

Upcoming.....4A	Classified.....13-14A	Cassville School Bond 5A • Wheaton Parade 16A
Obits..... 10-11A	Auctions.....12A	

## Haven of the Ozarks welcomes new director

Ezra DeVore

The Haven of the Ozarks has welcomed a new director, Laura Jarek. Jarek is originally from Boston, Mass., though she moved to Washburn ten years ago to have land for her horses and a farm of her own in retirement. In Boston, where she still owns horses, the animals are kept in boarding facilities with arenas, as opposed to the animals residing on one's property.

Eight weeks ago, while working part-time for a local veterinarian, Dr. Thorpe, at Riverview Animal Clinic in Cassville, Jarek stated that the Haven board of directors asked Dr. Thorpe if he knew anyone that could fit the position of Haven director, and he advised Jarek. The interview process was approximately two weeks, and Jarek began her job in early November.

With a career spent in corporate marketing, Jarek says she was ready to retire and calm her life down; however, as her passions pursued her, she fell into the chain of events that would lead to her being offered the position.

"This was a mission I couldn't turn down," she says. Jarek says that "a lifetime of horse training and dog work" acclimated her for the position, and she states that it means a great deal to her to have the opportunity to "give these pets a second chance, even though many weren't ever given a first, to get into good health. I stated to the board of directors that I would be hunkering down with the staff and really working to make sure these animals are, I call it, 'the most spoiled in the United States of America.' That's our goal. They receive excellent medical care, and we work on getting to know them so we can, I call it, make a 'love connection.' Really paying attention to who's coming in to adopt, understanding their family dynamic, and matching the pet to that, and it is definitely working."

Jarek says that if a family already has a pet, bring it with them upon visiting Haven. Jarek says that this is where the best "matchmaking" occurs, in real-time, as the pets react to one another alongside the family.

"We are trying our best to work with the community,



Laura Jarek, shown above, is the new director of Haven of the Ozarks, in Washburn.

to give back to the community, and to try to increase the amount of adoptions we have so we can take more in. We don't want to say no. We want to be able to take in every case we get."

Alternative resources and waiting lists are offered if kennels are full, though Jarek says this does not happen often. As a no-kill shelter, Haven of the Ozarks makes an effort to accept all animals they can. "We have lots of beautiful puppies that need homes," she says.

Jarek plans to strengthen engagement with the local communities and become involved in more local events.

If you would like to volunteer, please get in touch with the Haven of the Ozarks at 417-835-3647.

## Cassville receives grant for pedestrian and bike corridor

Ezra DeVore

Over the coming years, the City of Cassville will be taking steps to construct a pedestrian/bike corridor between Mill Street and the City of Cassville's Greenway Trail, including 61 feet of 10-foot wide sidewalk leading to a 240-foot pedestrian bridge spanning Flat Creek.

The city applied for and was approved to receive \$500,000 of Transportation Enhancement Program Funds, which is going toward the project. The program funds are expected to cover 61% of the total cost to design and build the infrastructure, and the remaining funds will be the burden of the city. The process officially began Monday, December 12.

Steve Walensky, Cassville's City Administrator, states his excitement. "I am thrilled that we've got some grant money coming, we're very lucky to get the grant, and we'll see where we go from there. Should be exciting!"

Construction is estimated to begin shortly after September 2024.

## One injured in Highway 37 crash



According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol crash report, at approximately 9:10 a.m., December 7, Jessica Lawyer, 29, of Seligman, was on MO-37, approximately 1 mile south of Butterfield, when a 2019 Peterbilt truck, driven by Quenton Blevins, 53, of Jay, Okla., failed to yield and struck the side of Lawyer's vehicle, totaling her Kia Sorento. Lawyer was transported by ambulance to Mercy Hospital in Springfield with minor injuries. Both vehicles were towed by Thomas Towing, the Peterbilt having sustained moderate damage.

## Volunteers preparing Share Your Christmas gifts



Volunteers sorted Share Your Christmas gifts on Monday, December 12, at the United Methodist Church, in Cassville. Shown above, from left to right, are volunteers Jamie Edie, Penny David, Marolyn Wood, Trish McCracken, Johnnie Edie, Judy Harris, Fallon Wahlert, Linda Marple and Bobbie Tucker.

Tis the Season to be Sharing...  
Your Christmas Stories, Poems and Memories!

Send your Christmas Stories, Poems and Memories to [editor@4bca.com](mailto:editor@4bca.com), or mail to The Barry County Advertiser, Attention: Editor, PO Box 488, Cassville, Missouri, 65625, by December 19 at 5 p.m. for a chance to be featured in our December 21 issue.

Stories, Poems and Memories need to be less than 400 words.  
One photo, which may or may not be used, can be submitted with each entry.

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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.

### Notice:

**The public is invited to attend a retirement reception for Gary Youngblood.** Barry County Presiding Commissioner, on Monday, December 19, at 2 P.M. in the Barry County Courthouse located at 700 Main St., Cassville. Gary served as Barry County Clerk from 1995 to 2018 and as Presiding Commissioner from 2018 to 2022.

**Bayless/Salyer House** will be open each Sunday afternoon from 1 P.M. until 4 P.M. through December 18 for family holiday pictures. The historic home is located on the corner of 9th and Townsend Streets in Cassville. Donations are requested. Call (417) 825-9676 for more information or visit the Barry County Genealogical and Historical Society FaceBook page.

**Cassville License Office** will be closed on December 23rd and 26, 2022.

**Capps Creek Road District bridge on Farm Road 2040** (west of the Polanski Catholic Church) will be closed until further notice due to repairs.

**Farm Road 1162 off of F Highway will be closed until further notice for bridge repairs.**

**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. OATS offices will be

closed, and regular routes will not be running on Monday, December 26, 2022 and Monday, January 2, 2023. You can also visit our website at oatstransit.org and view the local. OATS Transit is hiring drivers statewide in case you know of someone who would make a great driver, so we can continue serving our riders

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

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

**The Helping Hands Food Pantry services the citizens of Eagle Rock, Golden and Mano** and is open from 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. every Saturday and Tuesday, and also 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month. Questions for the pantry can be answered by calling (417) 271-1301 or visiting at 32685 State Hwy. 86 in Eagle Rock. (Just 1/4 mile east of the Hwy. P intersection). The pantry is supported by area churches, business associations and private donations. *Significant support received through affiliation and purchasing power of Ozark Food Harvest, Springfield.*

**God's Closet in Eagle Rock** is now open every Tuesday 9 A.M. to 12 P.M. They have lots of free clothing for those in need. Located on Hwy. 86 in Eagle Rock just past Mitchell Plaza and across from the Helping Hands Food Pantry.

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

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

**Donations of new and gently used clothing** are being collected by the Wheaton Church of Christ. They are looking for all types of clothing for all ages. Please call (417) 652-3873 to set up an appointment to drop off donations.

**Soil samples** need to be received at the MU B.C. Extension office by 12 P.M. on Thursday. Shipments go out once a week on Friday. The fee for the soil sample test is \$20. Contact the Extension Office at (417) 847-3161 with any questions.

### Thursday, December 15

**Free Photos with Santa Event** will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 P.M. at the Crowder College Cassville Campus, 4020 Main St., Cassville. Bring your own device to snap a selfie or volunteers will help take a photo of the whole family.

**The Barry County Republican Club** will hold its monthly meeting at the Barry County Museum at 6:30 P.M.

### Friday, December 16

**Cassville Senior Center** is having a Christmas Lunch from 11 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. The meal will be sponsored by the Cassville Methodist Church. The menu will be roast beef, roasted potatoes, roasted broccoli, hot roll, and desert buffet. A drawing will be held after lunch for prizes. The senior center is located at 1111 Fair Street, Cassville. For more information, call (417) 847-4510.

### Friday, December 16 continued

**Cassville Senior Center** will have live music by the Shell Knob Strings from 11 to 11:45 A.M. with Bingo to follow at noon.

**A Dinner and Dance** will be held at the Stella Senior Center with doors opening at 5:30 P.M. Potluck buffet meal will be served at 6 P.M. Music provided by Moccasin Bend Band will begin at 7 P.M. Cover charge is \$5. This is a family friendly event. Please call (417) 628-3314 or (417) 489-3661 for information.

**Music** will be held at the Clio Community Building located on Hwy. 39 south of Jct. 248 beginning at 6:00 p.m.

### Monett Branch Library Programs

**Adult programs**  
Wednesdays, 12pm  
Quilting & More with Cheryl and Joni  
2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 1pm  
Crochet Classes with Amber

**December Programs for Children**  
Fridays, After School Kids (ASK) 3-5pm (December 16)  
Wednesdays, Story Time, 10:15am (December 21, 28)  
Thursday, After School Kids Family Winter Movie, December 22, 2:30-5pm

### This week at the Cassville Branch Barry-Lawrence Regional Library

**Thursday, Dec., 15, 10am**  
Preschool Storytime Sign up required  
**Thursday, Dec., 15, 2pm**  
Preschool Storytime Sign-up required  
**Friday, Dec., 16, 12-4pm**  
Blood Drive  
**Saturday, Dec. 17, 10am-12pm**  
Cookies and Carols  
*Please call the library at 417-847-2121 for more information.*

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Christmas Service

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Retirement Reception for

Gary Youngblood

Barry County Clerk 1995-2018 • Presiding Commissioner 2019-2022

Please join us in wishing Gary well!!

Monday, December 19, 2022

2:00 p.m.

Old Courthouse

700 Main St., Cassville

Refreshments will be served

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School Menus: Dec. 19 - Dec. 23

All meals served with milk and subject to change.

Cassville R-IV PR-IN-Middle: Mon: B: biscuit and gravy or breakfast pizza, hashbrown, pears or cereal, blueberry muffin, applesauce. L: corndog or shrimp, mac and cheese, glazed carrots, fruit cocktail. Tues: B: biscuit and gravy or breakfast burrito, sausage patty, pineapple or cereal, Rice Krispies Treat, apple slices. L: grilled cheese or turkey sandwich, Sun Chips, carrot sticks, applesauce. Wed: B: biscuit and gravy or french toast, sausage patty, peaches or cereal, cinnamon toast, fruit cocktail. L: chili or little smokies, cheese stick, crackers, broccoli, peaches. Thurs: B: biscuit and gravy or oatmeal, cinnamon toast, mandarin oranges or cereal, Pop-Tart, peaches. L: pizza, corn, Rice Krispies Treat, peaches. Fri: No School.

Cassville R-IV High School: Mon: B: biscuit and gravy or cherry frudel, yogurt cup, tropical fruit or cereal, Go-Gurt, pears. L: BBQ Pork or meatball sub, Baked Lays, baked beans, juice. Tues: B: biscuit and gravy or pancake on stick, hashbrown, applesauce or cereal, cinnamon toast, orange. L: cheeseburger or chicken nuggets, Doritos, green beans, tropical fruit. Wed: B: biscuit and gravy or scrambled eggs, sausage patty, peaches or cereal, Pop-Tart, peaches. L: chicken and noodles or pork chopette, potatoes, mixed vegetables, breadstick, fruit cocktail. Thurs: B: biscuit and gravy or mini cini, yogurt cup, fruit cocktail or cereal, banana muffin, pears. L: pizza, carrot sticks, Sun Chips, peaches. Fri: No School.

Purdy R-II Schools: Mon: B: oatmeal, cinnamon toast, fruit. L: chicken noodle soup, whole wheat grilled cheese sandwich, carrots, fruit. Tues: B: whole grain biscuit, gravy, sausage patty, fruit. L: fish sandwich, french fries, baked beans, fruit. Wed: pancake and sausage bites, syrup cup, Go-gurt



## P.A.W.S focus of Cassville Schools April Bond Initiative

*Ezra DeVore*

On November 17, the Cassville school district's board of education approved a resolution to construct a new performing arts center, repurposing space for a wrestling program, and general repairs and maintenance across the District. A special school bond election will therefore be held on April 4, 2023, with the vote deciding the actions of the school district.

If initiated, Paragon Architecture has been selected as the District's architect for the projects. R.E. Smith was previously chosen as the District's construction management company for the project.

Merlyn Johnson, superintendent for the Cassville school district, states that this will be a no-tax rate increase initiative. Johnson also says that the bond proceeds will allow for improved opportunities and space at the high school for students in the fine

arts programs, including opportunities to become familiar with advanced programming, recording, and sound systems.

This performing arts center would also serve as a site for elementary school concerts, award programs, and movie nights.

"The addition of the performing arts center will be something the community can be proud of and use for many community-related events," Johnson states.

He predicts that relocating a number of fine arts classes will create space for other needs on the campus, such as the desired space for wrestling. There will be safety and energy upgrades with all projects, which would include energy-saving/maintenance repairs and upgrades throughout all campuses. Many of these upgrades center around the campus's older buildings, such as the primary and middle schools. A focal point of the improve-

ments will also be to secure the entryway into the high school even further.

"We are very excited about the possibilities of this bond initiative," Johnson continues. "School improvement is an ongoing process, and something school districts should never stop doing. The selected projects on the April 4 ballot are all student-centered improvements. Cassville R-IV students deserve the same opportunities as many neighboring districts. If you have a particular topic you would like addressed, or if you have any ideas or questions concerning the bond initiative, please contact me by email at [mjohnson@cassville.k12.mo.us](mailto:mjohnson@cassville.k12.mo.us) or phone at (417) 847-2221."

The project is estimated to cost 9 million dollars and will be on the April 4, 2023, ballot.

The bond initiative is projected to read as follows: Shall the Board of Education of the Cassville R-IV School

District, Missouri, without an estimated increase in the current debt service property tax levy, borrow money in the amount of Nine Million Dollars (\$9,000,000) for the purpose of providing funds to construct, equip, and furnish a new Performing Arts Center on the High School campus; to implement energy saving/maintenance improvements, including roofs, windows, electrical systems, gutters, heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) units, and lighting; to complete safety upgrades District-wide; to repurpose existing space for the wrestling program; to the extent funds are available, complete other repairs and improvements of the existing facilities of the District; and issue general obligation bonds for the payment thereof? If this proposition is approved, the adjusted debt service levy of the School District is estimated to remain unchanged at \$0.5071 per one hundred dollars of assessed evaluation of real and personal property.

## McGee's to celebrate 50th anniversary



*Leonard McGee and Myra Bell McGee, of Purdy, were married on December 31, 1972, in Cave Springs, Arkansas. They are the parents of two children, Rachel (Paul) Akin and Adam (Lida Fay) McGee. All friends are invited to a reception on Saturday, December 31, 2022, from 2-4 p.m., at the Monett Church of Christ fellowship room, in Monett. Your good wishes are the only gift we wish to receive.*

## MDC reports 16,032 deer harvested during antlerless portion


Preliminary data from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) shows that deer hunters in Missouri harvested 16,032 deer during the antlerless portion of the firearms deer season, Dec. 3-11. Last year's antlerless-portion harvest total was 15,019. Top harvest counties were Callaway, with 451 deer harvested; Pike, 412; Macon, 348. Ninety-three were harvested in Barry County.

For ongoing preliminary harvest totals by season, county, and type of deer, visit the MDC website at [extra.mdc.mo.gov/widgets/harvest\\_table/](http://extra.mdc.mo.gov/widgets/harvest_table/).

For harvest summaries from past years, visit [mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/deer/deer-reports/deer-harvest-summaries](http://mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/deer/deer-reports/deer-harvest-summaries).

The archery season runs through Jan. 15, 2023. The alternative methods portion runs from Dec. 24 through Jan. 3, 2023.

Find more information on deer hunting from MDC's 2022 Fall Deer & Turkey Hunting Regulations and Information booklet, available where permits are sold and online at [mdc.mo.gov/about-us/about-regulations/fall-deer-turkey-hunting-regulations-information](http://mdc.mo.gov/about-us/about-regulations/fall-deer-turkey-hunting-regulations-information).




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Little Known Property-Tax Relief Programs Help Seniors Save

Dear Savvy Senior,

I recently learned about a property-tax relief program for seniors in the county where I live. Apparently, there are hundreds of these programs across the country that many retirees, like me, are eligible for but don't know about. What can you tell me about this?

Overtaxed Eddie

Dear Eddie,

Great question! Residential property-tax refund and credit programs exist in nearly every state, but unfortunately few people know about them. These programs can help retirees and many other Americans by reducing their property taxes. Here's

what you should know.

**Rising Property Taxes**

Property taxes are a major source of income for local governments, but while they help fund key public services, they can be a financial drain for many homeowners, especially retirees, many of whom live on fixed incomes.

According to Attom Data Solutions, a property-data provider, the average American household paid \$3,785 in property taxes in 2021, but this amount varies widely depending on your state's tax rate and your home's estimated value. For example, New Jersey residents paid \$9,476 per year on average in 2021, while West Virginia residents paid \$901.

To help ease this tax burden, most states offer a num-

ber of property-tax relief programs. But states aren't always proactive in letting people know. It's up to you, the homeowner, to find out what's available in your county or city that you may be eligible for, and to apply.

**Relief Programs**

Property tax relief programs, sometimes called exemptions, release eligible homeowners from paying some or all of their property tax obligation. How long the exemption lasts can vary depending on where you live, and the reason you're applying for the exemption.

The tax-relief process varies by county, city or state. In general, you'll have to meet certain eligibility requirements, submit an application and provide documents that support your request. Most programs will either reduce, waive or freeze property taxes for seniors, veterans, surviving spouses, disabled and low-income residents.

But there are some counties that also offer basic homestead exemptions to homeowners regardless of age or income, and others that may provide exemptions to homeowners that have re-

cently made energy-efficient improvements to their home.

**Where to Look**

The best way to learn about local property-tax relief programs and their eligibility requirements is to visit your county, city or state website that collects your property tax. Most of these sites also provide applications and instructions, and will allow you to apply either online, by mail or at your local tax office.

Another good resource for locating programs in your area is the Lincoln Institute, which has a property-tax database that lets you to browse programs across the country. To access it go to Residential-PropertyTaxReliefPrograms.org.

AARP may also be able to help through their Property Tax-Aide service – see PTAconsumers.aarpfoundation.org. This free program, which is available in 13 states (Arizona, Colorado, Florida–Miami Dade County, Illinois–Cook County, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York and North Carolina) and the District of Columbia helps eligible homeowners and renters apply for relief.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of “The Savvy Senior” book.

**Stock Market Insights**

By Dr. Richard Baker, AIF®  
https://www.facebook.com/Dr.RichardBaker  
Founder & Executive Wealth Advisor at Steadfast Wealth Management

**Better Than I Remembered**

“We had a fountain under our wedding cake?” A few days ago, on our 26th anniversary, we watched our wedding video for the first time in 20 years and were surprised by a lot of it. Most notably, neither of us remembers having a beautiful fountain under our tall wedding cake. Overall, we thought our wedding was classier than we remembered. We are only a few days into December with all eyes on the holidays, but we might be surprised at how good November was stock marketwise when we take a moment to look back at it.

November didn't feel that awesome. The midterm elections dominated the headlines, and several states may have hired sloths to count their ballots. It felt like the market continued its roller coaster ride that has been 2022. But I think it was better than we remember.

While doing my analysis for November, I was surprised by how good it ended up. The S&P 500 stocks were up 5.6% for the month. The Dow Jones Industrials stocks were a little better by being positive 6%. At the same time, the tech-heavy stocks in the Nasdaq index were up 4.5%. So November was definitely better than I remembered it being.

Unless I'm with a client, I

watch the market every 3-5 minutes to keep a “pulse” of the market. Doing this helps me understand the market tendencies, but it does make me have a somewhat negative view of the market. It's helpful for me to look back at the market as a whole to have the best perspective.

With the usually seasonal push, good valuations, and the possibility the Fed halts its rate hiking campaign in early spring 2023, I feel good about stock gains next year. I believe this even though we have the potential of level growth or a mild recession. Perspective helps.

The wedding kiss was a lot better than I remembered too. For those who don't know me personally, I'm married to a very beautiful girl, and I'm the guy people see and think, “How did he get her?” This must have been on my mind when Pastor Dave said I could kiss my bride. I guess you could say “I got my money's worth.” It didn't escape the notice of my 16-year-old son. He said, “Dad, you got moves! That was like three kisses in one.” That was awkward.

Have a blessed week!

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LEVEL AND WOODED Approximately ½ acre m/l in Shell Knob.

#60231753

\$9,900

4 WOODED LOTS Just under an acre m/l on a low traffic road in Shell Knob.

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CREEKFRONT ACREAGE 7.5 acres m/l with Flat Creek frontage and plenty of room to build.

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SECLUDED HOME ON SMALL ACREAGE This 3 BR, 2 BA sits off the road on 2 acre m/l. New jetted tub!

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10-13c



# Letter to the Editor

I got beat up when I was seven years old. This boy said my mother was a liar for teaching me that there was a Santa Clause and an Easter Bunny.

Every person over ten knows this is a lie, but you continue to teach this to your children. Both Christmas and Easter are man-made false pagan holidays. They are derived from pagan rituals.

Jeramiah 10:3-5 says, The customs of the people are vain, (worthless): for one cuts a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe. 4 They deck the tree with silver and with gold; then they fasten it with nails and with hammers so that the tree cannot move. 5 They are upright as the palm tree, but they do not speak: they must be carried because they cannot go. Do not be afraid of them; because they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good.

Hundreds of years ago, people were uneducated and very superstitious. They did not understand the science of photosynthesis. Every winter, most of the trees would lose their leaves, so the people believed that they were dying. However, the evergreen trees did not lose their greenery, so the superstitious people believed they were God's.

The men each went out with an axe, and they cut these Gods down, and they carried the God into their homes and nailed boards to it so that it would not fall over. Then the family decorated it with pretty ornaments. Then the family bowed down on their knees to worship these Gods which they had created, and they offered them gifts which they placed under the evergreen tree.

It sure is a good thing

that we are not uneducated and superstitious like those people were.

The name "Easter" is derived from the German word "Ostern," an Old English version of "Eastre." The goddess Eastre also went by Eostre. Eostre was the goddess of dawn and spring, so that is why "east" – the region in which the sun rises – shares the same root as "Easter." Eostre was also known as the goddess of fertility and birth. She is also known as "Ishtar."

Many assemblies observe Easter Sunrise Service early in the morning when they all gather to watch the sun come up in the east.

Ezekiel 8:16 says, He brought me into the inner court of Ehyeh's house, and behold, at the door of the temple of Ehyeh, between the porch and the altar, were about five and twenty men, with their backs toward the temple of Ehyeh, and their faces (were turned) toward the east; and they worshipped the sun toward the east. This act was considered to be greater abominations.

So then, do you imagine "eggs" and "bunny rabbits" could possibly have anything to do with Eastre, or Ishtar, the pagan goddess of fertility?

Boyd B. McNiell  
Pea Ridge, Arkansas,  
Formally from Cassville

## Disclaimer:

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



## OZARKS HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Judith Lewaffen  
Retired F.N.P

As Christmas approaches, I started thinking about all the people in my life that are not here to share the holidays. I remember past Christmases and the fun and joy that we shared. I believe this is normal for all of us. But, for those whose loss is recent or those still in the midst of unresolved severe grief, it can be a terrible time of loneliness and sorrow. I am sharing with you some information that we can all use to ease our pain and the pain of those around us who may be suffering.

We all need to realize it is normal to feel some sadness at this time of the year, especially if you have had a recent loss or can not be with loved ones. If you feel like crying, do so, we all need to express our feelings. Don't try to force yourself or others to be happy.

If you are feeling lonely or alone and want company, check out community dinners or gatherings, churches are always welcoming this time of year, and many organizations have social events. If you are unable to socialize in person, look up websites that offer support groups and virtual events. Volunteering your time or helping others is an excellent way to lift your spirits. Text or call a friend or family member to express your feelings. Technology is not the same as human-to-human contact, but Zoom

is a good alternative. If you have a friend or family member who you are concerned about, reach out to them and offer your support.

Our holidays don't need to be perfect or just like they used to be. Time changes us all and our families. As these changes occur, we need to adjust our expectations. Try a video call if your family can't all be together. Change is hard on us all, but it is the one constant in life. We need to make new traditions that reflect our life situation as it is now.

If you feel constantly sad, irritable, hopeless, and to the point you cannot get your routine daily activities done, then you may need to seek professional help. Talk to your doctor or a mental health counselor. Joining a grief counseling group may be helpful. Please be aware of the new 9-8-8 mental health crisis number that anyone can call for immediate help.

Judith Lewallen is a retired Family Nurse Practitioner with over 40 years experience in healthcare. She currently resides with her husband in Eagle Rock. Information contained in this column is for information purposes only. It is not intended to substitute professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Submit questions or topics for discussion to AnAppleaday68@gmail.com.

# Not Your Average Cookie... For Santa

## Chocolate-Orange Crackle Cookies

### Ingredients

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 stick unsalted butter, cut into pieces
- 5 ounces unsweetened chocolate, cut into pieces
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 2 tablespoons Grand Marnier or other orange-flavored liqueur
- 3 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar

### Directions

1. Whisk the flour, baking powder and salt in a medium bowl; set aside.
2. Heat the butter, chocolate and 1 3/4 cups granulated sugar in a medium saucepan over low heat, stirring, until melted and smooth. Let cool slightly, then add the Grand Marnier and eggs and stir until combined. Add the flour mixture and stir until just combined. Transfer to a bowl, cover and refrigerate

until firm, about 2 hours.

3. Position racks in the upper and lower thirds of the oven and preheat to 350 degrees F. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper. Put the remaining 1/4 cup granulated sugar and the confectioners' sugar in 2 separate shallow bowls. Form the dough into 1-inch balls. Add the dough balls, a few at a time, to the granulated sugar and roll to coat, then transfer to the confectioners' sugar and roll to coat. Arrange about 1 1/2 inches apart on the prepared baking sheets.

4. Bake, switching the pans halfway through, until the cookies are puffed and cracked, about 12 minutes. Let cool 5 minutes on the baking sheets, then transfer to racks to cool completely.

Yield: About 48 cookies  
Recipe developed by Food Network Kitchen.

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Kahlil Gibran

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Tues: Chicken tortilla soup or taco salad, cinnamon roll cake

Wed: Loaded baked potato soup in a bread bowl, pineapple sheet cake

Thurs: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes & gravy, broccoli, roll, lemon delight

Fri: Ham & beans, cornbread, fried potatoes, white Texas sheet cake

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# Evans to attend Washburn University fall 2023



Jolie Evans, of Cassville, will be attending Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas, in the fall of 2023. Evans will be competing in cross country, track, and studying kinesiology, which is the study of the body's movement. This is studied as a preparation for performing physical therapy. Shown above, front row, left to right, are Daron, Jolie, and Jennifer Evans; Back row, left to right, are CHS track coach Erin Flehmer and CHS cross country coach Courtney Kirk.

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# CMS November students of the month



Cassville Middle School is proud to recognize three students as November Students of the Month. The character word of the month was tolerance. Students are pictured above with Mr. Darren Rhea, CMS Principal, and Mr. Jeremy Marple with Willis Insurance. Willis Insurance sponsors the CMS Students of the Month program. Students pictured, left to right, are Sixth Grade: Jack Chappell, son of John and Julie Chappell, of Cassville; Seventh Grade: Jaxon Winfrey, son of Kyle and Amanda Winfrey, of Cassville; and Eighth Grade: Lydia Cupps, daughter of Jay and Ashley Cupps, of Cassville. Students of the Month are nominated by CMS teachers based on academic excellence, perseverance, or improvement, displaying exemplary citizenship, and being a positive influence on school culture. Each award winner receives a candy bar, a Sonic gift card and will enjoy lunch from a local restaurant with CMS Principal Mr. Rhea.

# Crowder College fall commencement ceremonies announced

Crowder College will hold Fall 2022 commencement ceremonies December 16 and 17, 7pm and 10am respectively, in Bob Sneller Gymnasium on the Neosho campus. Nursing students will participate in the Friday ceremony with all other degrees on Saturday. Nearly 400 students applied to graduate this semester with one or more degrees. Student speaker this semester is Andrew Cashion. He is graduating with an Associate of Arts in Business Administration. Cashion plans to continue his education this spring at Missouri Southern State University and pursue a Bachelor of Management degree.

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# Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25  
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602 West Street  
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11-12c



# Cassville announces Mr. and Miss Merry Christmas candidates



Shown above, left to right, are Mr. and Miss Merry Christmas, candidates for Cassville High School. Freshman candidate Gwendylan Harmon is the daughter of Andy and Nikki Harmon and Roxie and Scott Tucker, of Cassville. She is involved in Girls Golf, FBLA, and FFA. Freshman candidate Logan Wingo is the son of Jermiah and Cailey Wingo, of Cassville. He is involved in football, basketball, and FFA. Sophomore candidate Ella Pearman is the daughter of Donny and Pam Pearman, of Eagle Rock. She is interested in FCCLA and FCA. Sophomore candidate Mad-dock Roark is the son of Griff and Lisa Roark, of Cassville. He is involved in Speech and Debate, baseball, FBLA, and mask and gavel. Junior candidate Taylor Smith is the daughter of Jerry and Tori Smith, of Cassville. She is Vice president of SADD and is involved in FFA, softball, A+, Health Occupations, and Skills USA. Junior Candidate Vincent Chadwick is the son of Jamie Chadwick, of Cassville. He is involved in Band and Jazz Band. Senior candidate Ethan Lamborn is the son of Alex and Amy Lamborn, of Eagle Rock. He is involved in football, basketball, FBLA, and FC-CLA. Missing from the photo is senior candidate Audrey Goutney, daughter of Tandi and Jessie Goutney, of Cassville. She is involved in soccer, Speech and Debate, FCCLA, and Fishing Team.

# CHS Cheer team place 10th at state



The Cassville High School Band and fellow students showed the CHS Cheer team off on December 9 to compete in the Co-Ed Small division state competition. The group performed on Saturday, December 10, in Cape Girardeau at the Sho-Me Center and placed 10th overall.

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**PATRICIA KAY “PATTY” FIELDING**  
Patricia Kay “Patty” Fielding, age 69, of Springfield, passed away Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas.

She was born May 31, 1953, in San Jose, California, the daughter of Everet James and Betty Imogene (Henry) Edens. On May 27, 1972, in Seligman, she was united in marriage to Rick Fielding, who survives. Also surviving are her mother, Betty Edens, of Washburn; one son, Jared Fielding and his wife, Christen, of Wentzville; two daughters, Darby Fielding, of Springfield, and Erin Parrigon and her husband, John, of Joplin; two sisters, Pam Tibbs and her husband, Bill, of Wylie, Texas, and Gayle Woodruff and her husband, Tim, of Gainesville, Florida; and five grandchildren, Jack-

son Brownfield, Michael Parrigon, Olivia Parrigon, Aiden Fielding and Carly Fielding.

Preceding her in death was her father, Everet Edens.

Patty attended school in Washburn, graduating from Southwest High School in 1971. She moved to Springfield in 1972 to continue her education, attending Drury College in Springfield and graduating in 1975 where she attained a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She worked as a registered nurse in the neonatal intensive care unit for twenty years and at the Women’s Center as an International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant for twenty years before retiring from Cox Health Medical Center. Patty was a devoted wife and grandmother. She always attended their events any time that she could. She enjoyed canoeing and traveling with her husband of fifty years. Patty was also a devoted nurse, always going out of her way to assist others. When she was younger, Patty rode horses, barrel raced and ran a few 5k races. She was well known for her chocolate chip cookies. Patty was of the Christian faith and was baptized at a young age.

There will be a visitation from 4:00 until 6:00 P.M.

OBITUARIES

Friday, December 16, 2022, at Orchard Crest Baptist Church in Springfield.

Services will be held at 12:30 P.M. Saturday, December 17, 2022, at Washburn First Baptist Church in Washburn, under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor George Wisley will conduct the services. Burial will be at Roller Cemetery in Washburn.

The family will receive friends from 11:00 A.M. until service time Saturday at Washburn First Baptist Church in Washburn.

Contributions may be made to the Fielding family in memory of Patty.

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**RUBY JONES**  
Ruby Jones, age 89, of Cassville, passed away Friday, December 9, 2022, at Cassville Healthcare and Rehabilitation in Cassville.

She was born August 1, 1933, in Idabel, Oklahoma,

the daughter of Roy and Birdie (Casey) Cole. She was united in marriage to Joseph Jones, who preceded her in death in 2012. Also preceding her in death were her parents; two sons, Cecil M. Bobo and Billy W. Bobo; three brothers, Royal Cole, Lawrence Cole and Thurman Cole; one sister, Dovie Cole; and one granddaughter, Angie Bobo.

Surviving are two sons, George Bobo, of Purdy, and Walter Raymond Bobo, of Muskogee, Oklahoma; one daughter, Irene Bobo, of Purdy; three brothers, Vernon Cole, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Rayburn Cole, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Houston Cole, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; four sisters, Patsy Thomason, of Muskogee, Oklahoma, Linda Hall, of Muskogee, Oklahoma, Pauline Hall, of Muskogee, Oklahoma, and Shirley Yount, of Fort Gibson, Oklahoma; seven grandchildren; and numerous great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Ruby graduated from high school in Oklahoma. She was a homemaker her entire life. Family was an extremely important part of her life, she stood by her children no matter what. Ruby loved fishing, gardening and just being outdoors. She was an outstanding cook and was best known for her biscuits and gravy. She was of the Baptist faith.

Services will be held at

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Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am  
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2:00 P.M. Friday, December 16, 2022, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Aaron J. Hoyt and Don Johnson will conduct the services. Burial will be at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in Butterfield.

The family will receive friends from 1:00 P.M. until service time Friday at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.

Contributions may be made to Shriners Hospitals for Children in memory of Ruby.

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**ZONA MAE ENGLAND**  
Zona Mae England, age 91, of Wheaton, passed away Sunday, December 11, 2022, at McDonald County Living Center in Anderson.

She was born June 28, 1931, in Gate, Oklahoma, the daughter of Oden “Pappy” and Beulah (McLeod) Hendrix. On November 27, 1957, in Wheaton, she was united in marriage to Jack England, who preceded her in death on December 24, 2016. Also preceding her in death were her parents; three brothers, Marvin Hendrix, Ed Hendrix and C.L. (Pete) Hendrix; one sister, Nova Schwandt; two sisters-in-law, Mary Lou Hendrix and Judi Hendrix; one brother-in-law, Brian Frank; and an infant niece.

Surviving are two sons, C.L. England and his wife, Donna, of Wheaton, and Mark England and his wife, Lisa, of Wheaton; one daughter, Tammy Haynes and her husband, Kendall, of Fairview; one sister, Betty Frank, of Springfield; seven grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren; and one

great-great-grandchild.

Zona moved to Wheaton in 1936 with her family. She grew up and attended school in Wheaton, graduating from Wheaton High School in 1948. She worked at the Barnes and Stone Chevrolet Agency in Wheaton from 1948 until 1953. She attended Southwest Baptist College in Bolivar, graduating in 1955 and finished her education at Missouri Southern in Joplin, graduating in 1970 earning a bachelor’s degree. For twenty-seven years she taught first grade at the Wheaton Elementary School.

Services will be held at 2:00 P.M. Thursday, December 15, 2022, at McQueen Funeral Home in Wheaton. Brother Tony Ball will conduct the services. Burial will be at Rocky Comfort Cemetery in Rocky Comfort.

The family will receive friends from 1:00 P.M. Thursday until service time at McQueen Funeral Home in Wheaton.

Contributions may be made to the Alzheimer’s Association in memory of Zona.

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**JESSIE R. ANDERSON**  
Jessie R. Anderson, age 69, of Cassville, passed away Sunday, November 27, 2022, at Cassville Healthcare and Rehabilitation in Cassville. Arrangements are currently pending.

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**Blessed are the pure in heart,  
for they will see God.**  
**Matthew 5:8**

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**DEC 22:** Chicken & dumplings, meadow veggies, biscuit, reindeer chow

**DEC 23:** Closed

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RUSSELL DON COLE

Russell Don Cole, age 89 of Wheaton, passed away Wednesday, December 7, 2022, at the Missouri Veteran's Home in Mt. Vernon. Services were held Saturday, December 10, 2022, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor Mark Hall conducted the services. Burial was at Muncie Chapel Cemetery in Wheaton. Contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in memory of Russell.

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JERRY DEAN WHISENHUNT

Jerry Dean Whisenhunt, age 71, of Cassville, passed away Friday, December 9, 2022, in Cassville. He was born October 1, 1951, in Florence, Arizona, the son of Herbert and Claudine (Walker) Whisenhunt. On April 16, 1982, in Miami, Oklahoma, he was united in marriage to Ida Crawford, who survives. Also surviving are one son, Jerry Whisenhunt and his wife, Melissa, of Cassville; two daughters, Jody Gallardo and her husband, Carlos, of Butterfield, and Jennifer Drake and her husband, Joey, of Cassville; one brother, Fred Whisenhunt and his wife, Jean, of Cassville; two sisters, Linda Carver and her husband, Dwayne, of Cookeville, Tennessee, and Jo Ann Bradford and her husband, Bill, of Coweta, Oklahoma; four grandchildren, Valerie Lit-

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tle and her husband, Austin, Zane Gallardo, Alyssa Whisenhunt and Kayla Lowe; and two great-grandchildren, Bennett Little and Blazi Lowe. Preceding him in death were his parents and two grandsons, Trace Andrew Drake and Mason Lowe. Jerry attended high school at Clayton High School in Clayton, Oklahoma. After graduation, he attended Eastern Oklahoma State in Wilburton, Oklahoma, for a short time before moving to Cassville in 1969. He worked at Hydro Aluminum for 28 years, retiring as a supervisor. Jerry enjoyed working on his farm, raising cattle, horses, pigs, and chickens. He had a great passion for the Oklahoma Sooners and enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, but most of all he loved giving people a hard time. Services were held Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Rick Cooper conducted the services. Burial was in Russell Cemetery in Butterfield. Contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in memory of Jerry.

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JAMES ERNEST BUTCHER

James Ernest Butcher "Ernie", age 60, of Washburn, went to be with his Lord and Savior on Saturday, December 10, 2022. He was born November 25, 1962, at Kern General Hospital in Bakersfield, California, the son of Ernest Lee Butcher and Edna Lorraine (Reese).

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OBITUARIES

He was united in marriage with Crystal Butcher, who survives, and they spent 18 years building a life and a love that most people only dream of. Also surviving are his children: Dixie Lorraine Butcher, of the home, Sabrina Clark and husband, Nathaniel, of Fayetteville, Ark., Ernest Butcher and long-time girlfriend, Jessica Drummonds, of Van Buren, Ark., and Brandon Butcher, of Rogers, Ark. Additional surviving children that he raised and claimed as his own include Angelica Kile (Dunson), of Rogers, Ark., Angela Lemke and husband, David, of Fayetteville, Ark., Michael Lemke, of Lowell, Ark., Andrea Lemke, of Colorado, Dakota Duffy and wife, Megan, of Bentonville, Ark., and Michael Duffy, of Bentonville, Ark. He also had 29 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Ernie loved anything outdoors, especially fishing, floating on the river, and hunting. He spent all the time he could on the river with family and friends. Among his favorites were fishing trips with guys from work, and fishing trips with his kids and adopted sister, Jennifer Norris. His favorite time spent on the river was with his wife, Crystal, and Jed and Nicole Walton. Ernie took great pride,

joy, and honor in serving and protecting his church at Word Of Life Fellowship. Ernie worked for NWA Sheet Metal for 15+ years before he became unable to work any longer in May 2020. Preceding him in death were his father, Ernest Lee Butcher, and three grandchildren: Morgan Paige Lemke, Major Allen Butcher, and Kahlyn Ryleigh Crowe. Services will be held at Word Of Life Fellowship, 808 SW. 14th St., Bentonville, Ark., on Friday, December 16, 2022. Visitation will be from 12-1 p.m. and services will be at 1 p.m. Pastors Bill Rogers and Timothy Trammell will be conducting the services.



THEODORE RAY "TEDDY" PETERSON  
 Theodore Ray "Teddy" Peterson, age 49, of Exeter, passed away Friday, December 9, 2022. Private services will be held at a later date. Cremation arrangements are under

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TERRY ALAN ROLLER  
 Terry Alan Roller, age 61, of Purdy, passed away on Monday, December 12, 2022, at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. Service information only, a full obituary will appear in next week's paper. Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 17, 2022, at Arnhart Baptist Church in Purdy, with Pastor Jason Mackey of-

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## IRS reminds those over age 72 to start withdrawals from IRAs and retirement plans

The Internal Revenue Service today reminded those who were born in 1950 or earlier that funds in their retirement plans and individual retirement arrangements face important upcoming deadlines for required minimum distributions to avoid penalties.

Required minimum distributions, or RMDs, are minimum amounts that many retirement plan and IRA account owners must generally withdraw annually after they reach age 72. Account owners can delay taking their first RMD until April 1 following the later of the calendar year they reach age 72 or, in a workplace retirement plan, retire. RMDs are taxable income and may be subject to penalties if not timely taken.

**IRAs**

The RMD rules require traditional IRA, and SEP, SARSEP, and SIMPLE IRA account holders to begin taking distributions at age 72, even if they're still working. Account holders reaching age 72 in 2022 must take their first RMD by April 1, 2023, and the second RMD by December 31, 2023, and each year thereafter.

**Retirement Plans**

In 401(k), 403(b) and 457(b) plans; profit-sharing and other defined contribution plans; and defined benefit plans, the first RMD is due by April 1 of the later of the year they reach age 72, or the participant is no longer employed (if allowed by the plan). A 5% owner of the employer must begin taking RMDs at age 72.

RMDs may not be rolled over to another IRA or retirement plan. See the RMD Comparison Chart that highlights some of the basic RMD rules that apply to IRAs and defined contribution plans. Roth IRAs do not require distributions while the original owner is alive.

**RMD Calculations and 50% tax on missed distributions**

An IRA trustee, or plan administrator, must either report the amount of the RMD to the IRA owner or offer to calculate it. An IRA owner, or trustee, must calculate the RMD separately for each IRA owned. They may be able to withdraw the total amount from one or more of the IRAs. However, RMDs from workplace retirement plans must be taken separately from each plan.

Not taking a required distribution, or not withdrawing enough, could mean a 50% excise tax on the amount not distributed. The IRS has worksheets to calculate the RMD and payout periods.

## 98th Lawrence County Soils and Crops Conference Scheduled for January 5

The 98th Lawrence County Soils and Crops Conference will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 5, at the Southwest Research, Extension and Education Center located at 14548 State Hwy H, near Mt. Vernon.

This year's conference will focus on various topics of interest to livestock producers. "There is lots of discussion regarding improved market potential that may be coming. Ag business specialist Wesley Tucker will be on hand to discuss the current outlook for the beef market in 2023," said Tim Schnakenberg, a field specialist in agronomy with the University of Missouri Extension.

"Reagan Bluel, field specialist in dairy, will also address the many challenges that livestock producers are facing regarding how to feed hay and silage with high nitrates. This topic has been on the minds of many producers since the summer drought began and continues into winter."

An "out of the box" topic is also planned to help producers consider a new alternative to feeding hay over the winter. Rusty Lee, field specialist in agronomy based in Montgomery County, will address winter feeding of standing milo versus feeding hay. There are a few producers around Missouri who have successfully adopted this novel practice which reduces the amount of hay that is fed to the cow herd.

For those who pre-register early, a rib-eye steak dinner will be prepared by the Southwest Cattlemen's Association and the Mt. Vernon Chamber of Commerce. Financial support is also provided by the Mid-Missouri Bank of Mt. Vernon, Ozark Electric Cooperative, Joplin Regional Stockyards, and Lawrence County Farm Bureau.

There is no charge to attend, but attendees must pre-register by Jan. 3 with the Lawrence County Extension Center to order their meal and reserve a seat. Please pre-register online at: <https://bit.ly/lawrence23> or call 417-466-3102.

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**2020 coronavirus-related distribution**

Since 2020 RMDs were waived, an account owner or beneficiary who received an RMD in 2020 had the option of returning it to their IRA or other qualified plan to avoid paying taxes on that distribution. A 2020 RMD that qualified as a coronavirus-related distribution may be repaid over a 3-year period or have the taxes due on the distribution spread over three years.

A 2020 withdrawal from an inherited IRA could not be repaid to the inherited IRA but may be spread over three years for income inclusion. For more information see the Coronavirus Relief for Retirement Plans and IRAs page.

Taxpayers can find forms, instructions, publications, Frequently Asked Questions regarding Required Minimum Distributions and other easy-to-use tools at IRS.gov.

## Online Master Gardener training begins January 15

Gardening is an activity with many rewards, says David Trinklein, state horticulture specialist for University of Missouri Extension.

"One of them is the satisfaction of sharing your plant knowledge with others. The Master Gardener program was initiated to do just that," Trinklein said. Its motto, "helping others learn to grow," emphasizes service to others as the program's main objective, he said.

A new session of online Missouri Master Gardener core training begins Jan. 15, 2023. Trinklein and MU Extension horticulture specialist Sarah Denkler teach the 14 online classes. "These classes represent a viable option for people who can't take the weekly classes in person," Trinklein said.

Classes are delivered through the Canvas learning management system as a series of scripted and narrated presentations. Students work at their own pace. A composite score of 70% on chapter quizzes is needed to pass the course.

Topics include basic botany, soils and plant nutrition, vegetable gardening, fruit production, insects and diseases, and pesticide safety.

Subjects covered include basic botany, soils and plant nutrition, vegetable gardening, fruit production, insects and diseases, landscaping, turf management and pesticide safety.

Core training is the first step toward certification as an MU Extension Master Gardener. Trainees must also complete at least 30 hours of volunteer service, Trinklein said. Local Master Gardener coordinators can help online trainees find volunteer opportunities to meet the service hour requirements.

"There are Master Gardener programs in every state of the union and in most provinces of Canada," Trinklein said.

Registration for the spring 2023 online session closes Jan. 14., 2023. For details and registration, go to [mg.missouri.edu](http://mg.missouri.edu).

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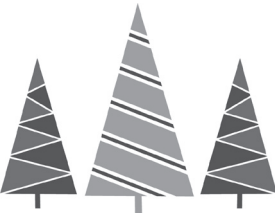
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Experience preferred; stable work history and background check required. Other requirements vary by position. Must be willing to work mandatory OT as needed. Penmac Staffing will help you find the right job for your skills and schedule for free! Apply online at: [www.Penmac.com](http://www.Penmac.com) or apply in person (with two forms of ID) at **Penmac Staffing in Monett** 600 Dairy Street, Suite D Monett, MO Call 417-235-0133 to schedule your appointment EOE

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PART-TIME JANITOR

The Barry County Sheriff's Office currently has an opening for a part-time

Janitor

Starting pay \$11.50 hour, 24 hours weekly. All applicants must be able to pass a background check and drug test. Apply at the Barry County Sheriff's Office Administration building located at 505 East Street Cassville, MO 65625 or you can print an application online at [www.barrycountysheriff.com](http://www.barrycountysheriff.com) or call 417-847-6556 to request an application be mailed.

The Barry County Sheriff's Office is an  
Equal Opportunity Employer

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Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

417-271-3299

CIVIL PROCESS CLERK

The Barry County Sheriff's Office

is currently accepting applications for a

Full-Time  
Civil Process Clerk

Applicants must be self-motivated and capable of working with others and directly with the public. Applicants must be able to multi-task as well as possess knowledge of basic computer programs, basic typing skills, answer phones and filing. All applicants must have a high school diploma or GED equivalent and be able to pass a background check and a drug test. Starting salary will depend on experience. Barry County also provides a benefit package which includes paid employee health insurance, CERF Retirement Benefits, paid sick leave, 14 paid holidays and paid vacation leave after 1 year. Applications are available 8am to 4pm at the Barry County Sheriff's Office administration building at 505 East Street Cassville, MO 65625 or you can call 417-847-6556 to request an application be sent to you. Return all applications to Sheriff Danny Boyd. The Barry County Sheriff's Office is an  
Equal Opportunity Employer.

HELP WANTED

Barry County Health Department

is seeking personable and cheerful individual  
to join our team as a

WIC Peer Counselor

Will be required to answer and make phone calls, provide basic breastfeeding information, support and encouragement to WIC pregnant and breastfeeding women. Must have breastfed a child, a high school/GED equivalent, viable transportation, a cell phone, availability outside of clinic hours, and effective communication skills.

Fluent in Spanish and English is a plus.

Will work two 8-hour days each week, one day in Cassville and one day in Monett, with an hourly rate at \$12.00

Applications can be picked up at, and submitted to, Barry County Health Department in person at Cassville office, 65 Main Street Cassville, MO or by mail at PO Box 207 Cassville, MO 65625 by December 30, 2022

JAIL CORRECTIONAL OFFICER  
Positions Available

The Barry County Sheriff's Office currently has openings  
for full-time Correctional Officers

Applicants must be self-motivated and capable of working with others, be able to multi-task as well as possess basic typing and computer skills. All applicants must have high school diploma or GED equivalent and be able to pass a background check and a drug test. Must be able to work nights and weekends. Starting salary \$30,000. Barry County also provides a benefit package which includes paid employee health insurance, CERF Retirement Benefits, paid sick leave, 13 paid holidays and paid vacation leave after 1 year. Applications will be accepted until all positions are filled. Applications are available 8am to 4pm at the Barry County Sheriff's Office Administration building at 505 East Street Cassville, Mo 65625 or you can print an application online at [www.barrycountysheriff.com](http://www.barrycountysheriff.com) or you can call 417-847-6556 to request an application be mailed. Return all applications to Sheriff Danny Boyd.

The Barry County Sheriff's Office is an  
Equal Opportunity Employer

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for

Cassville Performing Arts Center:  
Audio-Visual-Lighting Scope of Work

will be received at Cassville R-IV School District, Central Office, 1501 Main Street, Cassville, MO, 65625 until 2:30 PM, January 10, 2023. Bids will then be publicly opened and read aloud at this location.

The Cassville Performing Arts Center consists of approximately 30,000 SF facility, with 700+ seating capacity. The facility is intended to be multipurpose in that various entities will use the facility, such as, band, choir, theater, etc. The request for proposals is for the audio-visual-lighting scope of work. The Cassville R-IV School District is already contracted with a design team led by Paragon Architecture and a construction manager, RE Smith Construction Company. The awarded consultant will be required to coordinate with both entities for the design and incorporation of the design of the AVL systems.

Bidders may obtain preliminary plans from the Cassville R-IV School District's Director of Facilities and Operations, Dusty Reid, dreid@cassville.k12.mo.us, 417-847-5525.

The Owner reserves the right to award the contract to the lowest and/or best responsible bidder and to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality on all bids. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of twenty (20) days.

All bidders must provide a sworn affidavit affirming participation in a federal work authorization program and stating that the bidder does not knowingly employ any person who is not authorized to work in the U.S. The contractor must comply with current Prevailing Wage laws and other statutory regulations as referred to in the specifications.

This project is tax exempt.

NOTICE

Notice of Candidate Filing Dates


The Wheaton Special #29 Road District will have one Commissioner available for election in the April 4, 2023 General Municipal Election.

Road Commissioner for a term of 3 (Three) years. The opening date for Candidate filing is December 6, 2022 and the closing date is December 27, 2022

Candidates may file for this office at the office of Joyce Ennis, Barry County Clerk, Cassville, between the hours of 8:00am and 4:00 pm. The office may be closed should inclement weather occur. Candidates will be listed on the ballot in the order in which they file.

MINERAL SPRINGS  
ROAD DISTRICT  
MEETING

December 19th  
Road Barn, FR 1170  
7:00 P.M.



Don't forget to support your angels



The Barry County Advertiser has joined forces with Meridian Title Company and CS Designs and More to host angel trees for residents of Roaring River Health and Rehab in Cassville. Angels may be picked up at either the Advertiser office or Meridian Title Company. All gifts will need to be returned to the offices, wrapped with angels attached, by 11 a.m., on Thursday, December 22. Above is pictured Margaret McDaniel, of Seligman, making a special angel gift delivery at the Barry County Advertiser office in Cassville.

MU Extension offers online alfalfa workshop

University of Missouri Extension will offer an online workshop in January to help forage producers learn more about how to grow, harvest and feed alfalfa. MU Extension agronomist Pat Miller says the two-night workshop gives producers basic knowledge to improve their bottom line by growing this high-quality forage. “Alfalfa 101: Establishing a Stand, Starting Production, Harvesting, Feeding and Economics” will be held via Zoom 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24, and Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023. “Alfalfa is quite different from other forages and requires more management but rewards you with high-quality forage,” Miller says. “Year in and year out, alfalfa has been one of the crops with the highest return in MU Extension crop budgets.” Miller, MU Extension ag business specialist Wesley Tucker and MU Extension livestock specialist Patrick Davis lead the workshop. Attendees will receive the 68-page Alfalfa Management Guide and other handouts. Register by Jan. 20 at [mizzou.us/Alfalfa101](http://mizzou.us/Alfalfa101). For more information, contact Miller at 417-448-2560 or [MillerPD@missouri.edu](mailto:MillerPD@missouri.edu).



# Dare to Live Without Limits

Bryan Golden

**Holiday Stress Busters**

41% of those polled are stressed by the holidays. Fortunately, there are many ways to bust holiday stress.

Set realistic goals. Your expectations should correspond to your circumstances, time, and money. Don't try to outdo family and friends. You don't have to impress anyone.

A wonderful holiday season doesn't have to be expensive. Set a manageable budget and stick to it. Determine before you go shopping how much you will spend on food and presents. Entertaining doesn't have to cost a lot. Sumptuous meals can be prepared without expensive ingredients. Use your imagination and creativity.

If there are lots of people on your gift list, contact them and agree to a maximum cost for each gift. They will probably appreciate a pre-set spending limit as much as you will. Consider making your own gifts, such as baked goods or crafts.

A variety of free or low-cost activities are available. Many communities provide holiday programs such as parades and winter carnivals. Informal gatherings with friends and family can be lots of fun without obligating anyone to host a big party.

Accept relatives and friends for who they are. Put aside differences; don't try to resolve them during gatherings. Bringing up past issues will not add to the seasonal joy.

Divorced parents need to be extra sensitive to their children's emotions. Make children's needs a priority and avoid using them as pawns. Children want to spend time with both of their parents so work together to facilitate reciprocal visitation.

If you are hosting a meal or party, ask each guest to bring a dish. Delegate responsibilities to your spouse and children. Everyone will feel included and no one has to carry the full load.

Don't snap at others. Have rules and guidelines for older children returning home for the holidays. Ask guests to supervise their children if they get too rambunctious.

Plan ahead for what you want to accomplish before the holiday rush starts. You can pace yourself if you have enough time. Spreading out activities leaves you calmer and more relaxed.

Prioritize what you want to accomplish. Organize your time to allow for the most important tasks. Say no to requests that don't fit your plans. Be flexible.

Make time for yourself.

Maintain a healthy lifestyle by eating properly, exercising, and getting enough sleep.

It's normal and ok to feel sad during the holidays. Life is unpredictable and brings many changes. Don't compare today with the good old days from your past. Take charge of your life. Don't act like a victim. Spend time with supportive and caring people. Help others by volunteering. Whenever you bring a smile to someone's face, you will feel better too.

Make realistic resolutions. Set goals you can accomplish. Don't abandon your resolutions after a few weeks. After the holidays, actively working towards your goals will keep you positive and focused on the good in life.

*Bryan is the author of "Dare to Live Without Limits." Contact Bryan at [Bryan@columnist.com](mailto:Bryan@columnist.com) or visit [www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com](http://www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com) Copyright 2022 Bryan Golden*

# Barry County MU Extension office open house held



Barry County MU Extension council and specialists held an open house on November 10 at the Barry County Courthouse, in Cassville.

Approximately thirty-three attended the Barry County MU Extension office open house on Thursday, November 10. A luncheon of sandwiches, chips, desserts, and drinks were provided.

Becky Wogoman, Chairman of the Council; Reagan Bluell, Field Specialist in Dairy and Director of Missouri Dairy; Karla Deaver, Field Specialist in 4-H Youth Development, as well as some council members were on hand to inform those attending on the mission and purpose of the University Of Missouri Extension Office to businesses, community, students, land owners, and farmers.

A PowerPoint presentation was available for viewing that showcased 4H projects, the Victory over Virus Garden, as well as other events. Brochures and information for various programs were available. Forms for potential board candidates were handed out and discussed with those indicating interest in the upcoming online/in-person election, which will be held at the Extension Office in January 2023. Contact the University of Missouri Extension Office at 417-847-3161, for more information.

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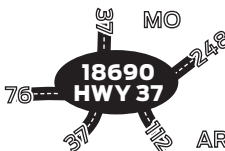
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# Wheaton holds Winter Wonderland Christmas Parade

*Adriana Keeton*

Wheaton held their 42nd annual Wheaton Wonderland Christmas Parade on December 10.

Leading off the parade was the Junior ROTC. Judges were Candice Brattin, Jake Nelson, and Jon Brattin.

Trophies were awarded in seven categories. Bethlehem Freewill Baptist Church took first place in the Religious Floats category, with Body of Christ Ministries taking second place and Prosperity Southern Baptist Church taking third. In non-religious floats, The Grinch and Friends took first; Barry Electric, second; and Diva Bling and DP Mowing, third. Southwest Trojan Marching Band won the top spot for Band/Marching Units, with Exeter High School Band taking second; Exeter Varsity Cheer, third. In the Cars/Trucks category, Wheaton Street Machines placed first; Sandy Summers, second; and Cassville Cruisers, third place. Paul Farms took first; Lindell/Ryan Mitchell took second in the Tractors category. Edgar Schreiner took first in Horses/Wagons, with Sarah Catron taking second. In the Miscellaneous category, Danny England walked away first; Benny's Automotive, second; and the Gautney Family took third place at the parade.



Bethlehem Freewill Baptist Church took first place in the Religious Float category at Saturday's Parade.



Junior ROTC lead the parade for the evening.



Jen's Diva Bling and DP Mowing placed third in the non-religious float category.



Shown above, Santa closed the parade in style on Wheaton Fire Protection District's 1927 Seagrave Fire Truck reminding children it's the most wonderful time of the year.

The Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) Exeter Chapter's Santa's Workshop float did not place in a category at this year's parade, but have spread a lot of love this year by making beds for children.

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### NOTICE OF CANDIDATE FILING DATES

The McDonald Road District will have one Commissioner available for election in the April 4, 2023, General Municipal Election.

Road Commissioner for a term of 3 (three) years

The opening date for candidate filing is December 6, 2022, and the closing filing date is December 27, 2022.

Candidates may file for this office at the office of Joyce Ennis, Barry County Clerk, Cassville, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The office may be closed should inclement weather occur.

Candidates will be listed on the ballot in the order in which they file.

11-12c

Use Cassville Masonic Lodge

18th & Main St. for your next meeting or event.

For availability and fees Contact: Kevin Lingle

417-846-6709

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