THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

News For Pike, Eastern Audrain & Northern Lincoln Counties

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Vandalia Area Chamber of Commerce's fall festival will be Friday, Sept. 26 and Saturday, Sept.27.

They are pleased to announce they will have two music groups Friday night and five music acts Saturday.

p.m., with Sundown Shot and followed by Whiskey Morning

Saturday music will start at noon, Scott and Mechelle, followed by Posey Hill. Becky Denton, small town girl from

Friday music starts at 6:30 Paris will start the evening music. Ruby Leigh, former first runner up of The Voice, will take the stage at 6 p.m. Drawl STL will close out the night with music starting at 8 p.m.

Watch next week's Trib for more information.

Law Enforcement Seeks Help Identifying Motorcyclist

By Brice Chandler

After Multi-County Pursuit

Authorities are asking for the public's help in identifying a motorcyclist who led law enforcement on a highspeed pursuit through multi-Saturday counties afternoon.

According to the Audrain County Sheriff's Office, deputies were alerted on July 20 that the Missouri State Highway Patrol was pursuing a motorcycle near Highway

by the trooper.

Audrain County deputy spotted the motorcycle near the intersection of Highway 54 and Highway J and attempted a traffic stop. The motorcyclist refused to stop and continued eastbound toward Farber at high speeds. Due to safety concerns, deputies also terminated their pursuit.

The chase continued into Pike County, where the Pike County Sheriff's Office attempted to stop the motorcycle, but the rider again fled.

The suspect is described as

jeans, and a backpack. The A short time later, an motorcycle is described as a gray sport bike with no license plate. Anyone with information

about the identity of the rider is encouraged to contact the Audrain County Sheriff's Office at (573) 473-5800. Tips can also be submitted anonymously by calling CRIMESTOPPERS at (800) calling mously 392-TIPS (8477) or online at

Battling Brain Tumor At Ralls County Fair Auction

Community Raises Over \$48,000 For Teen



By Brice Chandler **EDITOR**

A local livestock auction turned into a profound display of community compassion as residents of Ralls County and beyond came together to raise over \$48,000 for 14-year-old Keaton O'Neal, who is currently undergoing treatment for a brain tumor.

Keaton was on hand at the Ralls County Junior Fair to help present the 2025 Ralls County Grand Champion steer that he raised along with the help of his younger sister, Jaelyn, as part of a 4-H proj-

With the help of his parents, Kayla and Jason Wieczorek, Keaton stood from his wheelchair to help show the steer named Bandit. The emotional moment that was met with overwhelming generosity and applause.

Vandalia resident, John Wallace of J&M Auctions helped lead the effort behind the scenes

"I've been doing charity and benefit auctions for probably 20 years or more, especially in Ralls County," Wallace told the Tribune. "The Wieczorek family are good friends and customers of mine. When Keaton was diagnosed last fall, I auctioneered a benefit put on at Mark Twain school, and when we heard he'd be showing at the fair, a couple of us got together and decided we were

money and make that steer bring a lot."

Wallace said they initially hoped to raise \$10,000, but the total quickly surpassed expectations.

"I thought \$10,000 was going to be pretty easy to obtain. Once we got there, it just kept going and going," he said. "I thought, well, let's shoot for \$20,000 or \$30,000. I really didn't anticipate hitting \$40,000, but when we got close, I was determined to make it bring at least that."

By the time the bidding began, Wallace said they had already collected over \$41,000 in donations. An additional donations came in during the auction itself, putting the final total above \$48,000.

In his nearly 30 years of involvement with the Ralls County Junior Fair, Wallace said this event stood out from

the rest. "A lot of animals will bring anywhere from \$300 to \$800," he said. "This deal was just exceptional. Ralls County is one of the most giving communities I've worked in. It really didn't surprise me that they turned out like this. It was overwhelming to see

the support for this family.

Keaton's mother, Kayla Wieczorek, shared her gratitude in a social media post the morning after the auction. "Not very often do I sit down & not have 'words' to put together," she wrote. "To be in a complete state of shock and awe, still this morning."

She described Bandit not just as an animal, but as a symbol: "A Show calf that has earned his place in the pasture for the time being. Bandit' is a reminder of how hard life can be at times, the ups and downs. Hardships & triumphs... Keaton's cancer journey has been one that has brought so much light to the

The family has been documenting Keaton's journey since his diagnosis last November. In a July 15 update on the Strong Like Keaton Facebook page, the family wrote: "Keaton still has such a journey ahead the rest of July. Daily trips to St Louis for Radiation, as well as both occupational & physical therapy. Thursday we will have an MRI to see if the tumor is responding at all to the radiation treatment that he has received the last week.

That MRI brought a bit of good news. A later post on July 18 shared:

"Yesterday's MRI showed that the bleeding in the tumor has stopped, as well as the ventricles being 'open' & the fluid is flowing as it should," Kayla wrote. "Not causing concern for any extra pressure on the brain right now... Each day I see more and more of the Keaton we knew before all this happened."

As Keaton continues to make progress in his recovery, the emotional and financial weight of his journey remains significant.

According to Wallace, that's where the generosity of the community has stepped in to offer meaningful relief. The fundraiser's greatest impact may go beyond dollars and cents.

"The biggest takeaway is that, in any community, when people are struggling with the financial burdens that cancer or other health issues can bring, it's good for the community to come together and help," he said. "Insurance might cover the treatment, but it's the day-to-day ex-penses—driving back and forth, eating out. That adds up. That's where we can make a difference."

Keaton's story continues to inspire many, and updates are regularly shared on the Strong Like Keaton Facebook page. The funds raised will help cover ongoing treatment and support the family's journey.

pursuit was later terminated helmet, white cutoff shirt,

EDITOR

Law Enforcement Seeks Help Identifying Motorcyclist

54 in the Laddonia area. That

a white male wearing a gray

www.audrainsheriff.com/report-a-crime.

All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Curryville, MO. The project **EDITOR** Congressman Sam Graves also includes improvements

By Brice Chandler

(MO-06), Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, announced that the Highway 54 Shared Four-Lane Project has received a nearly \$25 million BUILD (Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development) Grant.

The \$24.892 million grant will widen an approximately 14-mile segment of US Route 54 from a two-lane roadway to a shared four-lane configuration (alternating passing

lane) between Farber and Twain Council of Governat the intersection of US Route 54 and MO 154 and utility relocations.

"Securing this BUILD Grant is a huge step forward on a project that has been in the works for many years," Graves said. "These improvements on Highway 54 will ensure that folks traveling this corridor are more easily and safely able to get to their destination. Congratulations to A Better 54 Coalition, Audrain and Pike Counties, the Mark

ments and all the folks who have worked tirelessly for many years to see this project come to fruition. I'm grateful to President Trump and Secretary Duffy for awarding this funding and working with me to make major infrastructure improvements in rural North Missouri.'

Graves previously secured a \$10 million TIGER Grant in 2015 to help replace the Champ Clark Bridge on Highway 54 between Louisiana, and Pike County,

lion Reasons

Big Interest Shown In Quirky Man's Fortune



Ras Pearson

the conslusion of a story series by contributing writer Brent Engel.

Two Louisiana men brokered an end to courtroom clashes over the will of a rich Pike County maverick. Ras Pearson and William

Stark proved vital in settling the affairs of Fielden Estes, who died at age 80 in September 1900. The unconventional horse dealer and real estate broker left an estate that would now be worth \$10 million. Pearson drew up the will and Stark served as executor.

"Further than these, there were few that the old man had any use for," the St. Louis Republic said of the two.

The will left most of the childless bachelor's fortune to nieces and nephews, but others filed claims and wrangling was expected to last

decade. The Daily News and Intelligencer of Mexico predicted "a big scramble" and the Republic said "Pike County

lawyers will all become fat." Attorneys "scrap over cases in court, but when they have a chance at a whole pie they just join hands and take upper and lower crust and fill-ing," added the Bowling Green Times.

The will left the equivalent today of \$45,000 to J.W. Crewdson, a Louisiana doctor who had cared for Estes. Crewdson said he was owed \$1.8 million. A jury offered the doctor \$591,000, but he appealed.

"When the doctors get a pull on a rich man's estate, they go for the whole cheese," the Clinton Daily Democrat editorialized.

Claims also were made by Estes' 78-year-old brother, Samuel, and another former caretaker, Louisiana op-

tometrist Angus Prettyman. Pearson was a rising legal star who was a prominent member of Louisiana Presbyterian Church. He despised vulgar jokes and had been devoted to his wife, Lillie, who died of tuberculosis at 22 the

year after they were married. At 35 in 1900, he was bright, good-looking and what the St. Louis Post-Dispatch called a "most interesting" attorney. He and his 36-year-old brother, Eugene, ran a law firm in Louisiana.

Ras Pearson had served as Pike County prosecuting attorney. He was "a brilliant orator" whose "star blazed brightly in the courtroom" thanks to "a masterful and ornate eloquence," said Bowling Green attorney Jefferson Davis Hostetter, who would go on to serve as a state legislator.

Stark was the 40-year-old treasurer of Stark Brothers Nurseries and an uncle of future Missouri Gov. Lloyd Stark. He had started as an office manager and worked his way up. The Republic described him as "an excellent businessman" who had "the determination to handle the large (Estes) estate for the



William Stark

best interests of all concerned" and "the ability to carry out that determination."

Stark used mighty powers of persuasion in getting all sides to approve a resolution in just a few months.

"He so completely possessed the confidence of all the beneficiaries under the will that all of them readily gave him powers of attorney, and he went to work at the task of settling up the estate,' the Republic said.

The bulk was divided among Estes' survivors, including his two brothers. Crewdson got the equivalent today of \$360,000 and two Louisiana properties Estes had owned. Prettyman was awarded the equivalent of \$124,000.

Pearson and Stark also were paid well. The Republic praised the two men, saying they had "played no small part in the successful management of this estate" with a "much-to-be-desired solution of all the difficulties.

In December 1902, Estes' remaining 3,020 acres of land were sold to unidentified buyers. The total brought in was what would today would be \$5.6 million, which was divided by the heirs.

going to collect up some **County**

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The carnival's back in town it's been gone almost a year we better get to the fairgrounds before it up and dis-

To get the car anywhere close requires quite the bounty. I do believe we dang near had to park in another

Dad goes to the tractor pull while mother critiques the jams older sis displays her quilts and baby brother shows his lambs.

We entrust our lives to people who have perpetual tans on rides that but a day ago were parts inside large The queen caused a stir

when she won her jeweled crown. It seems she's not from here or anywhere around.

Diets die a greasy death amid a swarm of calories. Of course, I'll have fries with that and cotton candy, please. Give me a lemon shakeup

and stuff me like a champion pig until my suspenders blow. Mosey over to the grandstand to catch the motocross

and sugar atop fried dough

races smile at strange people and stare blankly at familiar faces. Teenagers pout and preen mixing lust with games of chance. I'm heading for the beer

tent to do the chicken dance. Tinkerbell calls my I-phone. She wants me home by eleven. She claims I've discovered Hades. I text back: IMN HEVN.

Judge Denis Motion To Block Death Penalty

By Brice Chandler **EDITOR**

A judge has denied efforts by the defense to block the prosecution from pursuing the death penalty in the case against Matthew G. Todd, 53, who is charged in the July 2024 shooting deaths of his son and his son's girlfriend in Eolia.

The case was indicted by a grand jury in October 2024 and is currently proceeding in the 45th Circuit Court before Judge James D. Beck. Pike County Prosecuting Attorney Alex Ellison filed formal notice of intent to seek the death penalty on April 24,

Pike County Prosecuting Attorney Alex Ellison filed notice earlier this year of the state's intent to seek the death penalty against Todd. Defense attorneys challenged that decision, arguing that the move constituted prosecutorial vindictiveness.

Todd's attorneys argued that seeking the death penalty was prompted solely by Todd's decision to reject a plea deal and exercise his right to a jury

According to the motion, a March 13 plea offer from the prosecutor proposed a sentence of life without parole and warned that the death penalty would be pursued if Todd declined to plead guilty. "This escalation was unaccompa-

nied by any neutral, case-based justification," the defense wrote. "The prosecutor's threat was explicit: plead guilty and spend the rest of your life in prison or face execution." They further argued that no new ev-

idence or aggravating circumstances had emerged to justify the change in the state's sentencing position, and that such a threat chilled Todd's constitutional rights.

However, in a July 1 ruling, Circuit Judge James D. Beck rejected that claim.

the prosecution's actions were consistent with common plea negotiations, noting that a plea offer was made that did not include the death penalty. After Todd rejected that offer, the state proceeded with its intent to seek the maximum penalty allowed by law.

"To accept the defendant's argument, a prosecutor could never offer a plea offer without the risk that, if rejected, the defendant would then claim prosecutorial vindictiveness," Beck

The court also denied a separate defense motion seeking to strike the aggravating circumstances cited in support of the death penalty. Judge Beck ruled that such determinations fall under the purview of a jury and not the court at this stage in the proceedings.

Todd faces two counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of his 26year-old son, Timothy Todd, and 26-year-old Kaitlyn Potter-Navratil. Both were shot and killed on July 27, 2024, at a residence on Collage Circle Drive in Eolia. According to the probable cause statement from the Pike County Sheriff's Office, a witness reported that Todd had been in a physical altercation with one of the victims prior to retrieving a rifle from his bedroom and opening fire.

Todd admitted during a recorded interview that he used the rifle seized at the scene to shoot the victims. He claimed he feared one of them intended to harm him, but offered no explanation for shooting the second victim. The victims were unarmed, and investigators reported the shooting likely occurred at a distance greater than melee range.

In addition to the murder charges, Todd faces counts of first-degree domestic assault, unlawful use of a weapon, and armed criminal action.

The case is scheduled for a case review hearing on September 2 in Pike County Circuit Court.

All suspects are presumed innocent In his order, Judge Beck wrote that until proven guilty in a court of law.

The Eastern Missouri Family YMCA's volunteer-based Summer Food Program continues through Aug. 1 providing free, nutritious meals to all children 18 years and under.

Meals are served Monday through Friday at the Y Café, with weekend bulk meals on Fridays. In partnership with swim lessons at the Aquatic Center, the program ensures kids stay fueled and active all summer long.

The menu features kid favorites like cheeseburgers, chicken nuggets, pizza, beef tacos, Uncrustables, and turkey and cheese tortilla

YMCA Summer Food Program Serves Nearly 1,000 Lunches

wraps, along with fresh vegetables, fruit, and chocolate or white milk served with every

So far, the program has served just short of 1,000 meals, thanks to a dedicated team of volunteers.

After lunch, kids are invited

to stay and play in the Y gym, making it a great place to eat, move, and connect this sum-No YMCA membership or

register the names of participating children and come on The YMCA is located at

residency requirement—just

309 S. Main, Vandalia. For questions or additional information, please call 594-2208.

Gov. Kehoe Signs Education Bill Into Law

On Wednesday, July 9, during a bill signing ceremony at the Missouri State Capitol, Governor Mike Kehoe signed eight bills into law including the controversial SB 68.

"From implementing distraction-free classrooms to expanding school safety efforts, the legislation signed into law this afternoon impacts both K-12 students and Missourians pursuing higher and career technical education," said Governor Kehoe. "We are proud to join the General Assembly in supporting these wins for Missouri schools, students, and teachers"

SB 68, sponsored by Senator Mike Henderson and Representative Bill Allen, creates, repeals, and modifies provisions relating to elementary and secondary education.

Directs all school districts and charter schools to implement a written policy, starting in the 2025-26 school year, banning the use or display of students' electronic personal communication devices throughout the day – including during class, meals, breaks, and study hall.

Improves school safety measures including:

Requires cardiopulmonary resuscitation training.

Requires school districts and charter schools to adopt a comprehensive emergency operations plan covering school safety, emergency response, prevention, and recovery.

Directs districts to designate a primary and secondary



Martin Joins NECAC Staff

Brittany Martin of Bowling Green has joined NECAC as an administrative assistant. She is a 2009 graduate of Bowling Green High School and previously worked in emergency room registration at Pike County Memorial Hospital in Louisiana. At NECAC, she will work in the Section 8 Housing Voucher Program, which provides partial rent assistance to qualifying applicants.

Put Our Classifieds To Work school safety coordinator and defines the job duties, trainings, and expectations for this position.

environment for staff and volunteers. At a minimum, the policy shall prohibit students from using or displaying

Requires local educational agencies report all school safety incidents and credible threats to DESE. DESE will maintain a regularly updated database of these incidents and threats and share this data with DPS.

Expands the Teacher Recruitment and Retention Scholarship to cover educational costs related to teacher preparation.

While many applaud the bill as removing a distraction and a tool for online bullying, others are concerned with their children's safety during emergencies when teachers and school staff are not available.

Louisiana R-II School District Superintendent, Dr. Tom Ward addressed the new bill in a message to parents and students.

"The purpose of this message is to let you know that Governor Kehoe signed into law SB 68 which requires Missouri schools to adopt a written policy regarding students' possession or use of electronic personal communication devices," Dr. Ward wrote. "Such a policy shall be designed to promote students' educational interests and ensure a safe, effective working

environment for staff and volunteers. At a minimum, the policy shall prohibit students from using or displaying these devices from the beginning until the end of the school day, including, but not limited to, during instructional time, meal time, breaks, time between classes, and study hall. The law includes common-sense exceptions, such as allowing use for students who need to monitor medical conditions."

In the post, Dr. Ward acknowledged the varying opinions on the new bill.

"I know that some of you have very strong opinions that students need to have their phones available to them at all times. Therefore, I am planning to share information about why this change could be useful for our/your students, as well as alternate ways you can get in contact with your child. We want you to be able to have time to digest the changes, as well as share your concerns so those can be addressed prior to the first day of the 2025-26 school year."

As districts begin crafting their policies ahead of the 2025-26 school year, school leaders across the area are working to balance student safety, academic focus, and parental concerns in response to the new law.

Registration Open For Missouri Master Gardener Online Course

Registration is open for the fall online University of Missouri Extension Master Gardener course. The 15-week class begins on Aug. 10 and ends in December.

Gardening is an activity with many rewards, says MU Extension horticulture specialist Debi Kelly. The Extension Master Gardener program provides in-depth horticultural training to individuals who then help others learn about gardening and the environment.

Participants will learn about the mission of the Master Gardener program and gain a working knowledge of the fundamentals of gardening and its terminology, she says. The course

provides a foundation in plant structure and function, soils and plant nutrition. plant propagation, fruits and vegetables, herbaceous and woody plants, entomology, plant pathology, landscape design, lawns and pesticides usage.

Core training is the first step toward Extension Master Gardener certification. After core training, participants complete a minimum of 30 hours of volunteer service. Local coordinators help online trainees find volunteer opportunities to meet the volunteer service requirement.

Since its inception in 2013, more than 3,000 individuals have gone through MU Extension online Master

Gardener training. Extension Master Gardener programs are offered in every U.S. state and most Canadian provinces.

Participants will receive a copy of the Missouri Master Gardener Core Manual as part of the registration fee, says Kelly.

State Master Gardener coordinators are Kelly and Sarah Denkler, MU Extension regional director for southeastern Missouri. Kelly, Denkler and horticulturist David Trinklein teach the course.

Register online, or contact Kelly at kellyd@missouri.edu with questions. Learn more at https://mg.mis-

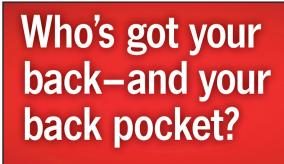
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Bleigh Construction Company is an Equal Opportunity Employer and invites the submission of bids from Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) and Women's Business Enterprises (WBEs), collectively referred to as Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs). Bleigh Construction Company, a local General Contractor, is seeking subcontractor/Supplier "DBE" means a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise participation in the following project:

Clarksville WWTF Outfall Relocation Project, City of Clarksville, Missouri: Bids are invited upon the items and quantities of work as follows: 8" PVC Sewer Main – 3465 LF and 12 Manholes and related work. This project is being financed through the Missouri State Revolving Fund, by the Water and Wastewater Loan Revolving Fund and federal Capitalization Grants to Missouri.

NOTE: Only MBE/WBE firms certified by the State of Missouri, Office of Equal Opportunity as of the date of bid opening, can be used to satisfy the MBE/WBE participation goals for this project.

Interested parties may contact Bleigh Construction Company, Louis C. Vannatta, P.O. Box 957, Hannibal, MO 63401, or by calling (573) 221-2247 on how to obtain plan documents. Bids must be received by August 15, 2025, at 2:00 PM.



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Community News s Desk... Pike To Pike

From The Mayor's Desk...

JIM ARICO, MAYOR

When we ensure that our neighborhoods and towns are safe and sustainable we as a city/county can provide the best living environment for our citizens, customers, families, employees, and our civic leaders/stakeholders.

When we, as a city/county are committed to equipping and educating our children, parents, students, and you as

citizens with knowledge that enhances our towns and county, and when we have justice, develops a skillful workforce, plus accept our diversities, we will be a desirable town/county to live in.

These ideas and concepts are attainable but takes a BRAVE society to stand up, plus do the right things in understanding and accepting each other. We must challenge each other to be the CITY OF BOWLING GREEN area. best we can be for ourselves

and others. We must be committed to helping each other thrive and support one another as a member of Bowling Green and Pike County.

As I have a vision for our wonderful town and county, I believe others share this vision by forming a "community engagement committee." I understand our Safe Neighborhoods and the idea of coming together and supporting First Night and other special events, but what happened to neighborhood block parties? Simply walking through our neighborhoods and sharing and looking out for each other? It sems that we as a nation have become individualized and separated from our neighbors. Do we know the names of the people four houses down from us? So how do we become more connected as a neighborhood, a town, a nation? We do so by in-

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tinue serving passengers.

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vesting in more than ourselves! Life gets busy and it is rushing by and we get caught up in "busyness." ("Without great solitude, no serious work is possible"-Pablo Picasso).

Social media is full of self-promotion and elevating one's self's value. So how can we impact other's lives for the good? I think...by simply slowing down

and enjoying what we work so hard to acquire and sharing our lives with our families and friends, our neighbors!

I look at the tragedy in Texas and it saddens and hurts but I also see the coming together of the community, the counties, the state, and even volunteer groups from across the country coming together, bonding and unifying for the good of the families and the

We saw the same bonding and uniting on 9-11, the states affected by hurricanes and tornados, how mass shootings have brought communities together and united and bond people together. However, we should not need a disaster to bring unity, a unity of peace that bonds us as neighbors.

I hope many of you were able to celebrate Weiner's Bash at Papa's Cabin and/or the St. Clement 104th birthday for the Knights of Columbus Picnic and/or the PACT, (Prayer and Action in Christ Together) Gospel Sing. Hope you are all geared up for the Pike County Fair this week! July 22-26.

Second Baptist Church Vacation Bible School starts on Monday evening of July 28 and runs through Thursday the 31st. Other Vacation Bible Schools are scheduled in August throughout the area.

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"There are two kinds of people: those who don't do what they want to do, so they write down in a diary about what they haven't done, and those who haven't time to write about it because they're out doing it". Richard Flournoy and Lewis R. Foster

Saturday, July 26, the Big River Band will be at the Pike County Senior Center, 220 West Adams Street in Pittsfield with the show starting at 6:30 p.m. No admission charge. Excellent dance floor. Boot Kickers and other dancers are more than welcome. Concession stand available. There will be a 50/50 drawing. Come on out for a fun evening of good coun-

Birthdays and anniversaries for the week of July 23-29,

July 23 - Dan McCall, Toni and John Daniels

July 24 - Paige Syrcle, Robert Manard

July 25 - Josh Dice July 26 - Brian Bradshaw, Roger Milligan, Tony Myers, Joe and Katy Winner

July 27 - Dennis Fish July 29 - Carla Butler

Pray for Israel and her people, pray for all the extreme tragedy that has happened in Texas and all the lives that this has touched, pray for America and America's leaders and our families, pray for those who are sick, Sharon Straus, those who are traveling, and those who have lost loved ones.

I will praise Thee, O Lord, among the people: and I will sing praises unto thee among the nations. For thy mercy is great above the heavens: and thy truth reacheth unto



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The Pittsfield High School Class of 1973 Class Luncheon was held on Friday, July 18, at the Courtyard in Pittsfield. Those in attendance were: Brent Browning; Marion Peters; Dennis Wade; Theresa Sidwell; Kevin Kingery; Theresa Reel; Oren Borrowman; Jeanie Hartman; Marvin and Tonya Reel; Joe Womble and Mary Breden; Cathy Bollegar and Mark Guthrie; and Sharon and Gary Williams.

The Big River Band had a very good show last Friday evening at the Cardinal Inn. There were people from Hannibal, Bowling Green, Curryville, and Louisiana from Missouri, one from Florida, and several places locally in Illinois.

Several from the Pittsfield area went to Mexico, Missouri, Sunday, July 20, to the double birthday celebration for Kathy and Bill Beasley at the KB Event Center. It was extremely well attended (Jamie and I were there), had lots of good country music, and plenty of good food. On our way home, we stopped

at the Walmart in Bowling Green where we saw several people that we knew and visited with.

The books I'm recommending for this week is a series by Kristy Woodson Harvey called The Peach Tree Bluff series. A friend of mine and her grown daughter are both enjoying this series.

Trivia answers from last week (anytime any of you have questions along with the answers that you would be willing to share that I could use in the column, I would be appreciative.):

1. Who was the first American in space? (Alan Shepard,

2. Who was America's first public enemy number one? (John Dillinger)

3. What are the two family names central to Shakespeare's ROMEO AND JULIET? (Capulets and Montagues)

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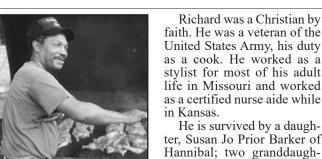
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<u>Obituaries</u>



Walter L. Cropp, 86, of Louisiana died peacefully at his home Wednesday, July 2, 2025.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m., Friday at the Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana. Kathy Redmond officiated. Burial was at Riverview Cemetery in Louisiana.

Visitation was from 11 a.m., until time of service Friday at the funeral home.

He was born May 17, 1939 in Bowling Green to William Cropp Sr. and Helen Hendricks Cropp. He was united in marriage to Sally Richardson on March 16, 1974. They celebrate 51 years of mar-

He is survived by his wife, Sally Cropp; two sons, Brock Cropp Sr., and wife, Cassie of Louisiana, and Bryon Cropp Sr. and wife, Michelle of Springfield; a daughter, Valeria Cropp of St. Louis; one brother, Marvin Cropp and wife, Joyce of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; 15 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William Sr. and Helen Cropp; one sister, Frances Edwards; two brothers, Bill Cropp and Richard Cropp; and a great-grandson, Jamir Price of St. Louis.

Walter entered the United States Navy in March 1956 training at the 9th Naval District at Great Lakes, Ill. Serving with Company 181 on the USS Caloosahatchee AO-98, he spent one year and six months on the ship as a cook which also took him across the Artic Circle. He served a total of six years active duty and two years inactive with an honorable discharge with the rank of seaman in February 1962. He moved to California for a short period of time, then came back to his hometown in Bowling Green.

He was employed at Hercules (Dyno-Nobel, Ireco) chemical plant in Louisiana. He received a service certificate award for 20 years of faithful and loval service. He was a member of the Wise Owls Club of Hercules. After retiring from Hercules, he began his own landscaping business and also simultaneously assisted the elderly with transportation and errands. He was awarded for being an exemplary role model by the Bethel AME Church. He also was a Mason with Perseverance Lodge #92 in Louisiana.

He enjoyed the outdoor life, including fishing, hunting, and camping. He liked dancing and listening to music, and he was well known for his barbecue. He would barbecue for the Bethel AME church whenever they had dinners. He helped raise some of his grandkids who look at him as a father figure.

Honorary pallbearers were Asia Campbell, Kaylyn Anderson, Brycen Cropp, Tru Cropp, Drake DeTienne, and Darius Kennedy. Pallbearers will be B.J. Cropp, Taybren Campbell, Devin Cropp, Tyleik Cropp, Bryon Cropp Jr, and Cody Cropp.

Memorials may be made to the family, c/o the funeral home.



Richard Lee

Richard Lee Prior, 76, of Overland Park, Kan., died Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at his

Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana was in charge of cremation arrangements.

A graveside burial of his urn were at 11 a.m., Saturday at Vandalia Cemetery in Van-

He was born Dec. 20, 1948 in Hannibal to Lewis and Mary Mae Snyder Prior.

Richard was a Christian by faith. He was a veteran of the United States Army, his duty as a cook. He worked as a stylist for most of his adult life in Missouri and worked as a certified nurse aide while

ter, Susan Jo Prior Barker of Hannibal; two granddaughters, Hannah Barker and Angel Barker of Columbia; and a sister, Cheryle Ann Prior Wharton and husband, Pete of Louisiana.

He was preceded in death by his parents and grandparents; his partner, Rick Link; and an infant sister, Wanda

Memorials may be given to the family, c/o the funeral

Online condolences may be sent at collierfuneral.com



Elaine Dwyer

Mildred "Millie" Elaine Dwyer, 73, of Bowling Green died Friday, July 4, 2025, at her home.

Cremation rites are under the direction of Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Bowling Green.

The family will hold a memorial service at a later date.

Millie was born Jan. 4, 1952, in Canton, Ill., to and Frances Clarence Humphrey Yocum. She was united in marriage to Robert Dwyer Jr. on May 18, 1971, in Hannibal. He survives.

Also surviving are children, Rebecca "Becki" Lynn Sims and husband, Ronald of Peyton, Colo., and Robert "Rob" Dwyer III of Bowling Green; grandchildren, Jacob Sims and Katie Rohwer of Pueblo West, Colo., Dayton Dwyer of Bowling Green, Clay Sims of Peyton, Colo., Jessica "Jessi" Sims of Salina, Kan., Emma McMillen and husband, Kayden of Curryville, Madison Dwyer of Bowling Green, Noah Dwyer of Bowling Green, and Tori Green of LaPlata; one greatgrandson, Asher Findling of LaPlata; brothers, Frank Yocum and wife, Carol of Ipava, Ill., Ed Yocum of Lakeview, Fla., Jim Yocum and wife, Char of Pekin, Ill., Bill Yocum and wife, Charlene of Lewistown, Ill., Tom Yocum and wife, Bev of Lewistown, Ill., John Yocum and wife, Dondra of Lewistown, Ill.; and Sam Yocum of Springfield, Ill.; and sisters, Sally Yocum of Lewistown, Ill., Peg Towery of Canton, Ill., Mary Yocum and Bill Garlinghouse of Brutus, Mich., Charlene Hutton and husband. Dannie of Lewistown, Ill. and many aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews, and extended family.

Millie was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Donald Yocum; sisters, Frankie Yocum, Geraldine Lybarger and husband, Don, and Clarice Pelton and husband, Gene; a brother-in-law, Ray Towery; and sisters-in-law, Bonnie Yocum, and Lucretia Yocum.

Millie grew up as part of a large family and learned quickly to be a hard worker on the family's farm. Millie graduated from Lewistown High School in 1970. After graduation, Millie worked at a local nursing home and at a local restaurant as the head

After marrying Bob, they lived in Hannibal and Palmyra until moving to Bowling Green in 2013. Millie had worked in several restaurants in the Hannibal area, and as a nurse's aide in Quincy, Ill. She later worked at Watlow, and then General Mills, from where she retired.

Millie enjoyed watching murder mysteries on BBC and old westerns. She lovedcamping, flower gardening, crocheting, sewing, and making quilts for her family. Most of all, Millie loved every moment spent with her family and cherished her long-lasting marriage.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be payable to Community Loving Care Hospice or the Veterans of Foreign

Wars in Bowling Green. Online condolences may be made at www.bibbveach.com.



Stephen Ray "Steve" Fendrick, 68, of Laddonia died Thursday, July 10, 2025 at University of Missouri Hospital-Columbia.

There are no services planned at this time.

He was born June 29, 1957 in Mexico, the son of Richard Lee "Dick" Fendrick and Dorothy Caroline Hemman Fendrick. He married Shirley Faye Arnett on July 23, 1997 in Bennett Springs. She sur-

Other survivors include two daughters, Colette Whelan and husband, Richard of Mexico, and Chanda Herron of Centralia; two granddaughters, Winona Whelan and Adessa Lovell and husband, Brian of Vandalia; two greatgrandchildren, Lyla and Alanna Lovell; a brother, Richard Fendrick and wife, Wilma of Laddonia, a sisterin-law. Karen Fendrick of Laddonia; along with several nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and a host of friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, David Fendrick.

Steve enjoyed trout fishing where he was a Weavers lunker club member. He enjoyed searching out the next antique treasure and working on his antique car but most of all he enjoyed his time spent with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren or as he would say the "Littles".

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association or the American Cancer Society, c/o Bienhoff Funeral Home, P.O. Box 6, Laddonia, MO 63352.



Venita Ann Elder

Venita Ann Elder, 94, of Hannibal, formerly of New London and Center died Friday, July 11, 2025, at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, Ill.

Friends and family were invited to Venita's Life Celebration at a visitation that was from 5-7 p.m., Wednesday, at James O'Donnell Funeral Home in Hannibal.

Funeral services were at 10 a.m., Thursday at the funeral home. Pastor Larry Cornelius officiated. Burial was at Grand View Burial Park in Hannibal.

Venita was born Friday, Jan. 30, 1931, the daughter of Homer N. and Reba Mae Lucas Tiller, at the home of her grandparents, Robert and Anne Catherine Gibson Lucas, southwest of New London in rural Ralls County, a country girl at heart.

She was united in marriage to Daniel L. Elder on Nov. 2, 1956, they were married for 58 years. He preceded her in death Feb. 8, 2016.

Survivors include her two daughters, Nancy A. Lamberson of Hannibal, and Jean Fowler and husband, Glenn of Vandalia; five grandchildren, Nanette Johnson and husband, Joe, Carla Lamberson, and Nathan Lamberson, all of Hannibal, Lucas Fowler and Madison Turntine of Oak Grove, and Logan Fowler of Vandalia; three great-grandchildren, Regan Ewert and husband, Jesse, Skyleah Jo Robertson and husband, Blake, and Jared Johnson of Hannibal; four great-greatgrandchildren, Adisyn and Ainslee Baker, Silas and Sebastian Ewert; a brother-in-Howard Lake of Philadelphia; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Venita graduated from Center High School with the class of 1949, known to her classmates as "Tiller Ann",

she loved playing basketball and carried fond memories of her younger days. Venita continued her education at Kirksville State Teachers College, attending four semesters to obtain her teachers certificate, and continued to attend for several short spring/summer terms there.

She taught school at Cross Lane School in rural Ralls County and Crow School in rural Audrain County. When the country schools consolidated, she pursued other careers, working in the warehouse office at the International Shoe Co., St. Elizabeth Hospital, in the lab, and Western Printing and Publishing Co., until they closed the Hannibal plant and moved to St. Louis, Life and Causality Insurance Co., and New London Company.

Dan planted the garden and Venita canned or froze whatever he harvested. Strawberries were a family favorite in the late spring months when they were so plentiful. Venita loved spending time with her family, going to the Forget Me Not Senior Center, playing cards or other games whenever possible. Word search puzzles, watching cardinals and eagles and watching the Gameshow Network were also a few of Venita's favorites.

Venita was preceded in death by her parents, Homer and Reba Mae Tiller; a son, Nathan Louis Elder; one sonin-law, Marion Lamberson; and great-grandchild, Elli Renee Baker.

Pallbearers were Glenn Fowler, Lucas Fowler, Nathan R. Lamberson, Jared Johnson, Joe Johnson, and Leslie Cornelius. Honorary pallbearers were Sam Lamberson, Logan Fowler, Jessie Lucas, Brad Lucas, Jiggs Lucas, Howard Lake, and Robert Lamberson.

Memorial contributions may be made to Forget Me Not Senior Center in New London, or St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

Online condolences may be shared and video tribute may be viewed at www.JamesODonnellFuneralHome.com.



Gary Lee Poiston

Gary Lee Polston, 69, of Montgomery City died Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at SLU Hospital.

Visitation were Saturday from 10-11 a.m., at First Baptist Church of Louisiana

Funeral was held Saturday at 11 a.m., at the church. Officiating was the Rev. Woodrow Polston. Interment was in Fairview Cemetery, Frankford.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church of Louisiana, c/o McCoy-Blossom Funeral Homes & Crematory, 701 N. Bus. Hwy 61, Bowling Green, MO 63334.

Friends and family may sign the online guestbook @ www.mccoyblossomfh.com.



Wallace

Robert Elmor Wallace, born Feb. 28, 1950, to Fred and Ruby Meinershagen Wallace in St. Louis died unexpectedly at his home Tuesday,

July 15, 2025.

The Wallace family lived in the New Melle area until 1966 when they moved to Frankford. Growing up, Robert was actively involved in 4-H, FFA, and played Khoury League baseball.

Funeral services were Saturday at 12 p.m., at Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Bowling Green

with the Rev. Richard Epperson officiating.

Visitation was Saturday from 10 a.m.-12 p.m., at the

funeral home. Robert graduated from Bowling Green High School in 1969. He married Mary Ann Kirk in September of 1969, and they had two children, Debbie and Kris. He later married Bonnie Riffle on Dec. 12, 1975, and they had three children, Vance, Bobby Wayne, and April Day.

During and after high school, Robert worked at various local service stations. He later worked at Flynn Well Drilling and as a union iron worker. In 1985, he joined the Pike County Highway Department as a road grader operator, where he worked until his retirement in 2013 after 28 years of service. Robert was a lifelong mechanic, anything prior to computer enhanced vehicles, he could fix. Robert contracted various side jobs with his heavy equipment. He was also the local tire man, hay man, and loved tending to his cattle.

Robert cherished spending time with family and friends and was known for making new friends everywhere he went. He also enjoyed mechanical work (Bob's Repair), heavy equipment work, and his cattle and hay business. He loved finding good deals and listening to good old country music. Robert was well known for his inquisitive nature and was always ready to help others at a moment's notice.

He was a legendary road grader operator, especially appreciated by families living on Pike 48 and 49.

Many great memories were made camping at White Sands with the family, riding trails on three-wheelers, fourwheelers, and more recently, side-by-sides, as well as trail riding on horses and mules. He also enjoyed coon hunting and deer hunting with his

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Bonnie Riffle Wallace of Frankford; his children, daughter, Debbie Buchanan and husband, Scott of Frankford, and their children. Danielle Buchanan and Brandon Buchanan and wife, Joelle; a daughter, Kris Garrison of Bowling Green, and her children, Jarod Peak and wife, Rachel, Tiffany Cole and husband, Saxton, and Jeremy Garrison and wife, Samantha; a son, Vance Smith and wife, Dawn, and their children, Lorelei Stoops and husband, Brad, Candance Campbell and husband, Josh, Dylan Smith, Gage Smith, Smith, Brendenn Cameron Niemeyer, Niemeyer and wife, Cara, and Dylan Niemeyer; and daughter, April Luebbers and husband, Tim and their children,

Avril and Baylee Luebbers. Robert is also survived by 13 great-grandchildren; a sister, Brenda Cook and husband, Mike of Frankford; one brother, Leon Wallace and wife, Petra of Hannibal in addition to numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family, and friends.

Robert was preceded in death by his parents, Fred and Ruby; infant son, Bobby Wayne; and nephew, Ronnie Preston.

Serving as honorary pallbearers were Jim Ford, Ozark Bailey, Gary Keeven, Larry Keller, Rick Worley, and Kenny McCarthy.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association or donor's choice.

Robert will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Put Our Classifieds To Work For You



Harold Alvie Francis, 91, of Bowling Green went to be with the Lord Saturday, June 21, 2025 at his home.

He was a member of the Curryville Baptist Church. Harold was born to Alvie Francis and Ruth Moore on March 14, 1934. He had two sisters, Mary Stutterfield of Arkansas and May Francis of Bowling Green, both are deceased. He was married to Barbara Francis Stone on Oct. 6, 1956. They had two sons, Rickey Francis of Louisiana and Timmy Francis of Bowling Green. He was blessed with eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

He served as a deacon in the Baptist Church and was a counselor to the boys at Camp Inlow Christian Camp. Harold served in the army in 1956 and was stationed in Korea for 18 months. He was also in the army reserve for several years. He received a sharp shooters medal and good conduct medal.

After his army duty he was hired at Dundee Cement as a heavy equipment operator. He liked his job and was a faithful employee.

He worked for 28 years and only missed two days of work. He enjoyed joking around with his friends at work.



James Monroe Ingram

James Monroe Ingram, 86, of Frankford died Tuesday, Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at Mercy Hospital-St. Louis, as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

Funeral services will be Sunday at 11 a.m., at Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Bowling Green. Burial will be in Mt. Pisgah Cemetery in Bowling Green.

Visitation will be Saturday from 4-7 p.m., at the funeral home. James was born July 13, 1939 in Frankford, Missouri to Ermal and Gladys Kuntz Ingram. He was united in marriage to Elsie Anderson on June 27, 1959. Elsie sur-

Also surviving are a son, James Ingram and wife, Barbara; one daughter, Rose Breshears; grandchildren, Michelle Shackle and husband, Adam, Amanda Kessing-er and husband, Cole, Emily Ingram, and Cody Breshears and wife, Cassidy; great-grandchildren, Ember Shackle, and Pyper, Maddox, and Copelynd Breshears; a sister, Barbara Jenkins; and many nieces, nephews and extended family.

Preceding James in death were his parents; siblings, Verona Green, Gwendolyn Gibbs, Wayne Ingram, and Donald Ingram; grandchil-

See Obituaries on page 6



116 N. Court - Bowling Green

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Classifieds

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

YARD SALE

GARAGE SALE - Saturday, Aug. 2. Tools, ciruclar saws, table saws, zaw saw, vintage tools, two super closets, one dry box, 2 ft. x 3 ft. x 6 ft., with locks, interior white; exhaust fans, Kind Led light, plus more. Chain link fences -11'x3'8"; two 10'x6'; two 10'x4'; 7'4"x3' 3"; 6'x6'x6"; 6'x5'; two gates, 32" x 41"; 35"x39"; Hoover vacuum, space heaters. Active Aqua water chillers, everything you need for a hydroponics grow. 105 S. 14th, B.G., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. or call Erick 314-236-1241.

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GE microwave \$85. Vandalia Firestone, Appliance & Furniture, 573- 754-5055. 594-6624.

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Frank Wallace 610 W Hwy 54 Vandalia 573-594-2235 FEWallace@ShelterInsurance.com

OBITUARIES

Continued from page 4

dren, Peter Ingram and Charles Ingram; and son-inlaw, Keith Breshears.

James lived in Frankford his entire life and attended Peno School. After leaving school, James worked at several local businesses, including Valley Steel in Louisiana, and Jones Bros. Wrecker Service, M & K Towing, and Koester's Service Station, all in Bowling Green. Most probably know him better from his favorite job; selling his home grown produce around the area.

When not working in his garden, James could be found watching westerns, reading Louis Lamar books, or reading local newspapers. He also enjoyed deer hunting. He attempted fishing every now and then but found he really didn't have the patience for it. James was very proud of his family and loved spending time with them.

Pallbearers will be Junior Green, Leonard Green, Bud Jones, Gabe Thomure, Eric Weber, and Richard Jenkins. Honorary pallbearers will be Merlin Singleton, Jim Burns, and Brendan Weber.

Memorials may be made to Missouri Disabled Sports or Tiny Heros.



Richard 'Rick' Czerniewski

Richard "Rick" Adam Cz-erniewski, 69, of Perry died at

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home, surrounded by family on Thursday, July 10, 2025 due to complications from previous strokes.

He was born Sept. 22, 1955 to Richard and Mary Jo Czerniewski in St. Louis. graduating Wentzville high school in 1973, Rick married his high school sweetheart, Donna on May 18, 1974. He and Donna went on to have three children, spending over 50 years together. Rick was one that was always "on the go". He enjoyed visiting his kids and grandkids, going to auctions, playing cards, and working in his shop. He never met a stranger.

He is survived by his wife, Donna Cox Czerniewski; Michael Czchildren, erniewski and wife, Deann, Heather Breakfield and husband, Noel, and Jenifer Eckert and husband, Michael; grandchildren, Christopher, Holly and husband, Anthony, Melaynee, Madaline, Ella, Kaylee, Harleigh, Jaxson, and Paisley; a great-grandson; two brothers, Gregory Czerniewski and wife, Luann and Kevin Czerniewski and wife, Lisa; along with numerous other family members and friends.

Rick was preceded in death by by his father, Richard Czerniewski, and his mother, Mary Brown Czerniewski.

Septic

Pumping

vited to sign the online guest register at mccoyblossomfh.



Willie Richardson Jr., 59, of Bowling Green died Friday, July 11, 2025, at Mercy Hospital-St.

Funeral services will be Saturday at 12 p.m., at Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Bowling Green with The Rev. Robert Bell and Bro. James Smith officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Bowling Green.

Visitation will be Saturday from 11 a.m., until the time of service at the funeral home.

Willie was born June 24, 1966, in Grady, Ark., to Bertha Porter. He grew up in Bowling Green where he attended school. He was active in sports, especially baseball, and he was a member of White rose Baptist Church in Bowling Green. He enjoyed umpiring and worked

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Game 7, which took him to areas such as Chesterfield, where he enjoyed umpiring traveling team baseball. He was an avid fisherman who loved to spend all day in the summer at the riverbank. He loved all sports, but specifically St. Louis Cardinals, Iowa Hawkeyes, Mike Tyson, and the

Chicago Bears.

Willie is survived by his wife, Sylvia Richardson; special friend, Katherine Breshears; sisters, Cherry (Mel) Polston and wife, Mel, Delores Miller and husband, Leslie, and Joyce McPike; and brothers, Otha Porter and Ricky Richardson. His children are Rashonda Richardson, Blake Shaw, Desiree Richardson, Kendra Christenson, Kyle Lovaglia, Rochelle Richardson, Mary Jo Twilla, Aleah Maiers, Trey Fisher, Debonayr Palmer, Devin Shanks, Tanisha Richardson, and Bershawn Richardson. He is also survived by Aunt Fee and Aunt Rosie, and Uncle Maurice and Uncle Leo Porter. He had 13 grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and

He is preceded in death by his grandmother, Ophelia Porter; his mother, Bertha Reading; a brother, Leon Porter; a son, Nicholas Twilla; and nephew, Jamie Porter.

Willie didn't know a stranger and stayed in contact with friends he had in elementary

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school. He had a great sense of humor and loved his family very much.

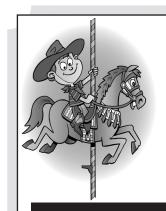
Memorials may be made to the Bowling Green Khoury

Online condolences may be made at www.bibbveach.

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NOTICE OF ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the Van-Far Fire Protection District Special Election will be held in the County of Pike on Tuesday, August 5, 2025, as certified to this office by the participating entities of Pike County. The ballot for the election shall be in substantially the following form:

OFFICIAL BALLOT SPECIAL ELECTION

PIKE COUNTY, MISSOURI TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2025

To vote, darken in the ovals(s) completely next to your choice(s), like this: If you are in favor of any question submitted up this ballot, darken the oval to the left of the word "YES" If you are opposed to any question submitted upon this ballot, darken the oval to the left of the word "NO" If you tear, deface, or make a mistake and wrongfully mark any ballot, you must return it to to the

VAN-FAR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

election judges and receive a new ballot

PROPOSITION 1

PROPOSITION 3

Shall there be incorporated a fire protection district?

> O YES O NO

Shall the Board of Directors of the Van-Far Fire Protection District be authorized to levy a tax rate of not more than thrity cents (.30) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) assessed valuation to provide funds for the support of

O YES

ONO

PROPOSITION 2

Five directors will be elected, and their erms of office shall be at least six (6) years for the candidate receiving the highest number of votes, at least four (4) years for the candidates eceiving the second and third highest number of votes, and at least two (2) years for the candidates receiving the fourth and fifth highest

FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS VOTE FOR FIVE (5)

C LEE SCROGIN

OHEATHER G. WILLIAMS DEAN MIDDLETON MARVIN YAGER JUSTIN HOPKE MARK WOODWARD

I, Laura Stumbaugh, County Clerk/Election Authority within and for the County of Pike, State of Missouri, do hereby certify the above and foregoing is a true and correct list of the Candidates entitled to be voted for at the General Municipal Election to be held on August 5, 2025.

s/ Laura Stumbaugh, County Clerk



Gospel Sing Attracts Big Crowds



Five-year-old Landry Norvel enjoys the Pike County Gospel Sing July 20 with his mother, Jenna, and his fouryear-old sister, Lily. The three were among more than 200 people who attended the annual event.

By Brent Engel for Long." Ava Adams, "Oh,

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The annual Pike County Fair Gospel Sing attracted more than 200 people Sunday, July 20.

Brenda Haddock gave the welcome. Pastor Julie Leverenz was emcee, and led the audience in singing "Sanctuary." Also giving remarks was Karen Arico. Patti Crane provided the offertory prayer. Almost \$1,450 was raised to be split by the Bowling Green Ministerial Alliance and The Hope Center.

Musicians and songs in the first half were:



tist Choir, "Worthy is the Lamb." Musicians performing in the second half were:

field For My Lord." Karen

Arico, "Thank You, Jesus, For the Blood." White Rose Bap-

Bowling Green Second Baptist Choir, "Oh, My, My" rst half were: and "I'll Fly Away." Charlotte
Marion Branstetter, "Not Ingram, "Flowers." Calvin

lor of Science in Education in

Early Childhood Education-

BSED, Minor in Human

Bachelor of Science in Agri-

cultural Systems Technology-BS, Bachelor of Science in

Agribusiness Management-

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Phone: 573.324.6023

Bowling Green, MO 63334

(call for directions if needed)

16637 Pike 318

Avery Hall of Paynesville,

Mizzou Spring 2025 Graduation List roughs of Frankford, Bache-

Devlp & Family Sci-MI.

At the University of Missouri, students dive into their interests, uncover their passions and gain the hands-on experience needed to begin their careers. In May 2025, 5,074 Tigers earned a total of 5,452 degrees and 2,172 cer-

And Mizzou graduates put their education to use. More than 95 percent of recent alumni find employment, continue their education or begin military or service roles within six months of graduation. They also join a global network of more than 362,500 proud Mizzou alumni.

Area graduates include: Panna Marie Connaway of Vandalia, Bachelor of Science in Education in Special Education-BSED.

Devyn Rae Keller, Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education-BS, Undergraduate Certificate in Floral Artistry and Mngmt-Ugrd Cert, Minor in Plant Sciences-MI.

Bowen, Andrew Craig of Bowling Green, Bachelor of Science in Accountancy in Accountancy-BSACC, Master of Accountancy in Accountancy-MACC, Graduate Certificate in Accounting Data Analytics-GRCT.

Shay S. Butler of Bowling Green, Bachelor of Health Science in Health Science -BHS, Minor in Psychological Sciences-MI, Undergraduate Certificate in Neuroscience-Ugrd Cert, Undergraduate Certificate in Multicultural Studies-Ugrd Cert

Callie Anna Edmond, of Bowling Green, Bachelor of Science in Nursing in Nursing-BSN.

Allyson Rose Huberof Bowling Green, Master of Health Science in Speech, Lang & Hear Sci-MHS.

Evan Scott Meyer of Bowling Green, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Business Administration-BSBA, Minor in Economics-MI.

Adam Richard Twellman of Bowling Green, Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Systems Technology-BS, Minor in Agribusiness Management-MI, Undergraduate Certificate in Precision Agriculture Technology-Ugrd Cert.

Mary Margaret Garrett of Clarksville, Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management - BS, Minor in Business-MI, Undergraduate Certificate in Global Business-Ugrd Cert., Undergraduate Certificate in Floral Artistry and Mngmt-Ugrd

Laura Huckstep of Clarksville, Bachelor of Journalism in Journalism-BJ, Minor in Psychology-MI, Minor in Entrepreneurship & Innvtn Mgmt-MI.

Daniel Edward Harvey, of Eolia, Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness Management-BS.

Kari Leake of Bowling Green, Bachelor of Science in Natural Resource Science and Management-BS, Undergraduate Certificate in Sustainability-Ugrd Cert, Minor in Environmental Sciences-MI.

Makenzie Lynae Bur-



The Louisiana First Baptist Choir performs "Shine,



Dawn Bell Baucom provided a peppy "I Am On The Battlefield For My Lord."

Colbert, "The Lord is My Strength." Kyle Miller Family, "Taste and See." Donna Grote, "My Tribute." Debbie Ingram, "Sweetest Name I

The two-hour concert concluded with the audience

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Everyone

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Year's Pike

County Fair

July 22-26

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4-H & FFA Exhibits In The

Fairgrounds Building While At The Fair

Paid For By Committee To Elect



Tim, Ethan, Kaitlyn, Monica, Leslie, Rachael, Steve & Cole

Bowling Green



Harper and Nash are pictured making avacodo dip with Kayla.



Pictured with Ethan and learning about insects are Harper and her mother and Nash is in the background.



Don't miss out - this special offer ends July 31st!

Farber Branch Library Hosts Color Our World Summer Program

It was a busy time at the Farber Branch last week for the Children's Summer Reading Program, Color Our World

Wednesday, July 9, Kayla, Nutrition Program Associate Audrain County went over different grains in diets. The children made avocado dip and ate it on rice cakes. She has more programs scheduled in the next month, contact the library for dates.

Ethan, conservation educator from the Conservation Department shared information July 10, 2025 on the main characteristics of insects and compared it to the live tarantula he brought. The children used the characteristics they had learned to know that the spider isn't an insect.

The children looked through a viewer to see the scales on the butterfly wings.



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City of Bowling Green Public Hearing Notice

The City of Bowling Green will hold a public hearing on July 24, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. at City Hall, 16 W. Church Street, Bowling Green, Missouri, to discuss the City's submission of an application to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program on behalf of the Pike County Agency for Developmental Disabilities (PCADD). The City is interested in obtaining all citizens' input on community development needs within Bowling Green and Pike

As part of the hearing process, citizens will be asked to verbally assist in completing a Needs Assessment document. This document will outline what residents consider the strengths and weaknesses of the community. Local participation is vital to ensure the project reflects the true priorities of the community and to gather feedback on the proposed CDBG project.

Eligible activities under the CDBG program include the improvement of community facilities, demolition, general infrastructure, and other uses permitted by law. At least 51% of the funds must benefit low-to-moderate income persons. No displacement of persons will occur as a result of this project.

The City of Bowling Green proposes to submit an application on behalf of PCADD for the construction of a new Developmental Support Center and the renovation of the existing day program facility located at 900 Independence Drive, Bowling Green, Missouri. These improvements will support the agency's mission of serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities by addressing overcrowding and expanding program space, including quiet rooms, a sensory room, and a technology lab.

The total estimated project cost is \$1,099,315. PCADD will contribute local cash from reserve funds and \$500 in in-kind services the City will provide \$500 in in-kind services, and the remaining balance will be requested through CDBG funds. The project will meet the national objective of low-to-moderate income limited

All citizens are encouraged to attend and provide input on the proposed project. For more information, please contact City Administrator, Linda Luebrecht, at 573-324-5451. If you need special accommodation for the hearing, including language access assistance, please contact the City Administrator by July 23 at 3 p.m. The meeting location is accessible, and the City will make every effort to provide reasonable accommodation.

Posted on: Posted by:



We will see you at the Pike County Fair!



3 GOUNTY FA

BOWLING GREEN, MISSOURI

July 22 - 26, 2025

Saturday, July 19

10 am - Rabbit Show 5 pm - Cattle Show

Sunday, July 20

Noon - 4-H Gymkhana 3 pm - Gospel Music

Tuesday, July 22

Adults: \$20:

Night Children 12 & Under Free 9 am - Poultry Show

5 pm - Goat & Lamb Show

5 pm - Food Pavilion Music by

5 pm - Petting Zoo Open

A Side of Country

6 pm - Carnival Rides Open

6 pm - Little Mr. & Miss Contest

8 pm - Rodeo by Outlaw/5J

Wednesday, July 23

Adults: \$20; Children 4-12: \$10

4 pm - Swine Show

5 pm - Food Pavilion Music by Ben Hummel

5 pm - Petting Zoo Open

6 pm - Carnival Rides Open

6 pm - Western Fun Horse Show

6 pm -Talent Contest

7 pm - Motocross Quad Races

7 pm - Truck Pull - EMTP

Thursday, July 24

Adults: \$20; Children 4-12: \$10

5 pm - Food Pavilion Music by

Tyler Cannon 5 pm - Petting Zoo Opens

6 pm - Carnival Rides Open

6 pm - Western Speed Horse Show

6:30 pm - Baby Show & Diaper Derby 5 pm - Food Pavilion Music by

7 pm - 4-H & FFA Livestock Sale 7 pm - Truck & Tractor Pull - Xcaliber 7 pm - Power Wheels

Friday, July 25

Adults: \$25; Children 4-12: \$15 9:15 am - Clover Kid Pet Show

9:45 am - Cat & Dog Show 5 pm - Food Pavilion Music by

Disengage 5 pm - Petting Zoo Opens

7 pm - Motocross Dirt Bike Races 5:30 pm - Look-A-Like Contest

6 pm - Carnival Rides Open

7 pm - Power Wheels

7:30 pm - Demolition Derby

8 pm - Beer Garden Music by Country Soul

Saturday, July 26

Adults: \$25; Children 4-12: \$15

11 am - Horseshoe Tournament

1 pm - Cornhole Tournament

3 pm - Carnival Rides Open

2 pm - Pedal Tractor Pull

5 pm - Prize Bingo

Fair Maiden & The Dudes

7:30 pm - Demolition Derby

8 pm - Beer Garden Music by Country Soul





Season Tickets

Adults: \$45 • Children 4-12: \$30 • Children 3 & Under Free

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Peoples Bank & Trust • HNB Bank

Fastlane The Jug & At the Bridge • Eolia •

Fastlane C-Store

Rodeo Tuesdav July 22



Truck & Tractor Pull Wed. & Thurs. July 23-24



See Event Details at www.pikecountyfair.org

Pike County Fairgrounds - Hwy 54 East between Bowling Green and Louisiana, MO