

Community mourns loss of business owner to COVID-19



Michael LeCompte
Sheila Harris
Michael LeCompte, beloved friend, husband, father, soon-to-be grandfather and owner of Michael's Hardware in Cassville, leaves an entire town to mourn his abrupt passing on November 4,

2020, after a short bout with COVID-19.
Cassville attorney and good friend of LeCompte's, David Cole, says LeCompte was a perfect fit for the retail business.
"He was always smiling and laughing and made everyone he met feel like his best friend," he said. "When a person was around Michael, they couldn't be in a bad mood. He's really going to be missed."
Jon Horner, President of Security National Bank in Cassville, bills himself as LeCompte's best friend, a fact commonly acknowledged by people in Cassville.
"We had lunch every Friday, except for the couple of times I begged off recently because I felt like I might be coming down with something," Horner said. "Michael and I joked that we didn't want to have lunch and leave with a bad case of the Covid."
Although the two men spoke lightly of it, they took COVID-19 and its inherent risks seriously, according to Horner.
Friday, October 30, it was LeCompte's turn to cancel their lunch date.
"He had a little headache and sinus pressure, he told

me," Horner said. "To be on the safe side, he thought he should stay away from me."
Horner never saw LeCompte again. On Monday, November 2, a COVID-19 test came back positive. On November 4, LeCompte died after being airlifted to a northwest Arkansas hospital. He had turned 56 the previous day.
"Michael and I had been best friends for as long as I can remember," Horner said. "We were babies together in the nursery at United Methodist Church in Cassville and grew up and got into trouble



Above, left to right, Jon Horner, Michael LeCompte and Dr. Richard Asbill are geared up for some Razorback tailgating.

See LeCOMPTE 3A

Cassville veteran recounts experiences in the Pacific



Eighteen-year-old Robert Ryder, of Pioneer, entered active service in April 1944.

Sheila Harris
"I bet you've never seen anything like this," said 96-year-old Robert Ryder, of Cassville.
As he unsheathed the Japanese Samurai sword he held in his hands, its burnished blade glinted in the sun cast by the overhead skylight. I agreed that I'd never seen one before.
Nor had I seen - not in person, at least - a Japanese flag, two of which were displayed in a cabinet in his home.
Ryder, one of perhaps only a handful of living WWII veterans remaining in Barry County, was happy to share a few stories with me.
"One of the Japanese flags," he said, as he pointed toward the cabinet, "I bought it for \$6 from a disgraced Japanese kamikaze pilot, who was unable to follow through with his mission."
Ryder opted not to tell me how he had procured the sword.
Born in Pioneer, Ryder was a 1942 graduate of Wheaton High School. After graduation, he accepted a job with Elkins Butane Gas Company, where he gained the experience to qualify as a combat engineer when he joined the military in 1944, after first

accepting a deferment for which he was eligible because his job was considered essential.
"I let the deferment expire," Ryder said. "Some of the guys were giving me a hard time, and I decided it was time for me to join the draft like others were doing."
"I was inducted into the service in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1944," Ryder said.
After shipping out, his first stop was in New Guinea, where his troop spent a few months mostly just waiting to ship out again, according to Ryder.
"In 1945," he said, "I sailed into Lingayen Gulf in the Phillipines and became part of the 556th Heavy Poton



Robert Ryder, of Cassville, displays a samurai sword, a reminder of his time spent in Japan during World War II.

See VETERAN 6A

Four more residents die from COVID-19

Sheila Harris
On Tuesday, November 10, the Barry County Health Department and Office of Emergency Management announced the death of four more Barry County residents due to complications of COVID-19.
One of the deaths was that of a Cassville business owner who lived at home with his family and had no significant underlying health conditions.
According to health department director, Roger Brock, the other three patients who died were residents of Roaring River Health & Rehab, a residential care facility in Cassville. The 68-year-old female, the 52-year-old male and the



Mercy's Life Line helicopter lands at Mercy Cassville Friday, November 6.
80-year-old female all had known underlying health conditions.
The residential care facility has been struggling with an outbreak of COVID-19 among residents and staff for the past few weeks. A Cassville resident, 90-year-old Monna Kelner, is concerned.
"Right now, I live at home independently," Kelner said, "but I have health issues, and I know that at some point in time, I'll need to move to a nursing home. It's not right when people move to a facility, expecting to be taken care of, but face bigger problems when they get there."
Kelner said she is not just concerned for herself, but

See COVID-19 5A

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See LeCOMPTE from FRONT



Above, 1980-81 sophomore class officers at Cassville High School are shown, left to right: Michael LeCompte, Jeff Nickols, Mark Auernheimer, Andy McCaslin, and Tom Lowder. Photo courtesy of Barry County Museum.

there, too.

“Michael was the funniest guy I knew,” Horner continued. “We liked to sneak snacks into church when we were kids, just to see what kind of reaction we’d get from the adults. One time, we took corn nuts in and opened them up and begin chomping on them during a solemn part of the service. Of course, it drew some attention, especially from our parents who were standing up front, in the choir.

“Another time it was green apple Jolly Ranchers we smuggled in. Their distinctive aroma turned heads all around us,” Horner recalled.

After graduating from Cassville High School two years apart, the two friends went their separate ways for

a time to pursue college degrees, careers and families of their own, but were reunited in 1988, when LeCompte and his wife, Jill, moved back to Cassville, where he worked in his father’s hardware business, LeCompte Ace Hardware.

Horner had returned to Cassville a year earlier, in 1987, when he accepted a position with Commerce Bank.

The two friends immediately took up where they left off, this time for the betterment of the community.

“We served together on the Cassville Chamber Board and took turns being president a time or two,” Horner said.

“In 1993, the same year I married my wife, Darla, Michael said, ‘we need to spruce

up the Christmas spirit in Cassville,’ and he spearheaded a drive to hang the snowflake Christmas lights around town,” Horner continued. “For his efforts, he was awarded the Chamber’s Community Service Award. This year, when you see the snowflake lights, you can think of Michael.”

According to Horner, cooking was another accomplishment of LeCompte’s.

“One year he said to me, ‘we’re going to start tailgating at Razorback games this year,’” Horner said. “Now, when I thought of tailgating, I thought of burgers and hotdogs, but Michael apparently had gourmet meals in mind. We went to those Razorback games and he’d get out his grill and fix gourmet

meals: ribs, baked beans, even shrimp and flaming bananas foster. It always drew a big crowd. People would ask him to come cook at their tailgate, and ladies would tell their men that that’s how they should be cooking.”

“One time,” David Cole recalled, “we were having so much fun at the tailgate party, we just forgot about watching the game altogether.”

Dr. Richard Asbill, Superintendent of Cassville R-IV School District, was also a friend of Michael LeCompte’s.

“Michael LeCompte was an extraordinary friend to me and many others,” Asbill said. “When I first came to Cassville and made my first trip to the local hardware, Michael greeted me with, ‘How can I help you?’

“Michael was always there to help, I learned,” he continued. “It’s funny how God puts people into the right places (at the right times) in our lives. People needed Michael when they had trouble, and Michael was there to help. He was easy to talk to and always listened.”

“I talked to Michael every day,” Jon Horner said. “He was the smartest guy I ever knew, and the one I bounced things off of. COVID-19 is real and it took my best friend. I didn’t see this coming.”

Round Three CARES Act application window open

Barry County is making an application available to request CARES Act funds for a third round of funding. For the third round of funding, non-profit corporations negatively impacted by COVID may seek economic support for the time period of March 1, 2020, through October 31, 2020. Requests must satisfy the requirements of the CARES Act and Treasury guidance. Applicants will be required to submit sufficient supporting documentation in support of the request.

For instance, a non-profit corporation that was unable to hold previously scheduled fundraisers due to COVID may submit documentation consisting of the past three (3) years of: informational tax returns, statement of financial position (balance sheet), statement of financial activities (income statement), and records evidencing past fundraising activity from the identified fundraising events, bank statements in support

of those efforts, and other financial records in support of the request.

Applications for the third round of funding are due on November 30, 2020. The County will then review and evaluate the applications for completeness (including supporting documentation), compliance with the CARES Act requirements and Treasury guidance. Award recipients will be required to enter into a written agreement with the County prior to disbursement of awarded funds.

The application is available through the County Clerk’s office and a fillable application will be available at this email address bccommision@centurytel.net . Questions regarding the application process may be directed to Gary Youngblood, Presiding Commissioner, (417) 847-4628.

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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:

Cassville School is putting together a video presentation to honor Veterans. Any person who wants to honor a veteran or themselves, please submit a photo with information to Melanie Grossman at Cassville High School. Email to mgrossman@cassville.k12.mo.us or drop off information at Cassville High School..

Share Your Christmas Signups will be from November 9th through the 20th from 9 A.M. to 12 P.M. and 1 P.M. to 3 P.M. Call (417) 847-2140 for an appointment. Please bring Social Security cards for each household member, photo ID for Head of Household and proof of all household income for the month of September.

Notice is hereby given that the Municipal Court of the City of Seligman will begin at 2 P.M. through the remainder of 2020: December 14th, beginning at 2 P.M.

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 our 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.

The Arthritis Foundation Walk With Ease Program is an exercise program that can reduce pain and improve overall health. If you can be on your feet for 10 minutes without increased pain, you can have success with Walk With Ease. The program will be held at First Baptist Church, 602 West St., Cassville, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays, from November 9 through December 16. To sign up, call (417) 847-3161 or visit <https://extension.missouri.edu/events/>.

Free Clothes for Kids and Adults are being offered at God's Closet, Hwy. 86 in Eagle Rock - turn at the food pantry and Light House Church. God's Closet has coats and winter clothes and is open every Tuesday from 9 A.M. to noon, and the first and third Saturday of each month from 8:30 A.M. to noon.

Cassville Branch Library's Virtual Story Time began in September. Participants can access the live sessions on a tablet, computer, or smart phone. Families of preschool children ages five and under will receive registration information via email. Please send child's name, caregiver's name (the person watching the story time with the child) and email address to verna@blrli-brary.org.

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).

Nov. 14th

In honor of Veterans Day, the Alexander McNair Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution will meet at 10:30 A.M. at the First United Methodist Church in Monett. One of the speakers will be a woman veteran from WWII who is

turning 101 this January. The group will be making Christmas cards for veterans. All are welcome. For more information, call (231) 343-2727.

Nov. 20th

Cassville Senior Center will be celebrating Thanksgiving with a drive-through meal from 11 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. The suggested donation is \$3.50 for those 60+ and \$6 for those under 60. The menu will be turkey with gravy, mashed or sweet potatoes, stuffing, green bean casserole, cranberry sauce, rolls, and pumpkin pie.

Nov. 21st

A Craft Fair for Holiday Shopping will be at Benny's Barn, 29867 Hwy. 37, Seligman, from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. Vendors' booths are still available. Call (479) 381-2133 for more information.

Dec. 5th

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

Dec. 5th

The Wheaton Christmas Parade will begin at 6 P.M. All are invited to enter and line up begins at 4:30 P.M. at Body of Christ on Gilman. Cookies and hot chocolate will be provided before and after the parade. Pictures with Mr. and Mrs. Claus and a treat will be available at the Wheaton Community Center starting at 4:30 P.M. until 5:30 P.M. and after the parade.

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- 1st, 2nd, & 3rd CASH PRIZES!
- All are invited to enter; line up starts at 4:30 p.m. at Body of Christ on Gilman
- Cookies & hot chocolate will be provided before and after the parade.
- Stop by the Wheaton Community Center for a treat & picture with Mr. and Mrs. Claus starting at 4:30 p.m. till 5:30 p.m. and after to parade.

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Wed: Ham and beans, cornbread, fried potatoes, buckeye brownies

Thurs: Meatloaf, hash brown casserole, cauliflower, banana pudding

Fri: White chicken enchiladas, side salad, apple cobbler

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Nov. 16 - Nov. 20

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Mon: B: biscuit & gravy or oatmeal, sausage, toast, pears or cereal, granola bar, orange. L: general chicken or chicken nuggets, rice, mixed vegetables, egg roll, pineapple or salad meal. Tues: B: biscuit & gravy or breakfast pizza, sausage patty, fruit cocktail or cereal, granola bar, orange. L: cheeseburger or pizza, Doritos, carrot sticks, tropical fruit or salad meal. Wed: B: biscuit & gravy or breakfast burrito, hashbrown, pineapple or cereal, cinnamon toast, apple-sauce. L: pizza meal or hot dog, salad, corn, peaches or salad meal. Thurs: B: biscuit & gravy or french toast, sausage, peaches or cereal, yogurt cup, apple. L: corn dog or cheeseburger, mac & cheese, glazed carrots, juice or salad meal. Fri: B: biscuit & gravy or pancake on stick, hashbrown, pineapple or cereal, graham crackers, peaches. L: turkey & gravy or popcorn chicken, potatoes, green beans, hot roll, pumpkin pie, juice.

Cassville PR-IN-Middle:

Mon: B biscuits & gravy or strawberry bagel, yogurt cup, fruit cocktail or cereal, Pop-Tart, fruit cocktail. L: pepperoni pizza or chicken crispieto, corn, salad, peaches. Tues: B: biscuit & gravy or french toast, sausage patty, strawberries or cereal, Teddy Grahams, tropical fruit. L: hot dog or hamburger, Sun Chips, mixed vegetables, fruit cocktail. Wed: B: biscuit & gravy or oatmeal, cinnamon toast, sausage, mandarin oranges or cereal, Pop-Tart, peaches. L: chicken sandwich or beef burrito, nachos, broccoli & cheese, juice. Thurs: B: biscuit & gravy or scrambled eggs, toast, apple-sauce or cereal, Rice Krispy Treat, apple. L: popcorn chicken or tangerine chicken, rice, green beans, egg roll, fortune cookie, pineapple. Fri: B: biscuit & gravy or sausage biscuit, hashbrown, applesauce or cereal, chocolate muffin, orange. L: turkey & gravy, potatoes, green beans, hot roll, pumpkin pie, Sidekicks.

Purdy: Mon: B: oatmeal, cinnamon, toast, fruit. L: mandarin chicken, brown rice, egg rolls, fruit, fortune cookie. Tues: B: wg biscuit, gravy, sausage patty, fruit. L: chili, crackers, string cheese, baby carrots, fruit. Wed: pancake, sausage on a stick, syrup, fruit. L: popcorn chicken, french fries, fruit. Thurs: B: omelet, toast, fruit. L: cheese quesadilla, salsa, black beans, fruit. Fri: B: chocolate chip muffin, fruit. L: bologna sandwich, Sun Chips, baby carrots, ranch dressing, fruit.

Barry County joins global Christmas project

New Site Baptist Church and First Baptist Church Cassville are not waiting until Thanksgiving Day to express gratitude. Instead, they are giving back by lovingly packing gifts of joy for children around the world living in extreme poverty or affected by war, disease, and natural disaster. Operation Christmas Child—a project of Samaritan's Purse, is the world's largest Christmas project of its kind.

During National Collection Week, Nov. 16 – 23, area residents will donate gift-filled shoeboxes—with school supplies, hygiene items, notes of encouragement and fun toys, such as a doll or soccer ball. This year, residents in the Ozark Mountain area hope to contribute nearly 15,500 shoebox gifts toward the 2020 global goal of reaching 11 million children.

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international Christian relief and evangelism organization headed by Franklin Graham. The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate

God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, and, together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 168 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 160 countries and territories.

Dropping off shoeboxes will look a little different this year. All sites will be curbside and hands-free for your safety. The Barry County drop-off locations will be receiving shoebox gifts during the following times:

Monett: New Site Baptist Church, 1925 Farm Rd 1060
(417) 235-6135

Operating Hours:

- Monday, Nov. 16, 10 a.m. – Noon
- Tuesday, Nov. 17, 10 a.m. – Noon
- Wednesday, Nov. 18, 10 a.m. – Noon
- Thursday, Nov. 19, 4 p.m. – 8 p.m.
- Friday, Nov. 20, 4 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 21, 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 22, 2 p.m. –

5:30 p.m.

• Monday, Nov. 23, 8 a.m. – 10 a.m.

Cassville: First Baptist Church Cassville, 602 West St. (417) 847-2965

Operating Hours:

- Monday, Nov. 16, Noon – 5 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 17, Noon – 5 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 18, Noon – 5 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 19, Noon – 5 p.m.
- Friday, Nov. 20, Noon – 5 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 21, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 22, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 23, 8 a.m. – 11 a.m.

For more information on Operation Christmas Child visit samaritanspurse.org/occ.

Missouri Highway Patrol launches YouTube Channel

Colonel Eric T. Olson, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, invites the public to visit the Missouri State Highway Patrol's YouTube channel.

"We are launching our YouTube channel today and invite the public to visit us," said Col. Olson. "Our mission of service and protection extends to every person in this state. While the most important contacts are those that occur when a trooper speaks with someone or stops to assist them, it's important that we reach our stakeholders wherever they happen to be. The Patrol's YouTube channel provides us with another platform for educating and informing the public."

The Patrol's YouTube channel will host original videos to educate the public about traffic safety, the agency, the services it provides, and show the wide variety of career opportunities with the Patrol.

"I invite the public to take a few moments, visit us on YouTube, and view our launch video, 'This is your Missouri State Highway Patrol,'" said Col. Olson. "We plan to have an active YouTube channel, so stay tuned. Of course, you'll still be able to find us on our social media accounts. Most importantly, you'll find us throughout the state exactly where you need us to be."

Too many people die in traffic crashes each year in Missouri. The choices you make when you're behind the wheel matter. Make good choices, so you'll never have to say, "If I could just go back."

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See COVID-19 from FRONT

also for the current residents of Roaring River Health & Rehab.

"It's also bad," she said, "when people aren't allowed to see their loved ones after they move there."

The deaths of residents announced on November 10 bring Barry County's total COVID-19-related deaths to 19.

The total number of confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Barry County, as of November 10 stands at 1,454, according to health department administrator, Roger Brock. Of those, 254 people are in isolation with positive cases and more than 600 people are in quarantine after being in close contact with a positive case.

"The county's positivity rate has risen to 10.5 percent,

a number which, according to Department of Health and Senior Services guidelines, requires twice weekly testing of residents and staff in residential care facilities," Brock said.

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Christmas Open Houses

Rusty Gate Flea Market

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See VETERAN from FRONT

Engineer Battalion.
“We mostly built bridges where we were stationed in Manila,” Ryder said. “We spent a lot of our time in the water, and mosquitoes and flies were a big problem. A plague of flies hit us after Filipinos began dumping the bodies of dead Japanese soldiers into the river where we were working. The flies got so bad it was hard to even eat our food. Then the Air

Force began spraying DDT and that put a stop to the fly problem.
“I got malaria three times while I was there, in spite of the fact that we took an atabrine tablet every day,” he continued. “The atabrine was supposed to prevent it, but it didn’t always work.
“Once when I was in the hospital with a fever, they brought in two guys who had bought poison liquor from

some Chinese vendors in Manila. The doctors pumped their stomachs and they stayed the night in my room, one on each side of me. They were in lots of pain, so they made a lot of racket. When daylight came, one of them was dead and the other one was blind,” Ryder said. “We’d been warned not to buy whiskey from the Chinese. I guess there was a good reason for it.”

According to Ryder, his closest brush with death was probably the time he was airing up the floats on a bridge in Manila, and a sniper fired toward him.

“I didn’t hear the shot, until after I’d felt the bullet whiz past my right ear,” he said. “I immediately dove into the water.”

Ryder said one of his bouts of malaria kept him from

shipping out to come back home with his unit in 1946.

“I had to wait until I was well,” he said, “which was about three weeks later.”

After landing in Seattle, the troops were welcomed, in part, by an Olympic Dairy truck, Ryder remembers.

“They gave each of us a quart of milk,” he said. “That was the best milk I’d ever had. We hadn’t had milk for a couple of years, and we all just stood there and drank it.”

Ryder eventually made it back to his family’s home in Pioneer and went back to work for Elkin’s Butane in Wheaton.

“By that time, I was thinking I might want to start a family of my own,” he said, “but it seemed like all the girls I used to know were gone. Then, a buddy of mine in Purdy introduced me to

his wife’s sister, and I knew she was the one. We really hit it off.”

Robert Ryder and Marjory Young were married and bought a farm south of Purdy, where they raised two children.

Ryder said, at 96, he’s forgotten a lot of details about his time in the military; some of it, he suspects, might be for the best.

“They wanted me to join the reserves after I got back home from Japan,” he said, “but I’m glad I told them no. Those who *did* join ended up fighting in the Korean conflict and I always felt sorry for them. They had to turn right around and leave the homes and families they’d just started.”

Ryder, whose wife passed almost two years ago, credits part of his longevity to never having smoked.

“They gave us free cigarettes in the military,” he said, “but I never smoked them. I sold them to other guys who *did* smoke, though.”

Crowder and Cottey Colleges sign agreement

Officials from Cottey College in Nevada and Crowder College in Neosho are pleased to announce the signing of two separate articulation agreements between the two institutions.

The first is a general transfer agreement noting that Crowder Associate in Arts or Associate in Science graduates with a 2.0 grade point average or higher will be admitted to Cottey with most general education requirements waived, will be eligible for transfer scholarships, and their application fee will be waived.

The second transfer agreement is a specific 2+2 plan outlining an educational track for those Crowder graduates who wish to pursue a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology, Organizational Leadership, or Business Administration-Management at Cottey.

“Cottey is excited to work with Crowder College to offer Crowder students the opportunity to continue their degrees at Cottey and to create incredible futures,” said Cottey President Dr. Jann Weitzel.

“Crowder College strives to expand partnerships and opportunities for all of our students to continue their academic journey beyond graduation,” said Keith Zoromski, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs at Crowder College. “These articulation agreements serve as evidence that Crowder College values coordinating with each of its college and university partners to support transfer students mutually.”

Crowder College is a two-year community college located in southwest Missouri. Established in 1963 the college serves a nine-county region in the state’s community college organization. With over 80 degree and certificate programs Crowder offers educational opportunities for those planning to transfer to a university or enter the workforce. The main campus is located in Neosho with instructional centers in Nevada, Cassville, McDonald County, Webb City and an Advanced Training and Technology Center in Joplin.

Cottey College, a nationally ranked women’s college located in Nevada, Missouri, was established in 1884 by Virginia Alice Cottey, a Mis-

See COLLEGES 7A



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Wildcats set to host Mountaineers in district title game

Lee Stubblefield

The Class 3 District 6 playoff bracket is a tale of two paths.

Mt. Vernon advanced to the district title game with a convincing 42-0 blowout of Seneca. The Indians survived a 35-30 Aurora comeback in the quarterfinals, before folding the teepee against the

Mountaineers.

Meanwhile, top-seeded Cassville cruises into the title game unscathed and untested. Both the quarterfinal and semifinal games on Cassville's side of the bracket were decided by forfeit. Hollister bowed out of their game against Reeds Spring, and then RS ceded that semi

contest to Cassville.

Covid 2, Tigers and Wolves 0

Perhaps the biggest question surrounding the Cassville-Mt. Vernon tilt is: will there actually be a game? With covid cases on the rise, the coaching staffs of both teams are on high alert. But keeping high school boys in social distancing mode is a lot like herding cats. Success is due as much to sheer luck as to planning and execu-

tion.

If there is a game, it will be a rematch of the season opener where the 'Neers nipped the 'Cats 21-13 on a last second Hail Mary. Cassville was missing key players for that game, most notably running back Zach Coenen, who did not play at all, and quarterback Hayden Sink, who exited with an injury with the outcome still in the balance.

But the Wildcats are rela-

tively healthy and certainly rested, having not played since October 23, when they beat McDonald County 44-21 and extended their regular season ending win-streak to four games.

Cassville enters Friday's game with an 8-2 mark, forfeit and all. Mt. Vernon comes to town with a 5-5 record, including four straight losses prior to the playoff win over Seneca.

Spectator alert

Beginning with the district quarterfinals, streaming video of all MSHSAA football post season games is only available through the MSHSAA.tv website. Viewers are required to create an account and login to purchase viewing access to games.

Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. at Wildcat Stadium.

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Dilbeck winner of JAG essay contest



Students enrolled in the Jobs for American Graduates Program (JAG) at Cassville High School were asked to complete a 1,200 word essay answering the following question: Once you graduate from high school and begin your career, how do you plan to give back to your community and help others? Junior Kenzie Dilbeck wrote the winning essay. Photo attached. Kenzie is the daughter of Rusty and Staci Dilbeck of Cassville.



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Area cross country runners go to State



Shown above, left to right, are Cassville Wildcats, Ethan Bohmke, Caleb Leach, Pace Evans, Charles Elliott, DJ Pettyjohn and Jacob Martinez.

Lee Stubblefield

As a high school cross country runner, there is no substitute for state meet experience. The course, the competition, the emotionally charged atmosphere are all at levels not encountered during the regular season. Often, it is not so much the most talented teams and individuals that win as it is the runners who best handle the

added stress and challenges of the day.

While all-state medals are only awarded to the top 25 runners in each race and trophies to the top four teams, the goal for every runner and team in the respective races is the same: run your best race when it counts the most.

Class 3, Thursday, November 5
Experience counts.

In the Class 3 boys race at Columbia on Thursday, Cassville senior Pace Evans ran a strong race to finish 37th. His teammates, four sophomores and a freshman, could not crack the top 100, but gained valuable experience for the future. The Wildcats finished 16th in the team standings.
Cassville boys finishers
37. Pave Evans, 17:34.9
125. Caleb Leach, 19:26.8
139. Ethan Bohmke, 19:58.1
140. Jacob Martinez, 19:59.2
157. Charles Elliott, 21:20.4
161. Donald Pettyjohn, 24:15.4



Shown above, left to right, are Lady Wildcats Ella Reuter, Jolie Evans, Marianne McCracken, Annie Moore, Jordyn Stafford, and Maddie Bowyer.

Three Cassville girls qualified for state. Senior Jordyn Stafford duplicated Evans' performance, finishing 37th.
Cassville girls finishers
37. Jordyn Stafford, 21:38.8
38. Annie Moore, 21:40.2
69. Jolie Evans, 22:17.8

With only three individuals, the Lady Wildcats did not figure in the team scoring.
Individual champion, boys: Daelen Ackley, El Dorado Springs, 15:41.1;
Individual champion, girls: Macy Shelp, Lutheran South, 18:54.3
Trophy teams, boys: Fatima (98), Lutheran ST. Charles (109), Maryville (139), John Burroughs (142)
Trophy teams, girls: John Burroughs (59), Southern Boone County (90), Potosi (137), Aurora (138)
Class 2, Friday, November 6
On Friday, Southwest's Christian Long posted a personal best 17:31.1 for the 5K distance, barely missing an all-state medal with his 27th-

place finish. The Trojans, with only four runners in the race after missing second at districts by a single point, went home wondering what could have been. The times on the leaderboard suggest that a healthy Travis Sickles could have placed as high as second. Spokane, the team that Southwest defeated to win the SWCL conference meet, finished fifth in the team standings.

It could be argued that Southwest had the fifth-best Class 2 team in the state this year. Just not on this day.
Southwest boys finishers
27. Christian Long, 17:31.1
51. Caden Uthe, 18:11.3
74. Otis Rainer, 18:40.9
146. Lucas Lakey, 20:25.5
• Purdy freshman, Bryce Osburn, finished 141st in 20:08.7.

• Southwest's Cally Bowyer finished 124th in the Class 2 girls race in 25:58.0.
Individual champion, boys: Sam Shuman, Spokane, 16:03.6
Individual champion, girls: Rita Elmer, St. Pius X, 19:37.2
Trophy teams, boys: Father Tolton (92), Steelville (118), Lexington (126), Stockton (139)
Trophy teams, girls: Arcadia Valley (86), North Platte (106), St. Pius X (128), West Platte (135)
Class 1, Saturday, November 7
Individual champion, boys: Tyler Blay, West Nodaway, 16:03.6
See CROSS COUNTRY 9A

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Location: 3709 Farm Road 2242, Washburn
(approximately 3 miles west of Washburn on Hwy. 90)

CROSS COUNTRY from 8A

16:30.3
Individual champion, girls:
Riley Arnold, Blue Eye, 18:45.2
Trophy teams, boys: Calvary Lutheran (90), Blue Eye (96), Principia (98), West Nodaway (132)
Trophy teams, girls: College Heights (91), Valle Catholic (109), Harrisburg, (116), Van Buren (118)
Wheaton boys finishers
74. Zane Johnson, 19:20.0
133: Lance Greenwell, 20:52.4
Class 4, Friday, November 6
Individual champion, boys:
Riley Simpson, West Plains, 15:39.5
Individual champion, girls:
Lilian Jackson, St. Charles West, 18:21.6
Trophy teams, boys: Festus (45), Webb City (97), West Plains (97), Chaminade (128)
Trophy teams, girls: West Plains (53), Cor Jesu Academy (75), St. Teresa's Academy (80), Smithville (116)
Monett's Julio Cruz and Jose Salas Esquivel finished 72nd and 100th respectively in the Class 4 boys race.
Class 5
Individual champion, boys:
Matthew Hauser, Rock Bridge, 15:34.5
Individual champion, girls:
Ally Kruger, Liberty (Wentzville), 18:03.1
Trophy teams, boys: Rock Bridge (109), SLUH (125), Liberty (136), Liberty North (142)
Trophy teams, girls: Lafayette (80), Parkway West (89), Blue Springs South (98), Rock Bridge (118)

Purdy Volleyball, FBLA Host Pink-Out Event



Purdy Schools raised a total of \$1,520 during its annual Pink Out celebration on October 8. Pictured from left: Purdy High School Volleyball Coach Mica Propps, Pink Out Recipient Connie Goetz, Pink Out Recipient Eugenia Barrientos and Purdy FBLA Co-Sponsors Emily Brewer and Kay Wright.

Purdy High School Volleyball Coach, Mica Propps, and Purdy FBLA Co-Sponsors, Kay Wright and Emily Brewer, are pleased to announce the results of the district's October 8, 2020 Pink Out fundraising activities, which included t-shirt and cake pop sales, the opportunity for students to wear hats to school for a \$1 donation and a 50/50 raffle and serving contest at the evening's volleyball game. FBLA Co-Sponsor Kay Wright noted, "our annual Pink Out event is definitely

a team effort, involving all of our staff, students and community. Special thanks goes to Jennifer Robbins, who made, individually wrapped and donated 500 cake pops for us to sell. She is a true friend of the Purdy Eagles." This year's efforts raised a total of \$1,520, which was divided between Purdy parent Eugenia Barrientos and Purdy alumna and district employee Connie Goetz, who is also Coach Propps's mom. Both Barrientos and Goetz

are currently battling breast cancer. Goetz noted of her selection as a recipient, "Being chosen as a co-recipient of the 2020 Purdy Pink Out effort was a truly humbling experience. It allowed me to see how much people care. Breast cancer is a tough road, but it is made easier when you know you've got so many people behind you, supporting you and praying for you. I am so proud and thankful to be a Purdy Eagle."

Go on a scavenger hunt in November

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) is inviting people to go on scavenger hunts throughout November at MDC's Springfield Conservation Nature Center's trails. Each Tuesday in November, either in the morning or afternoon, people of all ages can enjoy a walk while searching for nature-oriented items along the nature center's trails. The morning scavenger hunts will be 9-11 a.m. and the afternoon hunts will be 3-5 p.m. People can register for this event by going to mdc.mo.gov/Southwest-Events and then going to the appropriate event. On the day of the scavenger hunts, a station will be set up on the sidewalk near the nature center's entrance with

everything participants will need to take part in the scavenger hunt. People should dress for the weather and plan to spend one-two hours on the trail. Upon completing the scavenger hunt, people will receive a small prize. Participants are asked to social distance and to wear a mask when social distancing is not possible. People can get more information about this program or other events at MDC's Springfield Conservation Nature Center by calling 417-888-4237. The nature center is located at 4601 South Nature Center Way. Staff at MDC facilities across the state are holding both virtual and some in-person programs. A listing of these programs can be found at mdc.mo.gov/regions.


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RICHARD BENJAMIN MAHURIN

Richard Benjamin Mahurin, 75, of Washburn, went home to be with Jesus at his home in Dardanelle, Arkansas, on November 7, 2020. Richard was born in Washburn on March 11, 1945, to Hershell and Mary (Day) Mahurin. Richard married (Lillian) Jane Hines on October 19, 1963. He received a Doctor of Motors in 1963 and was a very proficient mechanic. He graduated from

Ozark Bible Institute in Neosho in 1975. Richard was a lifelong truck driver, holiness preacher, and student of God’s word. He loved to sing and would get up all hours of the night to pray for his family.

Richard leaves behind to cherish his memory, his loving wife of 57 years, Jane (Hines) Mahurin; four daughters, Wanda Morris (Jim), of Norfolk, Va., Sandra Cantwell (Jeff), of Neosho, Nelli Dovel, of McGaheysville, Va., and Kelli DuVall (Donnie), of Russellville, Ark. He had 17 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces and nephews. He also had a very special granddaughter-in-law, Angela Beth.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents, Hershell and Mary (Day) Mahurin; two brothers, Bob and Larry; one sister, Betty

OBITUARIES

Fletcher; and one precious daughter, Roxanne Mary (Josephine) Clement. Richard’s grandson-in-law, NPD Brian Jones, also preceded him in death in the line of duty.

Funeral services will be at 2:00 P.M. Wednesday, November 11, 2020, at Fohn Funeral Home, Cassville. Rev. Jim Morris, Rev. Thomas Qualls, Rev. Donathan DuVall and Rev. Brian Dovel will officiate the service.

Interment will be at Dent Cemetery west of Washburn with Rev. Corey Herod officiating.

Contributions may be made to Dent Cemetery in memory of Richard.

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

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daughter of Floyd and Marion (Frieze) McCart. On January 17, 1959, in Springfield, she was united in marriage to Clifford O. “Cliff” Stewart, who preceded her in death on November 20, 1996. Also preceding her in death were her parents and one brother, Larry McCart.

Surviving are four sons, Floyd “Butch” Stewart and his wife, Barbara, and Mike Stewart and his wife, Gina, all of Cassville, Pat Stewart and his wife, Holly, of Fairview, and Randy Stewart and his wife, Sara, of Cassville; three daughters, Suzan Harris and her husband, Dave, of Wheaton, Mari Hendrix and her husband, Jerry “Tig”, of Purdy, and Ramona Pekkola and her husband, Tip, of Carlton, Oregon; two sisters, Beverly Taylor and her husband, Kent, of Ash Grove, and Roberta Stewart and her husband, Terry, of Republic; nineteen grandchildren, Matthew, Bryanna, Jerika, Sarah, Brett, Kelli, Sheena, Kirstyn, Daniel, David, Mindi, Kayla, Tammy Jo, Clifford, Braiden, Tyler, Brandi, Casey and Tori; and twelve great-grandchildren.

Barbara grew up and received her education in Elkland and was a 1956 graduate of Elkland High School. For several years, she and her husband resided in several areas while Cliff worked for NOAA’s National Weather Service. In 1970, they moved from Columbia to Cassville, where she was a dairy farm-

er. She was a member of Calvary Baptist Church, charter member of Southwest Missouri Dairy Goat Association, a member of Registered Jersey Association, lifetime 4-H leader earning 4-H Hall of Fame Honor and worked with livestock shows as coordinator and judge. One of her favorite pastimes was cooking and she was a great artist and a creative, loving person. As a life-long lover of animals, she became a self-taught animal medicine expert and mentor.

Graveside services were held today, Wednesday, November 11, 2020, at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in Butterfield under direction of McQueen Funeral Home in Wheaton. Pastor Paul Wahlert conducted the services.

Contributions may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in memory of Barbara.

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JOANN “JODY” DORRIS

Joann “Jody” Dorris, age 75, of Cassville, passed away at her home on Saturday, October 24, 2020. Jody, daughter of Lenord and Dorothy (Schaeffer) Comstock, was born on March 12, 1945, in

Denver, Colorado. In 1989, she was united in marriage to Steve Dorris. Mrs. Dorris did various odd jobs, such as sewing, painting and roofing, but most of all she enjoyed being a housewife and spending time with her family. Jody had a personality that will never be forgotten and will be missed by many.

Survivors include her husband, Steve Dorris, of Cassville; two sons, Luke Ochoa, of Cassville and Eric Dorris, of Grove, Oklahoma; three grandchildren; two brothers, Lenny Comstock and Michael Comstock, both of Denver, Colorado; and one sister, Carol Dater, of Denver, Colorado.

Jody was preceded in death by her parents.

A private service will be held by the family in Denver, Colorado at a later date.

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

**White Funeral Home
and Crematory
www.whitefuneralhome.org
417-847-8400 or 417-858-8400**

LONNIE LEE WOOLARD

Lonnie Lee Woolard, age 72, of Rocky Comfort, passed away Monday, November 2, 2020, at his home.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

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

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WHEATON, MO. 417-652-7268**



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Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am
Sunday Evening Worship 6:30 pm
Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6:30 pm
Sunday Morning Radio Program KKBL 95.9 FM 7:45 am
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Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night Bible Study/Youth 7:00 p.m.
Everybody Welcome!
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if he gains the whole world,
and loses his own soul?
Mark 8:36*

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BARBARA JOAN STEWART

Barbara Joan Stewart, age 82, of Cassville, i passed away Friday, November 6, 2020, at Cox Hospital in Branson.

She was born November 15, 1937, in Springfield, the

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Sunday, 11:00 a.m., in Spanish at 12:30 p.m.
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2 Corinthians 5:17
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• Morning Service 10:45 am
• Evening Service 6:00 pm
• Wednesday Evening 6:30 pm
11453 State Hwy. AA
Cassville, MO
417-847-4165



MICHAEL ZANE LECOMPTE
Michael Zane LeCompte, age 56 of Cassville, passed away at Mercy Hospital in Rogers, Arkansas, on November 4, 2020, after a short bout with Covid-19.

Michael was born on November 3, 1964, at Saint Vincent's Hospital in Monett.

He received his education at Cassville High School, Class of 1983, and the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville. He was the CHS Student Body President in 1983. Growing up in Cassville, Michael was easily noticed around town while driving his prized 1963 Mercury Monterey, which was a gift from his beloved grandmother, Dove LeCompte.

On May 15, 1987, Michael married his high school sweetheart, Jill Holman, at the First Baptist Church in Cassville. Together they made a wonderful life with their three incredible children, Victoria Henbest and her husband, Drew, Zane LeCompte and his wife, Jillian, and Jillian LeCompte, all of Cassville. They all survive.

Additionally, Michael is survived by his brother Rick and his wife, Nancy; his father and mother-in-law, Calvin and Del Holman; brothers-in law, Rod Holman and Gwyn Plumlee, Audy and Bettie Holman, and Stuart and Diana Holman; sisters-in-law, Calla and Darrell Bacon and Gayle LeCompte; his aunt, Marylyn Hilton; and his nieces and nephews: Camille Holman, Audry Holman, Samuel Holman, Olivia Holman, Remy LeCompte, DeVere LeCompte Travis and Tiffanie Holman, Kyler Holman, Kinlee Holman, Justin Holman, Kasen Holman, Saige Holman, Rylen Holman, Katesha Johnston & Jason Johnston, Owen Johnston, Danielle LeCompte, Gabrielle LeCompte, Wil LeCompte, Boyd William Thomas, Callie Woods, Hannah Woods, Hank Woods,

Hallie Mae Woods, Haidyn Woods, Andrea Cassidy and Shane Thornton, Alivia Cassidy, Kody Sue Thornton, and Shandi Thornton.

Preceding Michael in death were his parents, Barbara Zane & Bill LeCompte; and his brother, Jim LeCompte.

In 1988, he joined his father in their family business, LeCompte Ace Hardware. He loved working with his father. Together they grew the business and provided for their devoted customers until his father's death in April 2011. In June 2014, Michael and Jill opened Michael's Hardware in Cassville. This has been a true award-winning family business with Zane, Victoria, and Jillian all working to serve their wonderful customers and community.

Michael's love for Cassville was evident by his dedicated service to the community. He served three terms on the Cassville Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Michael was President of the Cassville Chamber of Commerce in 2003 and 2011. Michael was awarded the Chamber's prestigious Community Service Award in 1993 for spearheading the snowflake Christmas lighting project, which still makes Cassville shine each Christmas season. Michael was one of the Blue's Brother's (Jake) in the inaugural edition of The Show in 1993 and was brought back by popular demand for three more editions of The Show. Additionally, Michael coached girl's softball, was an incredible supporter of school and community organizations, and was

a proud Democrat. He was a Bill Clinton delegate at the 1996 Missouri State Democrat Convention. Michael attended the First Baptist Church in Cassville.

Michael was an amazing cook. He loved to cook for his family and friends. Travel was another love. Seeing the beauty of the United States was a joy for Michael, Jill and the kids. Michael also loved watching and talking Wildcat, Razorback and SEC football. But most importantly, Michael loved being with his wonderful family and friends. He was so proud of Jill, Victoria, Zane, and Jillian and all of their accomplishments. Michael was so excited about the upcoming arrival of Victoria and Drew's baby girl. He was looking forward to being called "Pappy."

Services will be held at 10:00 A.M. Friday, November 20, 2020, at Family Life Center in Cassville under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor James Weaver will conduct the services.

The family will receive friends from 6:00 until 8:00 P.M. Thursday at Family Life

Center in Cassville.
In lieu of flowers, please feel free to contribute to the Cassville R-IV Primary School – Michael LeCompte Memorial Book Fund.
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LEODA MAE BRIGHTWELL
Leoda Mae Brightwell went to heaven to be greeted by our Lord and Savior on November 4, 2020, on a beautiful fall morning, with her three loving daughters and her special caregivers by her side.
Leoda was born August 31, 1928, in Egypt, Arkan-

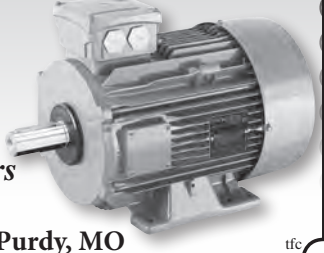
sas. She was one of twelve siblings; all have preceded her in death. She was married seventy-four years to LD Brightwell who passed just five months before her. Also preceding her are her son, Jimmy Ray Brightwell; two grandsons, Dennis Caudle and Steve Gurney; and a son-in-law, Ken McGruder.
She is survived by three daughters, De McGruder, her daughter Marty Coones, and her children, Allie and Truan, of Cassville, Deronda Gurney and her husband, Tom, of Shell Knob, and their grandson, Joshua, of Springfield, and Debra McIntyre and her husband, Tim, of Kingsburg, California, their son Todd, his wife, Josy, of Cassville, and their children, Reef and Rya, Lindsey Hernandez and her husband, Joey, their children, McKenzie, Presley and Charley of Kingsburg, California, grandsons, Clint and Jason Brightwell, from

California; and her beloved adopted daughter, Diann Vilines, from Jenkins.
Leoda loved her church family and her bible which she read the entire book many times. Family was her life, you never left her house hungry. Leoda was loved by many and will be missed by many.
Until we meet again. We love you Mama!
Graveside services were held Sunday, November 8, 2020, at Clio Cemetery in Jenkins, under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.
Contributions may be made to Haven Of The Ozarks in memory of Leoda.
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The Family of
LAVERN MADISON

would like to thank you for the outpouring of love and support during this difficult time. Thank you for the many prayers, phone calls, cards, and beautiful flowers. A special thank you to Pastor Randy Comer and his wife, Sheena, and to Calvary Baptist Church. Thank you for all the donations to the scholarship in Lavern's name. Thank you to Gene Robbins of Robbins Horse Auction in Exeter for organizing the drive and for your ongoing support and friendship. Thank you Fohn Funeral Home for the beautiful service.

We are blessed to know each one of you.

Thank you!

THE FAMILY OF PAUL YARNALL

would like to thank everyone for the cards, phone calls, food, flowers, memorial donations and especially your prayers during our loss. Thank you to Bro. Aaron Weibel and Bro. Jerry Francisco for the comforting words. Thank you to Sharon Sater and Carol House for the beautiful songs and to the Exeter First Baptist Church for the delicious meal. Thank you to Fohn Funeral Home for the caring service that you provided. Words cannot express the appreciation that we feel for all the love and support that has been shown to our family!

Jerry & Debbie Yarnall and family
Deborah Ramser and family
Jeff Yarnall and family
Carl and Patty Buchanan
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MARGARET L. EGGERS

Margaret L. Eggers, age 82, of Cassville, passed away Tuesday, November 3, 2020, at Roaring River Health and Rehabilitation in Cassville.

She was born March 23, 1938, in Mindenmines, the daughter of Leonard and Ethel (Jumett) Coleman. On January 31, 1959, she

was united in marriage to Anthony Eggers, who survives. Also surviving are two daughters, Kathy Ann Quinlan and her husband, Michael, of Cassville, and Loretta S. Beaty, of Florida; one son, Wayne Eggers and his wife, Melissa, of Garfield, Arkansas; one brother, Bruce Coleman and his wife, Linda, of Mindenmines; one sister, Janice Smith and her husband, Jimmy, of Georgia; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were her parents; a baby brother, Timmy; another brother, Leonard; and a grandson, Joshua.

Margaret grew up and received her education in Mindenmines, where she graduated from high school.

OBITUARIES

For several years, she lived in Oak Grove and in December 1999 moved to Cassville to make her home. She attended Community Faith Chapel in Cassville. Some of her favorite pastimes were camping, baking, making crafts, fishing, gardening and being with her husband.

Services were held Friday, November 6, 2020 at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor Rick Cooper conducted the services. Burial was at Oak Hill Cemetery in Cassville.

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FOHN FUNERAL HOME
CASSVILLE, MO.
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he was united in marriage to Betty Jo Dummitt, who preceded him in death on October 28, 2013. Also preceding him in death were his parents; three brothers, Clifford, Donnie and Howard Chadd; one sister, Betty Hall; and two children, Bobby Pinkley and Becky Pinkley.

Surviving are two sons, Greg Chadd and his wife, Cindy, of Cassville, and Vince Pinkley and his wife, Dora, of Verona; five grandchildren, Drew Chadd, Taylor Chadd and Jennifer O'Neill and her husband, Jake, all of Cassville, David Newman and his wife, Becky, of Omaha, Nebraska, and Justin Pinkley, of Ozark; and seven great-grandchildren.

1:00 P.M. Friday at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.

Contributions may be made to Corinth Baptist Church in memory of Bobby.

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CASSVILLE, MO.
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DANIEL RALLS

Daniel Ralls, age 54, of Exeter, passed away Monday, November 2, 2020, at Mercy Hospital in Rogers, Arkansas.

He was born April 10, 1966, in McAlester, Oklahoma, the son of Willis G. and Mildred (Overacer) Ralls. He was united in marriage to Nancy Brown and together they shared four children. Nancy preceded him in death. Also preceding him in death were his parents and one brother.

On July 2, 2016, in Pea Ridge, Arkansas he was united in marriage to Pamela Ferguson, who survives. Also surviving are three daughters, Connie Ross and her husband, Ed, and Kristie Yerkey and her husband, Tom, all of Eufaula, Oklahoma, and Jackalyn Pitts and her husband, Charles, of McAlester, Oklahoma; one son, Timothy Cummins, of

Exeter; five stepsons, Andy White and his wife, Kirby, of Wilburton, Oklahoma, John White, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Logan, Tristan and Landon White, all of Exeter; six grandchildren; nine step-grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Daniel graduated from Haileyville High School in Oklahoma. He then studied meat processing and food safety in applied science at Eastern Oklahoma State College and received his associate degree in radiology technology from Bacone College in Muskogee, Oklahoma. For several years, he was a radiology technician at PK Xray in Muskogee. In 2016, he moved to Exeter to make his home. He was a member of Pea Ridge Church of Nazarene. Some of his favorite pastimes were hunting, fishing, studying history and watching documentaries. His greatest joy in life was his grandchildren who he loved dearly.

Memorial services were held Monday, November 9, 2020, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Burial services will be held at Bache Red Oak Cemetery in Bache, Oklahoma, on November 14, 2020, at 11:00 AM.

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

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RUSSELL "RUSS" WAYNE MORELAND

Russell "Russ" Wayne Moreland, 50, on Nov. 3, 2020. Services were held Saturday, Nov. 7, 2020, under direction of Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.

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BOBBY JOE CHADD

Bobby Joe Chadd, age 87, of Exeter, passed away Saturday, November 7, 2020, at his home.

He was born September 28, 1933, in Washburn, the son of Troy and Marie (Elgin) Chadd. On December 9, 1982, in Miami, Oklahoma,

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MDC hopes to see hunters at CWD sample collection sites

COVID-19 has changed the Missouri Department of Conservation's (MDC) chronic wasting disease (CWD) sample collection procedure during the opening weekend of the November firearms season to a voluntary process this year. However, MDC wants to remind hunters that there are still ways to cooperate in the state's search for this devastating deer disease.

On Nov. 14-15, the opening weekend of this year's November firearms deer season, the sample collection in the 30 counties that comprise Missouri's CWD Management Zone (MZ) will be voluntary. Since 2016, sample collection in CWD MZ counties had been mandatory during the opening weekend of the November firearms season. This year's change to voluntary was prompted by ongoing COVID-19 cases and public health concerns surrounding the pandemic throughout the state.

Although this year's sample collection is voluntary, MDC staff will still be working at sample collection sites in CWD MZ counties on opening weekend to get samples from hunters who want to have their harvest sampled. Counties are in the CWD MZ either because the disease has been found in those counties or they are within 10 miles of a site where a positive find has occurred. The CWD MZ counties in MDC's 17-county Southwest Region are Barry, Cedar, Christian, Hickory, Polk, Stone, and Taney. A complete list of counties that comprise the state's CWD MZ this year – and the locations of the sample collection sites in those counties – can be found in MDC's "2020 Fall Deer & Turkey" regulations book, a free publication available at all places that sell hunting permits and at most MDC offices, and online at: <https://hunting.mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/downloads/2020FDT.pdf>

CWD is a disease of the central nervous system that is fatal to deer and other members of the deer family. The disease was first confirmed in Missouri's free-ranging deer 2012 but CWD has been maintained at a low prevalence due to intensive surveillance and management of the disease – more than 137,000 deer have been tested since the disease was discovered and only 163 of those tests have been positive. Hunter participation plays a key role in Missouri's ongoing fight against CWD.

"CWD represents a great threat to the health of Missouri's deer and elk herds and to our hunting culture," said MDC's CWD Sampling Coordinator Kevyn Wiskerchen. "Sampling deer for CWD allows early detection of the disease and allows for rapid management intervention to slow its spread. Hunters play

a key role in helping MDC find and manage CWD by having their deer sampled."

Before arriving at a voluntary sample collection sites, hunters are asked to:

- Field dress and Telecheck their deer.

Position the deer in vehicles with head and necks easily accessible if they're bringing in the carcass. (Heads with six inches of neck attached can be brought to collection sites, too).

Capes may be removed in preparation for taxidermy before going to a sample collection station.

The person who harvested the deer must be present. Hunters and other members of their party will be asked to remain in their vehicles throughout the sample collection process as a precautionary health measure.

- Be prepared to provide

your Telecheck ID numbers.

If using a paper permit, have it detached from the deer for easy access.

If using the MO Hunting app, have permit and Telecheck information available.

In addition to the voluntary sample collection being conducted on Nov. 14-15, MDC is also providing drop-off sites through Jan. 15 for hunters wishing to have

their deer tested for CWD. At these voluntary drop-off sites, hunters should leave the head with six inches of neck attached and the antlers removed. The drop boxes have instructions and materials hunters will need to provide information. Hunters will be able to check test results online using their Telecheck ID at <https://short.mdc.mo.gov/ZuE>. MDC

will notify a hunter directly if a sample tests positive for CWD.

The deer head drop-off sites in MDC's Southwest Region

are:

- MDC Cassville office, 601 Highway 248 (Barry County)

See CWD 16 A

LIVING ESTATE AUCTION
SATURDAY, DEC. 12, 2020 • 9:00 A.M.

LOCATION: 196 W. Brown St., Verona, Mo. Take 3rd street (P Hwy.) into Verona to Brown St., the east on Brown St. to first house on left.

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ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS New Beginnings is now meeting at Mitchell's Plaza, Monday, Wednesday, at 7:00 p.m. For more info, call (417)271-1088.

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

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

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WGU Missouri Celebrates Veterans Day with \$50,000 in Scholarships for Veterans, Military Service Members and their Families
In celebration of Veterans Day and to honor our military service members, WGU Missouri today announced it has partnered with the National Military Family Association to offer \$50,000 in scholarships to veterans, active-duty military personnel and their spouses who are interested in furthering their education. The “Military Appreciation” Scholarship offering is available for new students who are interested in pursuing a bachelor’s or master’s degree from WGU in any of the online, nonprofit university’s 60+ programs in IT, business, K-12 education, and health professions, including nursing.
Each “Military Appreciation” scholarship is valued at up to \$2,000 per student and will be applied at the rate of \$500 per six-month term, renewable for up to four terms. The scholarship is open to new students who have been officially admitted to WGU Missouri and qualify as active-duty or retired military, U.S. military veterans, reservists, or military spouses or children. Scholarships will be awarded based on a candidate’s academic record, readiness for online study, and current competency, as well as other considerations.
“We truly appreciate our veteran and active-duty military students who work so hard to protect and serve our country and are happy to provide the flexible programs that will fit their needs and allow them to go far in their careers,” said Dr. Angie Besendorfer, Chancellor of WGU Missouri. “In addition to the scholarship offering, WGU’s degree programs are approved for VA education benefits under the GI Bill and for tuition assistance for active-duty, reserve and National Guard service members. With WGU’s low, flat-rate tuition of about \$3,500 per six-month term, this means tuition for veterans and military members is often covered.”
WGU is regularly ranked among the nation’s most military-friendly colleges and universities and provides the flexibility and workforce-focused degree programs needed by military personnel, veterans and their families. Approximately 11 percent of WGU’s students are active-duty military personnel, veterans or immediate family members of military personnel. Earning a four-year degree from WGU can help them transition into a rewarding, high-paying civilian position.
“WGU Missouri made it possible for me to earn a master’s degree in nursing education,” said Chris McElroy a recent graduate and an Army Nurse Corps veteran. “My children are currently serving in the military, and the flexibility of the program allowed me to celebrate all of their accomplishments. That has been one of the greatest perks of the university. I can now proudly say that I’m a veteran, proud military mom, wife and a WGU graduate.”
WGU Missouri’s programs are competency-based, providing the flexibility veterans and their families need. Designed to meet the needs of adult learners, competency-based education allows students to take advantage of their knowledge and real-world experience to move quickly through material they already know so they can focus on what they still need to learn. Faculty members work one-on-one with students as mentors, offering guidance, support and individualized instruction. While the university’s degree programs are rigorous and challenging, competency-based learning makes it possible for students to accelerate their programs, saving both time and money.
WGU Missouri is a competency-based, online university created to expand access to higher education for Missouri residents. The university offers more than 60 undergraduate and graduate degree programs in the fields of business, K-12 teacher education, information technology, and health professions, including nursing. WGU Missouri faculty members serve as mentors, working one-on-one with students, offering guidance, support, and individualized instruction.
Degrees are granted under the accreditation of Western Governors University, which is accredited through the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU). Nursing College programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE*), and the Health Informatics program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM).
More information is available at missouri.wgu.edu or by calling 855.948.8493.

Missouri Farm Bureau awards mini-grant to Exeter FFA Chapter



Above, Chad Yarnall (left) of Missouri Farm Bureau in Cassville, presents a mini-grant to Exeter FFA team members (left to right) Lane Willis, S. Riley Still, Levi Gautney, Aubrey Antle, and Aubree Reed.

CWD from 13A

Stockton State Park near Dadeville, 19100 S. Highway 215 (Cedar County)

- Pomme de Terre State Park near Pittsburg, 23451 Park Entrance Road (Hickory County)
- MDC Bolivar Office, 412 Killingsworth Ave (Polk County)
- MDC Branson Office, 226 Claremont Drive (Taney County)
- Drury-Mincy Conservation Area near Kirbyville, 3441 Gunnison Road (Taney County)

Hunters who harvest deer outside of the CWD MZ counties and want to have their deer tested can also have samples collected by bringing their deer to MDC's Southwest Regional Office at 2630 N. Mayfair Ave., Springfield, during regular business hours (8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday). Hunters should call the office, 417-895-6880, in advance to make sure staff are available to collect samples. Some taxidermy businesses are also collecting samples. Information and addresses on these locations can be found at: [\[fish.mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/wildlife-diseases/chronic-wasting-disease-cwd/voluntary-cwd-sampling-statewide-all\]\(https://hunt-fish.mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/wildlife-diseases/chronic-wasting-disease-cwd/voluntary-cwd-sampling-statewide-all\)

Hunters can also have harvested deer tested for CWD by contacting the State-Federal Cooperative Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in Springfield at 417-895-6861 or the University of Missouri Veterinary Medicine Diagnostic Laboratory in Columbia, 573-882-6811, but there will be a fee for testing at these facilities. \(There is no fee for the voluntary CWD](https://hunt-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

testing MDC is conducting across the state.) Hunters also need to be aware of the carcass movement restrictions in place this year pertaining to deer harvested in CWD MZ counties. Information on those restrictions, and about CWD, can be found in MDC's deer regulations booklet or at: <https://hunt-fish.mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/wildlife-diseases/chronic-wasting-disease-cwd>.

In classrooms across Missouri, more than 3,500 students will enhance their knowledge of agriculture through mini-grants awarded by the Missouri Farm Bureau (MOFB) Foundation for Agriculture. With a commitment to improve agricultural understanding, this funding allows educators to purchase accurate educational materials and consumables to help connect students to the source of items everyone uses every day: farming and ranching. This year, at least 88 classrooms will benefit.

Two funding levels are

available. Classroom grants offer \$250 and grade/multi-grade level grants offer \$500. The units of study, activities and accurate agricultural resource materials provided through these awards allow students to enhance their awareness and understanding of agriculture. In turn, they are introduced to a wider range of career possibilities.

2020 marks the 23rd year for this competitive granting process and a record number of Missouri educators have applied. More students will better understand the con-

nection between farming and the many products that begin with farmers.

Rachael Brown, of the Exeter FFA Chapter, was awarded a check for her mini-grant by County Farm Bureau president, Lana Couch, and Promotion and Education Chairman, Carl Younker.

The MOFB Foundation for Agriculture provides support for programs that enhance the image of agriculture, strengthen agricultural understanding and provide leadership development opportunities.

Haven of the Ozarks: Pet of The Week



Meet GeeGee, the Haven of the Ozarks Pet of the Week! She was born October 29, 2010.

GeeGee came to the Haven after her owner passed, leaving her an orphan.

When GeeGee got here, she refused to eat or drink. She's now eating and drinking again. She's litter box trained, gets along with the office dogs, and loves gentle petting.

We would like a low key home for GeeGee. If you have a quiet place, please come meet this sweet girl and help her get back in a real home because that's where she needs to be.

Haven of the Ozarks

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