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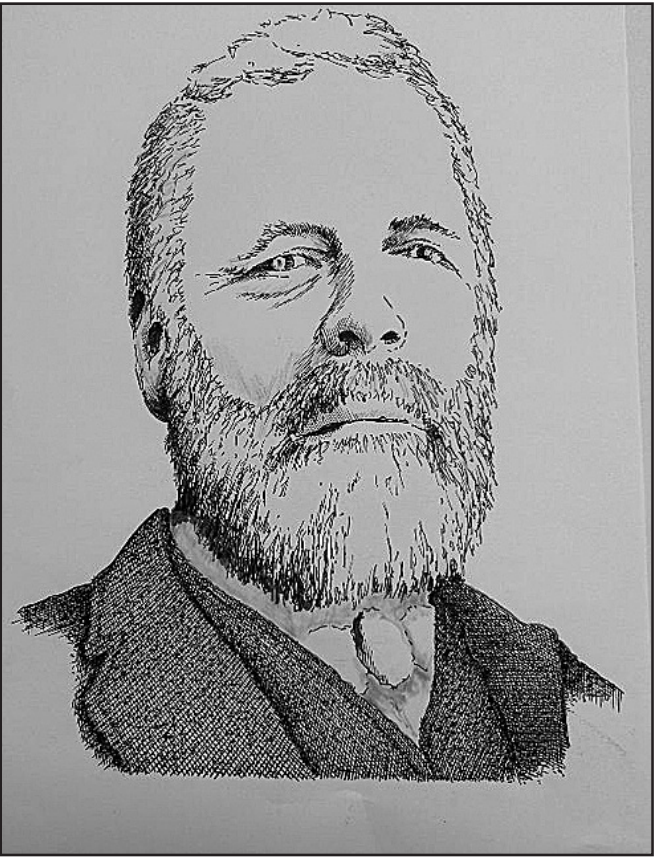
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FREE

Calling All Musicians For The Bowling Green Bicentennial Community Band, Choir

Pike Artist John Stoeckley Donates Pen, Ink Photo Of Basye, Looking For Kids To Sign Up To Be In Basye Kid Club



John Bayse

BY DON HAMILTON
On Friday, June 30 there will be rehearsals, a concert and ice cream social for the Bowling Green Bicentennial Community Band and Choir. Schedule for the day includes 1-3 p.m., rehearsal, community band at high school band room; 3-5 p.m., rehearsal, community choir, high school choir room. Concert and ice cream social is from 6:30-8:15 p.m., on the courthouse lawn. In case of rain it will be held in the Bowling Green High School Auditorium. Ice cream social will be served on site. Two Scoops Ice Cream, a local business partner, will

serve the event. Directors and guests include, for choir, former BGHS directors, Jack Bibb and Bob Johnson; band, Dr. Matt Frederickson, Brandon Bovay and Zachary Keller with additional stand-in instrumentals from the Missouri National Guard Band. This concert is a great kickoff for the many hours of music and demonstrations during the main day of the festival, Saturday, July 1. In addition to the parade, there will be many craft, commercial, and food vendors, the Basye Kid's greeters, the Howard Street Dance Studio, horse shoes and corn hole

tournaments, quilt show, car show, and historic sites open to the public. There will also be hours of performances and demonstrations from local stringed acoustic instrumental talent, Scotty and Starla, celebrities front he Lake of the Ozarks and the Missouri National Guard ensembles that are in residence all day and evening. The National Guard will be ending their concert that evening, with accompanying patriotic music, for the 1,770 piece children's sparkler show, involving all children and their parents. We must plan for choir and band musicians for the proper sheet music to be available. Please contact us now if you will be performing: send your name, address, phone number, email, and what part you sing and/or instrument you will be playing. Your contact with us now is vital. If you are both a band and choir person, you are highly encouraged to participate in both rehearsals and perform both as a band and choir member in the concert. Send your information or questions to BG Bicentennial, P.O. Box 435, Bowling Green, MO 63334 or call 573-324-3000 or contact us at our website BGMO200.com. Knowing who is coming ASAP is critical when it comes to the proper amount of printed music. If you are a past or present BGHS attendee, Bowling Green resident, or anyone who cares about Bowling Green and is just wanting to perform, you are invited and encouraged to join us. Nobody will be considered too old, or too "rusty" to participants. Getting to perform again in a large group very seldom happens, on this

scale after we are out of school. This is an important event musically and will provide wonderful fellowship to us all. John Stoeckley local Pike County artist donated his time and talent on looking at the Basye photo and making a pen and ink for the use and profit and ownership of the Bicentennial committee. Yes it is wonderful and we are so lucky we got it. We are claiming it to be copyright pending but this is going on our 6,000 aluminum stamped coins the heads side and the tales side will be the bicentennial logo. The final design has already been approved with that foundry and the pen and ink picture because it is so clear is what is going to be featured.

In our commemorative festival booklet. We will also have a limited number of "numbered copies" to sell matted and framed at the July 1 souvenir booth and a limited number of copies for the city buildings and for gifts to the localized Basye family. They just need to be sure that the public knows that the Bicentennial committee retains all rights to this art work as this is a wonderful. Is someone in your family between the ages of five and 11 and planning on attending the Bowling Green Bicentennial, any day between June 27 and July 1, 2023? We are looking for 20-100 kids that are invited to hopefully ride in the July 1 parade; and at least once during the week, choose a one-hour-shift to walk

around the square, with two or more of their friends and at least one guardian. They will be greeting and thanking people for attending the event. They may even carry a small sign. We really need to determine the number of children participating, hopefully before May in order to plan float accommodations and covering the walking shifts for the individual groups. Look on our website BGMO200.com, under the activities heading, for more Basye Kids Club details and sign up. You are also welcome to call 573-324-3000 for those details or to sign up. This invitation is open to any child that has connections to Bowling Green, our residents, our

See MUSICIANS on page 5

Grand Opening For Eolia Ballpark's New Playground Equipment

By Brice Chandler
Editor

It's been a long two years for Mary Evans, the Eolia Little League Board, and—most importantly—the children of the community as they patiently waited for new playground equipment at the Eolia ballpark. That wait has finally come to an end as they plan to kick off the Little League season in style and show off the newly installed equipment to the community and visitors on Sunday, April 30 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. It's been two years since Evans got the go-ahead from the Eolia Little League Board to begin fundraising for the much-needed playground equipment. Equipment that had slowly dwindled from several pieces in the 80s to only a swingset remaining. Mary and her husband set to the task of raising money by sending out 200 letters in March of 2021. Thanks to the generosity of local businesses and members of the community, she was soon able to raise enough money by June of that year to purchase a tetter totter, a merry-go-round, a playhouse, and a climbing obstacle. Although they were able to purchase several pieces, Evans said they didn't reach the goal needed to purchase a slide. "I think COVID was a big worry for people and businesses at the time, so I wasn't able to purchase a slide," she told the Tribune. Despite the setback, Evans ordered the new equipment in August of 2021, before sitting back and waiting... and waiting. "The Playground equipment was ordered and scheduled for delivery in August 2021," Evans said. Unfortunately, the group would see

that timeline come and go with no delivery made. "Each month they would push it back another 30 days due to material and labor shortages—again due to Covid." As with so many others, the ballpark held a special place in Evans' heart. She watched her three children grow up playing ball on the field and now watches her four grandchildren do the same. She and her husband both served as board members. After all that history, giving up on the playground equipment was not an option. Evans along with the Little League Board were steadfast in seeing the project finished and their patience paid off. "We finally received the playground equipment in June 2022," Evans continued. "At that point, it was decided to install it in the fall after all the summer activities were over. Everyone was so busy that it was eventually installed this spring before practices started."

To showcase the equipment, the Eolia Little League Board has planned a grand opening with food and fireworks. "All of the Eolia Little League teams will be there," Evans told the Tribune. "Each team will be introduced. There will also be food, raffles, and fireworks at dark." The event will start off with the national anthem and then include the playground grand opening, food trucks by the Sugar Shack and A Taste of Philly, McDingerz Sponsorship announcements, introduction/parade of Eolia Little League teams players/coaches/sponsors, Cardinals ticket raffle, 50/50 raffle, and fireworks at dusk. "Getting this playground equipment was something I wanted to do for the ballpark," Evans finished. "I asked the board if I could do a fundraiser and they gave me their blessing. I was so happy to be able to achieve my goal to purchase everything but the slide. I am so thankful to all

Titanic Ability ...

Louisiana Woman Chronicles Tales Of Ship's Survivors

BY BRENT ENGEL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER
Editor's note: Following is the final part in a story series by contributing writer Brent Engel.

The Titanic catastrophe dramatically changed all involved, and Louisiana's May Birkhead was no exception. She and an aunt were aboard Carpathia heading to Europe for a leisurely vacation when the "unsinkable" ship struck an iceberg and plunged to the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean. Carpathia picked up 705 survivors, and May was asked by the New York Herald to gather as many stories as she could. "She scooped all the other journalists in the country," recalled the late Louisiana historian and author Betty Allen. A successful women's clothier known for making elegant blouses, May did not pull any punches, as when she described the dreadful behavior by one of two men in a lifeboat full of women. "This beast not only refused to work, but took for himself all blankets in the boat, the women having to go without and shiver and also row," May revealed. "One of the women in the boat finally told this man that she would shoot him if he did not give up the blankets and work. The display of a pistol had the desired effect." Though sounding bold, May initially was modest about her writing. "I was so much interrupted that I thought I should never get anything done and that, when I had done it, it would be such a jumble that it wouldn't be of any use to anybody," she remembered. "I never even had a chance to read it over."

her mother, also named Genevieve, along with thousands of others. The younger woman — whose father, Champ, was running for president that year — had pleaded in vain with customs officials to be taken out to meet Carpathia before it arrived. The reunion with May was bittersweet and didn't last long. The Clarks were due back in Washington and May had work to do for the Herald. After submitting survivors' stories, she was interviewed about the task. "While I had been lying in my berth during the nights after we picked up the passengers, I had been writing the story in my mind, but I never thought the call to produce it would come when it did," May said. "I had, however, made some notes of things I did not want to forget so I should be able to tell them... when I got back." May managed to wire some information to New York, but Carpathia Capt. Arthur Rostron ordered that private messages to survivors' families took precedence over those to media. "So, I just had to write the things down as they came to me and trust that it would come out all right in the end," she said. May received universal praise for the accounts, which were vivid, straightforward and illuminating. She was "considered a heroine by the folks back home and all her country people, including Champ Clark, are proud of her," wrote the Washington Post. "Miss Birkhead is receiving many compliments for her splendid work," the Mexico Ledger offered. The Herald paid May \$350 — the equivalent today of almost \$9,000. The investment would prove its worth. **AFTERMATH** Carpathia's crew was honored on both sides of the Atlantic, but the ship's story didn't end well.

It was torpedoed by a German submarine during World War I on July 15, 1918. Other vessels in the convoy got away because Carpathia signaled them to the danger. All but five of the 223 crew and passengers survived. The wreckage was found in 1999 — 14 years after that of Titanic — about 185 miles off the southwestern tip of Ireland. Champ Clark lost the 1912 Democratic presidential nomination to New Jersey Gov. Woodrow Wilson, who went on to defeat incumbent Republican William Howard Taft and third-party candidate Theodore Roosevelt in the general election. Genevieve Clark continued fighting for women's suffrage and did some reporting of her own. In 1924 — four years after the 19th Amendment gave women nationwide the right to vote — she ran unsuccessfully for Congress. Clark died at 86 in 1981. May Birkhead put down her sewing needles for good when Herald publisher James Gordon Bennet offered her a full-time reporting job. Journalism was dominated by men at the time, but for almost 30 years May battled chauvinistic stereotypes while chronicling the news from Paris. In addition to the Herald, May worked for the Chicago Tribune and The New York Times. Though much of her writing was for the "women's pages," May's connections allowed her to grab news headlines and scoop other reporters. One example was her professional relationship with World War I commander and Missouri native Gen. John Pershing. At the end of the war, she reported on the Versailles peace conference. May was able to escape France shortly after the Nazis invaded during World War II, and said she was intent on "going back after the Germans are thrown out."

Continued To
Next Week

Museum Luncheon Tickets Available Through Friday

By Brice Chandler
Editor

Tickets to the Louisiana Area Historical Museum's "The Sword in the Wall" luncheon are available through Friday, April 28. Dr. Tim Jacobs will unravel the mystery of a weapon once owned by a Civil War captain with ties to Pike County. The luncheon is at noon Saturday, May 6, at the Louisiana First Christian Church fellowship hall at 517 South Carolina. Tickets are \$20 per person. The menu consists of chicken salad, summer pasta salad, fresh fruit and strawberry shortcake. Men, women and children are invited. The museum will be open for ticket sales from 9 a.m. to noon Friday, April 28.



LHS Prom King & Queen

Louisiana High School held prom activities on Saturday, April 22, at the school. Wyatt Harrison and Kamryn Gloe were crowned 2023 Prom king and queen.



VFHS Prom Queen & King

Van-Far High School held prom activities on Saturday, April 22. Madelyn Caldwell was named queen with Ryan Null as king.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Anne's Anchor Administrator, Georgia Hearn, with Pike County DAR Chapter Regent Sandy Orf.

Louisiana DAR Donates To Anne's Anchor

Members of Louisiana's Pike County Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) recently made a donation to "Anne's Anchor", located in Bowling Green.

Vice Regent Alice Middleton Holtzhouser and Regent Sandy Orf were on hand for the presentation. Orf presented a check to Georgia Hearn of Anne's Anchor, as the "Anchor's" Board President Paulette Bruch looked on.

While giving a tour of the home, Hearn explained the schedules and expectations for new mothers and their babies during their year of liv-

ing there, attending school, working and learning the other ins and outs of new motherhood who are under her supervision. Part of the funding for the maternity home is from donations and future plans include a free-will offering VIP Banquet for April 20 at the St. Clement Knights of Columbus Hall, which Orf also plans to attend.

The Pike County Chapter of DAR is one of thousands of service-oriented Chapters in Missouri, the United States and other countries and continually strives to contribute to local communities and organizations in need of support.

Auxiliary To VFW Post 2173 Elects Officers

The Auxiliary to VFW Post 2173 met on Thursday, April 13, 2023, at the Charlene Teague Genealogy Center. President Victoria Shaw called the 7 p.m., meeting to order. Opening Ceremonies were observed.

The March meeting minutes were approved as read. The Treasurer's report was given and filed for review. A note from Cindy Pirch and a donation letter from the VFW National Home were read.

The Jan-Feb-Mar Audit report was presented and accepted. Other business included donations of stuffed animals bingo prizes to the Missouri Baptist Tri-County Care Center, monetary donation to the VFW National Home and additional funds to the Scholarship amount. Vivian McFadden will receive the Scholarship at the Senior Awards Program the week before Van-Far Commencement on May 14.

Officers for 2023-2024 were elected unanimously. They are President Victoria Shaw, Senior Vice President Val Galloway, Junior Vice President Wanda Winders, Secretary Joy Davis, Treas-

urer Judy Hull, Chaplain Lionel Shaw, Conductress Ann Wasson, Assistant Conductress Ruth Miller, Trustee #1 Barbara Holman, Trustee #2 Wanda Winders, Trustee #3 Lionel Shaw, Historian June Willis and Patriotic Instructor June Willis. Officers will be installed at the May meeting.

Memorial Day Service at the Vandalia Cemetery on May 29 was discussed further and flag placements at the Vandalia Cemetery, Evergreen Memorial Garden, and Farber Cemetery were also discussed. Additional VFW Auxiliary markers and current flags will be purchased.

Closing ceremonies were observed and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

The nine members attending were Joy Davis, Val Galloway, Barbara Holman, Judy Hull, Vivian McFadden, Lionel Shaw, Victoria Shaw, Ann Wasson and June Willis.

The next scheduled auxiliary meeting is Thursday, May 11 at the Charlene Teague Genealogy Center on Main Street. The time of the meeting will be 7 p.m. All members are encouraged to attend.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

The Project Prom Committee would like to thank all of the businesses, churches, organizations that donated to our event and the Bowling Green R-I School District for helping to make Project Prom 2023 a success.

Your investment to keep our youth safe in a fun alcohol free event was greatly appreciated.

Your contributions and support at our fundraising events enable us to provide food, prizes, unlimited bowling, arcade, laser tag and other games at Bowlero in St. Peters.

Put Our Ads To Work

Vandalia Area Historical Society Meets

The Vandalia Area Historical Society held their monthly meeting on Saturday, April 15.

Those attending were Joy Davis, Paul Ray, Teresa Wenzel, Pete and Mindy Nasir, Andrew Bartison and Vicki Wright.

Vicki called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. The minutes of the March meeting were approved as read. The financial report was given.

Pamela Biggs Faerber has offered to donate two wedding gowns from her family for display at the museum. A letter from Elenore Schewe describing the construction details of the brick plant buildings will be sent to the City of Vandalia. Paul Ray will complete the trademark process for the Sesquicentennial Logo. Items were selected for fundraising beginning during Prairie Days 2023. Included are mugs, ornaments, garden flags, challenge coins, tee shirts and key chains.

The building sign was determined to display the Sesquicentennial logo on a white background with black border for the 2023 and 2024 museum seasons.

Unique Designs will be completing that project for the opening on Sunday, May 28. The museum will be open on Sundays from May 28 to October 29 from noon to 4 p.m. Joy Davis will be updating the Museum Scavenger Hunt and the Museum Bingo Blackout for 2023.

Andrew Bartison is cleaning and repairing the Harbison Walker clock that is part of the

museum collection. Andrew is completing a certification in watch/clock repair.

The next regular meeting of the Vandalia Area Historical Society will be Saturday, May 20. The meeting begins at 9 a.m. at the Charlene Teague Genealogy Center on Main Street. There will be more Sesquicentennial Celebration discussion. Mark your calendar and make plans to attend.

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Agape House Board Welcomes New Member

Agape House of Vandalia board members met Tuesday, April 18, at the guesthouse. Terry Rudolph of Bowling Green was welcomed to the group. The board is especially happy to have a board member from Pike County since the house hosts visitors to the Bowling Green correctional center as well as the Vandalia center.

Board members were informed that all painting in the interior has been completed. Old furniture and mattresses have been removed and new furniture and mattresses are installed. A need for installation of barrier cloth and new gravel to the front of the building was cited; a group will be sought to complete this project.

Board president, Rich Duffner, earlier completed the annual interview with United Way of Audrain County representatives. He will be providing information about the guest house at a state Knights of Columbus convention in Columbia later in the week.

A guest survey received recently have high marks to both the facility and its management. Board members, in their quarterly inspection of the premises, were impressed with the fresh paint, new furniture and general condition of the building.

Board members in attendance were Jane Duffner, R. Duffner, Janet Heim, Karen Holbrook, Sterling Holbrook, Eldora Lowry, Phil Pennington, Terry Rudolph and Mary Thomas.

Monetary gifts received in March include the following: Edgewood Baptist Church of Bowling Green; Ramsey Creek Baptist Church of Clarksville; Bethlehem Baptist Church of Centralia; Curryville Baptist Church; Farber Baptist Church; Santa Fe Christian Church of Paris; Hopewell Baptist Church and John Yost of Thompson; Southside Baptist Church, First Baptist Church, First Presbyterian Church, and First Christian Church, all of Vandalia; and Hopewell Baptist Church Women's Missionary Unit of Wellsville..

Non-monetary gifts included a new couch by Baumgartner's Furniture of Auxvasse.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

State Representative Chad Perkins Report



Rep. Chad Perkins

REP. PERKINS SUPPORTS PROTECTING OUR SCHOOLS MISSOURI HOUSE VOTES TO PROTECT SCHOOL CHILDREN

In the waning hours of session, the House third read and passed HB 1108. This bill contains several provisions related to public safety, but one provision in particular is worth special note. The provision that, subject to appropriation, the state will fund requirements that a school district have bullet-resistant doors and windows on all first-floor entryways and bullet-resistant glass for each exterior window large enough for an intruder to enter through. Upon passage of this bill, Perkins commented, "There is an obvious need to harden our schools against these horrendous attacks. This bill does just that, and I fully support it. It is unfortunate that this was largely a party line vote, and I encourage those on the other side to set aside political expediency and support the children and staff at our schools."

MDC Virtual Program To Highlight Recipes For Campfire Cooking

There's more to outdoor cooking than toasting hotdogs over a campfire and making s'mores.

Learn about the variety of dishes that can be cooked over a campfire at the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) virtual program "Outdoor Cooking: The Recipes Program!" on April 18. This free online class, which is open to all ages, will be from noon-1 p.m. and is being put on by the staff of MDC's Shoal Creek Conservation Education Center. People can register for this class at: [https://mdc-event-web.s3li-censing.com/Event/EventDe-](https://mdc-event-web.s3.amazonaws.com/Event/EventDetails/189412)

HOUSE APPROVES LEGISLATION TO PROTECT AND STRENGTHEN SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS (HB 282)

The Missouri House has approved legislation that would expand the rights of concealed carry permit holders. By a vote of 102-45, House members approved HB 282 to allow law-abiding citizens the right to defend themselves on public transportation.

The legislation allows a concealed carry permit holder to lawfully carry firearms on public transportation. Anyone with a permit may also carry a firearm while traveling by bus. The bill does not apply to property of Amtrak or any partnership in which Amtrak engages.

"Violence and crime don't discriminate," said the sponsor of the bill. "We all have the potential of running into situations where we have to utilize self-defense to protect ourselves and those we love. Prohibiting lawful citizens from carrying concealed is like putting all the sheep in a pen and telling the wolf where they're at."

He added, "I believe that this legislation will discourage criminal activity on our public transportation systems, but most importantly it will ensure that we maintain our constitutional right to self-defense."

HB 282 also allows a person with a valid concealed carry permit to lawfully carry firearms in churches and other places of worship. Additionally, the bill lowers the age requirement from at least 19 to 18 years of age or older for

concealed carry permits. The bill also removes the ban on eligibility for a concealed carry permit or a Missouri lifetime or extended concealed carry permit if the applicant has pled guilty to or entered a plea of nolo contendere of certain crimes.

LAWMAKERS APPROVE FUNDING FOR CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS (HB 17, HB 18, HB 19, AND HB 20)

House members this week approved four bills that appropriate more than \$5.4 billion in funding for vital infrastructure projects and programs across the state.

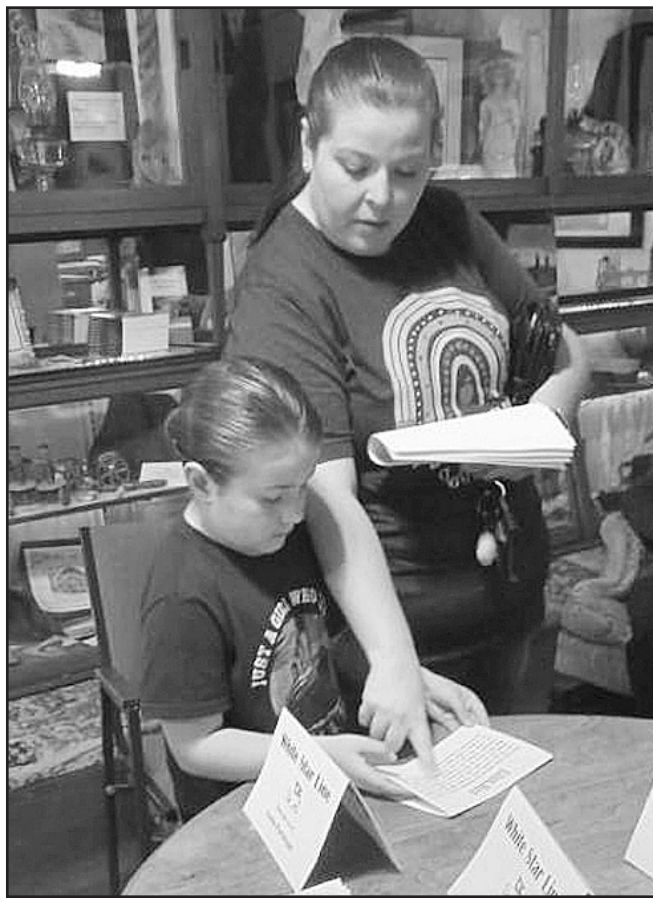
Lawmakers approved HB 17 to re-appropriate funding for state parks around Missouri. In total the bill contains nearly \$431 million in funding. House members also gave their stamp of approval to HB 18 to continue ongoing funding that will keep state facilities maintained and repaired. The bill allocates a total of more than \$588 million for that purpose.

With the approval of HB 19 legislators authorized more than \$1.7 billion in funding for crucial capital improvement projects. Included in that total is \$859 million in funding to widen and rebuild the I-70 corridor. The plan is a priority of Gov. Mike Parson who called for the funding to expand the highway to six lanes from St. Louis to Warrenton, Kansas City to Odessa, and extending both East and West from Columbia. The governor said the expansion would improve inter and intrastate travel for Missourians, visitors, and goods and services as well as reduce traffic injuries and deaths.

program will include a chat-based question-and-answer period where participants can interact with the presenters.

MDC's Shoal Creek Conservation Education Center is located at 201 W. Riviera Drive. People can stay informed about upcoming programs at the Shoal Creek Center and other MDC facilities by signing up for text alerts and e-mail bulletins. People who have questions about how to sign up for text alerts from the Shoal Creek Center can call 417-629-3434.

Staff at MDC facilities across the state are holding virtual and in-person programs. A listing of these programs can be found at mdc.mo.gov/events.



Titanic Interest

Rebecca Dempsey and her eight-year-old daughter, Ella, of Louisiana look over cards with the names of Titanic passengers at the Louisiana Area Historical Museum on April 15. The date was the 111th anniversary of the ship's sinking. The museum highlighted the role of Louisiana's May Birkhead in providing first-hand accounts of Titanic survivors. Ella, who wore a t-shirt that reflected her interest in Titanic, chose the name of a passenger who survived.



Caitlin Petry FNP-C

Hannibal Regional Medical Group Welcomes

Caitlin Petry, FNP-C

Hannibal Regional Medical Group is pleased to welcome Caitlin Petry, FNP-C to their team.

Caitlin Petry, FNP earned her Family Nurse Practitioner degree from Maryville University and she enjoys caring for patients in all stages of their lives.

Caitlin shares, "My heart has always been in providing care to patients in small communities and the surrounding rural areas. The most rewarding part of my job is being able to care for patients who may not have the same access to care as those we see in larger communities. I believe everyone deserves accessible, quality healthcare."

Caitlin will be providing care through Hannibal Regional's Express Care locations. Express Care offers quick, convenient access to basic healthcare services with no appointment necessary. Express Care is available at two locations in Hannibal, to learn more visit hannibalregional.org/express-care or call (573) 629-3500.

Southern Pike Interchurch To Hold Baccalaureate

The Southern Pike County Interchurch Council to Hold Baccalaureate Services at the Clopton School on Wednesday, May 17 at 7 p.m.

They would like to invite everyone to attend these special services, as this service is to help the graduates as they make a step forward as they move on to a higher height in their life.

Families, friends are invited to attend. Everyone is welcome. They would love to have the seniors attend this, whether they plan to go to college, tech school or work. They feel that this is a service that will benefit all of them.

School personnel are also invited to attend.

The Interchurch Council looks forward to having this each year. Refreshments will be served following the services, in the cafeteria.



NECAC Focus Meeting

NECAC's Kayla Wasson, standing, leads a focus meeting of stakeholders April 17 at the agency's service center in Bowling Green. Also pictured, seated at upper left, is NECAC Pike County Service Coordinator Penny Dixon. The meeting is part of a Community Needs Survey that NECAC is conducting in an effort to upgrade agency programs and address local services. Similar meetings are being held during April in NECAC's other 11 counties. The survey is being conducted through June. More information is available by calling the NECAC Pike County Service Center at 573-324-2207.

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OBITUARIES



Echo Michelle Graham

Echo Michelle Graham, 36, of St. Louis, died unexpectedly at her home Wednesday, March 29, 2023.

Cremation rites are under the direction of Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Bowling Green. A Life Celebration service will be held at a later date.

Echo was born Feb. 12, 1987 in Columbia to Michael Louis Graham and Janet Renee Bagley.

Echo grew up in the Vandalia and Curryville areas and attended Bowling Green High School. She later received her GED. Echo worked for many years at Bowling Green Head Start. Following Head Start, Echo spent many years working at Abel's.

She later moved to Hannibal and went to work at Pillsbury. Echo recently moved to the St. Louis area.

Echo enjoyed fishing and mushroom hunting. She loved spending time playing with her children. Echo also enjoyed family gatherings and Ralph's BBQ.

Echo is survived by her parents, Janet Grimmett and husband, Ralph of Columbia; and her father, Michael Graham of Florida; children, Madysen Graham, Ivory Graham, Christy Seyler, Infenity Steward, and Unique Steward; siblings, Joshua Bagley of Vandalia, Leroy Graham of Columbia, Kristen Hammers and husband, Travis of Mexico, and Amanda Barkley and husband, Matt of Mexico; nieces, nephews; cousins; and extended family.

She was preceded in death by grandparents, Leroy and Betty Bagley; grandma, Marie Grimmett; uncle, Stephen Bagley Sampson; and aunt, Melissa Gillman.

Memorials may be made to the family in care of Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes & Crematory.

Online condolences may be made at www.bibbveach.com.



Jarett Austen Johnstone

Jarett Austen Johnstone, 16, of Silex died Saturday, April 8, 2023.

Visitation only was held Saturday, April 15 from 12-3 p.m., at McCoy-Blossom Funeral Homes and Crematory, Troy.

He was born May 2, 2006 in Lake St. Louis, the son of Matthew and Suzanne Korand Johnstone.

He loved living out in the country exploring the woods and creeks near his home or fixing anything he could get his hands on. He loved to work on cars, motors and electronics, sharing his knowledge generously wherever he could.

He attended Silex school his entire life where he was a member of FFA, played trumpet in the band and was also a member of the choir.

He was a valued employee at Sauce On The Side in Wentzville. He loved movies, particularly the Star Wars and Marvel franchises. Jarett was an outgoing young man who will be greatly missed by those who knew him.

He is survived by his parents, Matthew J. and Suzanne M. Johnstone; a brother, Colton Johnstone; grandmothers, Barbara Johnstone and Anita McCormack; an uncle, Johnny Johnstone and his wife, Janet; one aunt,

Katherine Gilsinn; daughters, Heather and Ryan Landers and Drake; Melissa and Donald Wilburn and Brennan Fortel, Liliana Hernandez, Cheyenne Wilburn, Brooklyn Wilburn; Bethany and Neil Miller and Logan and Lilah, his aunts, Nancy Korando and son, Zachary Korando, daughter, Brianne Korando and aunt Elizabeth Korando, daughters, Nora Detchemendy and Claire Detchemendy.

Memorial donations may be made to the Johnstone family c/o the funeral home.

Friends and family are invited to visit our website at mccoyblossomfh.com to leave your online condolences.

R. Clay Marshall

R. Clay Marshall 57, of Bowling Green died Friday, April 21, 2023 at Hannibal Regional Hospital.

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, May 13 at 11 a.m., at One Way Ministries, 20553 Pike 255, Bowling Green, MO with lunch to follow.

He was born Dec. 3, 1966 in Louisiana to James Lee and Carol Lee Gillum Marshall.

He is survived by his wife, Cathy; his mother, Carol Marshall; a brother, Todd Marshall; one sister, Marianne Jay and husband, Kenny; grandmother, Judy Marshall; and his "boys" Scott, Jake, Gabe, Seth, and Dane.

He was preceded in death by his dad, grandfathers, James "Mac" Marshall, and Bobby Gene Gillum; grandmothers, Bertha Runser Marshall and Mary Bess Haines Gillum Sanderson.



Joseph Edward Jones

Joseph Edward Jones, 72, of Vandalia, formerly of Mexico, left the morning of Thursday, April 20, 2023, to go to his Heavenly Home.

The family will receive friends on Saturday from 10-11 a.m., at West Cuivre Baptist Church in Laddonia.

A Celebration of Life will follow at 11 a.m., at the church.

Joseph was born March 26, 1951, to Merlin and Betty Jones. He married Patricia Whitehead on Dec. 25, 1972. Through their union, they had three children, Matt, Marlena, and Hannah.

Mr. Jones was the pastor of West Cuivre Baptist Church. Joe loved Jesus, his family, drag racing and his Saturday morning breakfast friends.

Joe owned two machine shops and retired from Robnett Automotive. Joe thought the world of Ryan and his coworkers.

Joe is survived by his wife of 50 years, Patricia, who survives at the home; a brother, Jon Jones and wife, Debbie of Auxvasse; his son, Matt Jones and wife, Kim of Mexico; and two daughters, Marlena Olebeare and husband, Lee of Vandalia and Hannah Jones of the home. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Taylor Chrisman and husband, Matt, Abbygayle Schutte and husband, Jordan, Sidney Atkinson and husband, Nate, Hayden Jones, and Jackson Olebeare; and his great-grandchildren, Tucker, Clayton, Lukas, Easton, Mason, Lilah, Hank and was looking forward to the arrival of Grayson in July. Joe also had numerous in-laws and nieces and nephews.

Joe was preceded in death by his parents, Merlin and Betty Jones.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to West Cuivre Baptist Church. They may be sent c/o Arnold Funeral Home, 425 S. Jefferson Street, Mexico, MO 65265.

Dahlias Brighten MO Gardens

Dahlias, the national flower of Mexico, burst with fiestas of colors in late summer and early autumn when other flowers begin to fade.

These easy-to-grow annuals are popular choices for cut gardens or the backdrop of borders, says Kelly McGowan, University of Missouri Extension horticulturist.

Plant dahlias once the danger of frost passes for dazzling fall color. See MU Extension's "Missouri Frost/Freeze Probabilities Guide" at www.extension.missouri.edu/ipm1033 to find probabilities for your area.

A member of the aster family, dahlias need 6-8 hours of daily sun. Plant in fertile, well-drained soil high in organic matter. Use a fertilizer such as 5-10-10 that is high in phosphorus and potassium and low in nitrogen. Then in July, top dress with another application. McGowan suggests using one-half cup of fertilizer in a 2-foot-wide circle.

Plants grow quickly and need large amounts of water. Keep soil moist but not wet, McGowan says. Drip irrigation works well for dahlias.

Plants benefit from pinching back after the first growth of spring. Begin pinching back after the plants grow to a 12-inch height. A second pinching after emerging shoots achieve a length of 1 foot delays flowering but makes for a more spectacular display late in the growing season.

Tall varieties become lanky and require staking to remain upright, says McGowan. Another option is to cover plants with netting and thread the plants through the netting. Dwarf varieties do not need staking.

Two foliage diseases that affect dahlias are Botrytis blight (gray mold) and powdery mildew. Avoid these diseases by strict sanitation, proper site selection and keeping foliage as dry as possible. Fungicides containing thiophanate methyl also provide effective disease prevention.

Dahlias do not survive Missouri winters. After plants die back, dig the tuberous roots and cut off stems. Brush dirt from the roots and dust with a fungicide. Store in a dry material such as sawdust or newspaper. Some viral diseases such as dahlia mosaic can occur. Sanitation, insect control and selection of tolerant cultivars control these.

Find more information about dahlias and their care on the American Dahlia Society website at www.dahlia.org.

McGowan and other MU Extension horticulturists discuss timely gardening issues during the "Weekly Garden Hour" held Wednesdays at noon via Zoom.

Register for the free virtual event and/or ask a gardening question at ipm.missouri.edu/ownHalls. Sessions are also livestreamed at www.youtube.com/c/muipm/live.

Sign up for the Garden Spade, a free monthly gardening e-newsletter, at muext.us/GardenSpadeList.

Seven Affordable Spring Cleaning Projects To Save Money, Energy

With Earth Day around the corner, Ameren is sharing some easy ways for its customers to have a positive impact on the environment while reducing monthly energy bills.

To help customers achieve maximum energy cost savings, Ameren suggests tackling these high priority "spring cleaning" projects:

Replace your air filters. The best way to improve the performance of your air conditioner is to routinely replace or clean its filters. Clogged or dirty filters obstruct airflow, which can impair the evaporator coil's heat-absorbing capacity and make the system work harder and run longer. In fact, replacing a dirty, clogged filter with a clean one can lower your air conditioner's energy consumption by five-15 percent.

Give your refrigerator a deep clean. Refrigerators run constantly and use up to 14 percent of a home's electricity. Keep your refrigerator two-thirds full for improved circulation. Next time you clean out the fridge, wipe down the seals around the door to keep them spotless, which will prevent cold air from escaping, and carefully clean the condenser coils. Dirty coils cause a refrigerator to work harder to keep food cool.

Check your lighting fixtures. As you clean your lamps, sconces and overhead lights, check for old light bulbs and replace them with LED ones. They use at least 75 percent less energy and last 25 times longer than incandescent bulbs. LED bulbs also emit minimal heat, so they can help keep your home cooler.

Felines, Some Flowers Not A Purr-fect Mix

Some flowers don't mix well with felines. A spring favorite, the Easter lily, is one that could kill a curious cat.

The perennial plant's white, trumpet-like flowers might not sound the warning that all parts of it are highly toxic to cats.

Easter lilies are true lilies. They grow from bulbs, not tubers. A member of the Liliaceae genus, the Easter lily (Lilium longiflorum) has a single stem with leaves whirling about it. True lilies bloom a week or more. Other Lilium as well as Hemerocallis (daylily) species also can prove toxic.

Even small amounts of Easter lilies can be deadly to cats, says University of Missouri Extension veterinary toxicologist Tim Evans. Eating the leaves or flowers or licking pollen grains can cause cats to develop kidney failure in three to four days. Even drinking water from a vase that contained lilies brings about serious adverse effects.

"With spring planting, Mother's Day and prom season and graduation ceremonies right around the corner, it is important to know that other members of the Lil-

ium genus and daylilies or Hemerocallis species also can prove extremely toxic to cats," says Evans.

Early signs of poisoning include vomiting, lack of appetite and lethargy. Evans suggests that pet owners consult a veterinarian if they suspect poisoning. Veterinarians likely will prescribe medications or give intravenous fluids, he says.

Also, keep cats away from outside areas where lilies grow. "Any evidence of damage to the leaves or flowers of 'true' lilies where cats might be roaming, the presence of lily pollen on the face of a cat with a guilty look on its face or cat vomitus containing lily parts are all potential causes for concern and require a call to your local veterinarian," Evans says.

Easter lily became a popular decoration in American homes after World War I, says MU Extension state horticulturist David Trinklein. It originated in Japan and remains a symbol of hope and purity.

Despite a sales window of only two weeks, lilies rank fourth in the wholesale potted plant market in the United States, behind poinsettias, mums and azaleas.

Clean the sliding door track. If your home has an exterior sliding glass door, clean out the track. Dirt and grime can ruin the door's seal and allow cool air to escape.

Put ceiling fans in reverse. As you are dusting off those fan blades, flip the switch on your ceiling fan to rotate them counterclockwise. It will push the cool air down so your air conditioning system does not have to work as hard.

Let the cool air in. Take advantage of those cool spring nights by opening the windows to let the cool air in. Don't forget to close them during the day to keep the warm air out.

Plant trees for shade. Planting deciduous trees on the south-facing side of your home can provide shade in the spring and summer. When the trees eventually lose their leaves, the sun will shine through and warm your home in the fall and winter.

"Spring is a great time to give the often-neglected areas of our homes, like cooling systems and sections heavily impacting air flow, some attention to keep them running efficiently," said Tony Lozano, director of energy solutions at Ameren Missouri. "Dust and grime can easily build up and cause your home to work harder, which you ultimately see on your energy bill."

Providing customers with energy savings tips is part of Ameren's ongoing commitment to help them minimize their energy expenses without sacrificing comfort. Ameren believes that the first step to take toward energy savings starts with a home energy assessment. You can learn where your home uses energy

and discover ways to save on your monthly energy statement. You may even qualify for a free, no-obligation assessment in Missouri or Illinois with installation of products like LED lightbulbs, smart thermostats and advanced power strips.

Big Savings with Smart Thermostats

Warmer weather is around the corner, and Ameren is offering a special promotion on smart thermostats in each state. For a limited time, customers in Missouri and Illinois can purchase a Google Nest or Sensi Smart Thermostat for \$0 (plus shipping and sales tax).

"Smart thermostats can help customers save between 10-20 percent on their heating and cooling costs," said Kristol Simms, vice president of clean energy transition, economic, community and business development at Ameren Illinois. "With the increase in energy supply costs, this is a gift every Ameren Illinois customer can benefit from for years to come."

The thermostats featured in the spring promotion make a home eligible for Ameren Missouri's Peak Time Savings program. On the occasional peak hot days that create a heavier demand for energy, the program precools your home, which helps you stay comfortable during Peak Time Savings events. Those who enroll in the program earn a \$50 sign-up bonus and will receive a yearly \$25 credit on their energy statements.

To find even more ways to save, visit AmerenMissouriSavings.com or AmerenIllinoisSavings.com.

Choose The Right Bedding

Plants To Start Garden Off Right

Beautiful flower gardens begin with the right bedding plants, says Donna Aufdenberg, University of Missouri Extension horticulturist.

Before heading to the garden center, research what plants do well in your area, Aufdenberg says. Also consider whether your gardening space is sunny or shady.

Aufdenberg has more tips: •Choose stocky, short, bushy plants with green foliage. Avoid tall, spindly plants or those with insect damage.

•Choose plants with well-developed root systems. White roots indicate a healthy plant.

•Consider pinching any blooms prior to transplanting, or purchase plants without blooms. This will help the plant focus on root establishment right after transplanting instead of blooming. This will lead to plants that are healthier during the gardening season.

•Harden off plants before planting. Hardening off is the gradual process of allowing a

plant to transition from a protected indoor or greenhouse environment to outdoor conditions of fluctuating spring temperatures, wind and full sun exposure. Start moving plants outdoors about 1-1.5 weeks before the weather turns favorable enough for them to live outdoors permanently.

•Check that all cells in the pack are filled.

•Avoid the clearance rack. Stressed plants from clearance racks may disappoint.

Aufdenberg and other MU Extension horticulturists discuss timely gardening issues during the "Weekly Garden Hour" held Wednesdays at noon via Zoom.

Register for the free virtual event and/or ask a gardening question at ipm.missouri.edu/townHalls. Sessions are also livestreamed at www.youtube.com/c/muipm/live.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Cuivre River Electric Announces Youth Tour Winners

Six local high school students will be attending this year's National Youth Tour Conference in Washington, D.C. this summer.

The top six-scoring finalists were Bailey Schneider, Leah Guss, Alexis Kennon, Grayce Knisell and Olivia Ketterer, all of Warrenton High School; and Audrey Lovell, Bowling Green High School.

The final judging was determined during the annual Cuivre River Electric Cooperative Youth Tour Final Competition and Awards Banquet held April 5.

Five other finalists received \$500 college scholarships. They were Daniel Adams, Kaitlin Stumpf, Caleb Stewart, Reese Douglas, all of Liberty High School; and Christine Wehmeyer, Elsberry High School.

Adams and Wehmeyer were named first and second alternate, respectively, in the event one of the delegates

cannot attend the trip.

This year's National Youth Tour will take place June 12-18. The seven-day youth tour provides an action-filled week for delegates, offering them opportunities to visit with representatives from their congressional districts and tour famous monuments, the Smithsonian Institution's museums and Arlington National Cemetery.

Cuivre River Electric fully funds the participation of its delegates. There is no cost to students or families.

Ninety students from seven schools entered the preliminary stage of competition by submitting an essay. The top 12 students won the opportunity to advance to the final competition. In the final stage students took a cooperative knowledge quiz and presented their essays orally.

This year's topic was "My Favorite Cooperative Principle." Scores from all three contest segments were combined to select the delegates

and scholarship recipients.

Since 1964, Cuivre River has sponsored over 200 youth tour delegates for visits to Washington, D.C. More than 54,000 high school students sponsored by the nation's electric cooperatives have participated in the youth tour since the educational leadership program began.

The annual contest is open to high school juniors who live and attend school in Cuivre River's general service area, or who have Cuivre River Electric service in their homes.

For more information contact Tim Schmidt at tschmidt@cuivre.com or 636-695-4837.

Cuivre River Electric Cooperative is the largest member-owned electric cooperative in Missouri, providing electric service to over 70,000 homes and businesses in St. Charles, Lincoln, Warren, Pike and Montgomery counties.



The students who were named as Youth Tour delegates representing Cuivre River Electric Cooperative are, from left, Alexis Kennon (Warrenton), Bailey Schneider (Warrenton), Leah Guss (Warrenton), Grayce Knisell (Warrenton), Audrey Lovell (Bowling Green) and Olivia Ketterer (Warrenton). The delegates will travel to Washington, D.C., this summer.



The students who received \$500 college scholarships were, from left, Daniel Adams (Liberty), Christine Wehmeyer (Elsberry), Kaitlin Stumpf (Liberty), Caleb Stewart (Liberty) and Reese Douglas (Liberty).

MDC To Help You Survive In The Wild With Hunter Class

No one can anticipate the unanticipated, and emergencies rarely announce their arrival beforehand. The best action to take when heading out into the woods, whether it's for hunting, hiking, or camping, is to be prepared.

Anything can happen when out in nature. To help outdoors people be prepared, the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) is holding a virtual Basic Survival Kit for the Hunter program Tuesday, April 18, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The class is free and open to ages nine years and up. It will offer helpful information for all sorts of outdoor adventurers.

"When you go hunting or hiking you should be pre-

pared for the unexpected. This could be anything from getting lost to a pop up storm, or any other situation that may occur causing you to have to spend the night in the woods," said Bryant Hertel, manager at MDC's August A. Busch Shooting range and Outdoor Education Center. The class will be taught by Busch Range staff.

This virtual program will provide a time for hunters or hikers to discuss basic survival items that will help if they were to become lost overnight in the woods. It will discuss the importance of creating a hunt plan in advance, how to put together a basic survival kit, and ways to handle potential emergencies.

Topics like water filtration systems and building a fire in adverse conditions will also be covered.

The virtual Basic Survival Kit for the Hunter program is a free, but advanced online registration is required at <https://short.mdc.mo.gov/4Q6>. Participants will receive an email with a WebEx link approximately 24 hours prior to the program, as well as a reminder email the day of the program. If the emails do not appear in their inbox, participants should check junk/spam folders.

Sign up for email or text alerts to stay informed of MDC's latest programs and events by going to <https://short.mdc.mo.gov/ZoP>.



Louisiana Fire and Police Department Certificates of Appreciation. The above Certificates of Appreciation were recently presented to the Louisiana Fire and Police Departments by DAR Treasurer Elizabeth Wallace of the Pike County DAR Chapter, along with other gifts of appreciation as First Responders in the Louisiana Community.

Louisiana DAR Donates To First Responders

March is the month the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution honors "First Responders."

These are members of the community, men and women, who step up to the plate. They're the "first to respond" to vehicle and farm accidents, fires, ambulance calls, air transport, illnesses, robberies, vandalism and any other emergency situation to serve, rescue and protect our citizens, our town and our properties.

Each of the fire department groups generally meet monthly to stay aware of the most recent information regarding their duties. They attend training sessions and give up family time to be on call at any moment of the day or night—and they "answer" those calls wherever they lead. All "First Responders" must constantly stay up on their training and certifications.

Some of the units depend on donations to keep their equipment current and their safety equipment in top condition. Clarksville fire fighters, for instance, just purchased ten new sets of firefighting suits, helmets, etc. to keep the firemen safe while they do their duty. Those improved and safer suits, which will replace the old suits, came at a price of \$3,000 each. Donations anyone?

During this March and April, Louisiana's Pike County DAR Chapter members visited each First Responder unit bearing gifts of appreciation for all they do for the community.

They took refreshments for the meetings, Certificates of Appreciation and ball point pens imprinted with the DAR name and "Thank you for your service!" The DAR members who were involved this year were: DAR Treasurer Liz Wallace for the Louisiana Fire and Police Departments; DAR Secretary Cindy Blaylock for the Buffalo Volunteer Fire Department.

We Welcome Your Local News

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Pamela Cole

Pamela Cole BC-HIS Receives Award

At the recent virtual Missouri Hearing Society Educational Conference in Springfield Pamela Cole, BC-HIS, a Board Certified Hearing Instrument Specialist with Cole Hearing Center with locations in Bowling Green and Vandalia received the Gold Award for Outstanding Educational Achievement.

The Missouri Hearing Society recognizes those individuals who go beyond the basic continuing education requirements in order to provide superior service to their clients. Pam completed 25.25 hours of continuing education to receive a Gold Award.

Pam has been working in the hearing health care field for the past 39 years.

Cost Of Loving Your Garden Too Much

Sometimes, gardeners take the "if some is good, more must be better" approach, says University of Missouri Extension horticulturist Justin Keay.

But it's possible to shower your garden with too much love in the form of fertilizer, manure and compost. More fertilizer and organic matter won't necessarily produce more flowers or produce, Keay says. In fact, unnecessary fertilizers and amendments can be bad for the wallet, your plants and the environment.

In addition, too much fertilizer or manure in a single application might result in excess salts that can stunt or kill plants. Excess nutrients can increase pollution in our lakes, streams and rivers, harming aquatic life.

A soil test can tell gardeners if they need to add fertilizers or organic matter. Garden soils that have been previously amended and fertilized over the years may have sufficient nutrients already. A soil test also will tell you the soil's pH, a measure of soil acidity or alkalinity.

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