



# THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

NEWS FOR PIKE, EASTERN AUDRAIN & NORTHERN LINCOLN COUNTIES

FREE

Published Every Tuesday • Vol. 27 - No. 29 • Tuesday, May 21 2024 • Online at [www.thepeopletribune.com](http://www.thepeopletribune.com)

## Van-Far Indians Are Class 2 District 5 Baseball Champs

BY BRICE CHANDLER  
EDITOR

The Van-Far Indians along with new Head Baseball Coach, Cameron Huff snagged a 12-6 win over (9-11 Sturgeon for the Class 2 District 5 title.

The Indians went into the district tournament looking to break a six-game losing streak, and that's exactly what they did with a big opening round win over Louisiana. They followed that up with their toughest match of the tournament against Clopton,

where they held on for a 12-10 win.

The championship match hosted by Silex High School was postponed due to rain and eventually moved to Mexico High School.

Prior to the final game, the Indians had already made huge advancements with an 8-11 record after only winning six games since their 2018 District Championship run.

They were determined to show fans they could do it again and rallied back after

trailing Sturgeon 2-0 in the first two innings.

With Reece Culwell on the mound, the Indians kept Sturgeon from extending their early lead.

From there, Gage Gibson made a head-first slide into home plate on ground ball by Tyson Douglas putting their first run on the board. He then bunted home another run to even up the score.

Culwell went on to strike out seven batters and only allowed five runs (eight hits and two walks) for six innings

before Gibson Condie took over for the last inning.

Carson Huff ramped up the Van-Far dugout after making a big two-RBI single in the fourth, allowing the Indians to take the lead.

This is Van-Far's first district championship since 2018.

Van-Far will take on the 18-6 District 6 champions Schuyler County on Monday, May 20, after this week's publication deadline. Check our social media page for updates.



### CHS Valedictorian, Salutatorian

Pictured are, from left, are the 2024 Clopton High School valedictorian Chase Hall and Salutatorian Brayden Noah.

Trib Photo by Kimberly Chandler

## Clopton Alum Receives National Football Foundation Outstanding Scholar Athlete Award

BY BRICE CHANDLER  
EDITOR

2020 Clopton graduate, Shawn Yates, was recently honored by the National Football Foundation as an outstanding scholar athlete. He received the award and was a guest speaker at the Missouri Athletic Club in St. Louis.

Yates currently attends Washington University's pre-med program and has played defensive back for the Bears since 2020.

"I'm very honored to have won the National Football Foundation College Scholar-Athlete Award, and I think being a part of the Clopton Men's Basketball program put me in the position I was in to receive this award," he said. "The award is based on athletics performance, academic achievement, and school leadership; all qualities that the Clopton Basketball program helped me prioritize and develop before I ever went to college. I believe the culture I was a part of at a Clopton basketball player prepared me to be qualified for this award based on excellence in various areas of my college experience."

The NFF National Scholar-Athlete Awards were established in 1959 as the first initiative in history to honor scholar-athletes with post-

graduate scholarships for their combined athletic, academic and leadership abilities. Early NFF leader and College Football Hall of Fame coach Col. Earl "Red" Blaik provided the funds for the first scholarships.

During the past 65 years, the NFF National Scholar-Athlete Awards have truly become one of the most prestigious academic honors in all of college sports, distributing \$12.3 million to 906 outstanding individuals since its inception.

He received the award and was a guest speaker at the Missouri Athletic Club in St. Louis.

Recipients are nominated by their schools, which are limited to one nominee each. Candidates must be either a senior player, who will complete his final year of eligibility during the current season or a graduated player who has been enrolled in school at least three (3) years (even if he has remaining eligibility);

Not only do the nominees need to have outstanding football ability, they must also have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.2 and display exemplary leadership on the field, classroom, and within the community.

The NFF National Scholar-Athlete Class Presented by

Fidelity Investments is selected each year by the NFF Awards Committee, which is comprised of a nationally recognized group of media, College Football Hall of Fame inductees and athletics administrators. The committee traditionally selects 12-15 scholar-athletes from across the country for these prestigious \$18,000 postgraduate scholarships, and they consider candidates from all levels of college football, including the Football Bowl Subdivision, Football Championship Subdivision, Division II, Division III and the NAIA, in making their selections.

In addition to their \$18,000 postgraduate scholarship, each member of the NFF National Scholar-Athlete Award also becomes a finalist for the prestigious William V. Campbell Trophy.

Past recipients have used their postgraduate scholarships to set the standard for excellence in our society, earning more than 155 medical degrees, 105 law degrees, 80 MBAs and 45 PhDs. Others have used the financial backing to enhance their successful careers in finance, consulting and engineering. Continuing their excellence on the field, more than 250 re-

cipients have played in the NFL with an average career of six seasons or double the length of a typical NFL player.

A total of 41 former National Scholar-Athletes have been inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame and seven are in the Pro Football Hall of Fame: Tony Boselli (Southern California), Derrick Brooks (Florida State), Dave Casper (Notre Dame), Peyton Manning (Tennessee), Merlin Olsen (Utah State), Lee Roy Selmon (Oklahoma) and Steve Young (BYU). Past recipients also include 13 Rhodes Scholars and six Heisman Trophy winners.

Past Scholar-Athletes have made it big in a variety of fields, including UCLA's Mark Harmon, an actor and film producer; Texas Tech's Kliff Kingsbury, the head coach of the Arizona Cardinals; and Richmond's Leland Melvin and Illinois' Michael Hopkins, NASA astronauts. NFF National Scholar-Athletes who became NFL stalwarts include Drew Brees, Derek Carr, Kirk Cousins, Doug Flutie, Joey Galloway, Randy Gradishar, Brian Griese, Jeff Hostetler, Bradie James, Eli Manning, Johnny Musso, Jonathan Vilma and Wesley Walls.



### VFHS Valedictorian, Salutatorian

Pictured are, from left, are the 2024 Van-Far High School valedictorian McKenna Engh-Hoffman and Salutatorian Caitlin Allen.

Trib Photo by Nancy Case

## A Heartfelt Thank You For EMS Week

BY BRICE CHANDLER  
EDITOR

May 19-25 marks the 50th anniversary of National EMS Week. It's a time to show our gratitude toward EMTs and paramedics who provide life-saving care across the nation every day. According to the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians, EMS Week is also a time to educate the public about EMS, and the essential service we provide to communities.

For one local man, it was also an opportunity to thank the people who saved his life.

"Thank you guys," 78-year-old Gary Patton told the gathered EMTs outside of Pike County Memorial Hospital. "I appreciate everything you've done for me. I don't

think I would be here if it hadn't been for you all getting me started out on the right track."

The group of EMTs took a break from training to meet with Gary for the first time since the foggy Jan. 24 ambulance ride.

On Jan 20, Gary slipped and struck his head on a patch of ice. It was his first major accident and led to his first ride in an ambulance; although Gary admitted, he didn't remember any of it.

But it's a day his wife Gavaughna Patton and daughters will likely never forget.

"It was scary," Gavaughna said. The fall resulted in Gary receiving eight staples in his head. "He was kind of dizzy and didn't really feel good. We thought that was probably

normal."

But Gary's symptoms grew worse four days later and their daughter relayed a warning from another family whose father had a similar accident. An accident that resulted in a nearly fatal brain bleed.

"That person said we needed to get an ambulance and get him to a neuro hospital right away," Gavaughna said. "So, we called, and the EMTs were there within minutes. They were wonderful. They were going to take him right where he needed to go."

But on the way to St. Louis University Hospital, Gary's condition took a turn for the worse.

"They called and said we're going to divert to Lake St. Louis," his wife explained.

"We didn't realize at the time, but he had quit breathing twice. They kept him alive until they got to the hospital to where they stabilized him."

They would later find out that Gary was suffering from a severe brain bleed. One that they caught just in time, and thanks to the highly skilled ambulance crew, were able to treat on the way to the hospital.

Continued To Next Week

**Early  
Deadline For  
Memorial  
Day  
Thursday At  
Noon**

## Senior Awards Presented To Van-Far Graduates

Van-Far senior awards were given out on Tuesday, May 14.

DAR Good Citizen - Carmen Wilburn.

DAR Scholarship - \$500 - Carmen Wilburn.

FCS Financial Scholarship - \$1,500 Clara Wallace

Vandalia Shelter Insurance Scholarship - \$1,500 - Carter Jennings.

Vandalia Area Fair Board Association Scholarship (Tom Culwell Memorial) - \$500 - Carter Jennings, Gage Gibson, and Carmen Wilburn.

Audrain Agribusiness - \$1,000 - Carmen Wilburn.

First Baptist Church - \$1,000 - Brooke-Lyn Forman, Nicolas Forman, and Katelyn Pargeon.

United Credit Union - \$1,000 - McKenna Engh-

Hoffman.

Consolidated Cares - \$1,500 - Katelyn McCurdy.

Michael Deppe Memorial - \$800 - Jayden Kurz.

Van-Far Alumni & Friends - Cindy Pirch Renewable - \$5,000 - Katelyn McCurdy.

VFW Post #2173 & Auxiliary - \$300 - Clara Wallace, \$250 - Katelyn Pargeon.

Les Nelson Memorial - \$1,000 - Gage Gibson, Clara Wallace, and Carmen Wilburn.

Vandalia Rotary Club - \$1,000 - McKenna Engh-Hoffman Farmers & Laborers - \$1,000 Carmen Wilburn.

VFW #3772 - \$2,500 - Gage Gibson, Carter Jennings, Katelyn Pargeon.

MACC Superintendent - \$300 - Richard Hayden, and Jayden Kurz.

Ralls County Farm Bureau

- \$500 - Clara Wallace.

Central Bank of Audrain County - \$500 - Caitlin Allen.

Tom Culwell Memorial - \$500 - Gage Gibson.

Vandalia Area Chamber of Commerce - \$500 - Kristen Shaw, and Carmen Wilbur.

Charlotte Schwab Student Council - \$300 - Emily Hansen, Katelyn Pargeon, and Carmen Wilburn.

Red Cross - \$250 - Jesse Kaufman Character Plus Good Citizen & Courtesy - \$250 - Gage Gibson, and Katelyn Sutton.

G. H. Dudley - \$645 - McKenna Engh-Hoffman, Carter Jennings, Kristen Shaw.

Shad Talbert Memorial - \$250 - Gage Gibson.

Alethea Club in Memory of Shad Talbert and Elizabeth

Long - \$250 - Carter Jennings.

Griffin Family Foundation - \$2,000 (renewable): Gage Gibson, Kristen Shaw, and Carmen Wilburn.

Van-Far Teacher's Assn. - \$500 - Caitlin Allen, Jesse Kaufman, Gage Gibson, Ashlynn Maiden Katelyn Pargeon, and Carmen Wilburn.

A+ Graduates: Caitlin Allen, Nikos Conaway, Tylee DeTienne, McKenna Engh-Hoffman, Brooke-Lyn Forman, Nicolas Forman, Kempker Franke, Cay Galloway, Gage Gibson, Emily Hansen, Domicnic Hartley, Jacob Holtkamp, Nova Hurd, Jesse Kaufman, Jayden Kurz, Ashlynn Maiden, Katelyn McCurdy, Katelyn Pargeon, Dylan Preston, Kristen Shaw, Katelyn Sutton, Clara Wallace, Carmen Wilburn.

Century Tutors - Katelyn McCurdy, Katelyn Pargeon, Kristen Shaw, Clara Wallace, and Carmen Wilburn.

Raymond & Genevieve Culwell - \$3,600 (renewable) - Caitlin Allen, Nikos Conaway, McKenna Engh-Hoffman, Gage Gibson, Ashlynn Maiden, Katelyn McCurdy, Kristen Shaw, and Carmen Wilburn.

Jefferson Leon & Dorothea Hays - \$1,000 - Caitlin Allen, Nikos Conaway, McKenna Engh-Hoffman, Gage Gibson, Emily Hansen, Nova Hurd, Carter Jennings, Jayden Kurz, Ashlynn Maiden, Katelyn McCurdy, Andrew Myers, Katelyn Pargeon, Kristen Shaw, Katelyn Sutton, Clara Wallace, and Carmen Wilburn.

A.C. Mary Stotler - \$1,500 - Carmen Wilburn.

Clithero Family Scholarship - \$1,200 - Katelyn McCurdy, and Carmen Wilburn.

Weldon Peter Steiner - \$2,000 - Katelyn McCurdy.

Velton & Vita Vance Memorial - \$4,500 - Katelyn McCurdy.

Bertram Cowley Memorial - \$250 - McKenna Engh-Hoffman.

Kenneth Gregg Agriculture - \$1,000(renewable) - Gage Gibson.

Outlaw Truck & Tractor - \$1,500 - Katelyn McCurdy.

URG Trade Scholarship - \$6,500 - Katelyn Pargeon.

Automotive Recyclers Assn. - Katelyn Pargeon.

MO Youth In Ag - \$1,500 - MO Cattlemen's - \$1,000; VFFA Alumni - \$250 - Clara Wallace

# Community News



## BOWLING GREEN

Bowling Green High School held graduation for the Class of 2024 on Saturday, May 18. The ceremony was held in the high school gymnasium. Pictured are top 10 percent of the 2024 graduating class, from left: Hannah Post, Bethany Perry, Lillian Bowen, Karlee Miller, Audrey Lovell, Mackenzie Brawley, Delaney Feldmann, and Isabella Fairchild.

Trib photo by Jerry Hickerson



## CLOPTON

Clopton High School held graduation for the Class of 2024 on Sunday, May 19. The ceremony was held in the high school gymnasium. Pictured are members of the 2024 graduating class.

Trib photo by Kimberly Chandler



## SILEX

Silex High School held graduation for the Class of 2024 on Sunday, May 19. The ceremony was held in the high school gymnasium. Pictured are members of the 2024 graduating class.

Photo contributed by Silex School District / Kayla Norton



## VAN-FAR

Van-Far High School held graduation for the Class of 2024 on Sunday, May 19. The ceremony was held in the high school gymnasium. Pictured are members of the 2024 graduating class.

Trib photo by Nancy Case

## SNHU Announces Winter 2024 President's List

It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the winter 2024 President's List. The winter terms run from January-May.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the president's list. Full-time status is achieved by earning 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 and Autumn Brott, formerly of Vandalia.

## Klein Graduates From Cumberlands

All members of the University of the Cumberlands family wish to congratulate Jenna Klein of Olney on their graduation from the university. Well done, Patriot.

Just under 6,000 students make up this year's graduating class. Approximately 170 graduates completed an associate degree, 1,250 finished a

bachelor's degree, 3,770 received a master's degree, 270 completed an educational specialist degree, and 530 earned a doctoral degree. Graduates represented many different ages, ethnicities, backgrounds, and cultures, but they all now have one thing in common: they made it.

## Drury Announces Day School Spring 2024 Dean's List

Earning a spot on Drury University's Dean's List is a significant accomplishment.

The recognition means a student earned a grade point average of 3.6 or greater (on a 4-point scale) while carrying a full-time course load of 12 or more semester hours at Drury, a top Midwestern uni-

versity, according to US News & World Report and The Princeton Review.

In the spring semester, the following student(s) made the day school dean's list:

Jolene Hollensteiner of Martinsburg, Community R-VI High School.

## Learn About Hummingbirds At May 22 MDC Virtual Program

People are fascinated by hummingbirds. The way they dart and hover around feeders and some native flowering plants is truly remarkable.

People can learn about hummingbirds at the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) virtual program "Naturalist Notes: Hummingbirds" on Wednesday, May 22. This free online program will be from 6-7 p.m., and is being put on by the staff at MDC's Springfield Conservation Nature Center. It is suggested for ages 10-adult. People can register at: <https://mdc-event-web.s3.amazonaws.com/Event/EventDetails/200228>

At the May 22 program,

MDC Naturalist Morgan Wyatt will discuss the annual life cycle of a hummingbird and will talk about native plants that attract these pollinators (as well as other native pollinating birds and insects). She will also have information on how to maintain hummingbird feeders throughout the summer. The May 22 program is part of an ongoing series of Springfield Nature Center programs in which MDC naturalists highlight some of their favorite topics.

Though this program is free, registration is required to participate. Use the link above. Registrants must provide an e-mail, so a program link can be sent to them. This

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

People can stay informed about upcoming programs at MDC's Springfield Conservation Nature 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 nature center can call 417-888-4237.

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](http://mdc.mo.gov/events).

## Early Deadline For Memorial Day Thursday, May 23 at noon

## FREE SPORTS PHYSICALS



May 31, 2024  
3:00 pm - 7:00 pm

**\*Appointments are required\***  
**HRMG in Bowling Green**

8 Town Center Drive, Bowling Green

**Parental consent are required.** Forms are available on the MSHSAA website or at the Bowling Green clinic. Please bring the completed and signed form to your appointment.

Call **(573) 324-2241** to schedule a free sports physical.



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Bowling Green

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## Public Auction

Saturday, June 8 - 10 a.m.

1416 S. Carolina St. - Louisiana, MO 63353

**REAL ESTATE SELLS AT NOON:** 2-3 bedroom, 1 bathroom, living room & family room, enclosed front porch.

The property can be viewed by contacting Bill at 573-470-6565 to set up a viewing time.

**Terms on Real Estate:** \$ 10,000.00 non-refundable down the day of Auction. Closing will be in approximately 30 days of signing contract. Must have bank letter of approval. This Property is sold as is. Owners reserve the right to accept or reject final bid.

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**BILL ALLEN AUCTION SERVICE - Bowling Green - 573-470-6565**

# Community News

## Gourds: Swiss Army Knife Of The Planet World

Our ancestors couldn't go to the hardware store or shopping mall to buy utensils and other household essentials. Instead, they improvised with items found in nature. The dried fruit of several members of the cucumber family proved useful for many purposes, said University of Missouri Extension horticulturist David Trinklein.

We call these plants gourds, and they may be among the first domesticated plant species, dating back as early as 13,000 B.C.

Members of the genus *Lagenaria* produce white flowers that open at night and have soft, delicate foliage. Most bear fruit that have thick, hard shells when dried. This makes them useful for items such as ladles, dippers, spoons and containers. Native Americans made gourds into birdhouses to attract purple martins, which helped with insect control.

The fibrous interior of gourds from the genus *Luffa* has been used for items as diverse as oil filters, life preservers, scrubbing sponges (called "luffas" or "loofahs"), hats and upholstery.

Most of the colorful gourds people use for autumn decoration belong to the genus *Cucurbita*. They are close relatives of pumpkin. Members of this genus produce yellow flowers that open during the day and have coarser foliage than the white-flowered types. Examples include the pear, egg, orange, spoon, bicolor and warty gourds.

Like most cucurbits, gourds are a warm-season crop. Outdoor planting should be delayed until danger of frost has passed, and soil and air temperatures have warmed. Gourd seeds may rot before germinating if planted in cold, wet soils. For those varieties that take a long time to mature, starting seeds indoors can help to assure success of the crop.

Gourds prefer a sunny, well-drained site. The soil should be enriched with organic matter, such as compost, composted manure or peat moss, and prepared thoroughly. It is best to base fertilizer applications on soil test results. However, a general recommendation is to apply 2-3 pounds of fertilizer with a 1:2:2 ratio (e.g. 5-10-10) per 100 square feet of garden area.

When planting gourds, space seeds or transplants 2 feet apart in rows separated by 5 feet. Alternatively, gourds can be planted in hills 4 feet apart in rows separated by 7 feet. If the hill method is used, thin to two plants per hill. Gourds produce vigorous vines that adapt well to a trellis, fence or other type of support. Trellising helps to prevent fruit from forming areas of discoloration that can occur if allowed to come in contact with the ground.

By late summer, gourds should be growing rapidly and require adequate water to encourage vigorous growth. Weed control is important since they compete for water and soil nutrients. Gourds have relatively shallow root systems.

Cucumber beetles can be a troublesome pest on gourds. They serve as a primary vector for bacterial wilt, which can quickly kill vines. Additionally, when they feed on the surface of developing fruit, they cause discolored, brown areas to form, rendering the gourd unattractive.

Harvest small ornamental gourds as soon as rinds mature and harden. Cut them from the main vine, allowing a small portion of the stem to remain attached. Fresh gourds need to cure for several weeks in a warm, dry area with good air circulation. After curing, dip or coat them with a household disinfectant to prevent storage diseases. A light coat of wax also protects them

from disease and gives them an attractive sheen.

Leave the hard-shelled gourds on the vines until vines die or freeze in late fall. "Freezing will not harm mature gourds but will cause immature ones to collapse," said Trinklein. "Immature gourds are of or little value, since they do not cure well."

Store hard-shelled gourds in a warm, dry area to cure. For most types, curing takes about four months. Curing is finished when the seeds inside the gourd rattle when shaken. The gourd can then be sanded, sawed, painted or polished or have whatever is necessary done to them to make them into useful or decorative items.

"For adventuresome gardeners, saving seeds from gourds can be interesting," said Trinklein. Cucurbits freely cross-pollinate, so seeds saved from gourds grown in the garden will likely produce fruit of different shapes, sizes and colors. "More likely than not, very few of the offspring will resemble the fruit from which the seed was saved."

**Gourd trivia**  
• In the early 1800s, gourds were used as currency for a time in Haiti. Even today, Haiti's basic unit of currency is called the gourde.

• The papery, winged seed of the climbing gourd has a wingspan 5 five inches. It reportedly inspired the design of early aircraft and gliders.

• According to Guinness World Records, the world's longest gourd grew in China in 2008. It measured an astonishing 14 feet, 11 inches.

• East Africans often give gourds with picture stories carved on them as wedding gifts.

• Ricky Ricardo's bongo drum in the television sitcom "I Love Lucy" was made from a zucca gourd. The zucca gourd frequently grows to 50 pounds or more.

## Hosta Steps Out Of The Shadows In 2024

Perhaps no plant brightens a shady area more than hosta, said University of Missouri Extension horticulturist David Trinklein. The hardy perennial that thrives in shade is low-maintenance and easy to grow.

"It is little wonder, then, why hosta was selected by the National Garden Bureau as its Perennial of the Year for 2024," said Trinklein. Its lush foliage comes in a variety of sizes, shapes, colors and variegation. Hosta is one of a few plants that brings attractive color to the shadiest of garden corners.

Horticulturists estimate there are more than 4,000 cultivars of hostas, he said. They range from miniatures such as "Baby Bunting" and "Tiny Tears," which are several inches in diameter when mature, to giants such as "Sum and Substance" and "Emperor Wu," with a height and spread of 48 inches.

Hostas usually fall into one of five categories based on height or leaf color, Trinklein said. These are dwarf, edger, ground cover, background and specimen-hostas of any height with colorful or unique leaves.

Leaf color varies between solid colors of green, blue and yellow, or variegated in any combination of these colors. Most variegated cultivars bear dark leaves with light or colored edges. A few cultivars are viridescent, changing from lighter to darker shades during the growing season. Others are lutescent and change from green to yellow. A very few change from yellow to white, a trait known as albescence.

Hostas also can be classified according to their leaf shape (strap, lance, egg, heart and circular) and leaf surface (flat, rugose, cupped-rugose, wavy undulate, contorted, picrust or furrowed).

Like daylilies, hostas bear a compound inflorescence known as a scape. Individual flowers on the spike are lavender or white, depending upon cultivar. Some flowers are delightfully fragrant, adding further appeal to this attractive plant, said Trinklein.

Although most consider hosta a shade plant, relatively few cultivars thrive in deep, heavy shade. Most prefer several hours of morning sun followed by afternoon shade, or broken patches of dappled sunlight. Hostas' aggressive roots compete well with the roots of most tree species.

Generally, blue-leafed cultivars need a shadier exposure. Green- and yellow-leafed cultivars can tolerate more sun.

Most sun-tolerant cultivars will exhibit some leaf-edge burn if exposed to afternoon sun and Midwestern summer heat.

Some hosta cultivars take years to develop into a mature clump. Therefore, good soil preparation is a sound investment. Hostas prefer rich loam soil high in organic matter and slightly acidic. Good drainage also is important. Mix about 4 inches of organic matter deeply into the soil to prepare average soil. Well-rotted manure, compost, leaf mold or peat are good sources of organic matter. Plant in a 12-inch-deep hole that is 1 1/2 times the cultivar's mature diameter.

Divide dormant hostas for more plants, or buy established plants in nursery containers. To plant, remove the hosta from its container and free any tangled roots. Put the plant in the hole so that soil covers the roots at the same level as they were in the nursery container. Remember that soil settles when watered. If planting dormant divisions, soak the roots in water for about 30 minutes before planting. Always water thoroughly after planting.

Gardening experts disagree about the need to fertilize hostas. Some insist that most garden soils contain sufficient nutrients, making additional fertilizer unnecessary. Others maintain that hostas need more fertilizer. This group says to add a granular, complete fertilizer such as 12-12-12 or 5-10-5 early in spring, followed by two more applications about six weeks apart. Apply according to label directions and consider the cultivar's stature and vigor. Do not fertilize hostas after mid-July. This could stimulate late-season growth and prevent the plant from hardening for winter, Trinklein said.

Hostas need about 1 1/2 inches of water per week during summer. Burned leaf tips and drooping leaves are a telltale sign of too little water. If extra irrigation is required, water early in the morning to allow leaves to dry quickly.

Increase your hosta numbers

dividing the clump early in the spring when the shoots start to emerge from the soil. Most cultivars need about five years of undisturbed growth to establish the clump.

Slugs and snails typically chew small, round holes to feed on the leaves of plants. They leave a dried trail of slime as they move from one spot to another. Control slugs and snails by using poison baits containing measurool, metaldehyde or iron phosphate. Place pans filled with beer in the garden. Pests will crawl into the pan and drown. Deer also love hostas. Repellents, electrical fences, guard dogs and motion detectors control deer, to greater or lesser effectiveness.

Other than foliar nematodes, hostas are relatively disease-free. Hosta virus X (HVX) is a relatively new virus that has been getting a lot of publicity as of late, said Trinklein. Cultivars with light-colored leaves may show blue or green markings that usually follow the vein of the leaf into the surrounding tissue. This results in a mottled appearance. Leaves also may look lumpy or puckered.

Symptoms on cultivars with dark-colored leaves are harder to detect and may appear as light-colored mottling instead of colored streaks. HVX spreads by mechanically transferring from an infected plant to a healthy one, especially during propagation. There is no cure, and gardeners should rogue out infected plants, Trinklein said.

It is difficult to choose which of the 4,000 hosta cultivars to plant. Look for a cultivar that has won an award given by the American Hosta Society or the American Hosta Growers' Hosta of the Year Award, said Trinklein. "Once considered a 'green filler' for shady areas, hostas are now the stars of shady landscapes," he said.

Learn more about hostas on the American Hosta Society website at [www.hosta.org](http://www.hosta.org).

## Navigating Breast Cancer Care With Hannibal Regional

A breast cancer diagnosis can be shocking and scary.

Many patients and their families feel overwhelmed during the diagnosis process, but having someone to guide patients through their journey can make all the difference.

At Hannibal Regional, we recognize the importance of support and guidance, which is why we have a dedicated radiology nurse navigator on-site to assist patients every step of the way.

The complexity of breast cancer care often involves multiple physicians and caregivers. Nurse navigators act as the glue that brings all these pieces together, ensuring that patients receive seamless and compassionate care. The Radiology Nurse Navigator attends appointments with patients including biopsies, further imaging, and surgeries.

Patients benefit from having a familiar face at these procedures to help make them feel more comfortable. Often, the Nurse Navigator will take notes for the patient at appointments, as some information can be overwhelming. They then are able to discuss notes, questions, medications, and any fears they may have with the nurse navigator.

Radiology Nurse Navigator, Keegan Harvey, works closely with patients going through a breast cancer journey. Keegan shares, "Every patient is different and has different needs, but one thing all patients need is to know they have someone in their corner to help take care of them. I never want a patient to leave feeling they are not important or what they are going through is unnoticed. I am here to be their advocate, friend, and supporter through their journey."

When a patient chooses Hannibal Regional Hospital for breast screenings, they are receiving individualized care from a team of award-winning specialists. Hannibal Regional Hospital is proudly recognized by the American College of Radiology as a Designated Comprehensive Breast Imaging Center. Using

a variety of state-of-the-art imaging technology, Hannibal Regional Hospital provides a comprehensive diagnostic Women's Imaging department that offers rapid response to the needs of patients.

With early detection being a key component to a positive outcome in breast cancer, Hannibal Regional is offering a special price on 3D mammograms in honor of Women's Health Month. Patients who do not have health insurance or whose insurance

is currently not accepted at Hannibal Regional may receive a special price for a 3D mammogram during the month of May.



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Louisiana  
573-754-3453  
TJenkins@ShelterInsurance.com  
**Frank Wallace**  
610 W Hwy 54  
Vandalia  
573-594-2235  
FEWallace@ShelterInsurance.com

# Obituaries



## Bonnie Sue Ingram

Bonnie Sue Ingram, 90, of Bowling Green died Sunday, May 12, 2024, at Lynn's Heritage House in Louisiana.

Funeral services for Bonnie will be held Tuesday (today) at 10 a.m., at Second Baptist Church in Bowling Green with Pastor Mark West and Pastor Don Amelung officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Bowling Green.

Visitation was Monday from 4-8 p.m., at Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Bowling Green.

Bonnie was born Dec. 21, 1933 in Bowling Green to Purley Lee and Nellie Inlow Lewis. She was united in marriage to Donald Zane Ingram on June 30, 1951. Donald preceded her in death on Nov. 30, 1999.

Bonnie grew up around McCune Station and lived in the Bowling Green area her entire life. On Jan. 1, 1954, Bonnie and Donald began Ingram Plumbing, where she worked for over 50 years.

Bonnie was a member of the Second Baptist Church in Bowling Green where she was a Sunday school teacher and served on the executive board of Salt River Baptist Association. Bonnie enjoyed her family; especially her grandchildren. She also enjoyed reading, mowing the lawn, going to the family farm, and studying genealogy. She took joy in lifting others up in prayer. She was an avid supporter of Hannibal LaGrange University as a donor and as a friend. Bonnie was known as a good cook, and everybody loved her chocolate chip cookies. She liked to travel and had taken trips to Alaska, Mexico City, and several mission trips.

Bonnie is survived by three sons, Roger Ingram and wife, Sharon of Bowling Green, Bob Ingram and wife, Letha of Bowling Green, and Donnie Ingram and wife, Gail of Bowling Green; one daughter, Debbie Ingram of Bowling Green; grandchildren, Tina Sprague and husband, Rodney, Amber James and husband, Cory, Ginger Summers and husband, Justin, Derek Ingram and wife, Katie, Ryne Ingram and wife, Lauren, Whitney Smith and husband, Chris, Ashley Ingram and Moya Bennani, and Alyssa Deushane and husband, Daran; 18 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; brother-in-law, James Ingram; sister-in-law, Barbara Jenkins; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family.

Bonnie was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Donald; brothers, John Henry Lewis and Oris Lee Lewis; and sisters, Mary Frances Taylor and Shirley J. Hickerson.

Pallbearers will be Derek Ingram, Ryne Ingram, Dustin Bird, Dylan Bird, Johnny Lewis, Matt Taylor, and Ethan Martin. Honorary pallbearers will be Gary Taylor, Archie Taylor, Steve Lewis, Marvin Taylor, and Jeff Hickerson.

Memorials may be made to Second Baptist Church of Bowling Green or Hannibal LaGrange University.

Online condolences may be made at [www.bibbveach.com](http://www.bibbveach.com).



## Joseph A. Striebeck

Joseph A. Striebeck, 59, formerly of Troy, lived in Vandalia died Monday, May 13, 2024 at Pike County Memorial Hospital in Louisiana.

Visitation was Friday from 3-7 p.m., at McCoy-Blossom Funeral Homes & Crematory in Troy.

Funeral services were Monday at 11 a.m., at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis with full military honors.

He was born Jan. 5, 1965 to Charles and Joan Payne Striebeck. He was raised on a farm, along with his siblings. Joe attended Troy schools, and graduated from Buchanan High School.

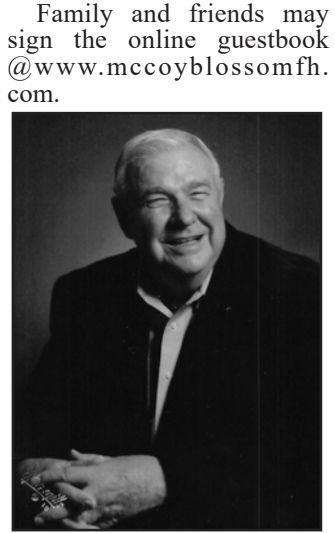
After graduating from high school, he enlisted in the United States Army in 1982 and was honorably discharged in 1985. In later years, Joe was a caretaker for his mother and took excellent care of her.

He enjoyed fishing, mechanical work, playing pool, and playing the guitar and drums. Joe lived an unconventional lifestyle, but loved his family and friends very much. He will be sadly missed and long remembered by all those who knew and loved him.

He is survived by his two sons, Bryon Austin Striebeck and Brad Joseph Striebeck; two grandsons, Adam Striebeck and Noah Striebeck; step-granddaughters, Emma Bicker, Lily Thorne, all of Arkansas. Brad did not have any children, but took his job as an uncle very seriously. Also surviving is a sister, Donna Green of Vandalia; sister-in-law, Jeannie Striebeck of Troy; nieces and nephews, Jason Striebeck and wife, Tami, Tonya Striebeck and husband, Larry, Dawn Ballo and husband, Mike, Stacie Huddlestone and husband, Buddy, Dustin Walker, Jessi McDonald, Chancey Green, Heather Wohldmann and husband, Junior, Mark Williams, Colt Williams; many great-nieces; great-nephews; other relatives; and friends.

Joe was preceded in death by his parents and siblings, Donald, Robert, and Carol. Pallbearers were Amanda Zerrer, Buddy Huddlestone, Chancey Green, Colt Williams, Dakota Huddlestone and Junior Wohldmann. Honorary pallbearers were Robert Riske, Mark Williams and Brian Reinhold.

Memorials may be made to McCoy-Blossom Funeral Homes for funeral expenses, c/o funeral home. Family and friends may sign the online guestbook @ [www.mccoyblossomfh.com](http://www.mccoyblossomfh.com).



## Martin Frederick Geerlings

Martin "Fred" Geerlings, 83, of Vandalia died Friday, May 10, 2024, at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

A memorial service with full military honors was held at 11 a.m., Saturday at the First Baptist Church in Vandalia. Pastor Brian Lehenbauer officiated.

A visitation celebrating Fred's life was held at 9 a.m., until the time of service.

Cremation arrangements were under the direction of Waters Funeral Home.

Fred was born May 16, 1940 on the family farm north of Callao to Henry Lambert and Inize Lee Adams Geerlings. He graduated High School in 1957 at Callao and attended one year of college at University of Missouri-Columbia. There he met his wife, Sharon Marie Gore.

In 1960, he enlisted in the Air Force and served 20 years,

retiring as master sergeant E7.

He was stationed at nine locations in the United States, one of them twice and two overseas; Germany and Iceland. Highlights of his career include walking in the Northern Lights when stationed 35 miles south of the Arctic circle and watching a glacier in Iceland move soil that was in front of it.

He also received a personal letter from then President Carter due to a suggestion of his being used by the federal government that saved a large sum of money. Fred earned the following medals and commendations during his career: Air Force Commendation medal, small arms expert marksmanship ribbon, NCO Academy ribbon, Army good conduct medal, Air Force good conduct medal, Air Force longevity service award and the National Defense service medal. Fred was also recognized as a ground radar superintendent.

After retiring to Vandalia Fred worked in a variety of employment including brick refractory, Vandalia water plant, and at the University of Missouri.

He leaves behind his wife, Sharon; a daughter, Stacey Conrad and husband, Ben; one son, Michael Geerlings. Also surviving are siblings, Ettie Alice Miles and husband, Bob, Katie Graham, and Lambert Geerlings. Grandchildren include Joshua and wife, Alycia, Rachel, Sean, and Krissy. Nieces and nephews, Darlene Weil Green, Ann Geerlings Smith and husband, Todd, Danny Miles, Alan Miles, Kelly Graham Abraham and husband, Steven, Judy Miles Greener and husband, Joel, and Matthew Geerlings, great-nieces and nephews.

Fred is preceded in death by his parents, siblings, Elizabeth, John, Mina Weil, George, and Lee, and daughter-in-law, Bobby.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Gideon's, First Baptist Church or the Vandalia YMCA, c/o Waters Funeral Home.

Online condolences may be made to the family and video tribute viewed on Martin memorial page at [www.watersfuneral.com](http://www.watersfuneral.com).

## Karen Kay Pruitt

Karen Kay Pruitt, 61, of Louisiana died Tuesday, May 14, 2024 in Louisiana.

Her wishes were to be cremated and a celebration of her life will be held at a later date.

Cremation rites are under the direction of Collier Funeral Home, Louisiana.

She was born March 24, 1963 in Louisiana to Sonny and Helen Marie Pruitt.

She is survived by two daughters, Michelle "Shelly" Harrison and husband, Frederick of Louisiana, and Nicole Pruitt of St. Louis; her mother, Helen Marie Pruitt of Louisiana; and grandchildren, Mechia Campbell, Tyona Campbell, Nakyia Griffith, Donnell Griffith, Destiny Pruitt, and Kameron Griffith, all of Louisiana.

She was preceded in death by her father, Sonny Pruitt, a sister, Angie Pruitt, and a grandson, Aries Campbell.

Karen lived in Louisiana her whole life. She attended and graduated from Louisiana High School. She started her nursing career of 40+ years at Smith-Barr Manor working as a CNA and then becoming a LPN through Pike-Lincoln Technical Center. She later received her registered nurse degree and worked as an assistant director of nursing.

After Smith-Barr Manor closed, Karen stayed in health-care working at several area nursing homes as well as in-home care through Advantage Nursing.

Karen was always the go-to

person, whether it would be for advice, or just to listen. So many people would stop by and sit on the porch and have porch talk. Her love and compassion for others is what made her a great mom, grandma, and nurse, but most importantly a great friend.

Her grandchildren were her biggest accomplishment and enjoyed watching them grow. She will be greatly missed by all who has had the privilege to know her.

On-line condolences may be sent at [collierfuneral.com](http://collierfuneral.com).

## Sandra Chandler

Sandra Chandler, 80, of Vandalia died Friday, May 17, 2024, at the Kings Daughters Nursing Home in Mexico.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m., Thursday at Waters Funeral Home. Bro. Kenny Haddock will officiate. Burial will follow at Vandalia Cemetery.

A visitation celebrating Sandra's life will be held from 5-7 p.m., Wednesday at the funeral home.

A full obituary will be appear in next week's People's Tribune.



## Margaret Ann Nilges

Margaret Ann Nilges, 87, of Wellsville died Sunday May 19, 2024, at Baptist Homes Tri-County in Vandalia.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m., Thursday at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Martinsburg with Fr. Greg Oligschlaeger officiating. Burial will follow in Resurrection Cemetery in Wellsville.

Visitation will be Thursday from 9-11 a.m., at the church. Myers Funeral Home in handling the arrangements.

Margaret was born Nov. 18, 1936. She was the only child of Clarence B. and Bernadine Arens Loethen. On Oct. 8, 1955, in Jefferson City, she married Melvin F. Nilges who preceded her in death on Jan. 31, 2011.

Margaret loved being outdoors and enjoyed taking care of her yard and flowers. She enjoyed doing embroidery, playing bingo, and scratching off lottery tickets. She was a huge fan of Cardinal Baseball. Her faith was very important to her throughout her whole life. She would take communion to the residents of Gamma Lodge in Wellsville and served her church as a Eucharist Minister. She was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Survivors include four sons, Michael H. Nilges and wife, Joy of Eugene, Mark A. Nilges and wife, Kathy of Montgomery City, Stephen Nilges and wife, LuAnn of Vandalia, and James B. Nilges and wife, Kelly of Wardsville; three daughters, Diana Smith and husband, Rick of Ashland, Barbara Straube and husband, Dewey of Vandalia, and Melanie Carr and husband, Roger of Montgomery City; 20 grandchildren, Cory Nilges and wife, Monica, Ashley Sachs and husband, Chris, Keith Smith, Christal Jones and husband, Jason, Shelby Contrades and husband, Corey, Brandon Straube and wife, Beth, Christopher Straube and wife, Laura, Kailyn Pease and husband, Dus-

tan, Arianna Tate and husband, David, Lauren Nilges, Brent Carr and wife, Micki, Danielle Durham and husband, Jonathan, Taylor Carr and husband, Austin, Scott Nilges and wife, Jessica, Sean Nilges and wife, Lindsey, Lucas Nilges, Kyle Kampeter and wife, Megan, Alyssa Nilges, and A.J. Nilges; 30 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents; and one grandson, Cody Nilges.

The family suggests memorial gifts to either St. Joseph Catholic Church, St. Joseph Catholic School, or to the American Diabetes Association. They may be sent c/o Myers Funeral Home, 203 E. Bates Street, Wellsville, MO 63384.

## Bryson O'Neal Brandenburger

Bryson O'Neal Brandenburger, 18, of Frankford died suddenly Friday, May 17, 2024, in Frankford.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m., Thursday at the Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes & Crematory in Bowling Green, with Bryson's Uncle Dan Peters officiating. Burial will be in Vandalia Cemetery.

Visitation will be held from 2-8 p.m., Wednesday at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the family to start a Blue-Collar Scholarship in memory of Bryson.

Online condolences may be left at [www.bibbveach.com](http://www.bibbveach.com).

A full obituary will appear in next week's paper.

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## Vandalia Cemetery Association MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM

The Cemetery Association will host the annual MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM on

**Monday, May 27 at 10 a.m.,** at the cemetery.

Members from Vandalia and surrounding communities will gather to honor our veterans and celebrate our country. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. Seating will be available. In the case of rain, the program will be moved to the Modern Maturity building in Vandalia.

### Donations

Donations are a vital part of the continued upkeep and care of the facility. The association appreciates all donations and memorials. The cemetery office will be open during the holiday weekend to assist visitors and accept donations.

*All donations to the Vandalia Cemetery are tax deductible*

### Flower Removal

Memorial Day flowers on graves in the mowing path need to be removed by Sunday, June 2, 2024 so that mowing can resume on Monday, June 3.

## Donations Accepted

Mowing season has started. As we remember our loved ones at Evergreen Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

This Memorial Day, please consider a donation for the mowing expenses. All donations are appreciated.

Donations may be sent to:  
Evergreen Memorial Gardens Cemetery  
P.O. Box 141,  
Vandalia, MO 63382.

# Classifieds

All classified ads are payable in advance. 40-cents per word, \$4 minimum. Deadline: Monday at 11 A.M.

## MOBILE HOMES

**USED DOU-BLEWIDE - DUTCH.** Amish built in Indiana, excellent condition, 3 bed., 2 bath. **FINANCING.** Call for info 573-249-3333, marktwain mobile-homes.com. (tf)

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## FOR RENT

**SELF-STORAGE -** In Vandalia. Units in 3 sizes - 10x20, 10x10, and 8x10. L&S Storage, 573-248-4563. (tf)

**MODERN MATURITY BUILDING -** Vandalia - Family reunion, shower, birthday. Call Art Wiser, 594-3224. (tf)

## NOTICE

NOT responsible for debt other than my own. John Boyd. (tf)

## FOR SALE

**MO. FIREARMS CO.** Call or text for pricing - 573-470-9111. (X8-29)

**REFURNISHED COMPUTERS,** parts, accessories. Call Geeky Hillbilly Computers 573-324-7176. (tf)

**GOOD used tires,** passenger & light truck, \$15 & up. Vandalia Firestone & Appliance, 594-6624.

**METAL -** We specialize in new pole buildings and new metal house roofs and all buildings. Wagler Metals: 21764 Pike 409, Bowling Green. (tf)

**HYDRAULIC rock clearing rake,** \$1,500. 636-697-8499. (tf)

## NO HUNTING

**NO HUNTING OR TRESPASSING** on the Raspberry Farm. Violators will be prosecuted. Not responsible for injuries on the property.

**NO TRESPASSING OR HUNTING** on the property of Cheryl Boots. Violators will be prosecuted and not responsible for accidents on property.

**EARLY DEADLINE THURSDAY @ NOON**

## FOR SALE

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

**NO HUNTING OR TRESPASSING,** Murry Shepherd Farms. Violators will be prosecuted. Not responsible for injuries or accidents. (12-25)

**NO HUNTING OR TRESPASSING** on land owned by Orey and Elizabeth Shepherd. Violators will be prosecuted. Not responsible for accidents on the property. (11-24-24)

## SERVICES

**HORSE BOARDING -** Stable, large stalls, tack room, full care. Clarksville area. 573-470-2160. (tf)

**RICK'S LAWN EQUIPMENT & GOLF CARTS -** Sales, service, and parts. Used golf cars and mowers. Hwy. 54 West, Louisiana, MO 63353, 573-754-5055. (tf)

**GEEKY HILLBILLY COMPUTER SERVICES LLC -** B.G. computer repair & recycling, 573-324-7176, 573-567-6164. (tf)

## SERVICES

**B&J SEPTIC PUMPING -** Commercial or residential, septic pumping & repair, sewer augering & repair, grease trap pumping and porta potty rentals. Butch Menne, 573-384-5536.

**BROWN'S SEPTIC PUMPING -** Commercial or residential, portable toilet rental, job sites, special events, auctions. Brown's Septic Pumping, 206 Brown Lane, Louisiana, 754-5812. (tf)

**NAME DOILIES -** Hand crocheted by Ann Hecox. Make great personal gifts. 217-656-3654 anahcx@gmail.com. (tf)

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## Pike County Sheltered Workshop Director Position

Sheltered workshop is looking for an individual to direct and coordinate workshop activities.

Hours: Monday-Thursday  
Salary based on experience.  
Apply on <http://www.indeed.com>

## JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The PIKE COUNTY CIRCUIT CLERK'S OFFICE is now accepting applications for a full-time Court Clerk position.

Salary Range: \$35,000-\$36,000 annually. Benefits: Excellent. Duties: Case Management of civil cases and courtroom duties. Accuracy, attention to detail and strong customer service skills are required. Must have strong PC, typing, interpersonal and clerical skills, including knowledge of Windows 10, Microsoft Office and use of other standard office equipment.

Application packets may be picked up in the Circuit Clerk's office. Pike County Courthouse, 115 W. Main, Room 24, Bowling Green, MO.

## State Representative Chad Perkins Report



Rep. Chad Perkins

### SESSION WRAPS UP

A highly productive legislative session culminated with an impressive list of accomplishments. Lawmakers demonstrated their commitment by enacting several crucial priorities this year, spanning areas such as public safety, election integrity, and support for our brave veterans and active-duty military personnel. Upon adjournment, Rep. Perkins expressed his unwavering support for many of these initiatives. "Throughout this session, my focus has been unwavering – safeguarding life, ensuring the integrity of our elections, and enhancing public safety across our communities. With the successful passage of several bills that accomplish these critical goals, I am immensely proud of what we have achieved together. I am looking forward to the interim, during which I will continue to build a broad coalition to expand upon the tremendous successes we have realized this year."

### PROTECTING PROPERTY OWNER & PREVENTING GOVERNMENT OVERREACH

SB 895 seeks to push back against federal lockdown policies, clarify landlord-tenant proceedings, and protect

property rights, receiving significant support in the House. The bill prohibits local eviction moratoriums unless authorized by state law, ensuring statewide consistency for property owners and tenants. It mandates the filing of property transfers with outstanding judgments in circuit court within 30 days, ensuring proper recording and resolution of debt obligations. Additionally, the bill amends trespassing laws to include unauthorized entry and refusal to vacate vacant properties, increasing penalties and establishing a process for swift removal of trespassers. This legislation will promote fairness and transparency in landlord-tenant proceedings and reaffirm Missouri's commitment to protecting individual liberties and state sovereignty against federal overreach.

### PROMOTING PUBLIC SAFETY

SB 754 is a comprehensive legislative initiative aimed at enhancing public safety across Missouri. The bill addresses key areas such as juvenile justice, firearm safety, drug trafficking, and protection for law enforcement animals. It includes significant updates to state laws, impacting juvenile court jurisdiction, parole eligibility, traffic violations, sentencing guidelines, and introducing new laws for cyber-crimes, firearms offenses, and drug offenses. Notable provisions include Valentine's Law, which penal-

izes aggravated fleeing from police stops; Maxx's Law, which increases penalties for harming law enforcement animals; Blair's Law, targeting reckless firearm discharge within cities; and stringent measures against drug trafficking.

### ELECTION INTEGRITY

SJR 78 is a proposed constitutional amendment that, if approved by voters, modifies election provisions in Missouri. It stipulates that only U.S. citizens over 18 residing in Missouri and their respective political subdivisions can vote. All elections must use paper ballots or legally prescribed mechanical methods, and voters are allowed only one vote per issue or office, prohibiting ranked-choice voting except in certain pre-existing nonpartisan municipal elections. The candidate with the most votes in a party primary will be the sole candidate for that party in the general election. This rule also excludes certain nonpartisan municipal elections with pre-existing ordinances as of Nov. 5, 2024.



## FOR SALE

2000 Ford F450 4X4 automatic truck, 7.3 liter with 126,368 miles, 9' dump bed, 8'6" snow plow, 8' swenson under tailgate spreader box, sold as is. Please call 573-754-6670 if interested, leave message if no answer.



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# Community News



Steve Wheeler & Dr. Richie Goriparthi

## Hannibal Regional Makes Oklahoma Man Feel At Home

Steve Wheeler of Talihina, Okla., works for a solar energy company and has been temporarily staying in Northeast Missouri while working on a large project in the area.

One morning, Steve woke to excruciating stomach pain, a sensation all too familiar—he had an intestinal blockage and knew he needed immediate medical attention.

Over 20 years ago, Steve was in an ATV accident that caused major trauma to his abdomen. Since then, he has been hospitalized four times due to bowel obstructions caused by scar tissue resulting from his injuries.

As Steve weighed his options, he debated whether to travel over an hour to Saint Louis or to go to Hannibal Regional, just a few miles away. Recognizing the urgency, he hesitantly decided to drive to the Hannibal Regional Emergency Department.

Upon arrival, Steve was surprised by the attentiveness and concern of the medical staff. "Every single person I encountered was excellent, never questioning or pushing back on my symptoms. They responded quickly and compassionately to my concerns," Steve recounted.

Dr. Richie Goriparthi, a general surgeon at Hannibal Regional Medical Group, was

called to consult on Steve's condition. Unlike previous hospitals, where the root cause of Steve's obstructions was never addressed, Dr. Goriparthi proposed surgery to remove the scar tissue and resolve the problem for good.

A few days later, Steve underwent surgery where Dr. Goriparthi assessed his entire bowels meticulously and eliminated all scar tissue, restoring his intestines to pristine condition. "Looking back, I am so thankful I chose to come to Hannibal Regional!" Steve exclaimed.

"Dr. Goriparthi and his surgical team were excellent; their positive attitudes were palpable and really set the stage for my healing."

Due to being far from home, Steve's family was unable to be by his side throughout his recovery. However, Steve noted that the nursing staff at Hannibal Regional Hospital made him feel at home. "They all treated me like I was their dad and were so caring. My entire course of care was about me; never was there any focus on their team or what might be going on in their worlds. Every point of contact was focused on what I needed as a patient."

To contact Hannibal Regional Medical Group call (573) 629-3500.

## Twin Pike Family YMCA To Celebrate Fun With Family, Friends

The Twin Pike Family YMCA is celebrating National Water Safety Month with a focus on "Safe Fun With Family and Friends in the Swimming Pool".

The YMCA will be hosting a free family swimming event on Saturday, May 25, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Families and friends in the community are invited to come to the YMCA to enjoy swimming together in the pool. Families must register ahead of time for the event and take note of new safety guidelines summarized below.

Each family will receive one free child pass for swimming on another day. In addition, the membership department will be offering a 50% off sale on the membership join fee for any new membership purchased during the event. Children attending the event will have the opportunity to take the Safe Swimming Pledge and will receive a certificate.

Two of the most important safety rules for everyone is to never swim alone and for adults to never leave children unattended in the water. The YMCA is implementing a new procedure that aligns

with these rules.

The following swimming pool supervision rules will be enforced beginning on May 23: (1) Children aged 7 years and under must be accompanied by an adult in the pool; (2) Children aged 8 - 12 years may swim without an adult after passing the swim test. However, an adult must remain on the pool deck at all times. (3) Children aged 13 - 15 may swim without an adult present on the pool deck, but must have a guardian 16 years or older in the facility; and (4) One adult can swim with a maximum of two non-swimming children.

Children under 8 years old will be required to wear a red band while in the swimming pool so the staff is alerted that the swimmer needs to have an adult supervisor in the water.

These procedures follow YMCA insurance guidelines for safe swimming pools. To review a copy of all of the Twin Pike Family YMCA Safe Pools Have Rules document, visit <https://twinpikefamilyymca.org/aquatics.html>.

To register for the free family swimming event, call the YMCA at 573-754-4497 or stop by the Welcome Center.

# Early Deadline For The May 28 Paper Due To Memorial Day Is Thursday, May 23 At Noon

### Hickerson Shoe Repair

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### Landon Chandler

Landon Chandler is the son of Josh and Darla Chandler of Bowling Green. He plans to seek employment and to attend Culinary Institute of America in New York.



### Brice J. Chandler Author

Louisiana

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### Nicholas Nolan Myers

Nick Myers is the son of Nick and Jackie Myers of Clarksville. He plans to attend the University of Missouri-Columbia to study electrical engineering.



Congratulations, Graduates!



### Hickerson Shoe Repair

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### Estelle Irene Clark

Estelle Clark is the daughter of Luke and Angie Clark of Eolia. She plans to attend State Technical College of MO to complete the drafting and design engineering technology program.



Congratulations, Graduates!



## Changelings Theatre Company Stages Two One-Act Radio Style Plays



### Fun-icelli, mi amor?

The Changelings Theatre Company of Raintree Arts Council staged two one-act, radio-style plays May 11 at The Apple Shed in Clarksville. The cast brought to life the mafia comedy "The Pepperonis" and a dramatic reading of a Martian invasion in "The War of the Worlds." Pictured kneeling in front, from left, are Caramia Harrelson and Mary Lang Fournier. Second row, from left, are Gene Nothaker, Gabriel Maier, Clint Mullen, Donna Grote, Cathy Smith, Angela Maier and Ricky Fournier. At top are John Cooke and Shea Williamson. Several are holding signs used to prompt audience participation.



Angela Maier reacts to seeing Martians.



Caramia Harrelson puts on her "gas mask" after an alien smokescreen.



Gabriel Maier announces to the nation that aliens have invaded.



Gene Nothaker tries to reassure the public.



Donna Grote sings about bananas during a commercial break.



Cathy Smith portrays a bewildered psychiatrist.



Clint Mullen broods after his father refuses to "whack" a bully.



Ricky Fournier listens for a reaction to his latest mob pronouncement.

PUT OUR ADS TO WORK FOR YOU



### Clarksville VFW, Auxiliary Pre-Memorial Day Service

The Clarksville Memorial VFW Post 4610 and Auxiliary to hold pre-Memorial Day service at Greenwood Cemetery on Sunday May 26 at 3 p.m.

After the service there will be a memorial service held at Humphrey's in Clarksville in memory of Mike Scoggins. Refreshments will be served. Everyone is invited to attend the services.

Mike was a charter and life member of the VFW Post, and was very active before he moved to Florida.

### Champ Clark VFW Memorial Day Parade

Monday, May 27  
Line-up 8:30 a.m.  
Bowling Green Square  
Leaving at 9:15 a.m.  
Ceremony 10 a.m.  
All participants are welcome

**Kropf's Greenhouse**  
43431 Audrain Rd. • Vandalia  
573-594-6885 • 573-594-2010  
Hanging Baskets • Vegetable Plants  
Bedding Plants • Roses  
OPEN: Mon - Sat 8:30 - 6:00  
CLOSED: Sundays  
Closed Good Friday (March 29) and Ascension Day (May 9)

**CASTEELS**  
In-home decorating service  
window treatments - wallpaper - paint  
gifts - bridal registry - church supplies  
110 W. Adams - Pittsfield, Ill.  
**217-285-4488**

# Community News

## AAA Predicts Record Number Of Travelers For Memorial Day

As Memorial Day approaches, millions of Americans are gearing up for long-awaited vacations and road trips. AAA projects 43.8 million travelers will head 50 miles or more from home over the Memorial Day holiday travel period.

Included in that number are the estimated 2.5 million Floridians expected to hit the road or sky for the holiday weekend, a new record.

"We haven't seen Memorial Day weekend travel numbers like these in almost 20 years," Paula Twidale, senior vice president of AAA Travel said. "We're projecting an additional one million travelers

this holiday weekend compared to 2019, which not only means we're exceeding pre-pandemic levels but also signals a very busy summer travel season ahead."

After enduring restrictions and limitations due to the pandemic, more Americans are eager to embark on holiday getaways, resulting in a surge in travel activity. Whether it's visiting loved ones, exploring new destinations, or simply enjoying a well-deserved break, the desire to travel is palpable among consumers.

Key Insights:  
Road Trips Reign

Supreme: AAA forecasts that the majority of Memorial Day travelers will opt for road trips, continuing the trend observed in recent years. With flexibility, affordability, and the freedom to explore at their own pace, driving remains a popular choice for many Americans.

Air Travel on the Rise: While road trips dominate, air travel is also expected to see a notable increase compared to last year. As vaccination rates rise and travel restrictions ease, more individuals are feeling confident about flying to their desired destinations.

Pent-Up Demand: The anticipated surge in Memorial Day travel reflects pent-up demand accumulated during the pandemic. With many postponing travel plans over the past couple of years, there's a sense of eagerness to make up for lost time and create new memories with family and friends.

Best and Worst Days to Travel: AAA reports drivers leaving Thursday or Friday should hit the road early to avoid mixing with commuters. Typically, Tuesday and Wednesday leading up to Memorial Day are considered optimal for smoother travel experiences, with lighter traf-

fic and fewer crowds at airports. Travelers going back home on Sunday or Monday should avoid the afternoon hours when return trips will peak.

"Travel times are expected to be up to 90% longer than normal," Bob Pishu, transportation analyst at INRIX said. "Travelers should stay up to date on traffic apps, 511 services, and local news stations to avoid sitting in traffic longer than necessary."

Tips for Travelers:

Plan Ahead: Make reservations for accommodations, rental cars, and attractions well in advance to secure the best deals and avoid last-

minute disappointments.

Stay Informed: Stay updated on travel advisories, road conditions, and any COVID-19 protocols in place at your destination to navigate potential disruptions smoothly.

Pack Wisely: Pack essentials such as masks, hand sanitizer, and disinfectant wipes to maintain hygiene and adhere to safety guidelines, especially in crowded settings.

Flexible Itineraries: Remain flexible with your travel plans, allowing room for adjustments in case of unforeseen circumstances or changes in regulations.

## Get Hooked On Free Fishing With MDC

Want some free fun that gets family and friends outside in nature? Get hooked on fishing with the Missouri Department of Conservation's (MDC) Free Fishing Days June 8 and 9. During Free Fishing Days, anyone may fish in the Show-Me State without having to buy a fishing permit, trout permit, or trout park daily tag.

Free Fishing Days is an annual MDC event that takes place statewide during the Saturday and Sunday following the first Monday in June.

Aside from not needing permits, other fishing regulations remain in effect, such as limits on size and number of fish an angler may keep. Special permits may still be required at some county, city, or private fishing areas. Trespass laws remain in effect on private property.

Conservation makes Missouri a great place to fish, and

Free Fishing Days encourages people to sample Missouri's abundant fishing opportunities. Missouri has more than a million acres of surface water, and most of it provides great fishing. More than 200 different fish species are found in Missouri, with more than 20 of them being game fish for the state's more than 1.1 million anglers.

For information on Missouri fishing regulations, fish identification, and more, get a copy of MDC's 2024 Summary of Missouri Fishing Regulations, available where permits are sold, or online at [mdc.mo.gov/about-us/about-regulations/summary-missouri-fishing-regulations](http://mdc.mo.gov/about-us/about-regulations/summary-missouri-fishing-regulations).

Want to learn to fish? MDC's Discover Nature - Fishing Program provides a series of free lessons throughout the state. All fishing gear is provided. Learn more at [mdc.mo.gov/fishing/discover-nature-fishing](http://mdc.mo.gov/fishing/discover-nature-fishing).

cover-nature-fishing.

Need fishing gear? MDC works with numerous libraries and other locations around the state to loan fishing gear for free. Loaner gear includes fishing poles and simple tackle box with hooks, sinkers, and bobbers. Worms,

minnows, or other bait are not provided. Find MDC Rod and Reel Loaner Program locations at [mdc.mo.gov/fishing/get-started-fishing/rod-reel-loaner-locations](http://mdc.mo.gov/fishing/get-started-fishing/rod-reel-loaner-locations).

MDC's free MO Fishing app can help anglers find the

best places to fish in Missouri, access regulation information, identify fish by species, and more. Anglers can also buy, store, and show fishing permits right on their mobile devices. MO Fishing is available for download through Google Play for An-

droid devices or the App Store for Apple devices. Learn more at [mdc.mo.gov/contact-enage/mobile-apps/mo-fishing](http://mdc.mo.gov/contact-enage/mobile-apps/mo-fishing).



**The Turnbull Family Presents the 15th Annual Back Forty Bluegrass Festival**  
Curryville, Missouri  
May 30th - June 2nd, 2024

Park Located 1 mile North of Curryville on Route E, then 1 mile West on Pike

### Admissions

Thursday (6:00 pm).....	\$10.00
Friday (11:30 am-10:15 pm).....	\$25.00
Saturday (11:30 am-9:50 pm).....	\$30.00
Sunday (10:00 am Service).....	Donation
Children Ages 0-18 (with Family).....	Free
Rough Camping (No Electric).....	\$10.00/day
Camping with Electric (1 Outlet).....	\$16.00/day
Camper drop-offs (Please plug into outlet w/ fridge on only).....	\$2.00/day

Drop-Offs: Fridge on only please.

### For more information call:

Yvonne (573) 470-1870  
Ashley (573) 470-2204

- Rhonda Vincent & The Rage (Sat)
- Authentic Unlimited (Fri)
- Volume Five (Sat)
- The Punches (Thurs/Fri/Sun)
- Lori King & Junction 63 (Thurs/Fri)
- Missouri River Band (Fri/Sat)
- Harman & Ruble Band (Fri/Sat)
- River Valley Grass (Fri/Sat)
- Darrell Turnbull & Clay Hess (Thurs/Fri)
- Bluegrass Karaoke/Stump the Band (Thurs)
- Open Stage (Fri/Sat)

♪ Bring your lawn chairs. ♪ No drugs or alcohol. ♪  
♪ No pets in food or concert area. ♪ No smoking or vaping in food or concert area ♪  
♪ No refunds. ♪

**Early Deadline For The May 28 Paper Due To Memorial Day Is Thursday, May 23 At Noon**

# Woods Smoked Meats

## MEMORIAL DAY SALE

**Pork Steaks**  
\$2.99 lb.

**Beef Fillets**  
\$21.99 lb.

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**Frozen Ground Beef**  
20 lbs. or more  
\$4.99 lb.

**RIBS**  
Pork Spare Ribs - \$2.99 lb.  
Country Style Ribs - \$2.29 lb.

**Bone-In Spiced Pork Chops**  
\$2.99 lb.

**USDA Choice Beef Bone-in Rib Eyes**  
\$13.99 lb.

Open Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. • Saturday 8 a.m.-Noon  
Closed Memorial Day Monday, May 29

# WOODS SMOKED MEATS

Hwy. 54 East - Bowling Green - 324-2247      Sale Good May 20-25

# Happy Memorial Day!

We honor the memory of service members and their families who have sacrificed to protect the freedom we enjoy

**These fine sponsors join The People's Tribune in honoring those who paid the ultimate price to protect freedom**  
**Have a safe Memorial Day weekend**

**Bowling Green Insurance Agency**  
 Bowling Green  
 573-324-5762

**Dyno Nobel Inc.**  
 Louisiana  
 754-4501

**Ledford Trucking LLC**  
 Bowling Green  
 573-470-4366

**Ledford Crane LLC**  
 Bowling Green  
 573-470-4366

**Cozy C RV Campground**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-3055

**Scherder Realty LLC**  
 Bowling Green  
 573-470-8500

**State Representative Chad Perkins**  
 Paid for by Committee  
 To Elect Chad Perkins  
 Letha Ingram, Treasurer

**Cole Chiropractic Center**  
 Vandalia  
 Closed  
 May 25-27

**Calvert's General Insurance**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-2321

**Bowling Green Lumber Company**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-5400

**Briscoe & Brannon**  
 New London,  
 Hannibal & Perry

**LaCrosse Lumber Co.**  
 Vandalia  
 594-6448

**Niemeyer Family Farms**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-5424

**Shelter Insurance**  
 Julie Jenkins, agent  
 Louisiana  
 754-3453

**Ligon's Flooring**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-3030

**Pike County Memorial Hospital**  
 Louisiana  
 754-5531

**Ingram Plumbing**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-5257

**Calumet Specialties**  
 Louisiana  
 754-6211

**All-Way Wire Rope & Splicing**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-3330

**Lincoln County Technical Schools**  
 Silex  
 384-5479

**Hickerson Shoe Repair**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-3688

**Knight Equipment Co.**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-3212

**Knight Equipment Co.**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-3212

**HNB Bank**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-6100

**Poage Ford**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-5130

**Mick Mehler & Sons**  
 Silex  
 384-5978

**Community State Bank**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-2233

**Woods Smoked Meats**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-2247

**Perkins Electrical Service**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-5366

**Dairy Queen**  
 Breakfast Served Daily  
 Vandalia  
 594-2062

**LaCrosse Lumber Company**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-5431

**Collier Funeral Home**  
 Louisiana  
 754-4800

**C. Tom Backer Accounting**  
 Louisiana  
 754-5017

**Ben's Auto Salvage**  
 Louisiana  
 754-3265

**Peoples Savings Bank**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-3396

**Young Enterprises**  
 New Hartford  
 669-5225

**Haden's Motorsports Center**  
 Frankford  
 784-2559

**Craig's Truck & Tractor Repair**  
 Vandalia  
 594-3461

**Dawson's Collision Center**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-2422

**Shelter Insurance Frank Wallace**  
 Vandalia  
 594-2235

**Kerns Construction**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-3433

**State Farm Insurance**  
 Vandalia  
 594-6409

**Service & Supply Coop**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-5212

**Bibb-Veach Funeral Home**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-2211

**Pike County Health Dept., Home Health & Hospice**  
 Bowling Green  
 324-2111