

THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

NEWS FOR PIKE, EASTERN AUDRAIN & NORTHERN LINCOLN COUNTIES

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Pictured are members of the Ron Stallcup family with a plaque dedicating the new sports complex that was given to him Friday, Oct. 17 at the Van-Far football game vs. North Callaway.

Van-Far Sports Complex Dedicated To Mr. Stallcup Straube Honored For 40 Years



Pictured is Dewey Straube, right, accepting a commemorative helmet from Darby Sharp in honor of being on the chains for 40 years.

Before the Friday night lights game at Van-Far Friday, Oct. 17 the new sports complex was dedicated to long-time Van-Far Coach, Principal Ronald Stallcup. Players, coaches, and cheerleaders lined up on the

track to shake hands and a few hugs for the Stallcup family.

This is what was read during the dedication - For nearly four decades, the name Ronald Stallcup could be heard throughout the

Van-Far School District in a variety of roles.

When you think of someone who blazed the trail for both Van-Far Athletics and Van-Far Schools it is Ronald Stallcup.

Coach Stallcup and his family came to Vandalia in 1968 where he began serving as the Van-Far Elementary Principal for all three elementary schools in the district - North, South and Farber.

Coach Stallcup would go on to serve the Van-Far School District until his retirement in 2001. During the period of 1968 to 2001 Coach Stallcup served as: elementary principal, middle school principal, Junior high principal, transportation director, athletic director, junior high basketball coach, assistant football coach, and assistant baseball coach.

At half-time of the game Dewey Straube was presented a plaque for 40 years of working the chains at Van-Far home games.

MDC, CFM Ask Deer Hunters To Share The Harvest

Donated Deer Meat Goes Local Food Banks, Pantries

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and the Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM) encourage deer hunters to share their harvests by donating venison to Missouri's Share the Harvest (STH) program. The donated deer meat goes to local food banks and food pantries to help feed hungry Missourians all around the state. People in need can get STH venison by contacting their local food banks or food pantries.

Missouri's deer season opened with archery hunting on Sept. 15 and runs through the close of archery season on Jan. 15 with several firearms portions happening during that time. Hunters can donate venison at any time during or right after the season.

Donating is easy. Simply take harvested deer to an approved meat processor and let the processor know how much venison to donate. Meat-processing fees are covered entirely or in part by numerous local sponsors, along with statewide sponsors. Find STH processors at mdc.mo.gov/share. The program is administered by CFM and MDC and has provided more than 6 million pounds of lean, healthy venison to help feed hungry Missourians since it was started in 1992.

"Missouri hunters have always stepped up to make a difference," said CFM Executive Director Tyler Schwartze. "Through Share the Harvest, they're helping feed families in need and showing what true conservation stewardship looks like. Conservation in Missouri is about caring for both people and wildlife, and this program is a prime example of how our

hunters step up to help their neighbors in need."

The National Institutes of Health state that children need protein in their diets for proper growth and development, and adults need it to maintain good health.

"Many Missourians don't have access to good sources of protein," said MDC's Share the Harvest Expansion Coordinator Jake Hindman. "Through Share the Harvest, Missouri hunters can help provide their fellow Missourians in need with high-quality protein in the form of naturally lean, locally harvested deer meat."

Deer harvested from counties in the Department's Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Management Zone must be tested for CWD before being donated to STH. Processors must receive a negative test result before releasing the donated meat to food banks and food pantries.

Hunters can take their deer to a processor participating in the Share the Harvest CWD Testing Program or have their deer sampled at another location prior to donation. Get more information on CWD and the CWD Management Zone at mdc.mo.gov/cwd.

Deer harvested outside of the CWD Management Zone do not need to be tested for donation to STH and may be taken to any participating processor.

Get more info on Share the Harvest online at mdc.mo.gov/share or from MDC's 2025 Fall Deer & Turkey Hunting Regulations and Information booklet, available online at mdc.mo.gov and where permits are sold.

Bowling Green Wins EMO Cross Country Titles

By BRICE CHANDLER
EDITOR

The Bowling Green Boys and girls Cross Country teams claimed the EMO Conference team championships after the Saturday, Oct. 18 meet held at the Pike County Fairgrounds.

The championship marks the 24th time in 26 years that the boys team have brought home the hardware. The meet also resulted in the Bowling Green girls team winning the EMO championship title for the 18th time in the past 24 years.

But the titles were not easily won as Bowling Green faced some tough competition on the course from Clopton, Van-Far, and Silex runners.

Elsberry senior Jedidiah Heras claimed the individual championship with a blistering time of 16:55.38, followed closely by Clopton's Jason Hoffman (17:08.91). Van-Far's Garrett Hopke and Slade Keller finished third and fourth respectively, both recording personal records. Silex's Joseph Noxon was on their heels (17:55.82) with a personal-best and rounded out the top five runners.

Bowling Green's scoring five included Brendan Finnegan (6th, 18:11.45), Logan Pontius (7th, 18:18.43), Nathan Schellman (8th, PR 18:21.98), Dallas Bair (9th, 18:35.74), and Eamon Finnegan (10th, 18:39.03). Their strong pack running helped secure the EMO title for the Bobcats.

Van-Far impressed with multiple top-15 finishes from Hopke, Keller, and Jaydon Hug-Hernandez (13th, PR 19:35.07).

In the girls race, the Bowling Green Lady Cats earned the top team score with 32 points, followed by Mark Twain (37) and Clopton (51).

Elsberry senior Ellie Hartley won the girls' individual title, finishing in 21:14.03. Bowling Green's Harley Haywood was close behind in 21:50.03, earning the runner-up spot with a personal record.

Additional top finishes for Bowling Green came

from McKinley Vanhooser (6th, PR 22:18.94), Abigail Kurz (10th, PR 23:25.00), Addison Lilley (16th, 25:52.74), and Clara Sessler (23rd, PR 31:05.58).

Mark Twain freshman Edith Norton (3rd, 21:59.68) and Clopton's Beau Beauchamp (4th, 22:01.97) also posted stand-out performances, while Van-Far's Khloe Wallace ran a personal best of 23:15.24 to finish ninth overall.

Area programs showed strong depth and emerging talent across the board. Van-Far's boys secured second place with multiple personal bests, while Silex and Clopton runners each placed athletes in the top ten. On the girls' side, Clopton's youthful squad landed in third, led by Beauchamp's impressive freshman debut, and Elsberry's Hartley captured the overall crown with a commanding run.

The Bobcats will look to carry their momentum into the district meet as they aim to qualify both teams for state competition.

Festival Of Tree Dates Set

There was a spinning lady, a garden and even one with spark plugs.

Last year's Champ Clark Honey Shuck Festival of Trees was a sight for holiday eyes. The free event returns Nov. 20-22 as part of Bowling Green's Christmas in the Green.

Hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily, with extended viewing from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday. "The businesses and organizations that decorate the trees do a wonderful job, and you can just feel the Christmas spirit radiating throughout the home when you visit," said Festival Coordinator Julie Leverenz. "It's an historic wonderland! And the trees are different each year, so folks come back annually for the spirited experience."

The festival is in its third Christmas season, and Leverenz says she's still "astounded by the creativity." She promises "some very special treats" this year.

"At least one of our tree decorators is bringing her own private collection" or ornaments, Leverenz said. "It should be very special. And I love that some of our decorators have chosen to raise awareness of important community causes in their decorating approaches."

Assembling a magical display "requires thoughtful planning and artful creativity" that takes time and effort, Leverenz noted.

"Depending on each decorator's gifts and talents, it can be more or less challenging," she said. "For most, it's such fun."

Already planning to decorate are Ann Layne Bou-



Champ Clark Honey Shuck board member Kaylee Davis looks over a display at last year's Festival of Trees. The 2025 event is Nov. 20-22 as part of Bowling Green's Christmas in the Green.

tique, Elisha Koenig RE/MAX, PEO Chapter DA, Prairie's Edge Garden Center, Worthington House, Community State Bank, Gypsy Soul, Rotary Club of Bowling Green, Jane Gartman, HomeBank, Parents as Teachers, Ann's Anchor, Boland Chevrolet, Reindeer Roundup, City of Bowling Green, Pike County Courthouse and the Louisiana Area Historical Museum.

Others who are interested in putting up a tree - or those who want to volunteer at the event - may contact Leverenz at jlev.joyinthe-fog@gmail.com.

Decorating times are noon to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 22, 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Oct. 25, and noon-2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 2.

As in the past, visitors may choose their favorites at a cost of \$1 per vote. Pro-

ceeds will be used for maintenance of the home.

Leverenz no longer serves on the Honey Shuck board, but isn't about to give up her duties with the Festival of Trees.

"It's such a fun project," she said. "And the Champ Clark Home is a treasure for our community. It's been wonderful in attracting visitors to Christmas in the Green for our local businesses, and it's been terrific to have so many people visit Honey Shuck who've not had the chance before."

So, with all that work, when does Leverenz put ornaments on her tree at home and how elaborate is it?

"I love decorating my tree, and am always inspired by the Honey Shuck decorators," she said. "I generally decorate it right after Thanksgiving."

Halloween By The Pool Sponsored By Twin Pike YMCA



Twin Pike YMCA welcomes new Lifeguard, Storie Talbert, and a couple of spooky swimmers.

Community residents are invited to the Twin Pike Family YMCA on Halloween, Oct. 31, from 4-6 p.m., to participate in fun and games on the swim-

ming pool deck.

There will be an obstacle bounce house and other games children can work their way through around the pool deck to earn a

prize. In addition, the first 25 children to complete the games will receive a coupon for five dollars off the price of group swimming lessons in November.

Children are also invited to Trick-or-Treat at the YMCA on Halloween from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and then join YMCA staff at the Refuge Church Trunk or Treat from 6-8 p.m.

The YMCA is additionally sponsoring the following activities the week of Halloween: Oct. 25 - Disc Golf Tournament; Oct. 27 - Halloween Hoops Night; Oct. 28 - Spike Fright Volleyball; Oct. 29 - Halloween Dance Fitness; and Oct. 29 - Y-Day at Gambino's. Those wearing costumes to these events will be eligible to win special prizes.

For more information on Halloween activities, check the YMCA Facebook page or contact the YMCA at 573-754-4497.



NECAC Simulation

Bowling Green Mayor Jim Arico participates in a NECAC poverty simulation Oct. 16 at Second Baptist Church. Pictured with him is NECAC's Tina Alvarez, who helped facilitate the event. More than 40 people from Pike County spent two hours finding out what many area disadvantaged residents must deal with every day. Along the way, they experienced job losses and big medical expenses. A few were even arrested. The program is done throughout NECAC's 12 counties.

Community News

Riverview Park Voted Most Breathtaking Autumn View

There are certain corners of the country synonymous with fiery foliage – think Vermont’s Green Mountains or Colorado’s Maroon Bells. But if you were to pinpoint the exact spots where autumn truly puts on a show, where would they be?

That’s the question travel company Exotica set out to answer. Surveying 3,012 respondents based on their personal experiences, the survey reveals the best vantage points in each state to witness nature’s annual spectacle. The resulting rankings offer travelers an affordable guide to the most stunning fall scenes across the Show-Me State.

The top 3 were as follows:

#1 Riverview Park, Hannibal

Riverview Park, established in 1909, is a historic prairie-style public park located in Hannibal, Missouri. The park features three scenic overlooks with retaining walls, providing stunning views of the Mississippi River and the surrounding landscape. In the fall, the park’s woodlands are ablaze with autumn colors, making it a perfect spot for leaf-peeping. The park also includes a statue of Mark Twain, adding a literary touch to the natural beauty.

#2 Ruth and Paul Henning Conservation Area Overlook, Branson

Just west of Branson, this conservation area is known for its overlook tower that rises above the rolling Ozark hills. In autumn, the forested hills transform into a vivid patchwork of red oaks, sugar maples, and hickories, with the tower providing a panoramic vantage point where the seasonal change is immediately visible. Visitors can take the trails leading to the tower, which wind through a mix of hardwoods and open meadows, giving multiple perspectives on the color shifts. From the top, the undulating hills, distant lakes, and forests stretching into the horizon create a painterly landscape that is particularly striking on crisp October afternoons when the sun casts long shadows and illuminates the fall hues.

#3 Ellis-Porter Riverside Overlook, Jefferson City

Situated along the Missouri River, the Ellis-Porter Riverside Overlook offers panoramic views of the riverbanks and surrounding

woodlands. In autumn, the foliage along the river transforms into a vibrant tapestry of reds, oranges, and yellows, providing a picturesque setting for visitors. The overlook is easily accessible and provides a peaceful spot to enjoy the fall colors. Nearby, the Missouri State Museum inside the Capitol offers a chance to learn about the state’s natural and cultural history.

Other highlights from across the country include:

Overlook Mountain, Catskills (Woodstock), New York

Overlook Mountain near Woodstock features a fire tower and cliffside viewpoints with expansive vistas of the Catskill Mountains. In October, the hardwood forests shift into vibrant oranges, reds, and yellows, while distant peaks fade into hazy blues. The trail to the summit passes through mixed forest, with colors changing dramatically over just a few hundred feet of elevation gain.

Newfound Gap Overlook, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee

Straddling the border between Tennessee and North Carolina, Newfound Gap offers a roadside overlook where travelers can take in sweeping views of the Smokies’ ridgelines. In autumn, the valleys below burst with color – scarlet dogwoods, bronze oaks, and bright yellow birches. The elevation shift is part of the appeal: you can watch the color change across different forest zones, from high-altitude evergreens to broadleaf hardwoods lower down. The stone terrace is also a place rich in history – Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated the park here in 1940 – but in October, it’s the natural pageantry that takes center stage.

Seneca Rocks Observation Platform, Monongahela National Forest, West Virginia

Seneca Rocks is famous for its sheer cliffs, and the observation platform – reached by a 1.3-mile hiking trail – provides a stunning perspective over the North Fork River valley. In October, the surrounding hardwoods blaze in shades of crimson, gold, and orange. From the platform, you can trace the ridgelines as they fold into the distance, punctuated by the jagged rock formation itself, creating a dramatic contrast

between the vertical cliffs and rolling forested hills.

Glacier Point, Yosemite National Park, California

Standing at Glacier Point, you look straight at Half Dome’s granite face while the valley – carved by the Merced River – spreads below. In autumn, maples, oaks, and dogwoods often add streaks of yellow and red among the rocky slopes. At higher elevations, the Sierra peaks may receive early snow in October, bringing a cool edge to the view. The mix of warm foliage and early winter tones makes this one of Yosemite’s most layered seasonal panoramas.

Mount Mansfield Summit Overlook, Stowe, Vermont

At 4,395 feet, Mount Mansfield is Vermont’s highest peak, and its summit offers sweeping views of the Green Mountains. In mid-October, the hardwood forests below ignite in a mix of crimson maples, golden birches, and bronze oaks, while the ridgelines roll in successive layers toward the horizon. The summit’s open rock ledges let you see the full breadth of fall color, with valleys, farms, and lakes punctuating the forest canopy. Early morning mists often linger in the folds of the mountains, softening the view and making the seasonal palette even more vivid. By mid-October, the Auto Toll Road is closed, but for hikers, this becomes a rewarding trail ascent to Vermont’s highest point, with all the views still waiting at the top.

Stony Man Overlook, Skyline Drive (Shenandoah National Park), Virginia

Stony Man Overlook crowns a dramatic ridge along Skyline Drive, reached by a short 1.6-mile round-trip hike from its parking area. In October, the Shenandoah Valley below ripples with autumn color – oaks, maples, and hickories turning red, orange, and gold against the dark evergreens. From the stone terrace, the ridgeline stretches north and south, carrying the flow of color down into the valleys. The combination of elevation, sweeping perspective, and seasonal vibrancy captures the essence of the Blue Ridge Mountains in fall. Note: Skyline Drive is generally open year-round, but sections may close temporarily in October 2025 due to weather or maintenance.

Spotted Lanternfly Knocking At Missouri’s Door

MU Extension and Lincoln University urban entomologist Emily Althoff says SLF recently was found in Illinois. “It’s knocking at our door,” says Althoff.

First detected in the U.S. in 2014, SLF has now been confirmed in 18 states, according to the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

Its preferred host is tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), but SLF also attacks grapes, making it of particular concern to Missouri’s \$4.2 billion wine and grape industry. Early detection and insecticide control will be key to reducing economic damage, says Dean Volenberg, viticulture specialist and director of the Missouri Grape and Wine Institute.

“If allowed to spread, SLF could have a devastating effect on Missouri fruits, including grapes, and ornamental and forest industries,” Volenberg says. “Public awareness will be critical in detecting and controlling this invasive pest to prevent economic and ecologic losses.”

It likely will appear in Missouri vineyards July to December, says Althoff. This is when those in agriculture should inspect equipment for this insect, which hitchhikes on metal objects such as trains and vehicles.

Volenberg says there is no pattern to the spread of SLF on the emerging infestation front because of the way it travels on moving vehicles. “It’s a scattershot,” he says.

A distinguishing feature of the SLF is a piercing-sucking mouthpart for penetrating the plant’s phloem to withdraw the sugary sap. When feeding, SLF leaves behind a sticky, oozing residue called honeydew. This substance attracts other insects, causes mold growth and further hurts plants.

In the fall, adult SLF are often mistaken for moths, says Althoff. They have gray forewings with distinctive black spots and wing tips with reticulated black and gray blocks.

They’re easiest to spot at dusk or at night as they move up and down the trunks of plants. During the day, they tend to cluster near the base or canopy of a plant, making them harder to see.

If you see a spotted lanternfly, capture it if you can. Take a photograph of it and email it to emilyalthoff@missouri.edu. Or collect a specimen and put it in a vial filled with alcohol to preserve it and take it to the nearest county extension center. Attach a note with the date and location it was found. GPS coordinates are helpful. The extension center will send it to Althoff, who will track its spread in Missouri. If you cannot capture it via phone or vial, then you may kill it.

Use caution when handling tree of heaven; its sap can cause headaches, nausea and possible heart problems.

Sign up for free pest alerts from MU Integrated Pest Management at ipm.missouri.edu/pestMonitoring. Read more about SLF in the article “Keeping an Eye Out for the Invasive Spotted Lanternfly” on MU’s IPM website.

DNR Accepting Abandoned Well Plugging Grant Applications

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources is accepting applications for Abandoned Well Plugging Grants from eligible public water systems through Feb. 28, 2026. The grant offers up to \$20,000 per project to properly plug wells that, if left unplugged, may present a contamination risk to groundwater resources used by a regulated public water system.

If not plugged properly, abandoned wells pose a physical hazard to people and wildlife. Abandoned wells can also allow contamination to reach and impact groundwater, the primary source of drinking water for over 80 percent of Missouri’s public water systems.

Community and not-for-profit noncommunity public water systems with at least one active or emergency well are eligible to apply for reimbursement funding through this program. Project selection is competitive, with the priority application period running Nov. 1, 2025, through Dec. 31, 2025.

Applications received from Jan. 1, 2026, through Feb. 28, 2026, may be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis if funds remain. Applicants may apply via the department’s Funding Opportunities Portal at dnr.mo.gov/financial-opportunities/funding-portal/access-request. A fully executed financial assistance agreement between the project applicant and the department is required prior to incurring project-related costs.

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources is committed to helping Missouri communities protect their drinking water sources and human health. Water wells must be plugged properly to protect groundwater resources from contamination and to protect Missouri communities’ health and economic vitality. Funding for the department’s Abandoned Well Plugging Grant program derives wholly or in part from monies received through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

For more information, visit dnr.mo.gov/water/financial-assistance-opportunities/abandoned-well-plugging-grant or contact the Source Water Protection Program Coordinator by phone at 573-526-0269 or by email at SourceWaterProtection@dnr.mo.gov.

Missourians Say Doctors Should Never Be Replaced By AI

With 4,102 respondents surveyed on which jobs they never want replaced by AI.

Doctors/surgeons followed by teachers and judges.

As artificial intelligence reshapes the workplace, Missourians are drawing their own moral boundary lines – and they’re much firmer than the ones in the boardroom.

A national survey of 4,012 respondents from Trio.dev, specialists in global software team building, reveals that 92 percent of Missourians believe some jobs should always remain human-led, no matter how advanced AI becomes. At the top of the list?

Doctors and surgeons, followed closely by teachers and judges – professions where empathy, instinct, and accountability can’t easily be written into code.

Missouri’s top five careers that should never be replaced by AI:

- #1 Doctors/Surgeons
- #2 Teachers
- #3 Judges
- #4 Social Workers
- #5 Police Officers

Even as AI tools promise greater efficiency, public trust hasn’t kept pace. Three-quarters (75 percent) of respondents say they trust a human professional more than an AI system with sensitive data, and an equal share believes AI will make society riskier, not fairer. Asked which qualities AI will never replicate, Missourians pointed to empathy (39 percent), common sense (22 percent), and ethical judgment (17 percent) – the very traits that often define humanity at its best.

And while most people use AI casually – from autocorrect to customer support – they’re uneasy about surrendering real responsibility. Just 35 percent said they’d be comfortable letting AI manage emergency 911 calls, and the average comfort rating for AI making major life decisions came in at a wary 4 out of 10.

People, it seems, want technology to assist – not replace. Sixty-five percent said that even if AI could do a job more accurately, they would still prefer a human being to do it.

From boardrooms to break rooms

Missourians might want essential workers to stay human – but inside the boardroom, that compassion doesn’t always carry over. For many managers, the question isn’t should AI replace people, but when...

DHSS Publishes Draft Rules Revisions Regarding Dispensary Licenses

The Division of Cannabis Regulation (DCR) within the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) has published a first draft of a proposed rule amendment to 19 CSR 100-1.180, establishing curbside pickup at dispensary facilities. This draft is not part of a formal rulemaking process and is instead part of DHSS’ ongoing efforts to gather all relevant input before formally filing proposed rules and proposed changes to rules.

Draft revisions to 19 CSR 100-1.180 would establish rules to allow curbside pickup at dispensary facilities and are designed to improve cannabis licensee operations by:

Providing dispensary licenses another mechanism for dispensing that still ensures proper inventory control and security, and

Offering a more accessible purchasing option for medical patients, primary caregivers and consumers, particularly those with physical limitations.

DCR is encouraging feedback from the public regarding the draft rule for two weeks, ending Oct. 28. The rule and online suggestion forms can be found on the DHSS Pre-Rulemaking Feedback page.



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WE WELCOME YOUR LOCAL NEWS

Community News

From The Mayor's Desk...

On Oct. 9, Eagle Ridge Landfill had their Annual Fall Harvest Family Fun Fest which had record-breaking attendance. More than 650 people attended Meridian Waste and Eagle Ridge Landfill's event in which they take great pride in giving back to communities in which they serve. They more than doubled their average attendance this year and they invite everyone and especially many of our Bowling Green non-profits in whom they abundantly bless financially.

Another great agency in Bowling Green and Pike County is our Health Department who has started "Monthly Mobile Nursing Services." They bring their monthly services to you such as blood pressure and vital sign checks for free. For minimal charges they provide non-vaccine injections, nail care, health and wellness screening, blood sugar testing and various other modes of education and resources. They make their monthly mobile clinic to Eolia on the 4th Monday of every month, to Clarksville on the third Monday, as well as Curryville on the third Friday and Frankford on the fourth Friday of every month. Call 324-2111 for more information and locations of their mobile nursing services.

As a reminder, October is Domestic Violence Month. I have been going around to various businesses asking that you post a flyer simply bringing for a moment the fact that all around our country and even in Bowling Green have a domestic violence challenge. I've given packets of purple ribbons to wear or pass out to customers to spread this "awareness" and to be educated and proactive in reporting

such negative and destructive behaviors. There are battered men out there just as there are battered women, mothers, and children. There is no age limit to this abusiveness and can be carried on for generations of moms, dads, and then grown children who repeat the same behaviors and abuse they grew up in.

On Oct. 25 in the City Park of Bowling Green has Hearts Together - Restoring Trust in our Communities giving an opportunity to express concerns, challenges, and give people a voice. This gathering will also address providing resources, promote healing and unity, and encourage positive action in building stronger communities and futures. This program will start at 10 a.m., and run through 12 p.m.

There is another program in Bowling Green called Celebrate Recovery. It is Christian based program similar to but not like AA, (Alcoholics Anonymous). We all have certain types of hurts and/or hang ups that we seem to carry as baggage through our lives. CR as it is referred to, (Celebrate Recovery), is a miniature "support program" that is Christ-centered.

What is "Said there, Stays there." Sometimes we don't even recognize our hurts because we have buried them so deep and for so long until someone in the group(s) shares what they are going through or have victory over.

This program is offered every Wednesday evening and on the third Saturday of each month at the Second Baptist Church in Bowling Green, Call Second Baptist Church at 573-324-3113 for more details and times of meetings.



JIM ARICO, MAYOR
CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

Pike To Pike...



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

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Shirley and Mike Straus who were happily wed on Oct. 18 in Pittsfield. They are making their home in Perry, Illinois.

The Buggs' Family Opry in Pearl will be having a show this Friday, October 24, starting at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Birthdays and Anniversaries for the week Oct. 22-28:

Oct. 22 - Cary Dunham, Darrell Davis, Jim Jacques
Oct. 23 - Margaret Leahr
Oct. 24 - Dusty Helm, Shay Taylor

Oct. 25 -- Katy Kelly, my one and only grandson Wessley Davis, Gary and Sharon Williams

Oct. 26 - Amy Dice, James Bedenbender, Wendy McCartney, Cheri and Gene Myers

Oct. 27 - Jared Borrowman, Whitney Huston

Oct. 28 - Debbie Harshman, Hannah Ward, Mike Scott

Pray....very simply PRAY!!! There is power in prayer. So take time out of your busy day, and pray. A few prayer requests that I know of would be for Sharon Straus, Christy Burdick, America, and we have an unspoken request.

If anyone sins, we have

Need A Ride?

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. Our offices are closed and regular routes will not be running on Nov. 11, 2025 due to the Veterans Day holiday.

an Advocate with the Father, with Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins. 1 John 2:1, 2

Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Joyce Stone who passed away recently. She was one remarkable lady who had such a witty sense of humor, loved her family without end, enjoyed local music shows, and going out to eat with dear friends. She will be terribly missed. Jamie and I were among those who attended her visitation and funeral, both on Thursday, Oct. 16, at Niebur Funeral Home in Pittsfield.

Saturday, Oct. 18, Jamie's sister Laura Goree and Jamie and I met for lunch at the Cardinal Inn.

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

Trivia Answers from Last Week:

1. Where does Route 66 start and finish? (It starts in Chicago, Illinois, and ends in Santa Monica, California.)

2. What day is the best day to have a parade? (March 4....say this date out loud, folks, and you will get the pun)

3. How much bread and fish did Jesus use to feed more than 5,000 people? (five loaves of bread and two fish)

Weather in our area turned off cold on Sunday,

Oct. 19, after having rain on Saturday afternoon and evening where we had 3/4 of an inch.

Pike's Pickings this past weekend looked like to me was well attended. Jamie and I had a yard sale in front of my son's store on Friday and had several people come to that. We left with a lot less than we started out with, and that was the whole point.

Hope everyone has a wonderful fall week. Enjoy the cooler temperatures and the colorful leaves.

Put
Our
Classifieds
To
Work For
You

Proposed Mexico Hospital Not Eligible For Rural Healthcare Transformation Program

Audrain County isn't eligible to use funds from the Rural Healthcare Transformation Program to build a new hospital in Mexico.

The federal program prohibits the funds to be used for capital investments, like building a new hospital, according to Missouri Hospital Association spokesman Dave Dillon.

There were plans for the Audrain Community Hospital to reopen after it closed over three years ago, according to previous reporting. A new hospital needs to be built, and Boone Health has stepped in to run it once built.

State Rep. Kent Haden (R-Mexico) said Mexico is too far from the nearest hospital, Boone Health.

"If you have an emergency situation, a lot of times they talk about a golden hour for a stroke, same thing for a car wreck," Haden said. "When you're 40 miles away, by how many ambulances get to the scene, gets people going to get them there, you're out-

side that time."

The RHT program would give states \$50 billion over five years, according to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

CMS is telling states to use a hypothetical \$200 million on applications, Missouri Department of Social Services spokesman Chris Moreland says.

Missouri's application to CMS is due in early November, and funding would be awarded by Dec. 31, according to CMS.

If the state is awarded funding, Haden said he thinks the Missouri legislature could appropriate it mid-budget year in January so funding can be awarded to organizations.

Dillon also suspected the funds wouldn't be accessible right away.

"Since these funds aren't included in the new state budget, it is very likely that appropriation authority will be necessary to implement the programs," Dillon said in an email to ABC 17 News.

"If I'm correct, that would require lawmaking/budgeting early next session to implement and disburse."



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Card Of Thanks

The family of Tommy Gibbons would like to thank all who sent flowers, cards, food, prayers, visits, and made donations. Your kindness has been a great comfort.

Special thanks to the Rev. Faye Vaughn for the service and Frankford First Christian Church for the lovely meal and for their support during Tom's illness and passing.

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Tammy Gibbons & James Ryland
Karen Edmond & Brad Sparks & Family
Cliff & Hope Gibbons & Family

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Obituaries



Gene Ann Dixon

Gene Ann Dixon, a beacon of strength and unwavering devotion, was born Sept. 28, 1947, in Clarks-ville. She departed from this world on Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025, at Barnes Jewish Hospi-tal in St. Louis, sur-rounded by the love of her children and grandchildren.

In remembrance of Gene Ann, a visitation was held Friday from 10 a.m.-12 p.m., followed by a funeral service from 12-1 p.m., at Waters Funeral Home in Vandalia. Burial followed in Vandalia Cemetery.

Her journey through life was marked by a devoted career spanning over two decades as a police officer for Vandalia, where she hon-orably served and protected her community. Her com-mitment to justice was only rivaled by her dedication to her family and her unwavering love for those around her.

Gene Ann was a loving and caring soul, renowned for her culinary talents. She crafted delightful dishes that brought joy and satisfaction to family gatherings, includ-ing the best fried chicken, banana pudding, zucchini bread, and spaghetti. As a host, there was no greater joy for her than gathering her loved ones around the table, where memories were shared amid laughter and warmth.

Her vibrant personality extended beyond the kitchen, encompassing her keen interests in various forms of entertainment. Whether it was watching soap operas, gripping epis-odes of "Law & Order," or the more recent intrigue of "Suits," Gene Ann found pleasure in the stories that connected her to others, res-onating with their lived ex-periences.

A proud alumnus of Clopton High School, Gene Ann's contributions reached far beyond her profession. She was an active member of the Second Christian Church of Vandalia, serving diligently on the Women's Usher Board. Her involve-ment in the community also included her notable service on the Tri-County Nursing Home board for over 40 years, reflecting her com-passion and commitment to improving the lives of others.

Gene Ann's legacy con-tinues through her beloved family, which includes her sons, Dempsey Dixon, Jr., of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa and Richard Redd of Vandalia; daughters, Melissa Redd of Vandalia and Jolene Dixon of Vandalia; brothers, James Wheeler of Hannibal and Chris Redd and wife, Cheri of Chatham, Ill.; sisters, Fannie Carter and husband, William of Davenport, Iowa and Daisy Warren and hus-band, Frank of Clarksville; and sisters-in-law, Dorothy Miles of Columbia and Aisha Abdinasir of Kansas City. Also her grandchil-dren, Ciarria Underwood and husband, Jeff and Ja-selle Brooking; as well as her great-grandchildren, Makenzie, Mercedes, Pey-ton, Willow, Langston, Wyatt, and Westyn ; and great-great grandson, Khairo; will forever cherish the indelible imprint she has left on their hearts. She is also survived by several nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends who have been touched by her kindness and generosity.

Gene Ann was preceded in death by her father, Moss Redd; her mother, Mary Alice Redd and husband, Bolden; her husband, Dempsey Dixon, Sr., who left this earth on Sept. 2, 2020; brothers, Dwitt Redd, Ted Redd, and Harold Wheeler; sisters, Annett Fields and Jenny Davis; and her granddaughter, Menisha Thomas. Her spirit will live on in the lives she touched, her gentle guidance, and her serene smile—a testament

to a life lived with purpose and passion.

Pallbearers were T.J. Conner, Steven Young, Gen-try Adams, Michael Wheeler, Dee Wheeler, Lance Wheeler, Keith Redd, and Jeff Underwood. Hon-orary pallbearers were Chris Redd, James Wheeler, Langston Adams, Peyton Underwood, Wyatt Under-wood, Westyn Underwood, and Khairo Underwood.

Online condolences may be made to the family and video tribute viewed on Gene Ann's memorial page at www.watersfuneral.com.



Joseph Lewis Williams

Services for Joseph Lewis Williams, 98, of Lad-donia, were at 3 p.m., Sun-day at Bienhoff Funeral Home in Laddonia, with Pastor Chris Atkinson offi-ciating. Burial followed at Laddonia Cemetery with full military honors.

Visitation was from 2 p.m., until the time of the service at the funeral home.

Mr. Williams died Tues-day, Oct. 14, 2025, at his home.

Joe was born Sept. 7, 1927, in Audrain County, near Molino, the son of Grover and Margaret Hen-drix Williams. He married the girl of his dreams and the love of his life, Delores Ruth Dubray, on Feb. 19, 1950, in Perry. She preceded him in death on Nov. 27, 2021.

Survivors include one son, Larry Williams and wife, Janet of Perry; three daughters, Sharon Jo and husband, Rick of Fulton, Karen Wellman of Quincy, Ill., and Tiffani Maxwell and husband, Randy of Mexico; one brother, Tom Williams and wife, Judy of Mexico; seven grandchildren, Ryan Totten, Matt Totten, Zack Williams and wife, Nikki, Brandon Payne and wife, Amy, Zane Williams, and wife, Amanda, Jhett Max-well, and Stacey Linder and husband, Melvin; four great-grandchildren, Jordan Payne and wife, Taylor, Reed Linder, Maddie Payne, and Macy Payne; seven step-grandchildren; and numer-ous step-great-grand children; a great-great-granddaughter coming in December; along with nieces, nephews, other relat-ives, and a host of friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, De-lores, a sister, Nanette Blun-dell, son-in-law, Kevin Wellman, and infant brother, David Williams.

Joe attended four years of grade school at Molino and four years at Botts School. He was a graduate of Mex-ico High School in the class of 1945. Joe served his country in the United States Army being drafted from Audrain County on March 6, 1946 where he would serve in Korea in 1946 and most of 1947.

He was a lifelong farmer, often calling himself a dirt farmer and proud of it. After marrying Delores, they made their home on the farm 18 miles northeast of Mexico. Together they raised cattle, sheep, hogs, chickens, and four kids.

Joe was a member of Lit-tleby Baptist Church for more than 50 years. He is a present member of Laddo-nia Baptist Church for more than 20 years where he has served as deacon, trustee, and Sunday school teacher.

Pallbearers were his grandsons and great-grand-sons.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Laddo-nia Baptist Church or the Laddonia Cemetery, c/o Bienhoff Funeral Home, P.O. Box 6, Laddonia, MO 63352

Online condolences may be made at www.bienhoff-funeralhome.com

WE WELCOME YOUR LOCAL NEWS

Margaret Jean Carr

Margaret Jean Carr, 90, of Louisiana died Friday, Oct. 10, 2025 at Pike County Memorial Hospital in Louisiana.

Funeral services were at 1 p.m., Friday at the First Baptist Church in Louisiana. The Rev. Bill Maupin offi-ciated. Burial was at River-view Cemetery in Louisiana.

Visitation was from 11 a.m., until time of service at the church.

Jean was born Nov. 27, 1934 to Raymond Martin and Velma Dorsett Bliss. Jean's twin sister, Marjorie Josephine Bliss Brown; and two brothers, Raymond W. Bliss and Clifford Martin Bliss, all preceded her in death.

The Bliss family moved to Highland, Ind., before settling in Louisiana when Jean was 14 years old. Jean married Edwards Riley "Rip" Carr on Jan. 4, 1951. The couple lived in Ger-many for three years as Rip was drafted into the Army and was stationed there. Rip and Jean returned to Lou-isia-na upon his discharge from the service. They re-mained there and raised their family in Louisiana. Their daughter, Karen Sue, was born in 1956 and son, Raymond Riley was born in 1959.

Jean became an accom-plished seamstress working for Kamp-Toggs in Clarks-ville, Bridal Originals in Bowling Green, and upon its closing, she worked at a factory in Vandalia, and American Stone Cut in Lou-isia-na. Jean made clothing for herself and daughter, Karen and also made Barbie doll clothes.

Jean enjoyed cooking and baking for her family and friends and became a cake decorator after taking classes at Holtz Variety Store that was in Louisiana. She made many cakes over the years taking requests for grandchildren's birthdays. Grandma Jean always came through with a beautiful cre-ative cake.

The Carr family resided in Hickory Grove neigh-borhood. Rip and Jean were faithful members at Noix Creek Baptist Church bring-ing Karen and Ray. Jean taught a Sunday School class and VBS. She helped the church in anyway needed, whether it it would be cleaning or a Christmas program, and she also drove many of the neighborhood children to Sunday School or VBS.

Rip and Jean later in life joined First Baptist Church in Louisiana where they continued to serve and at-tend many years visiting the home-bound and nursing homes. Jean was a faithful member helping in the nurs-ery, VBS, funeral dinners, and drove friends and chil-dren to church. She was dedicated to the Lord and her faith was evident her en-tire life. She was self-less, a dedicated wife and mother, and was married to Rip for 51 happy years until his death on Jan. 3, 2002.

She is survived by her children, Karen Willis and husband, Kevin, and Ray Carr and wife, Robin; seven grandchildren, Clint McKinnon, Chad Puter-

baugh, Kyndle Christianer and husband, Nathan, Chris-tine Gorton and husband, J D, Ashley Painter and hus-band, Nathan, Nikki Carr, and Casey Hammonds and husband, Mike; and great-grandchildren, Piper and Cassidy Gorton, Eli and Avery Painter, Raegan, Adyn, and Kaysn Chatman, Raylyn Carr, Riley, Eliza-beth, and Madison Rule, Bentli and Brant Christianer, and was looking forward to the soon approaching birth of great-granddaughter, Maci Rae.

Preceding Jean in death was a great-grandson, Bryar Kenton Christianer.

Honorary pallbearers were Nathan Painter, J D Gorton, Kaysn Chatman, Raylyn Carr, and Eli Painter. Pallbearers were Nathan Christianer, Clint McKin-non, Chad Puterbaugh, Bentli Christianer, Mike Hammonds, and Adyn Chat-man.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church in Louisiana.

Online condolences can be sent at collierfuneral.com.



Charles A. 'Chuck' McCormick

Charles A. "Chuck" McCormick, 49, of Lou-isia-na died Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025 at Pike County Memorial Hospital in Lou-isia-na.

Cremation rites are under the direction of Collier Fu-neral Home in Louisiana.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday at Collier Funeral Home. Pas-tor Bill Hobbs officiating.

Visitation will be held from noon until time of service Sunday at the fu-neral home.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 3 p.m., after the memorial service at the Elks Lodge in Louisiana.

Chuck was born Dec. 18, 1975 in Louisiana to Eddie and Janice Rousan McCor-mick. He was married to Stephanie Grover on March 15, 1997 at the American Legion in Louisiana.

He is survived by his wife, Stephanie McCor-mick; his mother, Janice McCormick and husband, Jake of Bowling Green; a son, Brian McCormick of Louisiana; one daughter, Kailey McCormick of Lou-isia-na; four grandchildren, Korbyn McCormick, Ella Grace McCormick, Keatyn McCormick, and Karrah Thomas; a brother, Lance McCormick of Hannibal; a bonus brother, Caleb Grover of Louisiana; sisters, Jen-nifer L. McCormick of Clarksville, and Danni Sue Hansen of Louisiana; nephews, Willie Rousan, Justin Campbell, Steven Campbell, and Ethan Camp-bell; nieces, Mykelti Col-bert, Laura Rousan, Jessica Rousan, Vanessa Rousan, Sylvia Elliott, and Helen

McCulley; and numerous other family and a multitude of friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Eddie McCor-mick, step-father, Dr. Per "Doc" Brolinson, uncles, Bill Rousan, Clarence "Gomer" Rousan, and aunts, Debbie Rousan and Kim Rousan.

Chuck was a graduate of Louisiana High School with the Class of 1995. He had also attended Pike/Lincoln Tech School receiving many training certifications.

He was currently em-ployed by Cannon Excav-ating. He previously worked as a mechanic and had a passion for building and running pulling trucks.

In his spare time, he en-joyed hunting and fishing, spending time with his grandkids, and had found peace riding his side-by-side with his friends.

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

Online condolences may be sent at collierfuneral.com.



Jo Ann Minor

Jo Ann Minor, 68, of Louisiana died Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2025 at Pike County Memorial Hospital in Louisiana.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m., Wednesday at the Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana. The Rev. John Davis officiating.

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

Jo Ann was born July 27, 1957 in Fuerstenfeldbruck, Germany to Billy J. and Sarah Tucker Reynolds, where her father was sta-tioned at in the United States Air Force. She was married to Richard E. Minor in 1975 in Louisiana. He survives.

She is also survived by two sons, Richard Minor II of Louisiana, and Shaun Minor of Louisiana; a daughter, Dawn Minor O'Donnell and husband, Michael of Wentzville; three grandchildren, Ben O'Donnell, Emma O'Donnell-Douglas, and Justin O'Donnell; one great-grand-child, Theodore Douglas; two brothers, Michael Reynolds and Buddy Kemry, both of Louisiana; a sister, Becky White of

Bowling Green, and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father, Billy Joe Reynolds, her parents, Bud and Sarah Kemry, three sisters, Linda Dill, Barbara Traynor, and Jeana Weber; and a niece, Stephanie Tray-nor.

Jo Ann had worked as a certified nurse assistant and had been employed at Maple Grove Lodge and Lynn's Heritage House. She enjoyed fishing, playing bingo, and spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchild. She was Baptist by faith and was a past member of the First Baptist Church in Louisiana.

Memorials may be made to the First Baptist Church in Louisiana or to donor's choice.

Online condolences may be sent at collierfuneral.com.



Carolyn Dickerson

Carolyn Sue Dickerson, 81, of Bowling Green died Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2025 at Maple Lawn in Palmyra.

She was born April 27, 1944 in Stoddard County to Claude and Rosena Hill Barnett. Carolyn attended the local schools, along with her siblings. She met Loyd Dickerson when they were out skating and the rest is history. They were united in marriage on Nov. 30, 1962. To this union were born two children, Robert and Karen. Carolyn was an excellent housekeeper, who took good care of her little family. She enjoyed reading fiction books, gardening, taking care of her birdhouses, but most of all spending time with family and friends. Her family describes her as, out-going, strong-willed, kind, and especially loving. She will be sadly missed and long remembered by all those who knew and loved her.

She is survived by her husband of almost 63 years, Loyd Dickerson of Bowling Green; children, Robert Dickerson and wife, Linda of Des Moines, Iowa, and Karen Kanauss and hus-band, Kent of Center; grand-daughter, Kourtney Shaw and husband, Jacob; and their two children, Theo and Owen Shaw of St. Charles; nieces, nephews, other relat-ives and friends.

See OBITUARIES on page 6

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1311 Steers, medium & large				878 Heifers, Med. & Large			
		Computer Avg.				Computer Avg.	
							Top
25	300 & Down	510	617	14	300 & Down	400	530
99	300-400	437	574	70	300-400	410	520
224	400-500	460	531	206	400-500	410	465
259	500-600	420	504	296	500-600	390	431
194	600-700	390	432	193	600-700	370	403
45	700-800	355	377	15	700-800	320	349
275	800-900	360	367	63	800-900	325	337
190	900-1000	345	355	13	900-1000	280	306
3	Bred Cows - Better	2500	3450		Others		
0	Pairs						
		219	Slaughter Cows				
	High Dressing	170	185		Bulk	155	
	Low	105	125		Thin	40	
						160	
23	Slaughter Bulls	185	125		Thin	165	100
ALL SLAUGHTER STEERS & HEIFERS SOLD ON MON. NOON							
		24	218	Steers & Heifers		165	
	Choice 2 & 3	236		Mixed Select		230	Select
			Head				
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Community News

OBITUARIES

Continued from page 4
Carolyn was preceded in death by her parents and siblings.

A private service will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, (mails free books to all children from birth to school age), c/o the funeral home

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



Steven Carlton Waite

Steven Carlton Waite, 83, of Louisiana died peacefully at home with his loving wife by his side after a courageous battle with cancer.

A memorial visitation will be held from 4-8 p.m., Thursday at the First Baptist Church in Louisiana. The memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., Friday at the church with Greg Darnell officiating. Burial of his urn to follow at Fairview Cemetery near Louisiana.

He was born Jan. 11, 1942, in Louisiana to Leonard Carlton "Bud" and Eileen Starr Waite. Steve spent most of his life in Louisiana. During his early years, he attended Wyler School for Boys Military Academy in Evansville, Wis. Upon returning home, he graduated from Louisiana High School in 1960. He went on to attend Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, where he earned his degree in printing management in 1965. While in college, Steve participated in ROTC and was a member of the Air Force Honor Precision Drill Unit.

On Aug. 20, 1988, Steve married the love of his life, Kathy Sloan Trower, who survives him.

He is also survived by one sister, Susan Owen and husband, Wayman of Liberty, S.C.; children, John K. Waite and wife, Mary and Tommy Waite and wife, Rachel of Hannibal, Richard Waite and wife, Kandy, Crystal Raby of Bowling Green, Tammy Moss, Michael Trower and wife, Tammy, and Stephanie Price, all of Louisiana. Additionally, he is survived by many beloved grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and sisters-in-law, Patricia Capps of Louisiana and Bertie Hartjes of Center Point, Iowa.

Steve was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Thomas Kirkbride Waite; one grandson, Matthew Thomas Waite; and nephews, Joseph Daniel Odom and Ryan Douglas Brown.

Steve lived a rich and fulfilling life. He had a life-long love of farming and an uncanny ability to identify nearly every tractor, vehicle make, model, and year ever made. His work life included several careers: over-the-road truck driver with the CB handle "Always Lost," owner and operator of Midland Graphic Arts after his parents' retirement, Shift Supervisor at Louisiana Plastics, and sergeant at Northeast Correctional Center.

Steve lived a rich and fulfilling life. He had a life-long love of farming and an uncanny ability to identify nearly every tractor, vehicle make, model, and year ever made. His work life included several careers, over-the-road truck driver with the CB handle "Always Lost," owner and operator of Midland Graphic Arts after his parents' retirement, shift supervisor at Louisiana Plastics, and Sergeant at the Northeast Missouri Correctional Facility in Bowling Green. Later, he owned and operated Clean Sweep Custodial Services,

and in "retirement," he and his wife continued serving their community by mowing lawns until his health declined.

Steve was deeply devoted to his God, his country, his community, his church, and his family and friends. He served faithfully in many roles throughout his life. He served on the BONCL School Board, secretary of the Lions Club, treasurer of Perseverance Lodge #92 A.F. & A.M., Worthy Patron of Nightingale Chapter #117 Order of the Eastern Star, and president of the Rotary Club. A committed volunteer, he gave his time to the Buffalo Fire Department, was a leader of Celebrate Recovery for 10 years, and delivered food for the Louisiana Food Pantry. He enjoyed visiting with friends at the Trimble House, where he found fellowship and joy. He was a devoted member of First Baptist Church, serving as a deacon and later being honored as Deacon Emeritus. At the time of his death, he was affiliated with numerous Masonic and fraternal organizations, including Perseverance Lodge #92 A.F. & A.M., Excalibur Commandery No. 5 Knights Templar in Hannibal, Hannibal Chapter No. 7 Royal Arch Masons, Trinity Council No. 47 Cryptic Masons, Troy Chapter #10 Order of the Eastern Star, and the National Rifle Association. He will be remembered for his warm heart, sharp wit, deep faith, and unwavering love for his family, friends, church, and community.

Serving as honorary pallbearers are John Waite, Richard Waite, Tom Waite, Michael Trower, Austin Hill, and Kase Raby.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the First Baptist Church, Trimble House, Celebrate Recovery, Louisiana Food Pantry, and Pike County Home Health and Hospice.

Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana is in charge of arrangements.



Delores Rosalia (Butch) Meyer

Delores Rosalia "Butch" Meyer, 86, entered into God's eternal rest on Thursday, Oct. 16, 2025, at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, Ill.

Visitation will be from 8:30-10:30 a.m., Tuesday (today) at St. Clement Catholic Church. A rite of Christian burial will be held at 10:30 a.m., with Fr. Henry Ussher officiating. Burial will take place at St. Clement Cemetery.

Butch was born at home Oct. 31, 1938, in Bowling Green to Frank and Catherine Grote Niemeyer. She married Arthur "Art" Meyer on Nov. 8, 1958, at St. Clement Catholic Church. To this union six children were born.

Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes in Bowling Green is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include children, Jeff Meyer and wife, Laura of Bowling Green, Tammy Bagley and Neil House of Columbia, Teri Weise and husband, Steve of Columbia, Scott Meyer and wife, Ellen of Bowling Green, Curt Meyer and wife, Christine of Troy, and Bruce Meyer and wife, Stephanie of Bowling Green; grandchildren, Daniel Finke and wife, Stacie, David Finke and wife, Kim, Julie Bowen and husband, Clint, Kelsey Thomas and husband, Michael, Brian Meyer, Bret Weise and wife, Sammy, Halie Wyble and husband, Cole, Kara Meyer and John Fellers, Clayton Meyer, Emily Meyer, Evan Meyer, Carley Meyer, and Catelyn Weise; great-grandchildren, Thomas Finke, Will Finke, Jacob Bowen, Charlie Bowen, Lauren Finke, Lily Bowen, Sophia Finke, Karah Thomas, Lydia Gibson, Cash Wyble, Lainey Thomas, Colton Weise, Caroline Wyble, Charlotte Wyble, and Cruz Wyble; siblings, Bob Niemeyer and wife, Judy, Fred Niemeyer and wife, Mary Carol, and Ansel Niemeyer; as well as brothers-in-law, Mel Meyer and Roland "Duke" Orf.

She was preceded in death by husband, Art Meyer, her parents, brother, Victor "Vic" Niemeyer, sisters, Francis "Sis" Schroeder, and Lorraine "Bee" Meyer, her father and mother-in-law, Ferd and Laura Grote Meyer, brothers and sisters-in-law, Cletus Meyer, Vera and Bill Smith, Clementine "Clem", Don Porter, Mary Margaret "Mog" Orf, Martha "Mutz" Hoggard and her beloved grandson, Cameron Bagley.

She graduated from Bowling Green High School. Upon graduation, she went to work at the garment factory in Bowling Green. After getting married, she and Art purchased the Meyer family farm, and they started raising a family as they worked tirelessly. To help supplement the family income, Butch sewed as an accomplished seamstress, baked wedding cakes, worked at Hiles Show Store, and drove a school bus for many years. She decided in her 40's she wanted to shift gears and went to cosmetology school in Quincy and opened Country Curl Salon working out of her home. She continued with this until her retirement.

Butch's involvements included serving as a 4-H leader, St. Clement Parish Council member and secretary/treasurer of the St. Clement Cemetery Association. She was active in church and with Cursillo. She loved being a part of her kids and grandkids activities, which were many, including 4-H, FFA and a



Clopton Class Of 1970 Holds 55th Reunion

The Clopton Class of 1970 celebrated its 55-year class reunion on Saturday, Oct. 11 at the Middleton & Fern Building in Clarksville. Pictured, front row, (l-r): Susie Rudd Smith, Elaine McDannold, Sandy Colbert Buchanan, Becky Harrison Heusted, Nancy Henderson Colbert, Skyler Herring, and Nancy Grimshaw Miller. Second row: Barbee Wyble Wear, John McCrory, Mel Motley, and John Seward. Third row: William "Bill" Tillet, John Schmidt, and Bill Lagemann. Attending later, but not pictured was Janet Suddarth Holland. Teachers attending were Randy Snell and Holly Mabry. Others attending were Vickie Colbert Lagemann, Todd Seward, Mary Motley Evans, and Marilyn McCrory.

variety of sports. She loved to travel including taking bus tour trips with her sister, Bee, as well as many great vacations to places like Washington, DC, Grace-land, Branson, Tunica and especially Las Vegas. She loved the thrill of the Buffaloes and winning.

Being known and loved for her generosity, she was the consummate servant whether it was for her immediate family, extended family, or others in the community. Butch cherished her family as it truly was her God-given purpose and she and Art created a faith-filled and busy home. A home filled with love, laughter, and great memories and she thrived in the realm of caring for those she loved. Her joy in life was to love and serve others, and she did that well. As she transitioned in her eternal journey which now is in heaven, we know that she was welcomed with open arms by her Savior, Jesus Christ, and those who have gone before her. She knew the best was yet to come, she was ready, and now all is well with her soul.



Rhoda Darlene Kerr

Rhoda Darlene Kerr, 82, of Vandalia died Thursday, Oct. 16, 2025, at Baptist Home of Tri-County in Vandalia.

Funeral services will be held at 12 p.m., Saturday at Waters Funeral Home. Pastor Charlene Wheeler-Williams D.D., will officiate. Burial will follow in Vandalia Cemetery.

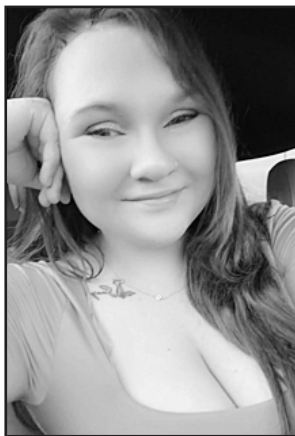
Visitation celebrating Rhoda's life will be at 11 a.m., until the time of the service Saturday at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Baptist Home of Tri-County or the Vandalia Second Christian Church, c/o Waters Funeral Home.

Online condolences may be made to the family.

A video tribute can be viewed on Rhoda's memorial page at www.watersfuneral.com.

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



Carrie Ann Johnston Ringler

Carrie Ann Johnston Ringler, 31, of Columbia went to join Jesus on Thursday, Oct. 16, 2025.

Celebration of Life services will be Saturday at Riverview Cemetery in Louisiana with Andrew Jay Van Bieber officiating. The services will be at 11 a.m.

Carrie was born on Sept. 9, 1994 in Columbia, Mo. the daughter of Roy L. and Rebecca K. "Scottie" Johnston, they survive. She married Donovan Ringler on March 20, 2024. He survives.

Also surviving are her bonus mom, Callie Fowler;

sons, Michael Chris Craigmiles III and Owen Renley Craigmiles; brothers, Matthew Harris, Donnie and Brittany Fowler, Travis Fowler, Gene Fowler, and Hannah Smart; nephew and nieces, Allen Harris, Teagan Fowler, Hayzlee Fowler, and Myla Fowler; uncles, Kevin Johnston, Scott and Stephanie Johnston; a special aunt, Cindy Clark; cousins, Kevin C. Johnston, Matthew Johnston, Nicole Johnston, and Katlyn Johnston; and one special uncle, Bob Puder.

Preceding her in death are grandparents, Gary and Wanda Rogers, Donald W. "Bill" and Emma A. Scott Gray, and her three angel babies, Sawyer Stephen Craigmiles, Penelope Kate Ringler, and Baylor Lee Ringler.

Carrie will be remembered as the caring, giving, fun loving, full of life girl who fought to keep her life as hard as she could. She loved with all her heart. She will be deeply missed in all the hearts who knew her.

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Classifieds

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

MOBILE HOMES

USED DOUBLE-WIDE - DUTCH. Amish built in Indiana, excellent condition, 3 bed., 2 bath. FINANCING. Call for info 573-249-3333, marktwainmobile-homes.com. (tf)

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. (tf)

MODERN MATUR-ITY BUILDING - Van-dalia - Family reunion, shower, birthday. Call Art Wiser, 594-3224. (tf)

FOR SALE

WHIRLPOOL dryer, \$150; GE washer. Vandalia Firestone, Appliance & Furniture, 573-594-6624.

MO FIREARMS CO. Retirement Sale 573-470-9111. (x6-47)

COFFEE & End Tables, 50% off. Van-dalia Firestone, Appli-ance & Furniture, 573-594-6624.

CLEARANCE SALE - Eureka vac-uum cleaners. Van-dalia Firestone, Appliance & Furniture, 573-594-6624.

REFURNISHED COMPUTERS, parts, accessories. Call Geeky Hillbilly Com-puters 573-324-7176.

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

FOR SALE

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

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

HELP WANTED

BUSINESS PART-NER: A woman who is confident, computer/ internet savvy, ready to break the chains of economic slavery. Ready to learn about orgone energy, reflex-ology, and the power of the pyramid. Also Ready to be the ma-jority owner (60%) of an S corporation. Ready to research, produce and market with 3 D printing tech-nology, 3 new prod-ucts. Ready to work together using soft-ware to build a million dollar money making machine. Ready to help sell everything in the parade, and ready to be an influencer. Gitter done country person. Send Face-book username, stats and intro letter to I Am Ready, P.O. Box 41, Bowling Green, MO 63334. (x4-48)

HELP WANTED

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

SERVICES

PREMIERE PRES-SURE WASHING - Outside hgouse cleaning, soffitts, driveways, decks, pa-tios, fence cleaning, farm equipment, and trailers. Free esti-mates. 573-253-8811.

RICK'S LAWN EQUIPMENT & GOLF CARTS - Sales, serv-ice, and parts. Used golf cars and mowers. Hwy. 54 West, Lou-isia-na, MO 63353, 573-754-5055. (tf)

GEEKY HILLBILLY COMPUTER SERV-ICES LLC - B.G. com-puter repair & recycling, 573-324-7176, 573-567-6164.

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

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

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



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EOE



Farber Cemetery Donation
After the tombstone was paid for Tony "Rat" Heaston at a recent fundraiser there was \$1,500 left over that was donated to the Farber Cemetery upkeep. Pic-tured, from left: Lynette Null, Leroy Null, presenting check to Farber Cemetery Treasurer Carla Burnett; and Patrick Burnett.

WE WELCOME YOUR LOCAL NEWS

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CALL TODAY - 573-330-8507
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ACCEPTING SNOW REMOVAL BIDS

The City of Middletown, Mo. is accept-ing snow removal bids until noon, Wed-nesday, Nov. 5, 2025 for the following streets/lots:

South and North Caldwell, S. Cherry (from 161/Johnson St. to South St., side streets between North Cherry and North Caldwell, Post Oak School Road, Straube St., Main Street, South Street, and the parking lot at City Hall.

Bid specifications are available at City Hall, or by calling 573-549-2220. Suc-cessful bidder must have liability insur-ance. The City reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids, and to determine the best bid. Please mark sealed bids as ``Snow Removal Bid."

City of Middletown
(573) 549-2220
203 Johnson St.
P.O. Box 127, Middletown, Mo. 63359
Office Hours: 8 a.m.-noon Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

HOUSEKEEPER

wanted, light cleaning, 573-324-5343.

NO HUNTING

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

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Vandalia
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Community News



Wilburn Seed Given Newcomer Award
Shoutout to Wilburn Seed of Laddonia was awarded the Newcomer of the Year for Taylor Seeds. His fresh energy and commitment have made a big impact in a short time. Taylor Seeds is excited to see what the future holds as Wilburn Seed continues to grow and support your growers.

Raintree Announces Clarksville Winners



People look over works displayed at the 51st Annual Raintree Arts Council Art Show and Judged Competition, which was held Oct. 11 and 12 at the Clarksville Apple Shed.

Photo By Brent Engel

Raintree Arts Council held its 51st Annual Art Show and Judged Competition Oct. 11 and 12 at The Apple Shed in Clarksville in conjunction with Applefest. There were 28 individual artists with 112 entries and 410 student entries. Raintree appreciates the teachers who took time to prepare and enter the works. Participating schools were BONCL, Clopton elementary, middle and high schools, Louisiana elementary, middle and high schools, Troy Buchanan High School, and individual entries from Elsberry elementary and middle schools, Our Lady of Good Success and Bowling Green High School. The competition was

judged by Joseph Weber, an associate professor and head of the art department at Lindenwood University. Adult category winners were: Photography: 1st, Barry Wright; 2nd, Connie Stephens; 3rd, Jennifer Walmer. Amateur division: 1st, Bill Blakey; 2nd, Jalaya Ries; 3rd, Judy Flowers; Honorable Mention, Deanne Smith. 3 Dimensional: 2nd, Don Hamilton. Professional division: 1st, Deb Myers; 2nd, Dennis Babbitt; 3rd, Howard Kuo; 4th, Ann Titus; Honorable Mention, Deb Kindshu. Student category winners were: Grades K-1: 1st, Eise-

bella Suddarth of BONCL; 2nd, Jackson Cannon of Louisiana; 3rd, Levi Gordy of BONCL. Honorable Mention, Anne O'Brien of Elsberry. Grades 2-3: 1st, Omari Ivey of Louisiana; 2nd, Emalyn Billings of Clopton; 3rd, Ava McQuality of Louisiana. Honorable Mention, Brian Lindsay of Louisiana. Grades 4-5: 1st, Piper Hipes of BONCL; 2nd, Colton Ince of Louisiana 3rd, Willow Wernowsky of Louisiana. Honorable Mention, Charlotte Griffith of BONCL. Grades 6-8: 1st, Ashley Bullock of BONCL; 2nd, Genevieve Weber of Our Lady of Good Success; 3rd, Carleigh Carlton of Louisiana. Honorable Mention: Parker Burse of Louisiana. Grades 9-10: 1st, Charlotte Haskins of Clopton; 2nd, Olivia Mooney of Louisiana; 3rd, Anthony Lopez of Louisiana. Honorable Mention: Jillian Calvin of Louisiana. Grades 11-12: 1st, Ella Weber of Our Lady of Good Success; 2nd, Arleana Sciarerlota of Troy; 3rd, Cara Thomason of Troy. Honorable Mention: Parma Daniels of Troy. Student Best of Show: Maximo Stephens of Troy. Adult Best of Show: Steve Ryan of Hannibal. People's Choice: Ella Bowen of Louisiana in student division. Jalaya Ries in adult division.

Farber Library Holds Messy Art Day

On Saturday, Oct. 11 children started Messy Art at the Farber Library. This will take place the second Saturday of each month until May 2026. Children must sign-up ahead of time as

there is a limit to the number who can participate. To sign-up and get more information you need to stop by the Farber Library or call during the times it is

open. In October the children enjoyed painting pumpkins. Those who participated were Aiven Ellis, Harper Haynes, Coleman Speagle, and Claire Williams.



Aiven Ellis



Harper Haynes



Coleman Speagle



Claire Williams



The Scariest Scarecrow!

Each fall, Louisiana Community Betterment Association enjoys, welcoming the fall season by sponsoring the Business Scarecrow Decorating Contest. The decorating contest is designed to help promote the businesses of Louisiana and to brighten up the community for the fall season. Everyone enjoys driving around and viewing the scarecrows and of course everyone has their favorites! This year, the judges have made their decisions and the winners for 2025 are, first place - Twin Pike Family YMCA on Kelly Lane; second place - LaCrosse Lumber & Hardware on Main Street; and third place - Sudzy Tub Laundromat on 5th Street. LCBA looks forward to sponsoring the event again next year.

Thank You

To say thank you is just not enough for all the generosity at the fundraiser for a tombstone for Tony 'Rat' Heaston. Those who planned and prepared the food it was appreciated so much. Thanks to those who attended and gave so generous. Rat would be so proud of everyone who helped in any way.

OPEN HOUSE

Pike County Sheltered Workshop

Thursday, Oct. 23

1-6 p.m.

Join us in seeing what The Pike Shop offers and what it is all about

Also what our team members do on any given day

Refreshments Provided

Missouri Woodland Owners Learn From The Best At Conference

Woodland owners and natural resource professionals gathered Oct. 3-4 in Mountain Grove for the Missouri Woodland Owners Conference, hosted by the Forest and Woodland Association of Missouri (FWAM) in partnership with University of Missouri Extension, Missouri Walnut Council, Missouri Department of Conservation, Missouri Society of American Foresters and the Missouri Tree Farm System. "This annual event is an excellent way for landowners to learn how to better manage their woodlands," said Laurie Wilson, FWAM executive director. The conference provided hands-on learning through three field tours, said MU Extension state forester Hank Stelzer. The Missouri Walnut Council sponsored a tour of the Boone Creek Farm near Licking and its black walnut plantation to learn how soil characteristics affect tree growth. The tour also discussed pruning and thinning strategies. Missouri Society of American Foresters sponsored a tour of Smith Flooring in Mountain View that offered insights into the hardwood flooring industry and its connection to managed forests. Missouri State University offered a tour of its fruit experiment station in Mountain Grove. Stelzer said attendees at all tours gave the afternoon glowing reviews. Friday evening featured a recognition ceremony for

Max and Lois Schmollinger, who were honored as Missouri Tree Farmers of the Year. "Not only were they the top Tree Farm in Missouri, but they also made the 'Elite Eight' of this year's national competition," Stelzer said. "To be recognized as one of the top eight privately managed woodlands in the country is quite an honor." Missouri Tree Farm Committee chair Matt Jones said, "One of the greatest benefits of the American Tree Farm System is to recognize woodland owners who are committed to sustainably managing their woods. Max and Lois took abused unproductive property and turned it into a healthy woodland resource for their family's enjoyment." The evening concluded with a presentation by Robbie Doerhoff, forest health program coordinator with the Missouri Department of Conservation. "Her talk focused on how Missouri's increasingly erratic weather patterns over the past two decades are negatively impacting trees across the Show-Me State," Stelzer said. On Saturday, the Schmollingers welcomed more than 60 woodland owners and natural resource professionals to their property for a field tour that looked at all phases of oak management, from new seedlings sprouting under the shelter of a mature oak canopy to older

trees fighting for available sunlight. Selection and release of future crop trees was discussed to improve tree growth and forest health. Participants learned about establishing and caring for shortleaf pine and the importance of developing markets. The tour ended with a discussion on the decline in

health of post oak trees and emerging theories about this new threat to Missouri's woodlands. Visit the Forest and Woodland Association of Missouri or MU Extension websites, and sign up for MU Extension's monthly Natural Resources Newsletter to stay in touch.

Barbecue Fundraiser

Monday, Nov. 3

11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., or until sold out

Modern Maturity Senior Center

112 E. Joe St. - Vandalia (To Benefit New Furnace At Modern Maturity Senior Center)

Pork Steak Plate \$13

Porkburger Plate \$13

Hot Dog Plate \$6

Plates include cheesy potatoes, baked beans, dessert & drink

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Cindy Evans - 573-473-9000

Marlene Fischer 573-473-2753

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