



THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

NEWS FOR PIKE, EASTERN AUDRAIN & NORTHERN LINCOLN COUNTIES

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Bevy Of Biscuits

Rise & Shine Bulk Pre-Orders Extended



Pike County Service Coordinator Penny Dixon receives a donation from Al Himmelsbach during last year's Hardee's Rise & Shine.

A popular Pike County fund-raiser just got even better.

Hardee's in Bowling Green is offering extended bulk pre-orders of \$1 sausage or egg biscuits as part of the Feb. 9 "Rise & Shine" promotion in partnership with Heat Up St. Louis and NECAC.

Customers who order 25 or more biscuits at a time before noon each day through Feb. 8 can pick them up the following morning. Orders must be

made online at www.heatup-stlouis.org and designate the Bowling Green restaurant as the pickup point.

The 24th annual Rise & Shine one-day, in-restaurant event is from 6-10:30 a.m., Friday, Feb. 9, in Bowling Green and at Hardee's restaurants in the St. Louis area.

All proceeds from sales at Bowling Green will stay in Pike County to help income-qualifying elderly, disabled and low-income people pay

utility costs. Heat Up St. Louis organizes the event, which covers 34 Missouri and Illinois counties.

"The Hardee's Rise & Shine event is crucial to assist our low-income neighbors with their winter heating bills," said NECAC Pike County Service Coordinator Penny Dixon. "We are especially glad to see that bulk pre-orders have been extended. We encourage people and businesses to participate as they can."

Last year's Rise & Shine event raised a record \$900,000 in the region. In addition to Pike, NECAC receives funding for Lincoln, Warren and St. Charles counties.

NECAC also contracts with federal and state funding sources to provide assistance for paying utility bills through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LI-HEAP) and the Energy Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP).

Applications are available at www.necac.org or by calling the NECAC Pike County Service Center at 573-324-2207.

Genevieve Clark Makes Social Debut

By Brent Engel
Contributing Writer
She already was known across America, but custom

place in Florida, covering the 18-mile route in 23 minutes.

And the World Baseball Tour featuring games in 44

Clark added hundreds of lovely blossoms," the Evening Star noted.

Women such as Millicent Hearst, wife of newspaper magnate William Randolph Hearst, helped greet visitors. Genevieve's prominent young guests included Madeleine Edison, daughter of inventor Thomas Edison; Laura Graves, whose father, John, had run for vice president; and Helen Cox, daughter of Ohio Gov. James Cox.

A steadfast disposition helped Genevieve attract friends who had an equally strong mindset. Among them were Dorothy Harvey, daughter of New York entrepreneur George Harvey, and Marie Peary, whose father, Robert, was credited as being the first man to reach the North Pole.

The assembly of young debutantes "made a most pretty picture," the Washington Herald observed.

The newspapers knew Genevieve well. She had dramatically campaigned for her father at the 1912 Democratic National Convention, where Champ came within an eyelash of being nominated for president. In 1913, the media darling became a reporter herself. The temperance and women's voting rights advocate traveled extensively and got involved in many political efforts, even though she wouldn't legally be able to cast a ballot for a few more years.

Genevieve put her foot down on more than one occasion, and the societal debut was one of them. She insisted that before stepping out with Washington's aristocrats, she would do something for those in need. So, Genevieve spent the morning helping with a linen drive at a local mission.

Eleven months later, the Clarks would announce Genevieve's engagement to New Orleans newspaper publisher James Thomson, whom she had met at the 1912 convention. The nuptials took place at the Clark home in Bowling Green on June 30, 1915.

Genevieve ran unsuccessfully for Congress in 1924. She died at 86 on Feb. 16, 1981, and is buried in Virginia.



required a more proper introduction.

Nineteen-year-old Pike County native Genevieve Clark made her January 1914 societal debut in Washington, D.C.

The fete featured many adornments typical of such affairs. But as she would often do over the next six decades, the spirited daughter of the third most powerful man in the land would flex her irrepresible will.

It wasn't as if Champ Clark and his wife, also named Genevieve, didn't have anything else to do.

The Speaker of the House of Representatives would soon be dealing with more federal anti-trust protections for consumers. Mrs. Clark was preparing for a convention of the Women's National Democratic League, which she had helped organize.

Other matters were getting attention. Europe was on the brink of a war that would eventually draw in the United States. The first commercial passenger airline flight took

cities across the globe was under way, with the St. Louis Cardinals providing catcher Ivey Wingo and slugger Leopold Christopher Hoernschemeyer — who auspiciously went by the name Lee Magee — to the roster.

Despite all that was going on, the Clarks gladly opened their home at 2401 Massachusetts Avenue NW to enthusiastic guests. The event was the talk of the town.

The Clarks "revived all the old-time glory of the function, besides letting this generation see what the two words meant a score or two of years ago," The Washington Evening Star glowingly wrote.

Genevieve wore a fashionable pink chiffon gown and her mother was decked out in a white satin dress. Champ presumably wore a suit, but since he wasn't the center of attention for a change, the newspapers didn't bother with a description.

"The house was profusely decorated with pink roses, and the flowers sent Miss



The 2024 Clarksville Eagle Days celebration is Jan. 27 and 28. Pictured is Roger Holloway, executive director of World Bird Sanctuary, with McGwire, a male bald eagle, during last year's event.

Clarksville Eagle Days Is Jan. 27-28

By Brent Engel
Contributing Writer
One of the world's richest men said it well.

"If you want to soar like an eagle in life, you can't be flocking with the turkeys," admonished businessman Warren Buffett.

Hundreds of people will rise above life's woes and look skyward during Clarksville Eagle Days Jan. 27 and 28.

Activities take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days in Riverfront Park, the downtown area and The Apple Shed along Highway 79 at the south edge of town. The annual event is sponsored by Raintree Arts Council.

Viewing scopes will be available in the park and free tours of nearby Lock and Dam 24 will be offered every 20 minutes. World Bird Sanctuary will present free live eagle programs on the hour at The Apple Shed both days.

There will also be food, vendors, exhibits, children's activities, business attractions and other festivities. The United Methodist Church is hosting a free soup luncheon from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

On Friday, the Army Corps of Engineers will sponsor a raptor program and conduct tours of the dam for area school students. The

Audubon Society will offer information.

Due to ongoing floodwall construction, visitors to the park will have to use the north access at First and Lewis streets near the dam instead of the south entrance near the boat club.

In addition to the nesting birds, crowds are drawn by small-town hospitality not found at some other eagle-viewing events. Clarksville has fewer than 400 residents, but there's an authentic friendliness that keeps the flocks — the human kind — coming back.

"Clarksville is an easy drive from anywhere," said organizer Linda Blakey. "We are located on the Mississippi River and we have Lock and Dam 24 at our doorstep."

"Clarksville Eagle Days is a wonderful opportunity for people from all over to experience the beauty of eagles in their natural habitat, as well as during the incredible live eagle shows," said Raintree President Mindy Webert. "We are excited to sponsor this event again and hope everyone will join us on Jan. 27 and 28."

A grandmother, Blakey advises to prepare for the weather. "Definitely wear your warmest clothes, and don't forget hats and gloves."

Blakey and her husband, Bill, have volunteered at

community events longer than either can remember.

"We have invested in the town and believe it is worth keeping," she said. "The idea of volunteering is just my nature — trying to do the right thing for people and the town."

Extra hands are always welcome, though. Blakey says too many people don't realize that "unless we work together, we will not survive." It's a circumstance facing many small communities.

Blakey is blunt, but optimistic. Of course, many have found that it's hard to refuse a request from her.

"Everyone wants something, and volunteering is a special way to get things to happen," she said. "There isn't any money in it, just the satisfaction of helping. There are several organizations in this town that can use help. Make a phone call and do it."

While Buffett may be right, perhaps author Lorry Myers offers better guidance. Last year, she penned a piece for Missouri Life magazine about eagles along the Mississippi River. It still holds true.

"Call me sentimental, call me an overzealous patriot, but I am telling you, if you have never seen an eagle fly, you are missing a piece of who you are, and a peace you never knew you needed."

Bowling Green Chamber Holds 52nd Annual Awards Banquet

By Brent Engel
Contributing Writer

The Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce celebrated the city's businesses and organizations at its 52nd Annual Awards Banquet Thursday, Jan. 11.

Held at the Pike County Fairgrounds, the annual event featured live music, a dinner, and the "Best of Bowling Green" awards.

Throughout December, the chamber encouraged the community to nominate and vote for their favorite places in several categories ranging from best retail store to best

place to eat. Those in attendance enjoyed live music from before a dinner catered by Karen's Catering and Freezer Meals.

Chamber President, Karen Arico, welcomed guests and emceed the event with humor and charm before announcing the evening's award winners along with Executive Director, Sarrah Gigous.

Jim Arico was recognized as the 2023 Citizen of the Year for his work with the City of Bowling Green. Kyle Scherder was named 2023 Chamber Board Member of the Year.

Another popular award went to Two Scoops & Backdoor Brick Oven, which was named the best place to eat in the community. The restaurant, known for its authentic friendly staff, ice cream, and pizza, faced tough competition from several of the community's favorite restaurants.

The night's celebration was more than a highlight of some of the best Bowling Green has to offer. It recognized the hard work and dedication of the businesses, organizations, and people that make the city a great place to live, work, and play.

99th Annual Bowling Green Invitational Jan. 22-27, 2024

Bowling Green School District Announces New Superintendent

By Brice Chandler
Editor

Last week, Bowling Green R-I School District released a statement to the community announcing the appointment of Nick Larson as their new Superintendent, effective July 1, 2024.

According to the announcement, Nick Larson has been an invaluable leader dur-

ing his tenure at Community R-VI, where he has demonstrated unwavering dedication to the education and well-being of students. His vision, passion, and commitment have left a lasting mark on the district.

Before coming to Community as superintendent, Larson served as the High School

Principal at Montgomery County and the Athletic Director/Assistant Principal at Centralia prior to that.

Holly Delgman, board president at Bowling Green R-I, expressed excitement about Larson joining their team, stating, "We are thrilled to welcome Nick Larson to the Bowling Green School

District. His proven leadership and commitment to student success make him an ideal fit for our district. We look forward to working together to continue providing exceptional education to our students."

In response to the announcement, Larson expressed gratitude for his time at Community R-VI, saying,

"I am grateful for the incredible experiences and relationships built during my tenure at Community R-VI. While I will miss this community dearly, I am excited about the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead at Bowling Green R-I. I look forward to working collaboratively with the Bowling Green community to continue fostering a

culture of excellence in education." "I would also like to thank my family, specifically my wife, for supporting me on this endeavor."

On Monday, Dec. 8, 2023, Dr. Matt Frederickson announced his accepting the superintendent position for Troy (Lincoln Co. R-3) effective July 1, 2024.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Lincoln County Conservation Agent Offers Guidance For Goose Hunting

Duck hunting in the North Zone may be closed, but waterfowl hunters still have a reason to take to the marshes and wetlands with their shotguns. Hunting geese provides yet another challenge for waterfowl hunters that extends into the spring.

"Goose hunting ensures hunters can continue enjoying time afield," said Lincoln County Conservation Agent, Christine Hibler. "With the unseasonably warm weather this year, geese will be migrating later than normal, hopefully providing ample opportunity to late season goose hunters," she said.

Missouri's goose season runs until Feb. 6. Following that, the 2024 Federal Light Goose Conservation Order will open on Feb. 7 and run until April 30. This offers hunters almost three additional months of waterfowl hunting opportunity. Species open to hunting in Missouri include Canada, greater white-fronted geese, and snow and Ross's geese.

"Those wishing to hunt geese during the remainder of the season should be aware of and follow all current regulations," Agent Hibler reminded hunters.

Hibler said hunters will need to possess a current Missouri small game hunting permit, a migratory bird permit, and a federal waterfowl stamp. Hunters should remember that federal waterfowl stamps must be signed to be valid for hunting. If purchasing an electronic federal stamp, hunters will also need to note the expiration date of that electronic stamp. Once the stamp has expired, they will be required to carry the signed physical stamp which they should have received in the mail.

Hunters will also need to heed the current limits for geese. "The daily limit for Canada geese is three with a possession limit of nine, for greater white fronted geese the daily limit is two with a possession limit of six, for light geese prior to the conservation order the daily limit is 20 with a possession limit of 60," Agent Hibler explained.

As with duck hunting, hunters should note that lead shot is prohibited, and non-toxic shot must be used. If a hunter successfully harvests a goose, the bird must have a fully feathered wing or head attached until the hunter arrives at their domicile. For a more detailed look at waterfowl regulations consult the 2023-2024 Migratory Bird and Waterfowl Hunting Digest.

"This booklet is available either online for viewing and download at <http://short.mdc.mo.gov/4SZ>, or anywhere permits are sold," said Agent Hibler.

The St. Louis region is home to numerous areas that offer public goose hunting opportunities, Agent Hibler said. She recommends BK Leach and Prairie Slough Conservation Areas in Lincoln County. For St. Charles County Hibler suggested Marais Temps Clair or Weldon Spring Conservation Areas. Each area is open to walk in goose hunting. Before heading to an area to hunt, hunters should consult the area brochure for special regulations.

"MDC encourages waterfowl hunters to take advantage of these plentiful hunting opportunities," said Agent Hibler.

"Just take some time to become familiar with the limits and regulations. And above all, practice safety first," she said.



Kristy Taylor

Hannibal Regional Offering Health Support Group

Hannibal Regional is pleased to offer a Health Accountability Support Group.

This free support group is open to anyone and offers a foundation to help implement and maintain healthy lifestyle choices.

Topic areas that will be discussed in the support group will include fitness, nutrition, mental health and so much more.

"This Health Accountability support group is geared to anyone who is interested in making long-term changes to their lifestyle. Many people share that the maintenance phase of healthy habits is the hardest for them. This group offers the environment of people with similar interests to gather and support each other's health journey. With personal commitment and under the accountability of healthcare professionals, this group is designed to support various parts of healthy living. Taking time out of your week to support your own health isn't selfish - it's self-care," shares Kristy Taylor, registered dietitian.

The Health Accountability Support group meets every Thursday from 4:30-5:30 p.m., in the Sunroom, located just inside Hannibal Regional Hospital. Please note, the support group will meet in the Courtyard Café Conference Room on the following dates: 2/1, 2/15, 3/28, 5/30, 6/20, 7/25, 9/26, 10/17 and 12/5.

For more information, please call (573) 629-3382.

Jensen Earns Dean's List

The following students have been named to the fall 2023 dean's list at Southeast Missouri State University.

Breanne Kroencke and Jessica Kroencke from Bowling Green; and Bailey Lawless from Silex.

We Welcome Your Local News

New Link For Join MDC To Talk Turkey During Webcast

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) invites turkey hunters, landowners and managers, and others interested in Missouri's wild turkeys and turkey hunting to its "MDC Wild Webcast on Talkin' Turkey" on Wednesday, Feb. 7, at noon.

MDC Turkey Biologist Nick Oakley and MDC Turkey Habitat Initiative Coordinator Meagan Duffey-Yates will share information on recent changes to turkey hunting regulations for the spring season and proposed regulation changes for the fall seasons. Oakley and Duffey-Yates will also discuss turkey production and harvest trends, MDC's annual brood survey and research findings, habitat loss, and impacts of weather and predators on turkey numbers. They will take questions from webcast attendees as time permits.

Starting this year, spring shooting hours for private land only will be extended from a half-hour before sunrise to sunset. Shooting hours

on public land will remain a half-hour before sunrise to 1 p.m.

Proposed changes to fall turkey hunting would require both fall firearms turkey hunters and fall archery turkey hunters to purchase a fall turkey-hunting permit. Turkeys would no longer be included in the archery-deer permit. The bag limit would be reduced from four to two birds. These proposed changes will be open for public comment from Feb. 2 through March 2.

Register in advance and then join the webcast live on Feb. 7 from noon to 1 p.m. REGISTER

AT <https://mdc.webex.com/mdc/j.php?MTID=m85090423505f6cd4b752e5b00ed6e5c2>

Learn more about Missouri wild turkeys from the MDC online Field Guide at mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/field-guide/wild-turkey

Learn more about turkey hunting in Missouri online at mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/turkey

Eairheart Named To SNHU President's List

Danielle Eairheart of Ellsberry has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's (SNHU) fall 2023 President's List.

The fall terms run from September-December.

SNHU Fall Dean's List

It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Fall 2023 dean's list. The fall terms run from September-December.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 for the reporting term are named to the Dean's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Area students named to the list include: Logan Taylor of Bowling Green; Brandon Brott of Vandalia and Autumn Brott of Vandalia.

SEMO Announces Fall Dean's List

The following students have been named to the fall 2023 dean's list at Southeast Missouri State University.

Breanne Kroencke and Jessica Kroencke from Bowling Green; and Bailey Lawless from Silex.

Columbia College Fall Dean's List

Columbia College recently announced its dean's list for the fall 2023 semester (Aug.-Dec. 2023).

To be named to the dean's list, a student must have completed 12 credit hours in a 16-week period and achieved a minimum GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0-point scale.

Students from the area who received this honor include: Bowling Green - Claire Graver, day campus - Columbia; Victoria Meier, online.

Ellsberry - Kylie Kinsler, day campus - Columbia.

Louisiana - Elaina Butler, day campus - Columbia; Emily Nunan, Day Campus - Columbia.

Silex - Jaclyn Adams, day campus - Columbia.

Vandalia - Mara Jensen, day campus - Columbia.

Wellsville - Makaila Stuart, evening - Columbia.

Kroencke Named To President's List

Breanne Kroencke of Bowling Green has been named to the Southeast Missouri State University President's List for academic achievement during the fall 2023 semester.

Students named to the list earned at least a 4.0 grade point average and completed at least 12 hours of standard graded credit in a semester.

We Welcome Your Local News

How To Handle A Winter Power Outage

To prepare for a potential power outage, make sure you have backup power sources and an emergency plan in the event of a prolonged blackout, say experts.

A massive storm has already caused disruptions across the Midwest and is expected to hit other parts of the U.S. with severe thunderstorms, winds, heavy rain and potentially record-breaking cold throughout the weekend. Western states such as Oregon, Idaho and Nevada can expect heavy snow on Friday and Saturday, with possible snow headed South into the Mid-Atlantic early next week, according to the National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center.

Big winter storms like this one can knock out electrical grids and cause homes to lose access to heat, appliances, the internet and even water. They can even be deadly if they last for several days — people can die from hypothermia in freezing conditions.

pare for a potential power outage, make sure you have backup power sources and an emergency plan in the event of a prolonged blackout. And be aware of potential dangers like carbon monoxide poisoning when using a generator, say experts.

Here are practical actions you can take to protect yourself and your family from the disruption of a power outage.

Know where you are in relation to essential services

If your power goes out, know where you can go to warm up. Find out how close you are to essential services like hospitals and rapid transit. They will often have "priority access" to power in the case of a major outage, says Ana Marie Jones, who works in emergency management, public safety and community resilience for InterPro, a management consulting company.

With prolonged outages, Alyssa Provencio, a professor at the University of Central Oklahoma, recommends leaving your house and finding a warm place to stay, "like a friend's house" who hasn't lost power or "an emergency shelter nearby."

Create a plan for your medical essentials

If you rely on medical devices that run on electricity, like a life-saving ventilator or a CPAP machine, or take medication that requires refrigeration, you'll need a plan to keep those devices running and your medication cold during an outage, says Provencio.

Make sure you have a backup battery to run your medical devices. And keep your medications cold by leaving them in the refrigerator, opening it only when needed.

Stock up on water and non-perishable foods

To ensure you'll have food that's safe to eat, keep nonperishables like canned beans and power bars in your home.

When it comes to water, store at least one gallon of water per person per day for several days.

According to Ready.gov, "the refrigerator will keep food cold for about four hours. A full freezer will keep the temperature for about 48 hours." And if your fridge or freezer temperature reaches 40 degrees or higher, throw out the food.

Although it might be tempting to take advantage of the colder weather and store food outside, the U.S. Department of Agriculture recommends keeping items in the refrigerator during power outages "in any season." Storing food outdoors may expose it to animals and unsanitary conditions, and outside weather may vary.

Obituaries

Kitty Ann McCurdy

Kitty Ann McCurdy, 65, of Middletown died Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024.

A Celebration of Life service to be held on Saturday, Feb. 10 at 2 p.m., at the New Harmony Christian Church, Curryville.

Memorial donations may be made to the family c/o McCoy-Blossom Funeral Homes & Crematory, 701 N. Business Highway 61, Bowling Green, MO, 63334.

The People's Tribune
The Area's ONLY
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PUBLIC AUCTION
Saturday, February 17, 2024, 9 am
KC Hall, 318 N. Sturgeon St., Montgomery City, MO
Lunch will be served.

This auction features the
Collection of John Sitton of Louisiana, MO.

John was a long-time State Farm Insurance Agent and owned the Save-A-Lot Grocery Store in Pittsfield, Illinois. John is 86 years young and has made the decision to sell his **huge collection of coins, guns, ammo, and other items.** There will be over 200 Morgan and Peace Dollars, lots of Silver Half-Dollars; over 500 ozs. of Bullion Silver; 50 Rolls of Unc. Presidential Dollars; many Proof Sets and other Coin Sets-Gold.

There will be an **Outstanding Collection** of Winchester Pump .22 cal. Rifles, Also 8 Remington Nylon 66; a Winchester Model 70 243 Featherlite. John bought a lot of long guns, new and only shot them enough to sight them in. All guns are in mint condition. There will be Browning, Winchester, Remington, Savage, Marlin, Henry and Ruger in long guns. Also a huge collection of Colt, Python, Ruger, S & W, Kimber and many other hand guns John bought new and most are still NIB. Lots of knives and ammo.

Also selling a collection of Aladdin Lamps and Butter Churns—a collection of Cocks, approx 40 pcs. Plus our normal run of other items.

Make plans to attend this huge Collection Auction. Due to security reasons the gun and coin collection will not be on site until morning of auction. We will be open for Preview at 6:30 a.m. We already have 2 other huge collections consigned for our Spring, April 27, 2024 Auction, along with several tractors, trailers, and golf carts already consigned.

If you have items to sell let us know as we are filling up fast.
Thank you for your business in 2023 and we are excited for 2024.
Hauling Services available if needed. Watch papers for full listing.

Girod Family Auctions
Contact us at 573-470-3660 or 573-470-8693.

Call or stop by 420 Hwy 161, Middletown, Mo. if you wish to discuss consignments. Girod Family Auctions is NOT responsible for accidents or theft. Everything sells where is, as is, with all faults. We are agents only. Give us an opportunity and we can earn the rest. Follow us on AuctionZip Number 49777.
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COMMUNITY NEWS

From The Mayor's Desk...

If I were to put out a questionnaire, "You know you're from Bowling Green if..." what would be some of your responses? When I go to Bowling Green School District activities, I see students, parents, grandparents, and fans wearing all types of Bobcat apparel. It makes me even more proud to be associated with the School's various activities and to see our young people and fans involved and supporting our future generations. Bowling Green is an amazing place to live, grow, work, and play. We are a hat wearing community and I'm proud of all the businesses that promote locally with hats, T-shirts, and sweatshirts! Wouldn't it be nice if at our Visitors Center, Champ Clark Honey Shuck House, our Genealogy Society Museum, or even some local stores would sell paraphernalia picturing our War Memorials, Blue Star Marker, the John W. Bayse Monument, our Historic Court House, and our special events like Heritage Day, Christmas in the Green, and special park events, (like the Kaleo Dade Softball Scholarship Tournament and Walk for Life). I am directing this to sell to visitors, tourists, and locals, most specifically to promote our city. What are your thoughts?

I wrote last week that the things we accomplished together in 2023 must continue and even more so in 2024. Goal setting is a great concept but is just words if there is no movement or action that empowers them, putting commitment into action. Wonderful projects can only be achieved by a generous community.

How did Vandalia achieve their Eastern Missouri YMCA and swimming pool? It was by a group of indi-

viduals that came together in one accord to accomplish a vision and a goal and generous citizens that donated their time, talents, and treasures, (finances. land) to accomplish their goal(s).

How did Louisiana obtain their Twin Pike YMCA, Pike County Hospital, and golf course, and a Senior Adult Center? They had individuals who came together, formed a goalsetting commission made up of local citizens who generously gave of their time, abilities, and money to attract these great people-serving opportunities. I look at our ball fields, parks, and a swimming pool, (over 33 years ago) and I can see where Bowling Green has come together to build for the present and the future.

I have written and invited steak houses, Italian restaurants, cinemas/theaters, bowling alleys, Aldi's, and many other franchises but they all require private investments. We have had exercise and sports organizations contact me desiring to build in Bowling Green, but in every case, it takes finances and investments.

Our city alderpersons are trying to care for the infrastructure of our town, but we need finances and citizens to develop "people serving" structures and opportunities. So many parents have asked about a youth center. Many senior adults have inquired about a senior citizens' center. Golfers have asked me about a driving range and/or golf course. We can accomplish so much together. We can make Bowling Green greater at meeting the needs and desires of all ages when we come together with generosity.

2023 Was Likely Earth's Warmest Year On Record, Missouri's Third

September-November 2023 will go down on record as Earth's warmest such period on record, a substantial leap - 0.70 F (0.39 C) - above the previous record from 2015, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The report uses historical climate data going back to 1850.

NOAA says there is a 99 percent chance that 2023 will be the warmest year in 174 years of records.

The average annual temperature in the lower 48 states was 54.43 F, making it the fifth-warmest year on record dating back to 1895, based on data from NOAA's National Center for Environmental Information.

In a record-breaking year with many climate extremes across the globe, Missouri also experienced unusually warm and dry conditions in 2023, says Zack Leasor, University of Missouri Extension state climatologist.

Missouri's average temperature in December was 9.1 F above average. "This continues a streak of 14 consecutive months with above-normal average monthly temperatures in Missouri," Leasor says. "Eleven counties in northern Missouri experi-

enced their warmest December on record. The smallest county in the state, Worth County, in northwest Missouri, was warmest, with temperatures 11.5 F above average," he says.

The statewide average temperature for 2023 was 57.4 F, making 2023 the third-warmest year on record for Missouri going back to 1895 and 2.9 F above the 1901-2000 average, he says.

The same data shows that Missouri's annually averaged daily high temperatures were higher on average (+3.2 F) than daily low temperatures (+2.6 F). Howell and Oregon counties in southern Missouri set the record for their warmest year on record, breaking records from 2012 and 2016, respectively, Leasor says.

Missouri finished the year with 35.89 inches of precipitation, which is 4.61 inches below the state's annual average. 2023 ranked as the 24th driest year on record. Excluding some of the wetter months of the year, the eight-month period of April to November was the seventh driest stretch on record, with the 2023 drought defining the state's growing season.

The only years with drier

growing seasons include some of the most notable drought years in state history: 1901, 1953, 1980, 2012, 1976 and 1930. Thirteen counties ended 2023 with precipitation deficits exceeding 10 inches for the year.

For more information on Missouri's climate, go to <http://climate.missouri.edu>.

Images Graph: Missouri 2023 monthly temperature departures from average.

https://extension.missouri.edu/sites/default/files/legacy_media/wysiwyg/Extensiondata/NewsAdmin/Photos/2024/20240111-climate-4.png

Graph: Missouri 2023 monthly precipitation departures from average.

https://extension.missouri.edu/sites/default/files/legacy_media/wysiwyg/Extensiondata/NewsAdmin/Photos/2024/20240111-climate-1.png

Map: Accumulated precipitation (inches): departure from 1991-2020 normals, Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2023.

https://extension.missouri.edu/sites/default/files/legacy_media/wysiwyg/Extensiondata/NewsAdmin/Photos/2024/20240111-climate-3.png

Yoder Makes Dean's List

Della Yoder of Curryville was named to the dean's list at John Wood Community College.

Students must attain a 3.5 GPA for the semester.

She also received the Spring Start Scholarship.

We Welcome Your Local News

Community Calendar...

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

On Jan. 25: There will be a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Pike County Health Department, Home Health and Hospice Agency at 8:30 a.m., in the conference room at 1 Healthcare Place, Bowling Green.

On Jan. 23: Blood drive at Middletown Baptist Church, 302 Johnson Street from 1-6 p.m. Please visit RedCross-Blood.org and enter Middletown, MO to schedule an appointment.



Della Yoder

State Representative Chad Perkins Report



Rep. Chad Perkins

REP. PERKINS LOOKS FORWARD TO A PRODUCTIVE SESSION

"I am excited and optimistic about the start of the 2024 legislative session," said Rep. Perkins. "I believe we have an opportunity for meaningful progress on several key issues. We are already hard at work and have seen progress on two of my priorities. HB 1774, a workforce development bill that focuses on apprenticeships in the funeral home industry, was referred to committee and had a hearing this week. Rep. Perkins added, "I expect this bipartisan legislation to move quickly this session. Another priority of mine, HB 1769, known as the "Fire Fighters Procedural Bill of Rights" has also been referred to committee and I'm looking forward to presenting that bill next week." Rep. Perkins is also anticipating many of his other priorities to be referred soon and looks forward to continuing this early momentum.

Clarksville VFW, Auxiliary Plan For Eagle Day Weekend

The Clarksville Memorial VFW Post 4610 and Auxiliary finalized plans for the Eagle Day weekend on Jan. 27 and 28.

They will be serving everything at the Elephant Building, dine in and to go orders will be available. Meals of pork steaks, Hamburgers, pork burgers and large hot dogs, choice of two (baked beans, potato salad, slaw), dessert and drink. Sandwiches will also be available.

If weather is permissible they will also be collecting Buddy Poppy donations at the stop sign, for their relief fund for the veterans if not they will have a container set up in the building.

LEGISLATION SEEKING TO MAKE MISSOURI AN OPEN ENROLLMENT STATE GETS ROLLING

The House is once again moving forward with open enrollment legislation that passed the finish line in the previous legislative session before failing to navigate through the Missouri Senate.

The Missouri House Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education heard testimony on HB 1989, a bill that seeks to allow K-12 public schools to choose whether to let students from neighboring school districts enroll in their district. The Public School Open Enrollment Act, as it has been named, aims to enhance educational quality, increase parental involvement, provide access to programs and classes, and align curriculum options with personal beliefs.

Under this proposal, any student beginning kindergarten or already enrolled in a public school may attend a public school in a nonresident district that has opted to participate in the program. The program requires districts to declare participation by December 1st for the following school year, with no obligation to increase resources for transfer applicants.

"This bill allows the 899,000 students in the state of Missouri in the public school system the opportunity to have choice within the very system that their parents pay taxes to," the bill sponsor told the committee.

Special education provisions are outlined, and districts may establish standards for transfers. Students must meet admission requirements to transfer, and will be subject to restrictions on varsity sports participation for the first year. The program initiates in the 2025-26 school year, and districts may limit outgoing transfers based on enrollment percentages. The bill also establishes the Parent Public School Choice Fund with an \$80 million appropriation to support transportation and special needs education for

qualifying students.

PREVENTING VETERAN SUICIDE

The Missouri House Veterans Committee heard testimony on a proposed bill that would task the Missouri Veterans Commission with expanding its work to prevent veteran suicide.

Under HB 1495, the commission would be required to team up with the Missouri Department of Mental Health to provide recommendations and implement measures, programs, treatment options, additional aid, or any necessary assistance to prevent veteran suicide, contingent on available funding. "We have a lot more veterans committing suicide than the general public," the bill sponsor said while presenting his bill to the committee. "Every Missourian can make a difference. It does not really matter what the number is. Just one is too many."

MOBUCK\$ BILL PRIMED TO MOVE FORWARD

The Missouri House Committee on Financial Institutions is reviewing legislation advocating for increased funding for the highly valuable MOBUCK\$ program, designed to assist local lenders in reducing interest rates for eligible buyers in the state. Through MOBUCK\$, lenders can lower interest rates by 2-3 percent, with over 140 lenders in the state participating, enabling qualified borrowers to enjoy these savings.

House Bill 1803 proposes increasing the program's annual budget from the current \$800 million to \$1.2 billion, responding to the overwhelming popularity of the program. The program, which reopened on January 2 after a pause in May of the previous year, garnered significant attention. State Treasurer Vivek Malek reported receiving 142 applications totaling more than \$119 million within six hours of reopening. The bill sponsor highlighted that borrowers, initially facing a 10 percent interest rate, could see their loan rates reduced to as much as 6.5 or 7 percent by utilizing this program.

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NOTICE

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NO HUNTING

NO HUNTING/TRESPASSING on land belonging to Clarissa Woods. Violators will be prosecuted. Will not be responsible for accidents on property. (tf)

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Job duties include supervision of direct care employees, scheduling of employees, oversight of all needs of individuals with development disabilities, maintaining homes and documents to comply with Missouri Department of Mental Health and Medicaid Waiver Standards. Applications can be completed at 5 Industrial Drive, Bowling Green, MO. Please submit resume when completing application. For questions or further information, please call 573-324-3580, ext. 112.

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COMMUNITY NEWS



Tribute To All Veterans

Mike Kurz of Frankford honored his brother-in-law Ronnie Kelly with a Christmas present that will never be

forgotten.

Kurz had this American Flag painted on his barn as a

tribute to Kelly who was shot four times while serving in the Vietnam War.

The painting is available for any veteran or anyone to view on Route C, five miles west of Frankford.

The building is lit up at night for those viewing it in the dark.

Kelly is known for providing flags for anyone wanting one throughout the area.

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Everyone
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