

THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

NEWS FOR PIKE, EASTERN AUDRAIN & NORTHERN LINCOLN COUNTIES

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FREE

Hit The Road

Henderson Ousted In Whiskey Ring Case



Ulysses S. Grant
By Brent Engel
Contributing Writer
Editor's note: This is the fifth story in a series by contributing writer Brent Engel.

The significance of President Ulysses S. Grant appointing a third Pike County man to prosecute the Whiskey Ring frauds is still profound.

Bowling Green attorney James Overton Broadhead was not Grant's first choice to replace Louisiana lawyer John Brooks Henderson in December 1875. But the firing created a political firestorm, and Broadhead initially seemed the perfect extinguisher.

Grant's personal secretary, Orville Babcock, was charged with pocketing illegal money from the nationwide tax scheme that was centered in St. Louis. Grant was incensed when Henderson accused Babcock of obstructing justice and seemed to imply that the president had interfered with the investigation.

Grant fired Henderson, who left with a perfect record of convictions or guilty pleas from dozens of suspects. He said his comments were not meant as a personal attack, but a criticism of inaction by complicit government regulators. Grant's decision only turned up the heat.

"The impolitic act of the president and his cabinet opened the floodgates of invective," wrote author Hamlin Garland. "All that had gone before, in way of abuse, was but the babbling

of children in comparison with the shrieks of madmen."

Broadhead was appointed on Dec. 12, three days after Babcock was indicted. As with Grant, Henderson and David Patterson Dyer — a former Louisiana lawyer whom the president had earlier appointed as a prosecutor in the cases — were Republicans. Broadhead was a Democrat, and Grant hoped that having a prosecutor from the other party would cool the furor. It didn't. As with Henderson, Broadhead cared more about the law than politics.

Babcock's trial got under way on Feb. 8, 1876, at the U.S. Post Office and Custom House, a site that today is part of the Gateway Arch grounds. The 12-man jury included 55-year-old Pike County pioneer farmer John E. Shannon of Louisiana. The judge was Grant appointee John Forrest Dillon.

Broadhead and Dyer laid out the conspiracy from the time of its conception to telegrams the prosecution claimed linked Babcock to the Ring. The defense argued that a function of government officials was to communicate with one another, and that there was no proof Babcock had written or received any conspiratorial telegrams.

In addition, the prosecution by Broadhead and Dyer was portrayed as a way of getting to the president.

"Of course, there was no ground for such a defense," Dyer responded. "No one had breathed a word against Grant."

The Chicago Tribune called Dyer "the untutored savage of Pike County," but praised Broadhead for "a splendid judicial display" that anyone could understand.

"Broadhead's was a legal oration, and in argument as wide as a door and deep as a well," the paper said. "It piled up point on point, and precedent on precedent, till assent to his conclusions became irresistible."

Seeing the writing on the wall, Grant announced he planned the unprecedented move of appearing on Babcock's behalf. A sitting president had never — and still hasn't — voluntarily testified as a defense witness in someone else's criminal trial.

Secretary of State Hamilton Fish talked Grant out of traveling to St. Louis. So, on the morning of Saturday, Feb. 12, 1876, Supreme Court Chief Justice Morrison Waite arrived at the White House to depose Grant. The president was known for having a photographic memory, but suddenly could not seem to recall specifics about an investigation he had ordered.

"A litany of dismembrances familiar to any student of modern presidential testimony characterized Grant's deposition," according to Timothy Rives of the National Archives and Records Administration. "The President applied his ignorance and poor memory to more than thirty-five questions regarding Babcock's relationship with the Whiskey Ring conspirators."

However, Grant fervently and unequivocally defended Babcock.

"I have always had great confidence in his integrity and his efficiency," the president said. "And as yet my confidence in him is unshaken. I have never learned anything that would shake that confidence."

Though no longer part of the case, Henderson was just as enthralled as others. He told the Chicago Tribune that while some evidence was circumstantial, it was "yet so strong and unbroken as to form a network around Babcock from which escape will be impossible."

Perhaps that's why there was what the St. Louis Republic called "universal surprise" when it took the jury just two hours to acquit Babcock.

Next time: Aftermath.

January History Nuggets

By BRENT ENGEL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER
RIGHT WRITE

The Clarksville Sentinel of Jan. 2, 1890, reminded readers that 1889 had passed. "You can write it 1890 now."

EXTENDED VACATION

The Pike County Chronicle reported in January 1896 that enrollment at Frankford School had reached 190 students. There was a caveat. "Not all have come in yet since the holidays," the paper observed. "Some are sick, but others are out because the two weeks play was too short."

GRUMPY NEW YEAR

The Democrat Banner of Bowling Green apparently had not taken "a cup of kindness yet" as of Jan. 3, 1847. The paper was a humbug when it came to New Year's celebrations. "Next to a funeral, this, to us, is the most mournful of all occasions."

CALIFORNIA SCREAMING

On Jan. 1, 1876, the Louisiana Journal relayed the experiences of an Eolia man who had recently visited California. The man said the Golden State "is a fine country," but recommended that anyone planning a trip there "take money enough to get back on."

BEHOLD FRANKFORD

Tooting your own horn is a good thing. The Frankford Chronicle had this gem for readers in January 1886: "Frankford is now one of the liveliest and best inland towns in the seven states and next spring will behold her as frisky (sic) as a cow with her first calf."

HEARD WHO'S RUNNING

Names were being tossed around for local elective offices in January 1906, so the Louisiana Press-Journal had some fun in cooling the speculation in its columns. Charges for "these incipient signs of public sacrifice are as follows: For a suspicion, \$1; for a hint, \$1; for a mention, \$3; for a straight out cold plunge, \$5."

City Of Bowling Green Updates Compresensive Plan

The City of Bowling Green is updating its 2011 Comprehensive Plan and is inviting residents, business owners, and community stakeholders to take part in shaping the future of the community.

The Comprehensive Plan serves as a long-range guide for growth and development and addresses key topics such as housing, infrastructure, transportation, economic development, and quality of life.

Updating the plan ensures that Bowling Green's goals and priorities reflect current needs while planning for future opportunities.

To gather public input,

the city will release a community survey on (today) Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2026. The survey will provide an opportunity for residents to share their thoughts and comments on proposed goals and objectives within the Comprehensive Plan.

Feedback from the survey will help guide policy decisions and project priorities moving forward.

The survey can be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5GR3Y67> or a paper copy can be picked up at City Hall. The survey will close on January 31, 2026.

In addition, the city will host a public open house on Jan. 20, 2026 from 5-6 p.m.,

at Two Scoops, 1300 S. Business 61 #2, Bowling Green.

Community members are encouraged to stop by, learn more about the Comprehensive Plan update, review draft goals and objectives, and provide input in an informal setting.

The Comprehensive Planning Committee has been meeting since April 2025 and recognizes public participation is a vital part of the planning process and encourages everyone to take part in the survey and attend the open house. For additional details, please contact the City of Bowling Green, Mayor Jim Airco.

Filings For April 7 Election

By **Brice Chandler**
Editor

The filing deadline has passed and those who have thrown their name in the hat and appear on the ballot for the upcoming Tuesday, April 7 municipal elections.

The filing period was held from Dec. 9, 2025 until Dec. 30, 2025.

Bowling Green

The following individuals have filed for two-year terms as Mayor and on the Board of Aldermen.

Mayor: Tom Thompson
Ward I: McCoy Thompson (I).

Ward II: Mark Bair (I).

Ward III: Myron Argus (I).

Treasurer: Joyce McGown (I).

Louisiana

The following individuals have filed for a four-year term as Mayor and

two-year terms on the City Council. There is also a one-year term for Ward II Councilperson.

Mayor: Mark Haddock, Woodrow Polston, and David Czerwinski.

Ward I: Emily Sitton and Abricion Ivey.

Ward II 1-year Term: Loyd Turner Jr. and Alice Middleton Holtzhouser.

Ward II 2-year Term: Jeremy Baker.

Ward III: Susan Fregeau and Tim Carter.

Ward IV: Jimmy Gott Jr (I), Daryle Wallace, and Eugene Baker.

Eolia

Incumbents Tim Nothaker and David Land have re-filed for the two seats both two-year terms on the board of trustees.

Farber

Lynn Flowers (I).
No other individuals

filed, so the second seat will go to a write-in candidate.

Frankford

No individuals filed.

The current incumbents are Bryan Jennings and Tammie Stevens.

Vandalia

The following have for two-year terms for Mayor and the Board of Aldermen.

Mayor: Ralph Kuda (I) and Pete Nasir

Ward I: Larry Shaw (I) and Travis Case.

Ward II: Janet Turner (I) and Sharon Chatman.

Ward III: John Weiser (I) and Dustin Holt.

BONCL School Board

Vicky Aldridge filed for a three-year term.

Louisiana School Board

Incumbent William Shep Shepard along with Kaleb Nunan, and Lori Brown have filed to fill the three open board positions.

First Responder Agencies Nominations Until Feb. 28

First responder agencies have until Feb. 28 to nominate heroic responders for Missouri Public Safety Awards

Honors are the Red, White and Blue Heart Award; Missouri Medal of Valor; Governor's Medal; and Public Safety Civilian Partnership Award

The Department of Public Safety is accepting nominations for the State of Missouri's highest awards who took heroic actions beyond the call of duty in 2025. The awards are the Red, White and Blue Heart Award, Missouri Medal of Valor, and Governor's Medal. The department is also accepting nominations from Missouri public safety agencies for the Public Safety Civilian Partnership Award.

The deadline for public safety agency leaders to nominate members of their organizations for any of the Public Safety Medals for actions performed in 2025 is Feb. 28, 2026.

The awards will be presented during a statewide ceremony in Jefferson City in late 2026.

Nominations must come from the leader of the public safety agency. Nomination forms and additional information about the awards, including who is eligible to make a nomination, is available at: <https://dps.mo.gov/>

medal/. There is a different nomination form for each award.

For the purposes of these awards, a public safety officer is defined as a person serving a public agency, with or without compensation, as a firefighter, law enforcement officer, or emergency personnel or emergency management personnel. The term "law enforcement officer" includes a person who is a state or local corrections or court officer. EMS personnel are eligible.

The four public safety awards are:

- The Red, White and Blue Heart Award may be presented to any Missouri peace officer, firefighter, paramedic, EMT or emergency first responder who under honorable circumstances is critically, seriously or fatally injured while performing official duties in the line of duty. It is conferred in recognition of first responders seriously injured and sustaining permanent impairment of health or death. The injury or condition must require long-term treatment by a medical professional and considerable loss of time from duty. In a fatality incident, the award will be presented to a family member.
- The Missouri Medal of Valor recognizes heroic service by first responders in an effort to save

a life. The Medal of Valor is Missouri's highest award for public safety officers and is awarded to those who exhibit exceptional courage, decisiveness and swift action without regard for their own safety in their attempt to save a life. Law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services, state and local corrections officers, court officers and emergency management personnel are eligible.

-The Governor's Medal recognizes extraordinary actions by an organized or ad hoc team of first responders for brave actions above and beyond the call of normal duty during a critical situation in which their teamwork was essential to the successful resolution of the situation. Law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services, state and local corrections officers, court officers and emergency management personnel are eligible.

-The Public Safety Civilian Partnership Award honors a civilian who has provided valuable or courageous assistance to first responders in an emergency situation, without regard for their own personal welfare. It may also be bestowed on a civilian or team of civilians who train public safety officers in life-saving techniques which are later utilized to save a life.

Watch

The People's Tribune

Facebook Page This Week For Clopton Tournament Action!



Coleman Speagle

And The Winners Are

Each year, Louisiana Community Betterment Association sponsors a window decorating contest in the downtown business district and a residential decorating contest for residents of the community.

Cash prizes are awarded for First, Second and Third place winners in both categories. "Our downtown business district is simply beautiful with all of the window decorations that compliment the street decorations.

LCBA is very pleased to be the sponsor of this event. Driving around the community to see all the homes decorated is such a pleasure and we cannot thank those who participate enough, and go the extra mile to make our community "shine" during the Christmas season," stated Diana Huckstep, LCBA Chairperson.

The winners for the 2025 Christmas decorating contest are:

Business Windows

1st. Place, Carmen York, The Shirley Shop

2nd Place, April Greenman - Greenman Relics

3rd. Place, Former Family Drug - LHS Alumni Assoc.

Residential

First Place - 301 Boyd St.

Second Place - 1910

Marion Dr.

Third Place - 305 23rd. St.

LCBA wishes to congratulate all of the winners! Winners were notified by letter and a check presentation will take place on Jan. 19, 6 p.m., in the Pike County Memorial Hospital lobby.

They look forward to seeing what everyone is planning for the 2026 Christmas season.

Community News

Open Letter From MDC Director On CWD

As a young boy growing up in rural Missouri, many days were spent outdoors enjoying wild places and wild critters. At a young age, I became fascinated with the graceful ghost of our forest, the white-tailed deer. This fascination fueled a life-long pursuit to learn everything I could about this iconic species. After graduating high school, the decision to align this passion with career pursuits was natural. It turned from an out-sized fascination to a professional pursuit that led me on a decades long journey studying and researching white-tailed deer management across the southern U.S., eventually leading to an opportunity to “come home” and serve as the private-lands deer biologist for the Missouri Department of Conservation. This was truly a dream come true for a small-town country kid with a passion for deer management and conservation of our natural resources.

The dream would turn to dread in February 2010 when chronic wasting disease (CWD) was first detected in our state. By that time, CWD had been known to occur in eastern Colorado and Wyoming since the 1960s and was slowly spreading east across the great plains. It had been detected in Wisconsin and Illinois eight years earlier. Long-term studies of CWD on mule deer populations in the west were beginning to show the destructive impacts on those herds. Research over the last 20 years has continued to demonstrate that, if left unmanaged, CWD will increase in prevalence and distribution leading to increased mortality in deer populations.

As with many diseases, early detection and aggressive management have the greatest impact on the future distribution of the disease. So we embarked on an aggressive strategy to minimize the likelihood of spreading the disease within Missouri (i.e., increased safeguards for the importation of captive deer from outside of Missouri and carcass movement restrictions). Using science to inform

management actions, we liberalized local harvest opportunities, prohibited the use of feed and minerals that unnaturally concentrate deer, and implemented localized targeted removals in an effort to minimize the number of infected deer on the landscape (a strategy that Illinois had utilized with measurable success).

Aggressive management actions implemented by cooperating hunters, landowners, and agency staff over the last decade have been successful in slowing the number of infected deer on our state’s landscape. Unfortunately, CWD has continued to be introduced to new parts of the state and spread where it was previously detected.

Some will say CWD is simply a political disease that has not impacted deer populations, but this couldn’t be farther from the truth. Scientific studies have continued to demonstrate that CWD is a fatal disease that, if left unchecked, will increase in prevalence resulting in increased mortality on local populations that significantly alter buck age structure and the ability of the population to recover from other natural factors like extreme droughts and other disease outbreaks like EHD. Others recognize that CWD is a serious threat but disagree with the approach we have implemented to address the disease.

Regardless of where you stand on the issue of CWD, most share the same goal—a healthy sustainable population of deer in Missouri that can be appreciated and utilized by future generations. I certainly hope that my son (and hopefully grandchildren one day) will continue to have the opportunity to utilize and appreciate a healthy and thriving deer population into the future. The white-tailed deer is the heartbeat of Missouri’s wild places—familiar, resilient, and woven into our outdoor heritage. It is also a symbol of the success of wildlife conservation and restoration across North America.

The Missouri Conservation Commission, and subsequently the Missouri Department of Conservation, were created by the citizens of Missouri to restore and manage our valuable fish, forest, and wildlife resources. There is no species more emblematic of this conservation success than the white-tailed deer.

As CWD has spread in Missouri over the last decade, MDC’s objective has been and continues to be to keep CWD infection rates low to protect the long-term health of the deer herd. This extensive undertaking can only be accomplished by working collaboratively with hunters and landowners to achieve both surveillance and management goals. MDC has continued to work with hunters and landowners to adapt the management tools, including creating CWD management permits and simplifying regulations. Last year, we piloted the Hunter Harvest Initiative to encourage additional deer harvest during deer season to alleviate the need for post-season targeted removal.

We remain committed to keeping our deer herd healthy and working collaboratively with the hunters and landowners that are critical to our conservation mission. We cannot be successful in this work, and at the scale needed, without hunters’ and landowners’ support and participation.

At this time, MDC will be pausing our post-season targeted removal efforts to work with hunters and landowners to adapt and identify a more sustainable path forward.

Future generations of Missourians are counting on us to work together to sustain the future of one of our great state’s most important natural resources. Together, we can preserve the health of the herd and the future of hunting; divided, we may lose it.

We are committed to continuing our engagement with hunters, landowners, and Missourians on this hard work ahead. Feel free to send your thoughts to CWDFeedback@mdc.mo.gov.

Warm Up This New Year

With Some Dairy In Your Cup

The cold days of winter are upon us, and, while ice-cold milk is perfect during the heat of summer, it may not be ideal during the ice-cold days of winter. However, milk can still play an important, and delicious, role in our daily routine during this frosty season.

Whether drinking milk cold or warm, there are 13 essential nutrients found in every glass. These nutrients, such as calcium, vitamin D, potassium, protein and B vitamins, all help the body to function at peak levels. “Individuals are looking to consume three servings of dairy every day, and adding milk to daily drinks is the perfect way to start or end the day in the new year,” said Jessica Kassel, registered dietitian and nutrition educator with St. Louis District Dairy Council.

Coffee is always on top of the list as a favorite beverage for Americans and it offers many opportunities to boost dairy consumption. By adding milk to coffee, you can create cappuccinos, lattes, macchiatos, flat whites and mochas. Adding a splash of milk or chocolate milk can help individuals get one step closer to consuming three dairy servings every day.

Hot chocolate is another

dairy drink that is not only easy to prepare but also delicious during the cold days of winter. Adding cocoa mixture to a mug filled with hot milk creates this comforting dairy drink that is perfect for both adults and kids. Try adding peppermint, cinnamon or whipped cream topping for a new and fun take on this delectable dairy drink.

Looking for something a little simpler? Drinking a glass of warm milk is the perfect end to every day. Stir in honey and vanilla for a little extra flavor without the extra work. Heating up a cup of chocolate milk is another great way for both kids and adults to enjoy a warm dairy drink without the extra ingredients. Individuals can also add a splash of milk to hot tea, creating a creamy version of their favorite hot beverage.

“With a variety of milk options from low-fat milk and flavored milk to lactose-free milk, there is a milk option for everyone to enjoy,” Kassel said. So, this winter, add milk to hot drinks to warm up not only hands and bodies but also hearts with its delicious flavor and nutrient-dense profile.

For more information on warm dairy drinks, visit

www.stldairycouncil.org or contact Jessica Kassel at 314-835-9668 or jkassel@stldairycouncil.org. Follow St. Louis District Dairy Council on Facebook and Instagram at [STLDairyCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/STLDairyCouncil).

St. Louis District Dairy Council, a nonprofit nutrition education organization funded by local dairy farmers, serves 131 counties in central/southern Illinois and eastern Missouri.

CINNAMON MILK COFFEE
Warm up hearts and hands this winter with the delicious comfort of warm milk in coffee. This cold-weather drink features the addition of cinnamon and vanilla flavors.

Prep Time: 5 minutes

Yield: 1 serving

Ingredients:

½ cup milk

1 Tbsp. brown sugar

¼ tsp. cinnamon

¼ tsp. vanilla

5 oz. hot coffee

Whipped cream

Directions:

·Add milk, brown sugar, cinnamon and vanilla to a small saucepan. Warm mixture over medium-low heat on stovetop. Whisk ingredients while warming.

·Add warmed milk to coffee and top with whipped cream.

DAR Marian Anderson Legacy Scholarship Accepting Applications

Undergraduate and graduate students studying music can apply for the DAR Marian Anderson Legacy Scholarship through Saturday, Jan. 31, 2026. Sponsored by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), the scholarship provides a one-time \$5,000 award to one student annually who is pursuing undergraduate or graduate study in music.

Marian Anderson (1897-1993) was a groundbreaking African American contralto and an inspiration for civil rights. “This scholarship pays tribute to Marian Anderson’s life, and the Daughters of the American Revolution seeks to honor her legacy through aspiring musicians. Her legacy lives on in others who aim for excellence in musical studies, are committed to their communities, and willing to stand up for what is right,” said Ginnie Sebastian Storage, DAR President General.

Applicants should be accepted or currently enrolled in an accredited university or college in the United States and have a concentration in music in their course of study. Music performance, composition, theory, or education are all areas that students may be specialized in to qualify for the scholarship. They should have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or the equivalent GPA on the scale used by the institution.

Applications are available here: <https://www.dar.org/outreach/education/scholarships>

Applications require references sent through the application system, so students need to request their references ahead of the Jan. 31st application deadline.

In honor of Ms. Anderson’s commitment to the community throughout her life and her willingness to share her incredible talent with the world, applicants are asked to write a personal

in approximately 3,000 chapters across the country and several foreign countries. DAR members promote historic preservation, education and patriotism via commemorative events, scholarships and educational initiatives, citizenship programs, service to veterans, meaningful community service and more. For additional information about DAR and its relevant mission, visit www.dar.org.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The County of Pike will hold a public hearing on Thursday, Jan. 15, 2026, at 9:30 a.m., in the Commissioner’s chamber at the Pike County Courthouse located at 115 N. Main Street, Bowling Green, MO 63334 to discuss the past performance by the County in carrying out two of the county’s Community Development Block Grant projects, specifically, County of Pike County Road 251 Project (2019-LR-02) and County of Pike Water Project (2020-GI-CV01).

·County of Pike County Road 251 (2019-LR-02) provided road improvements to Pike County Road 251, in Louisiana, Missouri, including asphaltting the road, widening the roadway, redesigning and improving curves and intersections, and replacing culverts.

·County of Pike Water (2020-GI-CV01), submitted and awarded on behalf of Pike County Water Supply District #1 of Pike County, created a new point of connection to the City of Louisiana by replacing the existing 1 1/2” master meter previously used by the residences along Pike 136 with a newer, low head loss meter. A booster pump station was installed to provide adequate flow and pressures to the highest ground elevation. Since there is the potential to serve over 30 residential connections, storage was also installed.

All interested citizens and groups are encouraged to attend the scheduled hearing.

For more information either of these projects, contact Bill Allen at 573-324-2412 or by email at ballen@pikecounty-mo.gov. If you need special accommodations for the public hearing, including LEP assistance, please contact Donna Owens by January 12, 2026, at 5 p.m., at 573-324-2412 or donnao@pikecounty-mo.gov. The meeting will be held at an accessible location, and the city will make every effort possible to provide reasonable accommodations.

January Library Book Review



Brenda Gower

January 2026

Library Staff

Book Review

FAMILY OF SPIES BY

CHRISTINE KUEHN

REVIEWED BY BRENDA

GOWER, FARBER BRANCH

LIBRARY MANAGER

Family of Spies is a non-

fiction book that I started and couldn’t put down.

The author states the story started for her when she received a letter from a screenwriter in 1994, as a young mother and wife, expressing a desire to contact her 70-year-old father and learn more about his family’s involvement in the bombing of Pearl Harbor as Nazi spies living in Hawaii.

Her father had always avoided sharing information of his early life and his family. His reply was always, “It was a long time ago.”

The author, through many years of research, put together the secrets her father had tried to protect

his family from. She learned about the involvement of her grandparents, the Kuehns, in the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

She was able to follow the path her dad’s parents took that placed the family in Hawaii before World War Two began as spies. Reading throughout the book, you discovered her family’s secrets and those of the untold spies in Germany, Japan, and Hawaii.

The book reads very fast as Christina exposes you to her family’s secret. I would give this a 5/5. You can find this book at the Mexico-Audrain Library.



Installation Of Officers

Clarksville Garden Club recently installed officers for the 2026 thru 2028 term. New officers begin their terms in January of 2026. Officers installed, left to right are: Diana Huckstep, recording secretary, Joe Pridgeon, treasurer, Jeanne Held, vice president and Holly Maffitt, president. The installation of officers was performed by the Missouri Garden Club, Mid Central District Director, Cindy McAbit, far right. Clarksville Garden Club meets the fourth Thursday of each month at the Clarksville Christian Church beginning at 1:00 p.m. New members and visitors are always welcome. An educational program centered on gardening and wildlife is presented each month. For more information or questions about the Clarksville Garden Club or membership, please contact Joe Pridgeon, treasurer at 573-754-0243.

Put
Our
Classifieds
To Work
For
You

Community News

From The Mayor's Desk...

Hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas. Happy New Year Bowling Green.

I believe Bowling Green will have an even better 2026 than we did in 2025. Recapping, our city grew exponentially with new single-family housing via two new subdivisions, multiple duplexes, triplexes, and quadplexes. New businesses moved into town.

Knight Equipment Company purchased the Ingram Plumbing building for expansion, as did D&D Appliance expanded into the Sav-A-lot store. Mike Ingram built a new Imgram Plumbing building to carry on the Ingram name and tradition. Many new small new businesses sprang up from food Trucks to Bakeries.

Fieldhouse 54 converted an auction house into an entertainment center along with Farmers' Markets, food trucks, games, concerts, and wedding venues to name a few. Staci and Bill Allen purchased the former Family Resource Center and converted it into family, movie, funeral, activity, wedding, and Christian venue. Bowling Green R-I School District built a new preschool/daycare public safety building and Bobcat Boulevard. New water, sewer, and water treatment projects were completed with paved streets and city parking lots, plus a new splash pad opening in 2026.

The Bowling Green Municipal Airport built a new multiplane hanger and was approved to build a new maintenance building operational by summer 2026. Traditional historic events continued to celebrate and entertain our residents, neighboring communities, and visitors from around the state and Illinois. Christmas in the Green did the same in 2025.

Many Bowling Green citizens

passed this year who contributed to the success and development of Bowling Green as a community. We need more civic-minded people to step up and continue the growth and development of our wonderful town.

As 2025 ends, 2026 will find new challenges and excitement as we prepare for the advancement, improvement, and preservation of our tremendous community! We faced difficulties in 2025, but we will rise to the occasion and continue to thrive, improve, and innovate.

The mayor's choices for best decorated Christmas houses and businesses are first place house(s) and \$50 is divided by Sr. and Jr., Billy Hawkins, plus Katie and Amanda who had three houses in a row with multiple lighting, varied fixtures,

lighted truck, garage doors, lawns, and music coordinating lights. A great attraction for Bowling Green on Business 54 west. Second place and \$30 goes to the Damron House in Abby Estates with covered driveway, lawn, roof, blow-up figures and strategic lighting; third place and \$15 goes to Police Chief Church and his multifaceted kid-friendly decorations lighting up 17th Street. Thanks to all who beautifully decorated your houses, etc. It made by choosing much more difficult.

First place in business category goes to Gypsy Soul; second place and \$30 is split to Greg Owens and Rodes Hoods who own the CPA, apartment, and Bowling Green Pharmacy building; third place and \$15 goes to the Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce for their lighting on the vacant lot on the square.

Congrats and thanks to all who made the efforts to brighten up our Christmas season.



JIM ARICO, MAYOR
CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

Pike To Pike ...



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

Hope you are all enjoying this spring like weather. Don't take these days for granted.

Keep each other in prayer. Pray for God's guidance in each other's lives. Thank God for everything He has done for us and continues to do for us.

Big River Band concerts in the area:

Saturday, Jan. 10 - The Big River Band will be back at the Courtyard Cafe with the show starting at 6 p.m. On the menu that evening will be a good meal of country fried steak served with white gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, hot roll, drink, and dessert included or another choice of a lighter meal is chicken salad.

Saturday, Jan. 24 - The Big River Band will be at the Pike County Senior Center in Pittsfield with the show starting at 6:30 p.m.

Buggs Family Opry upcoming concerts:

Friday, Jan. 9 - The Buggs' Family Opry, with special guest Marc Bubert, will be in Pearl with the show starting at 7 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 23 - The Buggs' Family Opry, with special guest Simon Webb,

will be in Pearl 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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries for the week Jan. 7-13:

Jan. 7 - Erick Thornton, Kristina Carter, James Liebrecht, Reese Liehr, Thomas Myers, Todd Vinyard, Janet and Lester Rush

Jan. 8 - Don Heightman, Wanda Blacketer

Jan. 10 - Adam Hall, Tricia Carnes, Valarie Jones

Jan. 12 - Aaron Heightman, Angela Dixon, Roger Walston, Me, Jamie and me, Larry and Nancy Kunzeman

Deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Sharon Straus who passed away on Dec. 30 at her home in Philadelphia. She will be sorely missed by all who loved her. She is one of my first cousins and was a huge inspiration and influence in my life.

Glory ye in His holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the Lord. Seek the Lord, and His strength: seek His face ever-

more. Psalm 105:3,4

Trivia Questions for This Week:

1. Who wrote most of the book of Psalms in the Bible?

2. What does the initials on the BMW stand for?

3. Who led the first expedition down the Colorado River into the Grand Canyon?

4. Who wrote the book of Proverbs in the Bible?

The Big River Band had a good show at the Courtyard Cafe on New Year's Eve. Had a good sized audience that enjoyed the show and the meal. We had Missouri people from Curryville, Bowling Green, and Louisiana. And alot of people from Pike County Illinois.

Friday, Jan. 2, Jamie and I went to the visitation and funeral for Les Garner at the Lummis Funeral Home in Pleasant Hill.

I'm reading a very good book I ONCE KNEW A WOMAN by Barbara Jenkins that I highly recommend. If any of you have books that you would recommend to others, please give me title and the author's name by either calling me at the number above or text message me at the same number. I will not put your name in that you recommended the books unless you tell me I can.

New Year Resolutions Idea 2026: Habits That Can Keep You Healthy

What is a New Year without the urge to make resolutions? It's less of a trend and more of a tradition. As 2026 arrives, the idea isn't to make bigger promises you'll forget by February, but to choose resolutions you can actually live by. Here are 10 simple, realistic resolutions that, if followed consistently, can change your life for the better

Daily movement, even a short walk, can improve physical health and mental wellbeing in 2026. (Image: Pexels)

Daily movement, even a short walk, can improve physical health and mental wellbeing in 2026. (Image: Pexels)

Experts suggest small daily habits make resolutions last and improve well-being

Eat well, exercise, limit screen time, and prioritize mental health for 2026.

Top New Year resolutions: save money, learn skills, quit smoking.

The phrase "resolutions are made to be broken" gets

thrown around every January. But what if, this year, you decided to stick to just a few meaningful ones? Experts often say that lasting change doesn't come from grand gestures but from small, disciplined habits practised daily. When chosen wisely, resolutions can help you face challenges, improve your health and bring more clarity into your life.

Here are 10 simple New Year resolutions for 2026 that can make a real difference if followed regularly

Resolve to eat better. Choose home-cooked food over junk food . Adding fruits, vegetables to your daily meals can boost immunity, improve digestion, and help to manage weight.

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Obituaries



William Steven Ehrlich

William Steven Ehrlich, 96, died Monday, Dec. 29, 2025, at the Missouri Veterans Home.

Funeral services were Sunday at 1:30 p.m., at Waters Funeral Home in Vandalia with Bro. Kenny Haddock officiating. Burial followed at Farber Cemetery.

Visitation celebrating William's life was from 12 p.m., until the time of service at the funeral home.

William was born Dec. 17, 1929, to William and Leona Ehrlich. He attended school in Farber and was a graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia.

On March 20, 1955, he married Patricia Sue Brown. She preceded him in death on June 9, 1988.

William is survived by his five children, Steve Ehrlich and wife, Cindy, Carl Ehrlich and wife, Dora, Sam Ehrlich, Ben Ehrlich, and Susan Houchins and husband, Mark; several grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. He is also survived by one sister, Lois Phillips.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Donald B. Ehrlich.

William proudly served his country during the Korean War.

He was very active in the Presbyterian Church in Vandalia, serving at every level of the church. His roles included Commissioner to Presbytery, Sunday school superintendent, and service on numerous church and Presbytery committees. He was involved in the Heifer Project, the Festival of Sharing, and relief efforts assisting Alexandria following flooding.

William was a farmer for many years and greatly enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. He loved watching children play sports and working in his garden.

Pallbearers were his grandchildren, Bryan Ehrlich, Mark Ehrlich, Matt Ehrlich, Steven Houchins, Bill Ehrlich, Bobby Ehrlich, Jennifer Wiles, and Kim Manning.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Missouri Veterans Home.

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



Michael Andrew Chatman

Michael Andrew Chatman 67, of Mexico died Sunday, Dec. 14, 2025, at the Boone Hospital Center in Columbia.

A memorial service was held at 11 a.m., Friday at Bibb-Veach Funeral Home in Bowling Green.

Michael was born March 26, 1958, in Clarksville, the son of Carl and Barbara Bell. Michael was truly fun-loving and never met a stranger. He seemed to know someone everywhere he went, and his warm personality made lasting impressions on everyone he encountered.

He lived in the Mexico area for the past 15 years, where he became a familiar and friendly face in the community. He was an active member of the St Paul CME Church and enjoyed fishing, playing cards and

spending quality time with his family. Michael was full of life, and if you were in his presence, he was sure to make you laugh. His joy, humor, and kindness will be deeply missed.

Michael worked as a Tree Trimmer for Aspen and later retired from his position as a custodian at Mexico Middle School, where he was known for his dedication and strong work ethic.

He is survived by three brothers, Craig McPike and wife, Tammi of Clarksville, Eric Bell and wife, Naoko of Wentzville, and Corey Bell of Bowling Green; three sisters, Joyce Frazier and husband, Clarence of Bowling Green, Twalla Bell of Wentzville, and Ruth Bell of Bowling Green; and a host of nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Carl and Barbara Bell, and one brother, Carl Bell Jr.



Robert Glenn 'Robbie' Maschmeier

Robert Glenn "Robbie" Maschmeier, 69, of Louisiana died Saturday, Dec. 27, 2025 at his home with his family.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m., Wednesday at Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana.

Visitation will be held from 12 p.m., until time of service at the funeral home.

Robbie was born July 14, 1956 in St. Louis to Warren Richard and Patsy Authetta Monroe Maschmeier. He was married to Cindy L. Parrish on Aug. 1, 1987 in St. Charles. She preceded him in death on Jan. 1, 2023.

He is survived by two daughters, Cory Maschmeier and Carley Maschmeier, both of Louisiana; two grandchildren, Korban and Joyce-Anne; his mother, Patsy Maschmeier of St. Charles; a sister, Joanne Maschmeier of St. Charles; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Warren Maschmeier, his wife, Cindy Maschmeier, and a granddaughter, Ariana.

He grew up spending his whole childhood in St. Charles County. In his adulthood he spent a brief time living in Florida before moving to Louisiana where he lived until his death. He was Baptist by faith. He worked as a merchant seaman at 24-years-old until his retirement. He enjoyed pole fishing, riding bicycles, auctioning, doing gardening and lawn care, motorcycles, and football.

Memorials may be given to the donor's choice.

Online condolences may be sent at collierfuneral.com.



Lavelle Prior

With hearts full of love and sorrow, we share the passing of our beautiful son, Lavelle "Vellie" Wayne Eugene Prior, who gained his angel wings on Saturday, Dec. 27, 2025.

Though his time on this earth was brief, Vellie filled our lives with immeasurable joy, light, and love. He was truly an angel on earth... sweet, gentle, and loving beyond words. His smiles, soft giggles, and innocence brought comfort and happiness to everyone who had the blessing of knowing him.

Lavelle Wayne Eugene Prior was born June 30,

2025, to his loving parents Elishah and Mary Prior. He is also survived by his siblings, Clementine and Kadosin Prior; grandparents, Kelley Hendricks, Jacob and Kelly Hoover, Darrel and Lori Prior; great-grandparents, Harold and Roxie Hendricks and Mary Ann Prior; uncles, Tyrin Hendricks and Tranlin Hoover; great-uncle and aunt, Harold and Kelly Jo Hendricks; cousin, Harper Jo Hendricks; and bonus family, Kellie Lybarger and Ava Allen.

He is preceded in death by his maternal and paternal great-grandparents and his special grandfather, George Milosevich.

Vellie will be forever cherished and deeply missed by our family. We will carry his memory in our hearts for the rest of our lives. His love remains woven into every quiet moment, every memory, and every breath of remembrance.

We take comfort in knowing that he is now at peace, wrapped in eternal love, and watching over us as our precious angel.

Visitation will be Saturday at 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at McCoy-Blossom Funeral Homes & Crematory, 701 Business Highway 61 N. Bowling Green, MO 63334.

A private memorial service will be held.

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



Paula Saddler

Paula Saddler, 57, of Bowling Green, formerly of Warren, Ohio died Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2025.

She was born in North Carolina, the beloved child of Don and Roberta Watkins Heienes. After attending the local schools, Paula received her bachelor's in psychology from the School of the Ozarks. She was a very outgoing person, who never met a stranger. In her younger days, Paula was the life of the party. She enjoyed spending time with her family, watching movies, and crocheting. Paula liked to be outdoors when she could and she loved nature. Her first priority was always her family and she was devoted to them. Paula was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, daughter, sister, and friend to many. She will be remembered lovingly by all those who knew her.

Paula is survived by her husband, Christopher Saddler; two sons, James Anthony Salmons, and Andrew Russell Salmons and wife, Kourtney; her mother, Roberta Heienes; one sister, Susan Hines; and five grandchildren, Aurora, Carusso, Greysun, Aliciaia, and Bret; as well as many other relatives and friends.

The family will host a celebration of life both locally and in Ohio on later dates.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest register at mccoyblossomfh.com.



Joseph E. Griffin

Joseph E. Griffin, 59, of Bowling Green died peacefully Saturday, Dec. 27, 2025 at his home, surrounded by family.

He was born Oct. 28, 1966, in Barstow, Calif., to James and Christine Griffin. Joseph grew up with his

siblings, Jimmy, Kathi, Debra, Connie, and Bonnie in Barstow.

Joe had a love for music and sports. At age 11, Joe's musical talents took him to the Middle East to tour and play Christian music where he shared his gifts across cultures. Joe was a "fantastic drummer" and gifted guitarist/musician. He played on many sports teams and was offered a scholarship to any sport of his choice. However, Joe decided his love for music outweighed his love for sports and decided to pursue other options. He finally decided to become a master electrician and worked for the Colorado Department of Transportation.

Families remaining to cherish his memory are Vicki Brinson and husband, Mike, Jim Griffin, Kathi Zwilling, Debra Callan and husband, David, Connie Worland and husband, Gary, Bonnie McCoy and husband, Aaron; and many nephews and nieces. He treasured each and every member of his family.

Joseph Griffin was preceded in death by his parents, James B. Griffin and Christine Brooks Griffin.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to donor's choice, c/o McCoy-Blossom Funeral Homes & Crematory, 701 N. Business Hwy 61, Bowling Green, MO 63334.

Services are private.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest register at mccoyblossomfh.com.



Darrill Kirtley Lynn

Darrill Kirtley Lynn, 61, of Farber died Friday, Jan. 2, 2026, at Hannibal Regional Hospital.

A memorial service will be held 12 p.m., Saturday-Waters Funeral Home in Vandalia with full military honors to follow at the funeral home.

Visitation celebrating Darrill's life will be held at 10 a.m., until the time of the service at Waters Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Van-Far School District (to help with lunch's for the children).

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

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



William 'Benny' Benjamin Marshall

William "Benny" Benjamin Marshall, 62, of Vandalia Saturday, Jan. 3, 2026, at his home.

A memorial service will be held 1 p.m., Thursday at Waters Funeral Home.

Visitation celebrating Benny's life will be held 12 p.m., until the time of the service Thursday at Waters Funeral Home.

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

The family is being served by Waters Funeral Home.

Burt Arthur Liffick

Burt Arthur Liffick, 83, of Bowling Green died Thursday, Jan. 1, 2026, at his residence, following an illness.

Burt was born in Alton, Ill., June 2, 1942, the son of Orvil and Mable Liffick. He married Mary Burkemper. She died in 1991. He later married Rose Ann Hoy-nacki, who died June 15, 2022.

Cremation rites according to his wishes are being handled by the Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes & Crematory in Bowling Green.

No services are scheduled at this time.

Survivors include children, Fred Liffick, Gary Liffick, and Tom Liffick and wife, Debbie, Eva Lott, and John Hinborg; grandchildren; great grandchildren; extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wives, children Bruce Liffick, Art Liffick, Jr and Adam "Alfred" Hinborg.

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

High Protein Foods

If you love starting your mornings with something filling, simple, and packed with protein, you're going to be obsessed with this list. These cottage cheese breakfast recipes make it so easy to get more protein in before noon. You'll find bowls, smoothies, toasts, pancakes, and lots of quick grab-and-go ideas that fit any routine.

I've been on a cottage cheese kick lately because it adds protein without extra effort. Blend it into smoothies, stir it into eggs, or whip it into pancakes. It's creamy, satisfying, and works beautifully in both sweet and savory breakfasts.

This collection includes my go-to Whole Lotta Yum favorites plus highly rated recipes from other amazing food bloggers.

Why I Love Using Cottage Cheese for Breakfast

Once I started focusing on protein, cottage cheese became my secret weapon. It has around 14 grams of protein per half cup, it's low in carbs, and it's incredibly versatile. You can blend it, bake with it, spoon it over fruit, or use it as the base for a breakfast bowl. It also keeps me full for hours, which is such a win on busy mornings.

Grab your free printable list of high protein foods to help plan more protein packed meals like this!

25 Cottage Cheese Breakfast Recipes

Easy Blueberry Cottage Cheese Bake

This warm blueberry breakfast bake is packed with protein from cottage cheese and eggs, making it the perfect cozy morning meal. It feels like a treat but keeps you full for hours.

Easy Cloud Bread with Cottage Cheese (Viral Recipe)

Light, fluffy, and naturally high in protein, this cloud bread is an easy low-carb option you can pair with sweet or savory toppings for a quick breakfast.

Overnight Blueberry Cheesecake Oats (Protein Packed)

These creamy cheesecake-style overnight oats get a protein boost from blended cottage cheese, creating a filling grab-and-go breakfast that tastes like dessert.

Cottage cheese adds extra protein and creaminess to classic overnight oats, giving you a balanced meal prep breakfast that keeps you energized all morning.

Cottage Cheese Eggs

Stirring cottage cheese into scrambled eggs makes them extra fluffy and doubles the protein. It's an easy, 5-minute way to upgrade a simple breakfast.

egg bites starbucks recipe on a black plate ready to eat

Egg White Bites (Roasted Red Pepper Spinach)

These copycat egg white bites are light, high in protein, and perfect for meal prep. Cottage cheese helps make them creamy without adding extra fat.

pumpkin smoothie with blended cottage cheese and whipped cream on a wooden cutting board

Healthy Pumpkin Protein Smoothie (Without Banana)

This pumpkin smoothie tastes like pie but packs in a surprising amount of protein thanks to cottage cheese. It's quick, cozy, and perfect for fall breakfasts.

Chocolate Banana Protein Muffins

These soft banana muffins are boosted with cottage cheese and protein powder for a sweet, high-protein breakfast you can take on the go.

10-Minute Protein-Packed Cottage Cheese Breakfast Bowl

A quick savory breakfast bowl loaded with veggies, eggs, and cottage cheese for a balanced, protein-rich meal you can make in minutes.

Quick 5-minute Cottage Cheese Breakfast Toast

This simple toast is layered with cottage cheese and your choice of sweet or savory toppings. It's high protein, customizable, and ready fast.

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