

THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

NEWS FOR PIKE, EASTERN AUDRAIN & NORTHERN LINCOLN COUNTIES



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Toys For Tots Volunteers Jump Into Action Ahead Of Weather

BY BRICE CHANDLER

EDITOR

The threat of the season's first winter storm right before Christmas also threatened one of the area's most important holiday services—the US Marines' Toys for Tots.

Organizers with Douglas Community Services (DCS) were determined to see the toys make it into the hands of area children.

Instead of risking the weather, DCS Toys for Tots coordinator, Stacey Nicholas moved the date ahead one day to Wednesday, Dec. 21 and quickly started spreading the word via social media.

Volunteers from Northeast Correction Center and other local organizations answered the call and helped pass out toys to around 210 area families at the Pike County Fairgrounds.

"We are extremely thankful for the volunteers from NEMO Corrections," Nicholas told the Tribune. "Over the course of our six-county campaign, about 150 volunteers help prepare Christmas for 1500 kids."

The effort was part of the US Marine Corps Reserves Toys for Tots Program. The program was founded after World War II with the intention of bringing the joy of Christmas to less fortunate children. Douglas Community Services based out of Hannibal is the local spon-

sor/event organizer for the program in Marion, Ralls, Pike, Monroe, Shelby, and Lewis Counties.

The private, not-for-profit's efforts were also bolstered by local businesses that set up toy collections and provided financial support.

According to Nicholas, they received financial assistance from the Buffalo Township United Fund amongst others.

"A number of businesses supported donation boxes, including True Manufacturing, Dollar General, and Pike Memorial Hospital," she explained.

As in past years, work for Toys for Tots begins early in the fall with volunteers collecting, packaging, and arranging the toys prior to distribution. While most of those volunteers were needed for pre-event tasks, those on hand Wednesday had a busy three-hours as preregistered families arrived at the drive-thru event between 1:30 to 4 p.m. on the day before Christmas Eve.

"The huge challenge this year was moving the distribution date because of the incoming storm," Nicholas said. "Many moving parts had to align. We were especially thankful for the Pike County Fairgrounds. The Maine Corps Toys for Tots program relies on the support of local communities to bring Christ-

mas to families in need. The Pike County community showed its care for each other this year."

Nicholas told The Tribune that the distribution days were the payoff for the real work of gathering and then packaging around 12,000 toys.

As with previous years, volunteers and workers with the Hannibal and Quincy, Ill., Salvation Army were also on-hand at the event to pass out food boxes to families in need. According to the organization, they packed 1,600 food boxes to be distributed in Quincy, Hannibal, Canton, Shelbina, Bowling Green, and Pittsfield.

Families in need can register to receive toys next Christmas by visiting the Douglas Community Services website. Community members or businesses interested in volunteering to help with Toys for Tots, donate new unopened toys, or money next year are encouraged to contact Stephanie Himmel at Douglas Community Services by calling 573-221-3892 or visit their website: www.douglasonline.org

To learn more about Toys for Tots in Northeast Missouri visit their website: <https://northeastmissouri.toysfortots.org> or their Facebook page: Toys for Tots of Northeast Missouri

Brock Bailey Selected As Pike Western Commissioner

The Pike County Commission announced Thursday, Dec. 22 that Missouri Governor Mike Parson has selected Brock Bailey of Curryville to fill the unexpired two-year term of Pike County Western Commissioner.

"Bailey brings a lot of knowledge with him," the commissioners noted in their press release. "He is a lifelong Pike County resident, has been in the farming community all his life. He was the AG teacher for Bowling Green Schools and High School Principal before retiring."

The release continued stating:

"We are looking forward to working with Brock. The Commission would like to thank all of the candidates that applied for this position. The Governor will be putting out his own press release in the next few days. Brock is scheduled to be sworn in on Jan. 3, 2023."



Pictured, surrounded by his family, is newly appointed Western Commissioner Brock Bailey of Curryville.

House In Bowling Green Total Loss

On Friday, Dec. 16 at 6:57 p.m., Bowling Green Rural Fire Association (BGRFD) was dispatched to a reported structure fire on Pike 9222.

Firefighters responded to the station to obtain apparatus and responded to the scene.

The first apparatus arrived on scene 11 minutes later and found a single-story residence with heavy smoke and flames from the roof. Assistance was requested from Buffalo Township Fire Protection District and Eolia Community Fire Protection District.

Firefighters began attacking the fire and were able to get the blaze under control in about an hour. High winds contributed greatly to the fire spread in the structure and created difficulty in getting the fire extinguished.

Firefighters remained on scene for several hours performing salvage and overhaul operations to ensure the fire was completely extinguished.

The residence suffered major damage and appears to be a total loss because of the fire. BGRFD responded with a total of 12 firefighters and five

apparatus.

BGRFD was assisted by Buffalo Township Fire Protection District, Eolia Community Fire Protection District, Pike County Memorial Hospital EMS, Pike County Sheriff's Department and Pike County 911.

The Missouri Division of Fire Safety is working to determine the cause of the fire.

There were no injuries reported to residents or responders. All units cleared the scene at 12:40 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 17.

Louisiana Swears In New Interim Police Chief

BY BRICE J. CHANDLER

EDITOR

On Monday, Dec. 12, the City of Louisiana swore in Christopher Heatherly as interim police chief during a closed session vote.

Heatherly answered council members' questions during an open session prior to their closed session vote where he addressed recent concerns brought forward by concerned residents.

One of the main points of concern was brought forward by Ward II Councilmember, Robert Jordan, who asked about Heatherly's involvement in the 2016 fatal shooting of 35-year-old Jason Stringer outside a Cahokia Walmart. He presented his side of the events for which he was later cleared.

Heatherly, a Navy veteran with 29 years of experience in law enforcement, spoke to the Tribune about the importance of rebuilding trust with the community and outlined plans to implement programs that bring the police department closer to the public.

He also discussed the challenges of being short-staffed and his love for the town of Louisiana.

And in a candid moment, he talked about past incidents that lingered over his career and circulated prior to his hiring. He emphasized his belief that all individuals deserve respect and expressed a desire to work with the community.

"Winning back the confidence of the public we serve," he answered when asked what the biggest obstacle the department faced. "It's probably as low as you can have it, and I understand that. That's why I try to get out as much as possible and talk with people and businesses. We've got to get out. I'm going to start implementing programs that bring us closer to the public. Something as small as putting cards on businesses doors at night saying, 'we checked your door and it everything was locked.'

He said, little things such as the above can help show he and the officers are there to serve the public and not be adversarial.

"We serve the people, that's our job and I think that's been forgotten. It's one of the first things I'm going to work on."

As with other law enforcement agencies across the state, Heatherly is short-staffed and looking to interview as quickly as possible.

But why come to Louisiana as a police officer especially now when the town is still reeling from the events of the last police chief.

According to Heatherly, he fell in love with Louisiana after he left

every day I wish I hadn't had to use deadly force. Since then, every day I ask myself what I could have done differently to not have done that," he continued in a candid moment. "The only thing that comes to mind is to have not been there. If I hadn't gone there that night to buy dog food, I wouldn't have had that."

But he was, and he is firm that, "once the ball started rolling it was all him, Stringer made those decisions."

"I had zero choice, I know it's a point of contention in our minority community, but I want to tell them, I've worked in minority communities, and I've never had any trouble whatsoever. I believe we are all created equal all God's children. I respect people. I don't care what nationality, or sexual orientation, I don't care. You're a human being that deserves respect. Now if you're a criminal, I'm not arresting you because of anything else other than the fact that you committed a criminal act and it's my job to arrest you. It's nothing personal or about anything other than the crime you committed."

Despite the concern voiced by many, Heatherly says he still wants residents to come to him with questions. He prefers talking to people instead of social media and emails.

"I'm always available to the citizens. I want them to come and meet me. If they have any questions, I don't care what they are, I'll answer them. We need to turn the corner. We need to show the citizens that this is now a professional police department here to protect and serve them. There will be no more of what we've had before. If I find out an officer is not what they should be, we will correct it quickly."

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January Dates From Pike County History

BY BRENT ENGEL

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Jan. 4, 1854: He spent a lifetime researching and discovering things that had been dead for centuries. Professor Robert "The Fossil Man" Rowley was born in Pike County on this date. The Louisiana educator's collection of more than 60,000 specimens was unmatched by any private collector, and his contribution to science is still recognized around the world. Some of the collection can be seen at his family's gravesite in Riverview Cemetery.

Jan. 5, 1779: Zebulon Montgomery Pike is born in New Jersey. A man whom one biographer said had a "resolute spirit" and "combative energies" was an explorer and contemporary of Lewis and Clark. He led the first American exploration of the Upper Mississippi River, and Pike County is named for him.

Jan. 6, 1867: He was good buddies with Mark Twain, and was just as adept at turning a word. Robert Love

would publish "Poems All the Way From Pike," which included a proud homage to his childhood days in Louisiana: "Why, of course I'm from Pike, you big knock-kneed! So's my brother Ike, who's likewise on the shoot. And whenever you meets one of us, you had better salute."

Jan. 8, 1857: What happens when the Pike County sheriff falls in love with a younger woman who would rather marry a crook? The answer is found in the play "In Mizzoura" by Augustus Thomas, who was born on this date. Set in Bowling Green and featuring a character based upon a real-life criminal, the tale was an early hit from a remarkable career and would later be turned into two movies.

Jan. 14, 1867: By one vote, the U.S. Supreme Court sides with Father John Cummings of Louisiana in a monumental free speech case. Cummings was arrested in 1865 after refusing to take the loyalty oath set up by Missouri lawmak-

ers. Writing for the majority, Justice Stephen Field declared the oath was of "objectionable character" and tended to "subvert the presumption of innocence." The oath was repealed in 1871.

Jan. 18, 1916: It wasn't a Sunday, but the Louisiana Daily Press-Journal was in a preachy mood. In an editorial, the paper said "Some folks' idea of Christianity is to believe in eternal punishment for all people who do not believe as they do."

Jan. 25, 1788: His name was John Price, but people in Pike County knew him as "The Snake Killer." Price was born on this date near Charlotte, N.C. He settled along Buffalo Creek south of Louisiana in 1818, and soon became popular among neighbors for his family's annual serpent hunts. "One spring, they killed 9,000 rattlesnakes," biographer Walter Bayse reported. Price died in 1864 — of natural causes — and is buried in Jordan-Buffalo Cemetery.

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Louisiana

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses Key To Improving Nursing Home Care, MU Study Finds

When Alisha Johnson worked in a Texas hospital, she noticed the same elderly patients being repeatedly transferred from nearby nursing homes after their health had once again severely declined.

Now an assistant professor in the MU Sinclair School of Nursing, Johnson researches the successes and challenges of transitioning advanced practice registered nurses, or APRNs, into nursing homes in an effort to improve health outcomes for residents and to reduce the number of residents being repeatedly transferred to hospitals. For a recent study, she spent a year interviewing APRNs about their transition to the nursing home setting and whether their presence there had an impact on improved decision-making that ultimately improved resident health outcomes.

Johnson found that while the transition was rocky for some, the change was smoother when the nursing home staff welcomed the APRNs' advanced expertise and saw them as collaborators rather than competitors in their current reimbursement structure.

Currently, when nursing home residents need care, nurses or aides must first contact a physician who is often not present in the nursing home, forcing the ailing resident to wait for a treatment plan. Ultimately, this delayed action can lead to miscommunication, declining resident health outcomes and costly, stressful and avoidable transfers to the hospital.

"APRNs have a huge opportunity to fill these care gaps, as research shows residents receive much better care if they stay in the nursing home where they live rather than being transferred to a hospital," Johnson said. "APRNs can see what is going on in real time and make care decisions much more quickly."

A 2021 study by MU researchers evaluated the effectiveness of the Missouri Quality Improvement Initiative, a \$35 million program funded by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid that implemented APRNs full time into 16 Missouri nursing homes. They found the APRNs improved the quality of care for nursing home residents, resulting in reduced avoidable hospitalizations and emergency room visits, leading to better overall health and more than \$31 million in savings. Each year, billions of dollars are spent transferring residents from nursing homes to hospitals, and MU researchers have found many of these transfers could have been avoided through early illness detection and quicker decision-making within the nursing home.

"Missouri currently has a state requirement that APRNs can't pro-

vide assessments or write orders independently, they must work under a physician, but research shows states that do not have this requirement have just as good health outcomes among their nursing home residents," Johnson said. "The number of physicians working in geriatrics is decreasing, and there are three times as many APRNs working in long-term care facilities than physicians. So, APRNs can provide tremendous benefits in nursing homes when given the opportunity."

Johnson recently earned a \$200,000 grant from The Donaghue Foundation to further study how APRNs can improve the quality of care delivered to nursing home residents.

"Advanced practice registered nurse transition to practice in the long-term care setting: An ethnography" was published in Global Nursing Qualitative Research.

Remember the reason for the season

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Spices Fill The Holidays With Aroma, Memories

While the holidays are filled with familiar sights and sounds, it's the aromas of the season that often conjure up our most vivid memories of the past. This should come as no surprise since our sense of smell is keener than our senses of sight and sound.

Many of the aromas surrounding the holidays are from spices used in holiday cuisine, said University of Missouri Extension horticulturist David Trinklein.

Spices have had a profound influence on civilization, he said. Demand in Europe for spices led to a lucrative spice trade in which vast fortunes were made. When the spice routes from the East Indies faltered because of political problems, the needs of spice-starved European aristocrats had to be met in other ways. Explorers such as Columbus, da Gama and Magellan sailed west in search of a shorter route to the Indies. Thus, the New World was discovered.

Probably the oldest and most sought-after spice in history is cinnamon, Trinklein said. Now a key ingredient in many holiday treats, cinnamon goes back thousands of years. Ancient Egyptians used it to embalm the dead, and it remains a common ingredient in incense for sacred ceremonies.

Cinnamon comes from the bark of several species of tropical evergreens native to Asia. After the outer bark is scraped off the harvested branches, the inner bark is removed in sections that tend to curl into sticks as they dry. Bark that does not curl properly is made into ground cinnamon.

Another popular holiday spice is clove, the dried flower bud of a tree in the myrtle family native to Indonesia's Molucca Archipelago, also known as the Spice Islands. Flowers of the clove tree bear a single calyx that ends with four spreading sepals and four rudimentary petals forming a ball in the center of the sepals. The buds are bright red but become reddish-brown when dried.

Clove was among 16th- and 17th-century Europe's most precious commodities, worth more than its weight in gold. Magellan's ill-fated trip around the world, which began in 1519 with 250 men in five ships and ended in 1522 with a single ship and just 18 men, was still considered a financial success because of the 26 tons of cloves and cinnamon carried by the sole surviving ship.

Clove is a characteristic flavoring in Christmas holiday fare such as wassail and mulled cider. Cloves are strongly pungent because of eugenol, a substance extracted by distillation to yield an oil that is widely used to relieve pain.

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Frank Wallace

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COMMUNITY NEWS

MDC Reports Three Elk Harvested During Season

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) reports that Missouri hunters harvested one bull elk during the archery portion of the 2022 elk-hunting season, Oct. 15-23, and two bull elk during the firearms portion, Dec. 10-18.

The three Missouri hunters were each selected for one of five elk permits issued in 2022 through a random drawing of 9,684 applicants.

Elk are a native species in Missouri but were extirpated in the state in the late 1800s due to unregulated hunting. Missouri's first elk hunt in 2020 came after years of restoration efforts by MDC, numerous partners including the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and many supporters including local communities and area landowners. Learn more about elk at mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/field-guide/elk. Learn more about elk hunting in Missouri at mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/elk.

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Community Calendar...

Submit upcoming events by calling 324-6111 or e-mail to: peopletribune@sbcglobal.net

On Jan. 3: The MU Extension - Salt River Master Gardener Club monthly meeting is scheduled at 7 p.m. It will be held at HLGU Burt Administration Building, Room 129 in Hannibal.

There will be a presentation on "Winter Sowing". The public is invited to attend. For more information contact the MU Extension - Marion County Office at (573) 769-2177.

Happy New Year!

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COMMUNITY NEWS



Christmas Angels

Ashley Lawson, left, accepts gifts from Penny Dixon as part of the Angel Tree Christmas program. NECAC, the Salvation Army and Bowling Green Walmart teamed up for the effort, which served 236 kids from 88 Pike County families. Dixon is the NECAC Pike County Service Coordinator, and took applications.



Santa Cop Helps Angel Tree

North East Community Action Corporation (NECAC) Pike County Service Coordinator Penny Dixon and Bowling Green Police Department personnel Bennie Church and Roy Peters look over toys bought and donated by the Santa Cop program for the Angel Tree effort. Bowling Green Police and the Pike County Sheriff's Office participated. Donations helped to pay for \$4,000 to \$5,000 of gifts. Angel Tree was administered by NECAC, the Salvation Army and Bowling Green Walmart. The generosity of donors made it a success.

**Happy New Year
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2023

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EARLY DEADLINE DUE TO HOLIDAY THURSDAY, DEC. 29. NOON

MO Hate Crime Indicents**Jumped By Almost 70 Percent**

Last week, the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program released 2021 hate crime statistics about bias-motivated incidents throughout the nation.

The 2021 data, submitted by 11,834 law enforcement agencies, provide information about the offenses, victims, offenders, and locations of hate crimes. This is the first year the annual hate crimes statistics are reported entirely through the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). Compared to the previous crime data collection system, NIBRS collects significantly more detailed data for each individual criminal incident.

Law enforcement agencies submitted incident reports involving 7,262 criminal incidents and 8,673 related offenses as being motivated by bias toward race, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, sexual orientation, disability, gender, and gender identity.

Specifically in Missouri last year, the number of hate crime incidents reported to law enforcement jumped by almost 70 percent. The most common bias was targeted against a person's race, ethnicity, or ancestry. "This spike is alarming regardless of whether there were more incidents or because more victims were willing to report it," said Special Agent in Charge Jay Greenberg of the FBI St. Louis Division. "Just prior to my appointment to head FBI St. Louis, I led the charge at FBI Headquarters to elevate hate crimes investigations as one of the top priorities across the Bureau. We encourage victims to not only report to their local law enforcement, but directly to the FBI as well." The statistics are based on data received from more than 81 percent of law enforcement agencies throughout Missouri.

HATE CRIME INCIDENTS REPORTED IN MISSOURI

Categories of Bias 2021 2020

Race/Ethnicity/Ancestry 119 76

Sexual Orientation 33 16

Religion 22 14

Gender Identity 9 1

Multiple Bias 3

Disability 4 2

Gender 1 3

Total 194 115

Highlights nationwide of Hate Crime Statistics, 2021, follow. (Due to rounding, percentage breakdowns may not add to 100.0 percent.)

Victims of Hate Crime Incidents

• Slightly more than 7,000 (7,074) single-bias incidents involved 8,753 victims. A percent distribution of victims by bias type shows that 64.8 percent of victims were targeted because of the offenders' race/ethnicity/ancestry bias, 15.6 percent were targeted because of the offenders' sexual-orientation bias, 13.3 percent were targeted because of the offenders' religious bias, 3.6 percent were targeted because of the offenders' gender identity bias, 1.7 percent were targeted because of the offenders' disability bias, and 1.0 percent were targeted because of the offenders' gender bias.

• There were 188 multiple-bias hate crime incidents that involved 271 victims.

Offenses by Crime Category

• Of the 5,781 hate crime offenses classified as crimes against persons in 2021, 44.2 percent were intimidation, 35.9 percent were simple assault, and 18.3 percent were aggravated assault. Thirteen (13) rapes and 9 murders were reported as hate crimes. The remaining 69 hate crime offenses classified as crimes against persons were reported in the category of other.

• Of the 2,606 hate crime offenses classified as crimes against property, most (64.2 percent) were acts of destruction/damage/vandalism.

• Two hundred eighty-six (286) additional offenses were classified as crimes against society. This crime category represents society's prohibition against engaging in certain types of activity such as gambling, prostitution, and drug violations. These are typically victimless crimes in which property is

not the object.

Known Offenders

• In the UCR Program, the term known offender indicates that some aspect of the suspect was identified, thus distinguishing the suspect from an unknown offender. It does not necessarily imply that the suspect's identity is known.

• Of the 6,312 known offenders, 56.1 percent were White, 21.3 percent were Black or African American, 1.3 percent were American Indian or Alaska Native, 1.0 percent were Asian, 0.4 percent were Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and 6.3 percent were multiple races. The race was unknown for 13.5 percent.

• Of the 4,884 known offenders for whom ethnicity was reported, 55.4 percent were Not Hispanic or Latino, 7.6 percent were Hispanic or Latino, and 8.9 percent were in a group of multiple ethnicities. Ethnicity was unknown for 28.1 percent of these offenders.

• Of the 5,757 known offenders for whom ages were known, 82.3 percent were 18 years of age or older.

Locations of Hate Crimes

Law enforcement agencies may specify the location of an offense within a hate crime incident as 1 of 46 location designations. In 2021, most hate crime incidents (32.2 percent) occurred in or near residences/homes. Nearly 17 percent (16.9) occurred on highways/roads/alleys/streets/sidewalks, 8.1 percent occurred at schools/colleges, 7.0 percent happened at parking/drop lots/garages, 2.8 percent took place in restaurants, and 2.7 percent occurred at parks/playgrounds. The location was reported as other/unknown for 4.2 percent of hate crime incidents. The remaining 26.1 percent of hate crime incidents took place in the remaining specified location categories or in multiple locations.

Transition to NIBRS

Since 2016, the Justice Department has worked diligently with law enforcement agencies to assist in their transition to reporting crime data through NIBRS, including allocating over \$120 million in grants to support agencies' transition. NIBRS is a significant shift and improvement in how reported crime is measured and estimated by the federal government and will greatly improve the nation's understanding of crime and public safety.

As a result of the shift to NIBRS-only data collection, law enforcement agency participation in submitting all crime statistics, including hate crimes, fell significantly from 2020 to 2021. Law enforcement agencies that did not transition to reporting crime data through NIBRS were not able to submit hate crime statistics to the FBI's UCR Program. Several of the nation's largest law enforcement agencies, as well as some states, did not make the transition to NIBRS in time to submit data prior to the reporting deadline, and are not included in the 2021 reported totals.

Participation in NIBRS continues to improve. As of Nov. 1, 12,090 of the nation's 18,806 law enforcement agencies have reported crime data using NIBRS. As more agencies transition to the NIBRS data collection with continued support from the Department of Justice, hate crime statistics in coming years will provide a richer and more complete picture of hate crimes nationwide.

• Of the 2,606 hate crime offenses classified as crimes against property, most (64.2 percent) were acts of destruction/damage/vandalism.

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**Area Veterans Remembered**

The Clarksville Memorial VFW, Auxiliary and Youth Group presented Christmas cards to veterans in area nursing homes including Country View in Bowling Green, Lynn's Heritage House and Maple Grove Lodge in Louisiana and the Health Center in Elsberry. Pictured is Mary Tarpein, president of the auxiliary and daughter Mary Ann Schreder, also an auxiliary member, presented items and cards to Mexico Veteran Home, t-shirts, underwear, toothpaste, lotion, calendars, and Christmas cards to 102 residents. The post, auxiliary and youth group look forward to doing this each year they also do this for Valentine's Day. They feel this is a special project to make the veterans feel appreciated.

**Silex Honors Staff Member, Teacher**

Silex Student Council picked Coach Robert James, pictured at top, as December teacher of the month and Leonard Hopke, as December staff of the month. Presenting the awards are student council members, Karlie Ellis, Hayley Gruenwald, and Tyler Twellman.



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NOTICE

Christmas Tree Pickup The City of Bowling Green Public Works Department will begin picking up Christmas trees, weather permitting, Monday, Jan. 9, 2022. Please have trees at curb Monday morning. You may also dispose of your real tree at the city's compost on Bus. 54. Call City Hall at 573-324-5451 or Alliance Water Resources at 573-324-2660 if you have any questions.

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COMMUNITY NEWS



November Students Of The Month

November Students of the Month for Silex include, from left: Gracyn Harmon, sixth grade; Anderson Van Horn, seventh grade; Rylen Jensen, eighth grade; Hannah Akins, ninth grade; J.W. Noxon, 10th grade; Ella Tonis, 11th grade, Emma Pickens, 12th grade and Middle/High School Principal, Chris Gray.



Farber Library Christmas Celebration

On Monday, Dec. 12 the Farber Library hosted a Christmas celebration for the children. Those in attendance listened to 'The Night Before Christmas' and watched 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas'. Each child received gift bags to take home. Later in the afternoon for Lap Sit there was one who enjoyed being able to touch the Farber Library Christmas tree and listen to stories and songs.

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