VOLUME 56

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CASSVILLE, MISSOURI 65625-0488

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023

Upcoming......4A
Obits......10-12A

Classified.....13-14A Auctions......15A

MDC reports deer harvest totals 3A • Food Service Report 6A

Commissioners respond to concerns of bridge/road closure



Farm Road 1162 was closed last year due to unsafe bridge conditions.

Adriana Keeton

Citizens of Barry County have raised concerns regarding the closure of bridge number 10700021, which crosses Roaring River and Farm Road 1162 off Highway F, southeast of Roaring River State Park. According to Southern Commissioner Gene Robbins, the bridge was closed last year by the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT), which deemed the bridge unsafe during a mandatory bridge inspection.

The biggest concern voiced by citizens is access to Muncie Cemetery, and though there is an alternate route to the cemetery from Eagle Rock, the road condition on the alternate route is not suitable for some vehicles.

"We know this has been an inconvenience, and we hate this for the families that have loved ones in Muncie Cemetery and the residents that live there," said Robbins. "We assure you we are doing everything in our power to get this situation resolved and the road back open. The commission does not want that road closed."

The commission met with landowners and discussed bridge plans and has reached a verbal agreement but is waiting for the easement agreement to be signed. As soon as the easement agreement is signed, the commission plans to get the project started within a few weeks.

The commission welcomed new presiding commissioner Steve Blankenship earlier this month and is eager to get started on 2023 projects.

"Our new health department and jail are on track, along with other bridge projects," added Robbins. "We are looking forward to a great 2023 and would like to remind everyone that we are here Mondays and Thursdays. Feel free to stop by anytime."

Barry County Commissioners may also be reached at 417-847-4628 with any concerns.

Local rodeo legend continues 50+ year tradition



Dave Vaught's team-roping passion spans 50 plus years.

Ezra DeVore

With five decades of medals and accolades behind him, Dave Vaught of Cassville continues his lifelong team-roping career.

Vaught has enjoyed over 50 years of roping - becoming a professional and winning a scrapbook's worth of competitions over several decades from the early 1970s to now. Winning state, regional, and national competitions several times over, Vaught has amassed a vast collection of trophies and belt buckles.

His earliest memories of roping are with his father and uncle at the age of 10, eventually advancing from calf roping to team roping. By October 1973, when Vaught was 13, he'd won his first saddle at a competition in Arkansas. This began years of traveling, and the following year, took him to Denver, the furthest he'd been from home so far. Vaught estimates he's won over 13 saddles since then, selling most.

Vaught recalled that as a boy, he roped "pretty much everything that moved: dogs, pigs, geese, almost caught a deer one time," he laughed.

Dave says that roping is something that his family takes pride in. Having

See Vaught on 16A

Rotary Celebrates 85 Years; Welcomes New Chairman



Shown above are Wade Hermansen (left) and Dr. Chad Johnson (right) during a recent Rotary meeting.

Ezra DeVore

Now a month into the Cassville Rotary's 85th year, Wade Hermansen is set to replace Chad Johnson as Chairman of the Rotary, heading into his 18-month term. The Cassville Rotary is best described briefly as a collection of local individuals who cooperate to bolster

one another's businesses and expend every effort to enrich their community.

"It was a good way for me as a small business owner to get involved," Wade Hermansen says. "There's a value to being around people you know, knowing that other people are doing good things, that people are working to-

ward bettering Cassville."

"The Rotary is a mechanism - historically business owners and community leaders, but it's undergoing a transformation. It has to evolve. I want the younger individual to understand that they can introduce themselves and their organization to other professionals, other business owners, and actually do good for the community, and help build it."

Hermansen has spent the last seven years involved with the Rotary and says it has drastically improved his local involvement. "The Rotary is a plug-in to the community."

Chad Johnson, the former Chairman and another longtime Rotarian, expressed the needs he feels the Rotary assists with.

"Rotary groups are great; that's where you get into the

community. People see that the more you give back, the more you care; people understand that. They take care of me, so you want to give back with what you can."

Though to both Johnson and Hermansen, cultural and communal events are what give the Rotary its greatest purpose.

"What I love the most is seeing the kids get their scholarships," Johnson adds, "and seeing families together. I love the rodeo, I love when the kids are playing all around the fence, having fun, and the families bring blankets. You want to give the community the opportunity to do that. I remember that as a kid; those are the things you remember. It's the community involvement that I love most."

Cassville Police Chief announces retirement

Cassville Chief of Police Dana Kammelohr announced her retirement last week at the City of Cassville Council meeting. The date of the celebration to honor her years of service to the community has yet to be determined but will be announced upon its finalization.



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OZARKS HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Judith Lewallen Retired F.N.P

come and go.

fingers, hands, and toes. The

disease's progression, and

involvement of the wrists,

knew, ankles, elbows, hips,

and shoulders can be seen.

Usually, symptoms occur

in the same joints on both

sides of the body. Symptoms

may vary in severity and may

the most common form of

arthritis and affects millions

of people worldwide. Os-

teoarthritis is caused when

the cushions in the joints

deteriorate. This is a gradual

process that involves the en-

tire joint. Symptoms usually

develop slowly and worsen

with time. They include pain

in the affected joint during or

after movement; joint stiff-

ness worse in AM or after

rest; joint tenderness; unable

to move the joint through

its full range of motion; a

grating sensation with joint

movement or popping or

cracking; feeling hard lumps

around joints (bone spurs)

and swelling due to inflam-

mation of soft tissue around

the joint. To diagnose, the

provider will check joints for

tenderness, swelling, redness,

with the diagnosis and treat-

ment of these two disease

tired Family Nurse Practi-

tioner with over 40 years of

experience in healthcare. She

currently resides with her

husband in Eagle Rock. Infor-

mation contained in this column is for information pur-

poses only. It is not intended to substitute professional medi-

cal advice, diagnosis, or treat-

ment. Submit questions or

topics for discussion to AnAp-

Next week I will continue

Judith Lewallen is a re-

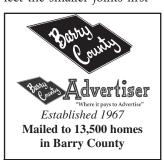
and flexibility.

Osteoarthritis (OA) is

Rheumatoid arthritis vs. Osteoarthritis

Many people need clarification about the difference between Rheumatoid arthritis and Osteoarthritis. Their causes, symptoms, diagnosis, and treatments are very different. Today I will review the causes and symptoms of each disease process.

Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is an autoimmune disorder when your immune system mistakenly attacks your own body's tissues. It is a chronic inflammatory disorder that can affect not just your joints but your skin, eyes, lungs, heart, and blood vessels. The tendency towards RA may run in families, but no one knows for sure what starts this process. Women are more likely than men to develop rheumatoid arthritis. It can begin at any age but usually in middle age. If a family member has RA, this increases your risk for the disease. Smoking can increase your risk of developing RA and is associated with greater severity. There is a somewhat higher risk associated with excessive weight. RA attacks the lining of the joints, causing painful swelling and eventual bone and joint deformities. Symptoms are tender, warm, swollen joints; joint stiffness, usually worse in AM and after rest; and fatigue, fever, and loss of appetite. RA tends to affect the smaller joints first -



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MDC reports deer harvest for 2022-2023 season

Missouri's 2022-2023 deer-hunting season ended Jan. 15 with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) reporting a preliminary total deer harvest for the season of 299,721. Of the deer harvested, 140,736 were antlered bucks, 27,029 were button bucks, and 131,956 were does.

Top harvest counties for the overall deer season were Franklin with 6,471 deer harvested, Callaway with 5,438, and Jefferson with 4,966.

In Barry County, there were 2,428 total deer harvested. Of the deer harvested in Barry County, 1,279 were antlered bucks, 193 button bucks, and 956 were does.

Hunters harvested 295,143 deer during the 2021-2022 deer hunting season with 143,815 being antlered bucks, 26,750 being button bucks, and 124,578 being does.

ARCHERY DEER RE-

Deer hunting ended with the close of the archery season. Preliminary data from MDC showed that hunters checked 56,525 deer during the 2022-2023 archery deer season. Top counties for the archery deer season were Jefferson with 1,391 deer harvested, Franklin with 1,182, and St. Louis with 1,068.

Hunters checked 59,498 deer during the 2021-2022 archery deer season.

se Cassville Masonic Lodge 18th & Main St. for your next meeting or event. For availability and fees Contact: Kevin Lingle





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Ray family announce 100th birthday celebration

For deer harvest totals by season, county, and type of deer, visit the MDC website extra.mdc.mo.gov/widgets/harvest_table/ For deer harvest summa-

ries from past years, visit mdc. mo.gov/hunting-trapping/ species/deer/deer-reports/ deer-harvest-summaries.

ARCHERY TURKEY **RESULTS**

Fall archery turkey hunting also ended Jan. 15. Preliminary data from MDC showed 2,446 turkeys harvested. Top counties for the fall archery turkey season were Macon with 73 turkeys harvested, Franklin with 66, and Greene with 66.

Hunters harvested 2,516 turkeys during the 2021-2022 fall archery turkey season.

For more turkey harvest information for the current season, go online at extra. mdc.mo.gov/widgets/harvest table/.

For more harvest information on past turkey seasons, visit mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/turkey/ turkey-reports/turkey-harvest-summaries.

HUNTING INCIDENTS

MDC reported two firearms-related hunting incidents during deer and turkey season with both being nonfatal and being self-inflicted.

Tessie (Reed) Ray, of Cato, will celebrate her 100th birthday with family and friends on Saturday, January 28, from 2-3:30 p.m., at the Barn at Bear Ridge, 24074 State Highway 76, just

Tessie was born in January 1923, one of nine children: three brothers and two sisters. She has lived in the Barry County area all of her 100 years.

Tessie is blessed with ten children, 19 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, and seven great-great-grandchildren, who visit her often and love her dearly.

Tessie married the late Lavern Ray on May 24, 1941. They were married for 74 years, most of which was spent on the farm they purchased in 1952.

The family invites those who know and love Tessie to celebrate this incredible milestone in her life for being a wonderful mother and grandmother and for the love she has given to her family and many others through the years.

Roaring River Concessions

We are looking for a few good people to fill positions as

- Cooks
- Servers
- Reservation Clerks
- Store Clerks
 Housekeepers

to balance out our already trained staff. All applicants must be smoke/drug free, neat, clean, honest, courteous, and have the ability to work well as a team. If your cell phone is your main priority, there's no need to apply. We are like a family down at the river and are looking for like-minded people to join us.

Apply in person on **Saturday, Jan. 28, 2023** 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

at The Emory Melton Inn & Conference Center Roaring River State Park

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:

Barry County will hold the 2023 budget hearing Thursday, January 19, at 9 A.M. in the Commission room in the Courthouse located at 700 Main Street, Cassville.

Sherry L. Smith Barry County Assessor has announced that the 2023 Personal Property and Business Assessment lists were mailed out on January 4, 2023. If you received an assessment list, but have not yet either filed online using the "Online Filing Pin Number", displayed on the list, or filled it out and returned it by mail or in person, please do so immediately to avoid a late assessment penalty. If you owned personal property or business equipment on January 1, 2023, and did not receive an assessment list, or you are a new resident to Barry County, please call the Assessor's Personal Property office immediately at 417-847-2613, to request assistance in being properly assessed. You can assess online, directly over the telephone with one of the office staff, or feel free to drop by the personal property office to assess in person. All personal and business equipment assessment lists must be postmarked by March 31, 2023, to avoid a late assessment penalty.

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.

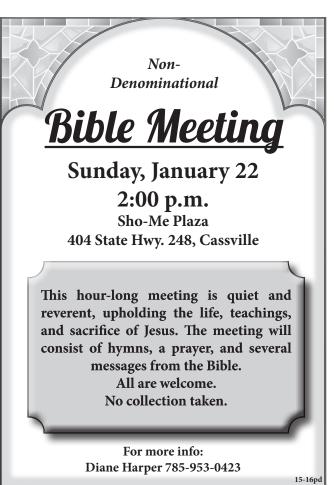
OATS Transit offers regular transportation services for the rural general public of any age, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. Please call the local OATS Transit office at 417-887-9272 or 800-770-6287 to schedule a ride or find out about services in your area. You can also visit our website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

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

Harvick Farms nursery of Cassville offers free gardening classes to the public. For information about upcoming classes, visit www.harvickfarms.com or their retail location near the Barry County Museum.

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

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 by cash or personal check. No credit or debit cards accepted. Contact the Extension Office at (417) 847-3161 with any questions.

Friday, January 20

A Dinner and Dance will be hosted at the Stella Senior Center with doors opening at 5:30 P.M. The will be a pot luck meal at 6 P.M. The dance will start at 7 P.M. with music performed by The Moccasin Bend Band. Cover charge is \$5. Refreshments are always available. Please call (417) 628- $3314\ \mathrm{or}\ (417)\ 489\text{-}3661$ for more information.

The Bilderbacks will be in concert at Body of Christ, 501 South Gilman, Wheaton, at 7 P.M. Free will offering will be taken for the singers. For information, call (417) 236-4291.

Saturday, January 21

Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) will be hosting a volunteer bed building event at the Cassville Crowder College Community building at 1 P.M. SHP is a non profit charity that provides beds and bedding for local children who do not have their own bed. Builders must be at least 12 years old. Those under 18 will need a parent present at the build. All building supplies will be provided by the SHP organiza-

If you know of a child or children in need of a bed, visit www.shpbeds.org for information on how to apply.

Friday, January 27

Music will be held at the Clio Community Building located on Hwy. 39, south of Jct. 248, beginning at 6 P.M.

Saturday, January 28

<u>Firehouse Fundraiser Breakfast</u> will be served from 7 to 10 A.M. at the Eagle Rock, Golden, Mano Station, 30625 Hwy. 86. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$4 under 10. All proceeds benefit the station and the efforts of our volunteer firefighters. This event can be enjoyed the 2nd and 4th Saturday of every month.

Free dulcimer class to be held at **Monett Branch Library**

Mountain Dulcimer Chording Class with Emory Mosier will be held at the Monett Branch Library Community Room at 2200 Park Street, Monett, beginning March 4, 2023. The Class will meet on Saturdays at 10 A.M. This is a free 10 week course and registration is required. For more information, visit the Monett Branch Library or call (417) 235-7350.



School Menus: Jan. 23 - Jan. 27

All meals served with milk and subject to change.

Cassville R-IV High School: Mon: B: biscuit & gravy or cherry frudel, yogurt cups, tropical fruit or cereal, Go-gurt, orange. L: general chicken or chicken nuggets, rice, glazed carrots, egg roll, pineapple. Tues: B: biscuit & gravy or sausage biscuit, hashbrown, applesauce or cereal, Pop-Tart, peaches. L: grilled ham & cheese or grilled cheese, chicken noodle soup, crackers, broccoli, pears. Wed: B: biscuit & gravy or chicken nuggets, hashbrown, tropical fruit or cereal, toast, applesauce. L: chicken nuggets or cheeseburger, Doritos, corn, yogurt cup, peaches. Thurs: B: biscuit & gravy or waffles, sausage patty, peaches or cereal, yogurt cup, fruit cocktail. L: corndog or fish sticks, mac & cheese, corn, mandarin oranges. Fri: B: biscuit & gravy or breakfast pizza, tropical fruit or cereal, PB&J, orange. L: shrimp popper or BBQ rib sandwich, tater tots, green beans, peaches.

Cassville R-IV Pri. Int. Mid.: Mon: B: biscuit & gravy or french toast, sausage patty, tropical fruit or cereal, Pop-Tart, apple. L: pizza or alfredo, salad, mixed vegetables, graham crackers, fruit cocktail. Tues: B: biscuit & gravy or oatmeal, toast, sausage, pears or cereal, Pop-Tart, peaches. L: corndog or fish sticks, mac & cheese, glazed carrots, mandarin oranges. Wed: B: biscuit & gravy or sausage biscuit, hashbrown, fruit cocktail or cereal, animal cracker, pineapple. L: hot dog or cheeseburger, Doritos, mixed vegetables, juice. Thurs: B: biscuit & gravy or pancakes, sausage patty, orange or cereal, graham crackers, pears. L: sub sandwich or meatball sub, baked lays, baked beans, pears. Fri: B: biscuit & gravy or mini cini, Go-Gurt, peaches or cereal, cinnamon toast, applesauce. L: chicken & noodles or country steak, green beans, potatoes, peaches.

<u>Purdy R-II Schools:</u> Mon: B: oatmeal, cinnamon toast, fruit. L: corn dog, potato wedges, fruit. Tues: B: wg biscuit, gravy, sausage patty, fruit. L: quesadilla, corn, fruit. Wed: B: mini waffles, syrup cup, Go-Gurt, fruit. L: chicken noodle soup, cheese stick, crackers, carrots, fruit. Thurs: B: breakfast pizza, fruit. L: chicken fajita, refried beans, fruit. Fri: B: blueberry muffin, Go-Gurt, fruit. L: chicken patty sandwich, Sunchips, baby carrots, fruit.

OATS Transit Southwest Region Announce Fare Increase

OATS Transit's Southwest Region is announcing a fare increase that will take effect in February 2023 as part of its efforts to help offset increased operating cost. The fares are necessary to maintain current levels of service and will directly impact the company's operating budget. The new fares will be as follows:

New Fares (one-way)

- In-town: \$2.00
- In-county: \$3.00
- Adjacent County: \$4.00
- Long-Distance (3 or more counties): \$6.00
- En-route stop: \$1.00 each stop

Seniors age 60+ and individuals with disabilities age 18-59 riding under AAA contract do not have a set fare, but are asked to contribute a minimum amount for their rides.

The increases will affect the counties of Barry, Barton, Christian, Dade, Dallas, Douglas, Greene, Jasper, Lawrence, McDonald, Newton, Ozark, Polk, Stone, Taney, Webster, and Wright Counties. Schedules are located online at www.oatstransit.org; click on the bus schedules tab, then the county you live in. Area residents wanting to schedule rides should call the local office at 417-887-9272 or 800-770-6287.

Starting in February, Southwest Region drivers will no longer handle cash payments from riders. Instead, riders can add funds to their account in advance, and fares will be withdrawn each time a rider rides. Riders can call 888-975-6287 to add funds to their account, which requires a minimum of \$10 each time. Riders can also send personal check, money order, or cashier's check prior to riding the bus by mail to: OATS Transit, 2909 N. Martin Ave, Springfield, MO 65803.

OATS, Inc. is a private, not-for-profit corporation providing specialized transportation for rural residents of any age, seniors and individuals with disabilities in 87 Missouri counties. OATS Transit is the largest and most unique transportation provider of its kind in the country. For more information about OATS Transit, please visit www.oatstransit.org, and follow us at www.Facebook.com/oatstransit.



When Can I Change My **Medicare Coverage?**

Dear Savvy Senior,

Is it possible to make changes to my Medicare coverage now? I know we've passed the fall open enrollment period, but I've heard that there are other times of the year beneficiaries can make changes. What can you tell me?

Changed My Mind Dear Changed,

Yes! The annual Medicare open enrollment period isn't your only opportunity to swap out Medicare coverage. There are other opportunities, but the timing of when you can make those changes depends on your specific circumstances and the kind of Medicare coverage you have. Here's what you should know.

Medicare Advantage Change

If you're enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan, you may be able to use the Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period, which occurs each year from Jan. 1 through March 31.

During this period, you can switch from your current Medicare Advantage Plan to another Medicare Advantage Plan or to original Medicare with or without a prescription drug plan. You can only make one change during this period, and it will be effective the first of the next month after you make the change.

Special Enrollment

Depending on your circumstances, you may also qualify for a Special Enrollment Period to change your Medicare health and drug coverage.

There are a number of circumstances in which you may have a Special Enrollment Period, such as if you moved outside of your plan's service area, your Medicare Advantage Plan terminated a significant amount of its network providers, or you are enrolled in a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program.

Those with Extra Help - the federal program that helps pay for drug costs – also have a Special Enrollment Period to enroll in a Part D plan, or switch between plans once per quarter in the first three quarters of the year.

If you need to make changes to your coverage but aren't sure whether you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period, contact your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), which provides free Medicare counseling. To find a SHIP counselor in your area visit ShipHelp. org or call 877-839-2675.

Also, be aware that if you're enrolled in a Medicare plan by mistake or because of misleading information, you may be able to disenroll and change plans.

Typically, you have the right to change plans if you joined unintentionally, joined based on incorrect or misleading information, or, through no fault of your own, were kept in a plan you did not want.

To get help, call Medicare at 800-633-4227 and explain to a customer service representative how you joined the plan by mistake and to request retroactive disenrollment or a Special Enrollment

Fall Open Enrollment

As you noted in your question, there's also the Fall Open Enrollment Period that allows all Medicare beneficiaries - those with original Medicare and Medicare Advantage plans - to make changes.

The Fall Open Enrollment Period occurs each year from Oct. 15 through Dec. 7. During this period, you can join a new Medicare Advantage Plan or stand-alone prescription drug plan (Part D) plan. You can also switch between Original Medicare with or without a Part D plan and Medicare Advantage.

You can make as many changes as you need during this period, and your last coverage choice will take effect Jan. 1.

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.

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Stock Market Insights

https://www.facebook.com/Dr.RichardBaker Founder & Executive Wealth Advisor at Steadfast Wealth Management

As Expected

I think Valentine's Day is a marketing scam. It sets expectations that are hard to beat. I love my wife and still can't believe she went out with me, let alone is still married to me after 26 years, but Valentine's is tough. It comes with expectations. Wives aren't surprised when we send flowers to them on Valentine's Day because they are expected. Economists had the same experience with last week's inflation report. It was good but boringly expected.

Nobody was "wowed" by the latest Consumer Price Index (CPI). The CPI is a report from the Labor Department that measures what consumers pay for goods and services, which came out on January 12, 2023. The CPI still went up but rose at its slowest pace since October 2021. This was the sixth straight month inflation slowed down, but it didn't "wow" anyone because it was what the analysts expected.

Investors are hard to impress. This report showed that inflation grew at a pace of 6.5% in December 2022 compared to December 2021. It's still annoyingly high but not growing like last June when it was going up at a 9% pace. So instead of being giddy, investors and analysts gave it a weak thumbs up at best.

Investors hoped this report would come in better than expected, influencing the beginning of February's Federal Reserve meeting. It was still a good report because it showed the inflation weakening, but it probably wasn't enough to convince the Fed to stop their rate increases at this meeting. I think the report was good enough to convince them to raise rates in smaller amounts but not stop them altogether.

Though the CPI inflation numbers didn't dazzle the economist, they did show signs our economic activity cooled in late 2022, which probably means inflation will continue to decline. If this happens, I expect the Fed to end its rate hikes this spring. When the Fed stops raising rates, it will prop up corporate profits and could lead to a double-digit gain for the S&P 500 index this year.

It took me twenty years, but I finally figured out a Valentine's Day hack. I buy the expected flowers, but to "wow her," I also buy a big heart full of assorted chocolate. She gives me a big kiss and hug and then puts the

assorted chocolate on the counter for us both to enjoy. Maybe I should send the Federal Reserve a box of chocolates.

Have a blessed week! www.FerventWM.com 2760 East Sunshine St.

Springfield, MO 65804 Securities and advisory services offered through LPL Financial, a registered investment advisor, Member FIN-RA/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 & can't be invested in directly.

The economic forecast outlined in this material may not develop as predicted & there can be no guarantee that strategies promoted will be successful.





STATELY BRICK CHARMER Freshly updated 4 BR, 3 BA features a large deck and patio, 2 living areas, primary suite with a beautiful walk-in shower. Over 3000 sq. ft. m/l. #60234399 CHARMING STARTER HOME Updated 3 BR, 2 Bath home with new kitchen appliances, flooring, paint,

FRESH REMODEL This 3 BR, 2 BA sits on an acre m/l just outside of Cassville. Unfinished basement w/ exterior entrance. #60233711 LARGE COMMERCIAL BUILDING Over 4000 sq. ft. m/l. Commercial or residential potential. Wrap

round deck and patio. #60076947

CREEK FRONT ACREAGE 7.5 acres m/l with Flat Creek frontage and plenty of room to build \$54,900 PRIME COMMERCIAL LOCATION Just over 1.5 acres m/l w/ all utilities. Ready for your new business!

\$69,900 #60232113 MOSTLY FLAT AND WOODED 4 lots located on a quiet and peaceful, low-traffic road near the lake. \$14,900 #60231629

BUILD YOUR CABIN Wooded and level, this lot is just under ½ acre m/l. #60231753 **PENDING \$9,900**

SECLUDED HOME ON SMALL ACREAGE This 3 BR, 2 BA sits off the road on 2 acre m/l. New jetted **PENDING** \$119,900 tub! #60230824

GENTLE WALK TO THE LAKE This lake front property has a big deck that overlooks the lake. Walk out **PENDING** \$189,900 basement and covered patio. #60227749 CHARMING AND AFFORDABLE Ask about possible 5% down financing. This 3 bedroom, 2 bath

has been gutted to the studs and remodeled. New roof, HVAC, water heater, paint, floors, appliances, etc. Covered front deck. #60230185 5 BEDROOM FIXER IN THE COUNTRY Over 2000 sq. ft. m/l on a small acreage. Lots of potential.

Close to Flag Springs. #60215381 \$74,900 TWO ADJACENT BUILDING LOTS IN CASSVILLE Good building sites for a single home or possibly

\$29,900 UNRESTRICTED LOT NEAR THE LAKE Just under an acre m/l within walking distance to the lake.

\$29,500 CAMPING OR BUILDING LOT Walk to Table Rock or a short drive to Roaring River. #60205227 \$19,500





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1. Salad bar items not held

salad and cottage cheese held

at 41° or below. Chicken

at 47°. Cheese and lettuce

No Core Violations

Routine 12/21/22

Permit Issued.

Wheaton

No Priority or Core

Violations Observed.

Cross Asian Grocery

Pre-Opening 12/28/22

*Corrected on spot

Monett

held at 46°.*

Observed.

Vic's Café

Washburn

Routine 12/20/22

Health Department releases December Food Service Report Domino's Pizza The Health Department Follow-up 12/1/22 Violations. **Sunrise Family Restaurant**

divides food service code violations into two categories: Priority and Core items.

Priority items are more likely than other violations contribute to food contamination, or illness and/or injury.

Core items although important to the overall hygiene of the establishment, do not necessarily present an immediate threat to food contamination or illness and/ or injury.

A report for each establishment that inspected shows the number of priority items, along with a short statement as to the nature of the violations. The report also shows the number of core items, but doesn't list the nature of those violations.

Romy's Restaurant Monett

Routine 12/1/22

Priority Violations: 1

1. No one ServSafe certified on duty. Core Violations: 1

Total Nutrition Monett

Plan Review 12/1/22

Total Nutrition

Monett

Permit Issued Pre-Opening 12/1/22

Arby's Priority Violations: 3

Routine 12/1/22

1. Current permit and most recent inspection is not posted for the public to see.

2. Chicken strips, chicken patties, hamburger patties, and fries held by time as a public health control do not have a documented discard

3. Food prep sink is leaking. Core Violations: 1 **Angus Branch**

Monett Routine 12/1/22

them.*

Monett

Priority Violations: 2 1. All three ice machines have bacteria growth in

2. Gravy on the kitchen steam table held at 120° and soup in the soup well held at 120°.*

Core Violations: 2 **Los Ponchos Taco Truck**

Routine 12/1/22 Priority Violations: 1

1. No water available on the food truck for handwashing or ware washing that may take place during operation. No Core Violations Observed.

Los Ponchos Taco Truck All Priority Violations Corrected.

Monett

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VISA

Wheaton RIII School Wheaton

Routine 12/12/22 No Priority or Core Violations Observed.

Exeter School Priority Violations: 1

Exeter Routine 12/12/22

1. No one ServSafe certified on duty. No Core Violations Observed.

Oakview School

Monett

Follow-up 12/13/22 All Priority Violations

Corrected. Cassville Primary/Middle School

Cassville

Routine 12/13/22 No Priority or Core Violations Observed.

Cassville High School Cassville

Routine 12/14/22 No Priority or Core Violations Observed.

Cassville Intermediate School

Cassville

Routine 12/14/22 No Priority or Core Violations Observed.

Shell Knob School Priority Violations: 1 **Shell Knob**

Routine 12/14/22

1. Cooler temperatures not recorded daily as required for HACCP. No Core Violations Observed.

Casey's General Store #3068 Cassville

Routine 12/14/22 Priority Violations: 3

1. Six pizza slices with a discard time of 2:30 pm are not discarded.*

2. No one ServSafe certified on duty.

3. Most recent inspection is hidden behind cigar displays.* No Core Violations Observed.

Monett

Routine 12/15/22 Priority Violations: 1

1. No one ServSafe certified on duty. Someone ServSafe certified is required to be on duty at all times.

Cassville

Violations.

Root Cellar

Shell Knob

Violations.

Violations.

Shell Knob

Center

Routine 12/15/22

Routine 12/15/22

No Priority or Core

No Priority or Core

Routine 12/19/22

Priority Violations: 1

Central Crossings Senior

Monett Intermediate School

No Priority or Core

Core Violations: 1 La Durangeuna

Monett

Routine 12/15/22 Priority Violations: 5

1. Meats, salsa, and cooked sweet potatoes are not labeled with the discard date.*

- 2. Two spray bottles of chemicals are not clearly labeled with the name of
- 3. Raw shelled eggs stored above cabbage, cilantro, and other fresh vegetables in the reach-in.*
- 4. No one ServSafe certified on duty.
- 5. Food trays, corn husks, and single use cups stored on the floor. (Repeat violation)* Core Violations: 3

Arby's

Monett

Follow-up 12/15/22 All Priority Violations Corrected.

La Jarra Loka

Monett

Routine 12/15/22 Priority Violations: 1

1. No one ServSafe certified on duty. Core Violations: 1*

Mexico 22 Monett

Routine 12/15/22 Priority Violations: 3

- 1. No one ServSafe certified on duty.
- 2. Spray bottle of purple chemicals is not clearly labeled with the contents.*
- 3. Soda nozzles are soiled by bacteria growth.* Core Violations: 1

Omario's

Mobile

Routine 12/15/22 No Priority or Core

The Barry County Health Department is pleased to announce that 18 of the 235 food establishments in Barry County

will receive the 2022 Silver Spoon award. The award is presented to food establishments in Barry County for demonstrating excellence in public food safety. To receive the Silver Spoon, recipients must have had a valid permit between January 1 and December 31 of 2022 and have had no priority or core health violations during this time period. These establishments must also have either high or medium

2022 Barry County Silver

Spoon Awards announced

priority rating. An establishment's rating is determined by their public health priority, which is calculated by a risk assessment worksheet. A risk assessment determines the minimum frequency of unannounced inspections each food establishment will have annually.

Nine establishments that are rated high, and are inspected a minimum of three times per year, are recipients of the 2022 Silver Spoon Award. Recipients in Cassville are Cassville Intermediate School Cafeteria, Cassville High School Cafeteria, Cassville Primary/Middle School Cafeteria, and BBQ Station. Recipients in Monett are Cox Monett Hospital Cafeteria and Monett Senior Center. Also, Southwest Elementary School Cafeteria and Southwest High School Cafeteria in Washburn.

A total of nine medium rated establishments received the honor. Medium rated food service facilities have unannounced inspections a minimum of twice a year. They are Jack Henry Cafeteria, Subway #7693, Daylight Donuts and Omario's Food Truck in Monett. Country Corner in Purdy, Whitley's Pharmacy in Cassville, Vic's Café in Washburn and The Root Cellar and Terry's Café both, in Shell Knob, also received the Silver Spoon.

The Health Department congratulates these establishments and hope the recognition will encourage all food establishments to strive to provide the safest food to Barry County residents.

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Letters to the Editor

that I am not the only one to

reach that conclusion. The

Prosecutor answers to the

people of Barry County. Her

name appears on the ballot,

as it just did. It will be a while

before it is there again, and if

I have an opportunity to ex-

press my displeasure with my

will hire an attorney to spend

more time, effort, and money

to get a civil judgment that

will be hard to collect any-

helping this tax-paying voter.

Monett Rental and Sales

To the Citizens of Barry

Your support of the But-

terfield Fire Protection Dis-

trict is appreciated. The

Department responded to

168 total calls during 2022;

including 22 Building Fires,

68 Medical Assists and 19

Motor Vehicle accidents. We

wish to thank our volunteer

fire fighters/first responders

and their families for their

service to our community.

We would also like to ac-

knowledge and thank the

Butterfield Firefighters Aux-

iliary for their fund-raising

efforts to support the depart-

The Butterfield Fire Pro-

Sincerely,

tection District Board

David Luebbering

Thanks, Ms. Boxx, for

Meanwhile, I suppose we

vote, I will do so.

thing from.

County,

Dear Editor:

My name is David Luebbering. My brother Tony and I own and operate Monett Rental and Sales in Barry County, just outside Monett. We have been in business for 16 years now. I find myself beyond frustrated with the Barry County Prosecutor, Ms. Amy Boxx, and wish to express those feelings in a manner that might actually be heard.

We have a customer that owes us a substantial amount of money, enough to qualify to be criminally prosecuted under MO Statute 570.057.

1. person commits the offense of stealing leased or rented property if, with the intent to deprive the owner thereof, such person:

(4) returns the property to the lessor at the end of the lease term, plus any agreed-upon extensions, but does not pay the lease charges agreed upon in the written instrument, with the intent to wrongfully deprive the lessor of the agreed-upon charges.

The statute was written by a member of the MO Rental Association with the intent of granting businesses like ours with a criminal course of seeking restitution rather than getting a judgment against an individual in civil court. All pertinent information was provided to Ms. Boxx's office; the statute has been pointed out. The Sheriff's office has been very cooperative, and we are grateful for their help.

Prosecutor Boxx will not prosecute the statute.

Why? It has been and is being used in other areas in our industry. I took the time to call her office to inquire. I asked about speaking to her about scheduling a time to speak with her, and it was immediately obvious that Ms. Boxx does not intend to speak to me directly about this issue.

I personally voted for her on two occasions. I voted for Sherriff Boyd, also. They are both very busy people, no doubt. The Sheriff is easy to talk to, it appears Ms. Boxx has no intention of returning a phone call. I'm guessing

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. Please limit your submission to 400 words or less and include your city and a phone number with your submission.

Haven of the Ozarks: Pet of the Week



Meet Busta Rhymes, the Haven of the Ozarks Pet of the Week! Busta originally came to the Haven in May after being found with an injured leg. He was treated at a local vet, then came to the Haven to find his forever

Busta is a beautiful boy who is believed to be a German Shepherd mix and is estimated to be a little over a year old. He's extremely smart and playful and will easily learn anything you would like to teach him. His very favorite activity is playing tennis!

Busta will do best in an

active home where he can be kept busy and join his family on lots of fun adventures. He loves kids and will be a great match for those who are school-aged and up. Busta has had good house manners in his foster homes! Playful canine siblings would also be enjoyed but are not a must. Busta has waited a surprisingly long time for his people to find him, so we hope he can go home soon.

Please call 417-835-3647 for more information or visit the Haven, which is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. daily.

Study shows booster against COVID-19 beneficial in nursing homes

homes have a significant experienced amount of SARS-CoV-2 transmission resulting in hospital admissions and severe outcomes throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Findings from a large study including hundreds of nursing homes recently published by JAMA Network Open suggest that administration of a SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccine booster among nursing home residents may have played an important role in preventing COVID-19-associated morbidity and mortality.

Authors of the study stated, "During a period in which both the Delta and Omicron variants were circulating, SARS-CoV-2 booster vaccination was associated with significant reductions in SARS-CoV-2 infections, hospitalizations, and the combined end point of hos-

pitalization or death among residents of two U.S. nursing home systems."

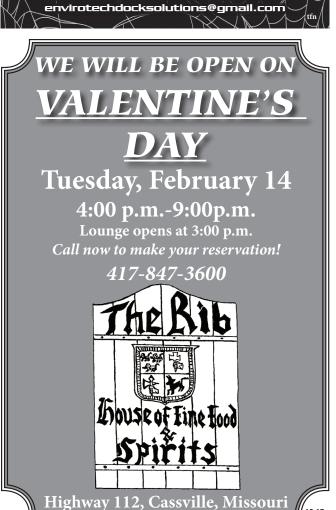
Throughout Missouri skilled nursing facilities, an average of just 45% of current residents per facility are up to date on COVID-19 vaccines (based on available facility reporting). Missouri has one of the lowest rates of vaccination among long-term care facility staff in the nation. And among all eligible Missourians age 65 and older, only 35% have received an updated booster dose.

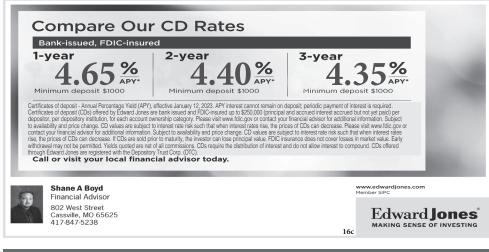
COVID-19 vaccines continue to be widely available. Visit MOStopsCovid.com to find a Missouri COVID-19 vaccinator near you.















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Cassville Elementary December students of the month announced

Character word: Determination



Kinder Academy and Kindergarten students, shown above, front row, left to right, are Lavonna Day, Addy Henry, Ren Hodge, Paisley Burnette, Odin Cieslinski, Athena Smith, Elijah Robinson and Sophia Dudley; back row, left to right, are Jace Ross, Bentley Balmas, Giovanna Martinez, Rein Holtzman, Natalia McKeen, Danielle Hickman and Oliver Magee. Levi Linebarger is absent from the photo.

Wheaton 2nd Quarter Honor Roll

A Honor Roll

3rd grade: Kohen Bateman, Tanner Benedict, Mason Brattin, Jessica Cruz, Garrett Geier, Mae-Heart Hairens, Jazmin Malcqewski, Caullier McCullah, Luis Rodas-Lopez, Madelyn Stover, Jayden Vang, Mang Zauk

4th Grade: Kiya Atkins, Konrad Brown, Eseni Cha, Sarah Chin, Biak Dim, Kaden Haynes, Brayah Hickman, Addy Holmes, Sophia Mangsang, Palyn Park

5th Grade: Calvin Pointer, Haylee Pointer

6th Grade: Joelie Craig, David Cunningham, Lylah Davis, Ceceillia Hopkins, Kamdon Kelly, Jailia Lee, Jesse Lian, Cynthia Patterson, Ashlynn Prewitt, Christian Renfrow, Addey Schlessman, Ian Shockley, Sam Vick, Sydney Walling, Goa Chia Yang

A/B Honor Roll

3rd grade: Melody Atkinson, Paisley Bailey, Kaydon Crouch, Paisley Garner, Megan Hang, Joslyn Kelly, Kobin Kinnaman, Conner Nelson, Alice Par, Jaxon Stansberry, Mieza Trogdon, Brynli Vick

Vang, Jeffrey Zumwalt

6th Grade:

4th Grade: Jeremiah Bird, Hattie Bolton, Darren Bowman, Kason Clark, Richard Gamez, Justin Gonzalez, Mataya Haynie, Daniel Lian, Stormy Lyons, Kameron Mestas, Joseph Nawlpeng, Shayla Pearc, Seanjay Pelep, Brylee Potarf, Brent Shockley, Lillie Stevens, Corbin Stover, Charles Tacker, Kayla

5th Grade: Anastasia Atkinson, Molly Banks, Carter Bowman, Lumae Chang, Julie Dawthleipar, Paige Edgar, Abigail Gamez, K-Ler Hairens, Vivienne Hang, Braxston Lee, Sangcer Ling, Kayleigh Peterson, Aylin Rodas-Lopez

Mackenzie Aguilar, Lailah Banta, Makinzy Craig-Warren, Braydon Imel, Danna Juarez, Kaman Kinnaman, Carrie Nelson, Hallie Potarf, Cooper Ray, Garrett Roller, Ariyana Vang



First grade students, shown above, front row, left to right are Jeremiah Cifuentes, Melanie Ortega Trujillo, Ana Ritchie, Lydiah Balmas, Emmy Clevenger and Ryker Cosper, back row, left to right, are Aubrey Kilts, Savyn Cross, Brantley Stubblefield, Ellis Martin, Brody Anderson and Athena Ganoung.

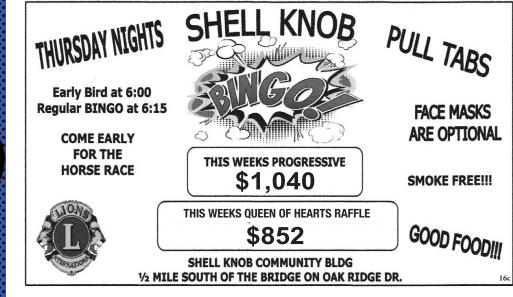


Second grade students, shown above, front row, left to right, are Elaina Orr, AJ Ennes, Addy Anderson, Bentleigh Peak and Morgan McCoy; back row, left to right, are Nellie Reed, Ella Dutton, Zane Jordan, Caitlyn Tyler, Max Lyall, CJ Alden, Abel Going and Neelei Johnson.











Missouri 4-H Foundation accepting applications

The Missouri 4-H Foundation is accepting applications for current or former Missouri 4-H members pursuing postsecondary study. Applications must be completed on or before March

Missouri 4-H youths are encouraged to showcase their personal growth and development as well as career goals on their scholarship applications. For details, visit muext.us/4Hscholarships.

"For more than 70 years, the Missouri 4-H Foundation, our donors and our partner organizations have supported 4-H'ers as they pursue their educational goals," said Rachel Augustine, Missouri 4-H Foundation director. "We are proud to award scholarships that recognize the accomplishments of Missouri 4-H youth."

A gift to the Missouri 4-H Foundation Scholarship Fund will help ensure more young people have an opportunity to attend college and reach their full potential. To make a gift, visit mizzou.us/Fund704.

More than 55,000 members strong, Missouri 4-H is an active, dynamic organization of young people who are learning, growing, and preparing to be the leaders of today and tomorrow while making a real difference in their community, country and world. 4-H is the youth development program of the University of Missouri and the nation's Cooperative Extension System. For more information on Missouri 4-H, visit 4h.missouri.edu.

The Missouri 4-H Foundation is the independent philanthropic partner of the University of Missouri Extension 4-H Center for Youth Development. For more than 70 years, the foundation has secured and managed funds for Missouri 4-H, providing higher education scholarships, recognizing 4-H volunteers and supporting the work of MU Extension 4-H. Learn more at 4h.missouri.edu/foundation.

SNHU fall 2022 President's List

The following students have been named to the Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) Fall 2022 President's List: Brenna Cunningham of Monett and April Fare of Purdy.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning twelve credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit institution with a 90-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Learn more at www.

MU releases fall 2022 Dean's List

The following students have been named to the University of Missouri fall 2022 Dean's List: Lindsey Kuhlman, Justin Turner McCullough, and Rachel Camille Steinmann, all of Shell Knob; Lacey J Reeves and Gracelyn Mckinzie Velasquez, both of Washburn.

To be eligible for the Dean's list, students must earn a 3.50+ semester GPA over 12 or more graded credit hours and have a 3.0+ cumulative GPA.

Dalton makes Bradley Dean's List

Kelsey Dalton, a Bradley student majoring in Early Childhood Education ESL Endorsement from Monett, has been named to Bradley's Fall 2022 Dean's List.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must achieve a minimum 3.5 grade point average for the semester on a 4.0 scale.

Bradley University is a top-ranked, private university in Peoria, Illinois, offering nearly 6,000 undergraduate and graduate students opportunities, choices, and resources to build their futures. Innovation, action, and collaboration drive Bradley students to generate ideas and create solutions that remake the world around them. Our

comprehensive array of undergraduate and graduate academic programs includes business, communications, education, engineering, fine arts, health sciences, liberal arts and sciences, and technology





Cassville High School Mr. and Miss Merry Christmas named



Shown above, left to right, are Mr. Merry Christmas Freshman Logan Wingo, Jill LeCompte and Miss Merry Christmas Freshman Gwendylan Harmon.

Candidates this year raised \$20,149.29 for Share Your Christmas.

Logan is the son of Jermiah and Cailey Wingo, of Cassville. He is involved in football, basketball and FFA

Gwendylan is the daughter of Andy and Nikki Harmon and Roxie and Scott Tucker, of Cassville. She is involved in girl's golf, FBLA and FFA.







DOLLIE JEAN OWENS

Dollie Jean Owens, age 89, of Washburn, passed away Friday, January 13, 2023, at home surrounded by her loving family.

She was born October 23, 1933, in Shell Knob, the daughter of Truman and Lela (Mikeman) Burbridge. On July 15, 1951, in Republic, she was united in marriage to the love of her life, Kenneth Owens, who preceded her in death on November 20, 1983. Also preceding her in death were her parents; one daughter, Frankie Henson; one brother, Herbert Burbridge; one sister, Sue Owens Duncan; and one infant brother, Truman Olan Burbridge.

Surviving are one daughter, Marva "Jo" Varner and her husband, Tim, of Washburn; one son in-law, Harold Henson, of Cassville; one brother, Rollie Burbridge and his wife, Pat, of Harrisburg; two sisters, Donna Kay Blankenship, of Shell Knob, and Captola Cowles and her husband, Johnny, of Shell Knob; six grandsons, Jason Varner and his wife, Daisy, of Washburn, Todd Varner and

Sunday School - 10:00 am

Church - II:00 am

Evening - 6:30 pm

Wednesday - 6:30 pm

his wife, Kady, of Washburn, Scotty Henson and his wife, Emma, of Cassville, Justin Henson and his wife, Wendy, of Cassville, Steven Henson, of Cassville, and Shannon Henson and his wife, Rhonda, of Exeter; fourteen greatgrandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

Dollie lived in the Barry County area her whole life. She received her education at Fairview School in a oneroom schoolhouse located near Shell Knob. At a young age, Dollie was saved and filled with the Holy Ghost at Fairview Pentecostal Church. In 1976, she went to work for Fasco Industries in Cassville. Dollie worked in the production department for twentythree years before retiring July 1, 1999. She moved to Cassville from Shell Knob in 1994. Dollie enjoyed spending time working with flowers and loved cooking for her family and friends.

Services were held Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Brother Terry Bailey and Pastor Karty Burbridge conducted the services. Burial was at Fields Cemetery in Shell Knob.

Contributions may be made to Hospice Compassus in memory of Dollie.

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Pastor

Russell Bishop

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BITUARIES



ALBERT "JODY" RAY

Albert "Jody" Ray, age 74, of Jenkins, passed away Monday, January 9, 2023, at Cox Monett Hospital in Monett.

He was born September 24, 1948, in Cato, the son of Alvin and Oneda (Mills) Ray. On February 12, 1975, in Shell Knob, he was united in marriage to Charlotte Maloney, who survives. Also surviving are one son, Brad Ray and his wife, Tyranny, of Gravette, Arkansas; one daughter, Misty Creekmore and her husband, Robert, of Diamond; one brother, Johnny Ray and his wife, Renee, of Republic; five sisters, Ellen Hensley and her husband, Richard, of Fordland, Ruth Sherrell, of Brownsburg, Indiana, Kave Dunmire and her husband, Wayne, of Monett, Rose Simpson and her husband, Harold, of Crane, and Barbara Stockton and her husband, Lonnie, of Shell Knob; and five grandchildren Elias Ray, Noble Ray, Caden Ray, Jerry Ray and Easton Creekmore.

Preceding him in death were his parents and one brother-in-law, Donnie Sher-

Jody was homeschooled until he started college at Springfield College in Springfield, where he attained an associate degree. After college, he began working at Cassville Tool and Machine, then Moore's Accounting Firm, and in 1979 he was employed as a cost accountant at FASCO Industries in Cassville, from where he retired in 2009. Jody lived in this area all of his life and was a pastor at Lighthouse Full Gospel Church in Eagle Rock. He enjoyed fishing, reading, collecting pocket knives and spending time with his family. His biggest joy was his passion for serving the Lord Jesus Christ.

Services were held Saturday, January 14, 2023, at Lighthouse Full Gospel Church in Eagle Rock, under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Brother Lonnie Stockton and Brother Barney Gibson conducted the services. Burial was at Clio Cemetery in Jenkins.

Contributions may be made to Ronald McDonald House in memory of Jody.

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

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

HAROLD L. LITTLEFIELD

Harold L. Littlefield, 77, of Powell, passed away on Saturday, January 14, 2023. Services are 10:00 a.m. Friday, January 20, 2023, at the Ozark Funeral Home in Anderson. Viewing will be Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the funeral



BONNIE "OPAL" CARDEN COBERLEY

Bonnie "Opal" Carden Coberley, age 98, of Seligman, passed away Monday, January 9, 2023, at Mercy Hospital Northwest Arkansas in Rogers, Arkansas.

She was born February 21, 1924, in Powell, the daughter of Cecil Albert and Veta Bessie (Poe) Weston. On October 24, 1940, in Pineville, she was united in marriage to Clyde Carden who preceded her in death on August 17, 1980. On January 21, 1987, in Carthage, she was united in marriage to Harvey Coberley, who preceded her in death on November 11, 2000. Also preceding her in death were her parents; four brothers, Clyde, Pete, Bill and Raymond Weston; and one sister, Odean Wellsley.

Surviving are one son, James Clyde Carden, Jr., of Favetteville, Arkansas; two daughters, Helen Catron and her husband, Raymond, of Seligman, and Bonnie Morgan, of Washburn; three sisters, Leona Hadley, of Portland, Oregon, Ruby Coberley, of Joplin, and Faye Bonebrake, of Pineville; ten grandchildren; twenty greatgrandchildren; and twentygreat-great-grandchiltwo dren.

Opal attended Antioch School in Jacket. She lived in this area all of her life and was a member of Washburn Church of Christ in Washburn. She enjoyed gardening, crocheting, reading, playing cards and cooking and was known for her chocolate pies.

Graveside services were held Friday, January 13, 2023, at Antioch Cemetery in Jacket (McDonald County). Rick Hendrix conducted the ser-

vices.

Contributions may be made to Antioch Cemetery in memory of Opal.

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

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



STELLA DELORES KILLER

Stella Delores Killer, 71, of Springdale, Arkansas, died January 11, 2023, at Washington Regional Medical Center.

She was born March 18, 1951, in Eureka Springs, Arkansas, to Cleo Thomas David and Dorothy Olivia Lugenbeel David. Stella graduated from Pea Ridge High School in 1969 and later married Tommie Killer on February 21, 1992. She managed buildings for Lindsey Management, loved to take care of her grandson and loved her family very much. She is preceded in death by her parents and her husband.

Survivors are her children, Jessica Phipps and husband, JD III, of Springdale, Arkansas, Dennis Marshall and wife, Rachael, of Fayetteville, Arkansas; stepson, Tommie Killer II, of Oklahoma; a sister, Joyce Raymer and husband, Junior, of Garfield, Arkansas; granddaughter, Tori Dilbeck and husband, Blake, of Purdy; grandsons, Johnathan Phipps, Jerimiah Phipps; and great-grandson, Briggs Dilbeck.

Graveside services were Tuesday, January, 17, 2023, at Union Chapel Cemetery in Garfield, Ark.

Online condolences may be made at siscofuneralhome.net.

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JAN 25: Mississippi pot roast, mashed potatoes, Brussel sprouts, hot roll, Boston cream pie

JAN 26: Breaded pork chop with gravy, au gratin potatoes, tomatoes & zucchini, cornbread, chocolate cream pie

JAN 27: Orange chicken, fried rice, oriental veggies, hot roll, Mississippi mud bars

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sister, Irene Beck; and a baby

Greg Forester and his wife,

Cindy, of Aurora, and Far-

rell Forester and his wife,

Connie, of Strafford; five

grandchildren, Christopher,

Mason and Brandon For-

ester, Kimberly Reed and

Megan McReynolds; and

eleven great-grandchildren,

Connor, Halle, Maverick,

Casen, Bailey, Bexley, Emilia,

Colton, Rylee, Chase and

tended Vine Hill School in

Galena. He was an over road

truck driver and owned and

operated his own truck. He

enjoyed metal detecting and

was always working, even

mowing his own yard last

summer. He was a member

of Life Fellowship in Aurora.

day, January 16, 2023, at

Fohn Funeral Home in Cass-

ville. Pastor Greg Forester

conducted the services. Buri-

al was at Antioch Cemetery

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VIDAL F. TRUJILLO

Vidal F. Trujillo, 82, of

in Cassville.

Services were held Mon-

Jake grew up and at-

Remi Jo.

Surviving are two sons,

brother, Irvin.

GWENDOLYN MARIE PADGETT SIMMONS **BROWN**

Gwendolyn Marie Padgett Simmons Brown, age 84, of Cassville, passed away on Saturday, January 14, 2023, at Roaring River Health and Rehabilitation of Cassville. The daughter of Clyde and Erma Elizabeth (Stumpff) Padgett, Marie was born on August 7, 1938, into the Clio community of Jenkins. Marie would go on graduate high school in 1957, and later married Paul Simmons, who preceded her in death. On January 17, 1995, in Miami, Oklahoma, she was united in marriage to Maurice "Johnny" Brown, who preceded her in death in December 2014.

Marie's greatest joy in life was her family, spending her years as a devoted homemaker. Marie was a supporter of the Cassville Wildcats and a fan of the St. Louis Cardinals. Marie enjoyed attending sporting events, and bowling. An outdoor lover, Marie also enjoyed fishing and gardening in her free time. Marie was a dear woman who will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

Survivors include stepsons, David Brown, of Lee's Summit, an dTim Brown and his wife, Leesa, of Blue Springs; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; one brother, Marlin Padgett, of Bakersville, California; special niece, Sheila Friend; as well as several other nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband, Maurice "Johnny" Brown, Marie was preceded in death by her parents,

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Clyde and Erma Padgett, and stepdaughter, Carolyn Harper.

Funeral Services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 19, 2023, at White Funeral Home of Cassville, with Pastor Rick Cooper officiating. Burial to follow at Clio Cemetery in Jenkins. The family will receive friends from 12:00 p.m. until service time at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions in honor of Marie may be made to the Senior Citizens Center of Cassville and entrusted to White Funeral Home, P.O. Box 890, Cassville, MO 65625.

Arrangements are under the direction of White Funeral Home and Crematory of Cassville.





MAX ANN FOSTER

Max Ann Foster, age 89, of Monett, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Tuesday, December 20, 2022. The daughter of Harold Max Viault and Gertrude Evans Darby, Max Ann was born on June 3, 1933, in Los Angeles, California. She graduated from Marymount School for girls and had her coming out party at the National Charity League Debutante Ball. Max Ann had a short acting career for Paramount Pictures as a "dress" extra in seven different movies, providing her own gowns and furs.

In June of 1956, she was united in marriage to William (Bill) Foster, making

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BITUARIES

many lasting memories in the fifty-seven years together; he passed away in 2013. Max Ann enjoyed helping others and would volunteer countless hours in her community from being a candy striper in Dallas, dance groups, quilt guilds, and the Shell Knob Chamber of Commerce.

Survivors include her three children, Kimberly Schonefeld and her husband. Larry, of Orlando, Florida, Melissa Graham and her husband, Charles, of Shell Knob, and Harold William Foster and his wife, Teresa, of Lakeland, Florida; five grandchildren, Matthew William Myers, Garrett Daniel Graham, Spencer William Graham and his wife, Abby-Leigh, Emma Foster, and Hayden William Foster; great-granddaughter, Harlow Poppy Graham; and three step-grandchildren, Jessica Ann Schonefeld, Megan Marie Schonefeld, and Jordan Caraker.

In addition to her parents, Max Ann was preceded in death by her daughter, Gertrude Mary Foster; three brothers, Wayne Evans Viault, Harold Max Viault and Jack Dudley Viault.

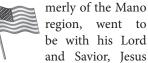
No services are scheduled at this time.

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



JAMES "JIM" DEAN **WILLIAMS**

James "Jim" Dean Williams, age 74, of Belton, formerly of the Mano



Christ, on Monday, January 16, 2023, at the Belton Regional Hospital in Belton.

Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 21, 2023, at White Funeral Home in Cassville, with Pastor David Donaldson officiating. Burial to follow at the Rocky Comfort Cemetery.

Memorial contributions in honor of Jim Williams may be made to the Disabled American Veterans organization in St. Louis, Missouri, and entrusted to White Funeral Home, P.O. Box 890, Cassville, MO 65625.

Arrangements are under the direction of White Funeral Home and Crematory of Cassville.

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



HOMER JOHN "JAKE" **FORESTER**

Homer John "Jake" Forester, age 93, of Aurora, passed away Thursday, January 12, 2023, at Mercy Hospital Cassville, in Cassville.

He was born in Galena on December 23, 1929, the son of Henry and Opal (Branstetter) Forester. On March 2, 1951, in Cape Fair, he was united in marriage to Lanora Wilson, who preceded him in death on December 20, 2014. Also preceding him in

Service Times:

Purdy, passed away on Tuesday, January 10, 2023. No formal services are planned at this time. Arrangements are under the personal care

death were his parents; one and direction of Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.

HELEN NADINE BRATTIN

Helen Nadine Brattin, age 90, of Exeter, passed away on Wednesday, January 11, 2023. Arrangements are under the direction of Lakin Funeral Home in Pierce City.



WILLIAM LORAN **ROBBINS**

William Loran Robbins, age 83, of Jenkins, passed away Friday, January 13, 2023 at his home.

Graveside services were held today, Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at Clio Cemetery in Jenkins, under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor David Pryor conducted the services.

Contributions may be made to Clio Cemetery in memory of William.

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· 6:00 p.m.



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HARLOW H. IRSIK

Harlow H. Irsik, age 88 of Eldon, formerly of Shell Knob, passed away on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at Lake Regional Hospital in Osage Beach. The son of Stephen and Lena Irsik, of Wichita, Kan., Harlow was born on November 9, 1934, in Clonmel, Kan. On May 15, 1954, he was united in holy matrimony to Joan Friess, who preceded him in death in February of 2013.

A contractor by trade, Harlow was a skilled heavy equipment operator. Ever the outdoorsman, Harlow enjoyed hunting and fishing in his spare time. Harlow also enjoyed dancing and was known to cut a rug from time to time. A fine, hardworking man, Harlow will be missed by those who loved him.

Survivors include five children: Wayne Irsik and wife, Debra, of Evans Georgia; Mark Irsik and wife, Vicki, of Eldon; Stephen Irsik, of Aurora, Colo.; Stan Irsik and wife, Alicia, of Neosho; and Susie Henson, of Granby. Also surviving are seven

grandchildren including Beth Sullivan, Sara Moller, Jeremy Irsik, Katherine Irsik, Ashley Wolicki, Stephen Irsik, Jr, and Heather Sicks. In addition, Harlow and Joan had six great-grandchildren; Jerzy and Mason Wolicki, Brody and Bentlie Moller, and Annalise, Grady and Nolan Sullivan. One sister, Mary Youngers, of Kingman, Kan.,

In addition to his wife, Joan, Harlow was preceded in death by his parents, Stephen and Lena Irsik; his sister, Josephine Miller; his brother, Walter (Freddy) Irsik; and his grandson, Daniel Irsik.

also survives.

Funeral services will be held at St. Edwards Catholic Church in Cassville on February 10, 2023, with Rosary at 10:00 a.m. and services following. Internment of ashes will take place in Ost, Kan., at a later date.

Memorial contributions in honor of Harlow H. Irsik may be made to the family and entrusted to White Funeral Home and Crematory, PO Box 890, Cassville, MO 65625. Cards and letters may be addressed to 32 Bluff Drive, Eldon MO 65026, c/o Mark Irsik.

Arrangements are under the direction of White Funeral Home and Crematory of Cassville.



BCGHS announces 2023 officers



Shown above, left to right, are Norma Terry, Librarian; Lynna Spellman, Vice President; Lynn Hilburn, President; Philip Van Voorst, Past President; and Terry Ray, Secretary/Treasurer.

The Barry County Genealogical and Historical Society (BCGHS) have announced the following 2023 Officers: Incoming President Lynn Hilburn, First Vice President Lynna Spellman, Secretary/Treasurer Terry Ray, and Past President Phillip Van Voorst.Nonelected (volunteer) positions are Editor and Registrar Georgia Hart, Library: Norma Terry, and Building Maintenance: Maurice (Buddy) Hart. Second

Vice President and Historian are unfilled positions. Incoming officers would like to thank outgoing President Phillip van Horst and previous officers Robin Henderson and Kathleen Van Voorst for their work over the past couple of years. The BCGHS will hold a regular meeting at the Bayless/Salyer building on January 21 at 11 a.m. The public is invited to join if interested in Barry County History, genealogy, and the Bayless/Salyer

building. Suppose you have pictures that you want to share with us or information about cemeteries, old one-room elementary schools, or long-time Barry County families. Thanks to everyone who helped decorate the Bayless/Salyer building for the Christmas holidays, with a special shout out to Lynna Spellman and Phillis Benham for all their

MU Extension farm management news

Winter is when work moves from the fields and pastures to the home office and kitchen table. University of Missouri Extension offers resources as farmers work on tax preparation, production decisions, setting financial goals and updating farm business plans. Taxation of crop insurance

For some Missouri farms, weather conditions have led to unusual production and sales that can have tax consequences. Livestock producers in parts of Missouri sold animals this year while forage supplies dwindled and feed prices rose. MU Extension agricultural business specialist Mary Sobba explains these sales do have tax implications.

Sometimes, the law allows producers to postpone gains from livestock sales for one year. Generally, a two-year postponement is allowed if a producer replaces the livestock. Weather can also affect crop producers' tax bills. Uncertain circumstances,

producers may recognize crop insurance and disaster payments as income in the tax year following the year of damage.

For more information go to mizzou.us/WeatherTax. Census of Agriculture

agriculture American continues to evolve, and every five years the USDA's Census of Agriculture provides the most detailed look at these changes. Mallory Rahe, MU associate extension professor, encourages farmers a to fill out their census forms online or return paper copies by mail before the end of February. Current data on total farm numbers, types of production and age of producers is used by federal, state and local governments as well as agribusinesses, researchers and trade associations to serve farmers and rural communities.

For more information go agcensus.usda.gov2023 farm budgets

Crop production input prices are high, but production cost estimates indicate farmers can still make money on row crops. MU Extension agricultural economist Ray Massey explains that while fertilizer and fuel prices have the estimated costs and redropped from their highs several months ago, they are still higher than they were a year ago.

Livestock planning bud-

gets indicate a return to normal. The updated Missouri livestock budget, released by MU Extension in the fall of 2022, forecasts strong livestock prices and declining feed costs in 2023.

Beef cattle, hog and dairy prices were strong in 2022. However, as MU Extension agricultural economist Joe Horner explains, while producers normally react to strong prices by producing more, farmers did not expand as much as expected last year due to drought, high feed costs and scarce labor.

For more information or turns for Missouri row crop and livestock operations in 2023, go to mizzou.us/Bud-



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MU Strip Trial Program sees results in foliar fungicide applications

University of Missouri Integrated Pest Management coordinator Mandy Bish often hears farmers say, "A treated acre is an acre I'm not losing sleep over."

That is a good mindset for residual herbicide applications, she says, but it may or may not pay off when it comes to foliar fungicides, depending upon circumstances.

Use of foliar fungicides in soybean has increased across the southern states, including Missouri, since 2005. The uptick followed Hurricane Ivan's wind and rain, which likely brought spores of soybean rust into the U.S.

The Missouri Soybean Merchandising Council has helped fund 43 Missouri foliar fungicide strip trials through the MU Certified Strip Trial program since 2018. See results at striptrial. missouri.edu.

In those trials, Missouri soybean growers saw an average yield increase of 1.8 bushels per acre over nontreated acres when applying fungicides at R3 development stage. The increase was not unique to Missouri. Researchers in 240 small plot trials in nine states and Ontario, Canada, reported a 2.7% percent yield increase. "This corresponds to a 1.6-bushel-per-acre bump in 60-bushel bean," says Bish. However, not all fields responded the same. Researchers continue to look at how disease pressure, extreme precipitation and other factors such as row spacing affect response.

But one thing is certain, Bish says. "Fungicides work when we need them. We do not want to lose that effectiveness."

Producers must weigh the yield increase against potential risk of fungicide resistance in the long term.

Bish also shares updates on two other issues affecting row crops.

Tar spot

Missouri producers reported more tar spot cases in northern Missouri cornfields in

2022. MU's Plant Diagnostic Clinic confirmed cases in northern counties in August 2022. Bish estimates that it is present in the northern third of the state. "We're not the hot spot yet but continue to

Tar spot's growing presence calls for frequent scouting, Bish says, since it spreads quickly. In years with severe outbreaks, tar spot can cause yield losses of 20-60 bushels per acre due to reduced grain fill, kernel abortion and reduced kernel weight, as well as late-season lodging.

creep closer," she says.

First discovered in 1904 in the country of Mexico, the disease reached the Midwest by 2015. Tar spot, which spreads quickly through fields, appears as circular or oval raised black dots on both sides of corn leaves. A brown or tan halo may surround the spots, which can also appear on the sheaths and husks. It overwinters on soil surface residue and spreads by wind and heavy rain.

Scout often, choose less susceptible corn varieties and apply residual and multiple modes of action foliar fungicide treatments to reduce losses, Bish says.

Timing of application also matters. Current research shows no benefit to R4 or R5 applications. The most effective applications, given current disease pressure, appears to be at VT/R1, Bish says.

SCN management

Soybean cyst nematode (SCN) costs the soybean industry \$1.2 billion annually. Eggs persist in the soil for years. Found in 1956 in Missouri, it appears in all soybean-growing counties. "It's not going anywhere soon," Bish says.

More troubling is that the effectiveness of SCN-resistant soybean varieties is breaking down, Bish says. Commercially available SCN-resistant varieties, using P188788 and Peking, were first introduced in the late 1960s. More than 95% of the resistant varieties

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contain P188788.

"Basically, we've relied on one resistant variety for more than 30 years," Bish says.

SCN can rob yields without any visual indicators. Roots sometimes show infestation during the growing season, but soil tests that include SCN egg counts tend to be better indicators of SCN densities. (See www.scndiagnostics.com for information on how to sample for SCN eggs.) ILeVO seed treatments offer protection against SCN in greenhouse studies. MU Certified Strip Trials with ILeVO showed an average increase of 2 bushels per acre in treated strips compared to nontreated strips across 20 locations, Bish says.

Researchers are also studying how cover crops affect SCN numbers, Bish says. "We have a lot to learn in this area, but most preliminary data indicate our most popular cover crop, cereal rye, is not influencing SCN populations," she says. Rotation with corn and other nonhost crops still appears to be the best approach to manage SCN until breeders can develop new resistant varieties.

For more information, contact Bish at bishm@missouri. edu or 573-882-9878.

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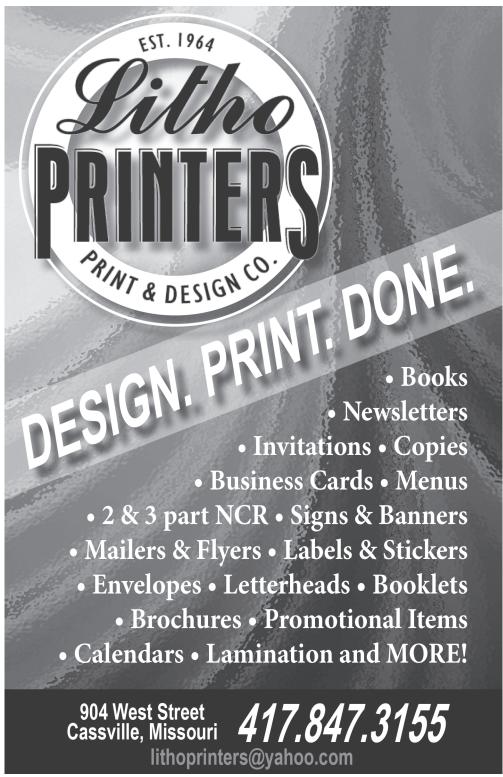
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Beef producers: 'Get your house in order'

Beef producers should approach 2023 with cautious optimism - matched with resolutions of good management and investment in infrastructure, says University of Missouri Extension agriculture business specialist Wesley Tucker.

Optimistically, beef continues to be in favor with U.S. consumers, and export demand remains solid, says Tucker. However, risks of persistent drought, global trade issues, high input costs and concerns of inflation and recession all have the potential to take a bite out of prof-

For the past eight years, meat production has continued a steady growth of more supply, but, thankfully, strong demand from consumers pushed prices higher. Tucker says meat supply growth will slow and actually go down, leading to even higher prices on the horizon in 2023.

This will be the fourth consecutive year of fewer beef cows in production. Missouri lost 6% of its cow numbers from January 2021 to January 2022, according to the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service. U.S. numbers mirror declines in other countries.

Drought, high feed and input costs, and lingering supply chain issues will likely push this number even lower in 2023.

The 2022 drought put a bull's-eye on southwestern Missouri, the state's biggest cattle-producing region. Hay and forage supplies dwindled, pushing up prices for feed inputs.

Drought pushed already falling hay production numbers even lower. In the past 20 years, producers have devoted fewer acres to hay and more to crops. Other factors - such as supply chain slaughter capacity problems and even global issues like the Russian-Ukraine conflict and higher diesel prices – can unexpectedly affect the producer's bottom line.

During most droughts, the price of feed goes up,

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but prices go back to normal when conditions improve. However, input costs equipment, diesel, fertilizer and labor - likely won't go down anytime soon simply because the drought goes away. "If your operation is highly dependent on these inputs, profit margins may evaporate quickly despite higher receipts," Tucker says.

"Now is the time to get your house in order," he says. Tucker gives these tips to combat changing markets.

- Consider herd management practices. Is early weaning an option to reduce feed needs? Practices such as pregnancy checks, sorting into groups based on nutritional need and strategic culling will reap big dividends this winter.
- · Compare hay feeders. Research by former MU Extension beef specialist Justin

Sexten showed nearly double the waste with open and poly feeder rings compared to sheeted rings. Modified cone rings had far less waste.

- Invest in soil tests. Soil tests help producers spend their fertilizer dollars where they will get the greatest return. Carefully evaluate whether it makes better financial sense to fertilize and invest in improved forages or buy supplemental feed.
- Good grass means green bucks. Consider who earns the most consuming your grass - cows or their calves? Keeping a few less cows and grazing their calves longer in times of high grain prices can reap nice rewards. "We've all heard the saying, 'Grass sells better wrapped in calf hide than cowhide or, especially, a bale of hay," Tucker says. Flexible stocking rates gives producers more options in

unstable markets.

• Manage cow numbers. Put wheels under poor performers. Less is more when there is less to go around. Avoid overstocking, which limits options, especially during tighter markets.

Tucker, MU Extension beef specialist Eric Bailey and

MU Extension dairy specialist Stacey Hamilton discuss ways to manage cattle during uncertain times in a series of videos at mizzou.us/Forage-LivestockHour.

For more information, contact Tucker at tuckerw@ missouri.edu.

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Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech, Oslo, Norway, 1964

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Vaught From Front

learned from his father and uncle, he says his greatest enjoyment from the sport now comes from passing the skill to one of his sons, Brody, and competing alongside him. Dave says his sister, Tammy, has also lived a life on horseback

Despite how important roping is to him, Vaught never made his sons participate, adding: "The desire to do it has to come from within; it's not something casual."

He says that when his sons were children, he offered to teach them, though he did not force the hobby upon them. To Dave, if someone does not have a sturdy passion for roping, it's unlikely they'll perform well, as the sport requires a tremendous amount of concentration, endurance, and muscle memory.

Time and experience, however, he says, are the tools that truly hone one's ability, explaining that he practiced daily for many years.

"I had a burro - I used to rope him 150 times a day; I've spent hours upon hours at it. It's like life," Vaught says, "you work at it every day."

A burro is a small donkey, historically used in American expansion westward as a pack animal, though now, ropers in training gain experience by roping them. Vaught says he still trains his horses on a burro that he owns and still learns new things to this day.

"I learn new things all the time," he says, "you never stop learning."

Vaught explains that there were years he sacrificed his passion to raise his family and work to support them, though recently, as his children have left home, he's "back at it" after working at the Barry County Co-Op delivering propane for 20 years.

"If I would have desired to do anything else, with how much time I've put into it, I'd be a multi-millionaire - but this is my passion. I think you should chase your passion. If you don't, you won't be around that long, I don't think. Lot of places, lot of miles - but it's what I love to do."

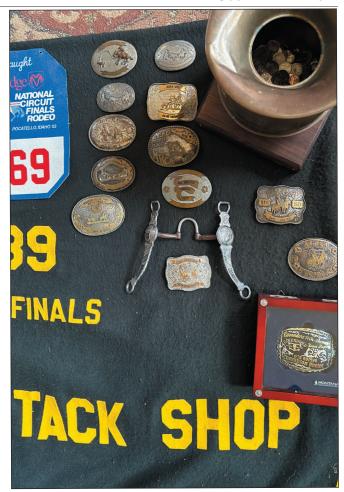
Vaught recalls one year in the late '80s, during the height of his professional career, that he attended 136 competitions in one year. Following events have led him from Idaho to Louisville, Kentucky, visiting many arenas in between. He says he's watched the culture surrounding the sport change, growing less cutthroat over the years and forming into a more healthily competitive environment, in part leading to many more people joining the competitions. Vaught says there were less than 80 people in his competitive league at one time, but now the numbers are in the thou-

Dave also states he's seen the price of a good horse rise from \$2,500 in the mid'70s to between \$20,000 to \$70,000 now.

Even after all these years, the lifestyle remains sacred to him, with Vaught accompanying his son last December to an event in Las Vegas and placing 13th out of 500 teams.

"I enjoyed that trip as much as any trip I've ever taken in my life; it was like a vacation. Didn't win as much as I wanted, but you never do. You could win two, then say, why didn't I win the third one," Vaught says.

"I'm blessed to get to do it. As long as God allows me to do it, I'll keep it up. There's been rewarding parts through all of it: the places I've been, the people I've met - but now, getting to rope with my son is the most rewarding thing. We went to a roping Tuesday night, it was a six-head roping, a number 10 roping, and we won it. That's pretty rewarding when you can win one with your kid."



Shown above is a small portion of trophies Vaught has won over the last 50 plus years of roping.

CMS 7th Grade Football Team Recognized as First in the Big 8



Shown above, front row, left to right, are Cylas Austin, Easton Stone, Lawton England, Michael Winchell, Brendan Flynn, Kyle Berry, Braydyn Sizemore, Brandt Reuter, Dylan Bohmke, Landon Lyles and Jarrett Paul; back row, left to right, are Ashton Johnson-Casas, Ellis Hobbs, Logan Parsons, Mace Bredeson, Carson Hutchens, Van Thang, Grant Varner, Zachary Myers, Kenny Lewallen, Collin Hutchenson, Satchel Beach and Kyler Senko. Isaac Cornett and Brylar Beranek were absent from the photo.

Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) has recognized the seventh grade football team at Cassville Middle School as the 2022-23 Big 8 Conference West Division first place winners.

While MSHSAA does not host an end-of-season tournament, the first place recognition was awarded to the team after completing an undefeated season this fall.

"Going into the season, I wasn't sure what to expect from this group of athletes," said Robbie Artherton, Head CMS Football Coach. "As off season workouts began this summer, we could quickly see they were going to be a competitive and physical group of kids. They continued to work hard all season long. Their hard work and determination earned them an undefeated season and first place finish. We couldn't be more proud of them. We are already looking forward to next season!"

The seventh grade football team is coached by Artherton, Chris Fortner, Nathan Fortner and Trey Dalton.



