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VOLUME 55 NUMBER 21 CASSVILLE, MISSOURI 65625-0488 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2022

Pop's Pipes Suffers Smoke Damage



Photos from the Facebook page of the Cassville Fire Protection District.

Ezra DeVore
According to Chuck Miner, District Administrator for the Cassville Fire Department, the fire “started around 7 a.m., smoke was seen coming from the building.

The first teams made entry, and the building was filled with smoke. The fire took 25 - 30 minutes to get under control. Approximately 30% of the building suffered significant

structural damage,” which according to Miner, unfortunately warrants a rebuild. The following is from a Facebook post of the event: Upon arrival, there was moderate amount of smoke

showing throughout the roofline. Crews made an aggressive interior attack and were able to keep the fire contained to the one business of the strip mall.

Fire is under investigation by the Missouri State Fire Marshals. Thanks to the following for all of the assistance provided: Barry County Emergency Svcs E911, Exeter Fire

Protection District, Butterfield Fire/Rescue (Butterfield, Mo), Cassville Missouri Police Department, Mercy EMS, and Barry Electric Co-operative, Inc.



George's Re-Evaluates Labor Model

Ezra DeVore
Many businesses have developed plans to confront the unique struggles a 2 year pandemic can offer, and George's has recently undertaken a large effort to lower labor intensity and adequately match the labor force they have. “Over the last couple years of the COVID-19 pandemic,” states George's Complex HR Manager Lawson Brette. “We were seeing an increase in absenteeism, and folks not being interested in job opportunities.” “There are many job openings, but not a lot of job-

seekers right now. “We were seeing some writing on the wall saying that this may become a more permanent situation. “So, we wanted to take a look at our business model here in Cassville, and how it supports the overall business model of George's, realizing that staffing was always going to be a problem moving forward, because we were about 130 in the hole. “Here in this facility (the Barry County branch), we're looking at about 673 general production team members, not including general support and management de-

partments; fully staffed is about 859. “Now, however, we are slightly over-staffed on day shift and slightly understaffed on night shift due to our changeover, just because the work that we have changed to is less labor intensive. “It was a way to reduce our headcount without having to lay anybody off, only reducing the labor, so we can get done what we need to get done with the labor we already have. “Number two, we also

See George's pg. 3A

Roaring River Opening Day March 1



On March 1, Roaring River's shore will be taken over by anglers in hopes of the top luncker. Photo by Adriana Keeton.

Ezra DeVore
Opening day at Roaring River State Park is an event that communities both local and distant look forward to each year, and this year, the starting gun at 6:30 a.m. will be fired by long time Roaring River volunteer and lifetime Cassville local: Roie Hudson. “I'm quite proud and honored,” says Hudson, “Roaring River is my home away from home. “It's the vacation spot for this part of the country - you've got the river, and the trails, and all the wonderful people down there. Anytime I get uptight, I go down there and all my worries disappear. The river is my psychiatrist. I don't see how you can go and have any problems. When I was a child, we couldn't afford to fish in the park, so my dad would take me, and we'd just watch people fish. “Then, I got to take my

kids and teach them how to fish, and my grandkids - I'd say four or five generations are connected to Roaring River. “I taught my daughter how to fish, and now she can almost out-fish me! But opening day isn't just a family tradition. Like many, Hudson expresses the long-term friendships Roaring River has given him, and allowed him to nurture. “I get to see a lot of my friends from up north - there's sixteen of us that get together every year and fish. It's not really about catching, just having fun. We catch and release a lot.” Hudson's birthday also happens to be March 1, making the his role even more special. I'm just proud as I can be. Roaring River's given me more than I can ever give it. I get emotional when I think about Roaring River,



Above, Roie Hudson. Photo by John Rosenbalm.

it's just my home away from home.” The park store will open February 28, at 9 a.m. and will remain open until March 1, at 7 p.m. The restaurant will be open on February 28, from 12 p.m. - 7 p.m. on March 1. Mugs will be handed out at the Les Jacobs Ford tent, across from CCC Lodge, beginning at 5 a.m. on March 1. Parking will be the same as previous years, with an advisory to follow the instruction of parking attendants. “We're always excited for opening day,” said Roaring River Superintendent, Joel Topham. “It's one of our tried and true time-honored events. That's always happened here at Roaring River, and at all the other trout parks. “You'll see us out there, and hopefully we won't have to be huddled too closely.”

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Local students graduate from Missouri State University

Missouri State University awarded 1,509 degrees to students in fall 2021. The commencement ceremonies took place Dec. 17, 2021, at JQH Arena in Springfield.

The following local students earned degrees:

Kaden Clark, of Crane, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Conservation and Management.

Kallie Dickson, of Cassville, graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Education, Physical Education.

Lina Hang, of Purdy, graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science.

Cody Hindes, of Monett, graduated with a Master of Science in Education, Literacy.

Shelby Michael, of Monett, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Fashion Merchandising and Design.

Peighton Miekley, of Purdy, graduated with a Master of Science in Education, Elementary Education.

Troy Rose, of Cassville, graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Science in General Agriculture.

Isamary Salas, of Monett, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Sociology and Modern Language/Translation.

Emily Thornborrow, of Purdy, graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Design.

Katherine Wise, of

Monett, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Anthropology.

Brayden Selvey, of Monett, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Criminology.

Joel Barrientos, of Monett, graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting.

Kalli Bolger, of Aurora, graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Education, Early Childhood Education.

Griffen Heller, of Verona, graduated with a Master of Occupational Therapy.

Sierra Jensen, of Monett, graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Education, Elementary Education.

Jacob Johnson, of Aurora, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business.

Kristen Jones, of Pierce City, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Management.

Amy Jungbluth, of Verona, graduated with a Master of Occupational Therapy.

Austin Lindeman, of Aurora, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Conservation and Management.

Peyton McGlothlin, of Aurora, graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Education, Early Childhood Education.

Rachel McManus, of Verona, graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Biology.

Jake Redus, of Aurora, graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Education, Elementary Education.

Alexis Sherfy, of Monett, graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Marketing.

Jennifer Velten, of

Monett, graduated with a Master of Science in Education, Educational Administration.

Alicia Jones, of Crane, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Anthropology.

Rachel Schroff, of Cape Fair, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Health Services.

Deziree Wolfinbarger, of Shell Knob, graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Health Services.

Students who graduated with honors completed at least 30 credit hours with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5.

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George's from front

changed the processes a great deal. Some areas go increasingly easier, some remained the same, some marginally increased in difficulty. That's what we've been getting used to over the past couple weeks.

"One of the main reasons why is that we were able to increase the size of our bird.

"We went from a 2 - 3.5 pound bird, to a 5 or 6 pound bird. So, it's a heavier bird, so that opens more markets for us. The breast meat is larger on that, so it's more conducive to deboning, or selling it off in breast-meat cutlets or something similar. For example, if a restaurant wanted their cost per plate to be the same and manageable, we would debone the product, make it their specified size, and send it off to a retailer who provides that to restaurants. So that's part of our business model.

"We also conduct business with many large retailers, but now that our bird size has bigger, it's allowed us to maximize our business with current clients - take our current birds, and the end product has more to offer. In essence, we took the labor we had, and took out all our labor intensive jobs to fa-

cilitate the smaller staff. The first year and some change of Covid stayed the same, because we were paying more for the people we could find, but it got to a point, maybe 10 or 12 months ago, where we were really seeing not a lot of available applicants.

"It was a plus on the backside of this rebuild that we were able to stabilize our staffing."

George's works with many large scale companies, though with short staffing, it became difficult to facilitate the orders, however, a plan was made.

"We've taken much of the business our company did," Bresette continued, "and moved it to our Virginia teams. They've absorbed the orders there, so we didn't lose any business. We packed up some additional business by way of our changeover here, and the return on our investment has been good enough to make it worth it.

"Where we mostly had fast food clients before, that has decreased, and we mostly provide more than we used to of wholesale product to

wholesale food vendors now."

George's has largely addressed the labor shortages with automation, eliminating the need for cramped spaces and opening up previously tight areas. Corridors where multiple people would be operating heavy machinery is now open, due to those jobs being placed in more efficient regions of the building, or simply done with automation.

Therefore, with the help of automation to address labor shortages, and reduce stressful jobs, strategies to confront the pandemic evolve and grow with the times themselves.

"We already had above average ergonomics, but now we've improved even further. A lot of that is due to the new space we've created on the production floor, by way of our remodel. It gives folks more space to move around and get their jobs done efficiently and effectively. We didn't kick anybody out with this automation of work, but the automation did help with our headcount."

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11n

Cassville Heights Apartments slated for April availability



With the shortage of rental housing in Cassville, it is nice to see phase 2 construction underway at Cassville Heights Apartments in Cassville. According to Marilee Budd, manager, if everything goes as planned, phase 2 apartments will be available for rental beginning April 2022. There will be 32 apartments available, ranging from two to three bedrooms. Cassville Heights is located at 208 Cassville Heights. For more information, you can contact Marilee Budd at 417-846-0454. Photo and caption by Adriana Keeton.

Barry County receives federal funds

Barry County has been chosen to receive \$9,493.00 for Phase 39 and \$29,431.00 for ARPA-R to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the county.

The selection was made by an national board that is chaired by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives for American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA; The Jewish Federations of North America; The Salvation Army; and United Way Worldwide.

The local board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the country.

A local board made up of Red Cross, Presiding Commissioners, and Crosslines will determine how the funds awarded to Barry County are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service agencies in the area.

The local board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds made available under this phase of the program.

Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must: 1) be private voluntary nonprofits or units of government, 2) be eligible to receive federal funds, 3) have an accounting system, 4) practice nondiscrimination, 5) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/

or shelter programs, and 6) if they are a private voluntary organization, have a voluntary board. Qualifying agencies are urged to apply.

Barry County has distributed emergency food and shelter funds previously with Cassville Pantry, Central Community United Methodist Church, and OACAC participating. These agencies were responsible for providing 14,400 meals and 660 nights of lodging.

Public or private voluntary agencies interested in apply for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must contact OACAC Barry County Neighborhood Center at 417-847-2140, 10826 Farm Road 2172, Cassville, MO 65625 for an application. The deadline for applications to be received is March 9, 2022.

New U.S. Food Loss and Waste 2030 Champions

Recently, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) welcomed seven companies to the U.S. Food Loss and Waste 2030 Champions, companies that have committed to reducing food loss and waste in their U.S. operations by 50 percent by 2030.

The new 2030 Champions include: Albertsons Companies, BJ’s Wholesale Club, Danone North America, Smithfield Foods, Inc., Starbucks, Sysco, and Tyson Foods.

“Addressing food loss and waste is key to a resilient, climate-smart food system,” said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack.

“I welcome the new 2030 Champions and applaud their innovative efforts to reduce food loss and waste, divert wholesome excess food to those in need, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by keeping food out of landfills.”

“EPA recognizes the important role that public and private partnerships play in order to tackle our shared pollution challenges comprehensively,” said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan.

“We are excited for our ongoing work with government partners and industry leaders, like the 2030 Champions, to prevent and reduce food waste across the supply chain.”



The new 2030 Champions have committed to specific food loss and waste reduction activities: Albertsons Companies is innovating its inventory management practices, recovering food by donating to local organizations, and recycling food waste through compost, animal feed, and other methods.

BJ’s Wholesale Club, through their Feeding Communities program, donates unsold produce, meat, and other products on a weekly basis to local Feeding America member food banks.

The company will be elevating this program to help further reduce food insecurity and waste. Danone North America is working to reduce food waste within their operations and supply chain.

In addition to ongoing efforts in its manufacturing facilities, Smithfield Foods, Inc. is innovating its feed for-

mulations to include byproducts and investing in specialized equipment to facilitate the efficient processing of difficult-to-recycle packaged bakery products.

Starbucks is leveraging its FoodShare program to donate unsold food to food banks and mobile pantries, in addition to continuing to enhance inventory and supply chain management practices, using commercial composting methods and encouraging customers to get involved through its Grounds for Your Garden program. Sysco is diverting waste from landfills through food donations and contributing food waste to animal feed and composting efforts.

Tyson Foods is improving inventory management and supply planning as well as composting and donating wholesome food.

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Cassville FBLA gets back to ‘In-Person’ Districts



The Cassville FBLA Chapter travelled to their District V competition in Monett on February 10 to compete for a chance to go to the FBLA State Conference in April. This year was the first time in two years that kids were allowed to perform and attend the conference in person rather than on a Zoom call or video. Cassville had a successful day with 48 medalists and 24 students qualifying for SLC. Students moving on are Jonathan Oliphant, Emerson Grossman, Sharayah Seymour, Ella Reuter, Samantha Sparkman, Cosmo Rhoads, Joey Burton, Reese Heiden, Jacob Martinez, Avery Chappell, Emma Berndt, Jaycie Ertel, Isabella Dunbar, Landry

Parnell, Isabella Muise, Angela Cortez-Gonzales, Jillian Lecompte, Annie Moore, Chaney Cox, Kyah Saffold, Macie Walker, Avery Crain, Maddock Roark and Marianne McCrackin.

WIC formula manufacturer recalls infant formula

Abbott, the WIC infant formula manufacturer, announced the proactive, voluntary recall of some powdered Similac, Alimentum, or EleCare formulas manufactured in Sturgis, Michigan. Missouri WIC, the Department of Health and Senior Services Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, is working to make participating families aware of the disruption.

The powdered formula products included in this recall have the expiration date of 4-1-2022 (APR 2022) or later and are: 12.6 oz Similac Total Comfort, 12.5 oz Similac for Spit Up, all EleCare Infant and Junior, and all Similac Alimentum.

The powdered formula products that might be included in this recall are: 12.5 oz Similac Sensitive and 12.4 oz Similac Advance. This recall does NOT include Similac Isomil, Similac Neosure, and all concentrate or ready-to-feed formulas.

Check the lot number and expiration date on the bottom of the can to determine if the 12.5 oz Similac Sensitive or 12.4 oz Similac Advance cans are included in this recall. The first two digits of the included lot numbers are 22 through 37, and it will contain K8, SH, or Z2.

In addition, the expiration date will be 4-1-2022 (APR 2022) or later. If the formula can does not include all three, then it is not affected by the recall and is safe to continue using. To check if the lot number is included in the recall, go to <https://www.similacrecall.com/us/en/product-lookup.html>.

If a WIC participant’s product is affected by the recall, it should not be used. Participants should call their WIC local agency for assistance. WIC local agency contact information is located on the Missouri WIC website at wic.mo.gov or on the WICShopper app. Participants can call 1-800-TEL-LINK for information on organizations providing assistance in purchasing formula that cannot be provided by WIC.

More information about the recall can be found on the FDA’s website.

Learn about owls online

Because of owls’ nocturnal lifestyles and their hunting of mice, rats and other rodents that can be pests for humans, these nighttime birds are a fascinating and beneficial part of Missouri’s outdoors. People can learn more about owl species found in Missouri at the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) virtual program “Owls of Missouri.” This program, which

will be Feb. 25 from 6-7 p.m. is being put on by the staff of MDC’s Shoal Creek Conservation Education Center in Joplin. At this online program, MDC Naturalist Jessie Ballard will provide information about the species of owls that are found in Missouri and will also have tips on how to identify their calls. This program is open to all ages. People can register for this program at: [https://mdc-](https://mdc-event-web.s3licensing.com/Event/EventDetails/182473)

[event-web.s3licensing.com/Event/EventDetails/182473](https://mdc-event-web.s3licensing.com/Event/EventDetails/182473).

Though this program is free, registration is required to participate using the link above. Registrants must provide an e-mail, so a program link can be sent to them. This program will include a chat-based question-and-answer period where participants can interact with the presenters.

Program registrants should note that they now have the option to link their children’s accounts to their own, which will streamline the program registration process. Once a group account is set up, parents will be able to register their children for an event without having to log-off or log-in for each person. This allows parents to register an entire family or select family members for an event at the same time. Staff at MDC facilities across the state are holding virtual programs. A listing of these programs can be found at mdc.mo.gov/events.



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TRESA JUNE PACKWOOD

Tresa June Packwood, age 61, of Cassville, passed away Sunday, February 20, 2022, at Mercy Hospital in Cassville.

She was born June 14, 1960, in Stella, the daughter of Lee Roy and Louise (Harader) McCracken. On December 15, 1998, in Blue Springs, she was united in marriage to Greg Packwood, who survives. Also surviving are two sons, Codie Packwood, of Cassville, and Dale Packwood and his wife, Belinda, of Park Hill, Oklahoma; four daughters, Amie Reed, of Wheaton, Jamie Roller and her husband, Justin, of Purdy, Jacki Cupp and her husband, Troy, of Loma Linda, and Sierra Packwood; three brothers, Jack McCracken and his wife, Carissa, of Shell Knob, Gene McCracken, of Springfield, and Joe McCracken and his wife,

Eva, of Coos Bay, Oregon; four sisters, Sue Wilkens, of Wheaton, Judy Osborne and her husband, Tom, of Lee's Summit, Ginger Poe and her husband, Randy, of Rocky Comfort, and Jackie Carpenter and her husband, Jack, of Washburn; ten grandchildren, Kade, Klay, Allie, Harley, Bentley, Treyson, Tori, Spencer, Mason and Heaven; and three great-grandchildren, Nash, Lilly and Rhett and one on the way.

Preceding her in death were her parents; one brother, Richard; and one sister, Mary.

Tresa graduated from Wheaton High School in 1978. After graduating, she was employed by Petit Jean Poultry in Wheaton as a manager. Moving to Blue Springs in 1998, she worked for Price Shopper for fifteen years, then moved back to this area in 2017. She loved her cats but especially loved her grandchildren. Family was very important to her.

Services will be held at 2:00 P.M. Friday, February 25, 2022, at McQueen Funeral Home in Wheaton. Pastor Paul Wahlert will conduct the services. Burial will be at Muncie Chapel Cemetery in Wheaton.

The family will receive friends from 5:00 until 6:00

OBITUARIES

P.M. Thursday at McQueen Funeral Home in Wheaton.

Contributions may be made to Haven of the Ozarks in memory of Tresa.

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

MCQUEEN FUNERAL HOME

WHEATON, MO. 417-652-7268

WADE SHORT

Wade Short passed from this life peacefully to be with his Heavenly Father in his home in Verona on February 18, 2022, age 46, as a beloved father, son, brother, uncle, and friend to many.

Wade was born on January 11, 1976, in Denison, Texas, the son of Phillip Roy Short and Linda J. Short.

Wade was a prominent residential construction contractor. He loved the outdoors, and spending time fishing on the river and the lake with his boys and family. He graduated at Verona Public High School, 1994. His sharp wit, warm heart, humor, and generous spirit will be deeply missed forever.

He is survived by his fa-

ther and mother, Phillip Roy Short and Linda J. Short, of Verona; his beloved four sons, Jacob W. Short, Michael A. Short, Austin L. Short and Andrew J. Short; his sister and brother-in-law, Shawndi R. Prisk and Fred Prisk; niece, Kaleigh J. Simmons and TJ Simmons and their son, Sterling Simmons; nephew, Kade L. Brown and his previous wife, Carrie Short; and stepdaughter Nichole L. Short as well as a host of extended friends and family.

A celebration of life will be held at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, March 6, 2022, at the Freedom Christian Center, Aurora. All are invited to attend. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Wade Short memorial fund in care of First State Bank of Purdy, Monett, Mo. 417-235-6100. Arrangements have been entrusted to Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.

ARLENE FRANCES RAINWATER

Arlene Frances Rainwater, of Monett, passed away Friday, February 18, 2022. Arrangements have been entrusted to Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett.

THOMAS CRONE, SR.

Thomas Crone, Sr., age 61, of Joplin, passed away Monday, February 21, 2022, at his home.

Services will be held at 2:00 P.M. Saturday, February 26, 2022, at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor Phillip Morgan and Pastor Joe Pride will conduct the service. Burial will be at King Cemetery in Seligman.

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

Contributions may be made to American Cancer Society in memory of Thomas.

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

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Exercise for Seniors

Getting out and about is a vital component of many seniors' daily lives, but it's important that aging men and women recognize how much exercise is healthy for them. The Department of Health & Human Services notes that adults need a mix of physical activity to stay healthy. That mix should be a combination of moderate-intensity aerobic activities, which can include golfing, swimming and even gardening, and muscle strengthening activities like weightlifting that make the muscles work harder than usual. The DHHS recommends adults combine 150 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity per week with at least two days of muscle-strengthening activities. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

notes that these guidelines are safe for individuals who are 65 and older, generally fit and have no limiting health conditions. Individuals who do not fit that criteria should consult with their physicians before beginning a new exercise regimen, as it's possible that they could be putting their health at considerable risk if they attempt to follow guidelines designed for people who are generally fit. It's also important that healthy seniors avoid overdoing it in regard to exercise. Though the DHHS suggestions are the minimum recommendations, going too far beyond those guidelines without first consulting a physician could increase seniors' risk for injury, illness or even death.

McDowell Community Church

Non-Denominational Church

Service Times:

Sunday School	10:00 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night Bible Study/Youth	7:00 p.m.

Everybody Welcome!

**God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.**

Psalms 46:1

21c

CASSVILLE SENIOR CENTER

WEEKLY MENU

FEB 28: Lemon pepper chicken or fish, rice pilaf, steamed broccoli, cornbread, cherry crisp

MAR 1: Chili or chili dog, spinach, Jeannie's cornbread, chocolate cream pie

MAR 2: Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, broccoli, biscuit, apple crisp

MAR 3: Sweet & sour pork, jasmine rice, oriental veggies, hot roll, spice cake

MAR 4: Oven baked fish or chicken strips, potato wedges, cucumber & tomato salad, hot roll, marble cake

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Church - 11:00 am

Evening - 6:30 pm

Wednesday - 6:30 pm

Pastor Russell Bishop

417-846-3936

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Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am

Sunday Evening Worship 6:30 pm

Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6:30 pm

Sunday Morning Radio Program KKBL 95.9 FM 7:45 am

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- Wednesday Evening 6:30 pm

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Value of hemp production totaled \$824 million in 2021

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) recently released the results of the 2021 Hemp Acreage and Production Survey in its National Hemp Report. The survey collected data for hemp grown in the open and hemp under protection. Planted area for industrial hemp grown in the open for all utilizations in the United States totaled 54,152 acres. Area harvested for all utilizations totaled 33,480 acres. The value of U.S. hemp production in the open totaled \$712 million. The value of production for hemp that was grown under protection in the United States totaled \$112 million. Area under protection totaled 15.6 million square feet. "The release of this landmark report provides a needed benchmark about hemp production to assist producers, regulatory agencies, state governments, processors, and other key industry entities," said NASS Administrator Hubert Hamer. "Not only will these data guide USDA agencies in their support of domestic hemp production, the results can also help inform producers' decisions about growing, harvesting, and selling hemp as well as the type of hemp they decide to produce. The survey results may also impact policy decisions about the hemp industry." The 2021 Hemp Acreage and Production Survey collected information on the total planted and harvested area, yield, production, and value of hemp in the United States. By value, the top utilization for hemp grown in the open was floral at \$623 million. The top utilization for hemp

grown under protection was floral at \$64.4 million. The survey found that 82% of hemp producers are male and 52% of respondents reported that farming is their primary occupation. The report also contains additional information about hemp producer characteristics, including years operating a farm, age, and race. Broken down by utilization, U.S. totals for hemp grown in the open in 2021 were: Floral hemp production was estimated at 19.7 million pounds; utilized production totaled 15.7 million pounds. Area harvested for floral hemp was estimated at 15,980 acres. The average yield for floral hemp was estimated at 1,235 pounds per acre. The value of floral hemp totaled \$623 million. Hemp grown for grain totaled 4.37 million pounds; utilized production totaled 3.96 million pounds. Area harvested for hemp grown for grain was estimated at 8,255 acres. The average yield for hemp grown for grain was estimated at 530 pounds per acre. The value of hemp for grain totaled \$5.99 million. Hemp grown for fiber was estimated at 33.2 million pounds; utilized production totaled 27.6 million pounds. Area harvested for hemp grown for fiber was estimated at 12,690 acres. The average yield for hemp grown for fiber was estimated at 2,620 pounds per acre. The value of hemp grown for fiber totaled \$41.4 million. Production of hemp grown for seed was estimated at 1.86 million pounds;

utilized production totaled 1.68 million pounds. Area harvested for hemp grown for seed was estimated at 3,515 acres. The average yield for hemp grown for seed was estimated at 530 pounds per acre. The value of hemp grown for seed totaled \$41.5 million. Broken down by utilization, U.S. totals for hemp grown under protection in 2021 were: Production of hemp for transplants and clones totaled 20.2 million plants; utilized production totaled 18.0 million plants. The value of hemp grown under protection for transplants and clones totaled \$23.8 million. Production of floral hemp was estimated at 310,421 pounds; utilized production totaled 256,124 pounds. The value of floral hemp totaled \$64.4 million. Hemp grown for seed totaled 4,059 pounds; utilized production totaled 3,121 pounds. The value of hemp grown for seed totaled \$23.7 million. Access the full report on the NASS website at www.nass.usda.gov. Hemp data are also available in NASS's online Quick Stats database. NASS will hold a Twitter Stat Chat today at 4 p.m. ET with Crops Branch Chief Lance Honig to discuss the results of the survey. Follow @usda_nass on Twitter and use #StatChat to ask questions and follow the conversation. Information about the regulations for growing hemp in the United States is available on the Agricultural Marketing Service's Hemp Production webpage.

Information sought



The Barry County Sheriff's office is currently asking the public for information regarding the whereabouts of Joseph Bass. Bass is currently wanted in Barry County for five counts of burglary, 2nd degree, tampering with a motor vehicle and is a parole absconder. Bass is also wanted for questioning in a theft that occurred in Shell Knob on February 16, 2022. If you have any information or know the whereabouts of Bass, contact the Barry County Sheriff's Office at 417-847-6556 or call 911.

Cassville PD seeking owner

According to the Cassville Police Department Facebook page on February 22, they recovered a four wheeler in town and so far it hasn't been reported stolen and they haven't been able to locate the owner. If you are missing a four wheeler, please contact the police department at 417-847-4700 or message their Facebook page.

Barry County Museum to host book signing Saturday

Adriana Keeton

The Barry County Museum, located on Hwy. 76 in Cassville, will host three local authors for a book signing from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, February 26. Dennis Epperly, of Cassville, will have the following books available for the signing: *Pa's Posey Patch*, *Rural Schools of the Ozarks* and *Growing up in the 1950's*. Tom Koob, of Shell Knob, will have *Buried By Table Rock Lake* and *Ozarks Hillbilly* available for the signing event. Dr. Larry Quinalty, of Cassville, will have many books available for the signing, including four of his *Gourmet Dutch Oven* cook books, *Journey of the Soul*, *Migrant Girl*, *Last Rose, Life's Lessons*, *No Regrets* and two of his travel books. For more information, contact the Barry County Museum at 417-847-1640.



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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 call 417-847-6556 to request an application.

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

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The Barry County Sheriff's Office currently has openings

for full-time Patrol Deputy and full-time Bailiff

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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 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

JAIL CORRECTIONAL OFFICER

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The Barry County Sheriff's Office currently has openings

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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 call 417-847-6556 to request an application be sent to you. Return all applications to Sheriff Danny Boyd.

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The board reserves the right to reject all bids or to negotiate an agreement. Proof of insurance will be required

Please mail bids to: Exeter Maplewood Cemetery P.O. Box 177 Exeter, MO 65647

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Barry County Soils & Crops Conference to be held

The University of Missouri Extension of Barry County is pleased to announce the 93rd Barry County Soil and Crops conference, in Cassville on March 8, 2022, beginning with supper at 6 pm.

Following the John Sullivan's catering, well-known agriculture economist from the University of Missouri, Dr. Scott Brown, will start the night with a beef outlook.

"Helping understand the dynamics of what 2022 trade futures and markets look like will help beef producers make management decisions that will cash flow," said Reagan Bluel, Soil and Crops conference organizer.

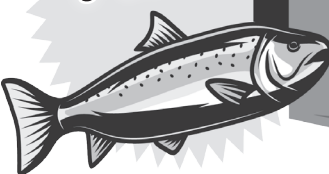
"Our local expert, Tim Schnakenberg, area agronomist with MU Extension, will address the topic on everyone's mind, Dealing with High-Priced Fertilizer," Bluel continued.

Finally, the evening will wrap up with a panel of experts on adding value to their

beef products. Middleton Meats and Roaring W Ranch will describe how they pursue customers for their finished beef products.

"The planning committee had your farm's bottom line in mind when planning the 2022 conference," said Reagan Bluel, dairy specialist for MU Extension in Barry County. We hope you'll reserve your spot, and bring a friend to this in-person educational event.

The First Christian Church, 905 Old Exeter Road, of Cassville offered to host the meeting from 6-9:15 pm. Thanks to our generous sponsors, we are able to offer this educational event for \$5.00, preregistered or walk-ins for \$7.00/person. To pre-register or for additional information, please call 417-847- 3161 or visit <https://extension.missouri.edu/events/2022-barry-co.-soils-and-crops-conference>.



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Water is mostly clear and up to 108 CFS right now, this will be a great water level for the 1200-1400 people that show up March 1st to start the trout season.

The MDC stocked an extra 100, 3 lb + rainbows in the river on top of the 6000 trout that have already been stocked on top of all the trout that were in the river for C&R season, so there are probably close to 10,000 trout in the water, probably 500 lunkers waiting on us to torment them a bit more, something new this year there are a

few of the hybrid trout, (the bright yellow ones) that will weigh 3-6 pounds.

Most people start with spinner of some type opening morning, and they do work pretty good for a bit, then you're better off with a marabou jig, power bait (whatever is legal in the area you are in) all power bait is legal in the park, but some power bait is legal only in zone 3, and it is not all legal in zone 1, and no power bait is legal in zone 2.

Dark spinners are good early, but on cloudy days, or

if the water is dirty, then a bright pink or green can be very effective.

Power bait is always good, hard to beat orange or white eggs, and the cheese worm, and the pink worms usually work.

The 1" crawlers in cheese are usually good, if the water is murky or up quite a bit, the brown works better a lot of times.

Marabou jigs are always good, white first thing, then I usually go to olive, tan, or black & yellow.

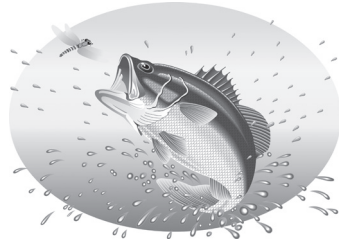
2lb line is better most of the time, but march 1st you can usually get away with 4lb line, at least for the first few hours. If you fish all day, then when the sun is high and the fish start getting more finicky then you can switch to 2lb line and do much better.


Fly fishing was great all winter, caddis, blue wing olives, midges to thick you could hardly breath when they were hatching.

Nymphs will work all day, black, brown, olive and white zebra midges work every day, pheasant tail nymphs, copper johns, sow bugs, burlaps, and hares ears will work every day of the year, if your just wanting to catch a bunch of trout, and little white thread jig, john Deere, or a pink jig fished under an indicator will work most of the year.

When fishing dries, 9' 7X leaders are best most of the time, if your fishing a big dry like a stimulator or a hopper, 6X is usually okay, I fish a 9' 6X leader when fishing nymphs, usually.

Good luck this March 1st, weather looks to be decent, so come on down and fish and have a good time.





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In Bus. 20 Years odd

Barry County Master Gardeners will host a gardening workshop on Saturday, March 12 at Crowder College in Cassville. The workshop will be from 9:00 to 12:45. We will have snacks and drinks as well as door prizes and a table of "free

stuff" for our audience. The cost for attendance is \$10.00 for those who pre-register.

The primary mission of the Missouri Master Gardener program is education, and workshops are an excellent way to accomplish that.

Four speakers will share

their expertise and answer your questions. Angela Brattin will speak on "Improving the Soil in Your Vegetable Garden". Angela is a Farm Outreach Worker with Lincoln University Cooperative Extension for Southwest Missouri and a Barry County Master Gardener. Kelly McGowan, Field Specialist in Horticulture in Green County, will share information on Growing Lavender.

Dr. Tom Riley, an entomologist and a Master Gardener of the Ozarks, will speak on "Things that Bite and Sting in the Garden". Oscar Cross, who has retired from nursery ownership, but

not from gardening, will talk about Deer Resistant Perennials that Grow Well in the Ozarks.

We hope that you will join us on Mar. 12 for this great learning opportunity. Please pre-register with the extension office by Wed., Mar. 9 so that we will have enough materials for everyone. You may write a check to Barry County Master Gardeners and mail it to the Barry County Extension Office, 700 Main Street, Cassville, MO 65625. You may also stop by the office and pay in cash – the office is closed from 12 to 1 for lunch. They are not equipped to accept credit cards. The Extension office phone is 417-847-3161. Admission at the door will be \$12.00 for those who are not pre-registered.

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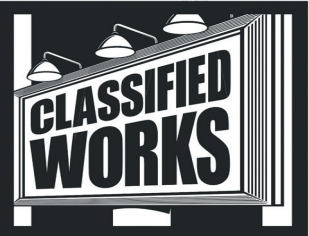
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Park store will open on February 28 at 9am and will
remain open until March 1 at 7pm

Restaurant will open on February 28
from noon-7pm and 8am-7pm on March 1

Mugs will be handed out at the
Les Jacobs Ford tent (across from CCC Lodge)
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Fire barrels will be back this year!

Parking will be the same as previous years,
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Purdy FFA Chapter

Purdy is home to many proud FFA members. The Advisors for the Purdy FFA Chapter are Jace Rutledge and Kamryn Sanders.

The proud FFA Chapter Officers are Weston Ellison, the President; Vice President, Brad Hudson; Vice President, Eli Webb; Secretary, Alli Hayes; Treasurer, Zach Henderson; Reporter, Robyn Schad; Reporter, Alexis Davidson; Sentinel, Joey Billingsley; Chaplain, Bosten Goetz; Parliamentarian, Matthew Cornelius.

Purdy's FFA Week schedule is as follows: on Sunday, Purdy will host FFA Sunday.

On Monday, the Member Breakfast and Greenhand Initiation will be held.

On Tuesday, the Fear Factor event will be held.

On Wednesday, Purdy FFA will host a Dodgeball game.

On Thursday, the Name that song event will be held.

On Friday, it will be drive your tractor to school day.

Purdy FFA looks forward to the upcoming event on March 11th, which will be the Alumni Fish Fry.



Pictured, back to front, left to right: Gauge Davidson, Hunter Lee, Ezequiel Garcia, Carter Keeling, Jake Young, Trenton Breazeal, Caleb Stanford, Destry Patton, Brady Garner, Jabin Postlewait, Teagan Manwarren, Javier Villa, Alex Aldaba, Savannah Bricker, Nathan Harris, Keele Allen, Will Henderson, Cheyenne Preston-Forester, Quincy Hartwigsen, Pau Khai, Jeffrey Drake, Josh Brown, Emanuel Aldava, Samuel Salas, Tanner Holloway, Cristian Villa, Aidan Martinez, Brandon Lee, Trey Hughes, Preston Hibbard, Marlene Villa, Raeley Henderson, Allyssa Bolin, Brooklyn Bunch, Bryce Ozburn, Carlee Deditius, Gracie Patton, Levi Deditius, Dominic Kukovich, Daxton Henry, M'kena Propps, Zoey Webb, Deisy Gonzalez, Jessi Hoppes, Leanna Moore, Addi Abramovitz, Libby Roden, Nilzo Paxtor, Marlene Ochoa, Holly Webb, Jace Rutledge (Advisor), Alexis Davidson (Reporter), Bosten Goetz (Chaplain), Eli Webb (Vice President), Matthew Cornelius (Parliamentarian), Weston Ellison (President), Joseph Billingsley (Sentinel), Zach Henderson (Treasurer), Brad Hutson (Vice President), Alli Hayes (Secretary), Robyn Schad (Reporter), Kamryn Sanders (Advisor).

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Wheaton FFA Chapter

Officers - President: Lori McNeill; Vice President: Abbey Bowling; Secretary: Pa Vang; Treasure: Patti Vang; Reporter: Lily Ray; Sentinel: Allison Whitman; Historian: Zoey Martell; Parliamentarian: Hayden Royer; Chaplin: Clay Burns; Advisor: Cody Hendrix

Wheaton FFA has had a busy schedule so far from 2021 into the start of the 2022 school year. Summer events started with the newly elected officers placing American flags on the tombstones of veterans throughout the Wheaton community to celebrate Memorial Day. Shortly after that, the newly-elected officers went to LEAD training at Crowder College. The chapter took twelve students to FFA camp at Lake of the Ozarks in June.

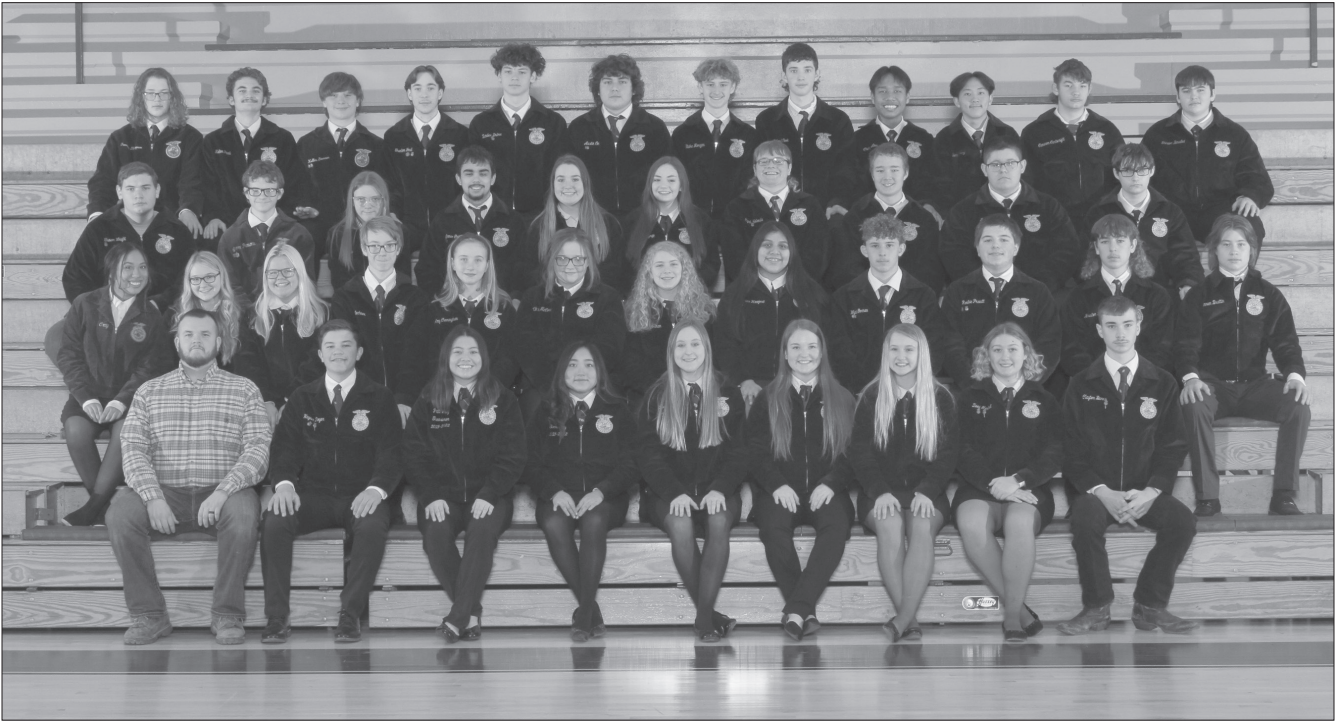
In August, Wheaton FFA hosted their annual summer meeting to kick off the beginning of the school year with burgers and welcoming of the new members. At the end of August, the chapter put on a petting zoo for kids at the annual Wheaton BBQ.

September was a busy month as the chapter started their fruit sales. Shortly after that, members began selling mums that they have been caring for to people in the community. Wheaton FFA attended events such as UMC Field Day in Mt. Vernon, Area Greenhand Conference at Crowder College, FFA Agri-Run at the Exeter Corn Maze, and Area 11 Barn-warming at McDonald County HighSchool.

In October, the chapter hosted two events: one of those was a farmers breakfast to show support to the local farmers in the area on National Farmers Day, the other event was the annual fall Labor Auction for the Wheaton FFA Booster Club. The chapter attended events such as Farm Fest at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds and the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana.

In November, Wheaton FFA hosted their annual Barn-warming event. The officers served lunch to local veterans and their families after the Veterans Day assembly at Wheaton High School as well.

In December, chapter members built a float for the Christmas Parade in Wheaton which took 3rd place. The chapter also had a Christmas party and fellowshiped together before going into Christmas break. In January, four Wheaton FFA members applied for their state FFA degree. In February, 7 Junior members went to the Area 11 FFA Banquet to receive their Area Degrees. The future plans for the Wheaton FFA Chapter include planting flower plugs and vegetable seeds for their annual spring plant sale. Shop class students



Bottom row, left to right (Officer Row): Cody Hendrix (Advisor), Hayden Royer, Patti Vang, Pa Vang, Lori McNeill, Lily Ray, Allison Whitman, Zoey Martell, Clay Burns.
Second row from bottom, left to right: Shawn Craig, Sarah Holanda, Tatum Pendergraft, Ryan Lechner, Shara Harris, Mikailah McConnell, Bailee Gorman, Monica Hinojosa, Wyatt Gorman, Robbie Prewitt, Houston Roller, Cameron Brattin.
Second row from top, left to right: Trevor Wright, Dustin Harris, Lakeisha Wise, Lance Greenwell, Alissa Mason, Hailey Van-Degrift, Elijah Holanda, Hunter Wyatt, Jacob Bittle, Rian Lombard.
Back row, left to right: Truman Thompson, Kelton Park, Kollin Garner, Trenton Imel, Zander Dutra, Austin Cox, Blake Morgan, Leland Cook, Chung Awr, Yong Vang, Cameron Cartwright, Tristen Benedict.
Not Pictured: Abbey Bowling, Grant Bradford, Elijah Chavis, Joona Heuer, Cayden Hopkins, Devin Bateman, Dillin Gallemore, Fernando Gonzalez, Payton Pyle, Rose Shepherd, Wyatt Shipley, Jonathon Thomas.

have been busy building oak mineral feeders to sell to farmers throughout the community. Shop students are also building metal panels for a large animal pen set up to use for petting zoo's, food for america, or for community members to use as needed. The chapter plans on attending several FFA contests this year with their Poultry, Forestry, Dairy Cattle Judging, Dairy Foods, Horse Evaluation, Extemporaneous Speaking, and Knowledge Teams. They will attend the annual state FFA convention in April and host their annual Banquet in May where they will install their new officers and begin planning events for the next school year.

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Exeter FFA Chapter

Exeter FFA had another successful year. Exeter FFA members and the chapter received many recognitions during this year. Exeter FFA placed 21st in ranking for the National Chapter Application at the 2021 State Convention and placed 3 Star Chapter at National Convention, Exeter had two state degree recipients- Jamison Nichols and Lane Willis along with one American Degree Recipient- Wyatt Hoppes.

Exeter FFA members hosted many activities throughout the year. Some of the favorites are Muddin' for Members- our annual mud volleyball game, Barnyard day- agriculture awareness day for the elementary, Angel Tree- Christmas gifts for children in our school district, and Fallen Heroes Flag Placing- Flag placing at Maplewood Cemetery.

Exeter FFA has worked hard this last year to build up their apiary program. The chapter increased from 4 hives to 8 hives. Students have worked hard at checking the honey bees, managing the colonies, and were able to collect and sell their honey to the community. The chapter plans to keep our 8 hives in production this spring and have more honey available for sale this coming summer.

Exeter FFA would like to thank all of our supporters throughout the year. We could not be building the successful chapter that we are without your help. THANK YOU!

Exeter FFA Week Activities: Monday- 'Merica Monday; Tuesday- Wear Camo; Wednesday- Hat Day and 8th grade recruitment 7th hour (FFA Officers will be doing this); Thursday- Farm Brand Day (wear any kind of brand found on a farm Ex:John Deere); Friday- Wear your blue and gold and Teacher appreciation breakfast.



Row 1, left to right: Jesse Eaton, Hailie Eaton - Secretary, Ali Daniels-Arivett Sentinel, Natalie Crumpler- Reporter, Aubry Antle-President, Madison Crumpler- Vice President, Emilia Hatfield- Historian, Aubree Reed- Treasurer, Levi Gautney.
Row 2, left to right: Emily Sandlin, Jude Still, Makenzi Reed, Kenze Shaw, Izabella Logan, Jasmine Hall, Emma Sorensen, Hallie Woods, Dawnee Sorensen.
Row 3, left to right: Trenton Raney, Kason Arjona, Star Xiong, Tanner Raney, Dalten Reed, JJ Felipe, Aaron Beck, Trinity Atkinson, Violet Carter.

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Row 4, left to right: Matthew Hunter, Biak Sang, Joseph Hatfield, Karlee Willis, Adalyn Yang, Kendall Gorman, Noah Ennis, Colin Carter.
Row 5, left to right: Zachery Birchfield, Abby Cossey, Hailey Cramer, Rebecca Patterson, Breanna Stogdill, Rain Xiong. Not pictured: Hunter Reed, Daisy Carter, Macy Barrett, Jamison Nichols, Lane Willis, Savannah Riley Still, and Wyatt Hoppes.

Missouri DNR makes online app available

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Missouri Geological Survey made substantial improvements to a popular water well data application. It is now easier to learn about domestic bedrock water well construction requirements in Missouri using a new ArcGIS Online application. The Well Installation Section Drilling Information Map application, called WISDIM, organizes minimum construction requirements from across the state and provides this information online.

Missouri has been partitioned into 13 drilling areas with varying construction specifications determined by their unique geologic and hydrologic features, along with certain environmental factors. This information is critical to groundwater protection and proper well construction.

"We are very pleased to make this new online tool available. It brings together well construction requirements for all 13 of Missouri's drilling areas in one place," said Dru Buntin, director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

Information displayed for each location on the interactive map includes: minimum well casing and grout depth requirements for bedrock wells, and a link to the full set of regulations (10 CSR 23).

"Users can search within the app for a physical address to find domestic bedrock water well drilling requirements and locations and information about a number of well types including: water, heat pump, monitoring, reconstructed, abandoned, mineral hole, oil and gas. Information about well cores and cuttings, and well logs also are available using the app," said Jerry Prewett, assistant state geologist and deputy director of the department's Missouri Geological Survey.

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Farmers and ranchers rely on crop insurance to protect themselves from disasters and unforeseen events, but not all crops are insurable through the USDA's Risk Management Agency. The Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) provides producers another option to obtain coverage against disaster for these crops. NAP provides financial assistance to producers of non-insured crops impacted by natural disasters that result in lower yields, crop losses, or prevents crop planting.

Commercially produced crops and agricultural commodities for which crop insurance is not available are generally eligible for NAP. Eligible crops include those grown specifically for food, fiber, livestock consumption, biofuel or biobased products, or be commodities such as value loss crops like Christmas trees and ornamental nursery, honey, maple sap, and many others. Contact your FSA office to see which crops are eligible in your state and county.

Eligible causes of loss include drought, freeze, hail, excessive moisture, excessive wind or hurricanes, earthquake, flood. These events must occur during the NAP policy coverage period, before or during harvest, and the disaster must directly affect the eligible crop. For guidance on causes of loss not listed, contact your local FSA county office.

Interested producers must apply for coverage using FSA form CCC-471, "Application for Coverage," and pay the applicable service fee at the FSA office where their farm records are maintained. These must be filed by the application closing date. Closing dates vary by crop, so it is important to contact your local FSA office as soon as possible to ensure you don't miss an application closing date.

At the time of application, each producer will be provided a copy of the NAP Basic Provisions, which describes how NAP works and all the requirements you must follow to maintain NAP coverage. NAP participants must provide accurate annual reports of their production in

non-loss years to ensure their NAP coverage is beneficial to their individual operation.

Producers are required to pay service fees which vary depending on the number of crops and number of counties your operation is located in. The NAP service fee is the lesser of \$325 per crop or \$825 per producer per administrative county, not to exceed a total of \$1,950 for a producer with farming interests in multiple counties. Premiums also apply when producers elect higher levels of coverage with a maximum premium of \$15,750 per person or legal entity depending on the maximum payment limitation that may apply to the NAP covered producer. The service fee can be waived for beginning, qualifying veteran, and limited resource farmers and rancher., These farmers and ranchers can also receive a 50 percent reduction in the premium.

For more detailed information on NAP, download the NAP Fact Sheet. To get started with NAP, we recommend you contact your local USDA service center.

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Cassville FFA Chapter



Cassville FFA will be very busy for their FFA week. The following is their schedule: members will attend church together at Emmanuel Bap-

tist Church for FFA Sunday
Monday, Feb. 21: Dodgeball Tournament, students will host a dodgeball tournament between members.
Tuesday, Feb. 22: Greenhand Day (this is a day we celebrate our 1st year members by playing assorted games just to spotlight them being a new member)
Wednesday, Feb. 23: Teacher Appreciation Breakfast and Cornhole Tournament. The teacher appreciation breakfast is open to all Cassville staff members we will host breakfast from 6:30-8:30am in the high school ag building.
Thursday, Feb. 24: Ag Olympics (students will play various ag related olympic style games for fun)
Friday, Feb. 25: Barnwarming: this is like homecoming for FFA students. We will have a barnwarming court:
Freshman Candidates: Trace Sturgell and Langston Mitchell.
Sophomore Candidates: Taylor Smith and CJ Rose.
Junior Candidates: Peter Littlefield and Grace Yocum.
Senior Candidates: Landry Mills and Avery Crane.
Candidates and members will play games to select the king and queen, there will be food and dancing. Parents are welcome to come and watch.
Cassville chapter members are: Alex Houk, Alyssa Whisenhunt, Amber Hayes, Andrew Gray, Angel Gomez, Ashton Wheeler, Austin Taylor, Avery Crain, Bentley Barber, Brandon Maher, Breanna Gordon, Bryson Jacobson, Cadyn Smith, Caleb Leach, Carlos Barrientos, CJ Brophy, Cody Cole, Cody Rose, Cole Watts, Colton Blankenship, Dakota Anderson, Dakota Bowen, Dalva LaGac, David Turner, Diego Hernandez, Dorene Garner, Drew Dickenson, Dulce Rivera, Ean Pryor, Eli Connley, Elizabeth Ray, Ethan Fortner, Ethan Morgan, Faith Yocum, Grace Yocum, Gracee

Cornell, Hailey Bryan, Hailey Gautney, Hailey Morse, Hailey Turben, Hallie Fratus, Hanna Morgan, Hannah Blankenship, Hunter Morse, Isaac Pickett, Jacie Foster, Jacob Duncan, Jaret Hinson, Jenna Crim, Jonathan Lopez, Jonathon Dunbar, Joseph Reuter, Josh Bickford, Joshua Yount, Juan Ibarra, Kayla Cheek, Kaylee Lowe, Kaylyn Weiser, Kelsey Harris, Landry Mills, Langston Mitchell, Maci Barton, Mackenzie Guess, Madison Dent, Makenna Hagins, Makenzi Dilbeck, Makenzie Guess, Mallory Cornell, Michael Morgan, Nadia Sanchez, Nathan Buckner, Nathan Mullin, Peter Littlefield, Raandall Kessinger, Rebekah Fry, Richard Fohn, Sara Longley, Taylor Glidewell, Taylor Smith, Tierany Sloan, Timothy Hudson, Trace Sturgell, Travis Thomas, Violet Rillstone, Windy Dunfee, Yovanni Perez, Zoie Coup-land.

Deadline Extended to Enroll in Dairy Margin Coverage

USDA has extended the deadline to enroll in Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) and Supplemental Dairy Margin Coverage (SDMC) for program year 2022. The deadline to apply for 2022 coverage is now March 25, 2022. As part of the Biden-Harris Administration's ongoing efforts to support dairy farmers and rural commu-

nities, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) opened DMC and SDMC signup in December 2021 to help producers manage economic risk brought on by milk price and feed cost disparities.
Enrollment for 2022 DMC is currently at 55% of the 2021 program year enrollment. Producers who enrolled in DMC for 2021 received margin payments each month, January through November for a total of \$1.2 billion, with an average payment of \$60,275 per operation.
The DMC program, created by the 2018 Farm Bill, offers reasonably priced protection to dairy producers when the difference between the all-milk price and the av-

erage feed cost (the margin) falls below a certain dollar amount selected by the producer.
Supplemental DMC will provide \$580 million to better help small- and mid-sized dairy operations that have increased production over the years but were not able to enroll the additional production. Now, they will be able to retroactively receive payments for that supplemental production.
After making any revisions to 2021 DMC contracts for Supplemental DMC, pro-

Leave tree trimming to experts

Recent storms and spring growth have left a lot of trees in need of attention. Barry Electric Cooperative wants you to know that tree trimming is a job best left to experts, especially when they are located near power lines. In fact, the two leading causes of death while trimming trees come from falling and electrocution.
Whenever you trim trees or do other yard work, remember these tips:
• Wear safety glasses to protect your eyes from sawdust, pine needles and other debris.
• When operating a trimmer or chainsaw, you'll need ear protection, shoes with slip-resistant soles, chaps and gauntlets.
• If you use a ladder, tie it off to a secure location. Never go anywhere near a power line with a ladder, especially a metal one.
• Be aware of anyone on the ground. It's best to have a spotter watch for people who might wander into your worksite.
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USDA has also changed the DMC feed cost formula to better reflect the actual cost dairy farmers pay for high-quality alfalfa hay. FSA now calculates payments using 100% premium alfalfa hay rather than 50%. In December 2021, following publication of the new feed cost policy, \$102 million was paid to producers as a result of the revised high quality alfalfa feed cost formula.
The amended feed cost formula will make DMC payments more reflective of actual dairy producer expenses and DMC payments. Higher DMC feed cost calculations due to the premium alfalfa adjustment could more frequently trigger DMC indemnity payments for dairy operations having DMC coverage in 2022.

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Southwest FFA Chapter

National FFA Week is a time for FFA members to share agriculture with their fellow students as well as their communities. The purpose of National FFA Week is to share the message of the agriculture industry from its future leaders.

School Chapters come together to come up with “spirit days” that are FFA related.

The Southwest FFA officer team has FFA week planned and ready to go. On Sunday, Feb. 20th, we will attend FFA church. FFA church is where we sit as a group and discuss what church in our local community we will attend services in official dress.

Monday, Feb. 21st, Southwest does not have school.

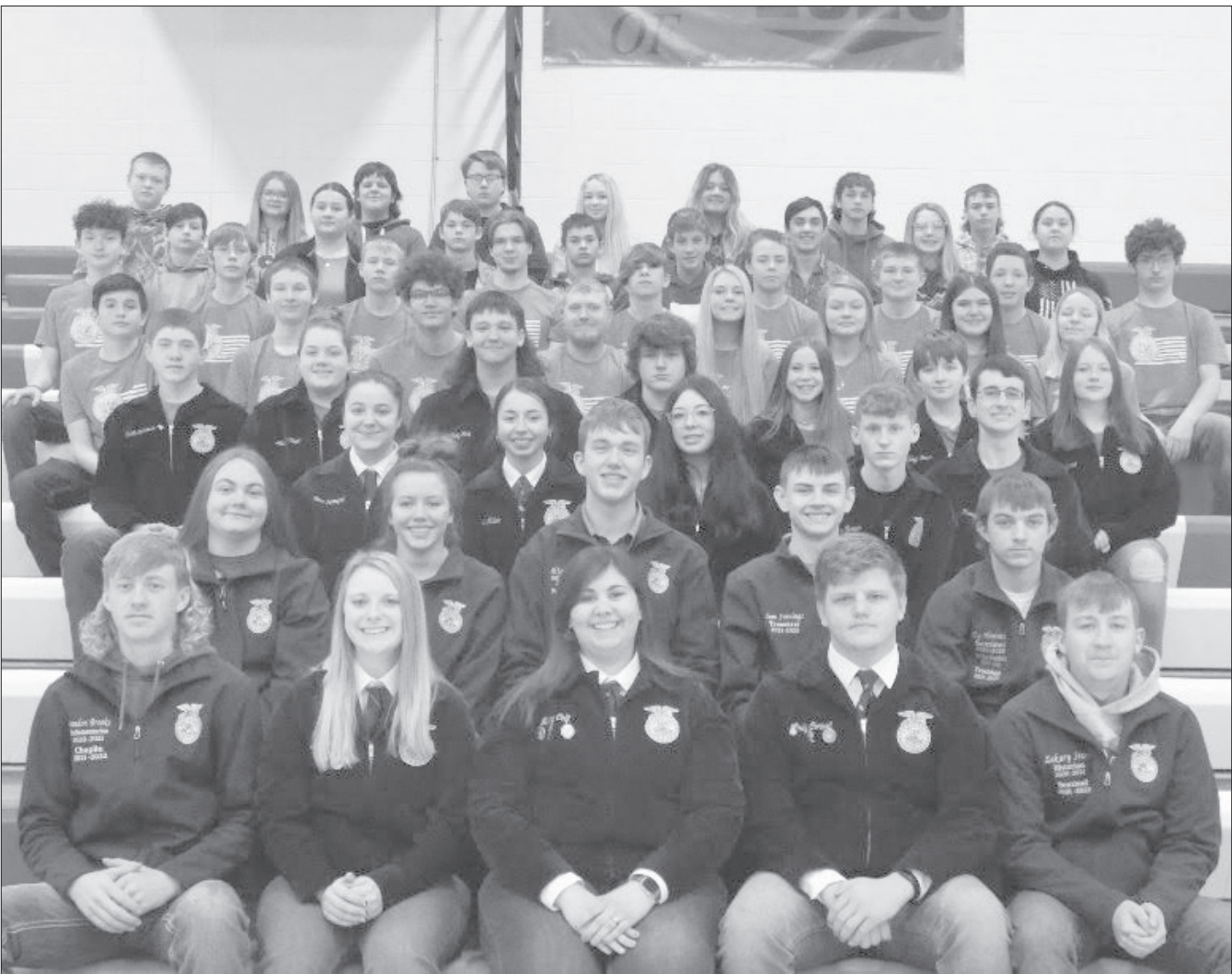
Tuesday, Feb. 22nd, we

serve breakfast to our community starting at 6am. Members will wear their FFA jackets in support of the chapter.

Wednesday, Feb. 23rd, we will have cowboy day.

Thursday, Feb. 24th we will have a competition between the cleanest and the dirtiest truck and a prize will be given to the winners.

Then last but not least, blue and gold day will be on Friday, Feb. 25th followed by our annual labor auction at 6pm. The labor auction will have donations from local businesses and community members along with FFA members. Members dedicate four hours of labor by the buyer.



Front row, left to right: Brandon Brooks (Chaplin), Amy Reeves (Secretary), Macy Colf (Reporter), Andy Cornell (Vice President), Zak Starr (Sentinel).
Second row, left to right: Lilly Wolf (Historian), Alexis Raucstadt (Co-Reporter), Allen Hendrix (Parliamentarian), Samuel Jennings (Treasurer), Ty Howard (President).
Third row: Becca Swanepoel (Greenhand Secretary), Saige Miller (Greenhand President), Bailey Stephens (Greenhand Sentinel)

Missouri 4-H, MU Extension launch new crop event

Missouri 4-H youths and volunteers can learn about common Missouri crops, insects, diseases, disorders, weeds and pesticide safety through a new 4-H Crop Scouting program.

The inaugural event is July 19 at University of Missouri’s Bradford Farm, about 8 miles east of Columbia. “Missouri 4-H is very excited to be bringing state-level opportunities to youth who are involved in agronomy and plant science projects,” said Maria Calvert, MU Extension state 4-H agriculture and natural resources educator.

“This is an area that has

needed to grow, and with the help of our MU Extension colleagues we will be able to offer a great opportunity for young people to develop and test their knowledge and skills in this area,” Calvert said.

“We have extension specialists at the state and regional levels who are eager to connect with the next generation,” said Mandy Bish, MU Extension integrated pest management coordinator. “These specialists focus on solutions to common Missouri agronomic problems, and this event will provide a great opportunity for these MU experts to interact with

future agriculture professionals.”

For more information, visit muext.us/CropScouting4H.

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 – 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, visit 4h.missouri.edu.

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REAL ESTATE 3 bedroom brick front home with 1½ baths, living room, kitchen, dining room, fireplace with Buck insert, 2 car attached garage. Also in backyard there is a shop bldg., 20 ft. x 12.6 ft with dirt floor, a nice man cave bldg. (game room with heat and air) 20 ft. x 13 ft., an in ground swimming pool with small deck, and a in ground storm shelter. All this sitting on a large corner lot that is 110 ft. x 125 ft. with a privacy fence around the back yard. Real Estate sells at noon with confirmation.

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★ ESTATE AUCTION ★

Monday, Feb. 28, 2022 • 10:00 AM



LOCATION: Shell Knob, MO. From the Shell Knob Plaza, go south on Hwy. 39, 2 miles. Turn left on Oak Ridge Dr., go 2/10 mile. Turn right on Windsor Bay Lane, then turn left on Highland Court to auction. (21799 Highland Court, Shell Knob, MO)

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Farming part time?

Your risk of injury is at least as great as that of a fulltime farmer

Whether a farmer works on their operation fulltime or parttime, the daily hazards are the same.

One additional hazard part time farmers constantly deal with is the stress of managing two jobs and a lack of time for farming activities.

“Farming is very weather and window-of-time dependent,” Brandi Janssen, Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Iowa’s Department of Occupational and Environmental Health, says. “Part-time farmers probably don’t have the same amount of time as a full-time farmer to get their work done. If they experience conflicts with their other job, that can add to the stress and increase their tendency to rush through the farm work.”

Anytime a farmer hurries to complete a task, the risk of injury is significantly increased. Fatigue may also elevate the risk level for those who farm on a part-time basis.

Tractors and equipment with moving parts are leading factors in all farm injuries. Part-time farmers should never take shortcuts when it comes to the use of Rollover Protective Structures (ROPS) on tractors and the presence of guards and other safety features of their equipment.

“Because farming part-time typically doesn’t generate a person’s total income, they may struggle with justifying the expense of maintaining safety features on equipment,” Janssen says. “However, the cost of a serious injury or death is generally far higher than maintaining equipment safety features.”

Since new farm equipment is expensive, it’s not uncommon for part-time farmers to rely on used equipment to do their farm work. Janssen advises that farmers operating with used equipment make sure they have access to user manuals so they can effectively maintain and safely operate the equipment.

Instead of raising crops, part-time farmers may choose to raise livestock. This may be a sensible decision since livestock can be highly self-sufficient. However, livestock production comes with its own hazards and high risk. That is especially true for individuals with little or no experience working around animals.

“It’s common to see people retire from a career and go into livestock production or raise livestock while they’re working a full-time job off the farm,” Janssen says. “If that person doesn’t have experience with raising livestock, they may not recognize the importance of investing in quality fencing, infrastructure and handling facilities. All those things help keep livestock producers safe when they’re around the animals.”

Livestock need ample room in pens, stable pen surfaces and environments that are as dust-free as possible. Fences should be visible, especially for calves. The safest working facilities feature elements such as a funnel pen, circular crowding pen, and gates with self-locking latches. Squeeze and headgates need to be good quality and well maintained to avoid unplanned release of animals.

In winter months, ice poses a hazard to all farmers. Injuries can occur quickly and be of a serious nature. When part-time farmers divide their attention between an off-farm job and their farming activities, it’s easy to be distracted and miss this kind of hazard in the environment.

Stress affects all farmers. However, those working with shorter time frames and experiencing the stress of two different jobs may find themselves at greater risk for experiencing overwhelming stress.

“Part-time farmers should have a good understanding of the signs of excess stress,” Janssen says. “Sleep patterns are often affected when stress levels are high. Your partner may recognize signs of stress in you before you do. If irritability is ongoing or increased, if the desire to socially isolate yourself occurs or if sleep is suddenly disrupted, these may all be signs of excess stress.”

“Keep in mind that all the principles that apply to full-time farmers are true for those who farm part-time,” Janssen says. “Do as much as you can to learn about the hazards around you and how to safely work in that environment.”

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LOCATION: Reavisville First Baptist Church Event Center. From Aurora, Mo., go south on Hwy. 39 4-1/2 miles to Hwy. TT, then 4 miles east on TT to the church. NOTE: the chili supper will start at 5:00 p.m. with auction starting at approx. 6:30 p.m.

There will be several bird houses made by a local craftsman in the area including different sizes and shapes. These are some of the nicest bird houses you have ever seen. - Handmade quilts, real nice, and nice handmade afghans - Several Branson tickets - There will be several pies and cakes to be sold at the auction. Also there will be a large lot of items brought in the day of auction. So plan to come and eat and enjoy the food and the auction. All proceeds go to the cemetery fund. Please practice COVID-19 safety guidelines.

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