

THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

NEWS FOR PIKE, EASTERN AUDRAIN & NORTHERN LINCOLN COUNTIES

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Stumbaugh '70 Dodge Charger To Be Featured At Lions Club Car Show

Kevin and Rhonda Stumbaugh's 1970 Dodge Charger will be featured at the Bowling Green Lions Club car and truck show at the Champ Clark Heritage Festival in Bowling Green Saturday, Sept. 13.

The car and truck show will be on the courthouse square rain or shine.

Registration will be from 9 a.m.-noon. Participants may compete for trophies or enter a drawing for cash prizes to be awarded at 2:30 p.m. All entries will receive a dash plaque with a picture of the green 1970 Dodge Charger. The following is Kevin's story regarding the ownership and restoration of the beautiful Charger.

My 1970 DODGE CHARGER STORY

I got a ride I'll never forget-it was in a 1969 Dodge Charger owned by my dad's friend, Bill Hall. The sound of the engine, the speed, the squealing of tires-it left a lasting impression on me. Right after that ride, I turned to my dad and said, "I've got to have one when I turn 16."

When I was 15, I started asking my dad about getting a Charger. Not long after, he came to me and said he'd found one for sale-a 1970 Dodge Charger 500. We drove out to see it, and it was love at first sight. The car had belonged to Harry Twellman of St. Clement, who originally bought it from Shaon Motors in Bowling Green. I paid \$900 of my own hard-earned money for it, saved from helping my grandpa on his farm. Every dollar went toward that car.

It was hard to wait until I

turned 16, but in the meantime, I kept myself busy working on the car. I started cleaning it up, added an AM/FM 8-track stereo and speakers, and began making it my own. The paint and interior were rough, so I had it repainted by Earl "Smitty" Smith, and his wife, Martha Smith, did the upholstery work. They helped bring the Charger a step closer to what I had imagined from the start.

After high school and up until I got married in 1992, the Charger didn't get driven much at all. Life got busier, and with other vehicles in the mix, it spent more time parked than on the road. By 1992, I



parked it for good. It sat in a shed at my parents' place in the country for years.

I thought about selling it more than once-but every time, I'd remember how people would say, "I wish I still had my first car." That always stuck with me-and it made me think twice every time I considered letting the Charger go.

But in 2009, I finally made the decision to bring it back to life. I disassembled the interior piece by piece, had the body media-blasted down to bare metal, and cleaned and painted parts by hand. I wanted to be involved in every step of the process. Dennis Dixon and Kent Dixon lend a hand, helping pull the

engine and remove the transmission-two big jobs that set the foundation for the full rebuild.

After that, Chad Henderson took over the bodywork and gave the Charger a stunning respray in its original dark green metallic. The heart of the car-the 383 engine-was rebuilt by Dennis Dixon, bored .030 over, with hydraulic lift Comp Cam, TTI ceramic-coated headers, 440 Source "Stealth" aluminum heads, aluminum dual plane intake manifold, water pump aluminum housing, and topped off with a Holley 750 4bbl carburetor. Kent Dixon rebuilt the 727 TorqueFlite 3-Speed automatic transmission, Eric Deters rebuilt the 8 rear end with 3.23 gear ratio. Meanwhile, Schultz Classic Car Restoration in Silcox restored the dark green interior to factory-fresh condition, completing the transformation.

Afterward, some minor work was completed by Hunter Brown in Louisiana.

Today, that same car still gives me the same thrill I felt as a teenager back in 1978. The rumble of the 383 engine, the way it grips the road, and the admiring looks and thumbs up It draws at every stop-there's simply nothing else like it.

I love showing it at car shows and hearing stories from others who remember theirs or who always dreamed of owning one. This Charger is more than a car. It's a connection to the past, a labor of love, and a reminder that some dreams are worth holding on to.

Lillian Schaper School To Close Permanently

Staff and students' family members were only recently informed of the yesterday's decision to close 12 schools around the state for the severely disabled.

Lillian Schaper State School in Bowling Green is among the list that will be permanently closed by the end of the 25/26 school year.

According to a staff member, the school currently serves 12 students (grades K-12), although that number fluctuates.

There are also around six staff members employed at the school.

The school has had a long history in Pike County and Bowling Green. The Pike County Agency for Developmental Disabilities website documents the school as being originally

founded in the 60's.

"Pike County has a long history of leading the way in caring for its citizens who have developmental disabilities," the organization wrote in a history of the school. "Starting with a group of parents, family members and interested citizens, the Champ Clark

Association for Retarded Children was founded in the 1950's. It functioned as a parent support group and led to Pike County parents becoming aware of and involved in what was going on around the State. In 1955, four mothers of children who had intellectual disabilities and no school to attend approached Mrs. Ruth Jensen, county superintendent of schools, and requested her assistance."

The organization goes on to document the birth of the school which started as classes in the basement of the abandoned Bowling Green Elementary/Junior High School in 1960.

"The school moved, in 1972, to two trailers set up on land at the new Ruth Jensen Village," the website continued. "After outgrowing the trailers, a brand new school, Lillian Schaper State School No. 14, was constructed in 1974. The school was named after Mrs. Lillian Schaper of Bowling Green, who worked tirelessly for the school children."

That history did not affect Missouri's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's (DESE) decision.

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Bolton Wins Reserve Grand Champion At Missouri State Fair With Bacon

The Grand Champion Bacon was exhibited by Paxton Crane of Centralia. Paxton is the son of Travis and Stacy Crane and is a member of the Hallsville FFA Chapter.

The Reserve Grand Champion Bacon was exhibited by Aidon Bolton of Bowling Green. Aidon is the son of Steve Bolton and Amanda Perkins and is a member of the Bowling Green FFA Chapter.

On Saturday, Aug. 16, Paxton and Aidon will sell their bacons in the Missouri State Fair Best of Missouri Awards and Sale. Proceeds from the sale benefit both the winning exhibitors and the Missouri State Fair Youth in Agriculture (YIA) Scholarship Program.

Many exhibitors will work toward earning a place in the ring at the Best of Missouri Awards and Sale. Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Junior Exhibitors will sell their Bacons, Hams, Steer Carcass, Barrow Carcass, Lamb Carcass and Meat Goat Car-

cass. Award-Winning Missouri Grown Products, Best of Class Missouri Wine Collection, Governor's Cup Wine Honoree and Best of Class Cheese will also be featured in the auction. The Awards was at 10:30 a.m. and the sale started at 11:15 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 16, in the Lowell Mohler Assembly Hall. The Sale of Champions followed the event starting at 1:30 p.m. The entire auction was broadcast live by KMMO radio online. The auction was also live on the Missouri Department of Agriculture's Facebook page.

Through the generous support of Youth in Agriculture sponsors and the Missouri State Fair Foundation, the Missouri State Fair is able to award scholarships each year to Missouri youth. Last year, forty-two \$1,750 scholarships, sponsored by Youth in Agriculture, five \$1,750 scholarships, sponsored by MFA, Inc. & MFA Oil Co., nine \$2,000 scholarships, sponsored by Bell Trust, four supreme \$2,500

scholarships, sponsored by the Missouri State Fair Foundation, one supreme \$2,500 scholarship, sponsored by Sydenstricker Nobbe Partners/Sydenstricker Genetics, one \$3,500 Sharon Topliff scholarship, sponsored by Youth in Agriculture and one platinum \$5,000 S. Wayne Yokley scholarship, sponsored by Youth in Agriculture were awarded to youth across Missouri. Since 1992, the YIA committee has awarded 941 scholarships totaling \$1,190,250.

A complete listing of the 2024 Youth in Agriculture sponsors is available on the Fair's website. A listing of the 2025 sponsors will be posted soon. Anyone interested in becoming a sponsor can visit the Fair's website to make an online donation. To receive more information about sponsorship, contact Chuck Miller at 573-881-3589, Rodney Heimer at 217-257-6182, or Chip Kemp at 573-239-0524.



National Night Out In Louisiana

The National Night Out celebration held Saturday, Aug. 9 proved to be a popular event. The Louisiana Police Department and the Louisiana Fire Chief and Louisiana emergency responders paid a visit to each of the reported locations, the Lumley residence, the Smith residence and the Powelson residence. "At one point, we had over 40 people in attendance," said Paulette Powelson. Everyone reported a good turnout and an enjoyable evening. "It was great to see such a great response from the community and fun getting to know so many of the residents in the community," said Diana Huckstep, LCBA Chairperson and organizer of the event. They hope to see many more folks in the community get involved with the National Night Out celebration next year.

Mistake Or Murder?

Former Louisiana Mayor Dies After Shooting

By BRENT ENGEL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Editor's note: Following is the first part of a story series by contributing writer Brent Engel.

Questions surrounded the 1915 death of former Louisiana Mayor Alten Walker at the hands of Fred Wilkins.

The biggest was if it was accidental or deliberate.

The case drew widespread attention because the victim was on the staff of Missouri Gov. Elliott Major, a Pike County native.

"This little city is torn with excitement," The Quincy Whig said. Reporter Perry C. Ellis treated readers to a poetic aside, saying there "are circumstances and facts surrounding the deed itself, whether it was involuntary or not, that draws closely about it the tapestries of tragic mystery."

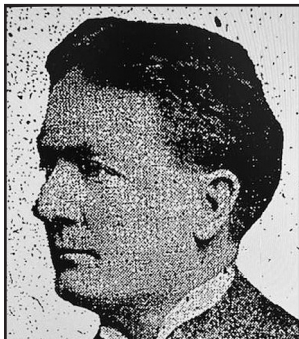
Local newspapers tried to quell suspicions.

"True, there is a mystery about the shooting, which has not been satisfactorily explained, and the public...imagines and talks the worst for it," the Pike County News wrote. "But there have been many wild, unfounded and untrue rumors spread about the case that are quite unfortunate and do no one nor the community any good."

Alten Mudd Walker was born in Pike County on Sept. 8, 1868. He taught school and worked at the post office before becoming a real estate and insurance agent. In 1890, the Democrat was elected clerk of the Louisiana court of pleas. The following year, he married Lillie Jackson. The couple's home was on Tennessee Street.

In 1893, Walker bought the Mitchell & Matson abstract business at the corner of Third and Georgia and set up an office. John Welburne Matson called him "thoroughly honest and untiring."

Some began to wonder after



A newspaper image of Alten Walker.

an investigation in 1894 found that Walker had not forwarded to the county a little over \$254 in court fees - more than \$11,500 today.

Walker, one of at least five elected officials named in the query, paid back the money immediately and was not charged. However, there would be more legal trouble in the years ahead.

As the new century dawned, Walker was elected mayor and served until 1909. He was shot on Tuesday, March 2, 1915.

Accounts vary, but it happened sometime after 9 p.m. Walker and Wilkins each swore it was an accident that took place at Walker's office. The testimony of others indicated Walker might have been wounded before the two men got there.

Fred Daniel Wilkins was a Louisiana native and a fellow real estate agent who had once worked in Walker's office before setting out on his own.

"So far as is known, the business separation was amicable, and so far as anyone knows there has never been any trouble between the two men," The Whig said.

Wilkins had returned to Louisiana in late 1914 after living in Hannibal, and was occupying a home on North Third Street owned by Walker's mother-in-law, Eliza Jackson.

Dr. James William Crewdson told investigators he was at the Elks Lodge when he got a call from Walker at 9:10 p.m.

saying he had shot himself. Conveniently, the doctor's office was next door to Walker's.

"The bullet had entered the left side about one inch above the navel and six inches to the side of it," the News reported. "There was only one bullet wound, but it made eight lacerations."

Walker said he and Wilkins were examining the .38-caliber revolver when it inexplicably fired. Soon, others who heard about the incident gathered. One of them was Erasmus "Ras" Pearson, a Louisiana attorney who had previously represented both men. He told Wilkins, who owned the gun, to keep his mouth shut.

Despite being in pain, Walker had no qualms about talking. He "called a number of those who were there to him and said that if the worst comes, I want all of you fellows to understand that this is an accident and no one is to blame," the News paraphrased.

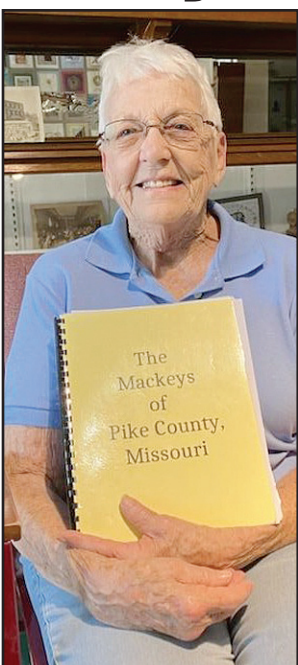
Walker was taken home and his wife was summoned from St. Louis, where she had been visiting. Wilkins spent the night and offered "whatever service he could render," The Whig reported. Crewdson said there was "very little" hope of recovery. Walker died at 3:20 p.m. March 4 and was buried in Riverview Cemetery on March 7.

Wilkins attended the funeral and was "greatly distressed," according to The Louisiana Press-Journal. It may not have just been sorrow. The Quincy Daily Herald reported "the web which is being woven around his liberty is growing tighter."

Pike County Coroner James Hendrix called an inquest for 10:30 a.m., March 8 at city hall. The Whig said the six-man panel hoped "to clear the mysterious circumstances that surround the killing."

It wouldn't be that simple. Next time: The last five hours.

Mackey Family History Chronicled



Alice Rodhouse with a copy of her book "The Mackeys of Pike County, Missouri."

By BRENT ENGEL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER
Alice Rodhouse believes history should include stories

as well as names and dates.

The Wentzville woman and Clarksville native is preserving her family narrative in the book "The Mackeys of Pike County Missouri."

"I want my kids to know their heritage" Rodhouse said. "It's something I can leave them."

An incredible tale it is. The first Mackeys to arrive in Pike County in the early 1800s were brothers James, John and Thomas, who lived in Tennessee after coming from North Carolina when their father died.

The brothers and their sons began buying land from the federal government for \$1.25 an acre. Most of it was west Alice Rodhouse with a copy of her book "The Mackeys of Pike County, Missouri." of Clarksville in an area that became known as Mackey Valley.

Only two of those original land grant farms remain in the Mackey family and Rodhouse owns both of them. Her granddaughter lives on one - which

was bought by the son of James - and her son, David (sixth generation) lives on the farm bought by the son of Thomas in 1825.

The log house that Thomas Jr. built still stands there and a Mackey gathering will be held at the site on Aug. 31 to celebrate the farm's bicentennial.

Rodhouse admits her book is not meant for genealogical research. Rather, it is stories of the family.

Included are tales of the August 1841 murder of Reason Mackey and the execution of his killer - supposedly the only hanging at the courthouse - and the January 1818 marriage of Jennie Mackey and James Templeton, the first recorded in the county. The book also has stories of the Mackeys as farmers, merchants and politicians.

Rodhouse encourages others to chronicle their family histories.

"If you like to do it, it's fun," she said. "If you don't, you'd better get someone else to do it."

Community News



Reserve Early Senior Heifer Calf Champion
Angus exhibitors led 124 entries at the 2025 Missouri Angus Preview Show, June 15 in Sedalia. Jenna Craft, Anadarko, Okla., judged the females, bulls, steers and cow-calf pair. Shane Werk, Manhattan, Kan., judged the phenotype and genotype females and jackpot heifers and steers. EXAR Frontier Gal 4874 won reserve early senior heifer calf champion at the 2025 Missouri Angus Preview Show, June 15 in Sedalia. Alexis Koelling, Bowling Green, owns the winning heifer.
Photo by Pearl's Pics



Junior Champion Bull
Meyer Commerce 4008 won junior champion bull at the 2025 Missouri Angus Preview Show, June 15 in Sedalia. Alexis Koelling, Bowling Green, owns the winning bull.
Photo by Pearl's Pics



Senior Showmanship
These junior Angus members won top honors in the senior showmanship division at the 2025 Missouri Angus Preview Show, June 15 in Sedalia, Mo. Pictured from left: Elizabeth Uhing, Ava, reserve champion, and Alex Koelling, Bowling Green, champion.
Photo by Pearl's Pics

DHSS Confirms Rare Case Of Brain Infection

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) is announcing case of an adult Missouri resident with a laboratory-confirmed infection of Naegleria fowleri.

Naegleria fowleri is a microscopic single-celled free-living amoeba that can cause a rare deadly infection of the brain called primary amoebic meningoencephalitis (PAM), also known as “brain-eating” infection. Typically, fewer than 10 people a year in the United States get PAM.

The Missouri patient is currently being treated for PAM in an intensive care unit of a hospital, and currently, no additional suspected cases of PAM are being investigated in Missouri.

The amoeba is common and naturally present in warm freshwater such as lakes, rivers and ponds; however, PAM is extremely rare. Between 1962 and 2024, there were 167 reported cases of PAM in the United States.

The source of the patient’s exposure is currently being investigated by public health officials. While not confirmed, preliminary information implies the patient may have been water skiing at the Lake of the Ozarks days prior to becoming ill. Recreational water users should assume that Naegleria fowleri is present in warm freshwater across the United States; however, infection remains very rare.

Although a rare occurrence, people become infected by Naegleria fowleri when water containing the amoeba enters the body through the nose from freshwater sources. The Naegleria fowleri amoeba then travels up the nose to the brain where it damages the brain tissue. This infection cannot be spread from one person to another, and it cannot be contracted by swallowing contaminated water.

People can take actions to reduce the risk of infection by limiting the amount of water going up the nose. These actions could include:

- Hold your nose shut, use nose clips, or keep your head above water when taking part in activities in bodies of warm freshwater, especially if you jump or dive into the water.
- Avoid putting your head under the water in hot springs and other untreated thermal waters.
- Avoid water-related activities in warm freshwater during periods of high-water temperature.
- Avoid digging in, or stirring up, the sediment while taking part in water-related activities in shallow, warm freshwater areas. Naegleria fowleri amoebas are more likely to live in sediment at the bottom of lakes, ponds and rivers.

Those who experience the following symptoms after swimming in any warm body of water should contact their health care provider immediately as the disease progresses rapidly:

- Severe headache.
- Fever.
- Nausea.
- Vomiting.
- Stiff neck.
- Seizures.
- Altered mental status.
- Hallucinations.

For more information about Naegleria fowleri, visit the CDC’s webpage.

Ameren Donates \$4 Million In Assistance

Ameren will make available an additional \$4 million for bill payment assistance to community action agencies dedicated to energy assistance for residential customers in need of financial assistance across Missouri and Illinois. This follows the \$1 million in support for victims of the May 16 tornado that Ameren announced earlier this year, which local area agencies continue to distribute.

Throughout 2025, Ameren has partnered with hundreds of agencies to make more than \$75 million available in energy assistance and LIHEAP for its customers. The company continues to offer additional assistance programs. Visit Ameren.com/Assistance for to learn more.

More information will be available for Ameren customers next week. For general information on energy assistance, customers in Illinois can call 800-755-5000, while customers in Missouri can call 800-552-7583.

MU Extension, MDC Continue Free Oak Testing

University of Missouri Extension’s Plant Diagnostic Clinic, in partnership with the Missouri Department of Conservation, continues to offer free testing for all common oak tree diseases in 2025.

“We had a great season in 2024 as we received a total of 93 oak samples and diagnosed diseases including oak wilt, bacterial leaf scorch, tubakia leaf spot, anthracnose, cicada damage and so on,” says Peng Tian, director of the Plant Diagnostic Clinic on the MU campus.

“This allowed us to monitor the prevalence of the common disease currently in Missouri and scout for new or invasive diseases of oaks to better assist MDC and the Missouri Department of Agriculture with controlling forest pest problems,” Tian says. “With this service, we hope to continue collecting information on the location and host species of oak diseases across the state and monitor the tree health of the state.”

Oaks are the most abundant trees in yard and forest settings across Missouri. Two common oak diseases are bacterial leaf scorch and oak wilt. Oak wilt weakens white oaks and kills red oak trees within weeks of infection. Bacterial leaf scorch is a chronic disease that worsens over several years. Both diseases spread to nearby oaks.

Oak wilt symptoms first appear in late spring or early summer in red oak. Leaves discolor, wilt and fall, first at the top of the tree and later at the tips of lateral branches. Leaves turn a dull, bronzed brown at the tips and along the outer margins. Similar symptoms appear in white oak trees in mid-to-late summer. Trees infected for two or more years commonly develop isolated dead branches in the crown.

Bacterial leaf scorch infects the xylem of susceptible trees and prevents transport of water and nutrients. There is no cure for bacterial leaf scorch on oak, and trees die in 5-8 years. Symptoms are like those of drought stress and can only be diagnosed by laboratory analysis.

If you suspect either disease in your trees, Tian recommends sending a sample for testing and confirmation to the diagnostic clinic.

First, send 3-5 photos of the tree to the clinic through digital sample submission. Go to <https://muext.us/PlantClinicDSS> for instructions. Tian suggests submitting both close-up photos and photos from a distance.

The fee noted on the website will be waived for

Rule Starts GoFundMe For Students Supplies

As summer ends, families and educators across the country are preparing for the new school year, but rising costs make it especially challenging.

According to a 2019-2020 survey by the Learning Policy Institute, 95 percent of teachers report spending their own money on supplies.

Since 2010, more than \$1 billion has been raised on GoFundMe for educators, and in 2024 alone thousands of educators used GoFundMe to help supply their classrooms with school supplies – collectively raising more than \$3.3 million.

In Louisiana, Thad Rule launched a GoFundMe to support Pike County students ahead of the school year. After hosting a gift card giveaway for school supplies, Rule was flooded with requests from families in need, far more than they could meet alone.

Rule has now launched a fundraiser to provide essentials like clothing, shoes, and school supplies to as many children as possible.

“Together, we can make a difference for our neighbors and show our kids what community really means,” the GoFundMe reads.

You can find a business sharing the GoFundMe here. You can find the GoFundMe link here: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/backtoschool-boost-for-pike-county-kids>

Efforts like this demonstrate how communities are coming together to break down barriers and ensure students walk into classrooms ready to learn. Let me know if you would like help getting in touch with the organizer.

Need A Ride? BGHS Class Of '75 To Hold 50th Reunion Sept. 12

OATS Transit is currently offering regular transportation services to rural residents of any age.

To schedule a ride or to inquire about services available in your area, please call the OATS Transit office at 660-415-0901 or 800-654-6287. You can also visit our website at www.oatstransit.org, where you can find your local schedule by clicking on your county under the “Bus Schedules” tab.

OATS Transit is available to the rural general public of any age.

Additionally, we contract with various agencies to serve their clients. The offices are closed and regular routes will not be running on Sept. 1 for the Labor Day holiday.

The Bowling Green High School class of 1975 will meet at the Bowling Green VFW Hall on Friday, Sept. 12 at 2 p.m., for a meet and greet and informal activities.

A meal will be served at 5 p.m. The BGHS Alumni Banquet is the following

MacLaughlin Competes In USA Swimming

Gracey MacLaughlin, 17-year-old senior student at Clopton High School and member of the Twin Pike Family YMCA Torpedoes Swim Team, recently competed in the USA Swimming TYR Futures Championships in Madison, Wisc.

This event is a stepping stone meet for the Junior Nationals. If Gracey can meet qualifying times before she turns 19, she can move on to the Junior Nationals. This would open the pathway for the Senior Nationals or World Champions which is the Olympics in an Olympic year.

To qualify for the Futures meet this year, Gracey dropped three seconds off of her 100 backstroke. As swimmers move up in the ranks, it becomes more difficult to drop time making this a significant accomplishment. Gracey will only need to drop one more second to qualify for the Junior Nationals next season. She also dropped five seconds off her 200 backstroke and needs to only drop three more seconds to qualify. Gracey is targeting those qualification times for the USA Swimming Short Course Winter Junior Nationals this December.

Gracey has been competing in swimming events since she was six and has many regional and national events under her swim cap. This summer she competed at a Speedo Sectionals meet at the University of Missouri - Columbia.

During the winter season, she also competed at the Heartland Area Central Regional swim meet, the Heartland Area Championships, MSHSAA Class 1 State Championships, and



the YMCA National Championships. At the Heartland Area Championships, she earned first place in all events in which she swam and broke long-standing Area Championship records in the 1000 yard freestyle and the 200 backstroke.

Gracey will be swimming for the Louisiana - Clopton Co-op High School Swim Team this winter. In the off-season for this team, she will be swimming for the Twin Pike Family YMCA Torpedoes. Gracey is already in conversations with college swim teams and will be visiting several colleges this fall. She plans to swim and study Exercise Science or Psychology.

The Twin Pike Family YMCA Torpedoes compete September-July and have team activities year round. The Torpedoes are holding pre-season practices and tryouts in August.

Contact Coach Joe at the Twin Pike Family YMCA, 573-754-4497, for details.

Community News

From The Mayor's Desk...

Can Bowling Green be a pathway to adventure? If so, do you want it to be? And, if yes, how do we make it so? A "needs evaluation" would have to be determined.

The Bowling Green City Planning Committee has done such. 1. Recreational needs would have to be constructed. Features that would attract young and old and families. 2. More housing and apartments are needed just to meet our current status, not even taking advancement into consideration. 3. More small manufacturing or industry would need to be created from within or recruited from outside. (Recruiting from outside is very competitive in rural America, including Missouri and tax incentives and land are almost always required). 4. More publicity/promotion of historical opportunities within our city and surrounding areas which would attract historians, adventurers, tourists and visitors.

For instance, how many know about the Civil War Battle of Ashley? This needs to be promoted and developed for tourist attractions to Bowling Green and Pike County. Adventure opportunities like our lakes for boating, kayaking, camping sites and walking trails need promotion. Sadly, our lakes are not developed for more than for water supply and some fishing. Our walking trails around the lakes are overgrown with trees and weeds...but Bowling Green does offer trails plus camping, kayaking, and fishing too.

Travelers are looking for relaxing yet exciting outdoor getaways for day trips and weekends. Even in the coldest months spectacular events, (Eagle Days), and activities bring crowds into

small rural cities like Bowling Green. Entire towns get excited and prepare for visitors and events to celebrate their heritage and traditions. Pilots and their families will even fly into our Municipal airport as Bowling Green expands and develops as a "pathway to adventure."

As you may know, after each season like the summer months and Christmas time, I go around to many of our retail businesses asking, "How much of your business was from out-of-towners verses locals?" Since we are basically at the end of summer due to schools starting, I have gone around several businesses and what they have stated is that about 95 percent of the summer business was from out-of-town customers. That is amazing

reports since this pulls in revenues not from you residents but out of the pockets of visitors and other consumers. This then insinuates that they might have purchased fuel, eaten a meal or two, stopped at our historical sites, (which the Genealogy and Jail Museum verified), and maybe even stayed in our motels overnight. However, the off-season non-peak reports are concerning because these same businesses tell me that only about 50 percent of their business comes from locals. That implies that many citizens of Bowling Green go out of town to do your shopping. We must support our local business and services, or new businesses will not invest in our town or the businesses we do have will go out of business.

I understand that not all our businesses offer everything we need or want. Yet, what Bowling Green does offer, we need to patronize and promote.



JIM ARICO, MAYOR
CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

August History Nuggets

BY BRENT ENGEL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER
CURRYVILLE CAROUSERS
The Louisiana Press of Aug. 6, 1885, had advice for partiers in Curryville. "The serenading still continues and it seems the fair destroyers of midnight rest have annexed a bass voice or two to their vocal strains. Remember, girls and boys, the best performances in life are the least repeated."

CHEAP, CHEAP
In August 1919, the Bowling Green Times joked that it was "a greater crime for a motorist to run over a hen in the public highway

than it is to run over a mother-in-law. The reason: Eggs are 38 cents a dozen; mothers-in-law, much cheaper."

REALLY PEACHY
The Clarksville Sentinel reported on Aug. 30, 1895, that a "little daughter of M.G. Thomas found a peach on a tree in her father's yard the other day that measured nine-and-a-half inches in circumference."

CORN, THE APHRODISIAC?
The Pike County News reported on Aug. 20, 1908, that "Love and Lust purchased 400 bushels of old

corn last week."

COVERING IT ALL
Tuition at Pike College in Bowling Green for the 1895-96 school year was \$185 – about \$8,400 today. An August 1895 article in the Clarksville Sentinel said the fee covered "board, tuition, lights, fuel and washing."

STRIKE UP THE BAND
The Kansas City Journal of Aug. 21, 1895, carried the following: "Pike and Lincoln counties are to have their annual musical convention at Ashley Thursday and Friday of this week."

change also features improved safety for pedestrians and cyclists with a dedicated shared-use path and signalized crosswalks. The area improvements to the transportation system will serve the needs of the community well into the future," stated Area Engineer Jeff Niemeyer.

Pike To Pike ...



By Wyvetta Davis-Niffen
1-217-320-8438

Come on out to the Pike County Senior Center, 220 West Adams in Pittsfield, this Saturday, Aug. 23, to listen to and/or dance to the Big River Band cwith the show starting at 6:30 p.m. Plenty of good seating and an excellent dance floor are available, with a concession stand of goodies to purchase and enjoy. Handicap parking is available in the back of the building and plenty of other parking is at the west side and the front of the building. No admission charge but a bucket will be passed to donate for the band. 50/50 drawing and drawings for other nice prizes. Your attendance is appreciated.

The Buggs' Family Opry will not be having their show Friday, Aug. 22, but they do have their next show scheduled for Sept. 12.

Everyone is invited to the Hymn Sing at the Detroit Christian Church a week from this Friday, Aug. 29, at 7 p.m. No admission cost whatsoever. Just come and enjoy and participate. After the sing, ice cream and fellowship is to follow.

The Big River Band is very excited to announce that starting in September they will be playing at the Courtyard Cafe in uptown Pittsfield at 128 East Adams each month the second Saturday from 6-8:30 p.m. No admission charge but a donation bucket will be passed around for the band. There will be a "band menu" available to order something good to eat. 50/50 drawing and other drawings. They would appreciate your attendance at this new exciting place in uptown Pittsfield.

I'm still promoting reading books for enjoyment and for brain exercise. If you have any books you'd like to recommend, either text me at the number above or call me at the same number. In the meantime, one of my well read friends recommended the book The Mountain Between Us by Charles Martin. She said this is an older book but is still a very good book.

Birthdays and anniversaries for the week of Aug. 20-26:

Aug. 20 - Randy and Julie Love
Aug. 21 - Joe Winner, Mike

Evans, Terrill Stearns
Aug. 22 - Jeremiah Hawkins, Larry Forgey, Maggie Still, Sheila Steininger, Everett and Judy Dean, Paul and Helen Roland
Aug. 23 - Daniel Myers, Krystal Huckstep, Tammy Gilbert, Wesley Dwight, Rick and Jan Shuford, Roger and Kettia Brokaw
Aug. 24 - Ricky Musgrove, Steve Lehr
Aug. 25 - Bev Palmer, Jerry and Ruby Garner, Kent and Chris Harter
Aug. 26 - Seth Hall, Dean and Lorrie Hall

So extremely much to pray for that I've no idea where to start. We will start with all our family members, and God to guide each and every one of them. Next pray for our country, schools, and churches...pray for guidance and God's will for all. Pray for health issues in both family and friends. Pray for our military, each and every member. Praise God for all He has done for you and continues to do. Thank God for His forgiveness and for all the mercy He shows us continually. Pray more than once a day. And pray for and about everything.

And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. Colossians 3:17.

Jamie and I went to the 50th Anniversary of the Pike County Senior Center on Thursday evening, August 14, where we enjoyed the fish fry, listening to the Dutch Creek Cattle Company (the Hoskin Boys), and visiting with several people. They had at least 200 there so it was very well attended.

If you would like to hear some good sermons provided by Bobby Johnston of the Detroit Christian Church, you can do so either on Facebook or Youtube. On Facebook, go to Detroit Christian Church in Detroit, Ill. Then on youtube, go to Detroit Christian Church Sermons.

The Big River Band appre-

ciates everyone that came out Friday, Aug. 15, for their last show at the Cardinal Inn. They had the largest group at this show that they had ever had, around 65 people. The show was very good and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Again, they would like to recognize the Cardinal Inn, Luetta, and Ellie for letting them sing there for these last few months. And the band hopes that all of you come on out to Pike County Senior Center and the Courtyard Cafe to their shows each month.

Jamie and I attended the visitation and funeral of Jamie's niece Debbie Besaw in Louisiana, Sunday, Aug. 17.

The Single Seniors is still going strong and another "meet, greet, and eat" has been planned. There is no charge to be in this group, but a few simple rules are to be followed, and they are: members need to be 55+ and single, either by choice or by life; able to pay for your own meal and transportation; considerate enough to "share" conversations with others (in other words, besides talking yourself, let others talk too); and, last but not least, come with a positive attitude. And this is for both men and women. If you can meet these qualifications and are sincerely interested in being with us, please call or text 1-217-320-8438.

Trivia Answers from last week:

1. What comic character has the maiden name Boopadoop? (Blondie Bumstead)
2. When Jesus ordained the twelve apostles, He called James and his brother John "Boanerges" which means what? (the sons of thunder)
3. Last Spring we went to see the play OUR TOWN at the Elsberry High School. Who wrote this play originally? (Thornton Wilder)

God is forever...listening, watching....and most of all...waiting for you to ask Him to forgive you and to save you.

MoDOT To Host Ribbon-Cutting

The public is invited to help celebrate the completion of the new bridge replacement project on Missouri Route 47 over U.S. Route 61 and area improvements, including the diverging diamond interchange. The ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 26,

at 10:30 a.m. at 12 Frenchman Bluff Road, Troy.

"This is the first DDI constructed within MoDOT's Northeast District. This project includes several upgrades within the immediate area designed to improve traffic flow. The new diverging diamond design of the inter-

change also features improved safety for pedestrians and cyclists with a dedicated shared-use path and signalized crosswalks. The area improvements to the transportation system will serve the needs of the community well into the future," stated Area Engineer Jeff Niemeyer.



THORNHILL AUCTION

& REAL ESTATE COMPANY

We will sell the following Real & Personal Property of the Late Ernest Wm. Brown at Public Auction on:

Saturday, September 6, 2025

Beginning at 9:30 A.M.

SALE SITE: 809 W. Locust Street; Bowling Green, MO 63334
DIRECTIONS: Take Hwy 61 to the Bowling Green/St. Clement Hwy 161 & 61 Exit, take business Hwy 61 N to right on W. Locust to 2nd home on left. Thornhill Auction sign in yard.

ABSOLUTE REAL ESTATE AUCTION SELLS AT 10:30 A.M.

REAL ESTATE: 809 W. Locust St. being approx. 65'x200' & fronting on W. Locust in the city of Bowling Green. Exact legal to govern. Improvements include approx. 1185 sq. ft. 4 room 2 bedroom 1 bath frame house built in 1930, w/attached 1 car garage w/overhead door. The home is on natural gas furnace w/central air (presently not working) city water & sewer. NOTE: Due to the law on lead based paint & lead based paint hazards on any home built prior to 1978, any inspections for lead base paint by a purchaser must be done 10 days prior to the auction.

Open House on the Real Estate on Thursday, August 28th from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. or for a private showing contact David or Dusty at 636-366-4206.

**HOUSEHOLD & MISC.
ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES
SHOP TOOLS, LAWN & GARDEN**

OWNERS: HEIRS OF THE LATE ERNEST WM. BROWN

DAVID THORNHILL
314-393-7241
TROY, MO

DUSTY THORNHILL
314-393-4726
TROY, MO



BILL UNSELL
573-470-0037
FRANKFORD, MO
Troy Office: 636-366-4206

Thornhillauction.com





THORNHILL AUCTION

& REAL ESTATE COMPANY

We will sell the following Real & Personal Property of the Late Ernest Wm. Brown at Public Auction on:

Saturday, September 6, 2025

Beginning at 1 P.M.

SALE SITE: 620 W. Centennial Ave.; Bowling Green, MO 63334 (Just 1 street south of the home on Locust St.)

DIRECTIONS: Take Hwy 61 to the Bowling Green/St. Clement exit 161 & 61, take Business Hwy 61 N to right on W. Centennial Ave. to home on right #620 Thornhill Auction sign in yard.

ABSOLUTE REAL ESTATE AUCTION SELLS AT 2:00 P.M.

REAL ESTATE: 620 W. Centennial Ave., lot is approx. 80'x120' in the city of Bowling Green. Exact legal to govern. 1½ story frame home built in 1910 w/2 bedrooms, combination living room/dining room & kitchen, washer/dryer hookup & full bath. The home has a 2nd living quarters w/access from a stairway on the east side of the home w/4 rooms; 2 bedrooms, kitchen, living room & bath. Updates include a new Lennox natural gas & central air in 1997, built in dishwasher in 2000. Other improvements include an unattached utility shed w/concrete floor approx. 16'x20' real nice building.

NOTE: Floors have settled.

NOTE: Due to the law on lead based paint & lead based paint hazards on any home built prior to 1978, any inspections for lead base paint by a purchaser must be done 10 days prior to the auction.

Open House on the Real Estate on Thursday, August 28th from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. or for a private showing contact David or Dusty at 636-366-4206.

**HOUSEHOLD & MISC.
ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES
LAWN, GARDEN, SHOP & HAND TOOLS**

AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Investors be sure & check this home out, great curb appeal, fix the floors & here's one to flip. Nice clean furnishings w/several nice antique pieces. See you at the sale. David, Dusty & Bill

OWNERS: HEIRS OF THE LATE ERNEST WM. BROWN

DAVID THORNHILL
314-393-7241
TROY, MO

DUSTY THORNHILL
314-393-4726
TROY, MO



BILL UNSELL
573-470-0037

FRANKFORD, MO
Troy Office: 636-366-4206

Thornhillauction.com



Obituaries



Kenneth 'Kenny' Woodrow Watts

Funeral services for Kenneth "Kenny" Woodrow Watts of Elsberry were at 10 a.m., Wednesday at Carter-Ricks Funeral Home in Elsberry. The Rev. Jess Wilson of Green Valley Church of Hartville officiated. Burial was in Oak Ridge Cemetery near Elsberry.

Visitation was from 4-8 p.m., Tuesday at Carter-Ricks Funeral Home in Elsberry.

Kenny, 88, was born April 1, 1937 in Elsberry, the son of Aleck Woodrow and Freda Emma Strus Watts. He died Thursday, Aug. 7, 2025 at his home near Elsberry.

A lifelong resident of the Elsberry community, Kenny was a 1955 graduate of Elsberry High School. He was united in marriage on June 29, 1957 at the First Christian Church in Elsberry to Adaline Louise Culwell. This union was blessed with five children, Lonnie Joseph, Donnie Gene, Mona Louise, Lois Lynnette, and Sally Suzanna.

At a young age, Kenny bought his brother's shoe shine kit and went to work for himself shining shoes at the Broadway Tavern. This led to other business endeavors including delivering papers, delivering ice, scooping coal, mowing lawns, and hauling hay. He worked at the glove factory and eventually worked doing concrete work. He married the girl of his dreams in 1957 and a family soon followed. He came from a long line of iron workers and was eventually able to get his iron worker's permit. In 1959, he bought his first farm. He quit iron working and became a full-time farmer in 1966. Over his lifetime, he acquired approximately 850 acres. He was a passionate farmer with a penchant for Pepsi and was the biggest kid and kisser "this side of Dameron".

Kenny was preceded in death by his parents, Aleck and Freda Watts; one brother, Marvin Watts in 1981, his wife, Sidney Traynor in 2022, one sister, Julia "Judy" Scherrer in 2007, and twin sons, Donnie Gene Watts who died at birth, and Lonnie Joseph Watts who died Oct. 27, 2020.

Survivors include his wife of 68 years, Louise Watts of Elsberry; three daughters, Mona Harshman of Eolia, Lois Bryant and husband, Tom of St. Charles, and Sally Gnade and husband, Mark of Elsberry; 13 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren. Kenny also leaves several nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and many friends.

Serving as pallbearers were Adam Dreisewerd, Ross Howard, Luke Ross, Ryan Niehoff, Boyd Mills, and Tom Bryant. Serving as honorary pallbearers were Sonny Taylor, Jimmy Jeans, Gene Burkemper, Bill Halley, Ron "Veno" Vaughn, Philip Lagemann, and Manfred Hammond.

Memorials may be made to Oak Ridge Cemetery, c/o Carter-Ricks Funeral Home, 107 South 5th Street, Elsberry, MO 63343.

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



Gerald Louis 'Jerry' McClellan

Gerald Louis "Jerry" McClellan died peacefully Sunday, Aug. 10, 2025 at

Elsberry Healthcare Center. Private services will be held.

He was born May 10, 1936, in St. Louis, the son of Hugh Brooks and Helen Roth McClellan. Jerry went to Silex School and then to work for "Kac" Hinds Service Station for many years. He met the love of his life, Betty England, and they were married Dec. 6, 1958. He then began working at McDonnell Douglas where he retired after 35 years, but didn't stay retired long he also worked for the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department as a bailiff and prisoner transport officer. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge of Silex, where he served as grand master and also a member of the Scottish Rite. He was active with the Lincoln County Democratic Party, serving as committeeman for several years, as well as the Lincoln County Fair, serving as fair chairman in 1994. He and Betty were blessed with two daughters, Tami Stanek and husband, Dave, and Marsha Junge and husband, Bob; three grandchildren, Zachary Junge and wife, Helen, Jessica Haines and husband, Benton of Silex, John Stanek and wife, Lauren of Idaho Falls, Idaho; and seven great-grandchildren, Emilie, Natalie and Zoey Junge, William and Jackson Haines and Kaeson and Charlotte Stanek. Also surviving are a sister-in-law, Judy Housewright and husband, Mike; and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death were his parents, his wife, Betty, one brother, Charles McClellan, one sister in infancy, Dorothy McClellan.

Memorials may be made to Silex Schools District Owl's Pals, c/o the funeral home

Family and friends may sign the online guestbook @ www.mccoymblossomfh.com



Herman Henry Smith

Herman Henry Smith, 86, of Vandalia died Sunday, Aug. 10, 2025 at his home surrounded by his family.

He was born June 1, 1939, in Bellflower, the son of Frank and Clara Smith. Herman married Willie Jean Cox on July 16, 1960 in Eolia. She survives.

Other survivors include five sons, Jessie Smith and wife, Katy of Beebe, Ark., Robert Smith of Cheyenne, Wyo., Tony Smith and wife, Sue Lynn of Colorado Springs, Colo., Jerry Smith of Hollister, and Michael Smith of Arizona; 14 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Herman was a member of the Eastern Missouri Cowboy Church and attended the Laddonia Christian Church. He was a 1958 graduate of Normandy High School and in his early years he was a Boy Scout and Eagle Scout. He worked for many years as a trona miner in Wyoming. His passion was playing guitar. He started at age 12 and by 18 he was teaching others. He even dedicated an entire room of his home to his passion of music.

The family hosted a celebration of life service for Herman at 11 a.m., Thursday, Aug. 14 at the Laddonia Christian Church with pastor Bill Maupin officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Eastern Missouri Cowboy Church or Laddonia Christian Church, c/o Bienhoff Funeral Home, P.O. Box 54 Vandalia, MO 63382.

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



Sharon Sue Mahlandt Buenger

Sharon Sue Mahlandt Buenger, 82, of Bowling Green died Saturday, Aug. 2, 2025, surrounded by her loving family.

A celebration of Sharon's life will be held Saturday at 10 a.m. A meal will follow. The celebration will be located at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall, 505 VFW Road, Bowling Green, MO 63334.

She was born July 24, 1943, in St. Louis. Sharon graduated from St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing and went on to dedicate her life to caring for others as both a nurse and a homemaker. Her nurturing spirit extended beyond her career and into every aspect of her life, especially as a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and friend.

Sharon married the love of her life, Melvin Buenger, on Sept. 26, 1964. Together, they built a life centered on faith, family, and celebration. Sharon and Melvin loved traveling across the United States and spent many happy years living in Arizona and Mississippi, where they made lifelong friends and lasting memories.

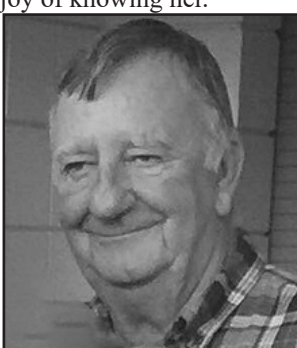
She is survived by her husband, Melvin Buenger; her children, Brett Buenger and wife, Jennifer and Brendan Nunemacher; grandchildren, Athena Nunemacher, Alise Nunemacher, Nicholas Buenger and wife, Gabrielle, and Eliza Sidartawan and husband, Aldo; and great-grandchildren, Levi and Miles Sidartawan, Metzli Flores, and Britton Buenger. She is also survived by one sister, Tammy Williams; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Sharon was preceded in death by her father, Ralph Mahlandt, mother, Helen Webber, and stepfather John Webber.

She was an avid Red Hat Lady and an active member of Christ Centered Church and the Eastern Missouri Cowboy Church. A woman of deep faith and creativity, Sharon wrote and shared daily devotionals that uplifted many. She was known for her joyful spirit and her unmatched ability to make every holiday and celebration magical.

Memorial donations may be made in Sharon's honor to The Gideons International at gideons.org/donate.

She will be deeply missed by all who had the joy of knowing her.



Gene Edward Seeley

Gene Edward Seeley, 82, of Vandalia died Monday, Aug. 11, 2025, at his home surrounded by family.

There are no services planned at this time.

He was born Feb. 7, 1943 in Audrain County, the son of Hugh Elmer and Flossie Alberta Cobb Seeley. Gene married Bonnie Sue Gooch in November of 1961. She survives.

Other survivors include two sons, Byron Seeley and wife, Kim of Little Rock, Ark., and Cory Seeley and wife, Andrea of Boonville; one daughter, Renee Seeley; eight grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren; along with nieces, nephews, other relatives and a host of friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one daughter, Regina Seeley, two brothers,

and three sisters.

Gene was a lifetime area resident and member of Hays Creek Church. He enjoyed playing slow pitch softball, shuffleboard, and bowling.

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



Sandra Kay Binning Rehburg

Sandra Kay Rehburg, 68, died Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at Hospice House in Hutchinson, Kan.

The Rev. Dan Page conducted cemetery rites in Bowling Green.

She was born Sept. 12, 1955, in Pontiac, Mich., the daughter of Clifford L. and Pearl J. Harlow Binning.

She married Ed Rehburg in 1978 in Puyallup, Wash. In 1982, Sandra met Virgil Newman in Mildred, Utah. They spent 41 years together. Sandra enjoyed jigsaw puzzles, especially ones that were more than 1,000 pieces, bingo, playing card games and was great at blackjack. She also enjoyed singing and art and was a fantastic artist. She had two cats that she loved.

She is survived by a son, Austin Newman; ex-partner, Virgil Newman; sisters, Sharon Coose of Curryville, Janet Beckham and husband, Lee of Kittitas, Wash., and Deana Brunk; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Sandra is preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Michael Binning, two brothers-in-law, Roger Brunk and Dean Coose; a nephew, Christopher Binning; and two great-nephews, Lawrence Wilson and Dallas Mooney.



Debby E. Dameron

Debby E. Dameron went home to be with the Lord on Monday, Aug. 11, 2025, at the Stuart House in Centuria.

Visitation from 10 a.m.-noon with funeral services following were Saturday at Bibb-Veach Funeral Home in Bowling Green with the Rev. Ron Kunzweiler officiating. Burial was at Bowling Green Cemetery where she will be laid to rest beside her husband, Charles E. Dameron.

ron.

Debby E. Dameron was born Jan. 10, 1947, to Samuel Siebert and Dorothy Augusta Elliott Sisson in Audrain County. She married Charles Edgar Dameron on March 24, 1967. To this union were born 10 children, Bruce Owen Dameron, Alan Eugene Dameron, David William Dameron, Jody Lynn Dameron Green, Charles Wesley Dameron, Kimberly Dawn Dameron Price, Michelle Renee Dameron, Lori Augusta Dameron Prosser, Ryan Dee Dameron, and Samuel James Dameron.

Debby excelled at school, especially math, and graduated in 1965. She worked at the Farmers Mercantile Bank where she met the love of her life, Charles Edgar Dameron. Debby was a homemaker, during which time Charles and her started C&D sales in 1989, and later changed the business to Dameron's Little Tikes. Debby devoted her life to raising her children with hobbies that included cleaning and cutting brush around the neighborhood. Additionally, she cleaned at Bibb-Veach Funeral Home, Church of the Nazarene, and Friendship Baptist Church. She was a member of Friendship Baptist Church and accepted Jesus Christ into her life many years ago.

Debby was preceded in death by her parents, Samuel Siebert and Dorothy Augusta Sisson; half-sister, Georgia Malone; half-brothers, Samuel T. Sisson and Glen Sisson; a brother, David Siebert Sisson; one sister, Josephine Allison; a brother-in-law, the Rev. Otis Dameron; grandchildren, Gabriel Rogalski and baby Price; and spouse, Charles E. Dameron.

Debby is survived by her loved ones Bruce, Alan and wife, Edith, David and wife, Ali, Jody and husband, Chris, Charles, Kim and husband, Timothy, Michelle, Lori and husband, Adam, Ryan, and Samuel and wife, Amanda; 29 grandchildren (some with spouses); 23 great-grandchildren with two on the way; two sisters-in-law, Phyllis Sisson and Regina Dameron; and brothers and sisters-in-law, James and Donna Dameron and Floyd and Elaine Dameron and their children.

Pallbearers were Owen Dameron, Ethan Dameron, Nathan Dameron, Jesse Dameron, Justin Dameron, Dylan Green, Wesley Dameron, Luke Dameron, Bryan Price, Jacob Ferrel, Alex Hansen, Noah Dameron, and Elijah Dameron. Honorary pallbearers were Chris Green, Timothy Price, and Adam Prosser.

Memorials may be made to The Stuart House, Centuria in memory of Debby E. Dameron.

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

WE WELCOME YOUR LOCAL NEWS



Aaron Runyon

It is with profound sadness that we announce the death of Aaron Francis Runyon, who died unexpectedly at his home in Moberly, in the early morning hours of Saturday July 19, 2025. He was 47 years old.

Aaron lived a life marked by creativity, depth, and unwavering love for his family. A gifted artist and talented guitarist, Aaron expressed himself through music and painting, often using his work to reflect the thoughts and emotions he carried so deeply. Those who knew him recognized not only his talents, but also his thoughtful nature, quiet strength, and fierce loyalty. He was a devoted husband to Karen Runyon and a loving father to his daughters Kathryn Runyon, Kristen Rutherford, and Kayla Rutherford. Aaron took pride in being present, supportive, and dependable, always putting the needs of his family first. His daughters knew him as a steady source of comfort and wisdom, and his love for them was evident in everything he did. Aaron will be remembered for his wisdom, his depth of character, and the way he made people feel seen and valued. He had a calming presence and a heart full of compassion. Whether through a thoughtful conversation, a helping hand, or simply sitting in silence with someone who needed it—Aaron had a way of making people feel less alone. His absence is deeply felt, and his memory will be treasured forever.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Catherine Runyon and Joseph A. Runyon; and a sister, Cathy Jo Runyon.

He is survived by his wife, Karen Runyon; three daughters, Kathryn Runyon, Kristen Rutherford, and Kayla Rutherford; two brothers, Joey E. Runyon and wife, Kathy, and James A. Runyon and wife, Shannon; as well as extended family and many dear friends who will carry his memory with them always.

A service to honor Aaron's life was held Saturday at Pathway-Millard Family Funeral Chapel in Moberly.

Visitation was from 10-11 a.m., followed by a Celebration of Life from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. All were welcome to attend and celebrate the life of a man whose impact reached far beyond words. Though his time here was far too short, Aaron's legacy will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him.

Local arrangements were under the direction of Pathway-Millard Family Funeral Chapel in Moberly.

tfel@yam.secenelodnoC
ta.ylimaf@eht.rof.enilno
www.moc.lairomenyawhtap

Continued To Page 5

ALL SCHOOL REUNION

Sponsored by: Van-Far Alumni & Friends

Sunday, September 28, 2025

Van-Far Elementary School

Doors open at noon

Dinner & Program at 12:30 pm

GUEST SPEAKER

Kevin Langston

Van-Far Class of 1979

Reservations are \$25 per guest and must be made by September 11, 2025

Scan to RSVP



Questions may be directed to Brian Hummel at 573-594-2731 Tuesday-Friday from 7:30-4:30 or email Laura Straube at straube.laura@gmail.com

Community News

Obituaries

Continued from page 4



John Richard Hanson

John Richard Hanson, 65, died Wednesday, Aug. 13, 2025 at the University of Missouri Hospital-Columbia.

Born Dec. 9, 1959, in El Paso, Texas, John was the beloved son of the late John Richard and Elaine Catherine Smith Hanson.

John lived a life full of laughter, love, and a deep passion for family and food. He spent many years working as a professional chef at the Pike County Country Club in Louisiana, where his love for cooking shined. He later took to the open road as an over-the-road truck driver, embracing the freedom and adventure that came with it.

On Oct. 2, 2003, John married the love of his life,

Patricia Marie Miller. Together, they shared 20 years of marriage filled with warmth, humor, and countless family gatherings. Patty preceded him in death on Oct. 9, 2023. Though John never had biological children, he played a significant role in the lives of many, especially his great-grandson, Tyler Wilson, whom he helped raise from infancy and considered his pride and joy.

John will be remembered for his great sense of humor, his love for backyard barbecues, cooking, spending time with family, and cheering on his favorite football team, the Kansas City Chiefs. He had a special bond with his dog who was his loyal companion.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Elaine Hanson; one sister, Ann Wilcox and husband, Tom; and his wife, Patty.

John is survived by his sisters, Shawn Morgan and husband, Joel of Beulah, N.D., and Diane Kohlhaas and husband, Bill of Moron, Ill.; stepchildren, Tracy Wilson, Rob Wilson, Tina Harper, Scott Miller and wife, Aimee, and James Miller and Brianne Ketterlin; 10 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-

nephews who will miss him dearly.

Memorial donations may be made to Arnold Funeral Home, 425 S. Jefferson Street, Mexico, MO 65265.

John's legacy will live on through the laughter he brought into every room, the meals he lovingly prepared, and the lives he touched along the way.

Deer Hunt

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, enthusiastic volunteer hunters, White-Tails Unlimited, and the Local Lions Club are planning the Annual Deer Hunt for disabled individuals which will be held at Mark Twain Lake. The hunt will be held during the 2025 Missouri Rifle Deer season on Saturday, Nov. 22 and Sunday, Nov. 23 in the Indian Creek Recreation Area. The hunt will be restricted to 35 permanently disabled (non ambulatory, semi ambulatory) individuals having a valid 2025 Missouri firearms deer tag and a hunter safety certification card.

All hunters must comply with the 2025 Missouri Department of Conservation hunting regulations. To ensure a safe hunting experience, certain procedures will be in effect throughout the two day hunt. Hunters will be required to hunt from and stay in the blinds while in the field. Weapons are restricted to 20-gauge or larger slug shotguns, muzzle loader, crossbow, or bow and arrow. Participants must have Hunter Education.

Applications must be received on or before Monday, Sept. 15, 2025 to qualify for the hunt.

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The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and the National Deer Association (NDA) invite landowners, land managers, and others interested in managing deer on their properties to join them online for a free webinar on open-land management practices to enhance white-tailed deer habitat on their properties.

This live Zoom webinar on "Wildflowers and Whitetails" will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 26, at 6 p.m. It will begin with a presentation by the MDC private lands deer

biologist followed by MDC and NDA staff answering participants' questions.

Save this link for the free Zoom webinar on "Wildflowers and Whitetails" and click on it on Aug. 26 at 6 p.m.: short.mdc.mo.gov/4tYLONG

LINK: us06web.zoom.us/j/87901384930?pwd=cQpnUM-DuLWGWscUS4AL4D00ArDG5uL1hsucces

For those who have not previously used Zoom on their selected device, click the link ahead

of time and follow the prompts to install the free Zoom software.

This webinar is the third presentation within MDC's and NDA's free 2025 Missouri Deer Management Webinar Series via Zoom. The final upcoming webinar within the series will be Utilizing Prescribed Fire for Deer Management and will be held on Sept. 9 at 6 p.m.

Learn more about deer management at mdc.mo.gov/your-property/improve-your-property/wildlife-management/deer-management.

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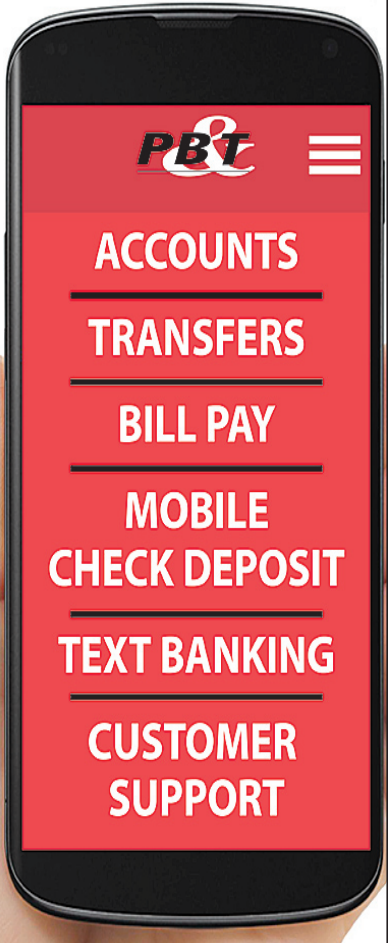
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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for the Pike County Transportation Alternatives Program, consisting of:

Construction of approximately 2,300 linear feet of new 6-foot and 5-foot sidewalk with paved and aggregate approaches. Federal Project TAP-9901(305) located directly adjacent to Business Highway 61 from Ayers Oil Company South to the Northern Entrance to Bowling Green Elementary (Wisdom Street) in the City of Bowling Green, Missouri.

WILL be received until: **10:00 a.m. Monday, September 29, 2025** at the office of County Commission, Pike County Courthouse, 115 W. Main Street, Bowling Green, MO 63334 and at that time will be publicly opened and read.

Any and all bids received after the time specified above will be returned unopened.

The wage rates applicable to this project have been predetermined as required by law and are set forth in the bid proposal. When Federal wage rates are applicable and included, this contract is subject to the "Work Hours Act of 1962," (P.L.87-581; 76 Stat. 357) and implementing regulations. The higher of the Federal or State Wage rates shall apply.

The prime contractor must be on MoDOT's Qualified Contractor List per the most current version of the Missouri Standard Specifications for Highway Construction, including all revisions. The contractor must have a fully responsive questionnaire on file with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission (MHTC) at least 7 days prior to bid opening.

Bidders are required to submit the corresponding documentation of enrollment in the E-Verify program. This documentation includes the Memorandum of Understanding between the company and Department of Homeland Security and the Affidavit of Compliance. MoDOT will accept the first page and the signature page of the agreement as proof of participation.

The County of Pike hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, creed, sex, age, ancestry, or national origin in consideration for an award. The bidder will insure that Disadvantaged Business Enterprises will have the opportunity to participate in the performance of this contract and or any subcontracts. Goals for the amount of work to be awarded to DBE's will be 6% of the total contract price. DBE subcontractors must be on the MRCC DBE Directory prior to bid opening.

Contractors and sub-contractors who sign a contract to work on public works project provide a 10-Hour OSHA construction safety program, or similar program approved by the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, to be completed by their on-site employees within sixty (60) days of beginning work on the construction project.

A digital copy of the plans and specifications may be purchased from the office of Hutchison Engineering, Inc., 8965 Highway 36, Suite 5, Hannibal, MO 63401 for a non-refundable fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00). Hard copies of the plans and specifications may be purchased upon request for an additional non-refundable fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for a total of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00). All bidders must purchase plans and specifications through Hutchison Engineering, Inc. and be on the plan-holder list in order to bid the project. **Please contact Kim Harris with Hutchison Engineering via phone at (573) 240-9577 or via email at kharris@hutchisoneng.com to request plans and specifications.**

A certified or cashier's check or a bid bond in the amount of 5% shall be submitted with each proposal.

No 2nd tier subcontracting will be allowed on this project.

Proposals must be on forms provided and all unit price bids, extensions and totals provided thereon shall be completed fully.

The project will be awarded to the lowest, responsible, responsive bidder.

Special Needs: If you have special needs addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act, please notify Matthew Walker, at (573) 470-2187, at least five (5) working days prior to the bid opening you plan to attend.

BBQ Fundraiser



FRIDAY, AUGUST 22 | 10:30 A - 2:00 P

--- Visitors Center Park Pavilion ---



Pork Burger - \$10

Pork Steak - \$12



ALL MEALS INCLUDE:

Chips, Pickle, Cookie, Water with PCHD Koozie

Raffle Ticket to 2026 Gala Mystery Prize (valued over \$1,000)

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Surgeries performed at
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Louisiana, MO 63353

573-754-4584

Classifieds

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

YARD SALE

HUGE YARD SALE - Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 6 a.m.-6 p.m. Collectibles, clothes, tools, household items, restaurant equipment, jewelry by the pound, books, reference books, tractor manuals, toys, Wilton cake pans, American Girl items, electronics, DVDs/VHS, new wedding dress, vintage figurines, sea shells, craft items, furniture, power washer, project lawn mowers, antique power hacksaw, music boxes and so much more. Worth the stop! Low prices, make offers! New items daily! Cash, Venmo and PayPal. 26494 Highway 161 - New Hartford - Watch for signs!

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I BUY used mobile homes. Call or text 573-338-6250 or email GregS.CDH@outlook.com. (tf)

FOR RENT

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

MODERN MATUR-ITY BUILDING - Vandalia - Family reunion, shower, birthday. Call Art Wiser, 594-3224.

We Buy Salvage Cars & Farm Equipment Will Pick Up
Ben's Auto Salvage
754-3265 or 754-0508

FOR SALE

LAB puppies, \$300. Shots and wormed, 324-7941.

C L E A R A N C E SALE - Eureka vacuum cleaners. Vandalia Firestone, Appliance & Furniture, 573-594-6624.

FOUR used dryers. Call for price. Vandalia Firestone, Appliance & Furniture, 573-594-6624.

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 ROOFING. Wagler Metals: 21764 Pike 409, Bowling Green. (tf)

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

HELP WANTED

PART-TIME house keeper. 324-5343. (c3-40)

NO HUNTING

NO HUNTING OR TRESPASSING, Murry Shepherd Farms. Violators will be prosecuted. Not responsible for injuries or accidents.

Vandalia Barber Shop
215B S. Main - Vandalia
573-594-3521
Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Friday By Appointment
All haircuts \$10
Harold Williams
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NO HUNTING

NO TRESPASSING OR HUNTING on the property of Cherlyn Boots. Violators will be prosecuted. Not responsible for accidents on property. (tf)

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Joe Vomund Auction Service
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Claude Niemeyer 573-470-1017 Elden Foster 573-239-6745 Jamie Niemeyer 573-470-8810

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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)

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.

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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.

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Community News

Fun Was Had By All At The Twin Pike YMCA, Buffalo Township United Fund Back-To-School Party



Pictured are the Cardboard Boat winners, from left: Demi Powell, Austin Jennings, and Hayden Blair.



Pictured are Savanna Kuhn and Riley Kuhn.

Children and adults alike had fun and splashes at the Back-to-School Swimming Party held Saturday, Aug. 9. The event was jointly sponsored by the Twin Pike Family YMCA and the Buffalo Township United Fund. Children enjoyed a new Kool Splash Slide, pool volleyball, and a dunk tank along with regular pool activities.

The Buffalo Township United Fund offered snacks and drinks with a tropical theme. In conjunction with the event, school supplies were collected to donate to Pike County and Pike County, Ill., schools.

Two new activities at the YMCA were gigantic bubble blowing and a cardboard boat race.

The Fastest Boat Award

went to Austin Jennings of Cub Scouts Pack 156 of Louisiana with friend Hayden Blair. The Titanic Boat and Most Creative Boat with a Back-to-School Theme were awarded to Jerry MacLaughlin representing the Twin Pike Torpedoes Swim Team.

The Most Original and Innovative Design Award was given to Demi Powell representing the Twin Pike Family YMCA CEO and Directors with a boat constructed by Arthur Hammel. The Twin Pike Family YMCA plans to make the party an annual event. The Aquatics Department has scheduled "Back to the Pool" swim lessons beginning in September. For more information, contact the YMCA at 573-754-4497.



Krista Flowers Luebrecht pulls a gigantic bubble around Hayden Blair.

SCHAPER

egap tnorf morf deunitnoC

According to an Aug. 12 press release from the DESE, the decision to close the 12 schools including the Bowling Green site was approved by the State Board of Education.

This recommendation was made by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) during the August 12 Board meeting. DESE leaders presented possible solutions to the Board in May to improve services at MSSD. Those solutions were designed to strengthen educational opportunities for both students currently enrolled within MSSD along with all students with extensive support needs (ESN) throughout Missouri.

The initial step in reimagining the MSSD is reducing the number of locations over the next year.

The board voted to:

- Permanently close six buildings that were already temporarily consolidated due to staff vacancies, effective immediately. Those locations include Briarwood (Harrisonville), Lakeview Woods (Lee's Summit), Gateway/Hubert Wheeler (St. Louis), Rolling Meadow (Higginsville), Delmar Cobble (Columbia), and Ozark Hills (Salem).
- Permanently closing six ad-

ditional buildings by the conclusion of the 2025-26 school year as a proactive approach to addressing additional challenges in those buildings and regions that would otherwise likely result in emergency consolidations in the future. Those locations include Citadel (Potosi), College View (Joplin), Crowley Ridge (Dexter), Dogwood Hills (Eldon), Lillian Schaper (Bowling Green), and Prairie View (Marshall).

Throughout the last two years, DESE worked with Public Consulting Group LLC (PCG) and Capital Asset Engineering to independently evaluate the operational and educational programming of MSSD to ensure students within the program receive the highest quality educational opportunities. In September 2024, a Long-Range Planning Advisory Committee (LRPAC), made up of more than 50 stakeholders, was established to review the findings of the PCG study and make recommendations to the Board.

During this extensive project, the LRPAC identified many strengths among MSSD's work, including staff and leadership who are supportive and knowledgeable and team members who provide a caring environment for students. The LRPAC also recognized several unique challenges MSSD faces:

- Enrollment: MSSD has experienced a 36 percent enrollment decline

during the last 16 years (1,033 to 660 students statewide).

- Staff recruitment and retention: There is currently a 23 percent vacancy rate among MSSD staff (115 vacant positions), along with a high turnover rate in MSSD leadership roles.

- Facilities: Most MSSD students are being served in aging facilities that were not designed to serve students with ESN. Many buildings also do not provide enough learning space or have excessive wasted and unused space.

- Instruction: Currently, there are inconsistent measures in place for progress monitoring, student outcomes, or alignment to statewide alternate learning standards. There's also limited ability for MSSD students to interact socially with their non-disabled peers.

The press release went on to state:

"DESE and the Office of Special Education are committed to ensuring Missouri students with ESN are being educated in the least restrictive environment, a guiding principle of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act that requires students with disabilities are educated with their non-disabled peers to the maximum extent appropriate. Currently, 36 states are educating students with ESN in less restrictive placements than Missouri."

The Tribune will update as more information becomes available.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is given that a public hearing will be held at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, August 27, 2025, at the Pike County Memorial Hospital, 2305 Georgia Street, Louisiana, Missouri, concerning the matter of the proposed tax rates for the year 2025.

The revenues will be used in the hospital's 2025-2026 fiscal year of operation. The fiscal year begins July 1, 2025 and ends June 30, 2026.

CURRENT YEAR ASSESSED VALUATION: \$371,060,817

The maximum rates allowed by state statutes and the proposed rates by the Board of Trustees for the tax year 2025 is as follows:

TAX RATE CEILING	PROPOSED REVENUE
0.2200	\$816,334

DEMOLITION DERBY

Vandalia Fairgrounds
August 23rd, 2025 @ 7pm

SPECTATOR GATE OPENS @ 5pm

PIT GATE OPENS @ 1pm

Tickets
ADULTS- \$20
AGES 4-12- \$10
3 & UNDER- FREE

\$10 COOLER
FEE

\$50 DRIVER FEE
\$40 RIDER FEE



Payouts

HOTSTOCK: \$1500, \$750, \$375 FULL SIZE: \$1200, \$600, \$300
YOUTH FULL SIZE HOBO (11-17): \$800, \$400, \$200 YOUTH FWD HOBO (11-15): \$500, \$250, \$125 FWD HOBO: \$800, \$400, \$200
VAN/MINI TRUCK/SUV: \$800, \$400, \$200 POWER WHEELS
MOD COMPACT 100% PAY BACK 10 OR MORE ADDED MONEY

TECH TIME @ 1-5:30pm

NO SPECTATORS IN THE PIT!!

NO KIDS UNDER THE AGE OF 10 IN THE PIT!

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Frozen Ground Beef
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Pork Steak
\$2.89 lb

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Pork Sausage
\$2.69 lb

#5 Porkburger Box
\$17.99

Half Chicken \$1.99 lb
while supplies last

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\$3.49 lb
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Fully cooked Ready to eat Bone In Chops
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Elk Salami 8oz
\$6.99 each

Buffalo 8oz Summer Sausage
\$6.99 each

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while supplies last

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bed, dresser, and mirror.

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