THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

News For Pike, Eastern Audrain & Northern Lincoln Counties

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NECAC Holds Annual Meeting NECAC held its Annual Page noted. "I trust I can deGrant (CSBG) with the

Meeting and Installation of Officers and Directors Dinner on Tuesday, Oct. 28.

NECAC President and Chief Executive Officer Dan Page gave an update on significant progress made during the year and offered pend on each of you to support my efforts as the entire NECAC staff and I take this agency forward."

Mike Bridgins of St. Charles County was re-installed as board chairman, with Glenn Eagan of Shelby



NECAC President and Chief Executive Officer Dan Page delivers his address at the agency's Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers and Directors Dinner on Oct. 28.

praise to board members, staff and volunteers. The agency is celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2025.

For the coming year, Page said "financial health remains a goal" and that he wants to "continue to strengthen" the board.

"While today's meeting is a time of celebration, and we should celebrate the wins, it doesn't mean there aren't difficult days ahead,"

County as vice-chairman and Lowell Jackson of Ralls County as secretary. Trustees are Troy Dawkins of Shelby County, Curtissa Kerr-Hunter of Lincoln County and Mickey Shipp of Macon County.

The guest speaker was Community Action pioneer Charles McCann of St. Joseph, former director of the Community Services Block Angie Light.

Missouri Department of Social Services and a Certified Community Action Professional (CCAP) with the National Community Action Partnership.

McCann, who performed the installation ceremony, has a national reputation for excellence in the Community Action movement. After more than 50 years of service, he is still offering his assistance.

"You have the elements of success - leadership, dedication and compassion," McCann said. "What you do is really, really important."

Also sworn in were the following board members:

Lewis County: Craig Simon and Redmon

Lincoln County: Matt Bass and Jere Burkemper.

Macon County: Matt Shoemaker and Jean Jones. Marion County: David Lomax, Jim Miller and Roy

Monroe County: David Hays, Tonya Pryor and Harold Long.

Montgomery County: Dave Teeter, Mike Dorlac and Carole Weeks.

Pike County: Tommy Wallace, Lori Smith and Curt Mitchell. Ralls County: John Wiec-

zorek and Janet Hoyt. Randolph County: Jason

Lowry, Lorna Miles and Mahala Dixson. Shelby County: Melissa

Killen. St. Charles County: Alex Reichert and Diane Hile-

Warren County: Fred

Vahle, Mary VanBibber and



During the morning hours of Tuesday, Oct. 28, the Audrain County Sheriff's Office and East Central Drug Task Force executed a search warrant at a residence along East Highway 54 in Vandalia, as part of an ongoing narcotics investiga-

During the search, methamphetamine, controlled pharmaceutical tablets, drug paraphernalia, and United States currency was located and seized. As a result, James Eric Davis, 62, of Vandalia was arrested for first degree drug trafficking, money laundering, possession of a controlled substance, unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia, and



keeping or maintaining a public nuisance.

Persons arrested for criminal offenses are presumed innocent until proven

guilty, and the accusations

The Audrain County

Sheriff and his staff remain committed to working with our communities, community partners, and other area law enforcement agencies to make Audrain County a safe place to work and live.

The support and input

from the community is appreciated. Citizens are reminded that crime tips may be provided anonymously calling CRIMES-TOPPERS at (800) 392-TIPS or (800) 392-8477 and/or online https://www.audrainsheriff.com/report-a-crime

Buffalo Township United Funds Invites You To A Holly Jolly Night Of Trivia, Fun Get ready to deck the

halls and test your Christmas knowledge at the Buf-Township United Fund's "All Things Christmas" Trivia Night.

The special event takes place on Saturday, Nov.22, at the Keely Center in Louisiana.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and the fun kicks off at 6 p.m. with morning radio host Gordon Sanders leading the games as emcee. Teams of up to eight players can reserve a table for \$200, or individuals can join in for \$25 per person.

Along with bragging rights and cash prizes for the top two teams, guests can enjoy a silent auction, 50/50 drawing, and even a dance following the trivia rounds. Food will be available for purchase and a cash bar will keep spirits bright, but please no outside coolers or snacks.

All proceeds from the event go toward 12 local agencies that support Pike County youth and seniors, so every laugh and correct answer helps make a difference close to home.

Organizers encourage friends, families, and coworkers to form teams early and join the festive fun.

For more details, to sponsor a table, or to register, contact Karen Schuckenbrock (573-795-4533) or Sally Logan (573-754-0465).

So, grab your Santa hats, brush up on your holiday trivia, and help BTUF spread some Christmas cheer while supporting a great local cause.

Early Deadline For The Tuesday, Nov. 11 Issue Of The People's Tribune

Deadline for news and ads will be Thursday, Nov. 6 at 10 a.m.



From Vandalia Kid To **Nashville Stage**

Bones Owens Talks New Album, Hometown Pride

By Brice Chandler

"Growing up in and around Vandalia, I was surrounded by family and friends who worked hard for everything they had. I'd like to think I've carried that same dedication and eat what you kill mentality on to my music career." Audrain County native and Vandalia's own Caleb "Bones" Owens keeps his rural Missouri roots close to his heart whether that is performing on tour or filming spots for a recent Harley Davidson/ Realtree collaboration. The Nashville based singer, songwriter, and guitarist took a break from his busy schedule to share some experiences with the Tribune and offer advice to aspiring musicians. Bones grew up in Vandalia, spending his early years in town before moving to a farm between Vandalia and Perry. He later graduated from Van Far in 2002 and attended UCM in Warrensburg before heading to Nashville in 2005.Along the way, he soaked up classic country records from his grandparents (Gus and Nelva Owens and Dean and Martha Baker), his dad Tony Owens' rock collection, and the buzz of 1990s alternative. That mix continues to shape his music and work ethic on his latest album,

Best Western." Growing up around a farm, you see all the care and work that goes into rais-ing a crop," Bones shared. "It's not a job you clock out of at 5 o'clock. You lose sleep, you obsess over it, you wonder if you could do more or differently, and at the end of the day it's a big gamble as to how things will turn out. I find parallels to all those things in my time in the music industry. Equal parts hard work and faith are necessary compo-nents.

For first time listeners pressing play on the new record, Bones frames the sound in plain terms.

"It's a mix of classic rock and roll, blues and R&B influences. All original songs. I wrote 12 of the 15 songs

myself and co-wrote the other 3 with friends ('Come Down to It' with Matt Thiessen from Relient K, 'Time Bomb' with Kevin Griffin from Better Than Ezra, and 'Best Western' with Yelawolf). I self-produced the album and played all the instruments except for drums and organ." Asked to pick a single track that captures the heart of the record, he pointed to one that carries both feel and theme. "It's hard to pick just one. 'In the Wind' has a melodic bluesy swagger to it that carries through the album. Thematically it's consistent with a lot of other songs on the album too: heartache, changes, hitting the open road."Those themes trace back to Vandalia and the people who first put instruments in his hands."I was fortunate to grow up in a musical household," he explained. "My parents both sing. My mom also plays piano and she started me in piano lessons at six. I found my way to guitar by 10."

instruments, Bones said that attending a small town church provided the opportunity to perform onstage at an early age. And he had several musical influences that helped along the way. "I'd like to acknowledge my first piano teacher, Dorothy Cahill in Vandalia, my guitar teacher Patti Grimmett in Perry, my second guitar teacher Dave Reetz in Mexico, and my music teachers throughout my time at Van Far, Ruth and Dennis Calcaterra." Best Western marks another milestone in his creative independence. "Selfproducing was kind of the final frontier for me in terms of taking complete control over the album-making process... I've already written the songs and played most of the instruments on my previous albums, so selfproducing was just a way of testing myself creatively and seeing if I was capable of wearing all the hats. Thankfully, it worked out and I'm happy with the final

Beyond learning various

"I've considered what it might be like to self-produce an album for a while, and the timing worked out perfectly. my long-time producer and friend Paul Moak was in the middle of a world tour with Heart for a long period of time, and his studio was available, so I basically rented his studio and his engineers and went in to make the record on my own."His view of success is steady and unvarnished. "There's no ONE way to 'make it', regardless of what some people might tell you. If they think they know, they don't, because it's different for everyone - also keeping in mind that the concept of making it, is different for different people. For me it's been a slow burn. I've never achieved anything like overnight success. I've slowly chipped away at a career doing something I love, one day at a time."When it comes to songwriting, he said his voice goes back to those same roots. "I think growing up in rural Missouri shaped my perspective greatly. From experiencing blue-collar, working-class America on a daily basis, to learning how to harness the isolation of living out in the sticks and trying to express my ideas and feelings with a guitar and words."Homecomings remain special.

"I love coming back to Missouri and playing shows, seeing family, old friends and classmates. It always feels like a homecoming."

This past summer, he returned for a St. Louis show and made room on the bill for a young local artist, Bodhi Eskew.

"Bodhi's dad and I grew up together," Bones explained. "We've been friends since childhood. I would see him share videos of Bodhi as a kid playing guitar and I could tell right away he was going to be really good. Fast forward a few years and Jordan would bring him out to my shows.

Continued next week

Community News

MoDOT Issues Urgent Call For Safer Driving As Fatality Count Increases Ninth Annual Buckle Up Phone Down

With roadway fatalities in Missouri continuing to trend closer to surpassing last year's count, the Missouri Department of Transportation is urging drivers to use safe driving practices heading into the holiday and winter season. The effort coincides with the state's 9th annual Buckle Up Phone Down Day on Oct. 29, when various safety partners, schools and businesses throughout the state and nationwide encourage safe behavior behind the wheel.

To date in 2025, more than 700 people have died on Missouri roadways. Of the vehicle occupants killed, more than half were unbuckled. Distracted driving is also a leading cause of crashes in Missouri. In 2024, distracted driving was cited in crashes that claimed 106 lives, though that number is likely higher due to underreporting.

"We've made great progress in reducing fatalities each of the last two years, but in the last few months that progress has slowed significantly," said MoDOT State Highway Safety and Traffic Engineer Jon Nelson. "Even more concerning is the impact behind each of those numbers. The lives lost are a fraction of the lives forever changed by poor driving decisions. BUPD Day is a call for everyone to take the simple actions they can to keep our roads a safe place to drive.'

Despite notable progress in recent years, Missouri's downward trend in roadway fatalities is now at risk. In 2024, the state saw its second consecutive year of decline, with a total of 955 traffic-related deaths. However, 344 of those fatalities occurred between Sept.

1 and Dec. 31. If current patterns continue through the 2025 holiday travel season, Missouri could surpass last year's fatality numbers, ending a hard-earned streak of progress in roadway safety.

"Since launching BUPD, we've seen tremendous strides in the form of increased seat belt usage and a decreased percentage of unbuckled fatalities," said Nelson. "But distracted and aggressive driving remain dire concerns. These next few months of increased holiday travel and potential winter conditions are a reminder of how crucial it is to stay alert behind the

Drivers can accept the challenge to BUPD at modot.org/bupd and spread the word on social media using the hashtags #BUPD and #BUPDDay.

MDHEWD Recognizes 80th Anniversary Of National Disability Employment Awareness

The Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development (MDHEWD) proudly joins state and national agencies and organizations in recognizing the 80th anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, an annual recognition of the positive impact and contributions of individuals with disabilities in the workforce.

This year's theme, "Celebrating Value and Talent," highlights the importance of equal employment opportunities for all individuals and increasing opportunities for people with disabilities in the workforce.

"We are proud to recognize National Disability Employment Awareness Month and highlight our commitment to ensuring every Missourian, including those with disabilities, are offered the opportunity to achieve the skills and education needed for success,' said Dr. Bennett Boggs, Commissioner of the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development. "Accessibility is fundamental to Missouri's workforce, and by removing barriers to employment we can ultimately work together to help strengthen the state's

Missouri Job Centers ac-**Van-Far Alumni Association Meets**

At the Thursday, Oct. 23

meeting, Van-Far Alumni and

Friends board members conducted a review of the Sept.

28 reunion and banquet with

a consensus that it was suc-

Alumnus Kevin Lang-

ston's presentation was well

received and school-related

trivia brought lively discus-

discussed for a reunion next

year. Date and program ideas were evaluated. Anyone with

Preliminary plans were

sion at guest tables.

cessful.

To Review Recent Reunion

ross the state serve thousands of individuals with disabilities each year, ensuring all Missourians have equal access to employment services, training, and education to pursue new skills and career opportunities. Missouri also continues to lead the nation in providing apprenticeship opportunities to those with disabilities to pursue highquality career pathways.

MDHEWD has partnered with the National Disability Institute with the goal of helping 2,500 youth with disabilities explore STEM career pathways through apprenticeship opportunities.

"STEM careers offer Missouri's youth with disabilities strong possibilities of entering a high-demand field with high earning potential after completing a registered apprenticeship," said Julie Carter, Director of the Office of Workforce Development. "We are thankful for this partnership and the ability to lay the framework for others as we continuously explore opportunities to better serve Missourians."

National Disability Employment Awareness Month began in 1945 as a weeklong recognition of people with physical disabilities, and has since expanded to a monthlong celebration that embraces people with all disabilities, including those

member prior to the upcoming Jan. 22 meeting.

ciation were received from Averil Beshears, Kurt and Amy Childs, Glenda Cli-

thero, Luke and Teresa Heim,

Carl and Ellen Ledbetter,

Donna Corrado, Class of

1970 and Class of 1972; gifts

were received in memory of

Gary Heim from Jim Guffie,

dance were Debby and Rex

Moore, Laura Straube, Carol

Board members in atten-

and Phil and Sheila Ennis.

Monetary gifts to the asso-

with mental health conditions and other invisible disabilities. The month serves as an opportunity to raise awareness, highlight the importance of expanding access to employment, and showcase supportive workplace policies and practices that benefit employers and employees.

For more information about National Disability Employment Awareness Month, visit the U.S. Department of Labor's website at dol.gov/NDEAM. more information about Missouri Job Centers and the free services available, visit jobs.mo.gov/.

Those interested in apprenticeship opportunities can visit the MDHEWD website. For more information about the National Disability Institute, visit nationaldisabilityinstitute.org/.

About the Missouri Department of Higher Educa-& Workforce Development: The department works to empower Missourians with the skills and education needed for success. More information about MDHEWD can be found at https://dhewd.mo. gov or by following MDHEWD's social media

MU Extension Drone Workshop

University of Missouri Extension will offer training on "Opportunities for Drones in Agriculture" Nov. 14 at the Auxvasse Lions Club Park.

The event runs 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and will provide farmers, agribusiness professionals and entrepreneurs an in-depth look at how drones are transforming agricultural operations across Missouri, says Chrisee Brandl, MU Extension field specialist in livestock.

During the hands-on workshop, participants will learn about different types of drones, Federal Aviation Administration requirements, remote pilot certifications and practical business applications for aerial imaging, spraying and spreading.

Field exercises will give attendees hands-on experience in manual flight, autonomous mission planning and using drones in realworld farm settings, Brandl said.

"Drones are revolutionizing how producers monitor crops, manage resources and make decisions on the farm," said Brandl."This program gives producers the opportunity to see how drones can bring efficiency, precision and profitability to their operations. We want to help farmers understand not only the technology itself but also how to integrate it in a way that fits their individual production systems."

For details and registration, visit https://muext.us/ DronesinAgNov14, or contact Brandl at the MU Extension Center in Callaway County at 573-642-0755 or chriseebrandl@missouri.edu.

Community Calendar...

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

On Nov. 7: Lord's Acre Sale & Auction at New Harmony Christian Church. Meal served beginning at 5 p.m., with auction to follow at 7 p.m. All are welcome

On Nov. 23: The Bowling Green Ministerial Alliance will be hosting a Community Thanksgiving Service at 6 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church in Bowling Green. All are welcome. Non-perishable and donated to the Hope Center.

Paint A Turkey At An MDC Virtual Program

Online Event Part Of Shepherd Of The Hills

Turkeys can be seen across many Missouri hills, and folks are invited to memorialize their own gobblers by painting a picture.

People can paint a turkey at the Missouri Department of Conservation's (MDC) virtual program "Birds: Virtual Program - Turkey Painting." This online session, which is Nov. 13 from 6-7 p.m., is hosted by the staff at MDC's Shepherd of the Hills Conservation Center in Branson. This program is suggested for ages six and up. To register, visit: https://mdc-event-web.s3licensing.com/Event/Event-Details/213007 During this program,

MDC volunteer Gala Keller will provide step-by-step painting instructions on how to paint a turkey. Participants will need to provide their own painting supplies. Once registered, they will receive a supply list the week before the program and once more after registration closes.

Although this program is free, registration is still required. Registrants must provide an email, so a program link may be sent to them. For this program, only one registration will be needed per screen for multiple participants at the same location.

Program registrants should note that they now have the option to link their children's accounts to their own, which will streamline the program registration process. Once a group account is set up, parents will be able to register their children for an event without having to log off or log in for each person. This allows parents to register an entire family or select family members for an event at the same time.

To find out more about the Nov. 13 program or other events at the Shepherd of the Hills Conservation Center, call 417-334-4865, ext. 0. The Shepherd of the Hills Conservation Center is part of MDC's Shepherd of the Hills Fish Hatchery and is located at 483 Hatchery Road on the west end of Lake Taneycomo, near Branson.

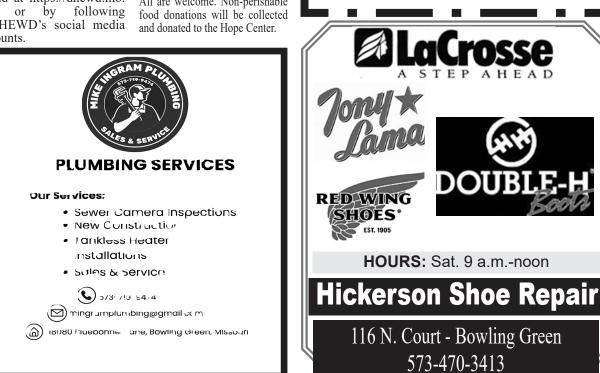
Staff at MDC Facilities across the state are holding virtual and in-person programs throughout the year. A listing of these programs be found https://mdc.mo.gov/events.



First Christian Church of Vandalia Revival

FEATURING ROCK SOLID MINISTRIES' **EVANGELIST TOM WEAVER & WORSHIP** LED BY GREG & LORI STRICKLAND

Preaching & music will be |held Nov. 16-19 at 6 p.m.,| ■with meal following. All are welcome.





Community News

From The Mayor's Desk...

JIM ARICO, MAYOR

As the City Comprehensive Com- from all areas of the city. mittee is over the half way point of the Bowling Green City Plan for the next several years or longer, there are questions that need to be answered and we need the public's input.

For instance, should our city have

a funding strategy for it's City Capital Improvement Plan, (CIP). This is a longrange plan for major public projects and investments. This document is a critical strategic tool that outlines the city's highest capital needs, projects, funding sources, and implementation schedule.

This is developed by city officials in conjunction with

public involvement. That means you as a citizen needs to come to budget meetings and have input as to priorities and future projects. This is reviewed on a yearly basis. Should Bowling Green City Hall and civic leaders work with various community groups, churches, civic organizations, parents of youth, and senior adults develop a comprehensive plan for social and recreational facilities and programs?

Should we, as a community, pursue the use of tax credits to revive or preserve older downtown buildings? Along with this concept, should Bowling Green leaders, businesses around the square, elected officials, and concerned ranchers and farmers, develop, adopt, and implement a downtown redevelopment

We can't have a yes or no answer. It needs to be people that want to preserve and invest in businesses and buildings for our current and future of the historical square, court house, insufficient parking, and sidewalks that would lead to downtown

WIC benefits will be available

for redemption in Missouri into

November. WIC is the Special

Supplemental Nutrition Program

for Women, Infants and Children,

administered in Missouri by the

Department of Health and Senior

Services (DHSS) and federally funded by the USDA, Food and

to health services to qualifying in-

to continue to attend appoint-

ments and redeem benefits using

their WIC cards until further no-

ment provides oversight of the

WIC program is by evaluating the

types of foods and services deliv-

ered in the program. Prior to the

shutdown, the department made

changes to some of the items

available as a cost-saving meas-

ure. Rising food prices and the in-

creased fruit and vegetable cash

value benefit have caused WIC's

food costs to outpace our federal

appropriation increases," said

Sarah Willson, director of DHSS.

"However, these cost-saving

measures, implemented at the be-

ginning of October, have been

valuable in extending the benefits

monitor funding availability each

day as the federal government

shutdown continues. Retailers and

participants will be notified

should a pause in benefit redemp-

tion become necessary in the

Continue to watch for updates

In accordance with Federal

civil rights law and U.S. Depart-

ment of Agriculture (USDA) civil

rights regulations and policies,

this institution is prohibited from

discriminating based on race,

color, national origin, religion,

sex, disability, age, marital status,

family/parental status, income de-

rived from a public assistance

program, political beliefs, or rep-

risal or retaliation for prior civil

munication for program infor-

mation (e.g., Braille, large print,

audiotape, American Sign Lan-

guage, etc.) should contact the

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of com-

Missouri WIC will continue to

to WIC families longer.'

latter half of the month.

at wic.mo.gov.

rights activity.

"One of the ways the depart-

WIC families are encouraged

dividuals.

For instance, Cancer Park needs a new home due to failing wall structure. I'm told the walls are over 100 years old and then some. That's not the only building on the historic square that is well over 100 years old. Note: all the work that NECAC

> has had to do because of deterioration.

I applaud Juan at La Margaritta for the beatification and bringing to life the old Ben Franklin building. He has invested in the building for the present but also the future! Quick question? How many benches do you see around the Square where residents,

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{City}}\xspace \ensuremath{\mathsf{GREEN}}\xspace \ensuremath{\mathsf{GREEN}}\xspace$ visitors, and tourist can

come and stroll, sit, and relax in this scenic area where we have amazing businesses, wonderful architecture, our fabulous War Memorials, and excellent businesses just off the Square.

Does Bowling Green have available industrial and commercial properties to promote development opportunities and jobs for future residents? Should we develop a busistrategy for Business Highways 54, 61, Y, and 161? Should the check with existing businesses along these corridors and "Get their thoughts" about what could help improve their business success? Should we make efforts to link our parks with the community and enhance pedestrian access for all individuals, (wheelchairs, challenged, children, seniors) with sidewalks, hiking, trails, and biking?

Bowling Green is God's city but we must do our part. When the Israelites went into battle and God fought and gave them victory, they still had to pray, put on their armor, and show up for the battles.

Pike To Pike



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

Saturday, Nov. 8, the Big River Band will be performing at the Courtyard Cafe in lovely uptown Pittsfield, with the show starting at 6 p.m. No admission. On the Band Menu will be Paul's smothered chicken breast or smothered pork loin with some delicious sides as well as a good dessert to purchase and enjoy while listening to the band. And a 50/50 drawing will take place. Come on out for a great evening of fun and

The Pike County Senior Citizens Center at 220 West Adams Street in Pittsfield will be holding their fundraiser fish fry Thursday, Nov. 13, from 4:30-6 p.m. The menu will be your choice of catfish fillet or buffalo with three set sides which will include this month potato salad, green bean casserole. and five-cup salad, plus your choice of dessert and tea. Eat in or carry out. All ages are welcome. They appreciate your continued support. Questions? Please call 217-285-4969. They also have gift certificates available for any amount.

Friday, Nov. 14, The Buggs Family Opry will be having their show in Pearl starting at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome to attend.

Birthdays and Anniversaries for the week Nov. 5-11: Nov. 5 - Meg Musgrove, Penny Garner

Nov. 6 - Julie Love,

Jim Davidsmeyer Nov. 7 - Dianna Allen

Nov. 8 - Becky Walston, Bobby Garner, Jennifer Cox, Laura Goree, Matt Nov. 9 - Karen Pritchett,

Scott Armistead Nov. 10 - Page Garner

Nov. 11 - Jake Davis 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, Sue Yackley, America, and we have an unspoken request.

Let the lying lips be put to silence; which speak grievous things proudly and contemptuously against the righteous. Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men! Psalm 31:18, 19

Trivia Answers from Last Week:

1. What U.S. Route is the longest U.S. Highway? And how many miles is it? (Route 20 -- 3,365 miles)

2. Fill in the blanks of this scripture from James: For as the body without the without works is also. (both blanks are the

Velma Stickhost, Donna and same word.) (dead / dead)

3. Which states had the longest and shortest mileage on Route 66? And how many miles is each? ((longest -- New Mexico -- 487 miles / shortest -- Kansas --13 miles)

Single Seniors + One had another "Meet, Greet, & Eat" on Thursday, Oct. 30, with 23 present at Ellie's Cardinal Inn in Pittsfield. It sure isn't too late to join. The only requirements are you have to be 55+, single (widow, widower, divorced, or just plain single), able to pay for your meal and transportation, and willing to share conversations. We meet once a month at a restaurant that Jamie and I choose that we have tried and know that they serve good food. Then we either call or text everyone a couple weeks ahead on our list to name the restaurant and the date and time we are meeting. And we call or text again a few days ahead of the date as a reminder. This is for both men and women, and I encourage both to contact me at the number above by calling or texting if you are sincerely interested in joining.

Start and end each day with a prayer. Greet everyone you meet with a smile. Make time for each other.

Absolute Auction | Pike County, IL

Land & Homesite 41.08 ± Acres | 2 Tracts Fri., Nov. 14th | 11 AM

Community Center - Pittsfield, IL Live Auction w/In-Person & Online Bidding

Tillable soils, recreational opportunities, and a homesite on 2 ± acres just minutes south of Pittsfield, IL!

Seller: Robert "Bobby" J. Smith

Brian: 217-242-1665 CURLESS Frazier: 217-491-6704 Frazier: 217-491-6704

Scherder Autobody LLC



Phone: 573.324.6023 Email: scherderautobody@gmail.com

16637 Pike 318

Bowling Green, MO 63334

5.4 miles from St. Clement on Hwy J (call for directions if needed)

- Insurance work welcome

- Collision repair

- Free estimates

- Pick up and delivery

Household and Misc.:

cabinet, file cabinets, small

chest freezer, outdoor patio

Oak washstand, Hoosier

furniture, outdoor yard

wagons, Christmas

more to be added

Auctioneers note:

decorations, have roaster

pans, lanterns, radio flyer

decorations, deep fryer.

water coolers and much

Lloyd has been in the weld-

ing and fabricating business

for a lot of years. He has

now decided to retire and

auction everything that he

has and moving to a smaller

location. This will be a very

household items first then

good auction we will sell the

we will get on to the welding

Owners and auction person-

nel not responsible for acci-

dents, nor for items lost or

stolen. Announcements made

day of sale take precedence

over any printed matter. Re-

strooms on site. We accept

Cash, Good check with proper

ID and Credit/Debit card with a

shop items We hope to see

you on November 8th we

will be starting at 9:30

USDA through the Telecommunimade available in languages other cations Relay Service at 711 than English. **Processing**

state or local agency that admin- (voice and TTY). Additionally,

Missouri WIC Benefits Available In November

isters the program or contact

Nutrition Service, with funds appropriated in the federal government budget. WIC provides quality nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion and support, nutritious foods and referrals

Hilty Custom

program information may be

Meats • 636-208-3965 •





We Aim To Please 10



11116 Pike 466 **Bowling Green, MO 63334**

LIVE ONLINE

RALLS COUNTY, MISSOURI AND AUCTION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2025 AT 1:00 PMC



The Asher Farm is located approximately 2.5 miles south of Spalding, MO along Asher Bridge Trail and is further described as being located in Section 2, T55N-R6W, Center Township, Ralls County, Missouri.

The farm represents highly productive tillable farmland and is nearly 100% tillable. The farm is a short distance down Asher Bridge Trail off of State Highway H that runs north from Center, MO to US Highway 36.

BRIAN ASHER

Closing & Title Work: Accurate Land Title Company 218 Broadway, Hannibal, MO 63401 | (573) 221-1002 Auction Managers: Steve Zeiger (573) 231-9802 & Dan Sullivan



(844) 847-2161 www.Sullivan Auctioneers.com License #444000566

Public Auction Saturday, November 8th, 2025

9:30 am 110 Ashley St. Louisiana, Mo. 63353 Owner: Loyd Turner

Welders, Trucks, Tractor and Tools Ford 335 Industrial tractor with loader runs well, 2004 F-250 with 290,000 miles with the power stroke motor, 1998 Chevy 3500 with the utility bed 139,000 miles, Lincoln 250 GXT Ranger welder, Heavy duty bench vice, Welder and vice sell after the truck. Old forklift does run needs some work Century mig welder with gas, Cutting torch outfit, Buffalo metal cutting bandsaw, Miller Matic 120 uh CV DC arc welder wire feed welder in great shape, thermal dynamics plasma cutter, Meco big red AC/DC welder 250, battery chargers, heavy extension cords, welder leads, Ingersoll Rand air compressor two stage 230 volts 80 gallon capacity, log chains, floor jacks, drill bits, miscellaneous metal, DeWalt power tools, miscellaneous power tools, air tanks, battery power tools, center punches, welding helmets, outdoor hand tools, hand tools, limb cutter, bench grinders, come along, rolls of electrical wire, bolt bins, slide hammer puller, extra heavy duty jumper cables, shop vacs, bolt cutters, pipe wrenches, ratcheting chain binders, metal tubing Bender, floor drill press, heavy duty clamps, chain hoist, bench grinder stand, Miller arc welder, shop lights, live traps, Jack stands, hydraulic press 9000 lbs., Porta power, shop fans, three quarter inch socket sets, 3/8 & 1/2 inch socket sets, O rings, screwdrivers, Milwaukee metal circular metal cutting saw, metal

cabinets, Pepsi glass front soda cooler, welding rods, welding wire, poulan pro leaf blower, conduit, miscellaneous shop supplies, heavy metal cabinets, fire extinguishers, extra oxygen bottles, lot of miscellaneous hand tools, hose repair and assembly kit, air tools, ratchet straps, paint gun, extra heavy duty roll around welding table, Wilton bench vice, Bauer porta band saw, Squirrel cage blower, 2210 Swisher log splitter, miscellaneous nails, Mr. heater diesel or kerosene blower, old iron

skillets, 3point 6 foot blade, ladders, cast iron spiral staircase, metal cages, miscellaneous metal siding, metal staircase, expanded metal, Stil FS 38 weed eater, Craftsman riding mower, Fishing tackle, Toro self-propelled push mower, Battery powered leaf blower, weed eater, pressure washer, and much more.





Bill Allen Auction Service Visit us at: www.allenauctioneers.com 573-470-6565



Obituaries



George Graver

George Graver, 66, of Bowling Green died Thursday Oct. 23, 2025.

Visitation was Wednesday from 1-4:30 p.m., followed by a prayer service at 4:30 p.m., at Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Bowling Green.

He was born June 14, 1959, to William and Pauline Kemna Graver.

George grew up on the family farm in St. Clement and graduated from Bowling Green High School in 1977. After graduation, he worked for Niemeyer Tractor and then Galloway Limestone until he opened his own business, George's ATV, in 1989. He married Florence Per-

kins Fox on April 14, 1984. Together they ran the ATV business for 30 years. He loved fast cars, ATVs, dirt bikes, and working on all of them. His other favorites included running dozers, excavators, and dump trucks, and hunting. George never knew a

stranger and always had a story to tell. He could make anyone laugh and loved helping people. He was preceded in death

by his parents; brothers, Jim and Gary Graver; and stepson, Glen Fox.

He is survived by his wife, Florence; stepson, Bennie Fox and wife, Susan; grandchildren, Hannah and Wyatt Fox; siblings, David Graver and wife, Joyce, Dan Graver and wife, Karen, Becky Graver, John Graver and wife, Susan, Dorothy Rivera and husband, Cesar, Fred Graver and wife, Crystal, Frank Graver, Nancy Eckler and husband, Howard, and Tony Graver, along with many nieces and nephews.

Online condolences may be made at www.bibbveach.



Tommy Gibbons, 81, of

Frankford died Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025, at his home. A graveside service was

held Monday, Oct. 13 at 10 a.m., at Fairview Cemetery in Frankford. Tommy was born Jan. 13,

1944, in Hannibal, to John and Fanny Powell Gibbons. He married Mary Butler on June 5,1965 and started a long and loving life together. Tommy is survived by his

wife, Mary Gibbons of Frankford; one son, Clifford Gibbons Sr., and wife, Hope of New London; two daughters, Tammy Sue Gibbons and James Ryland of Louisiana, and Karen Edmond and Brad Sparks of Bowling Green; and a sister, Mildred Motley of Bowling Green; grandsons, Josh Edmond and wife, Destinie McKinley and wife, Ella, Justin Edmond and wife, Elizabeth, Jayten, Adalynn, and Madison, Cliff Gibbons Jr., and wife, Ashley Harper, Aspyn, and Jaxxton, Hunter Gibbons, Callen Gibbons, Michael Flowerree and Nicole Pope, Kreed and Royal, and Erin Ryland.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Fanny Powell Gibbons, a son, Tommy Gibbons Jr., brothers, Joe, Bob, James, Raymond, and Henry, and sisters, Darlene Jennings and Gertrude Hall.

Tommy was known as Ducky to his fellow MODot workers where he worked driving snow plow and truck and doing general mainte-

nance. Tommy was a quiet man

and enjoyed keeping to himself. He found joy in the simple pleasures of bird watching while sipping coffee, hunting, fishing, and gardening. He enjoyed riding his four-wheeler and loved his dogs, Taco and Candy. He even had a close relationship with the neighbors dog, Nilla.

Pallbearers were his grandsons. Memorial contributions

may be made to Shriners Hospital of St. Louis, St Jude, and Pike County Hospice, c/o Grand View Funeral Home.

Online condolences may be made to the family on Tommy's memorial page at www.grandviewfuneral.com.



Harold Wayne Brewer

Harold Wayne Brewer, 78, of Bowling Green, died Sunday, Oct. 26, 2025, at his

A Mass of Christian burial was held Friday at 11 a.m., at St. Clement Catholic Church. Burial was in St. Clement Cemetery.

Visitation was Thursday from 4-7 p.m., at Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Bowling

Harold was born July 4, 1947, in Bowling Green to Clarence Herbert and Mildred Jane Kelch Brewer. He was united in marriage to Susan Henry on Oct. 2, 1972, in St. Charles. Susan survives.

Also surviving are sons, Jason Brewer and wife, Kara of Hannibal, and Jared Brewer and wife, Tara of Sweet Springs; grandchildren, Carter, Lily, Carson Brewer, and Keegan and Kendall Brewer; siblings, James "Buddy" Brewer and wife, Sandy of St. Peter's, Mike Brewer and wife, Ann of Bowling Green, and Rick Brewer and wife, Heidi; sisters-in-law, Donna Brewer and Kelly Brewer; along with nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family.

Preceding Harold in death were his parents; siblings, Robert Brewer, Bill Brewer, Kenneth Brewer,

and Donnie Brewer. Harold grew up and lived in Bowling Green his entire life. He graduated from Bowling Green High School in 1966, where he played baseball and basketball. Following graduation, Harold was drafted into the Vietnam War. He served in active duty in the United States Army from Sept. 13, 1966-Sept. 12, 1968, staying in the Army Reserves until Sept. 12, 1972. Harold worked for Haley Plumbing after returning home. He then worked for the Bowling Green Water Department for 20 years, and later Bleigh Construction for 20 years from where he retired. Harold was also a member of the Bowling Green Volunteer Fire Department for over 20 years. He was a member of St. Clement Catholic Church.

Harold enjoyed bird hunting and fishing. In his younger years he liked playing softball and helping with race cars on race day. Harold always coached his sons' Khoury League teams when they were growing up. He also loved to watch his grandsons race. He was an avid Nascar fan.

Pallbearers were Nathan Henry, Keegan Brewer, Brewer, Carson Brewer, Kenny Brewer, and Dan Korte. Honorary pallbearers were Mike Kurz, Brewer, Buddy Mike Brewer, and Rick Brewer.

Donations may be made to St. Clement Cemetery or donor's choice.

Online condolences may be made at www.bibbveach.





Robert "Bob" Stuckey, 81, of Troy, fortified with the Sacraments of Holy Mother Church on Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2025 surrounded by his family in

Family and friends were received from 4-8 p.m., Monday at Kemper-Keim Family Funeral Chapel in Hawk Point.

Funeral Mass was at 10 a.m., Tuesday (today) at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Hawk Point. Interment was held with full military honors at Mashek Cemetery.

He was born Feb. 23, 1944 in St. Paul, and was the son of the late William and Ursula Halter Stuckey. On June 5, 1971 at St. Theodore Catholic Church in Flint Hill, he married the love of his life, Laverne Pieper and to this union two sons and two daughters were born.

Bob graduated from Ritenour High School in 1962. He went to work at McKinzes Concrete as a laborer and finisher. Bob was drafted into the United States Army. He served his country in the Vietnam War for two years and was stationed at Fort Lennard Wood, Missouri, and Fort Benning, Georgia.

While serving, he earned numerous awards, including Marksman Rifle M14, Expert Rifle M16, Good Conduct, and National Defense Service. He had some of the best stories to share from his time he served from Dec. 12, 1965, until he was honorably discharged on Dec. 12, 1967. Bob met the love of his life on a blind date on Dec. 5, 1970, and the rest was history. Together they shared two sons and two daughters.

With him never being idle he worked as a truck driver for several companies, National Food Stores, Saw Mill, Beaufort, Witte Brothers, Creech Bros, Save A Lot, Kienstra Ready Mix, and retired from Breckenridge Materials.

Over his lifetime, he v either harvesting row crops or raising livestock. Bob raised cattle, hogs, chickens and turkeys. He looked forward to hunting season; he spent time in the woods, hunting turkey, deer, and

Bob was a familiar face at the table of knowledge at Sami's Restaurant. His onery, tell it like it is personality will be deeply missed.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Laverne Stuckey; two sons and two daughters, Anita Huber and husband, Mark, William Stuckey and wife, Sheila, Diane Marshall and husband, Jim and Kenny Stuckey and wife, Chrissy; one sister, Joy Henderson; grandchildren, Brooke Huber, Dylan Huber, Brady

Huber, Ashlyn Stuckey, Dane Stuckey and wife, Riley, Brock Stuckey, Lance Stuckey, Gabriel Stuckey, Alex Stuckey, and Phoebe Stuckey; three sisters-inlaw, Lorraine Wilmes, Marcella Abrolat and Cathy Pieper; one brother-in-law, Alfred Pieper nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends. He was preceded in death

by his parents, William and Ursula Stuckey and siblings, Rosella Wiechens, Lorraine Piskulick, Delores Schwartz, Norval Stuckey, Mary Heimann and Juanita Kelly. In lieu of flowers, expres-

sions of sympathy may be made Kenny's Place of Marion County, c/o Kemper-Keim Family Funeral Chapel, P.O. Box 222, Troy, MO 63379.

Arrangements under the direction of Kemper-Keim Family Funeral Chapel, 351 Monroe Street Troy, MO 63379.

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



Funeral services for Donald Ray Cummins, 77, of Center were at 11 a.m., Saturday at Bienhoff Funeral Home in Perry with pastor Bob Knight officiating. Burial followed in Pleasant Grove Cemetery in rural Center.

Visitation was from 10 a.m., until the time of the service at the funeral home.

Mr. Cummins died Saturday, Oct. 25, 2025, at University of Missouri Hospital in Columbia with his family by his side. Donald was born June

13, 1948, in Salem, the son of Arthur David and Hazel May James Cummins. He married Janice Flowers on May 3, 1975 in Center. She survives. Other survivors include

one daughter, Janna Cummins of Chaska, Minn.; two granddaughters, Samantha Davis and husband, Zack of Ruston, La., and Bri Lacugnato of Greeley, Minn.; three brothers, Coy Cummins and wife, Evelyn of Troy, Roy Cummins and wife, Janice of Perry, and James Cummins and wife, Julia of Vandalia; one sister, Judy Burnett of Louisiana, a sister-in-law, Nancy Cummins of Madisonville; along with nieces, nephews, other relatives and a host of friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a son, Billy Cummins, one brother, David Cummins, and a brother-in-law, Don Burnett.

Donald was a lifetime area resident and served his country honorably in the United States Army during the Vietnam War obtaining the rank of Spec 4. Mr. Cummins was a graduate of Van-Far High School and

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worked at Harbison-Walker Refractories for 41 years.

Don was a hard worker all of his life and could be found most days repairing a car, truck, or lawn mower. He enjoyed the outdoors hunting and fishing. Some of Don's other hobbies were racing for a few years and collecting belt buckles and knives.

Pallbearers were Matt Coose, Andrew Cummins, Mike Burnett, Justin Hudelson, Scott Ross, and Jeremy Jaspering. Memorial contributions

may be made to Pleasant Grove Cemetery, c/o Bienhoff Funeral Home P.O. Box 427 Perry, MO 63462.



Timothy Ray

Timothy Ray Inlow, 88, died Monday, Oct. 13, 2025 surrounded by his family at Mercy Hospital. Tim married Linda on

May 17, 1986.

He is survived by his wife, Linda; five children, Caryl Hines, Cheryl Greenlee, Jimmy Deurloo, Mark Inlow, and Jason Inlow; two step-children, Len Cash and Kim Cash; a brother, Homer Inlow; sister, Bonnie Wilson; three nephews, one niece; 17 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren and one great-great-grand-Timothy owned Inlow

Custom Trailers. After he sold the business, he drove a semi and hauled campers all over the United States and Canada. He was a member of

Dover Baptist Church and a Lions Club member.



Cecil Hupper

Cecil Hupper, 84, of Eolia died peacefully at his home on Thursday, Oct. 30,

Visitation is scheduled from 4-8 p.m., Wednesday

at McCoy Blossom Funeral Homes & Crematory in

A funeral service will be at 10 a.m., Thursday at the funeral home. Interment will follow in Millcreek Ceme-

tery in Silex. Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital or Samaitan's Purse, or the Millcreek Cemetery Association, c/o the funeral

A full obituary will appear in next week's Tribune. **Send Your**

Deer Pictures To The People's **Tribune** peoplestribune@ sbcglobal.net Watch next week's paper for the

annual Fur &

Feathers

Special

Section

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Nov. 11th officially became Veterans Day on May 24, 1954, by act of Congress. The day is set aside in honor of all those who have fought in defense

of the United States.

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to observe

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•• Tuesday, Nov. 11

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Minimum Qualifications: High school diploma or GED required. Preferred background in EMS, law enforcement, or hands-on medical fields (phlebotomy, nursing, etc.). Strong communication, professionalism, and attention to detail are essential. Schedule & Pay:

 The position is open for discussion and includes one weekend per month and one weekday for reporting.

Pay is negotiable within reason based on experience and certifications. Mileage and training expenses paid. Apply in person at the Pike County Coroner's Office, 115 W. Main St., Suite 6, Bowling Green, MO. Applications are available outside the office door if the Coroner is out on a call. For questions, call 573-470-4240.



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Community News



Lois Callahan was qiven a Big Show Me State welcome at Perryville Sept.15-16, A reception was held the evening of September 15th at the Quality Inn Conference Room. On Sept. 16 they had a guided tour of the Missouri National Veterans Memorial which is a replica of the Washinton D.C., Vietnam Memorial. The group ate lunch at Beef O'Brady's with a variety of selection meals. The afternoon included a tour of the association of the miraculous medal. That evening VFW Post 4282 provided an excellent presentation of appreciation for our national president with a Meal. She entered the room through the aisle of flags. Pictured is President Mary Tarpein, and Joanne Hammuck, treasurer Clarksville Memorial VFW Post 4610 Auxiliary and also representing District 17. If you have never visited the Vietnam Memorial in Perryville think about taking a trip to that excellent

Dairy Foods, Fiber: A Smart Pairing For Diabetes Management

November is National Diabetes Month — a national proclamation designed to raise awareness and education about diabetes. In the United States, approximately 38.4 million people have this chronic disease that affects how an individual's body turns food into energy. Food choices, in conjunction with medication and physical activity, are key to managing diabetes. Protein-rich, low-fat dairy, paired with fiber-rich foods, can play an integral role in this management.

Following a meal, the body's digestive system breaks down carbohydrates starches and natural or added sugars - into glucose, a simple sugar that is the body's preferred energy source. To provide the body's cells with this energy, the pancreas produces the hormone insulin. which allows glucose to enter the body's cells. However, when people have diabetes, they no longer make insulin (type 1 diabetes), or they make a reduced amount of insulin or do not use it efficiently (type 2 diabetes or gestational diabetes). The glucose, or blood sugar, then remains in the bloodstream, which can lead to health complications.

PROTEIN & FIBER SLOW RISE OF BLOOD SUGAR

While diabetes is a complex and long-term disease, meal choices can make a positive impact on an individual's overall wellness. Including protein and fiberrich foods in every meal, for example, will slow the digestion of carbohydrate-rich foods. This, in turn, helps slow the blood-sugar rise after meals and can make diabetes medications more

effective. "Milk, cheese, yogurt and cottage cheese provide quality protein, healthy fats and varying amounts of carbohydrates," said Jessica Kassel, a nutrition educator and registered dietitian with St. Louis District Dairy Council. "When you combine one of these dairy foods with fiber-rich foods like non-starchy vegetables, berries or whole grains, the blood-sugar rise post-meal will likely slow down. For example, a half cup of cottage cheese delivers 12 grams of protein and only 6 grams of carbohydrates. Low-fat dairy foods with low to no added sugar can be strategic additions to meals and snacks for diabetes management and for promoting a sense of fullness after meals."

DAIRY PROVIDES CALCIUM & VITAMIN D

Milk, yogurt and cheese are excellent sources of calcium. Milk and some varieties of yogurt and cheese are also fortified with vitamin D, which is essential for absorbing calcium in the diet. Both nutrients tie into insulin production, and some studies have shown that vitamin D may help reduce insulin resistance in those with type 2 diabetes. In addition, eating yogurt regularly, at least 2 cups (3 servings) per week, may reduce the risk of type 2 diabetes according to limited scientific evidence, per the U.S. Food and Drug Admin-

"According to the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, calcium and vitamin D are nutrients of concern as most Americans do not consume enough of these nutrients daily," Kassel said. "Calcium and vitamin D are essential for bone health throughout our lives. Vitamin D also supports the immune system and can help reduce inflammation, a trigger of type 2 diabetes. Relying on dairy for these important nutrients is helpful."

Seek a registered dieti-

tian for nutrition counseling Registered dietitians are uniquely qualified to help people with their nutrition journey and management of diabetes. Dietitians provide individualized counseling tailored to one's needs and goals, and work with their clients' healthcare team.

"Each person with diabetes will have their own unique response to various foods, food combinations and meal timing," Kassel said. "And every day can be different from the last, even if the same foods are eaten. Working with a registered dietitian can be incredibly helpful in navigating diabetes and nutrition. Being proactive with meal choices and activity can go a long toward fostering health."

Visit www.stldairycouncil.org for more information on the health benefits of dairy. You may also contact

9668 or jkassel@stldairycouncil.org. Follow St. Louis District Dairy Council on Facebook and Instagram at STLDairyCouncil.

ABOUT THE ST. LOUIS **DISTRICT DAIRY COUNCIL**

The St. Louis District Dairy Council (SLDDC) is a nonprofit nutrition education organization funded by local dairy farmers. Since 1932, SLDDC has served counties central/southern Illinois and eastern Missouri as the goto educational resource and

advocate for the role of dairy foods as part of a healthful diet. As The Nutrition Education People, we are proud to spread knowledge to local communities, bridging the gap between local dairy farmers and con-

TRIPLE PROTEIN **PANCAKES**

Rolled oats, cottage cheese and eggs whip together to produce delicious pancakes that provide fiber and protein. Top the pancakes with lemon yogurt and blueberries to start your day right.

Servings: 2 (3 pancakes per serving)

Prep Time: 20 minutes Ingredients

1 cup low-fat cottage

cheese

1 cup rolled oats

2 eggs 1 ½ teaspoons stevia

1 teaspoon baking pow-

1/8 teaspoon salt

 $\frac{1}{2}$ Tablespoon butter

½ cup low-fat lemon yo-

½ cup frozen blueberries, thawed and warmed

Instructions

1. In a blender, combine the cottage cheese, oats, eggs, stevia, baking powder and salt. Once blended, the mixture should be thick and smooth.

2. Over medium heat, heat a non-stick skillet. Melt butter on skillet. Using a 1/4 cup measuring cup, measure and pour pancake batter onto skillet. After 4 minutes, flip the pancakes.

3. Cook pancakes until they are golden brown on each side.

4. Place the pancakes on a plate, spread the yogurt on top of each pancake (1/4 cup per 3 pancakes). Build a stack of pancakes and then pour the warmed blueberries (with juice) on top.

Jessica Kassel at 314-835-Serve immediately. **WE WELCOME YOUR LOCAL NEWS**

Ticks 'Vant To Suck Your Blood' This Fall

Missouri ticks are worse than a Transylvanian vampire on Halloween. Many people think ticks are most active during summer. However, fall is prime time for ticks. Deer are primary hosts for ticks, and fall is when deer move due to mating season and to find vegetation to build fat reserves for winter, says Emily Althoff, University of Missouri Extension and Lincoln University urban entomologist.

Ticks are especially concerning now due to increased incidences alpha-gal syndrome, which can cause a variety of symptoms, including an allergy to red meat. Ticks also transmit other diseases such as Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, encephalitis and anaplasmosis. Ticks use their barbed

mouthparts to cut through the skin of humans and animals like a saw. They insert a small feeding tube into the skin to feed. You can't flick a tick because it hooks itself into the skin when it bites. Revenge is difficult: their tough "skin," or exoskeleton, makes them hard to crush. Once engorged with blood, they can swell from the size of a sesame seed to about 3/8 inches long. Like any good Hallo-

ween gobblin' goblin, ticks sneak up on humans when they least suspect it. They do so by "questing," a term describing how they climb to the top of a grass stem or branch and lie in wait for a host to pass. Ticks use their sense of smell and ability to detect vibrations to alert them that food is on its way.

Missouri Department of Conservation lists three common ticks in Missouri:

Lone star tick, which causes Alpha-Gal Syndrome, tularemia and other diseases. Females are easily identified by the white dot in the center of the back. Males often have dots or white streaks on the edge of their bodies.

American dog tick. Adults have an ornate brown-and-white mottling on the dorsal side. Bloodengorged females are gray.

Deer tick. Legs upper body are black.

Althoff gives these tick tips to prevent tick bites:

Use tick repellent. Repellents such as DEET, picaridin and oil of lemon eucalyptus are considered effective. Dress to protect. Wear

long-sleeve shirts and long pants before entering wooded or grassy areas. Tuck your shirt into your

Fight the bite. Walk in the center of trails to limit exposure. Avoid areas with tall grass and leaf litter.

Inspect. Check yourself and pets for ticks after leaving wooded areas. Immediately wash clothing in hot water. Dry on the high setting. Shower immediately.

If you find a tick attached to your skin, remove it care-Use tweezers to grab the

tick as close to the skin's surface as possible. Pull straight up when re-

moving the tick. Do not twist or jerk. Never crush a tick with

your fingers. After removing, clean the area with rubbing alcohol or

soap and water. Follow up with your doctor if you develop a fever or rash within several weeks of

LEARN MORE

removing a tick.

Related MU Extension publications available for free download

Ticks. Brief overview of common tick species in Missouri, tick-borne diseases and prevention and treatment of tick bites.

Ticks and Tick-Borne Diseases. A more detailed guide from MU's Integrated Pest Management program.

Can You Dig Sweet Potatoes?

Harvest After First Light Frost For Best Results

The first frost of fall is approaching, and it's time to think about harvesting your sweet potato crop.

For best results, dig sweet potatoes after the first light frost, said University of Missouri Extension horticulturist David Trinklein. This warm-season root vegetable does not tolerate cold. The table quality of sweet potatoes declines when they are harvested after temperatures drop below 50 F. Dig the thin-skinned

sweet potatoes carefully to avoid bruising, said Trinklein. Gently lift the roots from the soil with a potato fork. Remove soil from the potatoes and let them dry on top of the soil in the sun for a few hours. Separate injured sweet

potatoes from undamaged ones. Injured potatoes ooze a milky liquid. They need time and space to heal cut Cure sweet potatoes in a

warm (80-85 F), humid area for about 10 days. A loose plastic cover over the potatoes creates the desired high relative humidity. Curing produces a higher sugar content and improves the color. It also allows minor wounds to heal. Uncured potatoes lose quality.

Store above freezing temperatures in a basement or unheated garage. Ideal storage temperature is

around 55-60 F. Sweet potatoes can be stored 6-10 months. Do not refrigerate.

Sweet potato is thought to be native to tropical South America, said Trinklein. Incans and Mayans used sweet potato as a food source more than 5,000 years ago. Christopher Columbus is credited with introducing it to Europe around 1500. Sweet potato requires a

long growing season, maturing in about 100-110 days. They grow best during long, hot summers. It is versatile, flavorful and nutritious. It is the only vegetable with dual roles as a main course dish and a dessert. Ornamental varieties fill flower planters with their distinctive chartreuse and deep purple foliage. Trinklein says sweet po-

tato probably deserves more attention in the diet of the average American than it gets, said Trinklein. It is rich in starches and complex carbohydrates for energy and has significant amounts of dietary fiber, beta-carotene and vitamins C and B6. It is as an important source of minerals such as calcium, magnesium and potassium. It also is relatively low in calories: A 100 gram serving has about 115 calories. Fun facts about sweet po-

tato:

Sweet potato is a member of the morning glory, or Convolvulaceae, family. Sweet potato was first grown in what is now Vir-

ginia as early as 1648. The world-record sweet potato weighed more than

95 pounds and was grown in Switzerland. North Carolina raises the most sweet potatoes, ac-

cording to the U.S. Depart-

ment of Agriculture. Missouri native George Washington Carver conducted research on sweet potato. He is credited for developing more than 125 diverse products including

dyes, wood fillers, candies, pastes, breakfast foods, starches, flours and mo-Yams and sweet potatoes are often confused with one another. Despite a physical similarity, they are not re-

lated. Yams are not grown in the United States. The USDA often labels orange, moist-fleshed sweet potatoes as "yams" to distinguish them from the pale, dry-fleshed types. Learn more about sweet potatoes in the MU Inte-

grated Pest Management article "October: Sweet Potato Harvest Time" https://mizzou.us/Sweet-PotatoTime.

The MU Extension publication "Growing Sweet Potatoes in Missouri" is available for free download at https://muext.us/G6368.

14 State Parks Temporarily Closed For Managed Deer Hunts

Fourteen state parks will be temporarily closed to the public for managed deer hunts to safely and effectively manage the parks' deer population. The hunts are a coordinated effort between the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Division of State Parks and the Missouri Department of Conservation.

The following state parks will be closed on these dates:

Edmund A. Babler Memorial State Park, 800 Guy Park Drive in Wildwood -Nov. 7-9.

Bennett Spring State Park, 26250 Highway 64A in Lebanon – Nov. 7-9.

Crowder State Park, 76 NW Highway 128 in Trenton - Nov. 7-9.

Cuivre River State Park, 678 State Route 147 in Troy – Nov. 1**-**5.

Ha Ha Tonka State Park, 1491 State Road D in Cam-

denton - Nov. 7-9. Harry S Truman State Park, 28761 State Park

Road West in Warsaw -

Long Branch State Park, 28615 Visitor Center Road in Macon - Nov. 8-11.

Mark Twain State Park, 37352 Shrine Road in Florida – Nov. 8-9 and Dec. 6-7.

Montauk State Park, 345 County Road 6670 in Salem – Dec. 2-4. Robertsville State Park,

902 State Park Drive in Robertsville – Nov. 8-9. Rock Bridge Memorial State Park, 5901 South

Highway 163 in Columbia – Nov. 3-4. St. Francois State Park,

8920 U.S. Highway 67 North in Bonne Terre – Dec. St. Joe State Park, 2800

Pimville Road in Park Hills – Nov. 15-16. Guests are encouraged to

not visit the parks on those days, as they will be turned away for their safety.

Missouri state parks are usually wildlife refuges where hunting is not permitted. However, when an overpopulation of deer develops, the Department of

Natural Resources and the Department of Conservation hold special managed hunts to prevent harm to the ecosystem. This year, studies at the parks determined the deer population showed an overcrowded number of deer per acre. The managed hunt will help other wildlife and the ecosystem by reducing the number of deer in the area.

The Missouri Department of Conservation has already selected hunters for these hunts.

Before heading to a Missouri state park or historic site, guests should check the Park and Site Status Map at modnr.maps.arcgis.com/app s/webappviewer/index.html ?id=0cc1b6513d6e407694a ede7b7bdbde93 for any closures that may impact their

visit. For more information on state parks and historic sites, visit mostateparks.com. Missouri State Parks is a division of the Missouri Deof Natural partment Resources.



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