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FREE

Silex Council Meeting Ends Abruptly After Disorder Erupts

BY BRICE CHANDLER
EDITOR

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Silex Board of Aldermen on Monday night, Jan. 19, was cut short after disorder broke out among board members and members of the public, prompting multiple aldermen to leave the room and ending the meeting within minutes of its start.

The meeting began routinely with the call to order, Pledge of Allegiance, and roll call. Tensions escalated almost immediately afterward as discussion turned to the status of Alderman P.J. Spanier, who was charged in November with sexual misconduct. Spanier had previously indicated he intended to resign but announced during the meeting that he would not be stepping down.

That announcement led to raised voices from both the audience and the board, with several citizens demanding action and questioning Spanier's continued presence on the council. The mayor attempted to restore order and asked that public comments be held until the designated portion of the meeting agenda.

At least one alderman objected, arguing the matter should be addressed immediately. As shouting continued, the mayor warned several times that law enforcement could be contacted if order was not restored.

The exchange intensified as citizens and aldermen spoke over one another. During the confrontation, Alderman Billy Holcomb announced that the city clerk had resigned earlier in the day, stating the resigna-

tion was effective immediately.

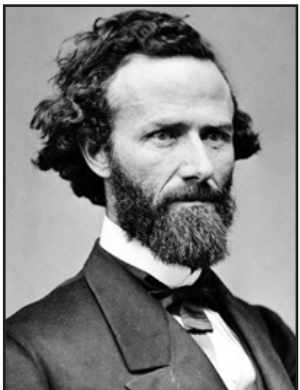
Shortly afterward, Holcomb exited the meeting, followed minutes later by Alderman Steve McDonald. With only two board members remaining, the council no longer had a quorum, effectively ending the meeting less than ten minutes after it began.

Lincoln County Sheriff's deputies arrived at City Hall shortly after to assist in restoring order. By the time deputies arrived, the meeting had already ended and the crowd dispersed without further incident.

The disrupted meeting comes amid broader unrest in the city. In addition to the controversy surrounding Spanier, some residents have publicly discussed the possibility of pursuing unin-

17 Words

Henderson Offers Landmark Law



John Brooks Henderson
By Brent Engel
Contributing Writer

It was a modest sentence that would have unprecedented consequences.

In January 1864, Missouri U.S. Sen. John Brooks Henderson of Louisiana introduced what would become the 13th Amendment.

It simply said: "Slavery or involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, shall not exist in the United States."

For a man who could talk about a single issue for hours, it was a blunt edict. While other proposals had been made, Henderson's would be what author Michael Vorenburg called "the foundation of the final amendment."

The move was remarkably audacious for a former slave owner who had witnessed the Civil War's carnage. At the time, the Constitution hadn't been changed in six decades. The last update had been rather innocuous — requiring the president and vice president to be elected together rather than having the defeated person serve in the second-

ary role.

At first, few believed Henderson's measure would pass. The amendment "appears to us like kicking a dead man," the Nashville Daily Union intoned.

But the senator stuck to his guns, convincing colleagues and others that "the inalienable right of liberty belongs to all men."

"This proposition is to mark an epoch in the history of our country if it shall be adopted, and I take occasion now to express my sincere wish that it may become a part of the Constitution of the United States," he said.

Henderson had many champions in his quest, not the least of whom was Abraham Lincoln. The senator and the president had been close confidantes since Henderson came to Washington in 1862.

Lincoln had told Henderson about his plan to issue the Emancipation Proclamation eight months before doing so. The senator proved a vocal advocate for the president's emerging views on methods to free the slaves. Lincoln said the amendment's straightforwardness would cover any objections.

In February 1864, the Senate Judiciary Committee added to the punishment clause of the amendment and drafted jurisdictional guidelines. Versions authored by Henderson and Representatives James Ashley of Ohio and James Wilson of Iowa were merged. The final draft was approved in the Senate on April 8, 1864. The House

followed on Jan. 31, 1865.

One day later, Illinois became the first state to ratify. Missouri did so within a week. The amendment was declared in effect after Georgia approved it on Dec. 6, 1865.

Before his assassination in April 1865, Lincoln had called passage a moment "of congratulation to the country and to the whole world."

A strict constitutionalist, Henderson had been explicit about the consequences if slavery remained.

"History will repeat itself," he said. "New wars will come. The innocent will suffer again. Shall we then leave slavery to fester again in the public vitals?"

The book "Abraham Lincoln and the Battles of the Civil War" credits Henderson "with rare courage and skill" for his efforts. Author Alexander Tthesis calls the 13th Amendment "monumental" because America had "committed itself to promoting freedom through a national mandate."

"This was no formulaic act; it created a constitutional obligation to preserve and further liberty rights," he wrote.

In 1907, the Magazine of History noted that Henderson "was at every stage of the struggle conspicuous for the courage, sagacity and unwavering confidence with which he accepted, on behalf of the most important of the border states, whatever the new progress of the nation into light and liberty required."



Wreaths Across America

The Clarksville Memorial VFW Post 4610 and Auxiliary and Youth Group participated in the Wreaths Across America by placing wreaths in various cemeteries: Ariel Cemetery, Hannibal, Eolia, Louisiana and pictured, they placed a large wreath at the front entrance of the Greenwood Cemetery in Clarksville, along with placing wreaths at the Civil War Soldier Monuments; and two large wreaths at the other four monuments. Pictured, from left: VFW Post members: Jr. Vice Commander - Guy Traynor, Chaplain - Don Traynor, Auxiliary President - Mary Tarpein, Americanism Chairman - Joanne Hammuck, and Youth - Harmonie Davis. Not pictured is LaMont Davis, who took the picture.

Louisiana City Council Impeaches Heather Wernowsky

No Replacement Appointed At Special Meeting

BY BRICE CHANDLER
EDITOR

Louisiana City Council Impeaches Heather Wernowsky; No Replacement Appointed at Special Meeting

The Louisiana City Council voted Tuesday night to impeach Ward I council member Heather Wernowsky and remove her from office following an impeachment trial centered on allegations that she interfered with police operations.

The trial, which had been postponed from Jan. 8, was held on Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2026.

After convening in open session, the council voted 6-0 to move into closed session for deliberations. Upon returning to open session, the council voted 5-1 to impeach Wernowsky with removal from office.

The impeachment stemmed from Wernowsky's questioning of Police Chief Josh Baker during a November council meeting. Her questions focused on police procedures related to an October incident in which officers entered a vacant home on Georgia Street following a report of possible squatters.

That incident later became the subject of public discussion, media coverage, and the release of police body-worn camera footage.

City officials alleged that Wernowsky's questioning

and the public response that followed constituted interference with police department operations and contributed to public distrust.

During the impeachment trial, Chief Baker was represented by City Attorney Mary Weston, while Wernowsky was represented by former Ward III council member and attorney Nick Fregeau.

Evidence presented by the city included excerpts from a city council meeting in which Wernowsky questioned police procedures. Testimony also referenced news coverage and social media posts critical of the police department. According to testimony, none of the submitted posts were authored by or directed by Wernowsky.

Chief Baker testified that Wernowsky's questioning contributed to distrust in the police department.

Wernowsky's attorney argued that asking procedural questions during a public meeting did not amount to interference and noted that she stopped questioning when advised to do so by the city attorney at the time.

The impeachment trial was presided over by attorney Lou Leonatti of Mexico, Missouri. At the conclusion of the trial, council members were given three options for deliberation: impeachment

with removal from office, impeachment with a reprimand while remaining in office, or exoneration.

Of the six voting council members, John Phillips voted in favor of impeachment with a reprimand. Steven Twitchell, Bill Sudarth, Dorthy Brown, Jim Gott Jr., and Cassie Cordes voted in favor of impeachment with removal.

With Wernowsky's removal, a vacancy was created on the Ward I council seat.

At a subsequent special council meeting, the city did not appoint a replacement. City officials stated during the meeting that they would allow time for any Ward I residents interested in the position to submit applications.

Earlier that same day, Wernowsky's attorney filed a petition in Pike County Circuit Court seeking a temporary restraining order related to the appointment process.

No timeline has been announced for when the vacancy may be filled.

The Ward I council seat remains vacant. Any appointment would serve until the April 2027 municipal election.

City officials have not announced whether Mayor Tim Carter will appoint a replacement or leave the seat vacant until voters elect a new mayor this April.

Bowling Green Landmark B&B Tavern Closes

BY BRICE CHANDLER
EDITOR

After more than half a century serving pizza, burgers, and memories to generations of Pike County residents, the doors of B&B Tavern in Bowling Green have officially closed.

Owner Bob Cannon, now 93, retired last week, marking the end of an era for what many locals simply call "the B."

Cannon purchased the business in 1970 at the age of 38, keeping its original name—derived from the founding Brown brothers—and went on to operate it for more than 50 years. In that time, B&B became a gathering place for families, friends, pool players, late-night crowds, and anyone craving what many still insist was the best pizza and burgers in Pike County.

News of the closing was shared by Cannon's granddaughter on social media and quickly sparked an outpouring of memories and gratitude from the community.

"BG historical landmark!" one commenter wrote.

"Best pizza ever anywhere," another added, a sentiment echoed dozens of times across the post.

Many recalled childhood traditions, after-school pool games, late-night pizza runs, and Bob's uncanny ability to recognize customers by name—or by their usual order.

"He always knew who we belonged to in Pike County," one resident wrote. "You'd walk in the door and he'd already be making your pizza."

Others reflected on the atmosphere as much as the food.

"It was always 'Ten minutes,'" another commenter shared. "The B&B will always be so much more than great pizza."

In a 2020 interview with The People's Tribune, Cannon said he planned to keep working as long as his health allowed, often put-

ting in 11-12 hour days six days a week. At the time, he had just marked his 50th anniversary running the tavern, still arriving early each morning to prep ingredients and clean before opening at 11 a.m.

"I can't sit around," Cannon said then. "I'm going to keep doing it as long as my health keeps up."

Over the decades, B&B became known not only for its food, but for its role in the community—sponsoring softball teams, hosting pool leagues, and serving as a place where friendships formed and stories accumulated.

"If those walls could talk," one commenter wrote,

"the stories they would tell."

While many expressed sadness at the closure, most also acknowledged that Cannon's retirement was well-earned.

"A true Pike County legend," one post read. "Time for Bob to rest."

As Bowling Green adjusts to life without the familiar call-ahead pizza orders and the promise of a ready-in-ten-minutes pie, one thing is clear: the legacy of B&B Tavern—and of Bob Cannon himself—will remain deeply woven into the town's history.

"Thank you, Bob," one resident wrote simply. "For all the meals. For all the memories."



Van-Far Courtwarming

Van-Far School held its 2026 courtwarming on Friday, Jan. 16 as the Lady Indians and Indians took on Bowling Green and were victorious in both games. Evan Utterback and Trinity Skwitz were crowned king and queen.

Trib photo by Nancy Case

Community News

From The Mayor's Desk...

Thank you to the few who attended the Bowling Green Comprehensive Plan Open House. It's been almost a year of planning, discussing, exchanging ideas, and coming together to formulate a potential Master Plan for Bowling Green's future development. I was very disappointed with the turnout, and I hope it is no indication in residents' interest in the future direction of our great town. Thanks to the City Comprehensive Plan Committee who invested their time, wisdom, and eagerness to make Bowling Green the best it can be. Also, thanks to Cindy Hultz and Mark Twain Regional Council of Governments for making this all possible with a 100% grant! Cindy and the Committee will be presenting this to the City Council on March 2, 2026 for approval to send it on to the Board of Alderpersons on March 16. This plan represents a shared vision for our community and serves as a long-term guide for growth, public investment, and decision-making over the next several years. Developed with extensive input from residents, local businesses, community leaders, and partner organizations, the Comprehensive Plan reflects the values, priorities, and character that make Bowling Green a special place to live, work, play, and invest. It addresses key topics such as transportation, housing, infrastructure, economic development, and quality of life while balancing the need for progress with preservation of our small-town identity. This Plan is "advisory" only in nature, but it provides important framework to help City Officials and community partners to make informed choices, pursue



JIM ARICO, MAYOR
CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

funding opportunities, and coordinate efforts that support a strong and sustainable future. The Comprehensive Committee contributed their time and expertise of which I am very grateful. Together, we have created a roadmap that positions Bowling Green for continued success. Please go online and complete the survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/5Gr3y67 or come to City Hall and pick up a hard copy. They need to be submitted by January 31, 2026. Please

take time to give your input into the direction Bowling Green will head in its future! Please take ownership in this amazing town and its potential and possibilities!

Our Amish Community came to Bowling Green in 1948 and there are approximately 30+ families, and they have grown and expanded their businesses and opportunities throughout the Bowling Green area. It is always a unique experience to visit and share with them, so visit, engage in discussions and get to know our neighbors. They have had an important and valuable impact

on the housing and commerce of our community. Other activities are going on in the area so check the Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce for events and interesting interactions. It is also a good time to check out our Champ Clark Honey Shuck House, our Genealogy and Jail Museum, our War Memorials at our Historic County Court House, the Blue Star Memorial Marker at the BG Convention and Visitors Center, stroll through our parks and playgrounds, and experience our lakes and trails. Call for appointments and tours or simply explore Bowling Green.

Pike To Pike ...



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

Birthdays and anniversaries for the week Jan. 28- Feb. 3:
Jan. 28 - David Jones, Dave and Betty Rush

Jan. 29 - Austin Simmerman, Hailey Burnett, Rena Waddell

Jan. 30 - Chris Gilbert, Sherman Meyer

Jan. 31 - Susan Potter
Feb. 1 - Cindy Fesler, JoAnn Greenwood, Micah Dice, Ron Lair

Feb. 2 - Emma Dixon, Melinda Troxell

Feb. 3 - Nikki Carter, Rachel Motley, Roberta Borrowman, Shania Hutton, Larry and Patsy Forgey

Big River Band performances in the area:

Friday, Feb. 13 - The Big River Band will be playing in Bowling Green, Missouri, at Merna's Kitchen, 214 West Church Street, starting at 5:30 p.m.

Menu choices for that evening are prime rib, sea bass, a shrimp main dish, a chicken main entree, and some sort of pasta dish plus sides. To be able to order food accordingly, reservations are a must and should be made by calling 1-573-470-1113 by Friday, Feb. 6

Saturday, Feb. 14 - The Big River Band will be at the Courtyard Cafe with the show starting at 6 p.m. On their Valentine's Day menu will be either prime rib or Illini pork chop with two sides and a desert. Reservations needed (call 1-217-285-4669) between Feb. 6-8. There is a small dance floor at the Courtyard that several people can dance to the tunes on.

Saturday, Feb. 27 - The Big River Band plans to be at the Pike County Senior Center in Pittsfield on Saturday, Feb. 27, with the show starting at 6:30 p.m. There is a good concession stand there to purchase treats. A

big dance floor for all you young at heart people that enjoy stepping out to the tunes. This past Saturday evening, Jan. 24, the show was cancelled due to the weather. Grateful to everyone who spread the word.

Buggs' Family Opry performances in the area:

Friday, Feb. 13 - The Buggs' Family will be having special guest Jeff Griggs at their show which starts at 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 27 - will be an all cast show at the Buggs' Family Opry with the show starting at 7 p.m.

Do not forget, if the weather gets bad and/or iffy, either listen to 97.5 or 102 on the radio, or check on Facebook and look on either Big River Band or Polly Bugg or Jamie Niffen or myself Wyvetta Davis, or give someone a call, including me, at the number above to make sure the Shows will be happening.

Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. They profess that they know God; but in works they deny Him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate. Titus 1:15, 16

Trivia Questions for This Week:

1. At the Last Supper, what did Jesus do for His disciples?
2. How many years did it take to build the St. Louis Arch?
3. Apostle Paul called two men in the Bible "my son after the faith". Who were these two men?
4. What was the first ready to eat breakfast cereal?

Single Seniors + One had their first "Meet, Greet, and

Eat" of 2026 on Wednesday, January 21, at Gianni's in Pittsfield with 26 people present. Pastor Bobby Johnston took time out of his day, and came to say grace before our meal. (Thanks Bobby) Had delicious food at very reasonable prices and excellent service. I believe everyone enjoyed visiting. Oh, and I brought in two boxes of books that I hoped would be given away, and several were. We are thinking where we should go next. By the way, Single Seniors, now called Single Seniors + One, is still going strong. And now Jamie and I both do the planning for each month. If you are interested in joining our "Meet, Greet, and Eat" once a month get together times, just give me a call at 1-217-320-8438. This is for both women and men, must be 55+, single either by choice or life, able to pay for your own meal and transportation, and be considerate to everyone and "Share" conversations.

Becky and Mark Winner took Sharon Burgdorf, and Wyvetta Davis to Hannibal to attend the visitation of our cousin Debbie Fitzpatrick at the James O'Donnell Funeral Home on Thursday, Jan. 22.

Friday, Jan/ 23, Jamie and I went to Bowling Green where we did a few errands and visited with Jamie's sister Laura Goree and Jamie's daughter-in-law, grandson, and granddaughter Tracy Niffen, Michael, and Allison and also visited with Roger and the guys at the Barber Shop.

As of this writing, we in Pike County, Ill., have had some snow and extremely cold temperatures. This caused lots of churches to cancel their services this morning.

State Representative Chad Perkins Report



Rep. Chad Perkins

leaders emphasized that the updated figures do not create room for additional spending beyond the governor's proposed budget. Lawmakers noted that final balances will depend on factors such as the pace of multi-year construction projects and actual agency spending but reiterated that fiscal restraint remains necessary as the state adjusts to declining revenues following the end of federal pandemic-era funding.

LEGISLATIVE WORK UNDERWAY

This week, House committees conducted hearings on a range of legislation spanning health care, elections, public safety, education, and taxation. The measures reflect a range of policy areas currently under consideration, including health care, elections, public safety, education, and taxation. Here's a look at a few of the bills considered this past week:

MDHEWD URGES MISSOURIANS TO FILE FAFSA AHEAD OF ACCESS MISSOURI GRANT PRIORITY DEADLINE

The Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development is encouraging Missourians who are considering education or workforce training after high school to complete the 2026-2027 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) ahead of the February 2 priority deadline for the Access Missouri Grant. Access Missouri is the state's primary need-based financial aid program and can be used for a range of postsecondary education and training options. Eligibility is determined using FAFSA information, with no separate application required, and awards may be combined with other federal and state aid. During the 2024-2025 academic year, the program provided more than \$82 million in assistance to over 44,000 Missourians. State officials emphasized that filing a FAFSA early helps ensure students of all ages are considered for available aid, including Access Missouri, the A+ Scholarship Program, and the Fast Track Incentive Grant.

Applicants who miss the Feb. 2 priority deadline may still be considered for Access Missouri if they file by April 1, subject to available funding.

STATE BUDGET OFFICIALS IDENTIFY \$250 MILLION ERROR IN REVENUE PROJECTIONS

State budget officials told the House Budget Committee that a \$250 million calculation error was discovered in Missouri's general revenue projections for fiscal year 2027. The error stemmed from disaster relief appropriations that were inadvertently counted in both the current and upcoming fiscal years. Correcting the mistake increases the projected year-end general revenue balance from approximately \$4.7 million to about \$261 million.

Budget Director Dan Haug said the revised projection improves the state's cash position but does not change the underlying budget challenge, noting that ongoing expenditures continue to exceed ongoing revenues. Even with the correction, the projected balance would represent the lowest year-end general revenue total since 2018.

Administration officials and legislative budget

Rockhurst University Dean's List

Rockhurst University has announced the dean's list for the fall 2025 semester. This honor recognizes students who have achieved a grade-point average of 3.5 or above.

The following students earned a place on the list:

Atticus Wilmes of Bowling Green was on the dean's list at Rockhurst.

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FRIDAY NIGHT AUCTION

Friday, Feb. 6, 2026, 4:30 p.m. Preview all day, 420 Hwy. 161, Middletown, MO

Lots of Nice Furniture and Miscellaneous from Mike & the late Mary Beth Roesner & others, including: Broyhill 2 pc Lighted China Cabinet-Very Nice; Real Nice Hoosier Cabinet-Complete; 2) Singer Sewing Machines; White Clad Registered Simmons Hardware Co., St. Louis, Mo. Cabinet; Gibson Cambria Oak Ice Box; Quincy Co-op Assn. 10 Gal. Cream Can; Red Cream Can; Barn Lantern; Brita Pitcher Water Filtration System; CLC Tool Bag; Canon Camera & Tote; 2) Rolls Smith Corona Manual Typewriter; Several Old Leather Cased Cameras; 4) Packs of 1990 Fleer Football Player Photo Cards; and many more items too numerous to mention.

COINS: The Silver Mint 9-20 grams .999 Fine Silver Bars; 2) 1974 Ike Dollars; 1999 ASE; 2) 1921-P Unc. Morgans; 3) Various Mint 1. oz .999 Fine Silver Rounds; 1888-O Morgan; 1922 & 1923 Peace Dollars; Sunshine & Apemex Mint 1 oz. .999 Fine Silver Rounds; **Lots of Indian Head Pennies, Civil War, Bicentennial, TOO MANY TO MENTION!**

GUNS: JUST TO NAME A FEW: Stevens Visible Loading Repeater 22 Cal. S L-LR; Victor 12 ga. Single Shot, Shot Gun; H & R Model 206 Pardner Pump Shotgun, 20 ga. 26" Vent Rib Barrel, Walnut Wood; NIB 410 ga. Single Shot Shot Gun Pat'd 1913; J. Stevens Arms Co. Single Shot 12 ga. Nylon Stock; 1875 Hopkins & Allen Falling Block 12 ga. Shot Gun; **MANY, MANY, MORE.**

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Obituaries



Lola M. Feather

Lola M. Feather, lovingly known to many as Peggy, 84, of Troy peacefully on Monday, Jan. 12, 2026, at Baptist Home Tri-County in Vandalia.

She was born March 19, 1941, to Oliver and Nellie Perkins. Lola attended school in Belle and lived a life rooted in faith, family, and caring for others.

In 1962, Lola was united in marriage to William G. Feather Sr., with whom she shared many years of love, devotion, and family.

Peggy was a true homemaker in every sense of the word. Her door was always open for coffee, heartfelt conversations, and quiet encouragement. She never let anyone leave her home hungry; feeding people was one of the ways she showed love. She was especially known for her pimento cheese, a favorite among family and friends. Peggy loved gardening and canning every summer, filling both her pantry and her home with warmth and generosity.

Above all, Peggy had a deep love for Jesus and found joy in sharing her faith with others. Whether through conversation, kindness, or simply the way she lived her life, her faith was evident and meaningful to those around her.

She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother. Her steady presence, strong faith, and giving heart will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered.

Peggy is survived by her husband, William G. Feather Sr., her children, Bill Feather Jr., and wife, Jean of Elsberry, John Feather of Frankford, Annell (Thomas) Willemarck and husband, Thomas of Curryville, Danny Feather of Frankford, Macie Sinclair of Bowling Green, and Matt Feather and Danielle Harmon of Bowling Green; along with many grandchildren, many great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; nieces; nephews; other relatives; and dear friends.

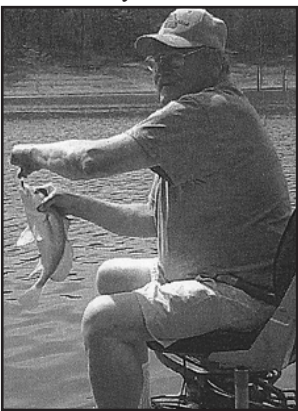
She was preceded in death by a daughter, Cindy Rose; four grandchildren, Charles Rose III, Jeff Feather, J.J., and Levi; one son-in-law, James Sinclair; her parents, Oliver and Nellie Perkins; and her siblings, Irene Perkins, Verline Hinds, Oliver "Bud" Perkins, Alice Perkins, and Mary Perkins.

Memorials may be made to the family, c/o McCoy-Blossom Funeral Homes & Crematory, 1304 Boone Street, Troy.

The family will be conducting its own memorial service

There will be a memorial celebration of life on Feb. 7 at Ashley Community Center in Ashley from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; service starts at 10:30 a.m. A carry-in meal will be held after service. Any flowers or donations may be sent the evening of Feb. 6 or day of service to Ashley Community Center. Please contact the family with any questions.

Family and friends may sign the online guestbook at www.mccoyblossomfh.com



Lawrence 'Larry' Joseph Finley

Lawrence "Larry" Joseph Finley, 76, of Bowling Green died Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2026, at Pike County Memorial Hospital in Louisiana.

A memorial Mass for

Larry was held Wednesday at 10 a.m., at St. Clement Catholic Church in Bowling Green with Fr. Henry Usher officiating. Burial was in St. Clement Catholic Cemetery.

Visitation was Wednesday from 9-10 a.m., at the church.

Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory handled the arrangements.

Larry was born Feb. 11, 1949, in Bowling Green to Clarence W. and Ella Lucy Mudd Finley. He was united in marriage to Virginia Niemeyer Schmidt on Oct. 23, 2004. Virginia survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Carrie (Derry) Wiswall and husband, Derry of Fayette; grandchildren, Morgan and Raylen Dix, and Dawson and Skyler, Logan, and Owen Wiswall; a brother, Al Finley and wife, Rosella of Mexico; two sisters, Pat Keller of St. Louis and Ginny Andrews of Bowling Green; along with many nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Larry was preceded in death by his parents and a brother-in-law, Bob Andrews.

Larry lived in Pike County his entire life. He was a member of St. Clement Catholic Church. Larry proudly served his country during Vietnam in the United States Army. In his younger years, Larry was a member of the Jaycees and the St. Clement Knights of Columbus. He continued to serve on various committees at St. Clement including working at the fish fries, where he was well known for his hush puppies.

Larry spent most of his working years at the John Deere dealership. He had also spent some time working at Niemeyer Tractor in Bowling Green. He enjoyed his work and was very knowledgeable when it came to tractors.

In his free time, Larry enjoyed hunting and fishing as well as digging for roots. He liked metal detecting and was often called upon by friends and neighbors to help find lost items. He and Virginia loved to travel. They also enjoyed attending auctions and searching flea markets for lost treasures. His favorite pastime was spending time with his cherished family. The best was the huge 4th of July parties with lots of food, family, fun, and fireworks!

Memorials may be made to Pike County Home Health and Hospice, St. Clement Church, or To the Masses.

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



Michael 'Mike' Dale Peasel

Michael "Mike" Dale Peasel, 64, of St. Peters died peacefully at home surrounded by loved ones on Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2026.

Visitation was from 2-7 p.m., Sunday at Hutchens-Stygar Funeral Home in St. Peters.

Funeral Mass was at 10 a.m., Monday at All Saints Catholic Church. Burial followed Mass at 12:30 p.m., at St. Clement Cemetery in Bowling Green.

Mike was born on June 23, 1961 in San Francisco, Calif., while his father was stationed there in the military. He is the son of James Ronald "Ronnie" and Jimmie Carole Peasel. He was raised in Bowling Green along with his sister and brother. He graduated from Bowling Green High School in 1979 and shared many fond memories of playing basketball for the Bowling Green Bobcats.

He married Diane Marie Schroeder on Oct. 3, 1992. Together they had three children, Jordan, Rachel, and Eric; who were his pride and joy.

Mike was an avid sports fan and had particular love for the St. Louis Cardinals. He also loved watching his

children, nieces and nephews play basketball, baseball, volleyball and more. During the summer Mike enjoyed spending time with family camping and boating at Mark Twain Lake.

Mike had a strong spirit. His spirit shined brightest when he was surrounded by family and friends. And his spirit was loudest when he had a mic in his hand singing karaoke.

After retiring from 34 years as a court reporter, Mike found peace in the simple things in life, such as leisurely drives and watching birds. But his greatest joys came from spending hours on the phone talking with dear friends and beloved family. He will be dearly missed and our lives will be a little quieter without him. Mike, you have touched so many lives and will always be loved.

Mike is survived by his wife, Diane Peasel; his children, Jordan Peasel, Rachel Peasel and Sean Riordan, and Eric Peasel; a sister, Lisa Deters and husband, Ed, and children, Blake Deters and wife, Ashley, Derek Deters, Brenley Deters, Drew (Meradith) Deters and wife, Meradith, and Brendan Deters; a brother, Price Peasel and wife, Ronda, and children, Braden Peasel and Austin Peasel; step-mother, Susan Peasel; aunts and uncles, Janice Wunderlich, Ray Gruntman, Barbara Peasel, and Martha Peasel; and many other beloved family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to All Saints Catholic Church and St. Clement Cemetery.



Amber Renee Singleton

Amber Renee Singleton, 31, formerly of Bowling Green, was born in Louisiana on Aug. 19, 1996, to Trent Singleton and Angela Richard Singleton of Bowling Green.

She departed this world to join her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2025, in St. Louis.

Amber had been employed at Cope Plastics in shipping and receiving in Alton, Ill.

Amber was a beauty and a blessing to her family and friends. She was compassionate and respectful. She always tried to keep a positive attitude even during the hardships she endured.

Many of her favorite times were spent in Taneyville where her family lived for several years. She was happiest when her sister, Marissa, could join Dustin and her for family get togethers. They would have barbecues, go water skiing, tubing, and swimming. Boat rides on Bull Shoals Lake were always enjoyed. She loved being outdoors and was a nature lover.

On her 16th birthday her father gifted her a 1968 RS Chevy Camaro. She had many wonderful times cruising around listening to some of her favorite bands, Led Zepplin (cover band Celebration Day), Pink Floyd (cover band El Monstero), and Van Halen. Family and friend times were as exceptional and unique as Amber.

She was preceded in death by her mother on May 17, 2025.

Survivors include her father of Farber; a brother, Dustin Allen Singleton of St. Louis; one sister, Marissa Nicole Singleton of Fayette; along with nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, and family.

A Celebration of Life was held in her honor on Saturday at 3 p.m., in Taneyville, Missouri. Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory was in charge of cremation rites.

Amber was loved so much and her smiling face will always be missed.

Life and time go so quickly. Circumstances can change without notice. Tell and show your love for someone every day.

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

Vandalia Murder Case Transferred To Warren County

By BRICE CHANDLER
EDITOR

A murder case stemming from the November 2023 shooting death of a Vandalia man has been transferred out of Audrain County, according to recent court information.

Seventeen-year-old Charles Kenneth Armour, who is charged as an adult, is now scheduled to have his case heard in Warren County. Armour faces charges of first-degree murder, first-degree robbery, and armed criminal action in connection with the death of Matthew Stewart, 23, of Vandalia.

Stewart was found deceased with multiple gunshot wounds along Audrain Road 556 on Nov. 30, 2023. The shooting occurred during daylight hours and prompted a soft lockdown at Van-Far schools due to the proximity of the incident.

Armour was initially charged in April 2024 after being certified under Missouri law to stand trial as an adult. At that time, the Audrain County Prosecuting Attorney's Office announced that Armour and co-defendant Christopher Brickey, 18, of Laddonia, had been charged in connection with the homicide. Brickey remains charged separately in Audrain County.

Court records indicate the shooting followed a planned meeting involving the sale of a firearm and an alleged prior dispute between the victim and a family member of one of the suspects. Investigators have previously stated that robbery of the

victim's firearm was also a motive in the case.

A case review hearing for Armour is currently scheduled for Feb. 19 at the Warren County Courthouse in Warrenton.

As with all criminal cases, the charges against

Armour and Brickey are accusations, and both defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

The Tribune will continue to follow the case and provide updates as more information becomes available.

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Doors open at 12 noon for Board Supervisor election voting opportunity.
The voting period for board supervisors is February 1-20, 2026.

Program:

4:00pm – 4:45pm Rusty Lee – "Drone Establishment of Cover Crops"

4:45pm – 5:30pm Brandon Holley & Kim Schroeder – "Farming for Tomorrow"

5:30pm – 6:00pm Supper

6:00pm – 6:45pm Christopher Hudson – "Virtual Fencing"

Our speakers:

Rusty Lee – Field Specialist in Agronomy – MU Extension in Montgomery County

Brandon Holley – County Executive Director, Farm Service Agency

Kim Schroeder – District Conservationist for Lincoln, Montgomery, Pike and Warren Counties

Christopher Hudson – Local grain and livestock farmer, utilizing virtual fencing in their beef cattle operation

If you need an accommodation to participate in this activity or event, please contact Pike County USDA Service Center at 573-324-3201 ext. 3 or email kimberly.schroeder@usda.gov or karen.becker@swcd.mo.gov by January 29, 2026.

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Community News

Check Presentations

Louisiana Community Betterment Association presented checks to the 2025 Christmas decorating winners on Monday, Jan. 19. LCBA sponsors the decorating contest for two categories, business and residential each year. Pictured, from left: Diana Huckstep, LCBA Chairperson - Carmen York, Business window - Paulette Powelson, LCBA Treasurer - Kindell Robb representing BONCL, Business window - Terrie Chenowith, Residential - Teresa Kearney and April Greenman, Business window.

Photo by Walter Logan, LCBA committee member

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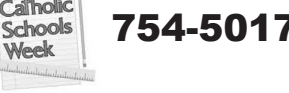
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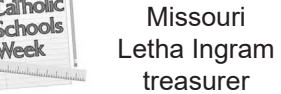
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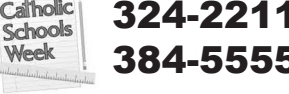


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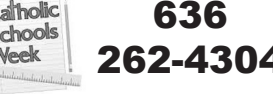


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Classifieds

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

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

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

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

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