



# THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

NEWS FOR PIKE, EASTERN AUDRAIN & NORTHERN LINCOLN COUNTIES

FREE

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## Louisiana Police Department Recognizes Autism Awareness

The Louisiana Police Department is proud to recognize April as Autism Awareness Month and to support individuals and families impacted by autism throughout the community. In observance of the month, officers with the department will be wearing Autism Awareness patches on their uniforms. These patches were generously purchased by an anonymous donor and were formally presented to the department by the children and staff of the Judevine Center for Autism. The presentation high-

lighted the strong connection between the department and the families it serves.

The Louisiana Police Department also recognizes the important work of the Judevine Center for Autism, which provides essential services, education, and support to children and families affected by autism. Through its programs, Judevine helps individuals develop life skills and promotes independence, while offering meaningful support to families across the region.

As part of its continued

efforts, the Judevine Center is currently hosting a t-shirt fundraiser to raise funds for the addition of a new playground. The planned playground will provide a safe, inclusive environment where children of all abilities can play, interact, and grow together.

The Louisiana Police Department encourages community members to support this initiative and to take time during Autism Awareness Month to promote understanding, acceptance, and inclusion.



## Farber Awarded Impact Grant

**City of Farber Awarded Community Impact Grant for Sidewalk Improvements.** The City of Farber has received a Community Impact Grant from the Mark Twain Regional Council of Governments (MTRCOG) to improve pedestrian infrastructure around the Community Center. The project will include the installation of new sidewalks, enhancing safety and accessibility for residents who utilize the facility for events, programs, and daily activities. City leaders highlighted the importance of the project in creating a safer, more connected environment for the community. The project reflects Farber's continued commitment to investing in infrastructure that benefits the entire community. Work is anticipated to begin in the near future. Pictured are Anna Hudson, Transportation Planner at Mark Twain Regional Council of Governments and Ruth Williams.

## Debate After Titanic

**Prowess Leads To Career For Louisiana Woman**

BY BRENT ENGEL  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

May Birkhead could have easily turned down a request to tell the stories of Titanic survivors.

Instead, the 33-year-old Louisiana seamstress grabbed the opportunity with gusto and never looked back.

Birkhead was a passenger on Carpathia, which picked up most of the survivors from Titanic after the ship hit an iceberg and sank in April 1912.

A reporter for the New York Herald had met her on a visit to Pike County while doing stories on Champ Clark's presidential campaign. He told his bosses that Birkhead and an aunt had planned a trip to Europe.

"Wireless every possible detail of sinking and rescue," Herald owner James Gordon Bennett implored.

Birkhead was a successful businesswoman who had not written for publication previously, but the stories were good and impactful — cementing in readers' minds the horror of the tragedy. The eyewitness accounts were world exclusives that outdid even the most experienced reporters.

"When it was all over, naturally I was tired, but there was nobody prouder than I to find the Herald had every paper beaten to death," she said.

An impressed Bennett hired Birkhead for the Paris Herald.

"She was an immediate success," according to author Al Laney, who called the Pike County native "an artist" of the newspaper business. "She had an uncanny way of being where things were going to happen."

Birkhead was a "society columnist" in charge of telling readers the latest happenings among the high and mighty of France. Her style was a stream-of-consciousness narrative perfect for erudite readers.

"With the return of bright weather today, motor trips and excursions into the mountains and, most of all, the search for curious little restaurants in out-of-the-way places — where one can lunch well and at the same time enjoy fresh air and sunshine under the orange trees — have occupied visitors," she wrote about a trip to Nice.

Such long introductions often were standard, although Birkhead could be concise, as when she reported on a 1929 play about famous flier Charles Lindbergh.

"Anything by this name appeals to the French, who never tire of talking of Lindbergh," she wrote.

A keen intellect and irreplaceable charm were part of Birkhead's unmatched skills.

"Herald cub reporters on their first nights on the desk used to be bowled over by the vision of the beautiful and charming May in horn-rimmed glasses and a Lan-

vin evening gown covered by a Chanel velvet cloak briskly pecking out on her typewriter the dinner list at the Ritz that night or the names of the guests at the Princess de Polignac's luncheon party," wrote authors Helen Josephy and Mary Margaret McBride.

From her days as a high-

end women's clothing maker in Pike County, Birkhead was a good friend of Clark's daughter, Genevieve. She wrote about a visit to Europe by Genevieve in 1914.

But gossip wasn't the only focus. Birkhead could "file pieces of real news in-

See TITANIC on page 6



## Clopton Prom Royalty

Clopton High School held the 2026 prom on Saturday, April 18. The prom queen was Addyson Johnson and king was Finn O'Brien.



## Van-Far Prom Royalty

Van-Far High School held the 2026 prom on Saturday, April 18 at Broken P Arena in Bowling Green. The prom queen was Brecca Teague and king Dalton Dameron.



## LHS Prom Royalty

Louisiana High School held the 2026 prom on Saturday, April 18. The prom queen was Alyssa Christensen and king Xabhit Ulloa.



## Gaston Sign With Monmouth

Van-Far senior Gaven Gaston has signed a letter of intent to play football for Monmouth College in Illinois. Pictured, from left: mother, Corrie Gaston, Gaven, and father, Heath Gaston.

## Encore Wows Appreciative Audience



Bill Blackmore, left, and Tom Wallace teamed for a rousing rendition of "Hello, Dolly" during Encore, Raintree Arts Council's annual fund-raiser April 11. More than 160 people attended the concert at The Apple Shed in Clarksville. The theme was "A Night on Broadway." Tunes from more than 30 popular shows were performed by a dozen local musicians under the direction of Debbie Ingram and Donna Grote.

BY BRENT ENGEL  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Raintree Arts Council lived up to the name of that tune from "Gypsy" and so much more during its annual Encore fund-raising concert April 11. More than 160 people enjoyed dinner and "A Night on Broadway" concert at The Apple Shed in Clarksville.

The show, under the direction of Raintree board members Debbie Ingram and Donna Grote, started with an ensemble performance of "Be Our Guest" from "Beauty and the Beast" and "There's No Business Like Show Business" from "Annie Get Your Gun."

Beverly and Charles Cogar then teamed for the medley "Goodnight, My Someone/Seventy-Six Trombones" from "The Music Man."

The salad course featured "Comedy Tonight" from "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum;" "Consider Yourself" from

standouts were Judi Bruce, with a bawdy rendition of "When You're Good to Mama" from "Chicago," and Richard Biggs, who seemed to hold the last note of "The Impossible Dream" from "Man of La Mancha" for an entire minute.

Donna Grote was decked out in full 1920s regalia for an indomitable "Cabaret" from the musical of the same name. Kaitlyn Fielder's "Don't Cry for Me, Argentine" from "Evita" was emotionally spirited.

Other soloists were Alyssa Niemyer with "Hopelessly Devoted to You" from "Grease;" Mindy Webert with "What I Did for Love" from "A Chorus Line;" Angela Maier with "Memory" from "Cats;" Jessica Harding with "Someone Like You" from "Jekyll & Hyde;" and Ingram with "Can't Help Lovin' That Man" from Show Boat."

Tom Wallace and Bill Blackmore brought the house down with a rousing rendition of "Hello, Dolly." Wallace channeled Louis Armstrong's voice while Blackmore accompanied with trumpet flourishes.

The last song of the evening was an ensemble performance of "Give My Regards to Broadway" from "Little Johnny Jones."

Upcoming Raintree events include a Jesse Vaughn concert May 2, the Show Me Missouri State Chili Cook-Off June 13, the "Crazy for Patsy" concert June 27, "King Lear" Sept. 19, 20, 26 and 27 and the 52nd annual Art Show and Competition during Applefest Oct. 10 and 11.

With its strong finish at the Culver-Stockton Scholastic Bowl Invitational, the Scholar Bowl team from Clopton High School in Clarksville proved themselves worthy to play on a national stage.

On Friday, April 24, the team will represent their school in a 154-team national competition: National Academic Quiz Tournaments' Small School National Championship Tournament.

Quiz bowl is a competitive, academic, interscholastic activ-

ity for teams of four students. It is the national version of the game that is often locally called Scholar Bowl. Quiz bowl teams use buzzers to answer questions about science, math, history, literature, mythology, geography, social science, current events, sports, and popular culture. The matches feature a blend of individual competition and team collaboration, since no individual player is likely to be an expert in all subject areas. Participation in quiz bowl both reinforces lessons from the

classroom and encourages players to develop new intellectual interests.

Clopton has attended the Small School National Championship Tournament once before. In 2024 they finished 2-8.

The SSNCT is the only quiz bowl national championship pitting small schools against each other. It has one division containing non-selective public schools with 500 or fewer students in their top three grades, and another division for other

See CLOPTON on page 7

# Community News

## Get Your Yard Ready For Spring

Ready to get out the lawn mower, hedge or string trimmer or other outdoor power equipment to spruce up your backyard? The Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI) urges homeowners to keep safety in mind before starting up any equipment.

"We know you're eager but think safety first," says Kris Kiser, President and CEO of OPEI, an international trade association representing outdoor power equipment, small engine, utility vehicle, golf car and personal transport vehicle manufacturers and suppliers. "I can't stress enough to review manufacturer's safety guidance before starting up any equipment – and follow it."

OPEI offers these tips for readying and using your outdoor power equipment:

#1 - Read and follow your owner's manual. Technology is ever changing with evolving safety systems and other features. Your manufacturer-supplied manual will guide you in these differences.

#2 - Walk your yard before mowing, cutting, digging and more. Slopes, wet grass and weather may impact equipment performance, as well as safe handling procedures. Pick up fallen sticks and limbs and any loose objects that could be hit by a mower. Inspect trees for damaged limbs that may get in your way when mowing or may require pruning.

#3 - Know every lawn mower is different. Whether your mower is a garden tractor, zero turn mower or other type, its unique design, power supply, performance, operating parameters, weight, and other differences impact how to use it – and how to use it safely.

#4 - Look over equipment before use. Check the air filter, oil level and gasoline tank. Watch for loose belts and missing or damaged parts. Replace any parts needed or take your equipment to a qualified service representative. Never disable or alter manufacturer-installed safety

equipment.

#5 - Protect your power. Use only E10 or less fuel in gasoline-powered outdoor power equipment if it is not designed for higher ethanol blends. Add a fuel stabilizer if you don't use up all the fuel in the tank right away. Burn off any fuel before storing the mower more than 30 days.

Only use battery packs specified by the manufacturer for battery/electric equipment. Follow all manufacturer's charging and storing instructions.

#6 - Keep children and pets away from operating outdoor power. Period.

#7 - Keep your equipment clean. Remove dirt, oil or grass before using and storing so it will run more efficiently and last longer. Store equipment in a dry place, avoiding damp or wet environments.

For information on safe fueling, go to <https://www.opei.org/programs/ethanolwarning/>

For more outdoor power equipment safety information visit [www.opei.org](http://www.opei.org)



Dawson Bowler

## Dawson Bowler Joins NECAC

Dawson Bowler of Louisiana has joined NECAC as a weatherization technician.

Bowler has experience in remodeling and tree trimming. Weatherization services available to income-qualifying households include home energy audits, air leak sealing, insulation of walls, attics and floors, replacement of furnaces and checks of heating systems to make sure they are working properly.

**WE WELCOME YOUR LOCAL NEWS**

## Ticks Have No Off-Season

June through September is considered peak season, but any warm and humid day is tick time.

There is no off-season for ticks, says University of Missouri Extension horticulturist Tamra Reall. "They can emerge from the shadows at any time they sense warmth."

In Missouri, activity typically picks up in spring and increases through April. Numbers peak around June and July. Dogs and wildlife such as deer are frequent carriers.

Emily Althoff, extension entomologist for MU and Lincoln University, notes that Missouri is a hotbed for ticks, especially the lone star tick, which causes alpha-gal syndrome, a unique meat allergy that can cause severe reactions like anaphylaxis (hives, swelling, trouble breathing). She promotes year-round use of tick repellents containing DEET.

Althoff recommends seeing a doctor if you develop fever, rash, headache, fatigue, muscle or joint pain, or swollen lymph nodes within two weeks of a tick bite. These can signal infections like ehrlichiosis or STARI (Southern tick-associated rash illness) or even alpha-gal syndrome.

Related MU Extension publications available for free download:

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

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

Related videos:

Emily Althoff talks about ticks (YouTube short).

MU researchers study

freezer.

With hiking and camping season approaching, Althoff advises Missourians to:

Always wear light-colored protective clothing so you can easily spot ticks. Tuck shirts into pants and pants into socks.

Spray yourself and others in your hiking party with an Environmental Protection Agency-approved tick repellent for an extra layer of protection. After an outing, inspect yourself and others for ticks, paying close attention to areas behind your ears, behind your knees, and along your hairline and waistline. Check pets as well.

Stay in the center of hiking trails.

Disrobe on a back porch or in the laundry room, do a tick check, throw clothing in the dryer immediately, and shower as soon as possible. Keep in mind that once a tick has attached, it cannot be showered off.

Find information and resources on alpha-gal syndrome and <https://muext.us/AGS>.

Learn more

Related MU Extension publications available for free download:

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

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

Related videos:

Emily Althoff talks about ticks (YouTube short).

MU researchers study

ticks and alpha-gal syndrome (YouTube video).

## Callaway Livestock Center, Inc.

Kingdom City, MO  
573-642-7486

Please visit our website at [www.callawaylivestock.com](http://www.callawaylivestock.com)

**Feeder sale every Monday at Noon**  
**Slaughter steers & heifers sell first**  
*You are welcome to come in person or watch or buy on the internet*

Feeder Sale Report For 4-13-2026				Monday Receipts			
Steers, medium & large		908		Heifers, Med. & Large		277	
Computer Avg.		Computer Avg.		Computer Avg.		Computer Avg.	
28	300 & Down	702	840	24	300 & Down	640	
82	300-400	621	755	91	300-400	550	
263	400-500	545	629	207	400-500	490	
409	500-600	505	590	184	500-600	435	
229	600-700	415	474	237	600-700	388	
110	700-800	375	402	68	700-800	344	
360	800-900	358	368	74	800-900	330	
303	900-1,000	349	358	20	900-1000	323	
13	Bred Cows - Better Pairs	2700	3250		Others		
2		3200			Slaughter Cows	279	280
	High Dressing	175	195		Low	145	165
	Bulk	160	1702		Thin	70	105
26	Slaughter Bulls	175	234				
<b>ALL SLAUGHTER STEERS &amp; HEIFERS SOLD ON MON. NOON</b>							
45	Choice 2 & 3	239			Steers & Heifers		
	(Top)	242			Mixed Select	236	Select
Receiving Hours Sat. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m.-8 p.m.;							
<b>We appreciate your business both buyers &amp; sellers! For more info contact</b>							
Jack Harrison - 573-999-5777		Jack Harrison, Owner		Myles McWhorter - 573-263-3759			
John P. Harrison - 573-220-5777		573-999-7197		Glenn Stegeman - 573-619-195			
Roger Temmen - 573-680-4530		Market Rep		Jarrod Simpson - 573-247-706			
Justin Oberling - 217-440-5777		573-522-9244		Chad Nickelson - 573-631-1627			
Claude Niemeyer - 573-470-2477		7 hour record		Kevin Milliken - 417-588-0307			
Tyler Harris - 573-220-5777		Carson Poe - 573-550-9100		Caton Blattel - 417-650-7688			



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115 Business Highway 61 N.  
Bowling Green, Mo 63334  
[dgfirearms@gmail.com](mailto:dgfirearms@gmail.com)  
[www.dgfirearmsllc.com](http://www.dgfirearmsllc.com)

**Closed Sunday & Monday**  
**Open Tuesday thru Friday**  
10 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Stop by to see our new lower prices!**



**WEEKLY RAFFLES**

**Doelan Wilcox** New Inventory Arriving Daily!

## MDC Reports Young Hunters Took 5,255 Turkeys

Preliminary data from the Missouri Department of Conservation shows young turkey hunters in Missouri harvested 5,255 birds over the past youth weekend, April 11-12.

Top harvest counties were Osage with 121 birds harvested, Franklin with 119, and Gasconade with 107.

Young hunters checked 4,449 birds during the 2025 spring youth weekend.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of MDC offering a special youth weekend for spring turkey hunting.

## INVITATION TO BID TWIN PIKE YMCA SIDEWALK

Sealed bids for the Twin Pike YMCA Sidewalk will be received at: Twin Pike Family YMCA, 614 Kelly Ln, Louisiana, MO 63353, until 10:30 o'clock A.M. (Prevaling Local Time) on the 12th day of May 2026, at the Twin Pike YMCA, and at that time will be publicly opened and read. All bids shall be submitted as a Hard Copy.

The proposed work includes: Construction of new 5 feet wide concrete ADA compliant sidewalk and ramps with handrail, along with any other work as noted in the plans. The overall project length is approximately 2,150 feet.

A digital copy of the plans and specifications may be purchased through the office of Great River Engineering (GRE), at 417-886-7171 upon payment of \$45.00, which is not refundable. All bidders must purchase plans through Great River Engineering and be on the planholder list in order to bid the project.

This contract requires payment of the prevailing hourly rate of wages for each craft or type of work required to execute the contract as determined by the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, and requires adherence to a schedule of minimum wages as determined by the United States Department of Labor.

For work performed anywhere on this project, the contractor and the contractor's subcontractors shall pay the higher of these two applicable wage rates. The applicable state wage rates for this contract are detailed in "Annual Wage Order 32", that is attached to this bidding document. The applicable federal wage rates for this contract are the effective Davis-Bacon federal wage rates posted the tenth day before the bid opening date and can be found at: <https://sam.gov/content/wage-determinations>. These supplemental bidding documents have important legal consequences. It shall be conclusively presumed that they are in the bidder's possession, and they have been reviewed and used by the bidder in the preparation of any bid submitted on this project.

The Twin Pike Family YMCA hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, creed, sex, age, ancestry, or national origin in consideration for an award.

All bidders must be on MoDOT's Qualified Contractor List per Section 102.2 of the current version of the Missouri Standard Specifications for Highway Construction, including all revisions. The contractor questionnaire must be on file 7 days prior to bid opening.

Contractors and sub-contractors who sign a contract to work on public works projects shall provide a 10-Hour OSHA construction safety program, or similar program approved by the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, to be completed by their on-site employees within sixty (60) days of beginning work on the construction project.

A certified cashier's check or a bid bond in the amount of 5% shall be submitted with each proposal.

The Twin Pike Family YMCA reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

The project will be awarded to the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder.

The DBE Goal for this project is 0%. No 2nd tier subcontracting will be allowed on this project.

## Twin Pike Family YMCA

**AD DEADLINE MONDAY 9 A.M.**

# Community News

## From The Mayor's Desk...

In my last article to The People's Tribune, the Pike County News, the Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce, and to Pike County Tourism, I would like to thank them for the coverage they have allowed me over the last six years

Their support spurred me along with responses from Bowling Green and other communities, to continue to keep Bowling Green, Pike County, and beyond, informed and transparent as a mayor! It has been one of my great privileges and honors to have been your mayor, Bowling Green.

I would like to make one last challenge to the citizens of Bowling Green. That is, to volunteer is any aspect of celebrating America's 250 celebration. Whether you volunteer at a local food bank, in our faith community, at our wonderful schools, with a veterans' organization, or our neighborhood Beautify Bowling Green, I challenge you to engage in some project to celebrate America's 250 birthday in Bowling Green.

We can't just let this occasion go unrecognized! I encourage civic leaders, stakeholders, church pastors/priest, Rotary, Lion's Club, Elk Lodge, Christmas/Easter in the Green organizers, Knights of Columbus to gather and formulate a celebration that honors all Americans.

Being a part of something greater than yourself, like a town, our country, demands tireless work, relentless optimism, and a combined effort of all citizens. It takes initiative, a vision, a mind, and strong work ethic to bring something into a

movement and then to a policy.

If, Bowling Green is going to continue to prosper and advance, we must be willing to roll up our shirtsleeves and launch out into what we can be! We can see our families grow and blossom, our graduates stay here or go off to schooling a then come back and develop, expand, improve and lead our town.

We can create more and better jobs, upgrade and expand our amenities, and improve our streets, housing, recreational and entertainment opportunities. The potential and possibilities are unlimited! New cultures will be attracted to what's occurring in Bowling Green and desire to be a part of something bigger than themselves! To be connected and a part of a loving caring community as many are looking for acceptance and love!

As this is my last article, I would like to encourage you to search out Jesus Christ and get to know Him on a personal level. He is longing to establish a relationship where you experience His love, kindness, grace, and peace. An impactful moment of my life is when He forgave me of all my wrong doings, mistakes, guilt, and shame. He wiped the slate clean and continues to do so when I ask for His forgiveness and welcome Him into my life more and more each day. His love is unconditional and He remembers our sins no more.

No sin, mistake, wrongdoing is greater than His love and acceptance! It's easy! Simply ask Him to come into your heart, ask Him to forgive, and then BELIEVE in who He is-your Lord and Savior!



JIM ARICO, MAYOR  
CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

## Pike To Pike...



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

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28

The Big River Band will play at the Pike County Senior Center this Saturday, April 25, with the music starting at 6:30 p.m. The band is very pleased to let everyone know that they are planning to have special guest Letha Ebers Ingram for this show. This is going to be a good show complete with a good dance floor, a concession stand with goodies to purchase, and a 50/50 drawing. Come on out for a great evening of music and fun.

Mike Devine will be celebrating his birthday this

Saturday, April 25, with a family hosted birthday party at the Courtyard Cafe in Pittsfield from 1-4 pm with everyone invited. They are requesting no gifts but cards would be appreciated. If you have a memory of Mike, please bring that to share. The family hopes to see you there.

The Pike County Senior Citizens Center at 220 West Adams in Pittsfield will be hosting a spring fundraiser dinner and music on Saturday, May 2, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. The menu for the meal will be beef roast and gravy, cheesy mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, your choice of dessert and drink for a free will offering. The Big River Band will be providing the entertainment so eating in would be best but carry outs will be available. Tickets for a 50/50 drawing will be available. Questions call 217-285-4969.

Each and every Tuesday at the Admiral Coontz Armory at 301 Warren Barrett Drive in Hannibal from 12-3, there is a dance with a live band Uptown Strings with a small admission charge. This is a community service made especially for the "young at heart" age group but others can join in. Sometimes there is a carry-

in potluck that everyone will be notified a week ahead. Once in awhile the Armory will not be able to accommodate this due to other events that will be there. The number to call with questions is 1-573-221-0154.

Birthdays and Anniversaries for the week of April 22-28:

April 22 - Sam Myers, Seth Myers

April 23 - Emily Schneider, Tina Lovelace

April 24 - Brittany Larson

April 25 - Mike Devine

April 27 - Whitney McDonald

Mark These Dates on Your Calendar:

May 2 - Spring Fund-raiser and Music at the Pike County Senior Center from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

May 9 - Big River Band at Red Rooster at 6 pm

May 10 - Mothers' Day

May 23 - Big River Band at Pike County Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.

May 25 - Memorial Day

Trivia Questions:

1 Who was the first U.S. President to declare war and which war was it?

2 What happened to Abel in the Bible?

3 Who was the youngest First Lady ever?

## Pollinator-Friendly Plants That Are Easy To Grow

This spring, fill your garden with annuals that look great, work hard and roll out the welcome mat for pollinators, says University of Missouri Extension horticulturist Kathi Mecham.

"Attracting pollinators is both essential and enjoyable," says Mecham. "Bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other beneficial insects play a vital role in pollinating food crops and keeping ecosystems healthy."

Many pollinator-friendly annuals are easy to grow in gardens or containers, readily available at garden centers and bloom nonstop until frost. While these plants are considered low maintenance, they aren't completely maintenance-free, says Mecham.

Most need minimal dead-heading and watering once established, but Mecham notes that plants in containers dry out faster than those in the ground. Even drought-tolerant plants may need extra water when growing in pots.

Don't worry if space is limited. Small gardens, raised beds and containers can still make a big impact. "With a little planning, you can create a garden that provides food, shelter and water for pollinators—and supports healthier landscapes and food systems," she says.

**GENERAL GROWING TIPS**  
Most pollinator-friendly annuals prefer full sun (6-8 hours per day).

Skip insecticides and systemic pesticides that harm

pollinators.

Plant flowers in groups or drifts so pollinators can find them more easily.

Add a shallow water source, like a dish filled with stones.

Featured low-maintenance, full-sun annuals

### ZINNIA

A longtime favorite for gardens and containers.

Colors: Red, yellow, orange, pink, rose, lavender, green and white.

Maintenance: Very low; heat-loving and drought tolerant once established.

Planting: Easy from seed; succession planting keeps blooms coming. Seeds can be planted as late as July 4.

Pollinators: Bees, butterflies and hummingbirds; birds enjoy the seed heads later in the season.

### COSMOS

Light, airy plants that add height and movement.

Colors: Pink, red, white, orange and yellow.

Maintenance: Low.

Planting: Grows quickly from seed and may self-seed.

Pollinators: Bees, butterflies and beneficial insects.

### LANTANA

A tough, heat-loving standout with long-lasting color.

Colors: White, yellow, orange, red and purple, often mixed in one cluster.

Maintenance: Very low; drought-tolerant once established.

Planting: Great for containers or garden beds.

Pollinators: Butterflies and hummingbirds.

### OTHER EASY ANNUALS

Sunflower: Excellent for bees and birds. Dwarf varieties work well in containers, with colors ranging from deep red to lemon yellow.

Tithonia (Mexican sunflower): A monarch favorite. Fast-growing, heat-tolerant and bold. Give it room, as plants can reach 4-10 feet tall.

Salvia: Tall spikes of purple, blue, violet, lavender or white flowers bloom reliably all season. Drought-tolerant and perfect as container focal points.

Alyssum: Low-growing and sweet-smelling, great for mixing in containers. Purple and lavender blooms attract beneficial insects.

Supertunia: No dead-heading required; available in many eye-catching colors. Excellent as a spiller plant in containers.

Cuphea: Full-sun, drought-tolerant and covered in cigar-shaped blooms that hummingbirds love.

Gaura: Delicate pink flowers thrive in containers and attract butterflies.

Gomphrena: Compact plants with globe-shaped flowers in bold colors; they handle heat and drought while attracting bees and butterflies.

"Creating a pollinator-friendly garden doesn't have to be complicated," says Mecham. "Just plant smart, skip the chemicals and let nature do the rest."

## State Representative Chad Perkins Report



Rep. Chad Perkins

"As Missouri welcomes warmer spring days, it's been a fast-paced and productive week at the Capitol. From international meetings to the legislative softball game, we've stayed focused on advancing key legislation and celebrating local leadership, including presenting the DeVerne Lee Calloway Award to one of our mayors. It's been a busy week—but a meaningful one."

-Speaker Pro Tem Chad Perkins

### THIS WEEK IN JEFFERSON CITY HOUSE ADVANCES EXPANDED COMMERCIAL DRIVER STANDARDS & ENFORCEMENT

The Missouri House has passed HCS HB 2741, a comprehensive proposal tightening requirements for commercial motor vehicle operators and increasing accountability for motor carriers.

The bill establishes minimum English language proficiency standards for drivers, requiring them to communicate with the public, understand traffic signs, respond to law enforcement, and complete required records. Drivers who fail to meet those standards face escalating penalties and are

placed out of service until compliance is demonstrated.

Additional provisions address documentation requirements for certain drivers operating under non-domiciled commercial licenses, requiring proof of lawful work authorization or citizenship while driving. Violations carry criminal penalties and fines, and drivers may not continue operating until proper documentation is provided.

The legislation also creates a new offense for operating a commercial vehicle without proper federal work authorization. Beyond individual penalties, the bill places significant responsibility on commercial motor carriers, requiring them to verify that drivers are legally authorized to operate. Carriers that fail to do so face substantial fines, with higher penalties tied to serious injury or death resulting from violations, and potential suspension or revocation of their authority to operate in the state for repeat offenses.

The bill further outlines procedures for handling stranded vehicles and cargo when violations occur, ensuring continuity of transport while maintaining enforcement standards. It also includes provisions preventing companies from avoiding penalties through restructuring or rebranding. The measure now heads to the Senate for consideration.

### Agricultural Exemption From Water Permitting Advances

The Missouri House has approved HCS HB 3076, clarifying that agricultural nonpoint sources are exempt from certain clean water permitting requirements. This change reflects existing practices and provides regulatory certainty for agricultural operations.

### Resolution Calls For State

### Authority Over Election Policy

Lawmakers have also approved HCR 23, which calls on Missouri's congressional delegation to support policies reinforcing state control over election processes, particularly in the area of campaign finance. Backers of the resolution say it pushes back against what they view as increasing federal and judicial involvement in election policy, emphasizing that state legislatures are best positioned to set such rules. The resolution highlights broader concerns about transparency and public confidence in campaign finance systems while advocating for greater local control.

### Show-Me Green Sales Tax Holiday Returns This Spring

Missouri's annual Show-Me Green Sales Tax Holiday will take place April 19 through April 25, offering consumers savings on energy-efficient appliances while supporting in-state retailers.

During the holiday, state sales tax will be waived on qualifying ENERGY STAR® certified appliances, including items such as refrigerators, dishwashers, clothes washers, dryers, and air conditioners. The exemption applies to the first \$1,500 of each appliance purchased.

State officials say the program encourages energy-conscious purchasing while also driving business for retailers across Missouri, as all local jurisdictions participate in the holiday.

For more information on the sales tax holiday, a list of qualifying items, and frequently asked questions, visit [dor.mo.gov/taxation/business/tax-types/sales-use/holidays/show-me-green/](http://dor.mo.gov/taxation/business/tax-types/sales-use/holidays/show-me-green/).

## How Rising Diesel Prices Affect Crop Production Costs

Although many farms are starting the planting season with bulk tanks full of sub-\$3-per-gallon diesel purchased over the winter, the first refill this spring could cost \$1.50-plus per gallon more than they paid for their last delivery.

Rising fuel costs are another worry on top of skyrocketing fertilizer prices. The impact of high fuel prices on a farm's bottom line can be identified with an enterprise budget and might not be as large as many farmers expect, says Drew Kientzy, a University of Missouri Extension senior research analyst.

Kientzy points out that repairs, depreciation and interest are the

largest equipment-related expenses on some farms. "The 2026 Missouri corn budget estimates that fuel makes up 18 percent of total machinery costs and 5 percent of total production cost at today's diesel price," he said. "If a farm had all inputs except fuel locked in on Jan. 1, net returns to land decline from \$120 per acre to \$108 based on recent changes in fuel cost alone."

MU Extension's Crop Budget Spreadsheet can help farms pinpoint the drivers changing the cost of production on their farms. For all major Midwestern crops, users can customize application rates for fertilizer, seed and crop protection

chemicals, as well as the prices paid by their operation. In addition, drop-down menus let users select from more than 110 implements and 20 power sources to quickly estimate annual operating and ownership costs for farm equipment on a per acre basis.

"Producers are likely to face many more price changes before the crop is marketed, which is why we encourage farm operations to track their production costs to pinpoint their break-even while making marketing decisions," said Kientzy.

For more info about the Missouri crop and livestock budgets, visit <https://muext.us/MOAGBudget>.



## Bath And Beyond

Nancy Niemeyer, right, of Bowling Green listens as Taylor Crane, left, and Lysette Gichibijiw explain the benefits of a Bath Fitter bathroom remodeling during the first Northeast Missouri Home & Outdoor Show. The event, sponsored by the Louisiana Chamber of Commerce, featured a dozen vendors and was held at the Pike County Fairgrounds. People who attended got ideas for indoor and outdoor home improvements.

## Need A Ride?

OATS Transit is currently offering regular transportation services to rural residents of any age.

To schedule a ride or to inquire about services available in your area, please call the OATS Transit office at 660-415-0901 or 800-654-

6287.

You can also visit our website at [www.oatstransit.org](http://www.oatstransit.org), where you can find your local schedule by clicking on your county under the "Bus Schedules" tab. OATS Transit is available to the rural general

public of any age. Additionally, we contract with various agencies to serve their clients.

Our offices will be closed and regular routes not running on Monday, May 25 for the Memorial Day holiday.

# Obituaries

## Betty Mable Walters

Betty Mable Walters, 97, of Bowling Green died Sunday, April 12, 2026, at Baptist Homes of Vandalia-Tri County.

Memorial services for Betty will be held Friday, May 8 at 11 a.m., at Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Bowling Green.

Memorial visitation will be from 10:30 a.m., until the time of service.

Betty was born May 16, 1928, in Hartsville to Nathan and Vada Hart Pruett. Betty was a graduate of Hartville High School. She was united in marriage to Wayne Walters in Olathe, Kan., on June 29, 1946. He preceded her in death on June 6, 2006.

Survivors include a son, David Walters and wife, Cindy Krigbaum; one granddaughter, Jennifer Buchanan; and great-grandsons, Alex Buchanan-Leonard and CJ Leonard. Other surviving family members are her niece, Beverly Haberberger; and nephew, Bill Pruett.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Wayne Walters; a son, Timothy Walters; two brothers, Bob and Glenn Pruett; a sister, Florence Long; and one grandson-in-law, Chris Leonard.

Betty was blessed with so many friends in Bowling Green they were like our family. In honor of both Betty and Walter, those friends are "our family".

Betty loved to spend her time bowling, golfing, talking, and socializing. She also liked to travel with church groups, especially to Branson. Betty enjoyed country/western music. Most of all, Betty loved being with her family.

Memorials may be made to Community Loving Care Hospice or Baptist Home-Tri-County.



## Cynthia 'Cyndi' Knock Perkins

Cynthia "Cyndi" Knock Perkins, born March 7, 1955, to Leon and Geneva Knock, died peacefully at home on Monday, April 13, 2026.

She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend whose vibrant personality and compassionate heart left a lasting impression on everyone who knew her.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Friday at 10:30 a.m., at St. Clement Catholic Church in Bowling Green with Fr. Henry Ussher officiating. Burial was in St. Clement Catholic Cemetery.

Visitation was Friday from 9-10 a.m., with a rosary at 10 a.m.

Lovingly known as "Owie" by her grandsons, Cyndi embraced her role as a grandmother with immense joy. She was a faithful member of the Catholic Church, finding strength and comfort in her faith throughout her life.

Cyndi dedicated the majority of her life to serving others as a nurse, a profession she was deeply passionate about. She spent many years working night shifts in the emergency room, labor and delivery, and even at the local jail, later continuing her compassionate care as a hospice nurse. Her knowledge, skill, and unwavering dedication made her an extraordinary caregiver who truly "knew everything" when it came to nursing.

She reconnected with her high school sweetheart and married the love of her life, Bill Perkins on Sept. 3, 2020, joyfully blending their families. She was a proud mother to her daughter, Jodi Peterson and her beloved son, Tyler Lumpkin, who preceded her in death in 2004. Through her mar-

riage, she gained two cherished stepchildren, Chad Perkins and Jessica King.

Cyndi had an adventurous spirit and loved to travel, rarely staying in one place for long. She enjoyed people-watching, cheering for the St. Louis Cardinals, and most of all, supporting whichever team her grandsons were playing on at the time. She also found great joy in planting and tending to her flowers.

Known as the life of the family, Cyndi brought laughter and honesty wherever she went. You never quite knew what she was going to say, but her unfiltered words were always genuine, making her unforgettable to all who knew her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Leon and Geneva Knock; a son, Tyler Lumpkin; one niece, Megan Knock; and a brother-in-law, Doug Mudd.

She will be deeply missed by her husband, Bill Perkins; a daughter, Jodi Peterson and husband, Tom of Leland, N.C.; grandsons, Michael, Matthew, and Luke Peterson; her former husband, Mark Rucker, father of her daughter, Jodi; stepchildren, Chad Perkins and Jamie of Troy and their children, Lucy and Reagan; and Jessica King and husband, Bryan of Louisburg, Kan., and their daughters, Claire and Carly. She is also survived by her sisters, Shelba Northcutt and husband, Walter, Sheila Knock, Geanine Mudd, and Jennifer Fisher and husband, Malcolm; and one brother, George Knock; along with many cherished nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Cyndi's legacy of compassion, humor, and love will live on in the hearts of all who knew her. She will be remembered for her unwavering care for others, her adventurous spirit, and the joy she brought to every gathering.

Pallbearers were George Knock, Michael Peterson, Matthew Peterson, Luke Peterson, Kyle Mudd, and Cody Mudd.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.



## Barbara Elaine Tullock

Barbara Elaine Tullock, 76, formerly of Louisiana died peacefully on Saturday, April 4, 2026, after a brief illness.

She was born March 15, 1950, at her parent's home on the family farm in rural Vandalia. She is the daughter of Ernest Eugene and Thelma Marie Christian Maxwell. She attended school in Vandalia and graduated from Van-Far High School.

In 1969 she was united in marriage to Carl Dean Tullock in Bowling Green, recently celebrating their 56th anniversary. Together they had one child, Carla Deann Tullock Morton Garthe, who survives, along with husband, Scott Garthe.

After graduation, Barbara worked in the recorder's office at the Audrain County courthouse. She was a talented seamstress and worked for Kampala Togs, Bobbie Brooks, and Bridal Originals. In the mid-1980s, she joined alongside her husband, Carl, in the welding and fabrication business, founding and becoming the owner and business manager of Best Welding and Fabrication in Louisiana. In the mid-1990s, she and Carl purchased 56 acres near Holts Summit and began operations of Scotchman Place mobile home park. Prior to retirement in 2015, Barbara pursued one of her dreams of raising and breeding miniature horses.

Family was important to Barbara and being a grandmother was her greatest joy. She is survived by three grandchildren, Alexandra

Morton of St. Louis, Savannah Shepherd and wife, Delayne of Bowling Green; and Blake Morton of Bowling Green.

She welcomed and was overjoyed to earn her title and role as great-grandmother in 2024, when her first great-grandchild, Arbor Shepherd, was born. She was eagerly awaiting the arrival of two more great-grandchildren in the upcoming months.

Also surviving are husband, Carl Tullock; one sister, Ramona Davis and husband, John of Kirksville; nieces, Patricia Jones Worrell and husband, Paul of Loveland, Colo., and Andrea Davis of Jefferson City; and nephews, Bob Jones and wife, Eva of Millersburg, and Simon Davis of Columbia.

Barbara was an active and faithful member of the Hopewell Baptist Church of Thompson.

Memorial donations can be made to the Memorial Fund at Hopewell Baptist Church of Thompson.

Per Barbara's wishes, a private service was held in her honor with her Pastor, Brother Jimmie Stewart, officiating.

Serving as pallbearers were Scott Garthe, Blake Morton, Hunter Burt, Mac Ruoff, and Brother Jimmie Stewart.



## Butler McCune 'Butch' Evans

Funeral services for Butler McCune "Butch" Evans, 82, of Laddonia, were at 3 p.m., Thursday, April 16 at Bienhoff Funeral Home in Laddonia with pastor Chris Atkinson and pastor Bill Maupin officiating. Burial followed in the Laddonia Cemetery.

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

Mr. Evans died Sunday, April 12, 2026 at Harry S Truman Memorial Veteran's Hospital in Columbia surrounded by family.

He was born June 18, 1943 in Laddonia, the son of Norvel and Virginia "Sug" Garnett Evans.

Survivors include his wife, Marilyn Evans of the home; a daughter, Sherri Turner and husband, Scott of Newburg; two grandchildren, Blaine and Cory Crocker of Westphalia and Jeff Turner and wife, Madie of Jefferson City; two great-grandchildren, Weston and Shaina Crocker, a sister, Tammy Purvis of Centralia, along with several nieces, nephews, other relatives and a host of friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, Charlie, Stanley "Ottie", and Bobby Gale Evans, and two sisters, Della Britton and Margie Fry.

Butch Evans proudly served his country in the United States Navy from 1960-64 stationed aboard the USS Rival minesweeper. During his time in service, he was deployed to the Caribbean during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

On June 1, 1966, he was united in marriage to the love of his life, Marilyn Evans, and together they shared 60 wonderful years of marriage.

Throughout his life, Butch was a hardworking and dedicated businessman, owning and operating several local grocery stores, including Evans IGA. He later served his community through his work with the City of Mexico Street Department, retiring in 2006.

Butch enjoyed camping, golfing, and playing the guitar. He also cherished his time wintering in Texas and especially valued the moments spent with his family and friends. Known for his warm personality, Butch never met a stranger, always had a story to share, and was quick with a laugh. He was

a kind and generous man who was always ready to lend a helping hand.

Pallbearers were Scott Turner, Jeff Turner, Cory Crocker, Terry Britton, Matthew Barnes, and Chad Evans. Honorary pallbearers were Wayne Yelton, Ray Oden, Henry Hoover, and Mike Woods.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Laddonia Baptist Church, c/o Bienhoff Funeral Home, P.O. Box 6, Laddonia, MO 63352.

Online condolences may be made at [www.bienhoff-funeralhome.com](http://www.bienhoff-funeralhome.com).



## Jean David Gatzmeyer

Jean David Gatzmeyer, 81, died peacefully Friday, April 10, 2026, surrounded by the love of his family.

Jean was born Aug. 28, 1944, in Nebraska, where he spent his early childhood before moving with his family to Missouri. He built a life grounded in hard work, faith, and deep devotion to his family.

He shared 60 wonderful years of marriage with his beloved wife, Edith Hammar Gatzmeyer, a testament to a lifetime of love, partnership, and commitment. Together, they created a home filled with warmth, laughter, and lasting memories.

Jean worked in engineering until his retirement in 1997. In the early 2000s, he and Edith began a new chapter together, purchasing an antique mall near the Lake of the Ozarks, where they spent many years working side by side until selling the business around 2020. He then enjoyed a well-earned retirement at home.

Above all, Jean was a devoted father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

He is survived by his children, Kyle Gatzmeyer and wife, Angela Gatzmeyer, Kristina Weigel and David Travis, and Dan Rice, whom he lovingly fostered. He was a proud grandfather to Tiffany, Micah, Haleigh, Carson, and James, as well as step-grandchildren, Rylie and Joshua. His legacy continues through his great-grandchildren, Sophia, Cooper, Abel, Ellen, Gideon, Abigail, Beatrice, and Agatha.

Jean is also survived by his brother, James "Uncle Jim," the last living sibling of his family. James lives in Texas with his daughters, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by three sisters, Daryline, Helen, and Stella, who are survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Jean will be remembered for his kindness, his steady presence, and the simple moments he cherished most—especially sitting at the table watching the birds at the feeder and sharing stories and facts about the cardinals he loved so much.

Those who knew Jean will remember the quiet strength he carried, the love he gave so freely, and the way he made people feel at home just by being near him.

Visitation was at 10 a.m., where a Catholic funeral Mass followed at 11 a.m., Tuesday at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Louisiana with Fr. Henry Ussher officiating. Burial followed at St. Clement Cemetery, with a luncheon at St. Joseph Catholic Church in the Knights of Columbus Hall.

Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory handled the arrangements.

Jean will be deeply missed and forever remembered. Cardinals will forever serve as a reminder that he is near.

WE WELCOME  
YOUR  
LOCAL NEWS



## Edward Joseph Borgmeyer

Edward Joseph Borgmeyer, 79, of Mexico died Sunday, April 12, 2026 at Boone Hospital in Columbia.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m., Tuesday at Arnold Funeral Home. Burial will follow in East Lawn Memorial Park. Rev. Bob Stanford will be officiating the service.

Visitation was from 1-2 p.m., Tuesday (today) at the funeral home.

Ed was born Oct. 25, 1946 in Mexico, the son of Sylvester and Francis Deimeke Borgmeyer. He grew up in Martinsburg and graduated high school from Community R-VI. Ed and former wife, Joyce Coil Borgmeyer welcomed their daughter, JoAnna Borgmeyer, into the world July 10, 1976.

Ed dedicated much of his life to hard work. He farmed alongside his father and uncles, later finding a career with the Missouri Department of Transportation where he served in the maintenance department. Ed retired from MODOT in 2008 after 24 years of service. Ed was the happiest when surrounded by family and friends. He found joy in camping, fishing, and supporting his "soulmate" Willy at all of her musical performances. Ed loved cheering his grandchildren on in their sporting events, he very rarely missed a game. At home, Ed enjoyed the simple pleasures of working in the garden, watching reruns of Gunsmoke, and being with his cats, Ms. Kitty and Chloe.

Survivors include grandchildren, Jayda Wilburn and husband, Caden of Farber, Jaxdyn Hull of Farber; a nephew, Chris Long and wife, Trisha of Mexico; one great-grandson, Graham Wilburn; extended family members, Kacey Craddock and Taylen Love, Tanner Craddock, David Phillips and wife, Gina, Greg Phillips, Elizabeth Wester, Shawna Phillips, Misty Phillips, Jacque Phillips, Devin Middleton, and Joyce Borgmeyer.

Ed was preceded in death by his parents, Sylvester and Francis Borgmeyer; a daughter, JoAnna Borgmeyer; one sister, Carol Long; his soulmate, Willy Phillips, and JoDee Craddock.

The family requests memorial donations be made to Parkinson Foundation. Memorials may be sent c/o Arnold Funeral Home, 425 S. Jefferson, Mexico, MO 65265.



## Judith Melinda Suddarth Myers

Judith Melinda Suddarth Myers of Bowling Green passed into the presence of our Lord surrounded by her loved ones on Sunday, April 12, 2026, at the age of 71.

Born Jan. 19, 1955, Judy was the daughter of Leslie Curtis and Lutie Annabelle Harrison Suddarth.

Survivors include two brothers, Daniel Suddarth and wife, Cindy of Foley, and Chris Suddarth of Bowling Green; a sister, Sherry Ansley and husband, Jim of Wentzville; a sister-in-law, Janet Suddarth of Elsberry; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by two sisters, Leslie Kay Suddarth and Joyce Graham, three brothers, David Suddarth, Curtis Paul Suddarth, and Clarence "Gene" Suddarth, two nephews, Chuck Graham, and Drew Graham II; and a niece, Michelle Suddarth.

Judy grew up in Elsberry and graduated from high school there. She continued and completed her education at Patricia Steven's Business College in St. Louis. She retired from her position as the administrative assistant to the director of nursing at Pike County Memorial Hospital. In Louisiana, Judy lived many of her adult years in Clarksville. She was a member of the Ramsey Creek Baptist Church and was a loving and dedicated wife. She enjoyed attending car shows, cooking and gathering her siblings and their families into her home for fantastic food and fun.

She will be remembered for her beautiful smile, her willingness to lend an ear and a helping hand, to pray with and for those in need...reminding them that Jesus would carry them when they didn't have the strength to face life's challenges on their own. She leaves an empty space in the hearts of those who loved her and will be so dearly missed.

Visitation was at Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana from 4-7 p.m., Monday. Visitation will also be held from 10 a.m., until time of funeral service at 11 a.m., Tuesday (today) at the funeral home. The Rev. Tim Suddarth officiated. Interment after services was at Star Hope Cemetery, Elsberry.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society or Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation.

Online condolences may be sent at [collierfuneral.com](http://collierfuneral.com) See OBITUARIES on page 6



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# Community News

## Louisiana Chamber Of Commerce Annual Banquet Photo Highlights



### Abra-card-abra

Magician Sean Lewis of Pittsfield, Ill., chooses Alyssa Christensen's card – the four of hearts – from a deck during the Louisiana Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet and installation of officers Thursday, April 9. More than 100 people attended the event in the Louisiana High School gym. The theme was the 1920s. The Chamber Member of the Year award went to Pike County Memorial Hospital. Receiving the Louisiana Community Betterment Advocate Award was Mike Sherman. Brent Engel was named Citizen of the Year. Keynote speakers were Louisiana City Administrator Cameron Carlile, Crystal Narr of the Missouri Chamber Federation and Shari Schenewerk of the Missouri Department of Economic Development. The ceremonies were organized and overseen by Chamber Executive Director Brook Patterson. Louisiana R-II Superintendent Dr. Tom Ward is the 2026 chamber president.



William Miller and Mahala Sloan were joined by 10-year-old Lucian Robertson and six-year-old Isaiah Robertson at the Blooming Moments photo booth during the Louisiana Chamber banquet, which had a 1920s theme.



Staff from Pike County Memorial Hospital accepted the Chamber Member of the Year Award.



Dressed in a 1920s costume, Louisiana Chamber Board Member Tannis Sanders offered prize chances to a table that included David Cadwalller, left, and Tommy Wallace.



Eighth-grade clarinetist Tina Hinch joins with other band members on "La Fiesta" during the chamber banquet.

## MDC Reminds People To Leave Wildlife Wild

With spring comes new life, including new arrivals of wild animals. The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) reminds people that young wildlife they encounter this time of year may appear to be abandoned, but that's usually not the case. MDC asks that people "leave wildlife wild" by not interfering with newborn or young animals because it can do more harm than good.

"Young animals are rarely orphaned," said MDC State Wildlife Veterinarian Sherri Russell. "If the young are left alone, the parent will usually return. Parents are normally out searching for food and cannot constantly attend to their offspring." Russell added that baby birds are a common type of newborn wildlife that people want to help. "If you see a chick on the ground hopping around and it has feathers, leave it alone and bring pets inside be-

cause it is a fledgling and the parents are nearby keeping an eye on it," she said. "Fledglings can spend up to 10 days hopping on the ground while learning to fly. If you find one that is featherless, you can return it to the nesting area, if possible, as it probably fell out." Dogs catching baby rabbits and lawn mowers running over nests are other common issues. "Rabbits seldom survive in captivity and can actually die of fright from being handled," Russell said. "Even if the animal is injured, return it to the nest because the mother will most likely return." Despite what many think, wild mothers do not abandon their young because of a human scent, and most newborn animals do not survive in captivity. "While people have good intentions, the care and rehabilitation of wild animals requires special training, knowledge, facilities -- and permits," she explained.

"Without such care, wild animals will remain in poor health and could eventually die. And it is illegal to possess many wild animals without a valid state or federal permit." Russell also noted that wildlife can become dangerous as they mature, and can also carry parasites, disease, and can damage property. "Native wildlife can carry mites, ticks, lice, fleas, flukes, roundworms, tapeworms, rabies, distemper, tuberculosis, respiratory diseases, and skin diseases," Russell said. "Some of these can be transmitted to humans." Although tempting to take them into homes, the best help people can offer wild animals is to leave them alone.

For more information on Missouri's many native wildlife species, visit the MDC online Field Guide at [nature.mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/field-guide/search](http://nature.mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/field-guide/search).

## Alpha-gal Syndrome Gives New Urgency To Tick Prevention

As temperatures rise and people begin camping, fishing and farming, it's more important than ever to be aware of the health dangers posed by ticks, says University of Missouri and Lincoln University Extension urban entomologist Emily Althoff. Increasing reports of alpha-gal syndrome, Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever and other tick-related illnesses highlight why preparation is essential before spending time outside in spring and summer, Althoff says. Missouri's tick populations are especially high from April through September. The lone star tick is the most common species in the state, followed by the American dog tick and the blacklegged (deer) tick. A newer arrival is the long-horned tick, an invasive species.

Ticks are the most important vectors of disease in domestic and wild animals throughout the world, and are second only to mosquitoes in transmitting disease in humans. Ticks frequently attach to the lower legs of people and then crawl upward before embedding themselves in the skin to feed. They thrive in the humid, cool layer at the soil's surface and often locate hosts using an ambush strategy known as "questing."

Althoff recommends three "Ds" to protect yourself:

### Dress To Defend

The National Garden Bureau has selected azalea as its 2026 shrub of the year. Renowned for their colorful seasonal displays, azaleas are becoming the crown jewel in landscapes nearly everywhere, said University of Missouri Extension horticulturist David Trinklein.

There is no more iconic springtime flowering shrub than azalea, Trinklein said. Advances in hybridization have yielded new cultivars that are rebloom, are heat-

The right choice of clothing can help you prevent you from picking up ticks, says Althoff. First, choose light-colored garments. Tuck the shirt into the pants, and tuck pants into the socks. "This is where duct tape comes in handy," she says. Duct tape the bottom of the pant legs closed to prevent ticks from getting to your skin.

Always apply DEET-based insect repellent when visiting wooded areas or working on farms, says MU Extension health and safety specialist Karen Funkenbusch. Apply only as directed to exposed skin or clothing. Avoiding eyes, mouth, injured skin and children's hands. Be careful not to inhale the product, and do not use it around food. Wash treated skin and clothing thoroughly once you're back indoors, says Funkenbusch.

**Search & Destroy** After coming inside, perform a full-body tick check. Look inside and behind the ears, along the hairline, the back of the neck, armpits, groin, legs, behind the knees and even between toes. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends showering within two hours of being outdoors.

If you find a tick, remove it with sturdy tweezers. Grasp the tick at the front of its body, as close to the skin as possible, and pull straight out. Avoid squeezing the

rear of the tick, as this can cause it to expel gut contents into your skin, increasing the risk of infection. Clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol, iodine or soap and water.

Publication: "Guide to Ticks and Tick-Borne Diseases" is available for free download at <https://extension.missouri.edu/publications/ipm1032>.

Video: Emily Althoff offers tick tips, <https://youtu.be/IDdahnY3u> sw.

Related story: "Livestock producers face health threats from ticks," <https://muext.us/110525ticks>.

More about alpha-gal syndrome: <https://muext.us/AGS>.

MU Extension is the link between the University of Missouri's proven research, knowledge and resources and more than 6 million Missourians. With state and local partners, we deliver real-world solutions to address our state's grand challenges around agriculture, economic opportunity, educational access and health and well-being. Faculty and staff in 114 counties and the City of St. Louis work to empower people, strengthen communities and develop leaders.

True to our land-grant mission, we serve Missouri and deliver Mizzou as we improve lives and opportunities.

## Spring Color Bursts With 'Crown Jewel' Pollinator

and cold-tolerant and have compact growth habits, which makes them ideal for small spaces.

Azalea belongs to the genus Rhododendron, but it should not be confused with the larger shrub with evergreen, leathery leaves and bell-shaped flowers commonly called rhododendron. In short, all azaleas are rhododendrons, but not all rhododendrons are azaleas, said Trinklein.

There are two main types (sub-genera) of azaleas. The

Tsutsusi group is evergreen and retain its leaves year-round. Popular members of this group include the Kurume, Girard and Gable hybrids.

In contrast, the Pentanthera group is deciduous. However, they often display brilliant foliage as temperatures fall before shedding their leaves in the autumn.

Popular members of this group include the Exbury, Northern Lights, Mollis hybrids and Ghent hybrids.

# Community News

## OBITUARIES

Continued from page 4



### Virginia Louise 'Mick' Perkins

Virginia Louise "Mick" Perkins, 89, of Bowling Green died Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at Oak Pointe Memory Care in Warrenton.

A memorial service for Virginia was held Monday at 10 a.m., at Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Bowling Green.

Memorial visitation was from 9 a.m., until the time of service.

Virginia was born Nov. 19, 1936, in Ashburn to Sanford Nathaniel and Mary Mina Niffen McLaughlin. She was united in marriage to Clinton Randal Perkins on July 11, 1970. He survives.

Other survivors include a sister, Betty Haddock and husband, Walt of Curryville; two brothers-in-law, Irvin Perkins and wife, Bev of Stoutsville, and Ellis Perkins and wife, Ruby of Bowling Green; and a sister-in-law, Jeanette Epperson and husband, Fred of Frankford. Other surviving family members are her nieces and nephews whom she dearly loved, Linda Frazee and Kim of Columbia, Gary Morton of Frankford, Dale McLaughlin and wife, Stacy of Bowling Green, Clint Haddock and wife, Amy of Peoria, Ill., Kina St. Clair and husband, Kevin of Frankford, Clinton Lamber-son of Hannibal, Chad Epperson and wife, April of Louisiana, Scott Perkins and wife, Mariann of Columbia, Sarah Dobb of Nebraska, Jeremy Perkins and wife, Roxanne of Stoutsville, and Tammy Johnson and husband, Kirk of Florida. Virginia also has numerous grea-nieces and -nephews whom she loved very much and who loved her.

She was preceded in death by her two children, a daughter, Shannon June, and one son, William Allen; her parents, Sanford and Mary; a sister, Martha "Tip" Morton; one brother, William "Bill" McLaughlin; and a nephew, Tim Perkins. Virginia attended Louisiana public school and had a great work ethic in her younger life working in varied jobs at the garment factory, a bakery, and Stark Bros. Nurseries.

Her greatest work passion involved over 15 years as a CNA at Moore-Pike Nursing Home. She was well known for her compassion, patience, and loving care with the residents during this time. She retired to be a full-time homemaker on the farm with her husband and greatly enjoyed her time outdoors, gardening and attending to her flower beds.

She enjoyed their horses, special pets, and walking on their farm daily, often two-three miles a day. She also loved traveling with Randal often driving to numerous states to see the countryside. She also enjoyed watching Randal during his cutting horse activities. She loved children and enjoyed taking their great-nieces and -nephew on special trips during the summer. She was like a grandmother to them.

Virginia loved Jesus and enjoyed reading her Bible. She was a member of the former Immanuel Baptist Church in Bowling Green and served as a treasurer and enjoyed helping in planning meals/special events. She enjoyed listening to gospel country music and watching Biblical programs at home with her husband.

Virginia will be greatly missed by all who knew her. The family would like to express their gratitude to the caregivers at Heartland Hospice and Oak Pointe Memory Care for their loving care during Virginia's final journey to her eternal home.

Memorials maybe made to the donor's choice.

### Donald O. Bufford

Donald O. Bufford, 78, formerly of Louisiana died Thursday, April 9, 2026 at the Estates of Spanish Lake Nursing Home in St. Louis.

Graveside service will be held at 11 a.m., Monday, April 27 at Fairview Cemetery near Louisiana.

He was born July 25, 1947 in Troy to Donald W. and Virginia Irene Collins Bufford. He was married to Janet L. Murry on April 4, 1975 in Mississippi. She preceded him in death on Sept. 10, 2023.

He is survived by a son, Stephen Bufford of Florida; a brother, Wayne Bufford of Missouri; two sisters, Susan Day of Warrenton, and Shirley Blanford of Troy; and a grandson, Josh Bufford.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, and a brother, James Bufford.

Donald worked as a logger for most of his life. He was employed by Billy Tom Wallace Logging for a number of years and later Si Logging until his retirement.

Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana is in charge of arrangements.

Online condolences can be sent at collierfuneral.com.



### Keaton Lloyd Wieczorek O'Neal

Funeral services celebrating the life of Keaton Lloyd Wieczorek O'Neal, 15, of Perry will be at 10 a.m., Wednesday at the First Baptist Church in Vandalia with Pastor Brian Lehenbauer officiating.

Visitation will be Tuesday from 3-7 p.m., at the First Baptist Church in Vandalia.

Keaton was born Oct. 11, 2010 in Columbia, the son of Derek O'Neal and Kayla Brooks Wieczorek.

He is survived by his parents, Kayla and Jason Wieczorek of Perry and Derek O'Neal of Fulton; a sister, Jaelyn Wieczorek; great-grandmother, Val Galloway; grandparents, Artie and Keela Brooks, John and Carol Wieczorek, all of Perry, Chris and Terri Daro of Fulton, Dan and Donna O'Neal of Columbia; aunts, Lisa Martin and husband, Matt, Mandolin Fulknern and husband, Jim; uncle, Jeremy O'Neal and wife, Cheri; along with numerous cousins and a host of friends.

He was preceded in death by his great-grandparents, Lloyd Galloway, Floyd and Susie Harrison, Lucille Wieczorek, Betty Fisher, Stanley and Lizzie Brooks, and Ruby and Hoxsey O'Neal.

Keaton attended Mark Twain High School and was a member of the Class of 2029. He was active in FFA and 4-H, where he developed a strong appreciation for agriculture and rural life. He had a deep love for farming, especially spending time raking hay, and took great pride in the work he did. Keaton also enjoyed playing baseball and golf, as well as spending time fishing.

He will be remembered as a devoted big brother and a loyal friend to many. Known for his helpful nature and willingness to lend a hand, Keaton could often be found with his pliers and wrench close by, ready to fix whatever problem came his way.

Pallbearers will be Jason Wieczorek, Chris Wieczorek, Bryan Evans, Matt Martin, Austin Bailey, and Josh Karcher. Honorary pallbearers will be Jaelyn Wieczorek, Chloe Hodges, Austin Hodges, Cal Epperson, Logan Kerns, Annabel Roberts, and Clayton Birkhead.

Memorial contributions may be made to Strong Like Keaton, mailed, c/o Bienhoff Funeral Home P.O. Box 427 Perry, MO 63462.



### Doris Dean McKague

Doris Dean McKague, 81, of Hermann died Thursday, April 16, 2026 at Stone-Bridge Senior Living, Hermann.

Doris was born in Morrison on Sept. 29, 1944, the daughter of the late Hugh and Ida Lange McGuire. She was united in marriage to Larry F. McKague on Dec. 27, 1965, in Chamois. They shared 56 years of marriage together. Larry preceded her in death on Jan. 15, 2022.

Doris is survived by a daughter, Sheila McGuire and husband, Rusty of Woodward, Okla.; a son, Laron McKague of Hermann; a son, Wayland McKague and wife, Stephanie of Hermann; a daughter, Kimberly McKague of Vandalia; a daughter, Lindsay McKague of Hermann; 25 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband, five brothers, four sisters, and two grandchildren, Ricky Bacon and Lillian Gale.

Visitation will be held Thursday from 9-11 a.m., at Toedtman & Grosse Funeral Home in Hermann, where funeral services will follow at 11 a.m. Burial will be at Mint Hill Cemetery, Chamois.

Memorial donations may be given to the cemetery.

**We Welcome Your Local News**

## TITANIC

Continued from front page  
terest," Laney said. Even before America got involved in World War I, she was churning out columns about the conflict. The unofficial war correspondent covered fellow Missourian John J. Pershing, the general in charge of American forces.

By the end of the war in 1918, she'd "travelled over practically the entire" war zone, reported Army Capt. Arthur Hartzell. She also covered the Versailles Peace Conference.

"The Great War provided new opportunities for women journal-

ists," wrote author Pamela D. Toler. "Women journalists expanded (their) mandate to cover more than life at the home front, reporting from the trenches and frontline hospitals as well as from wartime capitals."

Working at the Paris Herald established Birkhead as what one book called "a key talent," but her move to the Chicago Tribune's European edition in 1926 "cemented her interwar reputation." She had a "distinctive style" and "a voice all her own."

It was at the Tribune that Birkhead consistently got bylines. Her front-page column, "Today in Society," would run

from 1927 to 1934.

Birkhead barely escaped when the Nazis invaded France in 1940. She would never return to Europe, dying at 59 on Oct. 27, 1941, after an illness. She is buried at Louisiana's Riverview Cemetery.

"Never considering herself anything less than a full journalist, May Birkhead deserves to be remembered for the role she played in expanding the possibilities for the society columnist and the newspaperwoman in the twentieth century's first decades," according to authors Michelle Prain-Brice, Jennifer Hayward and Isabelle Richel.

## Montgomery County

### REAL ESTATE & PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION

## Historic Middletown, MO

### SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2026 AT 10 AM

#### AUCTION & PROPERTY LOCATION:

### THE MIDDLETOWN COUNTRY STORE LLC

#### 108 MAIN STREET (HWY 161), MIDDLETOWN, MO 63359

**PRE-AUCTION VIEWINGS:**  
SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026 | 2PM TO 4PM  
FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026 | 2PM TO 4PM

### SELLERS: THE MIDDLETOWN COUNTRY STORE TERRI & THE LATE KEITH THOMAS

## Wheeler

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23101 HWY. 24, PARIS, MO 65275 | 660-327-5890  
WWW.WHEELERAUCTIONS.COM

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
**CHARLIE NORDWALD**  
**636-795-4552**  
**WHEELERAUCTIONS.COM**

### Saturday, May 9, 2026 @ 9:00 AM

Antiques, Guns, Quilts, Flowers, Coins, Furniture, etc.  
BAKE SALE, HOME-MADE ICE CREAM,  
BISCUITS AND GRAVY BREAKFAST (6:30am)  
& LUNCH AVAILABLE

**Auction Address**  
8778 PIKE 478 BOWLING GREEN MO 63334

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Champion Forge  
Antique Washstand w/  
Pitcher -N-Bowl  
40 Plus PC. Cast Iron Wagner,  
Griswald, Cruso, National Etc.  
200Lb Arm & Hammer Anvil  
6' Cigar Store Indian  
Snow Shoes  
Sleds  
Sev. Dinner Bells  
Sev. Butcher Kettles  
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**COOL PIECE!**  
Catalina Racer Hand Crank Car  
5-gal Jar of Marbles  
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Bucksaws-N-Crosscut Saws  
Crooks-N-Butterchurn Crocks  
Inc. **NICE** 20gal Redwing  
3' #5 S. New House Bear Trap  
Kenwood NY **(UNUSUAL)**  
4' American Fur-N-Trade  
Company HBC #6 Bear Trap  
**(WOW!)**  
6' Set Long Horns  
3' Beartrap  
Sev. Whiskey Barrels  
Sev. Wooden High Wheel Wagon  
Wheels  
Sev. 15 Gal Whiskey Barrels  
Lot of Steel Wheels Various  
Sizes  
Sev. Dazey Butter Chums  
Sev. Cow Hides-N-Goat Hides  
Lot Barn Pulleys  
Sev. Hand Crank Corn Shellers  
2-John Deere Corn Shellers  
**(Floor Model)**  
Sev. Other Corn Shellers  
2-40 Gal Cast Butcher Kettles  
on Stands  
#5 Dinner Bell W/ Yoke  
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#32 Enterprise Meat Grinder  
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Huge! **VERY GOOD**  
Cond. **WOW!**  
Sev. Forges  
Post Vices  
3'-4'-5' Tine Forks  
Hawkeys Rope Maker  
Axes-N-Hatchets Keas Kutter  
Win, Cayuga, Bluegrass,  
Boy Scout  
#32 Meat Grinder w/  
Pulley on Stand  
Wooden Rocking Wash Machine  
Good Stensiling  
Lot Deer Antlers  
Lot NEW Yard Art-N-Lawn Decor  
Spinners  
Metal Roosters  
Peacocks  
Signs ETC

**SIGNS**

46"x68" Auth. Myers Pump  
Dealer SST  
30"x72" Case Farm Machinery  
Sign w/ Eagle on Ball

**TOYS**

75 Lots of Ertl Toys  
Tractors-N-Machinery Most Out  
Of Box

**MISCELLANEOUS**

15' V-Bottom Boat w/ 4HP  
Mercury Motor  
Lot **NEW** DeWalt & Milwaukee  
Battery Tools-N-Batteries  
Sev. Trailer Loads of Used  
Tools Etc.  
Like **NEW** Wire Feed Welder

**QUILTS**

1 **NEW** Quilt Red, White & Blue  
82X96  
6 Quilt Tops - Queen Size  
1 Teal  
1 Brown  
1 Blue  
1 Pink  
1 Green  
1 Lavender  
Log Cabin Blue & Brown  
100" X 112"  
Log Cabin Blue & Brown w/  
Bald  
Eagle Panel 100" X 112"  
Mountain Echo **Quilt Top** Teal &  
Gray 95" X 105"  
Mountain Echo Hearts **Quilt Top**  
Purple & Gray  
Weaver's Fever **Quilt Top**  
Teal & Gray  
**Quilt Tops**  
Star in Blocks Teal  
90" X 98"  
Blues, Ocean Wave 86" X 98"  
Reflective Glow, Brown 74" X  
88"  
**Quilt** Rhythm & Blues 74" X  
103"  
Flower **Quilt** White & Purple  
88" X 108"  
Tumbling Block 3-D **Quilt**  
91" X 106"  
2 Teddy Bear Wallhangers  
Butchmans Puzzle Hand  
Pieced  
72" X96"  
Rainbow Fan 86" X 94"  
Cross Stched Star Red & Gray  
90" X 96"  
Log Cabin Quilted Tablecloth  
68x82  
4 Matching Placemats  
15 1/2 in.sq.

**MACHINERY**

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1 Horse Garden Cultivator  
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Rem. Mod. 700 BDL Varmint  
Special 22-250 Bull BRL  
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Rem. Mod. 700 Classic 270  
Cal. w/ Scope  
Rem. 870 W.M. L.W.  
410 Ga VR Skeet  
Rem. 870 W.M. Magnum  
12 Ga 3" VR  
Rem. 870 W.M. 16 Ga VR Rough  
Rem. 1100 12 Ga 30" Trap  
BRL Full Choke  
Rem. 1100 12 Ga Slug BRL  
Rem. 1100 Magnum 12 Ga VR 3"  
Rem. 1100 12 Ga 2 1/4" VR  
Rem. 11-87 Special Purpose  
Magnum 12 Ga 3" VR  
Rem. 572 Field Master 22 Pump  
Win. 94 30-30 Win Carbine  
Win. 94 30-30 Win Lever  
Win. SXP Hybrid Field 20 Ga  
Pump 3" VR Walnut **NIB**  
Browning Lighting 12 Ga O/U  
VR Engraved  
Browning BPS 12 Ga 3 1/2"  
VR Choked Mint  
Browning A-Bolt 25-06  
w/ Scope Syn  
Hova Legacy Mod. 1500 25-06  
Stainless w/ Walnut Stock **NIB**  
Ruger 10/22 22 Cal Auto  
Ruger 10/22 22 Cal Auto  
Mossberg Silver Reserve 11  
28 Ga O/U Engraved  
Mossberg 151M 22 Cal  
Auto w/ Scope  
Savage A17 17HMR Auto  
w/ Red Dot Scope  
Savage 93R17 17HMR Bolt  
Bull BRL w/ Scope  
Stevens 555 12 Ga O/U  
Choked **NIB**  
Stevens Ranger M. 38-8 410 Bolt  
Marlin Mod 60 22 Cal  
Auto w/ Scope  
(Medallion In Stock)  
Springfield 2020 Classic 22 Cal  
**Bolt Like NEW**  
Tactical Innovations 10/22 22  
Auto Thumbhole Stock Threaded  
Fluted BRL  
H&R 243 Cal Single Shot Bull  
BRL w/ Scope  
Hiwatha 567 20 Ga Pump 3"  
American Eagle Mod. 70  
410 Ga Pump  
JC Higgins Mod 30 22 Cal Auto  
w/ Scope w/Retractable Sling  
Taurus Judge 45LC/410Ga  
Stainless Revolver  
Ruger Super BlackHawk 44 Mag  
Ruger Security Six 357 Mag  
Heritage 22 Cal 6 1/2" Brl Green  
Lam. Grips w/22 mag cyl **NIB**  
Ruger 3600 22 Semi Auto **NIB**

**GUNS**

Rem. Mod. 700 BDL 17 Rem.  
Rem. Mod. 700 BDL 222  
Rem. w/ Scope  
Rem. Mod. 700 BDL 243  
w/ Scope  
Rem. Mod. 700 243 w/ Scope  
Rem. Mod. 700 BDL Varmint  
Special 22-250 Bull BRL  
w/ Scope  
Rem. Mod. 700 Classic 270  
Cal. w/ Scope  
Rem. 870 W.M. L.W.  
410 Ga VR Skeet  
Rem. 870 W.M. Magnum  
12 Ga 3" VR  
Rem. 870 W.M. 16 Ga VR Rough  
Rem. 1100 12 Ga 30" Trap  
BRL Full Choke  
Rem. 1100 12 Ga Slug BRL  
Rem. 1100 Magnum 12 Ga VR 3"  
Rem. 1100 12 Ga 2 1/4" VR  
Rem. 11-87 Special Purpose  
Magnum 12 Ga 3" VR  
Rem. 572 Field Master 22 Pump  
Win. 94 30-30 Win Carbine  
Win. 94 30-30 Win Lever  
Win. SXP Hybrid Field 20 Ga  
Pump 3" VR Walnut **NIB**  
Browning Lighting 12 Ga O/U  
VR Engraved  
Browning BPS 12 Ga 3 1/2"  
VR Choked Mint  
Browning A-Bolt 25-06  
w/ Scope Syn  
Hova Legacy Mod. 1500 25-06  
Stainless w/ Walnut Stock **NIB**  
Ruger 10/22 22 Cal Auto  
Ruger 10/22 22 Cal Auto  
Mossberg Silver Reserve 11  
28 Ga O/U Engraved  
Mossberg 151M 22 Cal  
Auto w/ Scope  
Savage A17 17HMR Auto  
w/ Red Dot Scope  
Savage 93R17 17HMR Bolt  
Bull BRL w/ Scope  
Stevens 555 12 Ga O/U  
Choked **NIB**  
Stevens Ranger M. 38-8 410 Bolt  
Marlin Mod 60 22 Cal  
Auto w/ Scope  
(Medallion In Stock)  
Springfield 2020 Classic 22 Cal  
**Bolt Like NEW**  
Tactical Innovations 10/22 22  
Auto Thumbhole Stock Threaded  
Fluted BRL  
H&R 243 Cal Single Shot Bull  
BRL w/ Scope  
Hiwatha 567 20 Ga Pump 3"  
American Eagle Mod. 70  
410 Ga Pump  
JC Higgins Mod 30 22 Cal Auto  
w/ Scope w/Retractable Sling  
Taurus Judge 45LC/410Ga  
Stainless Revolver  
Ruger Super BlackHawk 44 Mag  
Ruger Security Six 357 Mag  
Heritage 22 Cal 6 1/2" Brl Green  
Lam. Grips w/22 mag cyl **NIB**  
Ruger 3600 22 Semi Auto **NIB**

**AMMO**

1000 RDS 45 Auto  
300 RDS 9MM  
100 RDS 30-30  
Several Cases 410 GA

S&W Rifle Scope  
**NEW Ridgeline 44 Gun Safe**

**COINS**

1878 Morgan Dollar  
1884 Morgan Dollar  
1884-O Morgan Dollar Nico  
1890-O Morgan Dollar  
1891-O Morgan Dollar  
1900-O Morgan Dollar  
1901-O Morgan Dollar  
1921 Morgan Dollar  
1921-D Morgan Dollar  
1947-D Walking Liberty Half  
Dollar  
1912-D Barber Half Dollar  
1866 2Cent Piece  
1999-2008 Complete State  
QuarterBook  
1999 US Mint Proof Set  
20 Buffalo Nickels 1935-36-37  
10 Indian Head Pennys  
10 V Nickles  
20 Kennedy Half Dollars  
10 IKE Dollars  
2 Sleeves Unsearched Wheat  
Pennys  
1868 2Cent Piece  
1898 Morgan Dollar  
1942 Walking Liberty Half Dollar  
1854-O Liberty Seated Half Dollar  
1912 Barber Half Dollar  
1898 Barber Half Dollar  
1960 Franklin Half Dollar  
1952 Franklin Half Dollar  
1881-O Morgan Dollar  
1880-S Morgan Dollar  
1882-S Morgan Dollar  
1888 Morgan Dollar  
1889-O Morgan Dollar  
1891 Morgan Dollar  
1900-O Morgan Dollar  
1921-D Morgan Dollar  
2 1922 Peace Dollars  
1923 Peace Dollar  
1857 Half Dime  
1858 Half Dime  
1855 Half Cent  
1839 One Cent  
1857 One Cent Flying Eagle  
2 1866 3Cent Pieces  
1876 Liberty Seated Dime  
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# Classifieds

All classified ads are payable in advance. 40-cents per word, \$4 minimum. Deadline: Monday at 9 A.M.

## GARAGE SALES

**YARD SALE** - 2315 N. Carolina, Louisiana, Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, 8-11 a.m. Multi-Family. Furniture, household, women & girl's clothing, lots of misc.

**YARD SALE** - 420 S. St. Charles St., B.G. Tuesday-Saturday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Jeans, shorts, swim wear, toys, household, misc., small appliances, twin bed.

## MOBILE HOMES

**USED DOUBLE-WIDE** - DUTCH. Amish built in Indiana, excellent condition, 3 bed., 2 bath. **FINANCING**. Call for info 573-249-3333, marktwainmobile-homes.com (tf)

**I BUY . . . . .** used mobile homes. Call or text 573-338-6250 or email GregS.CDH@outlook.com.

**DEADLINE FOR ADVERTISING IS 9 A.M., MON.**

## FOR RENT

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

**MODERN MATUREITY BUILDING** - Vandalia - Family reunion, shower, birthday. Call Art Wiser, 594-3224. (tf)

## FOR SALE

**FITNATION ROW RIDER** fold away exercise bike. Counts calories, distance, and time. Call 573-470-5518.

**STOP BY** for all your furniture needs. Vandalia Firestone & Appliance, 594-6624.

**LAST RUGER** AR-556'S. \$575. MO. Firearms Co. 573-470-9111. (c4-21)

**REFURNISHED COMPUTERS**, parts, accessories. Call Geeky Hillbilly Computers 573-324-7176. (tf)

## FOR SALE

**GOOD used tires**, passenger & light truck, \$15 & up. Vandalia Firestone & Appliance, 594-6624.

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

## NO HUNTING

**NO HUNTING OR TRESPASSING**, Murry Shepherd Farms. Violators will be prosecuted. Not responsible for injuries or accidents.

**NO TRESPASSING OR HUNTING** on the property of Cheryl Boots. Violators will be prosecuted. Not responsible for accidents or property.

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## SERVICES

**PREMIERE PRESURE WASHING** - Outside house cleaning, soffits, driveways, decks, patios, fence cleaning, farm equipment, and trailers. Free estimates. 573-253-8811. (tf)

**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. (tf)

**NAME DOILIES** - Hand crocheted by Ann Hecox. Make great personal gifts. 217-656-3654 annahcx@gmail.com.

## SERVICES

**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.

## CLOPTON

**Continued from front page** schools with 350 or fewer students in their top three grades. Clopton may face familiar foes in Rosemont, as Bayless (from St. Louis), Brentwood, and Hallsville will also be attending. The team comes in with some nationals experience: Joey Dillon, Finn O'Brien, and Kyle West played the 2024 Small School National Championship Tournament in Rosemont, Ill., near Chicago.

The team, in the Tradi-

## SERVICES

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

tional Public Schools Division, will be captained by Finn O'Brien, who will be joined by Joey Dillon, Gracie Heckrodt, Tristan Malloy, Ridge Mitchell, Wyatt Myers, Katherine Truetken, and Kyle West. The team will be coached by Andy Van Bebber.

Tournament results will be updated throughout the three days of competition at <https://www.naqt.com/go/stats/17101> so everyone can follow along and see how the team does. You can also follow #ssnct on Instagram.

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Vandalia, MO 63382

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EOE

**GIROD FAMILY AUCTIONS**  
**Large Spring Consignment Auction**  
**Saturday, April 25**  
9 a.m.  
**420 Hwy. 161, Middletown, MO 63359**

**Spartan Light Metal Products**  
Hannibal MO Facility

Spartan Light Metal Products is a recognized industry leader in the manufacturing and delivery of engineered Magnesium and Aluminum die casting solutions.

We are seeking a highly motivated/skilled individual for:

**Maintenance Technician**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Shift

**Preferred Skills, Abilities and Experience include:**

- Experience in troubleshooting and programming PLC's and electronic equipment.
- 480 electrical, hydraulic and pneumatic systems experience and troubleshooting skills.
- In depth knowledge of general foundry practices.
- Basic machining skills (milling, grinding and lathe)
- Ability to read and interpret blueprints and machine control schematics.
- Solid mechanical skills.
- Basic welding skills.
- Committed to working safely.
- Good communication skills.
- Positive work record/Good attendance record
- 3-5 years' minimum industrial maintenance experience.
- Certificate or degree from an approved trade school, college or university or sufficient relevant work experience.

**Must be flexible and willing to work overtime and weekends as needed.**

We offer a competitive compensation/benefits package and the opportunity to work in a value-driven organization where employees are considered our most valuable resource.

For additional information and to apply, go to:  
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BBranstetter@ShelterInsurance.com

**Ashley Jenkins**  
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TJenkins@ShelterInsurance.com

**Frank Wallace**  
610 W Hwy 54  
Vandalia  
573-594-2235  
FEWallace@ShelterInsurance.com

**Don't Wait!**  
These Deals  
End Soon!

**howard's**  
**BUDGET**  
FURNITURE & MATTRESS

**BUY MORE  
SAVE MORE**

**\$2000 off!**  
up to

**Save**  
up to **50% OFF**

**Plus!** Extra Savings  
**\$2000\***  
up to  
\$2000 Off purchase of \$8,000+

**Plus!**  
SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE<sup>1</sup>  
**OR**

**60 MONTHS**  
SPECIAL FINANCING!<sup>1</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Restrictions apply. Minimum purchase required.  
See store for details.

**BUY THE SOFA AND LOVESEAT  
AND SAVE EVEN MORE!**

**\$300 in savings**  
versus \$100 savings  
if bought separately.

Buy the Sofa  
and Loveseat  
50% OFF \$1578  
**NOW ONLY \$1278**  
with \$300 Off  
Extra Savings!



Reclining Sofa  
Why Pay \$1599  
50% OFF \$799  
**NOW ONLY \$699**  
with \$100 Off Extra Savings!

Matching Reclining  
Loveseat  
Why Pay \$1559  
50% OFF \$779  
**NOW ONLY \$679**  
with \$100 Off Extra Savings!

6 Pc. Dining Set  
Why Pay \$2289  
50% OFF \$1144  
**NOW ONLY \$944**  
with \$200 Off Extra Savings!



Set includes table, 4 chairs, and bench.



**La-Z-Boy**  
Rocker Recliner  
Why Pay \$999  
50% OFF \$499  
**NOW ONLY \$399**  
with \$100 Off  
Extra Savings!

**Multiple in stock!**



Rocker Recliner  
Why Pay \$1399  
50% OFF \$699  
**NOW ONLY \$599**  
with \$100 Off  
Extra Savings!

**MATTRESSES**

**Serta**

Cleona Plush Euro Top  
QUEEN MATTRESS  
Why Pay \$999  
50% OFF \$499  
**NOW ONLY \$399**  
with \$100 Off Extra Savings!



**ALL SIZES  
ON SALE!**

**ASHLEY SLEEP**  
Hybrid Plush  
QUEEN MATTRESS  
with Queen Adj. Base  
Why Pay \$1999  
50% OFF \$999  
**NOW ONLY \$899**  
with \$100 Off Extra Savings!  
Base includes adj. head and adj.  
foot Plus Zero Gravity position.



**ALL SIZES  
ON SALE!**

Adjustable  
Base Included  
with Mattress!

**howard's**  
**BUDGET**  
FURNITURE & MATTRESS  
HowardsBudget.com

The **best values** in Missouri!

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Mon. - Fri. 9am to 5:30pm  
Sat. 9am to 4pm  
Sun. CLOSED

<sup>1</sup>Restrictions apply. Minimum purchase required. See store for details.

\*Sale prices in this ad reflect all discounts applied. Offers cannot be combined with any other promotion or discount except those in this ad. Offers exclude previous purchases and any products for which the manufacturer sets a minimum selling price like Stressless Ekornes®, Tempur-Pedic®, sales tax, furniture protection plans, warranty, delivery, and service charge. Although every precaution was taken in price and image specification, errors may occur in print or digital format. We reserve the right to correct any such errors. See store for details. Offers expire 5/4/2026. © 2026 Knorr Marketing HOFU-1683 3/26

