

Southwest Alumni Seeking Input for Mizzou Student Innovation Competition



Washburn native and Mizzou Broadcast Journalism student Lacey Reeves is asking readers to participate in a survey project she is completing for the 2024 RJI Student Innovation Competition this month. Submitted Photo.

Lacey Reeves, Southwest graduate and Mizzou Broadcast Journalism student, is seeking reader input for her project “Most Important News Stories: Ranked” in this week’s issue of the Barry County Advertiser.

The 2024 RJI Student Innovation Competition

in which Reeves is competing for a first place prize of \$10,000, asked students to create something to help a newsroom measure the impact of their news coverage for their community with the impact measurements not revolving around traditional metrics like clicks, views or visits- but the real life impact of the journalism and its benefit to the communities it serves.

“I want to measure the news impact in Barry County because rural communities often get left out by regional news outlets that mostly cover larger cities,” said Reeves. “It’s important for people to know what’s going on and to stay informed in their communities and in a perfect world, people shouldn’t have to pay for news, it should be free.”

Statistics from the Missouri Press Association show that there are currently 207 member newspapers publishing in the state of Missouri. Of those, 174 are weeklies and 33 are non-weeklies and of those 207, less than 5% are a free distribution newspaper, according to Reeves.

“The Advertiser is one of the last newspapers in Missouri that provides news to a rural audience for free, and when the closest TV station that covers the area is over an hour away, rural communities like Barry County are left without cov-

See Reeves on Pg. 7

Hi, I'm Lacey Reeves and I've lived in Washburn my whole life. I graduated from Southwest and now I'm a journalism student at Mizzou in Columbia. Barry County holds a special place in my heart because it's where I grew up and love to be. I want to know what stories are most important to you. Please mail back this survey so your voice will be heard in what you want to see in the Advertiser each week.

Rank your top 5 stories that are most important to you each week. 1 being most important to 5 still being somewhat important. Please leave the other 6 spaces blank.

- STORIES ON NEW BUSINESSES, RESTAURANTS, BUILDINGS, ETC.
- EVENTS COVERAGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK
- OBITUARIES
- COMMUNITY CALENDAR
- CRIME & ARRESTS
- ADVERTISEMENTS
- CLASSIFIEDS
- SPORTS
- ANNOUNCEMENTS (birth, anniversary, marriage, retirement)
- ACHIEVEMENTS (honor rolls, awards, grants, scholarships)
- ELECTION COVERAGE
- AGRICULTURE & CONSERVATION STORIES
- OTHER:

Two people who mail back the survey will win a \$50 gift certificate for The Rib in Cassville! All respondents who leave their name and phone number will be put in a drawing for them.

Name: Phone number:

Look for the above postcard insert in this week's issue of the Advertiser to assist Reeves with her project. Submitted photo.

Governor Parson Bans China-Owned Agricultural Land Near Critical Military Facilities

From The Office of Governor Michael Parson

On Tuesday, January 2, 2024, during a press conference at the State Capitol, Governor Mike Parson announced he has issued Executive Order 24-01, which bans individuals and businesses from nations designated as foreign adversaries from purchasing agricultural land within a 10-mile radius of critical military facilities in the State of Missouri.

At the press conference, Governor Parson was joined by Lieutenant Governor Mike Kehoe as well as Missouri Department of Agriculture Director Chris Chinn, Missouri Department of Public Safety Director Sandy Karsten, and Missouri National Guard Adjutant General Levon Cumpston.

“With heightened concerns regarding ownership of Missouri farm land by foreign adversaries, especially China, we are signing this order to safeguard our military and intelligence assets, prevent security threats to our state, and give Missourians greater peace of mind,” Governor Parson said.

“When it comes to China and other foreign adversaries, we must take commonsense precautions that protect Missourians and our security resources.”

“I applaud Governor Parson for taking this critical step forward to protect Missourians, our military assets, and critical infrastructure against China and other foreign adversaries, all while respecting our strong relationships with international allies and economic partners,” Lt. Governor Kehoe said. “China is our nation’s most hostile foreign adversary, and Missouri cannot allow individuals and companies associated with the Chinese Communist Party to buy and exploit Missouri land.”

Executive Order 24-01 bans any citizen, resident, or business from a foreign adversary, outlined in 15 C.F.R § 7.4, from owning or acquiring Missouri agriculture land within 10 miles of critical military facilities. Nations currently classified as foreign adversaries include China, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Russia, and Venezuela.

For the purposes of this order, “critical military facilities” refers to all staffed military facilities in Missouri. The order does not affect existing landowners.

Currently, foreign agricultural land purchases are capped at one percent of the total agricultural land across the state, as outlined in state statute, Section 442.571, RSMo. Executive Order 24-01 creates more stringent requirements for these land purchases and requires approval from the Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA) prior to any foreign acquisitions of agricultural land. The order also requires disclosing certain information to MDA prior to any foreign entity acquiring Missouri agricultural land. Specifics can be found in the Executive Order.

These additional requirements will help inform MDA personnel as to whether an agriculture land purchase by a foreign alien or business should be approved or denied. Gov-

See Governor Pg. 5

Davis Tapped Market President For CS Bank in Cassville

From Mickey Belle Shields Manley, CS Bank

Charlie Cross, CEO, CS Bank, is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Mark Davis to Market President for the local bank’s Cassville/Southwest Missouri market. Mr. Davis previously served as Market President at Equity Bank in Clinton, Missouri, however, prior to his time there, was the Market President for Arvest Bank in Cassville and Shell Knob for a ten-year span from 2008 - 2018. He has 30 years of experience in the banking industry having started his career in 1993.

Cross stated, “We are



Mark Davis has been selected as the Market President for the Southwest Missouri market. Submitted Photo.

thrilled to add someone of Mark’s caliber to our growing bank team in Missouri and

See Davis on Pg. 2

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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. Contact Elaine Phaneuf, class@4bca.com or (417) 847-4475.

Notice:

Barry County will hold the 2024 budget hearing January 18, 2024, at 9 A.M. in the commission room at the Barry County courthouse, located at 700 Main St. in Cassville.

News Release - South Barry County Ambulance District Meeting will be moving from the 2nd Tuesday of each month to the 2nd Wednesday of each month starting January 2024.

Patriots of SW MO have meetings on the 3rd Saturday of every month from 1 to 3 P.M. at the VFW in Shell Knob (on Hwy. 39). Everyone is welcome. To learn more and find out who this month's exciting speakers are, contact Jean Dodge at dodgejean13@gmail.com, or Diane Painter (417) 858-2100. (please no texts).

Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) is Looking for Volunteers. Training will be provided. Basic computer skills are necessary. If interested, contact Susan Hughes by emailing susan.hughes@senioragemol.org or call (417) 868-9524

The Purdy Community Recycling Center, located next to the main baseball field, is open Tuesdays from 3:30 to 5:30 P.M., and is currently accepting #1 and #2 plastic, cardboard, aluminum cans, steel cans, used motor oil and filters, any paper product that does not have food residue on it. Volunteers are needed on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 8:30 to 10:30 A.M.

The Wheaton Depot Museum in Wheaton will be open Sundays from 1 to 5 P.M. Visitors are encouraged to check out the history of Wheaton and the Missouri and North Arkansas Railroad (M&NA). Phone numbers are posted in the window of the museum.

Ozark Country Quilters meets at Show Me Plaza, Hwy. 248, Cassville, every 3rd Monday for Open Sew; every 3rd Thursday for 'Work Shop'; and every 1st Tuesday for their business meeting. For more information, call (417) 342-1372.

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.

Seligman Chamber Event Center has a country dance with bands every Saturday from 7 to 10 P.M. No alcohol allowed. Admission is \$10. Ages 18 and under are free. There is pot luck, 50/50 and door prizes. For information, (479) 903-3640.

OATS Transit offers regular transportation services for the rural general public of any age, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. Please call the local OATS Transit office at 417-887-9272 or 800-770-6287 to schedule a ride or find out about services in your area. You can also visit our website at oatstransit.org.

The Helping Hands Food Pantry, 32685 Hwy. 86, Eagle Rock, services the citizens of Eagle Rock, Golden and Mano and is open from 9 to 11:45 A.M. Saturdays and Tuesdays, and 5 to 7 P.M. the first Thursday of the month. Call (417) 271-1301 for more information.

Wheaton Church of Christ will have clothing available the 2nd Saturday of the month from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. For information, or to make a donation, call (417) 652-3873 or (417) 669-6935.

Soil Samples need to be received at the MU B.C. Extension office by 12 P.M. Thursday. Call (417) 847-3161.

Friday Jan 5

Cassville Senior Center will be serving a holiday meal from 11 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. The meal will be sponsored for those 60 years and older. For those under 60, the price will be \$7. A gift giveaway will take place at noon. For more information, call (417) 847-4510. This meal is to make-up for the missed Christmas lunch that was canceled due to a water issue.

The Stella Senior Center, 719 Carter St., Stella, has a dinner and dance every Friday night. The doors open at 5:30 P.M., with a meal at 6 P.M. The dance starts at 7 P.M. This week's band is Dale Johnson and Country Review. Cover charge is \$5. Refreshments are always available. Please call (417) 628-3314 or (417) 489-3661 for more information. The center is located at 719 Carter St. in Stella.

Wednesday Jan 10

South Barry County Ambulance District Meeting will be held at the South Barry County Ambulance Cassville Station, 73 Smithson Dr., Cassville, at 6 P.M.

Saturday Jan 13

Butterfield Friefighters Auxiliary Country Breakfast will be served from 7 to 11 A.M. at the Butterfield Fire Station. The menu includes pancakes, biscuits and gravy, sausage, scrambled eggs, juice, milk and coffee. The price is \$7 for ages 12 and over, and \$5 for ages 11 and under. Delivery is available for Butterfield residents.



St. Edwards Catholic Church
107 W 17th St., Cassville
417-847-4948
Our faith community welcomes you and invites you to share in our celebration of the Holy Mass.
Friday, 9:00 a.m. Saturday, 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, 11:00 a.m.,
in Spanish at 12:30 p.m.
All are welcome!



Happy Birthday To You!

The Barry County Advertiser wants to help you celebrate! Announce your 80th or older birthday in the newspaper for free! Contact us today! 417-847-4475 editor@4bca.com

School Menus: Jan. 8th to Jan. 12th
All meals served with milk and subject to change.

Cassville R-IV High School: Mon: No School. Tues: biscuit & gravy or french toast, sausage patty, tropical fruit or cereal, banana muffin, peaches. L: fish sticks or corndog, mac & cheese, glazed carrots, peaches. Wed: B: biscuit & gravy or nuggets, hashbrown, fruit cocktail or cereal, Rice Krispies Treat, pears. L: crispito or burrito, corn, nachos, applesauce. Thurs: B: biscuit & gravy or breakfast pizza, hashbrown, pears or cereal, granola bar, fruit cocktail. L: meatball sub or BBQ pork sandwich, Sun Chips, mixed vegetables, mandarin oranges. Fri: B: biscuit & gravy or scrambled eggs, sausage patty, peaches or cereal, Pop-Tart, fruit cocktail. L: chili or little smokies, cheese stick, crackers, green beans, fruit cocktail.

Cassville R-IV Pri. Int. Mid.: Mon: No School. Tues: B: biscuit & gravy or nuggets, hashbrown, applesauce or cereal, Rice Krispies Treat, pears. L: burrito or quesadilla, nachos, refried beans, pears. Wed: B: biscuit & gravy or french toast, sausage patty, strawberries or cereal, Teddy Grahams, applesauce. L: chicken fried steak or chicken nuggets, potatoes, green beans, mandarin oranges. Thurs: B: biscuit & gravy or scrambled eggs, toast, peaches or cereal, graham crackers, fruit cocktail. L: meatball sub or crispito, corn, Sun Chips, fruit cocktail. Fri: B: biscuit & gravy or sausage biscuit, hashbrown, applesauce or cereal, Go-Gurt, pears. L: hamburger or hot dog, tater tots, green beans, peaches.

Purdy R-II Schools: Mon: No School. Tues: B: biscuits & gravy, sausage patty, fruit. L: taco soup, tortilla chips, cheese stick, fruit. Wed: B: french toast sticks, syrup cup, Go-Gurt, fruit. L: chicken nuggets, mac & cheese, green beans, fruit. Thurs: B: breakfast pizza, Go-Gurt, fruit. L: Frito pie, corn, fruit. Fri: B: oatmeal round, Go-Gurt, fruit. L: chicken patty sandwich, chips, baby carrots with ranch, fruit.

Monett Library Activities

Mondays - 1:30 P.M. Chair Yoga
Tuesdays - (1st Tuesday) 1 P.M. Book Club
Wednesdays - (1st 4 of month) 12 P.M. Quilting
Monett Branch Library is located at 2200 Park St., Monett. Phone number is 417-235-7350



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CAROL LOUISE (FOWLER) JERECZEK
Carol Louise (Fowler) Jereczek, age 90, of Cassville, passed away on Monday, December 25, 2023, at her home.

Carol was born on February 16, 1933, at Blythedale, the daughter of Clarence and Maude (Hill) Fowler. She attended Cisco Grade School and graduated from Blythedale High School in 1950. After graduation, she and her sister Mildred went to California, where she met and married William G. Jereczek on October 28, 1962. Bill and Carol retired and moved to Cassville in 1984 to be closer to family.

Carol was the last surviving sibling of

her generation. She leaves two daughters, Michele Jereczek, of Cassville, and Cynthia Nelson (Lee), of Las Vegas, Nevada; one son, Michael Jereczek, of Cassville; five grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren. Also surviving are two sister-in-laws, Cynthia (Marvin) Fowler, of Richland, Washington, and Mary Ann (Don) Fowler, of Bellingham, Washington, along with many nieces and nephews.

Carol was preceded in death by her husband, Bill; her parents, Clarence and Maude (Hill) Fowler; her four brothers, Randall, Francis, Marvin, and Don; and her three sisters Virginia, Mildred, and Kathleen.

After cremation and at a later date, her ashes along with her husband's, will be brought back to Blythedale, where there will be a Graveside Memorial Service with full Military Honors and they together will be buried

OBITUARIES

in the Fowler Family plot at the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery north of Blythedale.

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



ROGER GALE BROWN

Roger Gale Brown, age 76, of Cassville, passed away Sunday, December 31, 2023, at his home.

He was born January 15, 1947, in Wheaton, the son of Ira and Ruth Pauline (Nelson) Brown. On December 15, 1967, in Cassville, he was united in marriage to Patricia Ann Hodges, who survives. Also surviving are one son, Brian Brown and his wife, Mashall Lander, of Live Oak, Texas; one daughter, Laura Bond and her husband, Lance, of Hilo,

Hawaii; two brothers, Larry Brown and his wife, Sue, of Fairview, and Jody Brown, of Cassville; one sister, Kimmie Brown, of Cassville; four grandchildren, Leilani Bond, Logan Stidham, Brittaney Melvin and Dealen Jones; and two great-grandchildren, Tatum Stidham and Archer Stidham.

Preceding him in death were his parents; three brothers, Harold Brown, Denny Brown and Frankie Brown; two sisters, Evelyn Haddock and Sandy Bierschwal; and two sisters-in-law, Mary Lou Brown and Jina Brown.

Roger grew up and attended school in Exeter, graduating from Exeter High School in 1965. He was employed by Wells Aluminum as a fork lift operator for 35 years from where he retired. After retiring, he worked for the Cassville School District as a janitor for several years. Roger never missed a morning going to C and C Country Store in Exeter for coffee. He loved going horseback riding, fishing, farming and spending time outdoors, but most of all he loved his family, especially his grandchildren.

White Funeral Home and Crematory

To view all obituaries, visit www.whitefuneralhome.org
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Services will be held at 2:00 P.M. Friday, January 5, 2024, at Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Cassville, under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor Kevin Hilton will conduct the services. Burial will be at Concord Cemetery in Exeter.

Visitation will be held from 1:00 P.M. until service time at Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Cassville.

Contributions may be made to Mt. Olive Baptist Church in memory of Roger.

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

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



MARY ELLEN HARRISON

Mary Ellen Harrison, age 93, of Hot Springs, Arkansas, passed away Wednesday, December 27, 2023, at Montgomery County Nursing Home in Mount Ida, Arkansas.

She was born February 16, 1930, in Eureka Springs, Arkansas, the daughter of Neria and Maybelle (Beaver) Pruitt, who preceded her in death. Also preceding her in death were one son, Steve Abram; one brother, Eugene Pruitt; one sister, Alice Faye Waldron; and one nephew, Matthew Abram.

Surviving are one son, Mike Abram, of Hot Springs, Arkansas; one sister, Ella Mae Lowe, of Kansas City; two grandchildren, Lori and Amy; two great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Mary was employed by St. Luke's Hospital of Kansas City in Kansas City for several years as an administrative secretary. Some of her favorite pastimes were knitting and gardening.

Services were held at Tuesday, January 2, 2024, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Brother Tony Ball conducted the services.

FOHN FUNERAL HOME CASSVILLE, MO.

417-847-2141

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



NATHAN WADE BOYD

Nathan Wade Boyd, age 55, of Exeter, passed away Wednesday, December 27, 2023, at his home.

Private memorial services will be held at a later date. Cremation arrangements are under direction of McQueen Funeral Home in Wheaton.

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Stock Market Insights

By Dr. Richard Baker, AIF®
<https://www.facebook.com/Dr.RichardBaker>

Stick To Your Investment Plan in 2024

Don't get on the unicycle. My friend is a comic magician in Branson. One of his gigs is to get people to attempt to ride a unicycle while he steals their watch and shows it to the crowd behind their heads. It only works because he gets people distracted by struggling on the unicycle. I don't know what crazy things will happen in the new year, but I know distracted investors will get left behind.

The year 2023 will go down as the year investors couldn't go wrong. It had significant emotional highs and lows, but it was a great year for those who stayed invested. The Federal Reserve's high-interest rates tempted some investors into CDs and Treasury bonds, only to miss out on the last few weeks of the year when the market took off.

In 2024, I expect markets to return to a more normal cycle. In the last couple of years, extreme conditions, such as Fed decisions, bank crises, and inflation, have dominated the market. Still, I expect the market in the new year to return to a profit-driven one where growth is based on earnings. Investors will become focused on market patterns associated with declining interest rates.

Though rates will influence stock values most, corporate profits are moving into a sweet spot. Stocks look fully valued at current interest rates as we start 2024, but as the rates lower, values should increase, which could lead to mid-to-high single-digit returns in 2024.

Don't get caught up in the emotional drama. With 2024 being a presidential election year, it will have its own surprises and emotional challenges. This may be the nastiest election cycle of our lifetime, and the risk of global wars will

tempt many investors to make emotional investing decisions. Financially speaking, and probably emotionally too, don't get caught up in the "what ifs" and miss investment opportunities. Remember, the Newscasters and podcasters sell ads on hyped-up drama, but you will retire on regularly investing in companies who create consistent earnings.

Do you remember the bank crisis at the beginning of 2023 that was going to destroy the banking system? Do you remember the high gas prices in the summer of 2022 that were supposed to bankrupt everyone? Do you remember when the container ship got stuck sideways in the Suez Canal in 2021 and was supposed to upset the markets for months? The markets overcame these obstacles, and the potential crisis never came.

Strange things are always happening and will happen in 2024 as well. Don't get distracted by the emotional drama because, with your money, there is more at risk than a few laughs at a Branson show. I see more reasons to be positive in the next year than negative. So, find a financial professional you trust, have a good investment plan, and stick to it.

Have a blessed week!
www.FerventWM.com

Securities and advisory services offered through LPL Financial, a registered investment advisor, Member FINRA/SIPC. Opinions voiced above are for general information only & not intended as specific advice or recommendations for any person. All performance cited is historical & is no guarantee of future results. All indices are unmanaged and may not be invested directly. The economic forecast outlined in this material may not develop as predicted & there can be no guarantee that strategies promoted will be successful. Fervent Wealth Management is a financial management and services entity in Springfield, Missouri.

2024 Recreational Trails Program Grant Round is now open

From Missouri State Parks

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Division of State Parks has announced that the 2024 grant rounds for the Recreational Trails Program is now open. RTP grants are available to cities, counties and nonprofit organizations to be used to create motorized and non-motorized trails for recreational use. Federal agencies can apply for funding for motorized trails. For more information about this program, to download the grant application and to register for a grant application workshop, visit mostateparks.com/page/61220/recreational-trails-program-rtp-grants. For questions, contact grants management staff at mspgrants@dnr.mo.gov. The deadline to apply is Feb. 21, 2024.

Missouri Soybeans has partnered on the Farmers for Soil Health project

From the US Department of Agriculture

Missouri Soybeans has partnered on the Farmers for Soil Health project, which is a cover crop incentive program for Missouri row crop farmers. This program has a simple enrollment process with various flexible cover crop options. To break it down, this program is a three-year commitment and yearly payments are as follows: \$25 per acre during the first year; \$15 per acre during the second year; and \$10 per acre during the third year.

Enrollment for cover cropped acres planted in the fall of 2023 is now open. Enrollment for acres planted in the fall of 2024 will open March 1, 2024 and run through the end of the year.

For more information, please contact Brady Lichtenberg, Missouri Soybeans Conservation Programs Manager, at blichtenberg@mosoy.org or visit <https://farmersforsoilhealth.com/>.

Governor From Front

ernor Parson will also include funding in his upcoming Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 supplemental budget and his FY 2025 budget to ensure MDA has the necessary resources and staff to enforce these protections.

During the press conference, Governor Parson made clear that his order does not impact Missouri's valued economic partnerships with foreign allies, including Israel, Sweden, Germany, the United Kingdom, and Japan, among many others that have a long-standing presence in Missouri and employ thousands of Missourians.

In the last five years alone, foreign investment in Missouri has totaled nearly \$19 billion and directly supported close to 150,000 Missouri jobs.

"There are numer-

ous Missouri employers from friendly nations that we have strong economic relationships with, and we must ensure we are not disrupting Missouri's economy or Missourians' lives and livelihoods. Common-sense decisions and a balanced approach must always win, and Missouri must remain open for business to our allies," Governor Parson said. "As such, we believe this order, with the authority we have, sufficiently protects Missouri's security interests from potential bad actors while not punishing our allies for being good economic partners or

upstanding individuals fleeing oppression and coming to our nation legally in search of a better life."

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Missouri Highway Patrol Troop D Crash Reports

By Adriana Keeton, editor@4bca.com

According to a crash report investigated by Trooper S.J. Walden and Cpl. T.R. Wright with MICU Team #3, assisted by Cpl. T.L. Coffey, on December 29, 2023, at 12:30 p.m. a 2023 Kia Telluride, driven by Allen Lamar, of Wichita Falls, Texas, was traveling westbound on Hwy. 76, four miles west of Exeter, when Lamar suffered a medical incident while driving. The vehicle went off the road, came back onto the road, left the road again, and struck an embankment.

Lamar was pronounced deceased at the scene by Barry County Coroner Gary Swearingen. A passenger in the vehicle, Jean Lamar, also of Wichita Falls, Texas, received minor injuries and was transported by EMS to Mercy Hospital in Springfield. The driver was wearing a safety device, the passenger was not. The vehicle was totalled and transported by Brice's Towing, Cassville. This was Troop D's 144th fatality of 2023.

According to a crash report investigated by Trooper T.M. Royster, on January 1, 2024, at 6:55 p.m., a 2012 Buick Enclave, driven by Jennifer Talbert, of Purdy, was traveling southbound on Hwy. 37 1/2 mile north of Purdy, when a 2016 Ford Focus, driven by McKenzie Renkoski, of Purdy, pulled into the path of Talbert.

Renkoski was wearing a safety device and was transported by EMS to Freeman West in Joplin with moderate injuries. Talbert, along with passengers Joshua Talbert and a juvenile, were all transported by EMS to Cox South in Springfield. All three were not wearing safety devices and received moderate injuries.

Both vehicles were totaled and towed by Thomas Towing.

CFO scholarships now open for application

From Community Foundations of the Ozarks

Students can now apply for \$1.7 million in scholarships administered by the Community Foundation of the Ozarks. By completing the CFO's new universal application, students can more efficiently apply for scholarship opportunities. Students can begin the process at cfozarks.org/applyforscholarships.

The universal application is a comprehensive online form with a series of questions unique to each student. Based on their responses, the universal application will pair students with the scholarship opportunities for which they qualify. The new system will save students time while identifying scholarships they might not have known about.

In addition to scholarships for graduating seniors, the CFO has opportunities for current college students and students attending technical or graduate programs. Amounts range from \$200 to \$10,000, with many scholarships renewable for two to four years.

The CFO holds about 480 scholarship funds that will provide about 900 scholarships for students across central and southern Missouri for the 2024-25 school year. Scholarship funds are established by individuals, families or organizations with a wide range of intentions, such as supporting students who graduate from the donor's alma mater or pursue a certain field of study.

Information about the CFO's scholarship opportunities and application process is available at cfozarks.org/scholarships.

Applications will close for most CFO scholarships on Sunday, March 24. For more information, contact Beth Hersh at bherish@cfozarks.org, or call 417-864-6199.

Reeves From Front

erage," Reeves opined. "Without the Advertiser, Barry County would no longer have a place to get their news in the county for free. That's why I want to know what stories are most important to the Advertiser's readers each week."

In this week's issue of the Advertiser, readers will find a return postage paid survey postcard insert to complete and return to Reeves by the January 25, 2024, deadline. Respondents will be asked to rank their top five story categories in the paper from a list of options, which will assist Reeves with her project, as well as provide the publisher with data about which stories the community considers are the most valuable or memorable.

Respondents will be entered into a drawing on February 1, 2024, for two gift certificates to The Rib in Cassville for participating in the survey.

Reeves graduated from Southwest in 2019 and earned her bachelors degree in Broadcast Journalism in 2023 from Mizzou. She is currently seeking her masters degree as part of the journalism accelerated grad program with plans to graduate in May of 2024.

The Washburn native is currently a reporter and anchor for newscasts each week at the Mizzou owned NBC affiliate station KOMU in Columbia. She has interned for KY3 News in Springfield and has written stories for the Barry County Advertiser.

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