

THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

NEWS FOR PIKE, EASTERN AUDRAIN & NORTHERN LINCOLN COUNTIES

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The Louisiana Bulldogs brought home the Championship from the 101st Annual Bowling Green Basketball Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 31. Pictured, front row (l-r): Kane Mayfield. Second row: Will Chidster, AJ Gschwender, Jaylen Ries, Donnell Griffith, Quincy Mooney, Landon Brown, Johnny Miller, Assistant Coach Josh Mooney. Third row: Coach Matt Boswell, Javon Ries, Jericho Olson, and Assistant Coach Tommy Fallert.

Trib photo by Kimberly Chandler

Bulldogs Capture Bowling Green Tournament

BY BRICE CHANDLER
EDITOR

The Louisiana Bulldogs claimed the championship of the 101st Annual Bowling Green Basketball Tournament on Saturday night, defeating the Clopton Hawks 60-50 to bring the tournament trophy back to Louisiana for the first time since 2017.

The title marks the sixth time the Bulldogs have claimed the Bowling Green Tournament championship in program history.

Louisiana set the tone immediately. After Clopton won the opening tip, Quincy Mooney intercepted a loose ball near the basket and scored on a layup just seconds into the game. The Bulldogs rode that early momentum, building a fast-paced first quarter behind strong scoring and even stronger rebounding.

Kane Mayfield was active inside, converting multiple rebounds on both sides of the court, while Javon Ries and Donnell Griffith

added steadily to the scoreboard. AJ Gschwender knocked down a three, and Louisiana surged to a 21-14 lead by the end of the opening period.

Clopton stayed within striking distance in the second quarter, leaning on Trey Spoonster's scoring and physical play, but Louisiana continued to control the tempo. Jaylen Ries and Landon Brown added baskets, and Griffith finished a long outlet pass for a layup to push the Bulldogs' lead. Louisiana entered halftime ahead 31-19.

Any hopes of a Clopton rally were tested early in the third quarter when Gschwender buried back-to-back three-pointers, followed by a layup in transition. Mayfield went coast-to-coast for another basket as Louisiana extended the lead to 45-35 heading into the final period.

The Hawks refused to go quietly. Larson Hall and Adam Matheny scored inside to cut the deficit, and Spoonster continued to

attack from the perimeter. Clopton pulled within four points midway through the fourth quarter, forcing Louisiana to burn a timeout as pressure mounted.

From there, the Bulldogs leaned on defense and free throws. Griffith converted multiple trips to the line down the stretch, while Mayfield secured key rebounds and finishes to keep Clopton at bay. Late fouls sent Louisiana to the stripe repeatedly, allowing the Bulldogs to seal the game in the final minute.

The night came to a charged ending when Javon Ries intercepted a pass and thundered home a dunk in the closing seconds, punctuating the 60-50 championship victory.

Louisiana's scoring attack was led by Mayfield, Griffith, and the Ries brothers, while Gschwender provided a spark from beyond the arc. Spoonster paced Clopton with a strong all-around performance, supported by Matheny and Hall during the late push.



The Clopton Lady Hawks brought home the championship at the 101st Annual Bowling Green Basketball Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 31. Pictured are the players with the cheerleaders, front row, (l-r): Ashlynn Noah, Charleigh Spoonster, Calleigh Noah, and Tinleigh Spoonster. Second row: Campbell Lindsay (#24), Carlyn Lockard, Bailey Land, Charlotte Mills, Beau Beauchamp, Skyler Wilson

Lady Hawks Roll Past Louisiana For First Place

BY BRICE CHANDLER
EDITOR

The Clopton Lady Hawks continued their dominance at the 101st Annual Bowling Green Basketball Tournament, defeating the Louisiana Lady Bulldogs 68-30 in the championship game.

The victory marks Clopton's third consecutive Bowling Green Tournament title and the eighth championship in the last 10 years, further cementing the Lady Hawks' run as one of the most successful stretches in program history.

Clopton set the tone early despite Louisiana winning the opening tip. Charleigh Spoonster came up with a loose ball moments into the game, and the Lady Hawks quickly established control. Campbell Lindsay opened the scoring, followed by a strong early stretch from Ashlynn Noah, who scored repeatedly in the paint. Spoonster knocked down two three-pointers in the first quarter as Clopton built a 19-6 lead.

Louisiana found points from Kamry Ahart and Nakya Griffith, but struggled to handle Clopton's defensive pressure and transition offense. The Lady Hawks forced turnovers and capitalized on second-chance opportunities to steadily widen the gap.

Clopton continued to pull away in the second quarter, outscoring Louisiana 17-11. Beau Beauchamp provided a spark with a basket and a three-pointer, while Noah, Bailey Land, Carlyn Lockard, and

Lindsay all added to the scoring. Clopton went into halftime firmly in control, leading 36-17.

The Lady Hawks showed no signs of slowing in the third quarter. Charleigh Spoonster scored both inside and from beyond the arc, Tinleigh Spoonster hit a corner three, and Calleigh Noah finished inside as Clopton pushed the lead to 49-23 by the end of the period.

Clopton closed the game with a strong fourth quarter, highlighted by long-range shooting from Tinleigh Spoon-

ster and Skylar Wilson, along with transition baskets and defensive stops. Ashlynn Noah continued to attack, scoring off steals and fast breaks as the Lady Hawks cruised to the 68-30 victory.

Ashlynn Noah led Clopton's balanced scoring effort, with strong contributions from Charleigh Spoonster, Tinleigh Spoonster, Beauchamp, and Land. Louisiana was paced by Nakya Griffith, Cyrrinity Chatman, and Trinity Chatman, but was unable to slow Clopton's depth and tempo.



Reid Awarded Life Membership

Holly Maffitt, president of the Clarksville Garden Club, presented the prestigious, Life Membership award in the Federated Garden Club Of Missouri, Inc., to Robert Reid, 93. Reid, a resident of "suburban" Annapolis and longtime member of the Clarksville Garden Club, is an invaluable part of the club, bringing passion, creativity and tireless commitment to the Clarksville community and the many beautification projects that are sponsored by the club. The Life Membership certificate was presented to Reid on Wednesday, Jan. 14. Pictured, from left: Robert Reid and Holly Maffitt, club president.

February History Nuggets

BY BRENT ENGEL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER
ANNOYING AGAIN

The Clarksville Sentinel of Feb. 28, 1896, poked a little friendly fun after hearing that Louisiana formed a new string band. "Louisiana organizes a good many things whose nearest approach to a public benefit is the ability to annoy its citizens."

BIG PUSH

The Mexico Ledger commended Bowling Green on Feb. 7, 1901, for surpassing 11 other Northeast Missouri communities in percentage of population gain during the 1900 census. "Are you not a little proud of the old town leading all its neighbors?" the paper asked. "Put your shoulder to the wheel and push for greater things during the next decade."

NEEDING NEWS

News apparently was a bit scarce for The Louisiana Press-Journal in February 1906. "If you visit or are visited; if you buy a horse or sell a horse or steal a horse; if you buy a house or sell a house or burn a house to get the insurance; if you have a baby or twins or triplets at your house; if you marry a girl or two girls; if your mother-in-law comes to stay with you all winter; if you have measles, mumps or smallpox; if you have a protracted meeting or a dance in the neighborhood; if the street flies up and hits you in the face on the way home from the lodge, send us the item. News is what we want."

SLEEP ON THE COUCH

The Clarksville Sentinel observed on Feb. 25, 1876, that a 16-foot jawbone dug up at an archeological site

was to be displayed at the nation's centennial celebration in Massachusetts. The editor just couldn't stop there, however. "Of course, it will be put in the women's department."

FRIENDLY REMINDER

On Feb. 18, 1846, the Democrat-Banner of Bowling Green carried a warning for politicians. "The new Constitution makes dueling a disqualification for holding office."

HAPPY PRESIDENTS' DAY

The Bowling Green Times wondered in February 1911 if students were getting too many days off. "Legal holidays are becoming so numerous that the school days are hardly worth the wear and tear in preparing the children to make a start in the direction of receiving an education."

Henderson Advocates For Equality In 1866

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

John Brooks Henderson saw no distinctions when it came to freedom.

In February 1866, the Missouri U.S. Senator from Pike County voiced concerns about voting rights for black people and equal consideration for women. In doing so, the author of the 13th Amendment outlawing slavery evoked cries from the American Revolution of "No taxation without representation."

"It is useless to spend time in enumerating the many evils to spring from unequal and unfair representation," he said. "They meet us at every step."

Henderson would prove his dedication to fairness many times during his 86 years. But his actions in early 1866 were especially noteworthy, including the introduction of a joint resolution banning states from using race as a qualification to vote.

Henderson gave lengthy addresses over two days in the Senate on the topic. For some, it was a loathsome idea, but unpopularity rarely stopped Henderson from doing what he thought was right. He was more concerned about bringing the country back together after the Civil War.

"If I can see the Union restored in such manner as to assure the largest freedom to the people, if I can see the principle find practical application in our Constitution and laws - that you cannot tax a man without representation, that you have no right to put the burden of law upon him who has no voice in its passage - I shall be fully satisfied," he said.

At times, the presentation got heated. Henderson was angered by the "Jim Crow" laws that were being passed by Democrats in Southern states to limit black involvement in politics and business.

"If the negro ought to be enfranchised, our duty as statesmen, our honor as men, our own sense of responsibility to posterity, all demand that we should do it now, and do it with the boldness of conscious right," he said. "We should make it effective and appeal to an honest people to ratify it."

The Missouri State Times was among newspapers that offered praise.

"Many eminent men are coming to the conclusion that Mr. Henderson has discovered the true solvent," it said. "On this subject of suffrage, it should not be forgotten that Mr. Henderson has reached his present position only after much experience and reflection."

Henderson "is a statesman second to none in the Senate, and Missouri may well be proud" of him, the Lexington Register offered.

The Palmyra Spectator was among papers that blasted Henderson. It predicted the senator's effort would end his political career, saying that "when a man once falls from honorable position, and loses sight of self-respect, he is hopelessly gone, sunk to rise no more."

The Richmond Sentinel, a paper in the former Confederate capital, disdainfully urged delaying a decision while Congress "is tearing the Constitution to pieces by 'amendments.'"

Former Union Gen. Frank Blair had been a Republican supporter of President Abraham Lincoln, but became a Democrat after the war because of calls for black rights. He labeled the senator "a man notoriously and naturally addicted to lying" and "totally unworthy of belief on any subject."

The St. Louis Republic replied that Henderson was "an able man" and "a cunning politician."

"If any man can scent in the breeze a coming opinion or policy, it is that gentleman," it said.

Next time: No ballot, no freedom.

Applications For Missouri Century Farm Now Open

If your farm has been in your family since Dec. 31, 1926, you can apply to have it recognized as a Missouri Century Farm.

The University of Missouri College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, MU Extension Ag and Environment team and Missouri Farm Bureau sponsor the program.

Applications to be recognized as a 2026 Missouri Century Farm opened Feb. 1. Deadline is May 1.

To qualify, the same family must have owned the farm for 100 consecutive years. The line of ownership from the original settler or buyer may be through children, grandchildren, siblings and nephews or nieces, including through marriage or adoption. The farm must be at least 40 acres of the origi-

inal land acquisition and make a financial contribution to the overall farm income.

"Family farms have shaped Missouri's agricultural heritage and rural communities for generations," said MU Vice Chancellor for Extension and Engagement Chad Higgins. "They contribute to the state's economy by producing livestock, soybeans, corn and other crops while also supporting local businesses. Family farms have also been vital partners with MU Extension in our land-grant mission for more than 100 years."

"Missouri Farm Bureau is a proud partner in the recognition of Century Farms," said Garrett Hawkins, Missouri Farm Bureau president. "We applaud the

hardworking farm families who have kept us fed and clothed for generations. They represent an important part of our heritage and laid a foundation for the bounty Americans enjoy every day."

Since the program began in 1976, more than 10,000 Missouri farms have received the Century Farm designation.

A fee covers the cost of a certificate, a metal farm sign and booklet for approved applicants. County MU Extension centers present these items.

Applications open Feb. 1, 2026. Details and online application are at <https://muext.us/Century-Farms>. You can also contact your local MU Extension center with questions.



KDTRT Award

Louisiana Community Betterment Association congratulates Blake Foster. Blake was nominated by Paulette Powelson to receive the award. Powelson stated in her nomination, "Blake is always willing to help any time he sees a need. He has helped me carry groceries into my house, ran across the street to pick up my trash dumpster when it gets blown over, multiple times, or do anything that needs doing without being asked. His kindness and willingness to help anyone is a blessing to anyone who knows him." LCBA is always looking for young folks in our community who are willing to help and support others. If you know of a young person in our community who you feel should be recognized, please contact Diana Huckstep, LCBA Chairperson at 314-640-4420. Pictured, from left: Maci Foster, Mrs. and Mr. Wiley, Harrison, Paulette Powelson - LCBA treasurer, Blake Foster - recipient, David Miller - LCBA committee member, and Diana Huckstep - LCBA chairperson.

Photo by Walter Logan - LCBA committee member

Community News

Van-Far Alumni Association Discusses Alternatives

The Van-Far Alumni board members met Thursday, Jan. 22 and discussed various alternatives to the annual alumni reunion.

Members weighed resuming the usual Sunday lunch and program with other plans involving a different venue and program. Discussion will continue at the March 26 meeting.

Scholarship coordinator,

Jim Deppe, announced that student scholarship applications for graduating seniors are now available at the counselor's office; completed applications are due March 29.

Monetary gifts to the association were received from Rex and Debby Moore and from Van-Far Class of 1997.

Memorial gifts include the following: Van-Far

class of 1967 in memory of Don Cummins; and from the family of Zandra Dowell.

A memory brick was purchased by Van-Far Class of 1975.

Members attending were Jim Current, Jim Deppe, Janet Heim, Brian Hummel, Debby Moore, Carol Schambach, and Laura Straube.

February Library Book Review



Debbie Marshall
FEBRUARY 2026
LIBRARY STAFF YOUNG
ADULT BOOK REVIEW
SEVEN ALL ALONE
BY KIRSTY MCKAY
REVIEWED BY DEBBIE
MARSHALL,
LIBRARY ASSISTANT AT
VANDALIA BRANCH
LIBRARY

Ten years ago, Maggie Atkins and six other elementary school children were kidnapped by their bus driver and taken to the Scottish mountains.

While most of the students managed to escape, Maggie was left behind, en-

during the wilderness alone until her eventual rescue. Maggie is forced to confront her past when her school organizes a mandatory camping trip, supervised by none other than her own father, a teacher at the school.

Boarding the bus, Maggie is horrified to recognize the other six students—the very children who had been kidnapped with her—plus one additional student. The journey begins with a challenging task: navigating a rubber raft across a glen swollen by floodwaters.

After a difficult crossing, they manage to dock. However, during unloading, they realize a backpack is missing. As one student, Ant, jumps back onto the raft, the ropes slip from the hands of the students holding them.

The raft is instantly swept away down the fast-moving glen. In a desperate, split-second attempt to retrieve it, Maggie's father leaps into the water and is

also washed away. Consumed by panic and desperate for a glimpse of the raft or her dad, Maggie sprints frantically along the riverbank. The water is too swift, and with the bank running out, she is forced to abandon the impossible chase.

Returning to the rest of the group, Maggie intends to organize a search for her father and Ant. However, the others have already reached a decision: they will proceed to the pre-arranged hunting cabin to wait out the night.

They plan to resume the search and try to find a way to get help the following morning. This gripping young adult thriller by Kirsty McKay throws seven teenagers into a terrifying struggle for survival that hinges on them finally uncovering the truth about a traumatic event from a decade earlier. It is available to check out through the Mexico-Audrain County Library District.

Clarksville VFW, Auxiliary Hold Conference Call Meetings

The Clarksville Memorial VFW Post 4610 and Auxiliary held regular meetings with a conference call.

Five Post and 14 Auxiliary Members attended. Commander Herbert Everett and President Mary Presided over the Meetings.

Prayer was given by VFW Chaplain Don Traynor and Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Minutes were read and

Attend District Meeting

Clarksville VFW 4610 Commander Herbert Everett, Quartermaster Robert LaForte, attended the District 17 meeting. Those from the auxiliary attending were Mary Tarpein, President, Joanne Hammuck and Jeanette Bazan that was held in Kirksville VFW Post 2180 on Sunday, Jan. 18.

approved, update on building was given by Commander on the process that had been done since last Meeting and what is planned in the next two weeks to finish up everything.

He also reported on the district meeting that He and Quartermaster Robert LaForte attended in Kirksville on Jan. 18, President Mary reported on the Auxiliary level, Backpacks for Homeless Veterans to be taken to February Council of Administration meetings, Buddy Poppy puzzle due to Chairman Brandy Young by Jan. 30, and she will be delivering Valentine Cards and Items to the Veteran Home in Mexico and local nursing homes.

received the awards for the recipients for the scholarships and Teacher of the Year, Jeanette Bazan also attended the District 17 meeting.

Commander Herbert and President Mary also announced the Council of Administration meeting to be held in Branson Feb. 20-22 in Branson haven't received an agenda yet.

Meeting closed with National Home Prayer in silence and Dianne Gardner closing prayer, Auxiliary chaplain

Virginia and Brooke Starks for setting up the conference call for them to have the meeting.

Next meetings will be held on Sunday, Feb. 15 at the VFW Post 4610 at 3 p.m.

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Orchids: A Cure For Winter Doldrums

Winter's cold, dreary days have many daydreaming about jetting away to basking in a tropical paradise.

"Such a getaway is not possible for most, but orchids can transport you to an exotic place without ever leaving home," said University of Missouri Extension horticulturist David Trinklein.

Orchids can transform the average home into a tropical setting through their colorful blooms, Trinklein said. There are more than 35,000 species of orchids, and many live up to their reputation of being difficult to grow as houseplants.

Fortunately, there are several orchids that can be grown successfully in the home, he said. Probably the most "user-friendly" orchids for the average homeowner are species and hybrids of the Cattleya, Phalaenopsis and Paphiopedilum genera. When the average person thinks of an orchid, they usually picture a cattleya. They produce large, spectacular flowers in colors including white, pink, red, yellow and many combinations. Cattleya flowers have two large horizontal petals and a lower petal, called a "lip." Located between these three petals are smaller sepals. Cattleya plants have stiff, upright leaves with a storage structure called a pseudobulb at the base.

On the other hand, phalaenopsis orchids have a monopodial growth habit, with a compact central stem. New growth is added each year to this stem, and flowers are produced at the base of the leaves, which alternate from side to side. Monopodial orchids do not produce pseudobulbs. Phalaenopsis hybrids have distinct flowers and often go by the common name of "moth orchid" because of their unique, flat shape. They produce abundant flowers on long, arching scapes and come primarily in white and shades of pink.

Both cattleya and phalaenopsis orchids are epiphytic. This means they use another plant for support and derive water and nutrients from rainfall and organic debris on their host plant. In containers, epiphytic plants are usually grown in a medium that is loose and laden with air. For orchids such as cattleya and phalaenopsis, orchid bark and osmunda fiber are two popular growing medium choices. Repot plants when growth weakens—usually about every third year—and choose porous pots. Clay pots are ideal.

Paphiopedilums, or lady slipper orchids, derive their name from the shape of their unique flowers, which come in many different sizes and colors. The most easily grown paphiopedilums are the mottled leaf, warm growing types that are semi-terrestrial in nature. This means they grow in humus and other material on the forest floor instead of on host plants. An ideal grow-

ing medium for terrestrial orchids should retain moisture yet be well-drained. Finer grades of orchid bark or mixes containing orchid bark and various amounts of perlite, sand and/or sphagnum peat moss are ideal.

Cattleyas need light with luminance between 2,000 and 4,000 foot-candles, whereas phalaenopsis and paphiopedilums need only between 1,000 and 1,500 foot-candles. The latter is characteristic of the light required for good growth of African violets. In low light locations, fluorescent or LED lamps may be used to supplement natural light.

Watering arguably is arguably the most critical cultural practice when growing orchids. Since phalaenopsis and paphiopedilums have no pseudobulbs for water storage, a thorough drenching every five to seven days is recommended, depending on environmental conditions. For cattleyas, intervals between watering can be extended to 10 to 14 days. An orchid fertilizer can be added to the water at the time of soaking. High nitrogen fertilizers (such as 30-10-10) are recommended when using bark as a potting medium.

Temperature is another critical aspect of orchid culture. Phalaenopsis and paphiopedilums with mottled



Still Soaring
Though a major winter storm forced cancellation of most Eagle Days activities Jan. 24 and 25, the Clarksville American Legion carried on with its meal menu and vendor show. Pictured is Joanna Brock of the Clarksville Community Chamber of Commerce sorting this year's sweatshirt. They come in crew or hoodie styles in sizes small to 3x. It was locally-designed, and depicts an eagle, the river and a sunset in blue and orange colors. People can e-mail clarksvillecommunitychamber@gmail.com and leave a telephone number for a callback. A chamber representative will take orders and arrange payment.

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Community News

From The Mayor's Desk...

It's a long way off, but March 23-27 is National First Responder Wellness Week. Our first responders in Bowling Green and Pike County areas are very busy with responding to emergency calls.

These calls range in the hundreds just in Bowling Green. First Responders serve with courage and our wellness in mind and their wellness deserves recognition as well. This year's theme is Total Wellness, True Readiness and it highlights how physical, mental, emotional, and social wellness all contribute to readiness throughout their careers. If you know, live with, or are introduced to a first responder, please let them know how much you appreciate them and how valuable they are to our residents and communities. In looking at all the devastation this last winter storm has brought, it is a time to think about being prepared for a disaster.

What would Bowling Green do if we lost power for a week?

What If Alliance couldn't clear the roads for all the ice that hit? What if First Responders could not get to power lines, downed trees or injuries? What if our food supply ran out and we couldn't help those in need? Are you prepared for a crisis? Bowling Green has a disaster/emergency plan in place so be comforted in that.

Bowling Green, we have a challenge. As you may know, Bowling Green has been growing. Our schools: Bowling Green R-I, St. Clement, and Pike County Christian School have attracted many young families and individuals to live, work, play, and grow

here! Our location with U.S. Highways 61 and 54 plus 161 and Y has provided accessible routes to work, commodities, and services to Bowling Green.

People moving out of the big cities are visiting our lakes, parks, Champ Clark Honey Shuck, War Memorials and Blue Star Memorial Marker, Genealogy and Jail Museum, services plus our restaurants and are deciding to move here.

The problem is that we have run out of space for rental housing that is available and the cost is disproportionate to wage earners. This means that many that have come to Bowling Green to work at Walmart, our fast-food restaurants, our service station workers, Dollar General, Dollar Tree, and other places that pay close to minimum wage can't afford to live here.

They can find housing in other towns and cities for less rent than here in Bowling Green. As a result, we lose our work force when they move. So, we have insufficient workers to fill the many positions that have come open in our amazing city due to development and expansion. The price of rent goes up every time we have a new build and that sets the pace for increase in most of our other rental properties.

A new 10-month build is getting \$1,100 per month for rent so many others raise their rent for a 110-year-old house" Our minimum wage workforce in Bowling Green can't afford to pay these rental prices so they move to lower rent towns. OOUCH!



JIM ARICO, MAYOR
CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

State Representative Chad Perkins Report



Rep. Chad Perkins

"Despite a mid-winter snow-storm that briefly closed the Capitol, we hit the ground running this week in Jefferson City with full committee hearings and floor activity. It was also a great week to meet with constituents and welcome guests from the district. I am always honored to welcome folks from home to the Capitol. It was another busy week of listening, learning, and continuing to fight for conservative priorities and the people of our district."

FIREARMS & SELF-DEFENSE

The House General Laws Committee heard HB 2176, sponsored by Rep. Perkins, a wide-ranging public safety proposal that would prohibit the enforcement of "red flag" gun seizure laws in Missouri and significantly expand state firearms preemption. The bill would bar state and local agencies from enforcing or assisting with the enforcement of red flag laws and prohibit the use of federal funds for that purpose, while creating civil penalties and private causes of action for violations. It also repeals local authority to regulate open carry and allows individuals to sue political subdivisions that enact firearm regulations, with

damages and attorney's fees available. In addition, HB 2176 revises Missouri's self-defense statutes by establishing a presumption that the use or threatened use of force was reasonable and by limiting both criminal prosecution and civil liability in most cases. The proposal repeals provisions allowing separate civil actions even when force is found legally justified and raises the burden to overcome claims of self-defense immunity. The bill further lowers the minimum age for concealed carry permits and endorsements from 19 to 18 and updates related revocation procedures.

NO-CALL LIST & CALLER ID ANTI-SPOOFING LEGISLATION

The House Commerce Committee heard several bills this week aimed at strengthening Missouri's No-Call List and addressing caller ID spoofing. HB 2147, HB 2472, HB 2546, and HB 2658 would expand the No-Call List to include business subscribers and remove the requirement for individuals to renew objections to receiving solicitations. Three of the bills also establish a "Caller ID Anti-Spoofing Act," requiring telecommunications providers to implement STIR/SHAKEN or equivalent protocols to verify caller identification and imposing escalating fines for non-compliance. Under these proposals, callers using false information with intent to deceive, defraud, or mislead recipients would be subject to civil penalties, allowing call recipients to seek punitive damages up to \$5,000 per call, including through class-action suits. The Attorney General would have authority to investigate violations, initiate enforcement actions, and intervene in related lawsuits. One bill also eliminates certain exemptions for telemarketers responding to

referrals or licensed professionals attempting to schedule appointments. Collectively, these bills aim to reduce unwanted and fraudulent telemarketing while providing recipients and the state with stronger legal remedies.

COULD MISSOURI SCALE BACK VEHICLE SAFETY INSPECTIONS?

Last week, the House Government Efficiency Committee voted "do pass" on several bills that would significantly reduce or eliminate Missouri's mandatory motor vehicle safety inspection requirements. Taken together, the proposals would narrow the scope of inspections, expand exemptions based on vehicle age or mileage, and eliminate inspections entirely for most noncommercial vehicles beginning in 2027.

Several bills would repeal the safety inspection requirement for noncommercial vehicles, while retaining inspections for certain categories such as commercial vehicles and prior salvage vehicles. Other measures would adjust existing exemptions by tying inspection requirements to specific model years or mileage thresholds, effectively exempting newer vehicles with fewer than 150,000 miles. Additional proposals would create new exemptions for limited-use farm vehicles and modify odometer reporting requirements. One bill would also authorize multi-year vehicle registrations for newer vehicles and repeal the current odd-even year renewal system.

Supporters argue the changes would reduce regulatory burdens and costs for vehicle owners, while opponents have raised concerns about the potential impact on road safety. The legislation now awaits further consideration by the full House.

Pike To Pike ...



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

Birthdays and Addresses for the week of Feb. 4-10:

A special happy birthday goes out to Dora Couch, Wednesday, Feb. 4.

Feb. 4 - Larry Potter

Feb. 5 - Mitch Lyon, Shelby Stroemer

Feb. 6 - Jaiden Simmerman, Lori Beard

Feb. 7 - Jay McIntire, Justin Blacketer, Robert Whitlock

Feb. 8 - Doug Kirk, Mary McDonald

Feb. 9 - Shirley Braden

Feb. 10 - Mark Lahmann, Mitchel Francis, Pastor Gary and Pam Dice

Can't think of anything to do? Read the following to get some ideas.

Big River Band performances in the area:

Friday, Feb. 13 - The Big River Band will be playing in Bowling Green 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.

Community Calendar...

Submit upcoming events by calling 324-6111

or e-mail to:

peopletribune@sbcglobal.net

On Feb. 6: G.F.W.C. Heir Study Club will have a chili and hot dog supper 4:45-8 p.m., at the Bowling Green High School cafeteria during the evening basketball games. Meal includes: bowl of chili, hot dog, drink and dessert. Ala carte items will also be available. Proceeds will go to Heir Study's Bowling Green High School Scholarship Fund to sponsor an academic scholarship as well as provide funding to support other educational projects. The Bowling Green Bobcats will be playing basketball against the Monroe City Panthers.

On Feb. 21: The LHS Afterprom Committee is hosting a basket bingo at the Louisiana High School Gym. Doors open at 5 p.m., and games will start at 6 p.m. There will be a silent auction and snacks for sale as well. There will be games played during intermission. All ages welcome to play.

Saturday, Feb. 14 - The Big River Band will be at the Courtyard Cafe in Pittsfield, Ill., 128 East Adams Street, 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 dessert. Reservations are 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, 220 West Adams Street 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. Saturday, Jan. 24, the show was cancelled due to the weather. Grateful to everyone who spread the word.

Buggs' Family Opry performances in Pearl, Ill.:

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.

Uptown Strings Band plays every Tuesday from noon-3 p.m., at the Admiral Koontz Recreation Center, 301 Warren Barrett Drive, in Hannibal. This is sponsored by the Hannibal Parks and Recreation. And everyone is welcome.

We were in Hannibal the other day and stopped at a store that I had never been to before, and I would highly recommend. The Encore Emporium Antique Mall which is in between Lyon Street and Warren Barrett Drive, has all kinds of things in it. Anything from antiques to collectibles to books with 70 vendors in

it. If you went through it all, it would take several hours to do so. Hours of operation are Monday-Saturday, 10-5 p.m., and Sunday 12- 5 p.m., and is owned by Deb and Lisa Weaver. Questions call 1-573-231-4922.

Trivia Answers from last week:

1. At the Last Supper, what did Jesus do for His disciples? (He washed their feet).

2. How many years did it take to build the St. Louis Arch? (two years)

3. Apostle Paul called two men in the Bible "my son after the faith". Who were these two men? (Timothy and Titus)

4. What was the first ready to eat breakfast cereal? (shredded wheat)

Praise ye the Lord. Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in His commandments. Psalm 112:1

We certainly enjoyed visiting with one of Jamie's sisters Shirley on Sunday evening. She lives many miles away so I've never met her in person but feel through these face to face calls, I am getting to know her.

Trivia Questions for This Week:

1. What is the shortest complete English sentence?

2. How many books are in the Old Testament?

3. How many feet deep is the St. Louis Arch's foundation?

Take time to look for God's blessings. Pray for each other and for America.

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**MONROE COUNTY, MO
LAND AUCTION**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2026 AT 10:00 AM^{CT}

715 ACRES± (SUBJECT TO SURVEY)
10 TRACTS

The WindRiver Ranch, L.L.C. land is located approximately 5.5 miles south of Monroe City, MO, 12.5 miles from Indian Creek Marina & Campground, or 10 miles from the John F. Spalding Rec Area in Sections 6, 7, & 18, T55N-R7W, Monroe Township, Monroe County, MO.

The ranch offers a diverse blend of income-producing CRP land, scenic recreational acreage, and attractive building sites suitable for homes or weekend retreats. Rolling terrain, open fields, and wooded areas combine to create outstanding wildlife habitat, making the property ideal for hunting, outdoor recreation, and long-term land investment.

WINDRIVER RANCH, L.L.C.

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Auction Managers: Steve Zeiger (573) 231-9802 & Dan Sullivan

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**MARION COUNTY, MISSOURI
LAND AUCTION**

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026 AT 10:00 AM^{CT}

40.01 DEEDED ACRES± • 1 TRACT

The Graupman Real Estate, LLC land is located 9.4 miles west of Palmyra, MO and 5 miles east of Philadelphia, MO. The land is further described as being located in Section 15, T58N-R7W, Union Township, Marion County, Missouri.

This tract consists of high-quality, productive tillable farmland with strong soil characteristics well-suited for row-crop production. The property features gently rolling topography, efficient field layout, and good access, making it easy to farm with modern equipment. A timber draw running through the property makes it a nice hunting tract as well. Located in a desirable agricultural area of Marion County, this tract offers consistent yields and long-term investment value.

GRAUPMAN REAL ESTATE, LLC

Closing & Title Work: Mark Twain Title Company
123 S Main St, Palmyra, MO 63461 | (573) 769-2212
Auction Managers: Steve Zeiger (573) 231-9802 & Dan Sullivan

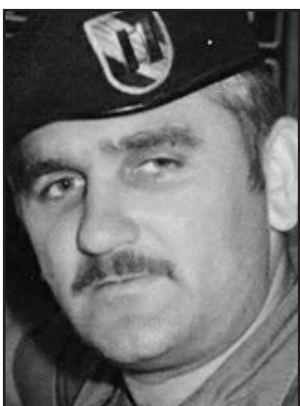
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Obituaries



Ronald Lee Richards

Ronald Lee Richards, 83, of Louisiana died Sunday, Jan. 25, 2026.

The family will hold a Celebration of Life ceremony at a later date.

He was born Nov. 2, 1942, in Muskogee, Okla., to Garrald L. and Helen Louise Trawick Richards. He was born the oldest of three sons.

After his birth, he and his mother moved back to Bellevue, Ill., where his father was from. He made several trips in his youth between there and back to North Carolina, where his mother was from. He graduated from Pleasant Hill High School in 1960, then attended Western Illinois University, where he majored in physical education.

His college career was cut short due to his desire to join the United States Army during the Vietnam War era. His education allowed him the opportunity to advance into the Officer Candidate School. Through his training and war time experience, he was awarded the rank of captain. This rank also became his nickname for the remainder of his life. From there, he completed the highly skilled achievement of Green Beret.

Ron's most valued skill, however, came after the Army, when he realized he loved to sing and was well known for it. He was the lead singer of many bands over the years and kept his love of music going until the end. When he wasn't singing, he made his living in carpentry and construction work.

Ron was preceded in death by both parents, and a brother, James "Jim".

He and his wife Amy Jones of Louisiana were married Oct. 22, 2020. She survives.

He is also survived by a son, Joshua Richards and wife, Heather of Milton, Ill.; and their two sons, Jonah and Asher. Other grandchildren that survive are Eathon Johnson and wife, Malerie of Osceola, Ark., and Paiton Stankiewicz and husband, Stanley of Nebo, Ill.; one brother, Donald Richards and wife, Pat of Louisiana; and a number of nieces and nephews also survive.

Ron took great pride in his military experience, his family, and especially his grandsons sporting events and accomplishments. He will be remembered for his quick wit and unmatched sense of humor.

Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana is handling the arrangements.



Henry Lee Cade Jr.

Henry Lee Cade, Jr., 53, of Wellsville, formerly of Vandalia was born Jan. 22, 1973, in St. Louis, and died peacefully at home on Friday, Jan. 23, 2026, with his loving family by his side. He was a dedicated husband, father, brother, grandfather and friend whose presence will be deeply missed by those who knew him.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, Feb. 7, 2026 from 2-5 p.m., at 830 Waterbury Falls Dr., O'Fallon Mo 63368.

Cremation arrangements are being held by Waters Funeral Home of Vandalia.

Hank graduated from

Oakville Senior High School in 1992 and went on to build a career at Harbison-Walker Refractories in Vandalia. He was known for his simple yet vibrant personality, where his love for the great outdoors shined through. Friends and family alike could always count on him for laughter, as he was a funny individual who embodied the essence of a loving family man.

Among his cherished memories are the monumental 4th of July gatherings he hosted for family and friends, where joy and togetherness were always in abundance. Hank was a man who embraced life, regularly spending his free time deer hunting, fishing, and engaging in family gatherings. His ability to connect with others was remarkable; he never met a stranger.

Hank is survived by his wife, Carmela Cade of the home; children, Lewis Bowers and Hunter of Sturgeon, Dustin Bowers and wife, Lakin of Vandalia, Henry Lee Cade III of Memphis, Tenn., and daughter, Jeanessa Bowers of Vandalia. He is also survived by his father, Henry Lee Cade, Sr., of East St. Louis; five brothers, Maurice Cade and wife, Maggie of St. Louis, Antione Cade and wife, Etiennea of Katy, Texas, Jaden Cade of East St. Louis, Melvin Irons of San Antonio, Texas, and Justin Cade of Honolulu, Hawaii; and four sisters, Stacey Jackson and husband, the late Dwjuan of San Antonio, Texas, Brandy Cade of St. Louis, Courvosier Cade of St. Louis, and Jada Cade of East St. Louis. Henry took great pride in his role as a grandfather to Bryson Maiden, Isabella Maiden, Leah Maiden, Blake Maiden, Henry Lee Cade IV, Nylah Cade, Reagan Bowers, LJ Bowers, Landrie Bowers, Asher Bowers, Nova Bowers, and Ryder Atkinson.

Hank leaves behind a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Theresa Irons, grandmothers, Alberta Cade and Velma Bates, a grandson, Ryan Maiden, one nephew, Jerry Brown, and an aunt, Nadine Bobo.

Hank Lee Cade, Jr., leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter, and cherished moments that will resonate in the hearts of his family and friends forever. His spirit will continue to inspire all those who had the privilege of knowing him.

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



Everett Carlton Kush Jr.

Everett Carlton Kush, Jr., 74, died Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2026.

Everett was born Aug. 26, 1951, in St. Louis. Known for his stubborn determination and strong work ethic, he spent much of his life working in—and loving—the casino industry, where his dedication and perseverance were well known. His legacy remains in Alton, Ill., St. Charles, and Kansas City.

A lifelong fan of St. Louis Cardinals baseball, he took pride in the city he called home and the team he supported, no matter how good or bad, their season may be.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Everett Sr., and Sarah Kush; and his sisters, Alice Nelson, Evelyn (Carol) Crawford, and Delores Cunningham Mercer.

He is survived by his wife, Phyllis "Jeannie"; a son, Brian and wife, Tina; grandchildren, Brian Jr., Michael and wife, Delaney, Brandon and wife, Katelyn, and Calista Ferguson and husband, Justice; great-grandchildren, Adalynn,

Parker, James, and Hudson; and many nieces and nephews.

He will be remembered as a hardworking man who stood his ground, loved his family deeply, and left a legacy that lives on through the generations he leaves behind.

Malici W. Conlon

Malici W. Conlon, 89, of Wellsville died Saturday, Jan. 24, 2026 in Columbia.

Funeral services were at 1 p.m., Monday at Myers Funeral Home in Wellsville. Private burial followed in Montgomery City Cemetery.

Visitation was Monday from noon until service time at the funeral home.

Malici was born Sept. 4, 1936 in Montgomery City, the son of Cyrus and Mina Getting Conlon.

Malici grew up on a farm outside of Buell. He graduated from Wellsville High School in 1955. He lived in Buell for 60 years and moved to Wellsville in 2001. He was a farmer raising cattle, hogs and row crops. He enjoyed attending Old Threshers shows, riding his bike, and visiting with friends at the restaurant. He was a veteran, serving in the United States Army.

Survivors include, four nephews, Dean Humphrey of Vandalia, Harold Humphrey of Perry, Forrest Jones and wife, Joy of Kirksville, and Roger Jones and wife, Jackie of Kirksville; seven nieces, Katherine Current of Phoenix, Ariz., Carol Jones of Kirksville, Cathy Campbell of Kirksville, Betty Jones of Kirksville, Tina Cowart of St. Louis, Deborah Brown of Hannibal, and Shelly Vance of St. Louis.

Malici is preceded in death by his parents, three sisters, Sadie Humphrey, Onie Jones, and Mary Coyne.

The family requests memorial donations be made to the Montgomery City Cemetery.

Memorials may be sent c/o Myers Funeral Home, 203 E. Bates, Wellsville, MO 63384.



Jeanelle Hendrix

Jeanelle Hendrix, 94, formerly Paris died Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2026, at Beth Haven Retirement Community in Hannibal.

Jeanelle was born May 23, 1931, in Blackwater, the daughter of Edgar and Marie Smith Nelson. She was united in marriage to Milton Eugene Hendrix on May 24, 1953, in Canton. He preceded her in death on May 15, 2000.

She is survived by a daughter, Terri Jungers and husband, Jim of Vandalia; three grandchildren, Matthew Jungers and Joey Smith of Seattle, Wash., Jill Hoepf and husband, Matt of Bowling Green, and Holly Hoover and husband, Mike of Mexico; three great-grandchildren, Haley, Mil-lee, and Jack Hoepf; and a loving cat she cared for, Lacey.

Jeanelle was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Milton; a brother, Lloyd Nelson and wife, Nancy; and in-laws, Joan and Ross Thompson and Ivan and Linda Hendrix.

As a dedicated business education teacher for 35 years, Jeanelle inspired countless students, many of whom credited her for their success. Concerned for the youth of Paris, she and Milton created a welcoming space by renovating a building into a video arcade and skating rink. They spent most of their summers at "the beautiful Lake of the Ozarks." After retirement, Jeanelle and Milt visited all but three states in the continental United States in their camper. They attended numerous NASCAR races;

if they didn't attend, they never missed a race on TV. They were married just nine days short of 47 years. Above all, she treasured time spent with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be from 10-11 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 11 at Paris First Christian Church, followed by the funeral service at 11 a.m., with the Rev. Kenny Had-dock officiating. Burial will be held in Walnut Grove Cemetery in Paris.

Memorials may be made to the Paris First Christian Church, Paris High School business department, or Culver-Stockton College.

Jeanelle Hendrix will be remembered for her kindness, dedication, and the joy she brought to those around her.



Amber Nicole Martin

Amber Nicole Martin, 41, of Coralville, Iowa and formerly of Bowling Green died unexpectedly Friday, Jan. 16, 2026.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Services are under the direction of Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes in Bowling Green.

Amber was born Nov. 8, 1984, in Louisiana. She grew up in Pike County and attended school in the Bowling Green R-I School system, where she played volleyball for the BGHS Lady Cats. Upon graduating in 2003, Amber attended Truman State University-Kirksville where she earned her bachelor's degree. She was currently in the process of earning her master's degree in medical laboratory science from the University of Cincinnati.

Growing up, Amber attended Mt. Zion Baptist Church in rural Bowling Green. She enjoyed reading, painting, crafting, and riding her bike.

From March of 2013 until August of 2015, Amber worked as a lead medical laboratory scientist at Quincy Medical Group, in Quincy, Ill. She recently moved to Coralville, Iowa in September, where she accepted a position as a medical laboratory scientist supervisor in microbiology at the University of Iowa Health Center.

Amber is survived by her birth mother, Angie Herman; parents, James "Jim" Morton and wife, Susan of Bowling Green; a sister, Ashley Squires and extended family.

She was preceded in death by her great-grandparents, Milo and Darline Morton, as well as Ollie and Leon Madison.

Memorial donations may be made to the Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes in Bowling Green.



Tosha L. Mudd

Tosha Lynn Mudd, 54, of rural Bowling Green, went to her eternal home on Thursday, Jan. 29, 2026, after a valiant fight with cancer.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Tosha was the daughter of Richard D. and Vicki L. Mehler Cox. She grew up in rural Curryville and attended Bowling Green Schools, graduating from Bowling Green R-I High School in 1990.

She pursued a BSN in nursing, attending Hannibal LaGrange University, St. Charles Community College, and Washington Uni-

versity School of Nursing while working at Barnes Jewish Hospital.

While pursuing her degree, she fell in love and was married. She fell one semester short of finishing her BSN. From this marriage Tosha was blessed with two beautiful children whom she loved more than anything else in her life, William E. "Trey" Mudd III and Victoria L. "Tori" Mudd.

She enjoyed attending Trey and Tori's softball and basketball games while they attended school in Silex. She never missed a game and was their loudest supporter.

Tosha later worked for Pike Medical Clinic as Dr. Philip Pitney's assistant. She also worked for the University of Missouri Extension in Montgomery City, teaching nutrition at multiple schools in a three-county area.

Tosha enjoyed being outside in the sun. Gardening, mowing the lawn, and spending time boating and sunning on the Mississippi River with her good friends, Ronnie and Lisa Lindsay. She also loved to travel with her special companion, Rodney Dolbeare. They made several trips to Florida and one trip to the Dominican Republic. One of her favorite pastimes was attending concerts by her favorite band "Drawl STL" with her friend, Phyllis To-phinke.

She is survived by two children, William E. "Trey" Mudd III of Olney, and Victoria L. "Tori" Mudd of Columbia, a brother, Rusty W. Cox; nephew, Joshua W. Cox; two nieces, Marissa Cox, and Alex Cox. Also her aunts, Ethel Worthington, Ruth Ann Crow, and husband, Charlie, Debbie Hays, and husband, David, and Jane Mehler, and husband, Mick; uncles, Gerald Mehler and wife, Cindy, and Jim Cox of Hannibal; her very special cousin who was always there for her, George L. Huber, many other cousins, relatives, and friends.

Tosha was preceded in death by both sets of grandparents, her father, Richard D. Cox and mother, Vicki L. Mehler Cox, her aunt and partner in fun, Barbara S. Mehler Cox, numerous other aunts, uncles and her close cousin, Bradley E. Cox.

The family is so appreciative of Tosha's best friends, Susan Graver and Stacey McLaughlin who offered their love, support, and help during her final months. Without those two wonderful friends she could not have remained in her home until her death.

The wonderful staff and nurses from Community Loving Care Hospice were a blessing.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Community Loving Care Hospice in remembrance of Tosha L. Mudd.

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



Sondra Arndt

Sondra Arndt, 83, of Vandalia, died Friday, Jan. 30, 2026, at her home surrounded by the love and joy of her family.

Visitation in honor of Sondra will be held on Tuesday, (today) from 1:-2: p.m., at Waters Funeral Home, followed by a funeral service at 2 p.m. Pastor Bob Hoehn will officiate. Burial will be in Evergreen Memorial Gardens.

Sondra was born Dec. 13, 1942, in Louisiana, the daughter of Willard and Martha Virginia Colea Davidson

Sondra's life was a testament to her vibrant spirit and dedication to those she loved. As a fun, loving, and caring wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and great-great grandmother, Sondra's nurturing spirit shone brightly in her relationships. She was united in marriage to her devoted husband, Raymond William "Bill" Arndt, on Dec. 2, 1961, in Vandalia, who has been her partner through the many adventures' life has presented them. Together, they owned and operated the Mac's Appliance Store in Vandalia, along with two jewelry, gift, and floral shops, creating a legacy that will live on in their community.

In addition to her entrepreneurial spirit, Sondra found immense joy in her favorite profession: selling real estate in the Vandalia and Hannibal area. Her passion for her work allowed her to connect with others and make lasting relationships, showcasing her vibrant personality and her genuine interest in the well-being of those around her. Known for her skills in the kitchen, she even penned her own cookbook, a reflection of her creativity and love for good food.

Sondra's education was rooted in the community she adored; she graduated from Van-Far High School in 1960, where the foundations of her caring and dedicated character were built. A devout Baptist by faith, Sondra lived her life with values that greatly influenced her family.

Her hobbies and interests were diverse; she thoroughly enjoyed working, traveling, shopping, and most importantly, spending precious moments with her family. Sondra derived immense joy from her time spent with her grandchildren, great grandchildren, and even her great-great grandchildren, the bonds she created serving as the highlights of her life.

She is survived by her husband, Bill Arndt of the home; two daughters, Penny Worthington and husband, Ron of Hallsville, and Lisa Johnson and husband, Bobby of Vandalia; a brother, Willard Davidson and wife, Linda of Reno, Nev.; as well as her grandchildren, Christopher Sutton and Eddie O'Neil, Leah Campbell and husband, Jacob, and Brooke Johnston and husband, Chris. She is also blessed with seven great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren who will carry her loving legacy forward.

Preceding Sondra in death are her parents, Willard Davidson and Martha Virginia Cole Davidson, who undoubtedly took pride in the remarkable woman she became.

Those serving as pallbearers will be Ron Worthington, Bobby Johnson, Chris Sutton, Eddie O'Neil, Chris Johnston, Jacob Campbell, and Mike Arndt. Honorary pallbearers will be Alan Robertson, Will Davidson, Kevin Arndt, Freddie Richards, and Karson Miller.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Van-Far Alumni, c/o Waters Funeral Home.

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

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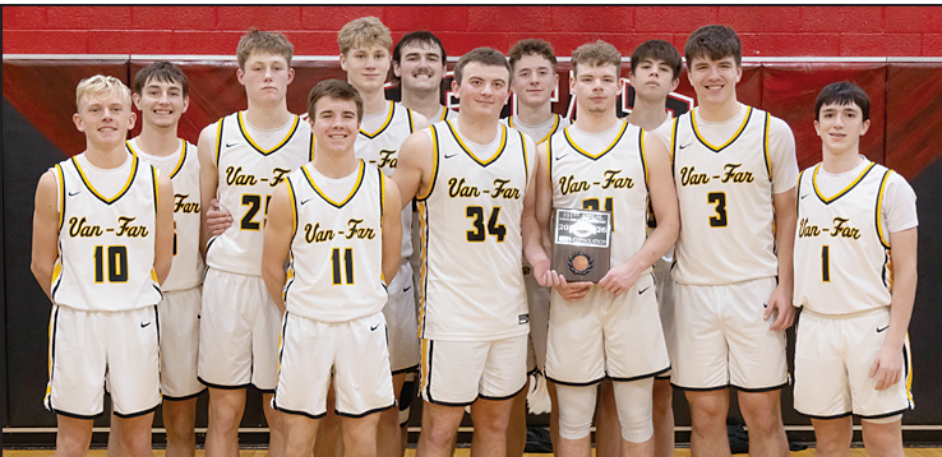
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Community News



Van-Far Indians, Lady Indians Win Consolation


The Van-Far Indians brought home consolation honors from the 101st Bowling Green Invitational on Saturday, Jan. 31. Pictured, front row, (l-r): Slade Keller, Garrett Hooke, Evan Utterback, Gaven Gaston, Gibson Condie, and Cooper Huff. Second row: Cristian Sastre, Bryce Reading, Pacey Reading, Jackson Fischer, Kaleb Baskett, and Brady Puls.



The Van-Far Lady Indians captured the consolation plaque from the 101st Bowling Green Invitational on Saturday, Jan. 31. Pictured, front row, (l-r): Kenya Jones, Chloe Zumwalt, Trinity Skwirtz, Aviana Early, and Carly Hunn. Second row: assistant coach, Samantha Utterback; Khloe Wallace, Adrianna Craven, Peyton Ingram, Mylee Keller, Kylee Gibson, Ashlynn Marshall, Elliott Utterback, Emily Smith, Jordan Trainor, and Heather Minter, head coach.

Trib photos by Kimberly Chandler

80th Celebration



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Thursday, February 12, 2026

Pike County Fairgrounds – Bowling Green, MO
(15884 US-54, 63334)

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.

The USDA is an equal opportunity employer, provider and lender.

Join MDC For Webcast On Wild Turkey Habitat Help

Want more wild turkeys on your land? Habitat is key. Join the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) for a free Wild Webcast on Wild Turkey Habitat Help on Wednesday, Feb. 25, from noon-1 p.m.

MDC Turkey Biologist Nick Oakley and MDC Private Land Conservationist Meagan Duffee-Yates will discuss creating and improving habitat for turkeys and other wildlife through the Turkey Habitat Initiative (THI)

A lack of brooding and nesting habitat is limiting the potential growth of Missouri turkey numbers. Adding or improving nesting and brooding habitat is the surest way to improve nest success and poul survival.

THI aims to help landowners and land managers enhance and restore habitat for eastern wild turkeys in Missouri. With resources developed by the THI, land managers can better manage their land to give hens and poults the resources they need to thrive and, in doing so, pro-

duce more gobblers. Restoring and enhancing turkey habitat benefits not only turkeys but also other wildlife, landowners, and communities. Learn more during the webcast.

In addition to sharing information on turkey habitat help, they will also highlight changes to turkey-hunting reg-

ulations for the spring season and other updates.

Register in advance for the webcast at mdc.webex.com/webex/register/r85b2ce23939751569f3438683b1fe4e. Then join the webcast live. Registrants will receive an email confirmation that includes information on how to join the webinar live.

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Maryland St. Baptist Louisiana, McCaylee McPike
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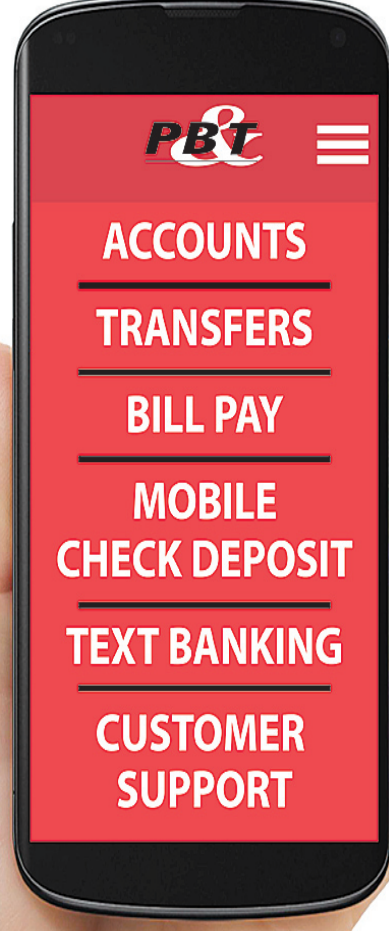






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Community News

High School Senior Banners Offered At State Fair

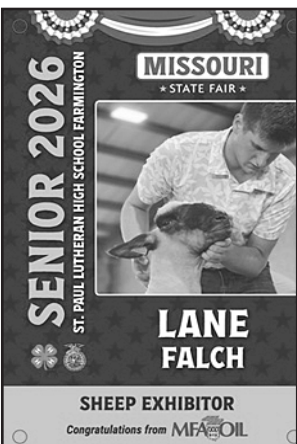
The Missouri State Fair is excited to offer high school senior banners for the Class of 2026 livestock exhibitors as a way to recognize and celebrate their hard work and accomplishments.

Senior banners will honor and highlight our 2026 seniors for their dedication and involvement in the livestock industry and will be displayed during the fair.

Banners may be showcased in the barns, on stalls, on pens or in other designated areas determined by livestock staff. Each high school senior livestock exhibitor will receive one free banner, sponsored by MFA Oil. An additional banner may be purchased through the Competitive Entry Department.

If you are a 2026 graduating senior who exhibits livestock and would like to receive a banner, please complete the short survey through Qualtrics by June 10, 2026.

During the summer



months you will receive an email from an Intern with more information regarding pick-up arrangements of the banner during the Fair. If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact the Entry Department:
Email: Rhiannon.Birdwell@mda.mo.gov
Phone: 660-530-5616

The fair extend a special thank you to MFA Oil for their generous sponsorship of the senior banners and helping us recognize and celebrate exhibitors.

Missouri S&T Dean's List

Missouri University of Science and Technology announces the names of students who made the dean's list for the fall 2025 semester.

The dean's list can also be found online at student-honors.mst.edu.

To be included on the dean's list, students must carry a minimum of 12 hours and have a grade point average (GPA) of 3.2 or above out of a possible 4.0.

Area students named to the list include:

Bowling Green - Elijah Pruitt, computer science, senior.

Foley - Davan Henke, environmental science, freshman.

Martinsburg - Aaron Carter, mechanical engineering, junior.

Grote Graduates From SEMO

Southeast Missouri State University honored all students who completed their degrees during the fall commencement ceremonies held Saturday, Dec. 13.

Jacob Grote of Curryville was one of the graduates.

Undergraduate, graduate and specialist candidates were recognized across two ceremonies at the Show Me Center. Families, friends, faculty and staff joined in celebrating the academic achievements of the graduates, who have fulfilled all requirements for their respective programs.



DAR Good Citizen Award

Bowling Green Chapter NSDAR would like to announce the recipient of the Good Citizenship award for the Bowling Green High School 2025-2026 year is Sarah Reese Turner. This award was given to Reese on Thursday, Jan. 22. Pictured is Regent Millie Powell who presented Reese Turner with the certificate, pin, and a monetary award. The DAR Good Citizenship Award which is given to a Senior is an award in which the recipient must demonstrate the qualities of dependability, service, leadership and patriotism. The teachers select three students and the senior class then vote and selects the Good Citizen. Reese is the daughter of Kenneth Dwaine and Becky Turner. Also present at the presentation was Assistant Principal Jill McCann.



DAR New Member

The Bowling Green DAR Chapter met on Thursday Jan. 22 and gave the oath of membership to their newest chapter member Lisa Finley. Pictured are Regent Millie Powell, Lisa Finley, new member, and Chaplain Joyce Edwards.

Whisk In Dairy To Create Nutrient-Dense Meals For Your Family

For those seeking new ways to add home-cooked meals and snacks to their daily routine, look to dairy foods, including milk, yogurt and cheese, to deliver quality nutrition. These versatile ingredients can create nutrient-dense meals quickly.

The recently released 2025-2030 Dietary Guidelines for Americans continues to recommend three servings of dairy a day for individuals. Cooking with dairy not only helps individuals reach their nutrition goals but also puts families in control of what they are eating. "Research shows that making meals at home increases the quality of the food served, as well as affordability," said Jessica Kassel, nutrition educator and registered dietitian with St. Louis District Dairy

Council. "When you make your own food, you know what the ingredients are. You can also make swaps, additions and deletions to recipes to meet your taste and nutrition preferences."

Essential nutrients for everyday health

Dairy foods offer an array of nutrition. Milk, whether served as a drink or incorporated into a recipe, will always provide 13 essential nutrients, including quality protein, calcium, vitamin D, potassium and several B vitamins. Consuming calcium-rich dairy on a regular basis is key to building and supporting bone mass throughout one's life.

Options for every plate

In addition to dairy's nutrition, consumers have a wide variety of dairy foods from which to choose. Yogurt and milk options

abound. In addition, more than 600 varieties of cheese are available in the United States. No matter the recipe, personal preference or nutrition needs, one can find the right dairy option in the grocery store.

Cooking made easy with dairy

Cooking from scratch does not have to be complicated. Consider making baked oatmeal, which is rich in milk, fruit and whole grains. You can also plus up scrambled eggs by adding cottage cheese. Adding yogurt to baked goods is a simple way to add moisture and more nutrition. In addition, some dairy-centric recipes do not require turning on the stove. For example, a smoothie, made with milk, yogurt and fruit, is a fast option for breakfast or post-workout snack.



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Community News

Bowling Green Invitational Hoops Highlights

Photos By Kimberly Chandler



Lady Bulldogs Earn Second Place Honors

The Louisiana Lady Bulldogs brought home second-place honors from the 101st Annual Bowling Green Basketball Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 31. Pictured, front row (l-r): Trinity Chatman, Kamry Ahart, Reece Wommack, Cyrinity Chatman, and Nakylia Griffith. Second row: Assistant Coach Chris Clark Jr., Tae-tum Wallace, Kylee Ahart, Scarlett Fite-Karmel, Manager Austin Fite-Karmel, Madison Bell, Isabella Thomas, and Olivia Mooney.



Clopton Hawks and the Bowling Green Bobcats met in the second round of play.



Clopton's Trey Spoonster and Jacob Harrelson celebrate during a matchup against Bowling Green.



Van-Far cheerleaders perform a pyramid during a game at the 101st Bowling Green Tournament.



Louisiana's AJ Gschwender drives hard to the rim against Winfield.



Louisiana Lady Bulldog Reece Womack goes up for a shot against Silex.



Bowling Green Bobcats Place Third

The Bowling Green Bobcats under the direction of Head Coach Andrew Martinson; and assistant coaches Ryan Talkington and Scott Brewster were third place finishers in the 101st Bowling Green Invitational Saturday, Jan. 31. Pictured, front row, (l-r): Dilynn Potter, Ryan Hall, Zander Fairchild, Oliver Niemeyer, and Cameron Vodohosky. Second row: Brenden Scherder, Jack McDannold, Nolan Jones, Dallas Henderson, Carter Cockrell, Mason Murry, and Marshall Charlton.



Clopton Lady Hawk Charlotte Mills shoots toward the basket during a game on Thursday, Jan. 29.



Van-Far Indian Bryce Reading takes a one-handed shot against the Clopton Hawks.



Bowling Green Lady Bobcat Elsie Barton drives to the basket against Elsberry Lady Indians.



The Bowling Green Dance Team entertains the crowd with a half-time performance. Pictured are Reese Turner, Haiden Chandler, Aston Schultz, Sophia Hartwig, Carissa Ecklers, Avery Lovell, Mackinley Baker, Sara Reid, Sarah Efnor and Mia Kessler.



Van-Fars Kaleb Baskett goes up for two during the Bowling Green Invitational.



Clopton's Larson Hall goes to the line for a free throw during tournament play against the home team.



Bowling Green Lady Cat Nora Trower shoots free throws.



Van-Far Lady Indian Mylee Keller guards a North Callaway player during the Bowling Green Invitational