because she lived in Monett and didn’t want to drive to Springfield to OTC while working a full-time job, McCaffrey enrolled in Drury and graduated in 2018 with a Bachelor’s Degree in Organizational Communication and Development.

“Jack Henry empowers employees,” McCaffrey said. “They’re very much in support of self-education; they want employees to grow and learn. And Drury wants their students to pass.”

McCaffrey spoke highly of Drury’s helpful and positive staff. She also advocated allowing yourself to go at your own pace.

“A lot of people try to be perfect right after high school,” McCaffrey said, “but you need to go at the pace you were meant to go at.”

Some students choose to keep tight connections with a college they’ve graduated from, as Osvaldo Garcia, of Purdy, did. After graduating from Drury in December 2020 with a Bachelors in

**See COLLEGE 9A**

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## CBCO issues emergency appeal for all blood types

Community Blood Center of the Ozarks (CBCO), the exclusive provider of blood for patients at 44 area health-care facilities, is announcing an emergency appeal for all blood types. Reserves are alarmingly low, with less than a one-day supply available. Eligible donors are asked to give immediately at a CBCO blood drive or donor center.

“We continue to see blood reserve levels ebb and flow, but the situation right now is dire,” CBCO Executive Director Anthony Roberts said. “Summer transfusion numbers are the highest we have seen in years, and when you combine that with lower than usual donation rates, it creates a very difficult situation. What we need right now is a dedicated donor response to give to our true local provider. Your friends and neighbors need your help right now.”

“It is always a challenge to find willing blood donors during the summer months, but the need for blood knows no season. It is vital for the health of our community to have a robust reserve. We are calling on all eligible donors to give this week if they are able.”

Area healthcare leaders are very supportive of the area’s exclusive provider of blood, platelets, and plasma. “Sometimes it is hard to know what one person can do to make a difference during the still on-

going pandemic. Give blood. You can make a difference that could help save lives,” says Steve Edwards, president and CEO of CoxHealth. “The ready availability of blood is vital to our ability to care for our loved ones. We are grateful for CBCO. They are a great partner, and their work is vital.”

“Summer is typically a time we see traumatic injuries, as people head outside to enjoy the Ozarks,” said Craig McCoy, president of Mercy Springfield Communities. “It could be your family member who suddenly needs a transfusion to save their life. We must have the blood supply on hand so we can react quickly. Now is a great time to spend just a few minutes serving your community by donating blood.”

People who have received a COVID-19 vaccination may donate blood with no waiting period. They must meet the basic eligibility requirements of being at least 16 years old, weighing at least 110 pounds and feeling well and healthy at the time of donation.

Donors can give at one of four CBCO donor centers located in Springfield, Joplin, Springdale, Ark., or Bentonville, Ark. There are also opportunities to give at mobile blood drives across the Ozarks. CBCO follows community protocols regarding COVID-19. To find a blood drive coming to your area or to make an appointment to give, go to [www.cbco.org/donate-blood/](http://www.cbco.org/donate-blood/).

On behalf of local hospital patients, CBCO thanks blood donors from across the region for giving life to your community.

## Governor announces vaccine incentive

During a press conference July 21, at the State Capitol, Governor Mike Parson announced the launch of a statewide COVID-19 vaccination incentive program, MO VIP, to encourage vaccination among all Missourians age 12 and up. Over the next three months, 900 Missourians who have or will choose to be vaccinated will win cash or education savings account prizes in the amount of \$10,000.

Missourians who have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine are now able to enter to win one of the 900 prizes. The first drawing will be on August 13; drawings will occur every two weeks with the final drawing scheduled for October 8. Once Missouri residents receive a dose, they become eligible to enter the sweepstakes at [MOStopsCovid.com/win](http://MOStopsCovid.com/win). Once entered, their entry will be carried over through all the drawings. There is no need to enter more than once. The entry list will be reviewed, and duplicate entries will be removed prior to each drawing.

**A winner must meet all of the following eligibility requirements:**

- Must be a living citizen of the United States and a permanent resident of the State of Missouri.
- Must be age 12 or older.
- Must have received at least the first COVID-19 vaccination if receiving the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or one dose if receiving the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, prior to the drawing date (records will be verified).

Those ineligible include the Governor and First Lady, individuals currently incarcerated on the basis of a felony conviction, statewide elected officials, members of the U.S. Congress and Missouri General Assembly, appointees of Governor Mike Parson, employees of the Office of Governor Mike Parson, the Office of the Treasurer Scott Fitzpatrick, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, the Missouri Lottery, and the Office of Administration (and members of ineligible individuals’ households).

**Entries will be divided into three categories:**

**Red:** Missourians age 18 and up receiving at least one dose of vaccine after July 21.

**White:** Missourians age 18 and up receiving at least one dose of vaccine before July 21.

**Blue:** Missourians ages 12 to 17 receiving at least one dose of vaccine at any time.

Eighty winners will be randomly selected during each drawing from the Red and White categories (10 from each congressional district). These individuals will each receive a cash prize of \$10,000. During each drawing, 20 adolescents from the Blue category will be randomly selected to receive a

\$10,000 education savings account through the Missouri State Treasurer’s MOST 529 program. This means every two weeks of the program, 180 Missourians will be winners for a total of 900 individuals. These preliminary winners will all have their vaccination status verified.

To allow time for records and eligibility to be verified, confirmed winners will be announced two weeks following each drawing. Entries will be accepted online until 11:59 p.m. two days prior to each drawing. Official rules, frequently asked questions, and a program timeline are available at [MOStopsCovid.com/win](http://MOStopsCovid.com/win).

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) is partnering with Missouri Lottery to conduct a fair and secure program with a randomized selection process. DHSS is using federally funded Coronavirus Relief Funds to fund this campaign. This funding was approved under previous and current federal administrations for broad COVID-19 response purposes to include efforts to

boost vaccine uptake.

Those without the ability to enter the sweepstakes online can get assistance by calling the COVID-19 hotline Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. at 877-435-8411.

Additionally, local public health agencies that administer COVID-19 vaccines will now be eligible to provide a financial incentive of up to \$25 for each vaccine recipient, up to a total of \$11 million. This program would provide incentives for administrators to pass along to recipients for 440,000 vaccines administered across Missouri and would sunset on December 31, 2021. Local public health agencies are able to partner with enrolled COVID-19 vaccinators within the State of Missouri to be part of this program. Vaccinators should apply by August 15 and can learn more about this opportunity at [MOStopsCovid.com/vaccinators](http://MOStopsCovid.com/vaccinators). This portion of incentives is being funded by CDC Immunizations grant funding.

Get the facts about COVID-19 vaccines and find a vaccine near you at [MOStopsCovid.com](http://MOStopsCovid.com).

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# Community Calendar

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

## Notice:

**Purdy's New Student Enrollment** will be held from August 10 to August 23. Enrollments will be conducted by appointment only. Please call Susan at (417)442-3216 ext. 1282. Evening appointments and Spanish translation services are available upon request.

**The Cassville Area Friends of the Library** will hold an Appreciation Reception for Ms. Verna Fry at the Cassville Library this Friday, July 30, afternoon from 2:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. The public is invited to drop in and reminisce about story times, children's activities, and other library good times with Ms. Fry.

**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.

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

**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.

**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](http://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.

**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 5:30 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.

**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.

**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.

**July 29**  
**Oakhill Cemetery Annual Meeting** will be held at 6 P.M. at The Family Life Center, Cassville.

**July 31**  
**The Emerald Beach Women's Club Annual Ice Cream Social** will be held at 7 P.M. at the Village Hall. Along with homemade ice cream, there will be a quilt raffle and door prizes. Masks are recommended and chairs and blankets can be brought for social distance seating. Containers will be furnished for those who wish to carry out ice cream and dessert.

**Aug 1**  
**The Veterans Taskforce of America, Inc.** will be meeting at the Angus Branch Steakhouse in Monett at 4 P.M. All honorably discharged men, women, war time or peacetime are welcomed.

**Aug 2 - Aug 6**  
**Rocky Railway VBS** is being hosted at Mission Baptist Church, 3 miles west of Washburn on Hwy. 90, each night from 6 P.M. to 8 P.M. Dinner will be provided each night from 5:30 P.M. to 6 P.M. Pre-registration will be at Mission on Sunday, August 1, from 6 P.M. to 7 P.M. or online at [missionbaptistchurch.net](http://missionbaptistchurch.net). Ages 3 years old to adult are welcome. A nursery will be provided. Parent's Day is Sunday, Aug. 8, at 10:45 A.M. There will also be an evening Pool Party. Call (417) 826-5232 for a ride between 8:30 A.M. and 3:30 P.M.

**Aug 7**  
**RockSprings Baptis Church** is hosting a VBS program from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. The church is located at 26243 Farm Road 1050, Seligman.

**Aug 9**  
**Southwest Volleyball Tryouts** begin Monday, August 9, 2021. Southwest High School girls interested in volleyball will have practice from 9 A.M. to noon Monday to Friday and 9 A.M. to 11 A.M. on Saturday. Players need an athletic physical and proof of insurance to participate. For answers to any questions, contact Coach Steve Voyak ([svoyak@swr5.net](mailto:svoyak@swr5.net)) or Coach Mandy Henry ([mandyhenry@swr5.net](mailto:mandyhenry@swr5.net)).

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Southwest, Purdy  
School Board Notes

Ezra DeVore

The Southwest Board of Education met July 15.

The Board accepted resignations of Lisa Peak and Elsha McNabb, paraprofessionals, as well as Rachel Meier, 2nd Grade teacher.

They approved the employment of Jennifer Carpenter as 2nd Grade Teacher, pending release from her position at Exeter School District. They also approved the employment of Ivy Flippo as a paraprofessional for the 2021-2022 school year.

A motion was passed to approve the Firm bid from Offen Petroleum for Unleaded and No. 2 Diesel. The following companies submitted bids for fuel for the 2021-2022 school year:

- Offen Petroleum: Firm: Unleaded - \$2.379 / #2 Diesel - \$2.329
- MFA Oil: Escalating: Unleaded - \$2.69 / # 2 Diesel - \$2.74

A motion was passed to approve the firm propane bid from Pinnacle Propane, LLC at \$1.27 cents per gallon for the 2021-2022 school year. The following companies submitted bids for Propane for the 2021-2022 school year:

- Offen Petroleum: Firm: \$1.419
- MFA Oil: Firm: \$1.30
- Westchase Powercorp, LLC Firm: \$1.36
- Pinnacle Propane, LLC Firm: \$1.27

A motion was passed to approve setting the tuition rate for the 2021-2022 school year at \$8,410.

**The Purdy Board of Education met July 19, 2021**

**Tuition Rate for 2021-2022 Academic Year**

A motion made by Levi Roden and seconded by Reuben Henderson to set the tuition rate for the 2021-2022 school year at \$2,000 per student, per semester.

**Verizon Wireless Single Phone Contract for Custodial Staff**

A motion was made by Ken Terry and seconded by Travis Brown to approve contracting with Verizon Wireless for a single phone to be used by the daytime custodian for school purposes.

**District Asphaltting and Concrete Updates/Upgrades**

A motion was made by Travis Brown and seconded by Mike

Bennett to authorize administration to request bids for parking lot and playground repairs and upgrades.

Dr. Graham briefed the Board of Education on the Emergency Connectivity Fund, which is a \$7.17 billion program funded by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to help schools and libraries support remote learning. The Program will provide funding to schools and libraries for the reasonable costs of eligible equipment and services that can be provided to students, teachers, and library patrons who lack connected devices, such as laptop or tablet computers, and/or lack broadband access during the pandemic. Schools, libraries, and consortia of schools and libraries that are eligible for support under the FCC's E-Rate program, are eligible to request and receive support through the Emergency Connectivity Fund Program. Dr. Graham will be involved in meetings to gain further information about the fund and its application process.

The Secondary Agricultural Education position is still vacant, and the district continues to accept applications. Interested parties can apply online, via the website: [www.purdyk12.com](http://www.purdyk12.com), using the "Become an Eagle" tab.

CoxHealth  
adds  
Support RN  
positions

In an effort to help with the growing need for nurses, CoxHealth has added a new nursing position: Support RNs, who will assist floor nurses in managing the care of medical and surgical patients.

"These positions are good for any RNs, but may be perfect for someone who is retired and looking for a way to give back to the community," says Celeste Cramer, system director of Recruitment and Retention at CoxHealth. "We are looking for people who want to come in and make a difference, particularly during this time, but on a flexible schedule."

Support RNs assist other nurses with assessing patient conditions, administering medications, changing dressings, monitoring vital signs, keeping records and providing patients and families with support and education

Positions are available at all of CoxHealth's hospital campuses in Springfield, Branson, Monett and Lamar.

For more information or to apply for this position, go to: [https://careers-cox-health.hctsportals.com/jobs/935661-support-rn-care?fbclid=IwAR0EeUPjL\\_lrxfmrlUzA1Qg0d9s1JT-t2rZZF6uwofblum6pnJlZw-faq6-E](https://careers-cox-health.hctsportals.com/jobs/935661-support-rn-care?fbclid=IwAR0EeUPjL_lrxfmrlUzA1Qg0d9s1JT-t2rZZF6uwofblum6pnJlZw-faq6-E)

New student enrollment dates announced at Purdy

The Purdy R-II School District will hold its annual New Student Enrollment from August 10 to August 23. Enrollments will be conducted by appointment only. Please call Susan at (417)442-3216, extension 1282 to schedule an appointment. Evening appointments and Spanish translation services are available upon request. The enrollment process lasts approximately 30 minutes, depending on family size. Students to be enrolled must attend the appointment. Families must provide the following information: Proof of Residency (utility bill, rental agreement, etc.), student immunizations, student

birth certificate and name and phone number of previous school. Families should also bring court-issued custody documentation, if applicable. Please note that students will not be permitted to attend school until the enrollment process has been completed and records have been received from previous schools.

Families of students who were at Purdy at the end of the 2020-2021 school year and plan to attend in the 2021-2022 school year must complete online registration. A link to begin the process is found in the SIS Parent Portal, which may be accessed via the Parents tab on the dis-

trict website, [www.purdyk12.com](http://www.purdyk12.com). Families who have relocated and whose students will not be attending Purdy Schools this year should notify Susan at (417)442-3216, extension 1282.

Plans for the 2021 Purdy Schools Open House are being finalized and will be announced on the district's social media accounts. The Purdy R-II School District administration and staff eagerly anticipate welcoming our Eagles to the 2021-2022 school year on the first day, Tuesday, August 24th. The east entrance doors will open at 7:40 a.m.

Purdy resident named to KU Honor Roll

Hannah Reid, of Purdy, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, was named to the honor roll at University of Kansas for the Spring 2021 semester.

More than 6,500 undergraduate students at the University of Kansas earned honor roll distinction for the spring 2021 semester.

The honor roll comprises undergraduates who meet requirements in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences and in the schools of Architecture & Design, Business, Education & Human Sciences, Engineering, Health Professions, Journalism & Mass Communications, Music, Nursing, Pharmacy, Professional Studies and Social Welfare. Honor roll criteria vary among the university's academic units. Some

schools honor the top 10% of students enrolled, some establish a minimum grade-point average, and others raise the minimum GPA for each year students are in school. Students must complete a minimum number of credit hours to be considered for the honor roll.

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COXHEALTH from FRONT

Edwards expects the number of hospitalized COVID patients to rise from 163 to 230 by mid-August if the current trajectory continues.

Over the weekend, Cox-Health and Mercy reported a combined additional 27 deaths as a result of the virus. That number has since increased.

Edwards says the Delta Variant of the virus is responsible for the majority of the patients in the hospital now.

“This variant is five times more easily transferable, the onset of severe symptoms happens much more quickly, and it’s affecting younger people, too,” he said.

Of the COVID patients in the hospital who are seriously ill, Edwards says 99 percent of them have not been vaccinated. The low vaccination rate in southwest Missouri, he believes, is a key factor in the proliferation of the Delta variant.

Edwards says, yes, the hospital sees patients with so-called ‘break-through’

cases of COVID-pneumonia among those who are fully vaccinated (four as of July 22), but the severity of the symptoms seems to be reduced.

“Both the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines appear to be equally effective at preventing and reducing symptoms of the virus (at a rate of 95 - 97 percent), but the J & J’s effectiveness is coming in at only about 50 percent,” he said.

As the result of provision authorized by Governor Parson, ambulance strike teams arrived in the Springfield area from Arkansas Friday to assist local hospitals with patient transports to hospitals in other areas, when necessary.

“We’re getting word from other hospitals in the state that they won’t be able to handle any more transfers from us,” Edwards said.

Edwards is advising people to expect longer wait times in emergency rooms now, since they will be unable to trans-

fer as many patients to other hospitals as they once did.

“We expect to have to keep COVID patients in the ER and treat them there,” he said. “We are asking patients with other problems to consider going to urgent care facilities, rather than coming to the ER. Or, better yet, to schedule appointments with their doctors before health issues become an emergency.”

Above all, Edwards pleads with residents to get vaccinated.

**Health department temporarily closes**

The Barry County Health Department has temporarily closed due to cases of COVID-19 among its staff. They expect to reopen August 2. In the interim, they will remotely offer as many services as possible. For assistance, call 417-342-8565. If the Barry County Health Department cannot be reached, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services Response Center can be reached at 1-800-392-0272.

CoxHealth spokesperson Kaitlyn McConnell reported 161 COVID inpatients in the CoxHealth system Wednesday morning.

Cox has had 76 patients die with COVID so far in July.

McConnell said mobile morgue equipment was brought in over the weekend to have on hand in case it is needed.

Wednesday morning the Mercy Hospital systems reported 136 COVID inpatients in Mercy Springfield, three in Aurora, two in Cassville, nine in Lebabon and two in Mountain View.

Spokesperson Sonya Kullman reported that Mercy has had three additional COVID-related deaths in the last 24 hours, which brings the total number of deaths to 18 since Friday at Mercy.

Mercy President and COO Brent Hubbard said the ages of those who die is becoming younger.

“Of four recent deaths, two people were in their 30s and two were in their 40s,” he told KOLR 10 news.

Kullman reports the following age ranges for hospitalizations at Mercy: one child in the 0-10 age range, four in the 21-30 range, and eight in the 31-40 range.

Ninety-three percent of the people hospitalized are unvaccinated, Kullman says.

Dr. Lisa Roark, of Roark Family Health in Cassville, is advising residents to stay

home.

“If you absolutely have to go out,” she said, “wear a mask, even if you’re vaccinated. We are having breakthrough cases (vaccinated patients) which leads to exposure of unvaccinated patients. Delta is very, very contagious.”

Roark said her staff has been testing multiple COVID-positive patients since Monday, and the office phone has been ringing off the hook with calls from worried and sick residents.

“Monday, I held one of my favorite patient’s hands and discussed his wishes should he stop breathing from Covid pneumonia,” she said.

**July 28 COVID updates from Mercy, Cox and Roark Family Health**

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Health Department COVID-19 Update

Sheila Harris

The Barry County Health Department’s July 22 update reported 127 new cases of COVID-19 in the county within the previous six-day period. Ten of the patients were hospitalized The deaths of two males over the age of 60 with COVID-related complications were also reported for that period.

A July 28 update reports 85 new cases of COVID, with a positivity rate of 21.7 percent for the past week. No additional deaths were noted.

Surrounding counties have all seen a large uptick in COVID numbers, with all counties except McDonald reporting additional deaths.

Low vaccination rates, compared to the state and national average, are prevalent in counties where case numbers have surged. The percentage of U.S. residents vaccinated lies at 49.5 percent, and Missouri reports a percentage of 46.5 percent.

In southwest Missouri, health department statistics show a vaccination rate of 34.6 percent for Barry County residents, 29.8 percent for Lawrence County, 31.7 percent for Stone County, 22 percent for Newton County and 18.7 percent for McDonald County.

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# Neighbor Against Neighbor

Thoughts from The Editor



Sheila Harris

I confess I'm guilty of thinking too much. It's a habit that at times leads me to believe I'm the sole possessor of truth and, at other times, brings on depression. Currently, I'm depressed.

A visitor to the office reprimanded me for my bleak outlook on the day he stopped in, and, later, an anonymous reader phoned in and accused us of never publishing any "good news."

I thought of all the good news we've published over the last couple of months and was puzzled. Then the light came on. About two weeks before he called, I'd begun publishing updates on the new surge in COVID-19 cases affecting us. No, it's not good news, but I cannot remain silent.

As of right now, the only weapon we have against COVID's spread is a vaccine which is proving to be 95 - 97 percent effective in either preventing or alleviating symptoms of the virus.

Unfortunately, along with the vaccine, we have the naysayers, those who not only do not want to take the vaccine themselves, but seem intent on convincing others not to take it either. A religion wears many stripes, I've found, whether or not the

name of Jesus is used. Yes, as with any foreign substance that's injected into our bodies, there are risks involved. But the risks from the vaccine are infinitesimal when compared with the damage and death the virus is causing right here where we live. You may discount deaths and overflowing hospital wards, or actually scoff at them, as some people do, but when it's a member of your family struggling for their next breath, it takes on a different tenor. Or when you're a healthcare worker in the thick of the battle to save lives, every life becomes important.

While I'm not in a hurry to die, I'm prepared for death's inevitability. What I'm *unprepared* for, even at this late stage in life, are the deaths of my parents. Bleaker yet is the prospect of the possible death of my young granddaughter, who has a compromised airway.

My parents refuse to be vaccinated and that's their choice, even though I disagree with it. My granddaughter is too young to be. With COVID numbers again on the rise, yes, I'm depressed. I feel as though an out-of-control freight train is barreling toward my family.

I did the only concrete thing in my power to do in a situation in which I feel otherwise helpless: I took a COVID vaccination in April. Two, actually. I took them without even being bribed. I took them for those around me. If Jesus were here, it might even be what *He* would have done, since he advocated doing good for our neighbors as if we were doing it for *him*. I didn't feel particularly altruistic about the matter - in fact, I was nervous - but I can

only hope that one small step will protect this little smidgen of a girl who I've grown quite fond of.

Jesus, I notice, wasn't particularly impressed with the religious and political establishments of his day. He was more concerned for the sick and weak and powerless: those who needed healing.

My granddaughter needs some healing. My mental health needs some healing.

Many southwest Missouri residents have become subverted in their perspectives. We fly the banner of Jesus, but insist on defending our personal rights at the expense of our neighbors. We have vaccines available, something parents of yore might have jumped on to save the lives of their small children, but we're fearful for *ourselves*.

Some of our elected officials, too, could bear some close scrutiny. I'll be the first to admit I have a long ways to go to be Christ-like, but to see Senator Mike Moon use the name of Jesus to defend life in one breath, yet pit neighbor against neighbor to the prospective demise of life in the other, is downright disheartening. No, it's worse than that. It's hypocritical.

Mr. Moon, our 29th District Missouri senator, hosted a town hall meeting in Branson Monday night to encourage residents to stand on their personal rights while we're in the midst of a deadly pandemic, to agitate people about the idea of possible masking and vaccination mandates.

Nobody likes government mandates, myself included. True morality, unfortunately, cannot be legislated. If only it could be. Sadly, legislation sometimes becomes neces-

sary when people refuse to consider the welfare of their neighbors.

We wouldn't even be *discussing* possible mandates if each of us had been practicing the kind of love and concern for others that Jesus advocated.

Senator Moon, instead of using your office to create division among residents with inflammatory town hall meetings, I challenge you to put your time and office to better use. The pandemic presents an opportunity to lay the groundwork for community coalition, instead of division. We're all in this mess together. Many of us could die from this virus, no matter *who* we vote for. Deaths are not "meant to be," not when we have vaccines available.

I encourage you to nurture an attitude of compassion


## Disclaimer:

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and cohesiveness among citizens, instead of the discord you're promoting.

We are at war, in a very real sense. We're fighting against a tiny but powerful virus, not some supposed usurper of our rights. As an elected official, defense against the virus's invasion of our state should be part of your job description.

Such defense efforts might not reap votes, but you might discover a different kind of harvest, one far more rewarding - albeit a bit less applauded by your political affiliates.



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## Crowder, Drury-Go host event for students



Crowder College and Drury University collaborated on a Meet & Greet informational event for prospective students at the Cassville Crowder campus on July 20.

Dr. Larry Quinalty, above, cooked up hamburgers and hot dogs. Below, left to right, Kay Osbourne, Rhonda Schilly and Tranna Shaughnessy greeted students. Photos by Ezra DeVore.



## Cassville Primary students present science fair projects



Shown above, Mrs. Whitham's First Grade class created a project titled, "What Drinks Do To Our Teeth" for Cassville Primary School's science fair.



Shown above, Mrs. Rose's Second Grade class at Cassville Primary School created a project called "Sink or Float" for this year's science fair. See Third Grade, Page 9A.



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THIRD GRADE from 8A



Shown above, Mrs. Sarratt’s Third Grade class at Cassville Primary School created a project called “Constellations” for this year’s science fair.

COLLEGE from FRONT

Leadership, he still works for the university three nights a week as a night monitor, advisor, and tutor during the Spring and Fall semesters.

Before attending Drury, Garcia enrolled in Crowder College directly after graduating from Purdy High School in 2016 and began classes that fall. He graduated from Crowder in 2019 with an Associates in Business Administration. Garcia transferred to Drury thereafter with a strong focus on accounting. He swiftly saw, however, that accounting wasn’t for him. While taking a leadership class, his destination became solidified in his mind. Garcia now works for the Human Resources department at EFCO.

Garcia appreciates Drury’s encouragement of sociability. “I really feel they help you, even outside of school,” he said. “They offered me the monitor position, and helped me become more involved. At other schools I’ve been to,

I made fewer friends.”

Not all students follow an academic path so closely after high school, especially if they were born far from where they’re currently at.

Sonia Canales, of Cassville, immigrated to the United States in 2003 - at age 15 - from Zacatecas, Mexico. She spoke only Spanish.

In adulthood, after years spent working at George’s and IDF, Canales began to hear from her friends how supportive the staff at Drury was.

“I thought about all of the people in this area who can’t speak English, and I thought, ‘This is somewhere that I can make a change,’” she said. “I wanna fight for people.”

She expressed her desire to obtain her Bachelor’s Degree, and, in 2019, Canales began her pursuit of two of them: one in Leadership, the other in Human Resources.

“Before I started at Drury, I doubted myself a lot,” she said. “I thought I was go-

ing to be doomed to work on a production floor - that I wasn’t able to do more. But when I started Drury, it gave me a lot of confidence. When I felt stuck and wanted to give up, the teachers and staff wouldn’t let me. They encourage me and provided tools to keep going.”

Sonia said her college attendance inspired her siblings to go to college as well.

“My brother Edgar saw that I was making it, even with kids, a house, and work, and said, ‘If you can do it, I can do it,’ and he enrolled. Then, my sister followed along, then my younger brother; so now it’s four of us going to college, because I started,” she said.

Canales works twelve hour shifts at IDF in Monett, but her day is much longer. She wakes up at 4:20 a.m. each morning and works until 6:15 p.m., makes it to her classes at 7:10 p.m., then arrives home around 10 p.m. to do it all again the next day.

“On days I have class, I don’t see my kids,” Canales said.

Her hope to obtain a degree, though, is impervious to her rigorous schedule.

“I want to change the work environment I’ve been in my whole life,” she said. “I want to be able to dress nicely and get off work in time for parent-teacher conferences for my kids. I want to make a difference in people’s lives, not work a production line and just see people struggle.”

Sonia Canales will graduate from Drury in December of 2022.

Not all students end their academic career in early life, however. A particularly inspiring tale is that of Yvonne

Kerr. Kerr is 74 years old and is taking two summer classes at Crowder College in Cassville. A self-proclaimed “nontraditional student,” rightly so, Kerr earned a Bachelor’s in Elementary Education from Bolivar’s Southwest Baptist University in 1970 and a Master’s from Missouri State University in Springfield in 1979. With these degrees, Kerr taught elementary school for thirty years and retired in 2000.

“I am a life-long learner,” Kerr said, “and even taught myself to speak Spanish. However, I wanted to experience college in 2021, personally. The campus in Cassville helped me get enrolled, and I even had the opportunity to

sit in a math class. Very different from my last college algebra class in 1965. Every person I encountered on both [Crowder] campuses demonstrated an attitude of caring and wanting to help in any way needed.”

Whether you’re thinking of plunging into the pursuit of a degree, or just taking a few classes to further your education, both Crowder College and Drury University offer options which work well with busy schedules - because they’re close to home.

Enrollment can be initiated on their websites (Crowder or Drury), or by going to the campus itself for enrollment information. Fall classes begin in August.

# Area wrecks result in injuries

Ezra DeVore

According to a Missouri Highway Patrol report, at 10:40 p.m. on July 23, William Martin, 53, of Cassville, was driving an eastbound 2009 Chevrolet Suburban when he ran off the edge of MO 76 on a curve and overturned. Martin was not wearing a safety device, and was transported to Mercy Hospital in Cassville with serious injuries. The vehicle was totaled, and towed by Brice’s Towing of Cassville.

According to a Missouri Highway Patrol report, at 7:45 p.m. on July 26, Stephen May, 62, of Aurora, was driving an eastbound 2021 Nissan Frontier, when he ran off of MO 248, went down an embankment, and struck a tree. May was not wearing a safety device, and was transported to Cox Hospital in Monett with moderate injuries. The vehicle was totaled, and towed by Brice’s Towing of Cassville.

Read all about it in  
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Philippians 4:13



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**WILMA LAFERN THOMPSON**  
Wilma Lafern Thompson, age 85, of Rocky Comfort, passed away Wednesday, July 21, 2021, at Roaring River Health and Rehabilitation in Cassville.  
She was born August 11, 1935, in Rocky Comfort, the daughter of George Lee and Dorthy Jane (Clark) Horton. On March 26, 1954, in Michigan, she was united in marriage to Gerald Lee “Jerry” Thompson, who preceded her in death on May 26, 2017. Also preceding her in death were her parents; one daughter, Wanda Thompson; six brothers; and five sisters.  
Surviving are one son,

George Thompson and his wife, Sharon, of Cassville; three daughters, Brenda Thompson, of Cassville, Diane Elwin, of Springdale, Arkansas, and Beverly Gibbs and her husband, Jim, of West Green, Georgia; nine grandchildren; seventeen great-grandchildren; and twelve great-great-grandchildren.  
Wilma grew up and received her education in Rocky Comfort, graduating from Rocky Comfort High School in 1953. She resided for a few years in Michigan and in 1962 moved back to Rocky Comfort. In 1963, she and Jerry purchased the property where they lived the rest of their lives. Some of her favorite pastimes were fishing, quilting, embroidering and baking, especially Christmas cookies. Spending time with her family was very important to her. She was of the Baptist faith.  
Services were held Saturday, July 24, 2021, at Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church in Bethlehem under

OBITUARIES

direction of McQueen Funeral Home in Wheaton. Pastor Hap Anders conducted the services. Burial was at Union Cemetery in Stella.  
Contributions may be made to Body of Christ Outreach Ministries in memory of Wilma.  
*Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.*  
**MCQUEEN FUNERAL HOME**  
WHEATON, MO. 417-652-7268  
**KENNETH PAUL WILSON**  
Kenneth Paul Wilson, 78, of Aurora, passed away on the morning of July 22, 2021, on his property in Jenkins. He attended school at Fairview and then went on to graduate high school from Cassville. He chased his future wife of 54 years to Kansas City where they resided for a few years before returning and settling in Jenkins to start a successful dairy operation that he ran until he retired. Kenneth loved his family and enjoyed going to his grandkids school events and spending time in the garage with his boys. He had a passion for old cars that he passed on to his boys. In his early years, he had a hard time getting home from work without having to get into a race. He loved to play the guitar. He played most every Sunday in church. He was a great son, brother, dad, grandfather and servant of the Lord. He is rejoicing with his family in heaven now as we sit here saying goodbye.  
Survivors include his wife, Vivian; two sons, Michael Wilson, of Cassville, and Bryan Wilson, of Jenkins; two sisters, Louella Mooneyham and husband, Rex, of Aurora, and Rhonda Wilson, of Shell Knob; and four grandchildren, Cade, Brylee, Lucas and Emily Wilson.  
He was preceded in death by his parents, Horrel and Cupie, and his sister, Aleene Wilson.  
Funeral services were held Sunday, July 25, 2021, in the Faith Full Gospel Church under the care of Peterson Funeral Chapel. Burial followed in Clio Cemetery.



**JOHN TIMOTHY THOMPSON**  
John Timothy Thompson, age 54, of Cassville, passed away Monday, July 26, 2021, at Eureka Springs Hospital in Eureka Springs, Arkansas.  
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.*

Ann Contreras and Terri Lynn Cloyd; and two brothers, Bobby Glenn O’Quinn and Carl Marshall.  
Surviving are one son, Donald Jeff Rivers, of California; one brother, Ward O’Quinn, of Ash Grove; one sister, Virginia Weatherman and her husband, Tom, of Ava; seven grandchildren; thirteen great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and many nieces and nephews.  
Joyce moved with her family to California in 1944. In 1954, she graduated from Oxnard Union High School in Oxnard, California. Her children were born while she was living in California. She was employed by Litton Industries as a secretary where she worked for 38 years. In 2004, she moved from Canoga Park, California, to Golden. She was best known for her outstanding needlepoint, unique Brazilian embroidery and was a member of multiple quilting and sewing guilds. She was an avid gardener and reader and was much loved for her home baked cookies and lemon bars and gifting them to people she was thankful for. Many special people in her community have been on the receiving end of these baked goodies.  
A memorial service will be held at a later date. Cremation arrangements are under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.  
*Visit fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences.*

**MARY ROSANNA “ZANA” (BOONE) BOTZOW**  
Mary Rosanna “Zana” (Boone) Botzow, 75, of rural Monett, passed away Monday, July 26, 2021.  
Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 31, 2021, at the Waldensian Presbyterian Church. Visitation will be held from 6-8:00 p.m. on Friday at the funeral home and from 1-2:00 p.m. on Saturday at the church. Those in attendance are asked to wear a mask. Arrangements are under direction of Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.



**JOYCE ANN RIVERS**  
Joyce Ann Rivers, age 84, of Golden, passed away Wednesday, July 21, 2021, at her home.  
She was born in Everton, Arkansas, the daughter of Ona Howard and Bertha Mae (Marshall) O’Quinn, who preceded her in death. Also preceding her in death were one son, Dennis R. Rivers; two daughters, Sherra

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I would like to say thank you to everyone for the prayers, food, cards, phone calls and support for my 6 children and myself with the passing of my husband Gordon Litzsinger.  
Best wishes to you and your families.  
Sincerely,  
Pearl Litzsinger and Children

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## Bicentennial Edition Map

The Bicentennial Edition of the Official Missouri Highway Map celebrates 200 years of travel in the Show-Me State. You can pick up your free copy August 12- 22 at the Highway Gardens Expo Center at the Missouri State Fair in Sedalia or contact your local MoDOT district office.

“More than a million people have requested or picked up a printed Missouri highway map over the past two years,” said MoDOT Director of Transportation Planning, Eric Curtit. “We print 1.3 million maps every two years. While many travelers rely on their smartphones or other GPS systems to get around, a lot of people don’t have these options.”

Among other advantages, the paper map allows motorists to plan their route without having to worry about cellphone coverage or data drops, Curtit said.

The Bicentennial Edition souvenir map features a brief history of travel in Missouri, beginning before the state was ratified on August 10, 1821, through frontier days and into the state's modern era with 33,830 miles of state-maintained routes, 4,800 miles of railroad tracks, 1,380 miles of Interstate highways, 125 public-use airports and 15 public ports.

The map is also great for locating public-use airports, hospitals, colleges and universities, national forests, state parks and conservation areas.

If you can't make it to the fair, you can order a state map by calling 1-888-ASK-MODOT (275-6636) or request a map online at [modot.org/official-state-highway-map](http://modot.org/official-state-highway-map).

### Interesting facts about the map

There are more than 4,000 highway shields and 1,500 towns shown on the front of the current map. More than 60 separate features are shown in this new map.

Data sources for the map's many features include the Missouri Department of Transportation, several Missouri state departments and various other agencies, including: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the USGS National Map, Environmental Sciences Research Institute and the Missouri Spatial Data Information Service.



## Piano parties held



The older students of Mrs. Ruth Burnside are shown above, left to right, first row: Mallie Clifton, Zoe LaCaze, Heidi Sehrbrock, Andie LaCaze, and Kaleb Bergeron. Back row: Zeke Maples, Cole Bergeron, Elijah Maples, and Sherie Sehrbrock.

The older students of Mrs. Ruth Burnside enjoyed a piano party at their teacher's home in Purdy on June 5.

Winning the door prize was Elijah Maples, who guessed the musical term O (whole note).

A “double double” ensemble was played by Zeke Mables, Heidi Sehrbrock, Mallie Clifton, and Mrs. Burnside. There were two piano performances by Mallie Clifton and Heidi Sehrbrock.

Several games were played by the two teams - Sharps and Flats - after which refreshments were served.

The younger students of Mrs. Burnside met at the teacher's home in Purdy on May 22.

Several games were enjoyed by all. There were two piano performances played by Eden LaCaze and Kuper Eden.

Refreshments were served

to: Emily Maples, Quinn Bergeron, Jeramiah, Josiah and Jaxon Shafer, Eden LaCaze, Keenan Bergeron, and Kuper and Kroquet Eden.

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41-44c

## Five generations



*Shown above standing, left to right: mother Breanna Hammen and grandmother Julie Keeler. Seated: great-grandfather Dennis Prewitt and great-great-grandmother Dorothy Prewitt holding her great-great-grandson Sawyer Hammen.*

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The image shows the logo for McDowell Community Church. The church's name is written in a large, stylized, cursive font. Below it, the text "Non-Denominational Church" is written in a smaller, simple font. A decorative box contains the service times, which are listed in a table format. Below the box, the text "Everybody Welcome!" is written in a bold, serif font. At the bottom, a large, bold, serif font quote reads: "Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him. James 1:12". The page number "43c" is in the bottom right corner.

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# USDA Announces Pandemic Assistance for Timber Harvesters and Haulers

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is providing up to \$200 million to provide relief to timber harvesting and timber hauling businesses that have experienced losses due to COVID-19 as part of USDA's

Pandemic Assistance for Producers initiative. Loggers and truckers can apply for assistance through USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) July 22 through Oct. 15, 2021. The Pandemic Assistance for Timber Harvest-

ers and Haulers program (PATHH) is administered by FSA in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, authorized this critical assistance for the timber industry. Timber harvesting and hauling businesses that have experienced a gross revenue loss of at least 10% during the period of Jan. 1 and Dec. 1, 2020, compared to the period of Jan. 1 and Dec. 1, 2019, are encouraged to apply.

"USDA's Pandemic Assistance for Producers initiative promised to get financial assistance to a broader set of producers and today's announcement delivers on that promise," said Secretary Vilsack. "On top of the existing challenges associated with

natural disasters and trade, the pandemic caused a major disruption for loggers and timber haulers including lack of access to wood processing mills. This industry plays a critical role in our nation's economy and we are proud to support these hard-working loggers and truckers as they get back on track."

"Like many facets of the agriculture industry, the logging industry has experienced its share of financial hardships throughout the pandemic," said FSA Administrator Zach Ducheneaux. "We're happy to work with the U.S. Forest Service to develop this new program to provide critically needed support"

"We've heard from loggers and truckers whose liveli-

hoods were significantly impacted this past year by the COVID-19 pandemic, and we are pleased that USDA can help alleviate some of the financial burden," said Forest Service Chief Vicki Christiansen. "I encourage those logging and log-hauling businesses hardest hit by the pandemic to learn more about the assistance offered through this new program."

## Program Details

To be eligible for payments, individuals or legal entities must be a timber harvesting or timber hauling business where 50% or more of its gross revenue is derived from one or more of the following:

- Cutting timber.
- Transporting timber.
- Processing of wood on-site on the forest land (chipping, grinding, converting to biochar, cutting to smaller lengths, etc.).

Payments will be based on the applicant's gross revenue received from Jan. 1, 2019, through Dec. 1, 2019, minus gross revenue received from Jan. 1, 2020, through Dec. 1, 2020, multiplied by 80%. FSA will issue an initial payment equal to the lesser of the cal-

culated payment amount or \$2,000 as applications are approved. A second payment will be made after the sign-up period has ended based upon remaining PATHH funds.

The maximum amount that a person or legal entity may receive directly is \$125,000.

## Applying for Assistance

Loggers and truckers can apply for PATHH beginning on July 22 by completing form FSA-1118, Pandemic Assistance for Timber Harvesters and Haulers Program application, and certifying to their gross revenue for 2019 and 2020 on the application. Additional documentation may be required. Visit farmers.gov/pathh for more information on how to apply.

Applications can be submitted to the FSA office at any USDA Service Center nationwide by mail, fax, hand delivery, or via electronic means. To find a local FSA office, loggers and truckers can visit farmers.gov/service-locator. They can also call 877-508-8364 to speak directly with a USDA employee ready to offer assistance.

As USDA looks to long-term solutions to build back a better food system, the Department is committed to delivering financial assistance to farmers, ranchers, and agricultural producers and businesses who have been impacted by COVID-19 market disruptions. Since USDA rolled out the Pandemic Assistance for Producers initiative in March, the Department has announced over \$7 billion in assistance to producers and agriculture entities. For more details, please visit [www.farmers.gov/pandemic-assistance](http://www.farmers.gov/pandemic-assistance).

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. In the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov).



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Divisive propaganda exposed

For the People

by Elaine Phaneuf

On July 26, State Sen. Mike Moon. R-Ash Grove, co-hosted a Branson town hall event to push conservative talking points, including demand for the government to ban the teaching of Critical Race Theory (CRT) in schools. Dr. Mary Byrne, a national speaker known for denouncing CRT as Marxist and racist is currently presenting “Critical Race Theory Exposed” at several Southwest Missouri venues. Byrne was slated as the expert speaker on CRT at Sen. Moon’s town hall event. There was no expert present to rebut Byrne’s deliberate - strawman - misrepresentation of CRT as something dark and dangerous. I say ‘deliberate’ on the assumption Byrne is familiar with CRT - an academic analysis of racism’s role in shaping public policy. One

example is the lending policy known as redlining. Starting with the New Deal of the 1930’s, banks would not issue home loans in black neighborhoods marked on the maps - as poor lending risk - with red lines. The result of redlining and other legal racially discriminatory housing policies is a disproportionate gap in home ownership- and the generational wealth that goes with it - between whites and blacks. Racist housing policies went on unchecked until The Fair Housing Act of 1968. An article promoting Dr. Byrne posted on concerned-women.org titled “Critical Race Theory Exposed Events in Missouri”, by Bev Ehlen, July 2, 2021, describes Dr. Byrne’s CRT presentation as “...an important educational presentation...” “Find out what Critical Race Theory is, why it’s very concerning for

our public schools and what you can do to protect the children in your community.” Byrne’s CRT events are further promoted by claiming - by some impossible feat of logical gymnastics - that CRT is “...ground in Karl Marx’s writing instructing followers about how to start revolution in a nation.” Sen. Moon’s July 20 press release to promote the July 26 event featuring Dr. Byrne states, “This is an important time in the history of our state, and now more than ever, we need citizens to be active in the legislative process. Ultimately, an informed electorate is the strongest safeguard of our freedom.” Any claim that Dr. Byrne’s exposé of Critical Race Theory is educational or informative must be taken with a huge chunk of salt. Without an expert to denounce her divisive propaganda, that’s all her presentation is, propaganda. And, what is this “free-

dom” Sen. Moon is claiming to protect? It’s certainly not the freedom of public school teachers to teach facts about race in American history. We cannot have the government censor history. We need to teach students to think, present the facts and encourage the students to draw conclusions based on those facts.

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

Letter to The Editor

Dear Editor,  
I would like all Barry County residents to get the vaccine that is available! We are in a war with this unseen monster! I realize that there are a number of you who are hesitant to get the vaccine, but the truth is, it is very effective to keep you from getting sick. I think about my father, who enlisted to go fight the Nazis and the Japanese. After Pearl Harbor, tens of thousands men and women vol-

unteered to fight for democracy! We are in a war with this pandemic! We all need to do our patriotic duty as an American. The future of this country and the democracies of the free world are at stake. Please do your part to save your friends, family and maybe me! The vaccine is not 100 percent effective, but it is the only thing we’ve got! GET THE VAX!  
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• If you use a ladder, tie it off to a secure location. Never go anywhere near a power line with a ladder, especially a metal one.

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words	price
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etc.  
Policies-Ads must be printed or typed. Check ad first appearance. Refunds only if Advertiser error. One week refund or correction will be provided. Must occur within first week. The Advertiser is not responsible for mistakes on handwritten ads. We reserve the right to classify ads when no classification is given. The Advertiser is located one block north of the Post Office in Cassville at 904 West Street.  
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GARAGE SALE

**MOVING SALE**  
*Fri.-Sat., July 30-31, 8-5*  
**125 Glenwood Circle**  
*Cassville*  
Harley Davidson items, furniture, kitchen items, etc. Must Sell!

**HUGE 7 FAMILY GARAGE SALE**  
**Inside • Rain or Shine**  
**July 30 • 7:30 to ?**  
**July 31 • 7:30 to 2**  
Fishing - hunting & ammo items, good kids' clothing for new school year (boys & girls), adult clothing, books, new mattress, dishes, lots of Christmas items, toys, crafts of all kinds, woodworking tools, BBQ grills. Lots of misc.  
**Redshaw Farm**  
**8244 Farm Road 2062**  
**Purdy, MO**

**EVERYTHING MUST GO!!**  
**3731 FR 2190, Exeter**  
Lots of household items  
Some of everything  
**Sundays Aug. 1st & 8th**  
**417-671-0446**

**HUGE YARD SALE**  
**Friday 30th, 7-??**  
**Sat. 31st, 7-??**  
**19466 St. Hwy. 112**  
**Cassville**  
men's camo, women's & girls' clothes (school's coming), furniture, antiques, men's stuff, Harlequin books, western books, lots of misc., bar stools, windows.  
**Too much to mention**

**ReStore**  
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GARAGE SALE

**MOVING SALE!**  
**Whitley**  
**19519 Farm Road 1110**  
**Cassville**  
**Saturday, July 31st**  
**8 am - ???**  
**Everything must go!**  
**Large Yard Sale!**  
table/chairs, sofa, lamps, men's/women's clothing, baby/toddler clothing, toys, kitchenware, home décor, so much more!  
**(No early sales)**

NOTICE

**PURDY R-II SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Surplus Property Posting  
The Purdy R-II School District is surplussing the following personal property:  
White Van  
• Year: 1990  
• Make: Ford  
• Model: E250  
• VIN#: 1FTNS24L3XHA65744  
Sealed bids will be accepted through Friday, August 13, 2021 and presented to the Purdy R-II Board of Education on Monday, August 16, 2021. Highest bidder will be notified the following day. Surplus Property Bid Forms can be downloaded from the district website at [www.purdyk12.com](http://www.purdyk12.com)  
  
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Kennel near Exeter is looking for Part-time worker  
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**School District**  
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**HELP NEEDED**  
**Laborer**  
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Good drivers license a plus. Work around table Rock Lake  
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7am start time  
No weekends  
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*leave message if office is closed*

**HELP WANTED**  
*The Riverview Restaurant is taking applications for*  
**Chefs and Servers**  
men or women  
call 417-846-5935  
to book an appointment for interview  
must bring a resume and references

**HELP WANTED**  
**Drywall Finisher and Laborer**  
Must have own transportation  
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**ROARING RIVER**  
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812 Old Exeter Road  
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**417-847-2184**  
*WE NEED TO HIRE MORE CARING STAFF*  
*CURRENTLY WE NEED QUALITY:*  
**Night Nurse RN/LPN**  
full time  
**CNAs all shifts**  
**CMT**

**FIND IT**  
*in the newspaper*

**ROARING RIVER CONCESSIONS**  
We are looking for a few good people to fill positions as Cooks and Servers for the Roaring River Restaurant  
All applicants must be smoke/drug free, neat, clean, honest, courteous, and have the ability to work well as a team. We are like a family down at the river and are looking for like minded people to join us  
*Apply in person*  
**at the Emory Melton Inn & Conference Center**  
**Roaring River State Park**

**HELP WANTED**  
**Barry Electric Cooperative**  
*is seeking an*  
**IT/GIS Technician**  
with a bachelor's degree in Information Technology or 5 years experience in related fields of practice. Responsibilities include day to day operations, maintenance, and support of: device hardware, software, fiber GIS, electric GIS, printing maps, data checking, easement record keeping, and BEC office support.  
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Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.  
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REAL ESTATE

**REAL ESTATE AUCTION**  
**Table Rock Lake Front, Walk Down**  
  
**Friday, July 30th 2021 1 PM**  
Location: Shell Knob, MO. From the Plaza, go south on Hwy. 39 3/10 mile. Go left on Hwy.YY 1/2 mile, then go left on YY 15 Road. Go 1.3 miles to auction.  
**See Auction Section for more details**  
**[www.stumpffauction.com](http://www.stumpffauction.com)**  
**Cassville, MO 417-847-2507**  
  
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It was another grand week on Roaring River. I'm going to sound like a broken record, but beetles, ants, grasshoppers and stimulators have all been working very well.

There is still a nice Trico hatch each morning, BWOs and Caddis every day, as well as a few Sulphurs in the evenings.

CFS is 54 Sunday morning, and I don't think we are expecting any big rains in the near future. Water is very clear and I think switching to a good quality 2 lb mono filament or fluorocarbon line will help a lot.

The water is perfect for dry fly fishing and sight fishing small nymphs and micro type jigs if you are spin fishing. Glo-balls worked pretty well all week; orange and yellow/red spot were good colors.

San Juan worms in red, orange and brown were good all week. I recommend 7X leaders right now for all my dry fly fishing. I'm still getting away with 6X on nymphs, thread jigs, woolly buggers, and soft hackles.

The best nymphs this week were pheasant tails, sow bugs, copper johns, black, brown, or olive zebra midges. 9' leaders are what I have been using, but, when fishing dry flies, we will sometimes throw a 12' leader. I'm still catching a good number of trout on olive woolly buggers and on soft hackles.

Sight fishing with a marabou jig is very popular right now and very effective. We are using 1/100-1/16 jigs right now. The bigger jigs are popular in zone 2, because they are a bit wider and the heavier which gets to the other side a bit easier and gets deeper quicker. All the big trout are really deep.

There are good colors of marabou jigs right now. White, black/yellow, olive green, brown, and tan jigs are working the best. Small jigs fished under a cork are very effective right now.

There is good crankbait fishing early in the morning, small wee craws, and small Rapala minnow type lures have been working pretty well. In line spinners like rooster tails, mepps, panther martins really work well in the mornings. We call spinners 30 minute wonders. Dark colors have been pretty good, but I hear good things on the very bright pink and orange spinners. Plastic worms have been good all week. You will need a 2 lb line now and that will help you catch more trout.

Orange worm, pink worms, mint green, and cheese yellow worms seemed to work best this week. Plastic eggs in orange, white, pink, and the natural plastic eggs did best for most of this week. I'm still catching the odd trout on spoons; they work a bit better early. Fishing in the water that is flowing pretty well, you can get a few on a spoon all day long. Good luck this week.



# Farmers' Market Becomes Saturday Go-To Place on Square



From two to three regular vendors for the past two years, to this season's 17 at last count, the weekly Garden Sass Farmers' Market has become a Saturday morning destination for area residents, tourists and vendors alike.

The farmers' market is open from 8 a.m. until noon every Saturday. Not only can a person score fresh veggies, fruits, crafts, baked goods, honey and lavender products, the camaraderie among vendors and customers makes one appreciate the benefits of community. In other words, it will provide a great start to your weekend.

weight."

His team won the 10U State Cal Ripken Tournament in Boonville, then advanced to the 10U Regional Cal Ripken Tournament in Minot, North Dakota, where they again won.

The team will now advance to the Cal Ripken 10U World Series in Palm Beach Gardens, FL, in August, where the team will compete for the 10U Cal Ripken World Series title representing the Mid-west Plains Regional Division of Cal Ripken.

Wiseman will be a Fourth Grader at Cassville Intermediate School when classes resume.



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Monday, August 2, 2021 • 10:00 AM

LOCATION: Shell Knob, MO. From the Shell Knob Plaza, go south on Hwy. 39 approx. 5.4 miles. Turn right on Big Rock Rd. (Viola Marina Rd). Go 3/10 mile and turn right on FR 1266. Follow road 3/10 mile to auction. (24928 FR 1266).

BACKHOE – ZERO TURN MOWER – TRACTOR – TRAILER – TORO PARTS MOWER – IMPLEMENTS – TOOLS – KAYAKS – HOUSEHOLD – MISC



**Tractor:** Ford 2000 tractor – **Backhoe:** Old Ford Backhoe 4600 hrs. (needs hydraulic hose) – **Mowers:** Husqvarna MZ 5225 zero turn mower w/25 hp Kohler engine - (2) old Toro ground master mowers (don't run) – (2) push mowers. **Trailer:** 16' tandem axle flatbed trailer – old pickup bed trailer. **Implements:** 3 pt. 5' King Kutter brush hog – old sickle mower – old 3 pt. disc – old 3 pt. digger – 3 pt. blade – old 5' brush hog – John Deere rear tine tiller. **Tools:** Campbell Hausfeld 6.5 hp 60 gal upright air compressor – torch set on wheel cart – Homak roll around tool chest – Craftsman bench grinder on stand – large vice – misc log chains – Ridgid shop vac – 12 volt sprayer – misc sprayers & back pack sprayers – Craftsman compound miter saw – B & D workmate – 4" & 6" belt and disc sander – sm table top table saw – alum 8' step ladder – alum ext ladder – table top drill press – misc sm power tools – misc long handle tools – Poulan, Homelite & Redmax chain saws – come a long – gas cans – misc nuts, bolts, screws, etc – yard seeders – misc sm hand tools such as wrenches, pliers, sockets, ratchets, hammers, screwdriver, drill bits, etc – car ramps – sand blaster – misc plumbing fittings – battery chargers – hose reel – garden hose – more tools not listed. **Kayaks:** (1) Dagger Kayak – (2) Blast Kayaks. **Household:** Misc kitchenware such as pots & pans, dishes, cups, glasses, silverware, knife set, etc – sm entertainment center – stereo equipment, Fisher & Tech, Fisher speakers, dual cassette, turn table, etc – misc end tables – misc lamps – dining table & 6 chairs – 4 drawer metal file cabinet – misc chest of drawers & dressers – sm roll top desk – computer desk – misc paintings & wall hangings – misc decanters – more household items not listed. Sure to be surprises as we unpack many boxes and get ready for the auction. **Misc:** Craftsman yard wagon & misc garden and yard wagons – misc old lumber stored inside 2x & 1x – Brinkman smoker – BBQ's – dock bumpers – fish net – misc elect wire – coolers – ping pong table – shop lights – yard edging – Kentucky 31 fescue seed – misc yard chemicals, etc – many more items not listed. **Note:** Sure to be surprises as we unpack many boxes that have been stored in the barn for years. So, bring a friend or two, truck & trailer and come join in on the fun. Good parking, porta pot and catering on site. See you on Monday Aug 2nd at 10 AM. **Terms:** Cash or good check with 2 forms of current ID. Must have current drivers license to obtain bidder number. All terms on bidder card apply. If paying by check on large items, items will be held until check clears the bank. All sells as is where is. Any announcements made day of auction supersede any and all printed material.

Estate of James Campbell

Donnie Stumpff

MO & AR State Champion Auctioneer

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Hwy. 37 at Farm Road 2160, Cassville (by the airport)

ESTATE FARM & TOOL AUCTION

SATURDAY, JULY 31, 2021 • 8:00 A.M.

LOCATION: 20338 Farm Road 2012, Aurora, MO. From Jct. of U.S. Hwy. 60 & 39 at Aurora, go south on Hwy. 39 2 1/2 miles to Farm Road 2010, then 1 mile east, then 1/4 mile south on Farm Road 1200 to Farm Road 2012, then east to sale.

Breakfast, Lunch & Restrooms Available • Reason for Sale: settle estate

Parking in field Most of sale held under cover in case of rain

TRACTORS • MACHINERY • MOWERS • WOODWORKING TOOLS 1970 Case 970, according to serial number, diesel 8/2 speed trans., tractor is in process of being repainted • 1984? John Deere 2150 diesel tractor with John Deere loader 8/4 speed trans., good tires, looks and runs good • Howse 10 ft. Brush Hog with chains across front, nice • 6 ft. 3 pt. John Deere brush hog • 500 gal. propane tank with 20% • 100 lb. propane bottle • portable building, 10 ft. x 19 ft., with 8 ft. shed on side • 2 wheel trailer, 5 ft. x 14 ft. with fold up ramp, bumper pull • Slag Tiger Cub zero turn mower, industrial with 26 hp engine and 46" cut(?) • Snapper 8 hp, 30" cut, 5 speed riding mower • John Deere 2006 Gator with only 2071 hrs. • 3 weed eaters • pole saw • scrap iron & pipe • lawn and garden tools • 2 fiberglass ladders • tractor grass seeder • 2 Kobalt 40v leaf blowers and pole saw • 12 ton hydraulic metal press • 4 antique metal lawn chairs and glider • 200 amp battery starter & charger • 2 floor jacks • Allied parts washer • hand operated pallet jack • 5550 watt generator with Briggs engine • set of 3/4" sockets in metal box • Pro Tec 6" bench grinder on stand • acetylene torch & bottles on 2 wheel cart • Lincoln electric welder, PAK 100 • lots of air tools & air hose • Kobalt 60 gallon tank with 220 volt motor, air compressor • metal power hack saw on stand • large Blackhawk roll around tool box full of hand & mechanic tools • Grizzly 8" x 75" jointer • Grizzly 3 hp shaper • Grizzly 10" table saw, G1023S with table extension • Grizzly GO 555 14" band saw on stand • Porter Cable production pocket cutter • delta plate jointer • Grizzly 1 1/2 hp shaper on wheels • delta bench sander • Craftsman contractor series 6" belt & disc sander • Grizzly GO 538 spindle sander • 2 drill presses on stands • drill press adjustable vise • Craftsman transit level and stand, complete • ash, cherry, walnut, plywood & other lumber • nice pellet stove & pallet of new pellets • American classic gun safe • large collection of old license plates **FURNITURE • AMMO & RELOADING STATION COLLECTIBLES** 2 recliners • antique pie safe • 6 white rocking chairs • dining room chairs • Coca Cola bench & chair • nice oak cedar lined chest • twin bed complete • 3 large book cases and some small ones • antique wooden desk • 3 nice old handmade quilts • lots of chicken dishes & hen & rooster figurines • large lot of Coca Cola signs, & other memorabilia • concrete lawn ornaments • lots of other household items as they prepare to move • large lot of ammo including 22 cal., 17 cal., 22 Harvest, 222, 38 special, 9 mm, 357 mag. and some others • complete reloading station with large list of dies, powder scales, books, Acc. trimmer, bullets, brass and other accessories, real nice unit • BB gun - wild hog head mount • fish mount • large toy train set up on a table, 6 ft x 10 ft with at least 4 different trains & track with all kinds of accessories, real nice set up and most every item has the box it came in • large lot of new railroad cars & engines new in boxes • extra large lot of railroad memorabilia of all kinds, pictures, signs, ticket punch cards, lots of Frisco items, railroad milk bottles • railroad picture framed and signed by Charles Sumney and lots of other RR pictures • antique work case that makes a writing table for conductor full of material to operate • 9 framed holders of arrowheads and several unboxed, real nice lot, a lot found along Old Wire Road • large lot of Civil War items including: Confederate 36 cal. pistol; Griswold sword with scabbard used by Joseph O. Shelby, cannon ball; telegraph wire; Confederate money; books and other items • book on Old Wire Road • lots of other items, not listed. Note: Mr. Burl Baum was a cabinet & furniture builder with a large shop full of good tools. He was also a collector of train and Civil War memorabilia. Real nice clean auction. To see complete list go to web page. **SALE PROCEDURE:** Sale starts with house items, furniture, small tools & shop supplies with tractors and Big items at noon, then Collectibles. **TERMS: CASH or GOOD CHECK • Not Responsible for Loss or Accidents • Positive Picture I.D. Required • Statements Sale Day Take Precedence Over Printed Material**

Estate of Burl Baum • Dianne Baum, owner

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