



THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

NEWS FOR PIKE, EASTERN AUDRAIN & NORTHERN LINCOLN COUNTIES

FREE

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Pure Gold

Man Chronicles Life As A Fortune Seeker



An artist's image of George Stokes and his horse, Skinny.

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

Most people try to avoid noise, grime and conflict.

Not George Stokes. The Pike County native relished Central City, a loud and filthy Colorado mining town where his father and mother put down roots in 1862. The experience would set the course for his life.

"It was all most interesting to me, this introduction to the great mining game," he wrote in a 1926 autobiography.

Central City was "surrounded by mines, and every hillside near the sprawling, clinging place was pitted with prospect holes."

Stokes' father had been a blacksmith and store owner in Missouri. The abundance of mines in Colorado rekindled a desire to work with his hands.

"He was a good general mechanic, and at the blacksmith trade was a master," Stokes said.

The family was successful. But, as with most fathers, the elder Stokes wanted something better for his son. As with many teenagers, the boy thought he knew everything and wanted to set out on his own.

Much to his father's chagrin, Stokes got a job at a local mine. He spent eight hours a day making the equivalent now of \$285 a week guiding a horse-drawn cart filled with ore from 70 feet underground to the surface.

"Father thought that I was wasting my time," Stokes admitted. "I should be, he felt, at something with more of an outlook."

The elder Stokes told his

son to study law with next-door neighbor Henry Teller, a Republican who would one day be a U.S. Senator and Interior Secretary.

Nothing came of the suggestion, and after only six months of digging ore, Stokes was sent back to Missouri for school. The author doesn't give a reason, other than to say "it was decided that I should give up mining."

The move threw Stokes from one hot mess into another. The Civil War had divided Pike County as deeply as it had the country.

"I had everything ready for a good year in school," recalled Stokes, who boarded with a grandmother. "But study! How could I study? The air was too full of conflict for such sober work as that."

It was a time of "suspicion and hatred," where "bitterness broke up old school friendships" and kids he had "played with during childhood" were now distant. The atmosphere led to another life-changing decision.

"In these circumstances, there is small wonder that I was ready to take any opportunity that offered to get me into action of a different kind."

With the blessing of his parents and tears from his grandmother, a 16-year-old Stokes left school to join the Union Army. He was assigned to Company C of the 39th Missouri Volunteers, a unit commanded by Louisiana residents Hiram Baxter and David Hart.

They were given orders by an aide to Gen. Clinton Fisk to ignore newspaper support of local Confederates because "we can't stop to correct them" and instead

"kill the guerillas and thieves first, or soon there will be no country to save."

Participants on both sides raided businesses and homes, stealing food, clothing, animals, guns and ammunition. Stokes relayed the story that he and a friend came across two horses on a Monroe County farm.

The friend quickly chose a magnificent steed. Stokes had to settle for an emaciated nag that had been "shot or sabre-slashed over the right eye." Even worse, the bony pony had once belonged to a Confederate.

Ever the optimist, Stokes named the plug "Skinny," and said the horse was "fleet of foot and a splendid fence-jumper."

Skinny likely saved Stokes' life. In September 1864, his company was assembled to chase down Confederate bushwhacker "Bloody" Bill Anderson. Major Andrew Vern Emen Johnston, a Pennsylvania native whom the men called "Ave" with a long A sound resulting from his initials, took one look at Stokes' horse and ordered him off the raid.

"Obeying the major's hasty gesture, I dismounted and went back to our schoolhouse headquarters, mad as a hornet at not being permitted to take a dash on Skinny after the marauders."

Anderson and his men ambushed Johnston, scalping him and killing 122 of his 155 soldiers. The incident became known as the Centralia Massacre.

"Naturally, this tragic affair aroused our feelings to the highest pitch," said Stokes, who was seemingly oblivious to his personal good fortune. "The determination was deep and strong to make an end of the freebooting business."

Stokes would see action in Tennessee and guard Confederate prisoners in Kentucky and Missouri, enduring the horror of battle, terrible weather and squalid conditions before being honorably discharged upon the Confederate surrender in April 1865.

Just 18 years old, Stokes had another life decision to make. When a resumption of studies proved fruitless, he characteristically challenged himself.

"The war had unsettled my life, as it had the lives of thousands of other young men," Stokes said. "More exciting days we must have than school afforded."

Next time: Labor and luck.



Clopton Lady Hawks - District Champions

Lady Hawks Roll Past Paris For Back-To-Back District Titles

BY BRICE CHANDLER
EDITOR

Lady Hawks Roll Past Paris for Back-to-Back District Titles

The Clopton Lady Hawks added another trophy to their growing collection Friday night, defeating the Paris Lady Coyotes 64-41 in the Class 2 District 5 championship at Van-Far High School.

Top-seeded and state-ranked, Clopton controlled the game when it mattered

most, securing the program's second consecutive district championship.

Ashlyn Noah led the Lady Hawks with 22 points, while Charleigh Spoonster and Tingleigh Spoonster each added 14.

Clopton's balanced scoring and defensive intensity created separation over the course of the contest, allowing the Lady Hawks to steadily build their advantage and close out the 23-point

win.

Melanie Moore paced Paris with 12 points, and Reese Sutton contributed nine.

The Lady Hawks continue to improve on their impressive 27-1 season.

With the victory, Clopton advances to sectional play as it continues its postseason run. The Lady Hawks faced Canton in the Class 2 Sectional Monday night in Palmyra.



Clopton Hawks - District Champions

Hawks Capture District Title, Down Paris 37-28 At Home

BY BRICE CHANDLER
EDITOR

The Clopton Hawks defended their home floor Saturday night at Clopton High School, defeating the Paris Coyotes 37-28 to claim the Class 2 District 5 championship and punch their ticket to sectionals.

Playing as the five-seed, Clopton capped a strong post-season run with a defensive-minded performance in a low-scoring affair.

The Hawks opened slowly, managing just four points in the first quarter on baskets from Jacob Harrelson and Trey Spoonster. Both teams struggled to find rhythm early as defensive pressure dictated

the tempo.

Clopton began to find momentum in the second quarter. Spoonster sparked the offense with a three-point play and two three-pointers, while Harrelson, Tucker Salmons and James Matheny added key baskets. The Hawks carried an 18-7 lead into half-time after outscoring Paris in the period.

The third quarter remained tight. Spoonster connected from beyond the arc and converted two free throws, while Matheny added a basket to help Clopton maintain control. Harrelson battled inside and drew trips to the line, keeping pressure on the Coyotes' defense.

In the fourth quarter, Clopton sealed the game at the free-throw line. Spoonster converted six of eight attempts down the stretch, while Adam Matheny added two free throws and James Matheny contributed a late basket. The Hawks' defense held firm in the closing minutes to secure the 37-28 victory.

With the win, Clopton captured back-to-back district titles and four championships in the last five seasons. The Hawks now advance to face Schuyler County in the Class 2 State Sectional at 6 p.m., Tuesday (today) at Palmyra High School.

Alexandro Named New Resource Officer



Pictured is Dr. Tom Ward, superintendent of Louisiana High School; Kaitlyn Alexandro, school resource officer; and Josh Baker, Louisiana Chief of Police.

BY BRICE CHANDLER
EDITOR

The Louisiana Police Department is proud to announce that Officer Kaitlyn Alexandro has officially begun her assignment as the School Resource Officer (SRO) for the Louisiana R-II School District.

The implementation of the SRO program has been in development for some time, reflecting a shared commit-

ment between the Police Department and the School District to enhance school safety and strengthen positive relationships between law enforcement and youth. The presence of an SRO is designed not only to provide a safe learning environment, but also to serve as a mentor, educator, and trusted resource for students and staff.

"The safety and well-being of all children in our community is one of our

highest priorities," said Chief Josh Baker. "Officer Alexandro will play a key role in building trust, supporting students, and maintaining a visible, approachable presence within our schools."

Officer Alexandro will be actively involved in daily school activities, working closely with administrators, teachers, and families. Her role will include fostering positive connections with students, assisting with safety planning, and supporting a secure environment where students can focus on learning and growth.

The Department also extends its appreciation to Dr. Ward, the Louisiana R-II School District, and school staff for their warm welcome and continued partnership in supporting this important program.

In addition, Officer Alexandro was recently selected by the City as Employee of the Month. The Department congratulates her on this well-deserved recognition and looks forward to the positive impact she will continue to make in the schools and throughout the community.

NECAC Survey Will Help Identify Needs

BY BRICE CHANDLER
EDITOR

NECAC is offering people in its 12 counties a chance to recommend changes to programs or new services for the disadvantaged.

The agency is conducting a Community Needs Survey through this summer.

"We are trying to collect information from the counties to identify the needs, which includes any barriers and gaps in services," said NECAC County Services Programs Director Kayla Wasson. "We are trying to identify how we can better serve our communities through additional programs."

NECAC conducts the survey every three years as part of its requirements to receive federal and state funding for social service, community health and public housing programs. Past questionnaires led to creation of food pantries at NECAC service centers, a diaper distribution program and an employment

readiness service.

"It is a big part of the full picture of what NECAC offers," Wasson said. "We encourage people to participate."

The survey features questions covering income, employment, education, housing, transportation and other needs. It can be filled out electronically at NECAC Service Centers, at www.necac.org or at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/necacna26>. The agency has put together the following focus groups, and is inviting residents, businesses and organizational representatives to attend. All are at NECAC Service Centers unless noted:

March 17: Lewis County, 9-10:15 a.m., 408 S. Fourth in Canton.

March 18: Marion County, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., 3518 Palmyra Road in Hannibal.

March 19: Ralls County, 1-2:15 p.m., 411 Main in New London.

March 20: Pike County, 3-4:15 p.m.,

805 Business Highway 61 in Bowling Green.

March 18: St. Charles, 9-10:15 a.m., 3400 Meadow Point Drive in O'Fallon

Lincoln County, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m., 11 Woodcrest Drive in Troy.

March 19: Warren County, 1-2:15 p.m., 120 E. Main in Warrenton.

March 20: Montgomery County, 3-4:15 p.m., 137 Farnen in Montgomery City.

March 21: Macon County, 10-11:15 a.m., 907 Highway PP in Macon.

March 22: Randolph County, noon-1:15 p.m., 1903 No. Morley Suite B in Moberly.

March 23: Shelby and Monroe counties, noon-1:15 p.m., 102 N. Center in Shelby.

"We'll have more qualitative questions and seek their opinions on issues that are happening in their communities," Wasson said. "I'm sure we'll get a lot of answers and suggestions."

Community News

February Library Book Review



Kasi Welborn
MARCH 2026 LIBRARY
STAFF BOOK REVIEW/DEER
RUN HOME BY ANN CLARE
LEZOTTE REVIEWED BY KASI
WELBORN,
CIRCULATION
ASSISTANT, MEXICO-AUD-
RAIN COUNTY
LIBRARY
(HEADQUARTERS)

Effie is deaf. She speaks a different language than her entire family. She goes through her days being stomped at and having to look where people are pointing.

She doesn't always understand what they want. But she looks forward to school. Because school is where Miss Kathy is, and Miss Kathy speaks her language. But Effie doesn't get what she needs at home, and Miss Kathy knows this. Miss Kathy loves Effie very much and wants her to be safe. So, Miss Kathy takes the steps she needs to take to keep Effie safe, and Effie needs to be strong to get through it.

I chose to write this review very simply because this story is through Effie's eyes, and Effie can only speak simply at the beginning of this story. She struggles with English because English is not her first language, and her family refuses to learn American Sign Language for her.

This is the story of a young

girl who is neglected at home because she doesn't get her most basic needs met. Not just the need to be fed and to be clean, but the need to understand and to be understood in return.

Written in verse, this feels like a conversation between Effie and the reader. Effie, 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.

Ashley Community Center
Fish Fry
March 6, 13, 20, 27
April 3
 4:30-8 p.m.
 Adults \$14 • Kids 11-5 \$7 • 5 & Under Free
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NEMCC Choir

NE MO Clergy Coalition Taste Of Blackness

The Northeast Missouri Clergy Coalition held Their Annual Taste Of Blackness Program at the Keely Center in Louisiana on Saturday, Feb. 7 at 10 a.m.

The morning started with President Charlie Wright Sr., Opening the Program. The Adult NEMCC Choir sang - Lift Every Voice and Sing. Prayer was given by the Rev. Brenda Cockrell, Pastor Centennial UMC, Elsberry, Scripture- Rev. Robin Terrell, pastor, Second Christian New London. The choir gave another selection Oh How I Love Jesus, while a free-will offering was taken.

The first speaker for the Day was Bro. Meshawn Marshall - Bethel AME Church, Paynesville, Meshawn began with telling his history, by telling that he and his brother were raised by a single parent, his mother.

Leckbee Awarded Bachelor Degree

Madison Leckbee of Elsberry was among more than 1,800 students awarded a degree from the University of Arkansas in December.

Leckbee graduated from College of Engineering with a BSBE - bachelor of science in biological engineering.

"Commencement is a celebration of achievement and a launching point for what comes next," said Chancellor Charles Robinson. "Our graduates earned this milestone through hard work, perseverance and a commitment to reaching their full potential, supported by faculty and staff who believed in them and loved ones who never stopped encouraging them. We congratulate them on this tremendous accomplishment and look forward to seeing the difference they will make across Arkansas and beyond."

MO S&T Holds Graduation

Over 1,000 students received degrees from Missouri University of Science and Technology during commencement ceremonies held at Missouri S&T on Friday, Dec. 19, and Saturday, Dec. 20.

Missouri S&T awards bachelor of science, bachelor of arts, master of science and doctor of philosophy (Ph.D.) degrees. Graduates are also listed online at student-honors.mst.edu.

Missouri S&T has traditionally recognized graduates earning a bachelor's degree with honors by placing the designation "summa cum laude," "magna cum laude" or "cum laude" on their diplomas. The highest honor, summa cum laude, is awarded to students who have earned a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.8 or above on a 4.0 scale for all courses counting toward the degree. Magna cum laude is the designation for a GPA of 3.5 to 3.79, and cum laude indicates a GPA of 3.2-3.49.

Area student graduate is Elizabeth Rothweiler of Foley, Electrical Engineering, BS, Summa Cum Laude.

They lived in Clarksville and she would give them money they would go down to the store and purchase a honey bun, how his grandma, uncles and aunts were his mentors. They taught him about love and respect. He attended school at Clopton where he learned alot when playing sports, about showing up on time.

He said he was sure that it would make a difference if you didn't have support that it would make a difference went on to college wanted to continue sports that didn't happen made him very sad, so he prayed to the Lord ended up going into computer science, got his degree, that didn't go well either, again he asked God to give him a sign. Oh my he then tried being an 18-wheel truck driver, he began to wonder what is it God that you want him to do.

He knows he needed a purpose. Thank the Lord God gave me that purpose. He is know doing a job, where he is training others was able to host all of his family for Thanksgiving.

If you put God first He will direct your past whether you are young or old. She said their family didn't have a lot, but she had love. She went to school in Elsberry and later went on to college.

She is now working as a correctional officer in Maryville. She stated that she has seemed some difference when persons ask questions she isn't acknowledged for giving an answer sometimes. She opened it up for persons to ask questions, and several asked questions.

The keynote speaker was Sister Charmissa Holliday-Scott-KCMO, Attorney of Law for all of the School Districts in the State of Missouri. Sis. Holliday started by telling that she originally was from the small town in New London.

She said growing up in the small town of New London everyone watched out for everyone. Having a parent being involved in school makes a big difference too.. She said God has a plan for you, even you might not think so. She told the story about the school wanted to put her in the special ed class and her mother said No, the next thing she knew she was placed in the gifted class. She was the first black New London queen,

She said we need to use our voice and let it be heard. Think about our ancestors and let us encourage people to speak up now is the time. She asked were there any questions.

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Feeder sale every Monday at Noon
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Feeder Sale Report For 2-23-2026				Monday Receipts 1,875 Head			
1,186	Steers, medium & large	533	Heifers, Med. & Large				
Computer Avg.		Computer Avg.					
3	300 & Down	700	710	8	300 & Down	580	650
37	300-400	550	655	38	300-400	530	600
146	400-500	510	585	90	400-500	470	560
140	500-600	470	519	208	500-600	440	474
325	600-700	440	470	96	600-700	380	423
336	700-800	390	425	64	700-800	335	384
192	800-900	350	364	25	800-900	330	360
5	900-1,000	329	330		900-1000		
0	Bred Cows - Better				Others		
3	Pairs	3150	3880				
				Slaughter Cows	98		
	High Dressing	170	185	Low	120	140	
	Bulk	150	160	Thin	80	110	
19	Slaughter Bulls	200	226				

ALL SLAUGHTER STEERS & HEIFERS SOLD ON MON. NOON

19	Choice 2 & 3	235	242	Steers & Heifers		
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Roger Temmen - 573-680-4538	Market Report	Jarrod Simpson - 573-247-0706				
Justin Oberling - 217-440-7724	573-522-9244	Chad Nickelson - 573-631-1627				
Claude Niemyer - 573-470-1017	24 hour recording	Kevin Miliken - 417-588-0307				
Tyler Harris - 573-220-2766	Carson Poe - 573-550-9133	Craton Blattel - 417-650-7688				

THORNHILL AUCTION & REAL ESTATE COMPANY

We are retiring from our farming operation & have leased out our tillable ground & will sell all the following at

Public Auction
On Saturday, March 14, 2026 Beginning at 10:30 A.M.
SALE SITE: 20103 Pike 263; Bowling Green, MO 63334
DIRECTIONS: From Bowling Green, MO go south on Hwy 61 5 miles or From Eolia, MO go north on Hwy 61 6 miles to east on Hwy F, go ¾ mile to right on Pike County Road 263 to the 1st farm on the right #20103.

COMBINES 2011 John Deere 9770 STS Bullet Rotor, Ag Leader yield monitor system, 4 wheel drive, Contour Master, approx. 150 hours on factory Re Man motor, less than 50 hrs. on new engine gear case; John Deere 9510 diesel combine, 4 wheel drive, GreenStar Contour Master, 6288 hrs. on engine, 4340 separator hours, good machine; 2011 New Holland CR 9060, 4 wheel drive, self leveling sieves & chaffers, Contour Master, 20.8 R 42 duals, 2831 engine hrs., 1949 separator hours.

HEADS & CARTS Case 2162 draper head 35'; John Deere 1293 12 row corn head poly auto header, row sensor & hydraulic depth plates; New Holland 98C 12 row corn head, automatic header & hydraulic deck plates; John Deere 925F 25' platform; John Deere 630F 30' platform; Horst 35' head cart, rear steer, bought new, 2 years old; Horst 30' head cart; U-M 25' head cart; J & M 35' head cart; Lot parts for John Deere heads.

GPS EQUIPMENT 2 Ag Leader InCommand 1200, 1 is only a year old; 2 auto steering wheel kits; 2 Trembel 250 w/Bubble & GPS cable.

SPRAYERS 2011 John Deere 4730 diesel 4 wheel drive sprayer, 800 gallon poly tank, 90' booms, auto steer & shut off with globe & monitor, 3178 hours; Set easy drops for John Deere 4730 sprayer, used on 600 acres; Hardi Ranger 2200 pull type sprayer, 600 gallon poly tank, 60' boom, new pump, bought new; 3, 1550 gallon poly water tanks; 3200 gallon poly water tank; 30 gallon inductor; 5.5 hp 2" water pump.

TRACTORS Ford 8870 Super Steer 210 hp diesel tractor with cab & duals, front wheel assist, 9259 hrs.; 2018 New Holland T5 110 diesel tractor with cab, 4 wheel drive, 110 hp, shuttle shift 540 & 1000 PTO, 3247 hrs., bought new; New Holland 75 DA diesel tractor with cab, sells with 32 LG New Holland loader; Ford 6640 open station diesel tractor, Power Star S.

GRAIN AUGERS & CARTS Killbros 1150 grain cart, 500 bushel, bought new, auger tubing & in-ternal auger 3 years old; DMI Big Little grain wagon with auger, approx. 300 bushel; Westfield MKX 100-73, 10" portable grain auger, bought new; Westfield WR 100-31 portable grain auger, bought new.

SCRAPERS Garfield Model 850 pull type scraper, bought new; Bush hog DSP 12, 12 ft. box scraper with cylinder for pitch.

PLANTERS 2014 Kinze 3600 straight 12 planter, bulk fill; 2012 Kinze 3600 12-23, 15" row, bulk fill, bought new w/KPM 3 seed monitors & control box; Set 1 year old Kinze 3600 planter meters for corn; Set 3 year old Kinze 3600 precision meters; 23 bean meters for Kinze 3600 planter; 12 bean meters for Kinze 3600 12 row planter; Great Plains solid stand 15', 3 pt. drill w/no till center pivot hitch 1500 caddy; Set row cleaners for 3600 Kinze planters, needs bearings; Extra bean and milo plates for both Kinze planters.

TRUCKS & ROAD TRACTORS 1993 Freightliner road tractor with Detroit 60 motor; 1993 White GMC road tractor with Detroit 60 motor; 1978 Cargostar 1850B IH, 2 ton truck with 18' bed & hoist; 1967 Ford 600 grain truck with 15' bed & hoist, 2 speed 4 speed axle; 1964 Ford 2 ton grain truck with 15' grain bed & hoist, 2 speed 4 speed axle; 1989 IH S-2300 truck with approx. 10 ton tender fertilizer box; Truck tires & rims.

HOPPER BOTTOM GRAIN TRAILERS 2025 Demco 38' twin hopper bottom grain trailer, bought new; 2014 Maurer 42' twin hopper bottom grain trailer, bought new; Fruehauf 29' van box trailer for storage, no title.

FARM EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES John Deere 20' hydraulic fold disk; Tyler approx. 6-8 ton fertilizer buggy; Wilmar 800 fertilizer buggy with hydraulic shut off, needs gear box; Buhler Allied #795 front end loader, 6' bucket off John Deere 4640; Red Line 3 section approx. 33' pasture harrow, aggressive or drag setting; 11' 10 shank pull type chisel plow; Skid steer big bale spear; Grapple bucket for skid steer; Danuser post hole digger for skid steer, 18" & 12" augers; 7' skid loader bucket; Set liquid saddle tanks; 3 pt. John Deere 400 rotary hoe; 4 row cultivator; Fanner mill; 3 pt. carry all; Front & back 3 pt. bale spears; 3 pt. quick hitch; 3 pt. big bale spear; 200-300 used T posts; Saddle tanks.

HAY 10, big round hay bales 6x6.

For more information on the equipment contact Daylan at 573-470-6520.
 Consigned by Ben Ledford - call 573-470-4320 for more information: 1996 John Deere 8100 diesel cab tractor, power shift, new transmission, large 1000 PTO, 3 pt. quick hitch, 5551 hrs.; John Deere 33' hydraulic fold wheel disk with homemade till all type attachment; 1999 Kinze 840 grain cart with electronic scale; Westfield drive over hopper.

AUCTIONEERS NOTE: This is a complete sell out. The Dempsey family has farmed in the Bowling Green, Pike County area for 5 generations. Please note: Not many smalls, please be on time. David, Dusty & Bill

OWNERS: RANDY & DAYLAN DEMPSEY
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Community News

From The Mayor's Desk...

This is Employee Appreciation Week, and I would like to thank all the City employees from city hall to the police and fire departments.

From Alliance Water to the Bowling Green Public Library. Throw in volunteers in the park and recreation board, planning and zoning, and our Bowling Green Municipal Airport Board also. We have so much to be thankful for.

Their dedication and expertise in the performance of their work is tremendous! We cannot overlook our Bowling Green R-I School District, our walk-in clinics and Health Department as well as all the businesses and services that make up Bowling Green and surrounding areas.

When employees feel valued, they are more likely to find work meaningful and feel more connected to their employer and where they live, play, and grow! This appreciation goes far beyond the workplace! We need to build a culture of appreciation for each other and humankind. It doesn't matter what political party, skin color, religious belief, socio-economic levels, nor educational backgrounds, we need to value and appreciate one another. The "word" will continue to get out that Bowling Green is a loving accepting community that appreciates and respects everyone, regardless.

As Black History Month is concluding, I would like to mention just a few contributions over the centuries of American culture from music, sports, dance, science and inventions, and faith-based for a start.

Educational institutions, art, history, math, aerospace engineering, business and manufacturing, and the list

could go on. Don't forget the roles played in American wars, conflicts, skirmishes, and our Armed Forces. America would not be what it is today if it were not for the impact Black African Americans have made in America and our world today.

In talking with a fellow senior adult today, he was not aware of how to access many of the medical services, public services, conveniences, and emergency organizations available in Bowling Green. Find someone to teach you how to navigate to our local agencies and opportunities. Make list and write down their numbers for quick and easy access both for the phone and online services.



JIM ARICO, MAYOR
CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

The City of Bowling Green is in good shape financially, and we are entering into another five-year plan with Four Points Engineering for the repair and replacement of water lines. As determined by which have broken the most during the harsh winter and then to the oldest. Building the new addition to the Bowling Green Municipal Airport will start when the weather breaks and a new Flight Training Academy/Pilot Training School will initiate its start-up. Chris Berard has been appointed chief of police for Bowling Green by me and approved by the board of alderpersons. Please welcome him and support him and his police department. Permits are still being approved for new buildings of houses and businesses, remodeling, and converting the former motel on the corner at Bus. Hwy. 61 and 54. into two-bedroom apartments.

Bowling Green is an exciting place to live, work, play, and grow.

Pike To Pike...



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

Birthdays and Anniversaries for the week of March 4-10, 2026:

March 4 - Ruby Thomas, Mike and Lynn Scott

March 5 - George Crawford, Madelyn Dwight, Terri and Dale Robbins

March 6 - my husband Jamie Niffen, Carol Ward, Jonathan Peebles, Reta Smith, Rodney Cobb, Susan and Larry Potter

March 8 - Abby Jo Chamberlain, Ada Handback, Angel Huckstep, Georgia Ruble, Ken Davis

March 10 - Dalton Troxell, Linda Akin, Ryan Harter

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

Band concerts in the area:

Sunday, March 8 - The Big River Band will be in concert at the Pittsfield United Methodist Church sanctuary at 222 North Monroe starting at 6 p.m. This local band will be playing country gospel style music. This is a free to all concert and everyone is welcome to attend.

Friday, March 13 - The Buggs' Family Opry will be in Pearl with the show starting at 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 14 - The Big River Band will be in concert at the Courtyard Cafe with the show starting at 6 p.m.

By the way, updates and all kinds of things can be viewed on Big River Band on Facebook. Just join this page.

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.

By the way, updates and all kinds of things can be viewed on Big River Band on Facebook. Just join this page.

The Pike County Senior Citizens Center at 220 West Adams Street in Pittsfield will be holding its fundraiser fish fry on Thursday, March 12, 4:30-6 p.m. The menu will be your choice of catfish fillet or buffalo with three set sides which will include this month potato salad, green bean casserole and pasta salad plus your choice of dessert and tea. Eat-in or carry-out. All ages are welcome. Thank you for your continued support. Questions? Please call 217-285-4969. We also have gift certificates available for any amount.

The Barry United Women of Faith will be hosting a pulled pork and soup meal on Friday, March 13, from 4-7 p.m. The meal will consist of a pulled pork sandwich, choice of soup, and a bag of chips. Desserts will be provided. Everyone can dine in at the church in Barry or carry outs will be available. All the donations will be going to help with repairs in the church basement. They are hoping for a good gathering and that the weather cooperates.

The Pike County Herbal Chat will be meeting Saturday, March 21, starting at 10 a.m., at the Nazarene Family Center in Pittsfield. Anyone interested may attend, and the topic is to be announced.

Single Seniors + One had their "Meet, Greet, & Eat" on Wednesday, Feb. 18, at the Courtyard Cafe with 27 people in attendance. Everyone enjoyed being out and about and all the visiting.

Birthday and address lists that had been updated recently were passed out to everyone. These lists are used for those who enjoy sending birthday cards each month and the cards are appreciated by all who receive them. It's never too late to be a part of this group so if you are interested in joining, just call or text 1-217-320-8438.

Another Single Seniors + One have a March get-together planned, so men and or women, single by choice or circumstance, you are welcome to join. Any questions, just call 1-217-320-8438. This group is not strictly for people in Pike County. If you can drive and pay for your own meal, you will be welcomed.

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.

Upcoming dates of interest:

The time changes this coming Sunday, March 8 - move clocks one hour ahead.

The General Primary is Tuesday, March 17 - same day as St. Patrick's Day.

And Easter Sunday is April 5.

Shirley Bauch's friends from the Fishhook United Brethren Church hosted a surprise 90th birthday party for her. She was totally surprised. Shirley and Mike Straus of Perry attended, and they said it was great fun. Shirley and Shirley are sisters-in-law.

The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. Psalm 19:9

Trivia Questions for This Week:

1. What is the Washington Monument made of?
2. What tree in the Garden of Eden did God tell Adam not to eat from?
3. What U.S. President had the shortest term?

State Representative Chad Perkins Report



Rep. Chad Perkins

ments intended to prepare governments for economic downturns or emergencies.

This measure would serve as a long-term taxpayer protection designed to promote transparency and fiscal restraint, but some have cautioned the limits could restrict flexibility during periods of rapid growth or unexpected need. By a vote of 87-49, the proposal now moves to the Senate before potentially appearing on a statewide ballot if passed.

House Approves Property Tax Assessment Reforms

In response to ongoing concerns about rising assessments, the House approved HCS HB 2178, which revises procedures used when valuing certain commercial and industrial properties.

The legislation shifts the burden of proof to assessors when computer-assisted valuation methods are used and requires a physical inspection before assessments can increase beyond a specified threshold.

It also establishes deadlines for resolving reassessment appeals and allows taxpayers who successfully challenge valuations in certain cases to recover costs and attorney fees. Supporters say the proposal improves transparency and predictability for property owners, while critics argue it does not address situations where assessments should decrease.

Ballot Language Changes Seek Greater Tax

Transparency

HCS HB 1790 received House approval with the goal of making tax-related ballot questions easier for voters to understand.

The legislation requires taxation measures to be labeled numerically or alphabetically rather than with descriptive titles and mandates clearer disclosure of the financial impact of property tax changes based on home value.

Supporters say the proposal promotes neutrality and transparency in ballot wording so voters can better evaluate tax proposals. The measure now awaits Senate consideration.

Five-Year Vehicle Registration Option Moves Forward

Legislation designed to simplify vehicle registration for Missouri drivers advanced out of the House this week. HB 2189 allows eligible vehicles less than six model years old to register for up to five years at one time beginning in 2027, provided owners pay registration fees upfront and meet documentation requirements, instead of the current one- or two-year options.

The proposal also eliminates Missouri's current system requiring certain vehicles to renew registration based on model year. The change would reduce trips to license offices, streamline renewals, and make vehicle ownership more convenient for Missourians.

Learn All About Fish Cleaning Virtually

The public is invited to learn about or brush up on their fish cleaning skills with a virtual series in March.

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) will host four virtual programs focused on Pond to Plate and fish cleaning March 4, 11, 18 and 26.

Details for the Pond to Plate series include:

Learn about different equipment that can make cleaning fish easier from noon-12:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 4. Register at mdc-event-web.s3licensing.com/Event/EventDetails/215403

Learn how to clean scaled fish, such as crappie, bass and perch, from noon-12:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 11. Register at mdc-event-web.s3licensing.com/Event/EventDetails/215404

Learn how to skin a fish, with an emphasis on catfish and paddlefish, from noon-

12:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 18. Register at mdc-event-web.s3licensing.com/Event/EventDetails/215405

The final session will combine all three topics and include a demonstration on how to scale a fish. The program

will be held from 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, March 26. Register at mdc-event-web.s3licensing.com/Event/EventDetails/215401.

This virtual series is open to all ages. Registration is required.

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Watch Birding Webinars, Join MO Challenge

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation (MCHF) invite both new and experienced birders to join the 2026 Missouri Birding Challenge (MBC) May 1-22. Registration will be open April 1-30.

In preparation for the 2026 MBC, join MDC and USFWS bird experts for this special series of webinars on birding, key issues around birds, and bird conservation in Missouri:

Birding for (and with) Kids with MDC Naturalist Austin Lambert on March 12 from 6-7 p.m. -- Birding has a reputation for being a "retirement hobby." In reality, it's one of the most kid-friendly, curiosity-fueling, low-cost outdoor activities out there. Children are naturally good birders! They are observant, energetic, and fascinated by small details adults often overlook. Join Austin for this child-friendly presentation that will break down what kids need to get started birding, lay the foundation for basic observation and bird identification skills, and discuss what parents can do to make the experience fun rather than frustrating. Register at mdc.mo.gov/o3M

Missouri Birds and Habitats with MDC Ornithologist Kristen Heath-Acre on April 16 from 6-7 p.m. -- New to birding or need a refresher? Join Kristen for a primer on identification of Missouri's common birds by sight and sound and their associated habitats. Whether new to birding or experienced, there are always tips and tricks to learn in the world of birds. Register at mdc.mo.gov/o3A

Missed a webinar? Watch them online at mdc.mo.gov/MObirdingchallenge, including:

Birdwatching: Introduction and Benefits with USFWS Ornithologist Sarah Kendrick from Feb.

11.

More About the 2026 Missouri Birding Challenge
MBC participants will compete alone or on teams in five categories based on age, birding location, or experience. Birders will use eBird (eBird.org) to record their lists of birds identified at public natural areas around the state, or even in their own backyards.

There is a fee per person, or per team in the youth Fledgling category. Fees are collected by MBC partner MCHF and contribute to migratory bird conservation efforts and projects. Registration fees were reduced from last year based on participant feedback, and a new Big Day category will challenge registrants to record as


many bird species as possible in the 24 hours of World Migratory Bird Day on May 9.

Once participants complete a category and submit their team's mandatory eBird report, they will be entered into a drawing for fun, bird-related prizes such as binoculars and gift cards.

Thank you to the Missouri Birding Society (mo-birds.org/), Columbia Audubon Society (columbia-audubon.org/), and the Burroughs Audubon Society of Greater Kansas City (burroughs.org/) for being sponsors of the 2026 MBC.

Learn more about the 2026 MBC and register between April 1-30 at mdc.mo.gov/MObirdingchallenge.

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Obituaries



Linda Ruth Logan

Linda Ruth Logan, 80, of Eolia died at her home surrounded by her family on Monday, Feb. 23, 2026.

Funeral services were at 2 p.m., Thursday at Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes & Crematory in Bowling Green. Burial was at Indian Creek Cemetery.

Visitation was from 1 p.m., until time of services Thursday at the funeral home.

Linda was born Sept. 10, 1945, in Springfield to Howard and Esther Farris. She attended school in Hollister and Bolivar. While a student in Southwest Baptist College in Bolivar she met Thayne Logan and they were married in June of 1966. They became parents of Kathy Logan of Los Angeles, Calif., Amy Logan of Bloomington, Ind., and Rodney Logan.

She was preceded in death by her son, Rodney.

During her student days at Southwest Baptist College, she majored in music. She became a proficient pianist and organist. Music was one of her loves throughout her life.

In the earlier days of their marriage, Linda and Thayne lived in Springfield, Jacksonville, Ill., Collinsville, Ill., Pawnee, Ill. Blue Springs, Murrayville, Ill., and Versailles, Ill. They returned to Jacksonville, Ill., and spent many years there. Then they moved to the family farm near Louisville.

Linda was essentially gentle and soft spoken by nature. She was devoted to her Christian life and her relationship with God. Wherever she lived, she served her church as an active participant, teacher, pianist, and organist. In one period of her life, she worked as a literature evangelist and provided others with Christian books and sources of educational literature about the Christian life and she loved that work very much. She had a longing to share God's love with as many people as she could. She loved people and was loved by people. It was her way to symbolize humility and compassion.

She had an abiding interest in healthy living and became dedicated to healthy diet and general healthy habits and their benefits.

She found great joy and meaning in being a mother. She loved her children with devotion and nurturing. Her children saw her as a never changing source of love, nurture, and guidance. And in this she found fulfillment of some of her greatest hopes and dreams.

She and her husband shared 59 years of loving, growing together, learning, finding ways through the rough spots, sharing life with their wider family circle, sharing friendships with many people, seeking God's will, loving their children and experiencing joy together from the things that were most important to them.

Serving as pallbearers were Dale Lindsay, Edgar Lindsay, Ted Naegel, Ralph Twellman, Nick Lindsay, and Mark Lindsay.

Memorial donations may be made to Northeast Missouri Humane Society in Hannibal and the Alzheimer's Association.



Ruth Ann Linson

Ruth Ann Linson, 82, of Silex died peacefully in the

early morning hours of Sunday, Feb. 22, 2026.

Ruth was born Jan. 9, 1944, to Elue and Rose Thielmann. She grew up in St. Charles and Cottleville, and attended the Catholic school in St. Charles. Those early years helped shape the gentle, faithful heart she carried throughout her life.

Ruth was married twice, first to Bob Blanton and later to Dean Linson. In the late 1990s, she moved to Silex, where she proudly made her home for the rest of her life.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a sister, both husbands, two sons, Larry and John, and a granddaughter, Anna.

She is survived by her children, Danny Thielman, Carol Linson Scott, Justen Linson, and Jason Linson; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; one great-great-granddaughter; and many extended family members and friends.

Ruth had a true love for collecting recipes, cooking and baking for those she cared about, dancing, gardening, and spending quality time with family and friends. She had a special fondness for monkeys and bears that always brought a smile to her face. Although she did not spend much of her adult life attending church, her faith remained a strong and guiding presence in her heart.

She volunteered faithfully at the Silex Community Building, serving meals alongside her dear friend, Dotty, until her health declined. Ruth was a wonderful part of her community and found great joy in helping others.

Those who knew Ruth will remember her bright smile, gentle spirit, and positive outlook. She always searched for the good and had a way of bringing warmth and laughter wherever she went.

She made others feel valued, worthy, and deeply loved. A devoted family member, loyal friend, and cherished part of her community, she will be greatly missed by all whose lives she touched.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guestbook at: www.mccoy-blossomfh.com.



Susan Marie Greenwood

Susan Marie Greenwood, 70, of Bowling Green died surrounded by her family on Saturday, Feb. 21, 2026, at her daughter's residence in St. Charles.

She was born Nov. 3, 1955, in Richmond Heights and was the daughter of Francis Alfred and Mary Claire Benz Wagner. Susan was united in marriage to the love of her life, Charles "Rick" Eric Greenwood on Dec. 8, 1973, and together they built a home filled with love for their children and grandchildren.

Susan was the youngest of four, but the mightiest and loved to spend her time with friends and family. Throughout her life she had many pets, and had a special love of horses. She met her husband, Rick, while attending Louisiana High School and they were married shortly after. They had five daughters. Susan's greatest value in life was her family. She radiated motherly love, which is selfless and unconditional, not just for her immediate and extended family but for anyone who came into her life. Her family was her world.

Susan retired in 2016, after 34 years of service and dedication to AT&T. She started her career as a Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Splicer in Louisiana, and advanced through the ranks to be the AT&T manager of the Greater Quincy, Ill., area where she managed all of the technicians. Through her hard

work and dedication, she taught her daughters how to be strong, fearless women who knew they could navigate any hardship.

She knew how to find joy in the simple things in life, like the rhythm of a quiet day, the running of horses in a pasture, road trips, companionship from pets, the joy of fresh cookies cooling on the counter, and making memories around the table. Susan was always there when you needed her; she knew when to offer helping hands, listening ears, and open arms. She was there for the last-minute favors or even a shoulder to cry on. When times were tough, she always said "if it can be fixed with money, it isn't an issue."

Unfortunately, in May 2025 Susan was diagnosed with a highly-aggressive stage IV metastatic melanoma and was notified she would only have six months. Throughout her entire battle, Susan always had a smile on her face and a twinkle in her eye. Her medical team said she was a pleasure to assist and loved when she visited as she always made their day better. Susan had too much life to live. After an incredibly brave 10-month battle, defying the odds and fighting to the end, she lost her life on Feb. 21, 2026. Her gentle smile and helping hands will be missed and forever remembered by everyone who's life she touched. She leaves behind a legacy of strength and sweetness that will be cherished by her family and friends. Susan truly showed the power of care, connection, and hope.

She is survived by her husband of 52 years, Rick Greenwood; her mother, Mary Claire Wagner; five daughters, Ericca Thornhill and husband, Travis, Cathy Noble and husband, Tom, Bridget Beacom and husband, Chris, Emma Kuntz and husband, Quentin, and Stephanie Sellers and husband, Tommy. Her legacy lives on through her grandchildren, Hayden Carlson, Hannah Carlson, Riddik Steibel, Vash Greenwood, T.C. Sellers, Sherlock Sellers, Caleb Noble and wife, Liv, Jaxon Noble, Parker Noble, and Kimber Noble; three great-grandchildren, Bryar, Violet, and Otto; each of whom brought her immeasurable joy; one brother and sister, David Wagner and Jody, former sister-in-law, Patricia "Patty" Thompson and husband, Everett; one sister-in-law, Janet Wagner; many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

She was preceded in death by her father, Francis Alfred Wagner; a brother, Steven Wagner, four nephews, Jonathon, Paul, Alan, and Brendan; and one niece, Grace.

Funeral Mass was at 10 a.m., Saturday at St. Joseph Catholic Church in St. Charles. Family and friends received from 2-5 p.m., Sunday at Kemper-Keith Family Funeral Chapel in Troy.

A prayer service was held at 5 p.m., Sunday at the funeral chapel. Interment was at Sacred Heart Cemetery in Troy.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made to the Masses, c/o Kemper-Keim Family Funeral Chapel, P.O. Box 222, Troy, MO 63379.



Betty A. Parsons

Betty Annette Parsons of Louisiana left her earthly body for her eternal home in Heaven with Jesus Christ on Friday, Feb. 20, 2026.

Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana is in charge of services. Visitation will be Thursday from 4-8 p.m.

Funeral services will be on Friday at 10:30 a.m.

Annette was born April 24, 1931 in Bolivar to William Russell and Ruby Charlene Bland. Shortly thereafter the family moved

to Louisiana where Annette resided the remainder of her life.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Robert Parsons, a brother, Robert Bland, one sister, Lois Turnbaugh, and a grandson, Nathan Parsons.

Annette was united in marriage to Robert "Bob" Parsons on June 17, 1951, and they enjoyed nearly 67 years of marriage before his passing. She leaves behind three children, six grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren. The children are Lisa Dorsey of Louisiana; Dale Parsons and wife, Renee of Sealy, Texas; and Dennis Parsons and wife, Brenda of Clarksville.

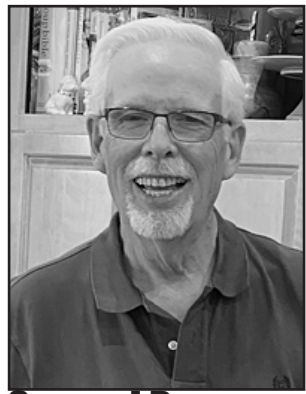
Grandchildren are Jacob Wright, Lisa's son of Louisiana; Rob Parsons and wife, Heather of Louisiana, Dale and Renee's son; Erin Wilson and husband, Charles of Virginia; and Jessica Knee's and husband, David of Sealy, Texas, Dale and Renee's daughters; and Neal Parsons and wife, Brittany of Bowling Green; and Brock Parsons and wife, Amber of Louisiana, Dennis and Brenda's sons. Her great-grandchildren are Madalin, Isabel, and Emelia Parsons (Rob and Heather); Rebekah, Olivia, and Nicholas Casassa (Erin); Lynden, Natalie, Faith, and Cole Knesek (Jessica and David); Sam and June Parsons (Neal and Brittany); and Lillian Parsons (Brock and Amber) and Carson, Azrael, and Noah Wright (Jacob). Also surviving are brothers, Jim Bland, William "Bill" Bland; and sisters, Carol Love and Brenda Richardson.

Annette grew up attending church with her family and in her teenage years accepted Jesus Christ as her Savior. She was a lifelong member of First Baptist Church of Louisiana and her faith in Christ guided her life and was evidenced by her kindness, encouraging words, and service to others. Those who knew her best knew that she fulfilled the definition of the virtuous wife described in Proverbs 31. She was constantly serving her family, as well as helping those in the community in need. She served in the church in various roles including many years as church secretary. She also worked for Louisiana Schools in the superintendent's office for a number of years.

Annette's greatest joy was spending time with her family. She liked to cook and took pleasure in cooking for others in the form of family gatherings. But one of her most beloved activities was reading to her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. There were many times when squabbles would break out amongst the grandchildren and great-grandchildren over who would get to sit closest to grandma while she read. For them it was like something magical happened when she read. There were glances, smiles, and lots of giggles as the stories became real to them. These included stories from the Bible as she made a point to share Jesus with each of them. These are lasting memories that are still cherished today along with their love for her. In their eyes there was no one like grandma/great-grandma.

Pallbearers will be Dale Parsons, Dennis Parsons, Rob Parsons, Neal Parsons, Brock Parsons and Jacob Wright. The Rev. Bill Maupin will officiate. Burial will be in Riverview Cemetery.

Memorials may be given to First Baptist Church of Louisiana, Samaritan's Purse, or the donor's choice, c/o Collier Funeral Home.



Samuel B. Sherlock Jr.

Samuel B. Sherlock Jr., 84, of Eolia was called to his eternal rest on Saturday, Feb. 21, 2026.

A private graveside service will be held at the Fairview Cemetery near Louisiana. The Rev. Jeffrey Dock will officiate.

He is survived by his wife, Joyce Sherlock; three children, Jill and Rick Watson, Samuel B. Sherlock III, and Steven B. Sherlock; two granddaughters, Ellyanna and Amya; and a family friend, Joe Duggins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Samuel B. and Ruth Snead Sherlock, and two brothers, Ronald Sherlock and Richard Sherlock.

Sam was a veteran serving in the United States Marine Corps. He graduated from Elizabethtown College with a bachelor degree and received his master degree from Lindenwood College.

He was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church in Louisiana, where he served as treasurer for many years, financial secretary, and youth group leader. He was employed by Hercules, Inc, as controller and retired from Johnson Controls.

His favorite past time was playing golf with his sons, gardening, and updating the family home.

Memorials may be made to the Trinity Lutheran Church in Louisiana.

Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana is in charge of arrangements and online condolences can be sent at collierfuneral.com.



Leah Marie Turnbaugh

Leah Marie Turnbaugh, 47, of St. Peters died Thursday, Feb. 19, 2026, at Evelyn's House in Creve Coeur.

Funeral services were at 11 a.m., Saturday at Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana. The Rev. Mike Atherton officiated. Burial was at Edgewood Cemetery near Bowling Green.

Visitation was from 4-8 p.m., Friday at the funeral home.

Leah was born Nov. 24, 1978, to Jerry and Debra Huckstep. She was married to Jon Turnbaugh on March 22, 2008, in Bowling Green.

Leah is survived by her husband, Jon Turnbaugh of St. Peters; one son, Christian Huckstep and wife, Natalie of Beaufort, S.C.; one daughter, Amelia Turnbaugh of St. Peters; and two grandsons, Cassius Huckstep and Zyaire Wade. She is also survived by her mother, Debra Huckstep of Louisiana; a sister, Cassie Spangler and husband, Russell of Clarksville; one brother, Jerod Huckstep and wife, Kendall of Clarksville; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Leah was preceded in death by her father, Jerry Huckstep.

Leah graduated from Clopton High School in Clarksville in 1996. She went on to complete a bachelor of science in accounting from Northwest Missouri State University-Maryville in 2001, and an associate of arts in computer science-programming from St. Charles Community College in St. Charles in 2022. Leah worked for Charter Communications for her entire career. She began in accounts payable, advancing through roles as a staff accountant, senior accountant, and, most recently, senior financial data reporting analyst.

Leah's faith in God and her love for Jesus shaped everything about how she served and connected as an active member of First Baptist Church in O'Fallon. She loved attending Bible studies, helping with plays, planning escape rooms, and serving the hospitality committee. She didn't serve out of obligation, but she served because she loved her church family and ultimately wanted to serve God with them in all that He is doing there.

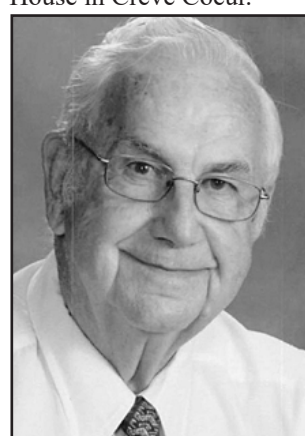
Those who knew Leah

knew to expect the unexpected in the best possible way. She was spontaneous, adventurous, and the kind of person who made things happen. Her grandchildren, nieces, and nephews knew her as full of energy and the one who always said yes to an adventure and could turn any ordinary event into something they would never forget.

She found equal joy in quieter moments too, working outdoors, camping, caring for her chickens, picking blackberries, digging in the garden, or losing herself in a craft project with the same determined spirit. She was generous, selfless, and fully present for all who were blessed to know her.

Pallbearers were Christian Huckstep, Jerod Huckstep, Russell Spangler, Carter Spangler, Jimmy Huckstep, and Mike Richardson.

Memorials may be made to Edgewood Cemetery near Bowling Green or Evelyn's House in Creve Coeur.



Fred W. Nelson

Fred W. Nelson, 86, of Vandalia died Sunday, Feb. 22, 2026, at the Harry S Truman Memorial Veterans Hospital in Columbia.

Funeral services were at 2 p.m., Monday at Waters Funeral Home in Vandalia with Pastor Jamie Franke officiating. Burial was at Vandalia Cemetery following the services.

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

Fred was born June 4, 1939, the son of the late Guy Nelson and the late Susie Lenington.

Fred is survived by his children, Allen Nelson and wife, Cheryl of Auxvasse; Russell Nelson and wife, Caroline of Reeds Springs; and Lavanna Templeman of Bowling Green. He is also survived by his granddaughters, Megan Admier, Kami Coulter, and Scarlett Templeman; and six great-granddaughters, Madyson, Leilani, Kathleen Coulter, Jocelyn Coulter, Layna Jaye, and Ira Lowe Levecoff.

He was united in marriage to Mary Nelson, who preceded him in death. In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by three brothers, Gale, Ivan, Glen Nelson; and four sisters, Retha Nelson, Vera Orf, Lucy Skillman and Nina Drainer.

Fred graduated from high school and proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He was employed for many years as a purchaser at Harbison-Walker Brick Plant in Vandalia, where he dedicated his career until retirement. He was a faithful member and at one time served as a Deacon at the First Christian Church in Vandalia. Fred was active in his community, volunteering at the local food pantry and holding membership in the Sportsman Club and the Vandalia Country Club. An avid bowler who loved the outdoors, he especially enjoyed hunting and fishing. Above all, Fred loved his family and his community deeply.

Those serving as pallbearers were Rick Hickeron, Steve Maiden, Tracy Maiden, Cliff Nelson, Lee Maiden, and Bill Maiden.

Memorial contributions may be made to the VA Hospital, c/o Waters Funeral Home.

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

See OBITUARIES on page 6



Community News

MO EATs Invites Communities To Strengthen Food Systems Through Grant

Communities across Missouri can now apply for the next round of Missouri EATs, a grant-funded initiative from University of Missouri Extension that helps communities strengthen their local food systems. One community will be selected to work with MU Extension and the Missouri Rural Food Access Partnership team on a comprehensive planning process.

Part of MU Extension's Community Development program, Missouri EATs (Engage, Act, Transform) helps communities identify local food system assets and challenges, develop actionable plans to address top priorities and ultimately make lasting changes to their local food systems, according to Bill McKelvey, senior project coordinator for MU's Interdisciplinary Center for Food Security.

Communities interested in issues related to food access, hunger and health, food and farm business development, or other food system opportunities are encouraged to apply.

KEY BENEFITS OF THE MISSOURI EATs

OPPORTUNITY

Community action plans: The selected community will develop a tailored action plan to address their unique food system challenges.

Partnership building: The community will build partnerships with technical assistance providers to support initiatives.

Funding preparation: Participants will be prepared for future food infrastructure funding opportunities, helping to develop a pipeline of fundable food retail and food enterprise projects in rural areas with low food access.

Priority will be given to a rural community, but rural-urban partnerships or multi-county submissions will be considered. Missouri EATs will waive the program fee for the selected community through this grant project.

Application process: Interested communities must submit their online letter of interest form by March 20. The form takes about 15 minutes to complete. Following the submission, the team will select applicants for in-depth interviews to determine the next community.

Email responses to all applicants will be sent by April 20. A PDF version of the form is available upon request for planning purposes.

"Whether a community is looking for ways to make sure people have the resources they need to access healthy food, such as a grocery store or community garden, or they are thinking more broadly about developing their local food system, our hope is that some really successful projects come out of this Missouri EATs process," McKelvey said. "These activities can help address long-standing issues of community health and resilience."

Learn about Missouri EATs and access the interest form at <https://muext.us/MoEATs>, or contact Bill McKelvey at billmckelveyjr@missouri.edu for more information.

Funding for this initiative is provided by the Missouri Rural Food Access Partnership and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.



Messy Art At Farber Library

On Saturday, Feb. 14 the children had fun creating several valentines in a smash art project at the Farber Library. This was part of the Saturday Messy Art offered at the Farber Library. If you are interested in signing up a child contact the Farber Library during its regular hours. The children pictured are Harper Haynes, Aiven Ellis, and Coleman Speagle.

Submitted by Brenda Gower, Branch Manager

Tune In For Virtual MDC Native Plant Workshop

Online Program Will Cover Importance Of Native Plants

Overwhelmed planning a native garden? Tune into a virtual program with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) to explore the importance of native plants in a healthy environment.

The Amazing World of Plants online workshop is

scheduled from 3:30-4:30 p.m., Friday, March 6.

Register at mdc-event-web.s3licensing.com/Event/EventDetails/215576

This program leads up to the Springfield Conservation Nature Center's Native Plant Sale on Saturday, April 4.

Advanced registration is required.

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

DINNER & AUCTION

DINNER 4:30
AUCTION 7:00

FRIDAY
MARCH 6,
2026

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BENEFIT FOR GRAYSON VON VAIN

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Community News

MO Native Named Fugitive In \$220 Million Federal Cattle Fraud Case

A Strafford native has been named a fugitive in connection with what federal authorities describe as a \$220 million nationwide cattle investment fraud scheme.

According to Rebecca Wu, Public Affairs Officer for the FBI St. Louis Division, Joshua Robert Link is currently wanted on a federal arrest warrant and is the only defendant among five federally indicted individuals who remains at large.

"FBI fugitive Joshua Link is part of a group that allegedly defrauded multiple investors out of \$220 million in a nationwide scheme," Wu stated. "He is from Strafford, Missouri but also has ties to Illinois, Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, and Kansas. Of the group, he is the only fugitive."

Federal Charges Filed in Texas

A Fort Worth federal grand jury indicted five individuals on February 11, 2026, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas. Link is charged with ten counts of wire fraud, one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, and two counts of money laundering.

A federal arrest warrant for Link was issued on January 29, 2026.

If convicted, Link faces up to 20 years in federal prison for each wire fraud count and for the conspiracy charge, as well as up to 10 years for each money laundering count.

Allegations Involving Agridime LLC According to the FBI

Dallas Office and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Texas, Link allegedly served as Executive Director of Agridime LLC, a Fort Worth-based company that offered cattle sales and meat processing and retail services.

Federal authorities allege that between January 2021 and December 2023, Agridime and its executives solicited cattle purchase contracts from buyers across the United States. Investors were told the company would:

Purchase specific individual cattle on their behalf

Care for and feed the cattle

Process the cattle

Sell the meat through Agridime's distribution channels

The company allegedly promised returns ranging from 15-32 percent.

However, according to the indictment, Agridime purchased only a fraction of the cattle represented to investors. Prosecutors allege that funds from newer investors were instead used to pay operating expenses, satisfy obligations to earlier investors, cover personal expenses, and purchase real estate.

Authorities state that more than 2,200 victims nationwide collectively lost more than \$220 million.

In a statement released by the U.S. Attorney's Office, U.S. Attorney Ryan Raybould said, "Thousands of unwitting investors, ranchers, and others in the cattle industry nationwide

were drawn in and victimized by the defendants' multi-million dollar scheme alleged in this indictment."

FBI Dallas Special Agent in Charge R. Joseph Rothrock added, "One individual, Joshua Robert Link, remains a fugitive. We are asking the public to contact the FBI if they have any information regarding Link's location."

Other Defendants The four other individuals indicted include:

Jed Wood of Fort Worth, Texas

Tia Link of Smithton, Missouri

Taylor Bang of Kildeer, North Dakota

Royana Thomas of Arlington, Texas

According to federal authorities, Tia Link and Taylor Bang have appeared in court and were released under pretrial supervision. Wood and Thomas are scheduled for upcoming court appearances in Fort Worth.

Joshua Link remains at large.

How to Submit Information

The FBI is asking anyone with information regarding Link's whereabouts to contact their local FBI office, the nearest American Embassy or Consulate, or submit a tip online at tips.fbi.gov.

As with all federal indictments, the charges against Link and the other defendants are allegations. All defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.



Tiffany Fuget Joins NECAC In Family-Self-Sufficiency

Tiffany Fuget of New London has joined NECAC as a Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator.

Fuget is a 2003 graduate of Mehlville High School in St. Louis and has a degree in business administration from Beck Area Career Center in Red Bud, Ill.

The Family Self-Sufficiency program provides Section 8 Voucher Program participants with a chance to set up an escrow account using their contributions. After five years, they may use the money save to buy a house, start a business, return to school or for other needs.

"Over the course of five years, those savings can add up in a powerful way — creating a financial cushion that opens doors to exciting new possibilities," Fuget said. "It's more than just a savings account — it's a pathway to greater independence, stability, and long-term success."



Lilly Murry Joins NECAC In Section 8 Program

Lilly Murry has joined NECAC as administrative assistant in the Section 8 Housing Voucher program.

Murry is a 2023 graduate of Louisiana High School and has work experience in customer service and publishing. The Section 8 program provides partial rent payments to qualifying clients in NECAC's 12 counties. The agency has contracted with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for more than 40 years to administer the program.

"I like working at NECAC because I genuinely enjoy the positive and welcoming atmosphere created by the people I work with," Murry said. "Everyone is supportive and willing to help, which makes a big difference in the day-to-day experience. It's a team environment where collaboration is encouraged, contributions are valued and we work together to serve our community in the best way possible."

We Welcome Your Local News

Time To Buy MDC 2026

Annual Hunting, Fishing Permits

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) reminds Missouri hunters and anglers that related annual permits expire at the end of February, including 2025 permits for small game, fishing, trout fishing, and combination hunting and fishing. Annual permits are available for purchase. Permits for spring turkey hunting and some other upcoming hunting seasons will be available closer to the start of the respective season.

Buy Missouri hunting and fishing permits from vendors around the state, online at mdc.mo.gov/buy-permits, or through MDC's free mobile apps, MO Hunting and MO Fishing, available for download through Google Play for Android devices or the App Store for Apple devices.

Save time by buying

hunting and fishing permits for multiple people in a single transaction. Select the "Additional Customer" option during the permit purchase.

Avoid having to manually renew permits each year by using MDC's Permit Auto-Renewal Service. It allows customers to enroll eligible permits in a service that will automatically renew their permits prior to the start of the next season or permit year. The process was designed to ensure customers never have expired permits when they need them most. Learn more at mdc.mo.gov/permits/permit-auto-renewal

Commercial and lifetime permits can be purchased only through the MDC Permit Services Unit by calling 573-522-0107 for an application.

Get New MDC Booklets For Spring Turkey Hunting, Trapping, Fish

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) has new booklets for hunters, trappers, anglers, and others on spring turkey hunting, hunting and trapping, and fishing. The free booklets are available at MDC regional offices, MDC nature centers, and other places where permits are sold. The handy booklets have information on related permits, seasons, species, regulations, limits, conservation areas, sunrise and sunset tables, and more.

Get booklet information online at mdc.mo.gov:

2026 Spring Turkey Hunting Regulations and Information at mdc.mo.gov/about-us/about-regulations/summary-spring-turkey-hunting-regulations-information

Summary of Missouri Hunting and Trapping Regulations at mdc.mo.gov/about-us/about-regulations/summary-missouri-hunting-trapping-regulations

Summary of Missouri Fishing Regulations at mdc.mo.gov/about-us/about-regulations/summary-missouri-fishing-regulations

2026 Spring Turkey Hunting Regulations and Information booklet

Get the MDC 2026 Spring Turkey Hunting Regulations and Information booklet where permits are sold and online at mdc.mo.gov/about-us/about-regulations/spring-turkey-hunting-regulations-info

Get the new MDC Summary of Missouri Hunting and Trapping Regulations booklet where permits are sold and online at mdc.mo.gov/about-us/about-regulations/summary-missouri-hunting-trapping-regulations

Get the new MDC Summary of Missouri Fishing Regulations booklet where permits are sold and online at mdc.mo.gov/about-us/about-regulations/summary-missouri-fishing-regulations

SPECIAL COW SALE Callaway Livestock Center, Inc. Kingdom City, MO Thursday Night, March 5 @ 6 p.m.

Estimating: 600-700 Head of Bred Heifers, Cow/Calf Pairs, & Breeding Bulls

EARLY CONSIGNMENTS

1st Calf Heifers

Conroe

- 45 Outstanding Registered Angus 1st-Calf Heifers (No Papers)

- Early January calves by side
 - Black calves AI-sired

- Black-WF calves cleaned up with Hereford bulls

- Big, outstanding udders & very gentle

Temmen

- 18 Fancy Black or Black-WF 1st-Calf Heifers

- Fancy December Angus calves by side
 - Very gentle set

McCory

- 45 Fancy Black 1st-Calf Heifers
 - AI bred to Angus
 - Due March 16

- Cleaned Up - 30-day window

COWS

Turnkey

- 45 Black or Black-WF cows
 - 3-4 years old

- Bred Black - start March 20

Arens

- 45 Black or Black-WF cows
 - 3-5 years old

- Bred Black - due April 1

Canyon

- 45 Black or Black-WF cows
 - 3-5 years old

- Bred Black or Red bulls

- Due to start March 20

Lyman

- 10 Black, 3-year-old cows
 - Bred Angus

- Due March 10 for 45 days

Kruger

- 45 Black or Black-WF cows
 - 6-12 years old

- Bred Black - start March 20

Hendricks Dispersal

- 45 Mixed cows
 - 5-10 years old

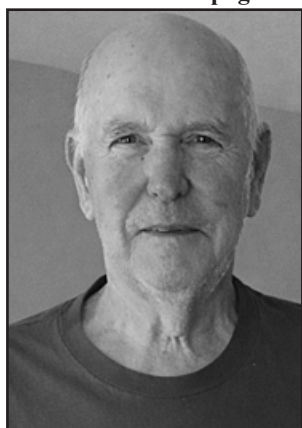
- Few with calves by side
 - Bred to Black bulls

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Claude Niemeyer - 573-470-1017 24 hour recording Kevin Milken - 417-588-0307
Tyler Harris - 573-220-2766 Carson Poe - 573-550-9133 Craton Blattell - 417-650-7688

OBITUARIES

Continued from page 4



Cleo Carmel Anderson

Cleo Carmel Anderson, 87, of Middletown died Thursday, Feb. 26, 2026, at Baptist Homes Tri-County of Vandalia.

Graveside services for Cleo will be Tuesday (today) at 11 a.m., at the Ottery Community Cemetery in Bellevue.

Visitation was Monday from 5-7 p.m., at Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Bowling Green.

Cleo was born May 20, 1938 in Ironton to Elijah William and Rebecca Elizabeth Reeves Anderson. He was united in marriage to Janice Bell to which two daughters were born, Susan and Robyn. Cleo was later united in marriage to Rose Lee Bell, to which he acquired three step-children, Jeanette, Jennifer, and Janelle. Rose preceded him in death.

Also preceding Cleo in death were his parents; a daughter, Susan Hoffmann; one brother, Carl Anderson; and two sisters, Mary Hoff and Jerry Kitson.

Cleo is survived by a daughter, Robyn Orf and husband, Larry of Middletown; three step-daughters, Jeanette Asher and husband, Jeff, Jennifer Chandler and husband, Danny, and Janelle Frederick and Scott Chan-

dlar; grandchildren, Dakota McEntee and wife, Hannah, Adam Hoffmann, and Andrew Hoffmann; many step-grandchildren; one brother, Ray Anderson and wife, Jean; a brother-in-law, Charlie Hoff; and many nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Cleo grew up in Ironton. He was drafted into the United States Army. Cleo spent many years working at Chrysler in Fenton. He relocated to Middletown in April of 2019 when his wife, Rose, died.

Cleo was a talented mechanic and builder. He was a Southern Baptist by faith. He loved fishing and hunting, and camping at Clear Water Lake. He also enjoyed square dancing and loved country music. Cleo was an avid baseball fan and always supported the St. Louis Cardinals.

Memorials may be made to Pike County Home Health and Hospice.

Community Calendar...

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

On March 14: Faith Tabernacle COGIC soup kitchen, 4-6 p.m., 907 W. Home, Vandalia.

ONLINE EDITION AVAILABLE AT THEPEOPLES TRIBUNE.COM

We Welcome Your Local News



Devoted To Encore

Alyssa Niemeyer sings "Hopelessly Devoted to You" from the musical "Grease" during a rehearsal for Encore, Raintree Arts Council's annual fund-raiser. She's accompanied on piano by Debra Ingram. Encore is Saturday, April 11 at The Apple Shed in Clarks-ville, and will feature selections from Broadway musicals. Doors open at 6 with the dinner by Keely Catering & Events and the show at 7. Reservations are required and must be made by logging on to www.raintreeartsCouncil.org and clicking on the "Encore 2026" icon. Tickets are \$30 each if reserved before March 27. The cost is \$35 if bought between March 28 and April 3. Questions may be directed to 314-518-5637.

Second Missionary Baptist Church
West Hwy. 54 - Vandalia

FISH FRY

Friday, March 6 - 11 a.m.-9

\$14 Serving catfish, fried potatoes, baked beans, cole slaw
Carry-Outs • Delivery Call 594-2146

St. Alphonsus Parish-Millwood

SAUSAGE DINNER

Sunday, March 8

Millwood
Knights of Columbus Hall
11 a.m.-5 p.m. - Buffet Style
\$15 adults • \$8 children 12 & under
Free preschoolers

Sausage, Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Homemade Rolls, Sauerkraut, Green Beans, Applesauce, Homemade Desserts, Tea & Coffee

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Rev. Eric Kunz Pastor

Classifieds

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

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

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MO. FIREARMS CO. call for best prices. 573-470-9111. (c8-11)

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

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

GEEKY HILLBILLY COMPUTER SERVICES LLC - B.G. computer repair & recycling, 573-324-7176, 573-567-6164.

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

BROWN'S SEPTIC PUMPING - Commercial or residential, portable toilet rental, job sites, special events, auctions. Brown's Septic Pumping, 206 Brown Lane, Louisiana, 754-5812.

Beard Named Police Chief

By BRICE CHANDLER EDITOR

Bowling Green has appointed Chris Beard as its new chief of police.

Beard has served as a law enforcement officer since 2013 and joined the Bowling Green Police Department in October 2024. Throughout his career, he has held roles including detective sergeant, corporal K-9 officer and field training officer.

City Administrator Linda Luebrecht said the appointment marks an important step forward for the department.

"The selection of our new police chief is a welcome step for Bowling Green," Luebrecht said. "Chief Beard has been a police officer

since 2013, joining the Bowling Green Police Department in October 2024. He has served as a Detective Sergeant, Corporal K9 officer, and a Field Training Officer throughout his career. I feel his strong leadership will build trust and move the department in the right direction."

Beard assumes the role following the resignation of former Chief Bennie Church earlier this year. Church had been promoted to chief in late 2025 after serving as a captain with the department. His resignation came earlier this year.

Luebrecht added that Beard's "commitment to community engagement and fair, accountable policing is exactly what Bowling Green needs."

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Vandalia
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FEWallace@ShelterInsurance.com

Community News

DHSS Publishes Draft Rule Revisions Regarding Cannabis Facilities

The Department of Health and Senior Services Division of Cannabis Regulation (DCR) has published a first draft of revision to 19 CSR 100-1.070 for facility ownership and employment, and a second draft of rule revisions to 19 CSR 100-1.100 for facilities generally.

These drafts are not part of a formal rulemaking process and are instead part of DCR's ongoing efforts to gather all relevant input before formally filing proposed rules and proposed changes to rules.

Draft revisions to 19 CSR 100-1.070 clarify ownership requirements for medical and comprehensive facil-

ities, including the impact of rule violations on facility ownership and employment.

Draft revisions to 19 CSR 100-1.100 include changes based on public comments received in August 2025 during a previous informal comment period. These revisions are designed to improve cannabis licensee operations by removing a requirement for preapproval when a licensee changes its ownership by 50 percent and requiring preapproval for licensee changes to a different entity regardless of ownership.

establishing a framework for approval of publicly traded companies' ownership in cannabis licenses, establishing a framework

for transferring microbusiness licenses to eligible family members

clarifying recall procedures for cannabis product that cannot be properly traced back to cannabis grown in a licensed Missouri cannabis facility, and addressing how individuals' prior violations of rules may affect their participation in the regulated cannabis industry

DCR is encouraging feedback from the public regarding the draft rule revisions for two weeks ending March 10. The rules and online suggestion forms can be found on the DHSS Pre-Rulemaking Feedback page.

Better Gardens Begin With A Soil Test

When soil is workable, start your gardening season off right with a soil test.

A soil test reveals nutrient levels and pH balance, which are critical factors for successful gardening. "A soil test is the first step for building healthy soil and ensuring gardening success," says Rasel Parvej, director of the University of Missouri Soil and Plant Testing Laboratory.

MU Extension horticulture specialist Kathi Mecham highlights three key reasons to test soil in early spring or fall:

Save money by avoiding unnecessary fertilizer purchases.

Protect the environment from nutrient runoff.

Grow bigger and better produce and flowers.

Following soil test recommendations helps gardeners apply only what their gardens need. Soil tests also identify harmful contaminants in the soil, such as lead, which is especially important in urban areas.

"Although our regular soil test does not include lead or other heavy metals, the MU Soil and Plant Testing Lab offers heavy metal package that includes lead (Pb), arsenic (As), cadmium (Cd), chromium (Cr), cobalt (Co), antimony (Sb), etc.," says Parvej.

Soil tests tell the nutrient

content of the soil so that the gardener knows what nutrients are too low or too high. Results also tell the soil's acidity/alkalinity (pH), which dictates how the soil can absorb available nutrients.

The lab provides specific instructions for the specific nutrients and amounts needed to correct imbalances, says Parvej. MU Extension horticulture and agronomy specialists also can help interpret the results.

Applying the correct amount of fertilizer helps with two other lawn and garden challenges: choosing the right plant and excessive pruning. Not all plants are suited to all soils, so a soil test helps you choose the right plant in the right place, says Mecham. Also, too much fertilizer can lead to sudden plant growth for trees and shrubs, requiring extra care of the plants.

Plants can become stressed when there is an overabundance of nutrients, which makes them more susceptible to pests and diseases.

For the most reliable results, Parvej recommends following the instructions listed on the lab's website at <https://soilplantlab.missouri.edu> or watching a video at <https://youtu.be/sQ2GJPCWJD8>.

For more information,

consult the MU Extension publication "Soil Sampling Depth and Collection Techniques for Soil Fertility and Soil Health Testing," available at <https://extension.missouri.edu/publications/g9070>.

Accompany your sample with the soil sample information form, which you can download at <https://extension.missouri.edu/publications/mp555>.

You can mail your samples or drop them off on the MU campus. There is reserved parking north of the MU Memorial Union and west of Mumford Hall for the convenience of those dropping off soil samples.

Send samples well enough in advance so you have time to purchase the necessary supplies for the gardening season, advises Parvej.

WE WELCOME YOUR LOCAL NEWS



Bowling Green All-Conference Art Winners

Pictured is an acrylic on glass by Emily Hagar, junior at Bowling Green High School.



Pictured is glazeware by Fernanda Leon, sophomore at Bowling Green High School.



Pictured is Indian ink and water color by Lexi Smith, sophomore at Bowling Green High School.



Ameriprise Financial Services Celebrates Ameriprise Financial Being Recognized on TIME's 2026 "America's Most Iconic Companies" List

Jim Hartung, Sue Bowen, Tamara Scherder & Sylvia Creech are Proud to Help Clients Achieve Their Financial Goals

As financial advisors of Ameriprise Financial, Inc. (NYSE: AMP), Jim Hartung, CRPC™, Sue Bowen, Tamara Scherder, CFP® and Sylvia Creech are proud to be part of a firm that was recently named the highest-ranked diversified financial services company on TIME's list of "America's Most Iconic Companies" for 2026. This distinction highlights the firm's enduring legacy, industry leadership, and positive impact on clients, advisors, employees and communities nationwide.

"Ameriprise strengthens our ability to deliver meaningful and comprehensive financial guidance to our clients," said Jim Hartung, Ameriprise Financial Advisor. "The firm's longstanding commitment to innovation and client-first philosophy closely aligns with our own values. We are proud to be part of a firm recognized for its trusted leadership and enduring impact across the industry."

The TIME "America's Most Iconic Companies" ranking, developed in partnership with Statista, is based on an independent survey of over 10,000 U.S. residents and more than 100,000 evaluations conducted between July and August 2025. To qualify, companies must be U.S.-founded, headquartered domestically, for-profit, and in operation for at least 10 years, with above-average survey scores. Respondents evaluated companies on their reputation, influence and long-term contributions to American business and culture. The final list highlights 250 organizations that have demonstrated exceptional staying power, innovation, and positive impact over generations.

As financial advisors, Hartung, Bowen, Scherder and Creech provide financial advice that is anchored in a solid understanding of client needs and expectations and delivered through one-on-one relationships with clients. Their team supports clients throughout Missouri and surrounding states, providing personalized guidance aligned with their long-term financial goals.

For more information, please contact Jim Hartung's office at 573-324-6777 visit the Ameriprise office at 1214 E. Champ Clark Drive, Ste. B, Bowling Green, MO 63334 or visit their website at <https://www.ameripriseadvisors.com/tamara.scherder/>

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