



THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

NEWS FOR PIKE, EASTERN AUDRAIN & NORTHERN LINCOLN COUNTIES

FREE

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Missouri State Fair Announces Youth In Ag Scholarship Winners

Missouri State Fair Director Jason Moore announced today that 62 youth, selected from Missouri 4-H and FFA State Fair exhibitors, will be awarded scholarships by the Missouri State Fair and the Youth in Agriculture (YIA) committee. These students are seeking higher education at a university/college of their choice and will be recognized on April 16, 2026 during the annual State FFA Convention in Columbia.

Scholarship applicants were evaluated in a variety of areas including Missouri State Fair participation, grade point average, community involvement and leadership roles. Since 1992, the Youth in Agriculture committee has now awarded 1,003 scholarships totaling \$1,310,000.

The scholarships are funded through the generosity of Youth in Agriculture sponsors and buyers of the livestock sold during the Best of Missouri Awards and Sale and Sale of Champions auction; the sponsors and buyers lists are available online. A portion of each animal's total sale value is allocated to the scholarship program. Support of the scholarship program was also provided by Betty Jane Bell Trust, BTC Bank, Edward Jones and Associates, MFA Inc. Charitable Foundation, Missouri State Fair Concessionaires, Missouri State Fair Foundation, The Climate Fieldview Corp., Hayden Freedom Foundation, and Wheeler Auctions.

John Brodey Bartlett, of Marshall, has been selected to receive the \$5,000 S. Wayne Yokley Platinum Scholarship sponsored by Youth in Agriculture supporters.

Elliott Cooley, of Windsor, has been selected to receive the \$3,500 Sharon Topliff Scholarship, sponsored by Youth in Agriculture

supporters.

Rhett Forkner, of Richards, has been selected to receive the \$2,500 supreme scholarship, sponsored by Sydenstricker Nobbe Partners/Sydenstricker Genetics.

The youth chosen to receive \$2,500 supreme scholarships, sponsored by the Missouri State Fair Foundation, are:

Kristin Waters, Norborne
Kelsey Carter, Montrose
Savannah Miller, Jonesburg

The youth chosen to receive \$2,000 scholarships, sponsored by Bell Trust, are:

Jorja Ebert, Polo
Bailee Vogel, Marshall
Brock Pitt, Norborne
Addison Shipp, Keytesville

Austin Doerhoff, Henley
Braydon Cull, Chillicothe

Seth Engeman, Montrose
Ava Ancell, Macon
Beau Ann Graves, Chillicothe

Braxton Switzer, Bucklin
The youth chosen to receive \$1,750 scholarships, sponsored by MFA, Inc. Charitable Foundation, are:

Marah Greiman, Monroe City
J. Grayden Woodcock, Macon

Sophia Speichinger, Mendon
Joanna Rhea, Houstonia
Krista Cokerham, Meadville

The youth chosen to receive \$1,750 scholarships, sponsored by Youth in Agriculture supporters, are:

Callie Gann, Boonville
Courtney Sparks, St. Catharine
TJ Belt, Leonard
Gracelynn Barnett, Chillicothe

Delaney Duncan, Pleasant Hill
Raylyn Wilfong, Tipton
Marshall Kable, Centralia

Kale Batson, Trenton
Lydia Nolting, Lamar
Brier Day, Marshfield
Jersey Rowe, New Cambria

Jaiden Rodenberg, Wheeling
Justin Schutter, Kirksville

Colby Walkup, Agency
Clara Harden, Rolla
Hannah Williams, Amsterdam

Ashtyn Johnson, Sweet Springs
Allee Prescott, Coffey

Saige Garner, Belle
Macy Martin, Springfield
Braylin Brunkhorst, Centralia

Mealica Cover, Bowling Green

Adelynn Barber, Elsberry
Allie Wagner, Pierce City
Payden Crain, Madison
Kampbell Thomas, Republic

Carman Woodworth, Chillicothe
Selby Hulse, Hannibal
Mackenzie Schmutzler, Savannah

Zada Ketchum, Downing
Kate Fischer, St. Joseph
Blain Kusgen, California
Jordan Brinkman, Foley

Benjamin Brubaker, Chillicothe
Makayla McCurdy, Wellsville

Sari Rogers, Princeton
Aubrey Youse, Paris
Marshal Stauffer, El Dorado Springs

Blair Bergsieker, Higginsville
Trinity Dreckshage, Shelbyville

The Youth in Agriculture committee is comprised of volunteers from across the state who work throughout the year to raise funds for the Best of Missouri Awards and Sale, Sale of Champions auction and scholarships. This year's Best of Missouri Awards and Sale and Sale of Champions will be held on Saturday, Aug. 22 in the Lowell Mohler Assembly Hall on the Fairgrounds.

Audrain County Officially Receives MO Blue Shield Designation

BY BRICE CHANDLER EDITOR

Audrain County Officially Receives Missouri Blue Shield Designation

On March 26, Audrain County received official word from the Missouri Department of Public Safety that we have earned the Missouri Blue Shield designation for 2026. This honor recognizes Missouri communities that demonstrate their commitment to enhancing public safety, investing in and supporting law enforcement and building partnerships between law enforcement and our community. Audrain County was also recognized with a Blue Shield designation in 2025.

The Missouri Blue Shield Program was created by Governor Kehoe in January 2025 through Executive Order 25-03. In 2025, 201 Missouri communities earned the Blue Shield designation, recognizing local governments' significant efforts to reduce crime and foster law enforcement - community partnerships to strengthen public safety. The opportunity to earn the Blue Shield designation for 2026 opened on February 4, 2026. Communities that earned the Blue Shield designation in 2025 had to reapply this year to be approved once again.

"The Blue Shield program has shown what's possible when communities commit to prioritizing law

enforcement and public safety," Governor Kehoe said. "After awarding \$50,000 grants to more than 200 communities last year, we're continuing that work by welcoming new communities and renewing Blue Shield designations for counties, towns, and cities that remain committed to the program."

"Strengthening public safety and committing to joint law enforcement community - citizen safety efforts is what the Blue Shield Program is all about and the Department of Public Safety is honored to work with communities like Audrain County that have answered the Blue Shield challenge," said Mark James, Director of the Missouri Department of Public Safety (DPS). "Last year, the essential equipment provided by Blue Shield grants included 388 mobile data terminals, 351 body cameras, 151 license plate readers (LPR), 102 ballistic vests, 91 interoperable radios and 56 vehicles. We look forward to getting additional important equipment and training to our partners in local law enforcement."

Sheriff Oller said "To acquire this designation requires leaders to evaluate their efforts toward public safety each year. It's a great incentive for leaders to really look at their communities and evaluate how to reach the goal. Last year, receiving this designation

allowed us to upgrade our decade old body worn cameras, funded the yearly cost of operating our digital forensic evidence software, and funded the data transfer service for our mobile data terminals that are in each patrol car."

Eligibility and Program Details-

Communities are eligible for a Missouri Blue Shield designation based on their dedication to reducing crime, making substantial investments in public safety, and developing strong collaboration with law enforcement agencies and community stakeholders. Each participating community's commitment is reviewed annually to ensure continued alignment with the program's goals.

Participation Incentives-

Communities that earn a Missouri Blue Shield designation will receive grant funding for law enforcement training and equipment as part of Governor Kehoe's Recommended Budget for the State Fiscal Year 2027, provided the General Assembly approves the funding. The Governor's FY 2027 budget appropriated \$10 million to the program for equipment and training grants. Communities will also be featured on Governor Kehoe's social media pages as well as the DPS website to highlight their participation in the program.

Lincoln's Last Act?

Pike Lawmaker Seeks Pardon On Fateful Day

BY BRENT ENGEL CONTRIBUTING WRITER

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

History seemingly provides no clear answer on President Abraham Lincoln's last official act.

One thing is certain. Missouri U.S. Sen. John Brooks Henderson of Louisiana was part of the captivating drama.

Henderson was at the White House on the evening of April 14, 1865. The story goes that he had already tried twice that day to have Secretary of War Edwin Stanton sign a pardon for accused Confederate spy George Vaughan of Canton. The Civil War had ended five days earlier, but indications were that Vaughan still was to be executed on April 16. So, the senator went to visit Lincoln again.

"The President was in his office, dressed to go to Ford's Theatre, when the Senator entered and told of the meeting he had had with Stanton," according to the book "Lincoln In Story" by Silas Pratt.

Lincoln quietly "turned to his desk and wrote a few lines on an official sheet of paper," Pratt reported. "As he handed it to Senator Henderson, he remarked 'I think that will have precedence over Stanton.'"

Lincoln and his wife, Mary, then left to see "Our American Cousin." Until his death at age 76 on Aug. 26, 1899, Vaughan maintained the tiny piece of paper contained Lincoln's last official act. The account gained

legitimacy when it was published in other books, magazines and newspapers, including The New York Times.

The mystery began when several sources indicated Lincoln may have taken care of at least one other official matter before his date with destiny.

The most obvious piece of confirmation for Vaughan's tale is the one that's never been found - the written promise of clemency given to Henderson. Therefore, conjecture reigns.

One note that has survived exonerated Vaughan a month earlier. It purportedly was signed by Lincoln on March 18, 1865. Of course, that would mean there would have been no point in Henderson going to the White House on April 14 if the president had already agreed to free Vaughan unless - because time was running out - the senator wanted to be certain that the execution had been called off.

In 1930, author John William Starr wrote a sequel to his book "Lincoln's Last Day." It claims Henderson gave a spoken account "of his success in gaining the release of several classes of prisoners after the adjournment of Congress in March 1865," and "the petition containing the name of Vaughan was evidently one of these," Starr said.

Starr later interviewed Henderson's wife, Mary Foote Henderson.

"I was not acquainted with Mr. Henderson at the time of the Lincoln assassination, but

as Mr. Henderson afterward talked to me often of his frequent interviews with Mr. Lincoln and did not mention the time of which you speak, I think the report could not have been true," she is quoted as saying.

One of Vaughan's granddaughters was a believer. She had "heard my grandmother tell this story a number of times," Starr wrote. The family had "no doubt but what the story told by Senator Henderson is correct."

Another leading contender for "last official act" was the reappointment of Alvin Saunders as governor of the Nebraska territory.

"Mr. Lincoln signed it just before leaving for the theater that fateful evening, and left it lying there, unfolded," Saunders said.

Further confusing matters is the 1918 painting "Lincoln's Last Act" by Jean Leon Jerome Ferris. It shows the unidentified mother of a Confederate soldier receiving a pardon for her son from the president on the afternoon of April 14. Trouble was, Henderson would not seek a signature on Vaughan's petition until after supper.

"Was it possible that something pertinent had arisen during the interim (starting March 18) which required an interview with the President on April 14?" Staff asked.

Next time: Additional evidence.

Encore Returning To Its Musical Roots

BY BRENT ENGEL, CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Encore started as a tribute to Broadway musicals, and audiences were treated to popular showtunes. More recently, organizers expanded to include themes such as the Roaring 20s, a 1950s Sock Hop, the 1960s, Motown, Country Classics and the music of Elvis.

"After several years away from Broadway, Donna Grote, my co-director, and I decided it was time to go back and visit the Broadway stage," said Debbie Ingram. "I've loved Broadway since I was a kid in high school and have been playing some of these songs that long."

There are 13 performers in

the Encore Ensemble and 11 songs in the show. The selections include "Memory" from "Cats," "Someone Like You" from "Jekyll & Hyde," "What I Did For Love" from "A Chorus Line" and "Goodnight, My Someone" from "The Music Man." Ingram promises that two additional group medleys are "packed with snippets" of beloved songs.

Reports indicate that Broadway largely has bounced back from the hit taken during the COVID pandemic. For many, it never lost the luster.

Ingram said she loves plays, but "musicals can sometimes take our imaginations even further out of the everyday."

Working with dedicated musicians is particularly gratifying.

Ingram praised the "great talent" that is participating and said it's "wonderful that we have The Apple Shed in Clarksville that is able to host these types of events. People can stay close to home and still attend a very elegant and entertaining production."

Doors open at 6 p.m., with dinner by Keely Catering & Events and the show at 7 p.m. Reservations are required and must be made by logging on to www.raintreeartsCouncil.org and clicking on the "Encore 2026" icon. Questions may be directed to 314-518-5637.

April History Nuggets

BY BRENT ENGEL CONTRIBUTING WRITER

That'll Cost You

The Louisiana Press-Journal welcomed most aspects of spring in April 1916, but did not like a lesson in economics. "The meek and lowly dandelion, the air of Heaven and the river water are the only commodities around here on which Old Hi Price has not laid his ruthless hand."

Size Matters

The Pike County Chronicle of April 3, 1891, offered a thought-provoker. "If a book was made of what some people think they know and placed beside one containing what they know, there would be quite a difference between

the size of said books."

Keeping The Sabbath

Baptists in Bowling Green jumped all over Missouri lawmakers in March 1911 for meeting on a Sunday. They even sent a resolution objecting to the legislative session. "By doing so, it disgraced itself, lowered the dignity of our great state, violated the divine law and brought a reproach on the Christian manhood and womanhood of our state," the group told newspapers.

Alright Is Alwrong

In April 1922, the editor of the Louisiana Journal got a little churlish in lambasting people who wrote "alright" instead of "all right." "There is no such word in the English

language," he said of the former.

Clucky 7s

The Bowling Green Times reported in April 1906 that H.B. Stone had placed 107 eggs in an incubator at 7 a.m. on March 17 and that 77 chickens had hatched.

Dude & The Drunk

The Clarksville Sentinel of April 30, 1897, relayed the message an intoxicated resident had for another. "That dude was pretty thoroughly squelched the other day by a drunk man who said: 'Young man, I know I'm pretty drunk and sorry for it. But I'd a darn sight rather be in my fix than yours, for I'll get over mine, but you'll never get over yours.'"



Reading Signs With HLG

Van-Far senior Pacey Reading signed to play basketball next fall for Hannibal LaGrange College on Wednesday, April 1. Pacey is pictured with his parents, Brett and Amanda Reading of Vandalia; and second row: Pat Connaway, HLG Head Coach Jason Durst; and Chad Reading.

Trib photo by Nancy Case

Community News



Just Yummy

Louisiana Lions Club members Shelly Childers, left, and Jeri Smith were among those who served up pancakes, sausage, eggs and fruit during the group's annual Pancake Day fund-raiser March 14 at First Christian Church. Proceeds will be used for local Lions Club community service projects.

Photo by Brent Engel

MO Master Gardeners Boost State's Economy

If you see flowers in public places or fresh produce at the local food bank, it might be the work of a University of Missouri Extension Master Gardener (EMG).

In the program's 2025 annual report, EMGs across the state reported thousands of hours of volunteer work that improve local communities. Through outreach, volunteer leadership, and research-based education in communities of all sizes, more than 2,125 volunteers contributed almost 150,000 hours valued at more than \$5 million, says Juan Cabrera, director of the program.

"Their collaborative efforts in demonstration gardens, youth programs, community food systems, public events, and environmental stewardship showcase the extensive reach of Extension's initiatives across Missouri," Cabrera says.

Gardeners used research-based education from MU to help other gardeners improve their gardening skills by answering 834 questions from the public, he says.

Whether it's handing out seeds at local food banks, distributing milkweed plants to encourage monarch butterfly populations or planting 200 tomato plants for a tomato festival, Extension Master Gardeners find ways to use their knowledge and skills to benefit others, following the program's motto of "helping others learn to grow," says Debi Kelly, state Extension Master Gardener coordinator.

Participants benefit from the social aspect of their chapter involvement also, says Kelly. Chapter meetings, projects and events give volunteers from different age and socioeconomic groups, an opportunity to learn and work together for the betterment of their own community through volunteering.

In addition, gardeners help to reduce food insecurity by donating nearly 25,000 pounds of produce to food pantries and soup kitchens across the state. They also teach others to

grow their own food in community gardens, backyards and in containers on patios, emphasizing the cost-saving and nutritional benefits of fresh produce, Kelly says.

More than 300 Missourians completed the Master Gardener online course last year, and more than 280 attended in-person classes. There are 45 chapters throughout the state.

Learn more about the Extension Master Gardener program at <https://mg.missouri.edu>.

Celebrate MO Trees With MDC Through Arbor Days

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) encourages Missourians to celebrate the value of Missouri trees and forests during Arbor Days in April by planting native trees and practicing proper tree care.

Missouri Arbor Day was Friday, April 3. Missouri has been observing the state's official Arbor Day on the first Friday in April for 140 years -- since 1886 -- when the General Assembly declared the day be set aside for the appreciation and planting of trees. National Arbor Day is recognized on the last Friday of April, which is April 24.

Get information on backyard tree care -- including types of trees for urban and other landscapes, selecting the right tree for the right place, planting tips, watering and pruning info, and more -- at mdc.mo.gov/trees-plants/tree-care.

Our George O. White State Forest Nursery near Licking offers residents a variety of low-cost native tree and shrub seedlings for reforestation, windbreaks, erosion control, and wildlife food and cover. Orders are accepted to April 15. For more info, visit mdc.mo.gov/trees-plants/tree-seedlings.

WE WELCOME YOUR LOCAL NEWS

Senior Tax Freeze 2026

New applications are now available! You can pick one up at the Collector's Office or access it online at pikecountycollector.com.

If you are already enrolled in the program, renewal forms have been mailed. Please review your information carefully and return the form to the Collector's Office. Renewal is required to remain in the program.

The deadline for ALL applications and renewals is June 30, 2026.

If you have any questions, please contact the Collector's Office at 573-324-3281.

**Thank you, Tara J. Eskew
Pike County Collector**

Callaway Livestock Center, Inc.

Kingdom City, MO
573-642-7486

Please visit our website at 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 3-30-2026				Monday Receipts 2,908 Head			
1,580 Steers, medium & large		968 Heifers, Med. & Large		Computer Avg.		Computer Avg.	
34	300 & Down	690	780	40	300 & Down	607	742
145	300-400	600	697	114	300-400	519	565
330	400-500	525	607	227	400-500	460	518
288	500-600	455	530	296	500-600	424	472
319	600-700	419	456	129	600-700	384	412
311	700-800	375	408	68	700-800	344	354
86	800-900	344	354	79	800-900	314	334
61	900-1,000	330	338	8	900-1000	275	286
4	Bred Cows - Better Pairs	2900	3950		Others		
					Slaughter Cows	300	
	High Dressing	173	178		Low	130	150
	Bulk	155	165		Thin	70	100
17	Slaughter Bulls	210	233				

ALL SLAUGHTER STEERS & HEIFERS SOLD ON MON. NOON

14	Choice 2 & 3	237	Steers & Heifers
		(Top)	Mixed Select 235 Select

Receiving Hours Sat. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; Mon. 8 a.m.-

We appreciate your business both buyers & sellers! For more info contact

Jack Harrison - 573-999-7197	Jack Harrison, Owner	Myles McWhorter - 573-263-3759
John P. Harrison - 573-220-1482	573-999-7197	Glenn Stegeman - 573-619-8495
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 Niemeyer - 573-470-1017	Carson Poe - 573-550-9133	Kevin Milken - 417-588-0307
Tyler Harris - 573-220-2766		Craton Blattel - 417-650-7688



**Call 811
Before You Dig**

If you hear a high-pitched whistle, see an unusual area of dead grass or smell rotten eggs, leave the premises immediately and **call 911** then call us at 800.552.7583 to report the leak. Unintended releases and leaks can be hazardous and easily ignited by heat or sparks.

Planning a yard project? Anyone who plans to dig needs to know the location of buried utilities so that you don't unintentionally dig into an underground utility line. Before you start, **call 811** to notify utility operators of your intent to dig. It's for your safety and required by law. Learn more about safe digging at **Missouri-811.org**.

Most pipelines are buried underground. High visibility markers identify the approximate location of major pipelines in the area and highlight the need for extra care.



Ameren.com/NaturalGasSafety



Public Auction Sunday

April 19th, 2026, at 11:00 am
14144 Hwy. E - Curryville, MO 63339



1971 El Camino, Tractors, Farm equipment

1971 El Camino, one-owner, Bought new from Ted Motez Chevrolet in Vandalia. 62,364 original miles. A very nice car. Needs some tlc. This car will run. Needs new gas put in it.

McCormick Farmall M tractor, International 3 bottom plow, Sycle mower, 10' pull type disc, Allis Chalmers 5' Brush Hog, McCormick 8' Pull type disc, Ford 7' 3pt. blade, yard roller, T Post, cinder blocks, patio blocks, John Deere 620 Tractor Narrow front end runs good, John Deere E0045 Loader for 620 tractor, 3pt. forks, John Deere Sycle mower, Wood splitter, dog pen 10', Metal barrels, Extension ladder, Small Gate, Porch post, dog house, yard wagon, Lot of fence wire, More items not listed.

Owners and auction personnel not responsible for accidents, nor for items lost or stolen. Announcements made day of sale take precedence over any printed matter. Restrooms on site. We accept Cash, Good Check with proper ID and Credit/Debit card with a 4% convenience charge. **Lunch will be served on site.**

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR MORE PHOTOS!
Owner: Jim Christian

VISIT US ON AUCTIONZIP - ID NUMBER 15431
Bill Allen Auction Service
573-470-6565
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PUBLIC AUCTION

SUNDAY, APRIL 12TH, - 11:00 AM
BILL ALLEN AUCTION SERVICE BARN
21208 Hwy. WW, BOWLING GREEN, MO 63334
Owners: Tim and Sharla Davis and others

Household and misc.

LG washer and dryer, Refrigerator, Platform rockers, Oak cabinets, cast iron match holder, recliners, lift chair, micro suede, electric couch, curio cabinets, precious moments, roll top, office desk, queen size sleigh bed, cherry dresser, Seth Thomas. All clocks, China cabinet, dishes, Kitchen utensils, figurines, Maple telephone, bench, the hope chest, washboard, brass chafing pan, oil lamps, massage table, milk cans, Kirby Heritage, Vacuum, Trucks, Christmas decorations, blow molds, step ladder, Gone with the wind lamp shade, jumper cables, Charlie's Chips 10, aluminum 6 foot step Ladder, miscellaneous vacuum sweepers, outdoor folding chairs, bird feeders, fiberglass 6 foot step ladder, Montgomery Ward Air compressor, copper tubing, floor fan, hedge trimmers, miscellaneous dressers and end tables, 18 inch real type, hyper tuff, push, mower, cable choker, wheelbarrow, electric leaf blower, new in the box. Barbecue grill, concrete, statuary, yard decorations, cast iron, flowerpots, concrete statuary, lions, and a basement full of packed boxes that haven't been open in over 15 years, there are a lot of items not listed as much of it was packed up before we got there to see it.



Kubota ZG 127s Zero turn Mower 27 HP. Kohler motor. 54" cut. This mower is in excellent condition.

Mower is from Naomi and the Late John Lewellen.

We have a few items that were added in from the Lewellen's



www.allenauctioneers.com 573-470-6565

Owners and auction personnel not responsible for accidents, nor for items lost or stolen. Announcements made day of sale take precedence over any printed matter. Lunch will be available, Restroom on site. We accept Cash, Good Check & Card with 4% convenience fee. **IF WE DO NOT KNOW YOU, WE WILL ONLY ACCEPT CASH.**

Auctioneers: Bill Allen

BILL ALLEN AUCTION SERVICE
www.billallenauctionservice.com
573-470-6565



Community News

From The Mayor's Desk...

What you fill your mind with shapes who you become.

Ever find yourself scrolling for hours on your phone or computer, only to wonder where the time, and your energy, went? If we put junk into our minds, junk will come out of our mouths! This is one reason Americans find that what we're feeding on today-information, food, gossip, media-leaves us negative, distracted, restless, unhealthy, and drained. Slowly then, without realizing it, we become what we consume. Thoughts and food. Healthy or unhealthy.

Election Day has come and gone, and I pray you exercised your right, privilege, and responsibility to vote! I believe City Hall will continue to be in good shape and the same for our County Court House leadership and personnel.

As many observed and celebrated Holy Week with Lent, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter, I am reminded of the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross for the freeing of our sins and life everlasting! It reminds me that freedom is never free, never accidental Freedom is secured through courage, conviction, and sacrifice.

Our Founding Fathers understood these principles and envisioned a nation where individuals could live free from tyranny and doctrinal enslavement. Where faith and liberty could flourish together! Today, these principles face serious chal-

lenges!

Thanks to all who attended the Easter egg hunt in the park this past Saturday. We had a great turnout and the park board came up with a new twist of having tickets in the eggs as well as candy and/or money.

The tickets could then be traded for additional prizes! Kids and parents thoroughly enjoyed this park activity. The next park board activity is April 17 with a Princess Pageant. More details to come and you can call Helen at 573-253-4974 for specific details on times and location. Saturday, April 18 is Park Day with multiple activities including Bowling Green's Got Talent.

Singing, dancing, comedy, magic, and whatever talent you have can be put on display. Cash prizes for 4-7-year-olds and for ages 18 and over. All ages are covered, so don't miss your time to shine. Microphone is provided but bring your own props. Again, call Helen to sign up.

Please honor our country and commemorate 250 Years of hard-fought liberty, justice, and the Constitution of The United States of America!

Last year, Pike County Relay for Life, thanks to many, donated \$14,000 to the American Cancer Society. This year, the same group is taking a new direction for fund-raising, and all monies will stay in Pike County. More info to come.



JIM ARICO, MAYOR
CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

Pike To Pike...



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

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. John 16:33

Birthdays and Anniversaries for the week of Apr. 8-14:

- Apr. 8 Jody Collins
- Apr. 9 Karen Fesler
- Apr. 10 Darold Garner, Derek Gosnell
- Apr. 11 Greg Ketterman, Joe Ducey
- Apr. 13 Judy Dean, Mike Burrows, Oliver Niffen
- Apr. 14 Wyatt Bradshaw

Thursday, April 9, there will be a fish fry fundraiser at the Pike County Senior Center in Pittsfield from 4:30-6 p.m. On the menu will be a choice of catfish fillet or buffalo with sides of potato salad, slaw, rosy pears, and dessert of choice. All ages welcome. Questions, please call 1-217-285-4969.

The Big River Band will be at the Red Rooster in Pittsfield (across from Illini Hospital and in the same lot as the motel) this Saturday, April 11, with the show starting at 6 p.m. On the menu for that evening will be either maid-rite sandwich or barbecue pork sandwich on bun with fresh cut fries, slaw, and an ice cream sundae, and serving starts at 5 p.m. For updates, cancellations, and where the Band will be playing, check Big River Band on Facebook.

The Barry Church of Christ in Barry from April 19-22 will be having meetings with special guest Jim Stauffer, formerly of Griggsville. Times of the meetings are 9:15 a.m.-12 p.m., on

Sunday with dinner to follow at the Barry American Legion, then Monday-Wednesday the meeting will be at 7: p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Herbal Chat, April 18, 10 a.m., at the Pittsfield Church of the Nazarene Family Center.

If you are considering joining Single Seniors + One and you're 55+ and single for one reason or another, it's definitely not too late. This is not a match-making group. Questions, just call the number at the beginning of the column.

Trivia question for this week:

1. What unusual animal did Calvin Coolidge make into a pet while in the White House?
2. What was the name of the first baby born in the Bible?
3. Who was the only U.S. President NOT elected President or Vice President?

Friday, April 3, Jamie and I met Jamie's nephew, his wife, and his sister Tony and Becky Niffen of Curryville and Jennifer Grant of Louisiana at the Pittsfield American Legion and enjoyed playing bingo and visiting.

Easter Sunday Jamie and I attended church with Jamie's son, his wife, and daughter James and Amanda Niffen and Shayla at the Ramsey Creek Baptist Church then went to their house in rural Annada for lunch. Also there were Amanda's mother Wanda Brown also of Annada and Amanda's brother Aaron Brown of Louisiana. Enjoyed a delicious lunch and plenty of visiting.

"The only thing we have to fear is fear itself". Franklin D. Roosevelt



PEO Installs New Officers

Chapter DA of P.E.O. installed new 2026-27 officers at their March meeting, which was held at the home of Nancy Conlan. The officers are: Julie Leverenz, president; Karen Arico, vice president, Carolyn Shaw, recording secretary; Mary Twellman, recording secretary; Rebecca Glenn, treasurer; Brenda Haddock, chaplain; and Nan Brown, guard. P.E.O. is a philanthropic educational organization of women who strive to motivate, educate and celebrate women. It is a sisterhood that includes approximately 187,000 women in over 5,400 chapters in the United States and Canada. Through membership, the P.E.O. Sisterhood has brought together more than a half a million women who are passionate about helping women advance through education. Multiple scholarships are available to members and non-members. The local chapter, DA, also offers local scholarships. The chapter meets monthly, usually in the homes of members, enjoying social and fundraising activities in addition to chapter business. Any woman interested in joining may contact one of the officers or visit the P.E.O. website at <https://www.peointernational.org> to get more information about the benefits of P.E.O. membership.

State Representative Chad Perkins Report



Creating Purple Alert System for Missing Persons with Developmental Disabilities

The House has passed HCS HB 1840, known as "RJ's Law," establishing a new statewide Purple Alert System to assist in locating missing persons with developmental disabilities who are believed to be in immediate danger or at risk of serious harm. The legislation creates a program within the Department of Public Safety to coordinate alerts and response efforts in partnership with the State Highway Patrol, Department of Transportation, Department of Health and Senior Services, the State Lottery, and local law enforcement. The department is directed to develop training, policies, and procedures for the system prior to July 1, 2027, and will oversee implementation and rulemaking for the alert program.

House Passes PRAISE Act Limiting Restrictions on Religious Services During Emergencies

Reflecting lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic, the House has passed HB 2760, known as the "Protecting Religious Assembly in States of Emergency (PRAISE) Act," establishing clearer limits on how state and local governments may regulate religious services during declared emergencies.

The legislation addresses concerns raised during the pandemic era about inconsistent restrictions on in-person worship and seeks to ensure that religious services are not made impractical or effectively prohibited during future public health emergencies. It provides that state and local governments may not impose restrictions on houses of worship that prevent religious services, including services held on private property.

An exception is included for broadly applied emergency evacuation orders, with religious services permitted to resume once the immediate danger has passed. The bill also allows houses of worship affected by restrictions to pursue legal remedies in court, including injunctive relief and damages, if such restrictions are imposed.

Preview items Friday, April 10

Girod Family Auctions

PUBLIC AUCTION

Friday, April 10, 2026, 4:30 p.m., 420 Hwy 161, Middletown, Mo 63359

Estate of James Roesner & Others

Preview items Friday, April 10

Antiques, Collectibles, Furniture, Glassware, Tools & Misc.

- Large Button Collection**
Estate from James Roesner & Others
- Vac Master in Box
 - Dart Set; Car Cleaning Kits
 - Pool Cue Case
 - Straps; AM-FM Radio;
 - Gas & Water; Jugs
 - Pressure Cooker; Stadium Seat
 - Hand-Held Dirt Devil Vacuum
 - Several Tool & Socket Sets
 - Several Dining or Patio Canopies
 - Oak Dresser w/Mirror; Childs School Desk
 - Kenmore & Admiral Front Load Dryers
 - MX1000 Tripod-NIB
 - Totes of Christmas & Other Holiday Decor
 - Blue Storage Cabinet
 - Die Cast Cars in Boxes
 - Everest & Jennings Wheel Chair
 - Several Weed-eaters & Blowers
 - 2) Homelite Chain Saws; Floor Jacks
 - Wicker Sewing Box; Oil Lamps
 - Corelle Dishes; 2 Drawer File Cabinet
 - Large Lot Kitchen Items & Box Lots;
 - Crock Pots & Slow Cookers
 - Red Tool Box Full of Tools; Crofton Paper Shredder
 - Old Bubble Glass Photo
 - Echo CS-400 Chain Saw-Very Good
 - Thermo Cooler & Warmer-NIB
 - Rival Ice Cream Maker
 - Boy Scouts Official First Aid Kit
 - Brass Bells; Butterfly Lamp
 - Several Jars of Old Marbles
 - Straits Own-George Strait Signature Gloves
 - Lot Cigar Boxes; #2 Ruckels Crock
 - Light House Shelf
 - Daisy Square Metal Butter Churn
 - Large Stamp Collection-Lots of Unusual Stamps
 - 2) Folders Full of Old Black & White Photos
 - Wabash Railroad Moberly Division 1963 Time Table
 - Des Moines Union Railway Co. 1960 Time Table
 - Tote of Harley Motorcycle Trophy's
 - Attic Fan; Milk House Heater
 - Fire Place Insert; Snare Drum; Egg Basket
 - Hose Reel; Horse Collar; Several Shepherds Hooks
 - Old Wash Wringer; Mid Century TV Trays
 - 2) Kitchen Stools;
 - Mid-Century Kitchen Cabinet
 - Stackable Plastic Lawn Chairs
 - Lot Hand Saws-Some Painted
 - 3) Red Globe Railroad Lanterns
 - Large Floor Lamp; Box of White Textured Trim Coil
 - Garden Bench Made Out of Old Bed Frame
 - E.G. Noble High Back Roping Saddle-Very Nice
 - Roll Around Kitchen Cart
 - Wooden Block Pulleys
 - Hunting Clothes
 - Several Old Kerosene Jugs
 - Several Tackle Boxes and Tackle Marbles

- COINS**
1. Choice of 8 US Proof Sets, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983
 2. Choice of 5 US Mint Proof Sets, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998
 3. 6) 1987 Unc. Coin Sets, D & P Mint
 4. 4) 1986 Unc. Coin Sets, D & P Mint
 5. 2) 1984 & 1 1985 Unc. Coin Sets, D & P Print
 6. 2) 1989 Unc. Coin Sets D & P Mint
 7. 8) 2003 Unc. Coin Sets D Mint & 1 P Mint
 8. 3) 2001 Unc. Coin Sets P Mint
 9. 1999, 2005, 2006 Unc. Coin Sets P Mint
 10. 2) 2017 Royal Canadian Mint Sets
 11. 3) 2001 Royal Canadian Mint Sets
 12. 1960 & 1961 Silver Proof Sets in OGP
 13. 1984 & 1991 Canadian Proof Sets
 14. Roll of Circulated 1940 Silver Washington Quarters
 15. 1994-S PCGS Proof 64 D Cam Capitol \$1 Coin
 16. 1986-S Statue of Liberty Proof Half, 1994-P World Cup Proof Half
 17. 1993-S Bill of Rights Proof Half
 18. 1879 P&S, Morgans VG
 19. 1880-P Morgan VF
 20. 1881-P Morgan VF
 21. 3) 1883 Morgans P-S-O
 22. 1884-O Morgan AU
 23. 1887-O Morgan
 24. 1880-O & 1889-O Morgans
 25. 1892-O Morgan
 26. 1897-O & 1899-O Morgans
 27. 2) 1900 Morgans, P-O-VF
 28. 1901-O Morgan
 29. 5) 1921 Morgan, 2-P, 2-S, 1-D Mint
 30. 8) Buffalo, .999 1 oz. Silver Rounds
 31. 10) 1922-P Peace Dollars, AU & MS, Sell Choice
 32. 4) 1922-D & 4-1922-S Peace Dollars, All Very Nice
 33. 11) 1923-P Peace Dollars AU Sell Choice
 34. 7) 1923-S & 1) 1923-D Peace Dollars, AU Sell Choice
 35. 1924, 2) 1925 & 1926-P Peace Dollars
 36. 3) 1927-S & 2) 1927-D Peace Dollars, Key, Sell Choice
 37. 4) 1928-S Peace Dollars Key, Sell choice
 38. 4) 1934-P Peace Dollars, Key, Sell Choice
 39. 2) 1934-D Peace Dollars, Key
 40. 2) 1935-P & 1935-S Peace Dollars Key Date
 41. 1881-P Morgan AU
 42. 1883-O Morgan AU
 43. 3) 1884-O Morgans AU
 44. 2) 1885-P & 1) 1885-O Morgans AU
 45. 2) 1886-P Morgans AU
 46. 3) 1886-P Morgans AU
 47. 2) 1896-P Morgans AU
 48. 9) Liberty .999 1 oz Silver Rounds
 49. RMC 10 oz. .999 Silver Bar Unopened
 50. 1949 Lincoln Cent BU
 51. 1950 Lincoln Cent BU
 52. 1827 Bust Dime PCGS VG-8
 53. 1833 Bust Half Dollar
 54. 1868-S Seated Half Dollar
 55. 1939-P Liberty Half
 56. 1942-D Liberty Half, Nice +
 57. 1958-D Franklin Half
 58. \$12 in 40% Silver Half Dollars
 59. 1959, 1962, 1964 Silver Mint Sets, Sell Choice OGP
 60. 1999-S State Quarters
 61. 2021 & 2022 US Proof Sets
 62. 1995 & 1997 US Proof Sets
 63. 1881-S, Morgan Choice, BU
 64. 1884-P Morgan Proof Like
 65. 1886-O Morgan, Nice +
 66. 1887-P Morgan Choice
 67. 1899-O Morgan Choice BU
 68. 1903-P Morgan, Better Date
 69. 1878-CC First Yr. Morgan
 70. 1882-CC, 1883-CC, 1891-CC Morgans, Sell Choice
 71. 7) Mixed Date Morgans
 72. 1921 Peace Dollar, Key Date, 1923-P Peace Dollar Choice +
 73. 7) Mixed Date Peace Dollars
 74. 1911 \$5 Indian Gold NGC MS61
 75. 1927 \$20 Unc. Gold Beautiful PC. Folks, Nice Line up of Coins!

This will be a well rounded auction, something for everyone, from several local estates. Lots of unlisted items. Come spend a Friday night with us. Good food will be available. We will be open for preview all day. Next Auction will be Saturday, April 25. Large Consignment. Multiple Rings. Save the date! Enos

Girod Family Auctions,
420 Hwy 161, Middletown, MO

For questions, call 573-470-3660. Hauling services available if needed. Lunch Served
Auction schedule to be announced auction morning. Everything sells where is, as is, with all faults. We act as agents only. GIROD FAMILY AUCTIONS IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS OR THEFT We thank you for your business. Give us an opportunity and we can earn the rest. Follow us on AuctionZip #49777

BONCL R-X School Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten Screening.

Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten screenings will be held at BONCL R-X School on Thursday, April 9, 2026, from 8:00 - 2:30 p.m. and Friday, April 10, 2026, 8:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Pre-Kindergarten screenings are for children who will be four years old prior to August 1, 2026.

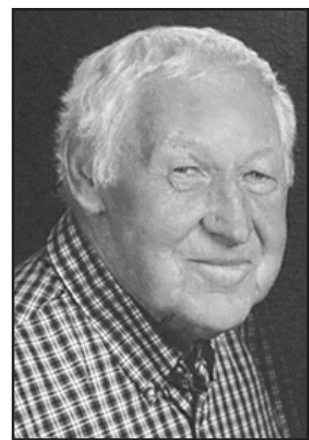
Kindergarten screenings are for children who will be five years old prior to August 1, 2026.

To schedule an appointment please call BONCL R-X School at 573-754-5412.

Parents/Guardians need to bring their child's birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, and proof of residency on the day of their child's screening.



Obituaries



Richard Oberdahlhoff

Richard Oberdahlhoff, 87, of Bowling Green died peacefully in Houston, Texas, on Sunday, March 22, 2026.

A celebration of life will be held Friday, May 1 at 5 p.m., at Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Bowling Green.

Visitation will be Friday, May 1 from 3-5 p.m., at the funeral home.

Richard was born July 31, 1938, to Kearney and Margaret Feldman Oberdahlhoff on the family farm, where he lived his entire life. He was a proud graduate of Bowling Green High School, Class of 1956, where he served as student body president, FFA president, and was a member of the state meats team. He proudly served in the United States Army Reserves.

On Sept. 7, 1963, he married Susie Rittenhouse. Together they built a life centered around family and farming. She survives.

He is survived by his children, Rick of Houston, Texas, and Melaney McGaugh of Bowling Green; and grandchildren, Taylor McGaugh and Garrett Clements of Santa Fe, Texas, and Tanner McGaugh of Bowling Green. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews who will remember him fondly.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents, Kearney and Margaret Feldman Oberdahlhoff; and his sisters, Katherine Purk and husband, Jack, Dorothy Purk and husband, Shorty, and Mary Agnes Dixon and husband, Joe.

Richard was baptized and raised in St. Clement Catholic Church and later attended Cowboy Church in Bowling Green. He was deeply involved in his community and was selected by the Jaycees as the Outstanding Young Farmer. He also contributed to organizations such as University Extension, the Pike County Fair Board, Pike County Rural Water Board, Missouri Pork Producers, and the Missouri Cattlemen's Association. He served on the Pike County Rural Water Board for over 40 years, including time as Chairman of the Board, and was a member of the Knights of Columbus. He worked in sales at Bowling Green Equipment for over 20 years.

He was a familiar face in the Amish community and spent many hours at Eicher's Cabinet Shop, where he enjoyed swapping stories and visiting with friends. Known for his sharp wit and straightforward nature, Richard had a great sense of humor and was never afraid to say exactly what was on his mind - something those who knew him appreciated and will always remember.

His greatest passion was raising and showing livestock. He dedicated countless hours to helping his children and grandchildren select and show winning animals across the Midwest, and he never missed a livestock show of Taylor's or a sporting event that Tanner played in. Richard's favorite pastimes included reading livestock journals and watching RFD-TV and Gunsmoke—so much so that a special TV package was a must to keep up with both.

Richard will be remembered for his strong work ethic, deep love of family, and lifelong commitment to agriculture.

Honorary pallbearers will be Everett Forkner, Mike Kurz, Billy Hall, Eddie Robinson, Danny Lewis, Darrell Henderson, and Fred Gamm.

Memorial donations may be made to the Pike County Youth Fair Building Project.



Billy Haddock Dempsey

Billy Haddock Dempsey, 84, of Bowling Green, beloved father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend, passed away at Tri-County Baptist Nursing Home surrounded by family and friends on Sunday, March 29, 2026.

Funeral services were Friday at 1 p.m., at Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Bowling Green with The Rev. Jerry Gamm officiating. Burial was in Louisville Cemetery.

Visitation was Friday from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at the funeral home.

Billy was born from the union of Benjamin Franklin and Lorene Haddock Dempsey on Jan. 9, 1942, in Louisiana. He was a member of the Class of 1960 from Wellsville-Middletown.

Billy worked as a mechanic and in construction. He finished his career before retiring as an employee at NARCO Brick Plant in Farber with almost 30 years of service. He held various positions while working there. Billy could always be found helping his neighbors and local farmers with daily chores.

He was always known for telling tall tales and keeping you on your toes. Billy could often be found at Rog's Barber Shop visiting friends, giving someone his advice and opinion whether they wanted it or not. He was stubborn to a fault but showed you the true value of hard work and always helping someone when they needed it.

Billy was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Doris and Delores; brothers, Jack, Carrol, Claude, and an infant brother; and nephew, Mike.

Billy is survived by a sister, Dianne Crump and husband, Ronnie of Vandalia; a daughter, Becky Brush and friend, Darren of Middletown; son, Bryan Dempsey and wife, Christy of Bowling Green; son, Brad Dempsey of Bowling Green; grandchildren, Ember Chandler, Cody Dempsey, Bella Dempsey, Whitney Calvin, Tyler House, and Ryan Miller; and great-grandchildren, Jaxon, Anaya, Issac, Henry, Duke, Hadley, Liam, and Stetson; and several nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were Roger Milligan, Roy Behlmann, Austin Wasson, Chris Grote, Marvin Yager, and Kyle Luebrecht. Honorary pallbearers were Billy's nephews, Marty Dempsey, Mark Dempsey, Travis Crump, Jimmy Chick, and Danny Chick.

Donations may be made to the Pike County Home Health and Hospice in memory of Billy.



Shirley Sue Welsh

Shirley Sue Welsh, 87, of Bowling Green died peacefully on Sunday, March 29, 2026, and went home to her Savior, Jesus Christ.

Shirley was born Aug. 7, 1938, in Broseley, to Cecil and Mary Presson. She was raised in Broseley and graduated from Broseley High School. Later in life, Shirley pursued her passion for beauty and became a cosmetologist, a role she truly enjoyed.

She dedicated many

years working at Key Drug Pharmacy and Gift Shop in Poplar Bluff, where she formed lasting friendships and cherished her time with coworkers and customers alike.

Shirley was a beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother - affectionately known as "Ging Ging."

She found joy in life's simple pleasures, taking walks, going out to eat, and sharing coffee dates with friends. She had a love for makeup and hairstyling, and she was a devoted fan of Elvis Presley. Above all, Shirley's faith was the cornerstone of her life, and she attended church regularly.

She will be remembered for her deep faith, her contagious smile and laughter, and the warmth she brought to everyone around her. Many will also fondly remember her fried rice and bacon and eggs, made with love for her family.

She is survived by her loving children, Patra Perkins and Greg Welsh; grandchildren, Jenna Knuffman and husband, Joe, Brennen Perkins and Katie Burt, and Stephanie Welsh; and seven great-grandchildren, Wren, Gregor, and Hayes Knuffman; Sawyer and Lincoln Perkins; and Kadin and Bradin Welsh.

Shirley was preceded in death by her parents, her grandparents, and her son-in-law, Gene Perkins.

Shirley's legacy of faith, love, and kindness will continue to live on through all who knew and loved her.

Paul Andrew Redmond

Paul Andrew Redmond, 61, of Bowling Green died Thursday, March 26, 2026, due to injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Friday at Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Bowling Green with The Rev. Mary Garrett officiating. Burial will follow in Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Bowling Green.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m., until time of services on Friday at the funeral home.

Paul was born Aug. 27, 1964, in Louisiana to William Andrew and Ethel Viola Hendricks Redmond. Both parents preceded him in death. He was united in marriage to Christina Rhodes on Dec. 31, 2012, in Hannibal. She survives.

Also surviving are children, Ontret Perkins and wife, Andrea of Chicago, Ill., Shalana Redmond of Texas, Alisha Redmond of Wentzville, and Christopher Davis and wife, Elizabeth of Troy; step-children, Christian Rhodes and wife, April, Dillan Trujillo, and Gabriel Trujillo and wife, Tori, all of Hannibal; grandchildren, Layden, Damarion, Makala, Mariah, Aliyah, Melody, Jheneah, Landen, Liannah, Braxtynn, Milani, Adisynn, Lynleigh, Lydia, Levi, Amiyah, Adalynn, Milo, and Molly; siblings, Donald Garnett Hendricks and wife, Frances of Bowling Green, Katherine Lynne Redmond of Bowling Green, and Alice Elizabeth Scott and husband, Robbie of Bowling Green; close nephews, Adrian Hendricks and Harold Hendricks; along with many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Along with his parents, Paul was also preceded in death by a grandson, Issac.

Paul grew up and lived in Bowling Green most of his life. He is a graduate of Bowling Green High School where he participated in basketball and track. Following high school, Paul attended Hannibal LaGrange College in Hannibal and later attended college in St. Louis at Lindenwood University.

Paul began working for MoDot at age 17 and was employed there until 2005. At that time, Paul went to work as an inspector for the pipeline. He was employed there until he had shoulder surgery, at which time he retired.

Paul enjoyed riding motorcycles, fishing, and hunting rabbits and quail. He loved spending time with his family, especially his children and grandchildren. Paul was an avid sports fan and enjoyed cheering for the LA Lakers, watching NFL,

and rooting for the Golden State Warriors.

Pallbearers will be Howard Anthony Hendricks, Jr., Tyrone McPike, Howard Anthony Hendricks III, Adrian Hendricks, Harold Hendricks, Jr., and Aaron Scott. Honorary pallbearers will be Keenan Willis, Lloyd Grimmett, Bryan Scott, and Edward Clark.

Memorial donations may be made to the family, c/o Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes.



Ruth Hill

Ruth Hill of New Florence died Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at the age of 84.

Ruth was born Nov. 13, 1941 in Neelyville to the late Woodrow and Chloe Abbott Talley.

Ruth had a true love for Jesus Christ, and was a great evangelist for speaking to others about Christ, and being a great steward of the Lord. She was always willing to help others, be a listening ear, and was one who people would always go to for advice, especially the nurses at Aspire New Florence. Ruth loved to crochet, cook, bake, and take care of her family. She loved her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, they are what kept her going, she loved to watch them grow up and become parents themselves. Ruth was a breast cancer survivor from 1986, when they only gave her six months, she decided that she would give her cancer to God and He in turn gave her a whole new life.

Ruth is survived by her children, Patrick Hill and wife, Barbara, Kevin Hill and wife, Becky, Daniel Hill and wife, Becky, and Connie Nelson; 15 grandchildren, Brittany, Lacey, Kody, Brent, Austin, Christian, Justin, Dalton, Sabrina, Erin, Destiny, Brandon, Gavin, P.J., Tristin; seven great-grandchildren, Jaden, Syrus, Ivy, Addison, Harper, Anastasia, and Axton; siblings, Ron Talley and wife, Judy, Jim Talley and wife, Valerie, Betty Basinger, and Bonnie Polston; dear friends, Carolyn Joyce and Mary Brown.

She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, Larry Hill, a brother, Bill Talley, one son-in-law, William Nelson; two brothers-in-law, J.F. Basinger and Gary Polston.

Ruth's loving heart, beautiful smile, and love for Jesus will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.



Robert William Swon

Robert William Swon, 52, of Seneca, Ill., died Saturday, March 14, 2026, at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood, Ill.

Memorial visitation will be held from 1-3 p.m., Saturday at the Perry Baptist Church with Masonic Rites to be held at 3 p.m., Saturday at the church. Burial will follow in Center Cemetery.

Robert was born Nov. 16, 1973, in Unionville to Kenneth and Marilyn Tapley Swon. On June 28, 1997 he married Kristin Coffman of Oswego. She survives.

Robert grew up in Perry and graduated from Mark Twain High School. He was employed by Quantix SCS in Streator. He was a member of The Knights Templar, Streator Masonic Lodge # 607 and the Marseilles Masonic Lodge # 417 A.F. & A.M.

He is survived by his wife, Kristin; a daughter, Abbygayle Swon-Bill and husband, Keller; a son, Isaiah Swon; one granddaughter, Kendall Bill; a brother, Richard Swon; his father, Kenneth (Sandra) Swon, and wife, Sandra; his father-in-law, Lloyd Coff-

man and wife, Bonit; and his mother-in-law, B.J. Williams and husband, Steve..

Robert was preceded in death by his mother, Marilyn.

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

The Champions Are

A 500 Piece Puzzle Challenge, sponsored by Louisiana Community Betterment, took place Saturday, March 28 at the Louisiana HS Gymnasium.

A total of 15 teams participated for the prize money of \$100, \$80 and \$60 for the top three participants. "We had a wonderful turnout., and everyone had so much fun!" stated Diana Huckstep, LCBA Chairperson. Competition was set for a two-hour time limit.

The first team to finish their 500 piece puzzle, in 30 minutes was the Dock family team. "We were absolutely amazed at this

teams skill and precision in putting the puzzle together so quickly," stated Huckstep.

Second place was taken by the Kargel team in 40 minutes and third place was taken by the Erin Findley team in 45 minutes. The remaining teams choose to stay and work on their puzzles until the time limit was over.

"It was just a great evening of fellowship and we are hoping to do another Puzzle Challenge in the fall. It will be a little tougher this time," said Ms. Huckstep. Pictures by Walter Logan, LCBA committee member.



First Place



Second Place



Third Place

MCCOY-BLOSSOM FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY

Bowling Green

MODERN FACILITIES
AT AFFORDABLE COSTS
- COMPARE PRICES
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TRADITIONAL -
CARING, FRIENDLY
STAFF

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McCoy-Blossom
FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY

Community News



Lending A Hand

Members of the Louisiana High School Interact Club helped the Louisiana Area Historical Museum and a pantry worker move large shelving from the facility to Marquita's Mission at Sixth and Georgia. Students participating were Jordyn Boehlein, Nakyia Griffith, Mattie Chandler, Garnett Santiago and Daylen Slater. Pictured at left is Museum Board Member Pat Glenn. At right is Museum Board Member Mark Haddock.

Photo by Sara Drummond

Watch April 16 Webinar On Birds, Habitats For Missouri Birding 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. Register April 1-30.

In preparation for the 2026 MBC, MDC and USFWS bird experts are offering webinars on birds, birding, key issues around birds, and bird conservation in Missouri.

The final webinar will be on 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

short.mdc.mo.gov/o3A Missed a webinar? Watch them online at mdc.mo.gov/MObirding-challenge, including:

Birdwatching: Introduction and Benefits with USFWS Ornithologist Sarah Kendrick, and

Birding for (and with) Kids with MDC Naturalist Austin Lambert.

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.

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 reg-

istrants 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), the Burroughs Audubon Society of Greater Kansas City (burroughs.org), and the St. Louis Audubon Society (stlouisaudubon.org) for being sponsors of the 2026 MBC.

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

MO State Fair Accepting Nominations For Veterans, Active Duty Military To Be Honored At The Fair

A veteran in a red cap salutes a soldier in camouflage uniform while holding a folded flag. Onlookers, including children, observe respectfully.

Help us honor the men and women who have served or are serving our amazing country. The Missouri State Fair is accepting nominations for Veteran/Active Military Honorees of the Day.

Eleven veterans/active duty service members from Missouri will be chosen from the nominations and honored daily in a Military Flag Retreat ceremony to take place just outside the Historic Administration Building on the Fairgrounds.

Individuals can be nominated using a form available on the Missouri State Fair's website. We ask that the form be filled out as thoroughly as possible as this is the information the panel of judges will use to select the eleven honorees (additional space may be used). Nominees must be Missouri residents and available to attend one of the 11 days of the 2026 Missouri State Fair, Aug. 13-23.

Once a nomination form is complete, it can be mailed

or emailed to the Missouri State Fair marketing office to be entered into the selection process. The deadline to submit nominations is May 25, 2026.

TS No. 2026-21150-MO

Notice Of Trustee's Sale

For default in the payment of debt secured by the Deed of Trust executed by James S. Riley, an unmarried man, dated 6/4/2025, recorded on 6/10/2025, in Deed Book 334, Page 5016, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for Pike County, Missouri, the undersigned Successor Trustee will on 4/28/2026, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., starting at 11:30 a.m., at the Pike County Courthouse - South Door - 115 W. Main St., Bowling Green, MO 63334, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash (certified funds only) the below described real estate to satisfy said debt and costs. Certified funds must be delivered to the auctioneer at the conclusion of the auction. Purchasers take property as is, without warranty. All Of That Part Of The Southeast Fourth (SE 1/4) Of The Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) Of Section Twenty-Four (24) In Township Fifty-Three (53) North, Range Two (2) West Which Lies North And West Of County Road Containing Eight (8) Acres, More Or Less, And Being A Part Of The Land Described In Warranty Deed Dated May 9, 1970 And Recorded In Book 316 At Page 6654 Of The Deed Records Of Pike County, Missouri. More commonly known as: 21532 Pike 255 Bowling Green, MO 63334. Notice To Bidders: Please be advised that the Trustee may require entity or trust bidders at this trustee's sale to provide information, documentation and/or certification of the vesting instructions and the data required to be reported pursuant to FinCEN regulations effective for transfers of residential real property to covered transferees on or after March 1, 2026. The required information must be provided to the trustee before a trustee's deed upon sale will be issued for covered transfers. These federal regulations will require reporting if a trustee's deed is issued on or after March 1, 2026, even if the foreclosure sale is conducted prior to March 1, 2026. Additional information regarding these regulations and the required transferee information and certifications can be found at <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/08/29/2024-19198/anti-money-laundering-regulations-for-residential-real-estate-transfers> and https://www.fincen.gov/rre-faqs#D_5. Nestor Solutions of Missouri, LLC Successor Trustee (888) 403-4115

We Welcome Your Local News

PARADE OF FASHIONS

Saturday, April 11
An Evening Of Fashion, Food & Fun
Vendors & Door Prizes
 Doors open at 4 p.m.
 Dinner at 5 p.m.
 Entertainment At 6 p.m.
CLOPTON HIGH SCHOOL
 28176 Hwy. WW - CLARKSVILLE
ADULTS - \$18
CHILDREN 6 -12- \$12
AGE 5 AND UNDER - FREE
 Sponsored by
BETHEL AME CHURCH, PAYNESVILLE
 For Ticket Info Contact Joanne Hammuck - 573-847-2266 or Virginia Starks - 573-591-1129
You may pay at the door, feel free to call us for food purpose

PRESCHOOL SCREENING

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER
BOWLING GREEN R-I SCHOOL DISTRICT

Now enrolling 3 and 4 year old students for 26-27 school year.
 Students already enrolled at BGECC do not need to sign up for a screening.
 Children must have turned 3 by April 1st, 2026 or 4 by August 1st, 2026.

SCREENING DATES:

- ✔ April 20th & April 22nd • 3:30 to 6:30
- ✔ April 27th & April 29th • 3:30 to 6:30
- ✔ April 30th, May 1st & May 18th • 8:30 to 3:30

13-Month CD Special

LIMITED TIME

4.06%

ANNUAL PERCENTAGE YIELD*

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is effective as of March 30, 2026. A minimum deposit to open certificate of deposit account and obtain APY is \$2,500. Maximum deposit \$249,000. Applies to new money only. This rate available only at HOMEBANK, 1108 US-61 Business, Bowling Green, MO.

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Community News



March Art At Farber Library

March Saturday Art at the Farber Library was painting with a squeegee. The painters concentrated and created some fantastic cats. Pictured are Harper, Coleman, and Aiven with their creations. Contact the Farber Library to sign-up and find out more about the planned April Art project.

Clopton MS/HS Honor Roll

6TH GRADE
HONOR ROLL: Grant Adams, Kannyn Beauchamp, Olivia Burkemper, Shae Cannon, Parker Graham, Luke Grimes, Madison Henry, Gavin Land, Averi Lilley, Kase Raby, Kenneth Roberts III, Landon Spangler, Slayte Steinmann, Kelly Stewart, Daisy Stribling, Tristen Stribling, Parker Tuter, Donothan Weaver, Chael Weide, Dominic West, Cooper Wilson.
HONORABLE MENTION: Elizabeth Carr, Talan Golden, Kaden McClain, Raymond Noskay.

Capps, Tessa Evans, Kynedny Hallows, Lane Haskins, Kamryn Mashek, Joshua Meier, Evie Menne, Gracie Menne, Jacob Miller, Blake Palmer, Paisleigh Spoonster, Jeffrey Stahl-schmidt, Anna Stewart, Hailey Traw, Bryson VanBebber, Nicholas Welch, Ian West, Vivienne Woods.

HONORABLE MENTION: Bowen Cannon, Michael Haffner-Street, Trenton Heckrodt, Lane Jarosik, Jerry MacLaughlin, Wyatt Wilson, Hailey Wolf.

9TH GRADE
HONOR ROLL: Beau Beauchamp, Ella Beeghly, Milayna Brown, Colin Bullock, Brooklynn Carr, Bennett Colbert, Corey Couch, Lexi Enloe, Alaina Henderson, Thomas Hunot, Ashlyn Jeans, Bailey Land, Josilynn Magruder, Trinity Marler, Danika Martin, Charlotte Mills, Savannah Mills, Ridge Mitchell, Blaine Reeve, LeeAnna Rogers, Caden Simmons, Carter Spangler, Lilly Stribling, Jayden Suddarth, Briley VanBebber, Maci Weaver, Libby Wilson.
HONORABLE MENTION: Karli Barkley, Madison Dalton, Keaira Goad, Charlotte Haskins, Austin McNeese, Madalyn Thompson.

7TH GRADE
HONOR ROLL: Jacklyn Anderson, Amelia Braungardt, Ava Colbert, Adilynn Dalton, Jackson Davis, Levi Eoff, Christopher Goad Jr., Kara Hammett, Angel Howarth, Lillian Hunter, Wayne Hunter, Hailey Lovell, Brittney Lucas, Payton Palmer, Camille Stephens, Loretta Stewart, Braylin Sutton, Nathan Taylor.
HONORABLE MENTION: Camren Carr, Henley Haskins, Edward Hunot, Landon Jones.

8TH GRADE
HONOR ROLL: Ava Adams, Donna Lisa Yaa Ahema, Wyatt Baker, Ad-dilyn Bridgeman, Trinnity

10TH GRADE
HONOR ROLL: Madison Berardino, Gracie Heckrodt, Jason Hoffman, Alexis James, Jacob Lovell, Taydem Roberts, Alex Shade, Trey Spoonster, Aubrey Twardowski, Micheal Wheeler, Madelynn Williams, Skyler Wilson.
HONORABLE MENTION: Jillian Chier, Joseph Henderson, Kailey Jones, Tristan Malloy, Bruce Stewart III, Shelby Wright.

11TH GRADE
HONOR ROLL: Lillian Baker, Siena Carnahan, Macy Enloe, Marijayne Goad, Chris Grillo, Luke Grillo, Karsyn Hallows,

Jackson Hayden, Phoebe Hayden, Richard Jones, Bobbi Jo Kaimann, Camden Lilley, Wyatt Myers, Ashlyn Noah, Calleigh Noah, Coleman Palmer, Nathaniel Sadler, Alayla Smith, Charleigh Spoonster, Caden Weber, Haley Wright.

HONORABLE MENTION: Baron Black, Corbin Booth, Amber Caplin, Bradyn Clark, Jacob Harrelson, Jason Haynes, Corey Umfleet.

12TH GRADE
HONOR ROLL: Ava Bankhead, Makinley Carr, Teagan Craig, Michael Evans, Garrett Ham, Brooklyn Holt, Addyson Johnson, Campbell Lindsay, Carlyn Lockard, Gracey MacLaughlin, Adam Matheny, James Matheny, Avenley Mitchell, Finn O'Brien, Serenity Robinson, Ava Rogers, Tucker Salmons, Sophie Simmons, Tineigh Spoonster, Katherine Truetken, Kyle West.

HONORABLE MENTION: Joseph Dillon, Aiyana Ferguson, John Grillo, Tylie Gronck, Larson Hall, Marley Stout, Kaden Wilson.

We Welcome Your Local News

Congratulations
 Dyno Nobel, Louisiana, MO plant would like to congratulate the following employees who have service anniversaries in 2026.
MAY
Logan Edmonson
5 years

Pike Democrats To Meet

Pike County Democrat Club will meet Tuesday, April 21 at 6 p.m., at the Bowling Green Community Center located at 202 W. Locust, Bowling Green. Election of officers will be held along with planning future events. Guest speakers will be Bethany Mann, congressional District 3 candidate and Thomas McBeth, House of representatives District 40 candidate.

www.thepeopletribune.com



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PUBLIC AUCTION

Sunday, April 12, 2026 At 1 p.m.
 Location: Ashley Community Center
 14087 Pike 496, Ashley, MO 63334

PRIVATE ESTATE & OTHERS

SEVERAL PISTOLS, LONG GUNS, NEW IN BOX HUNTING RELATED, WILDLIFE PICTURES LOTS OF AMMUNITION

Photo ID Required to Purchase
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 Be Sure to check www.auctionzip.com
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 Small Items May Not Be Included
 Private Estate Collection & Hunting Supplies
Joe Vomund Auction Service 573-289-0116
Claude Niemeyer 573-470-1017
Jamie Niemeyer 573-470-8810

Callaway Livestock Center, Inc.

Kingdom City, MO
April 2, 2026
 Receipts: 1,582 head

Pairs – Better Cows
 90 head
 \$4,550 – \$5,900

1st Calf – Heifer Pairs
 67 head
 \$5,200 – \$5,750

3–6 Yr Old Cows (Baby to 300 lb Calves)
 90 head
 \$4,550 – \$5,900

6–8 Yr Old Cows (Baby to 300 lb Calves)
 26 head
 \$4,600 – \$5,450

Short Solid & Aged (Baby to 300 lb Calves)
 20 head
 \$4,000 – \$4,800

Bred Cows
 605 head

Bred Heifers
 50 head
 \$3,900 – \$5,100

3–6 Yr Old (2nd & 3rd Period)
 275 head
 \$3,800 – \$5,500

3–6 Yr Old (1st Period)
 78 head
 \$3,100 – \$4,050

Short Solid & Aged
 210 head
 \$2,500 – \$3,500

Breeding Bulls
 40 head
 \$5,400 – \$11,000

Slaughter Bulls
 16 head
 \$2.07 – \$2.31 / lb

Slaughter Cows
 190 head
 \$1.55 – \$1.92 / lb

Receiving Hours Sat. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; Mon. 8 a.m.

We appreciate your business both buyers & sellers! For more info contact

Jack Harrison - 573-999-7197 **Jack Harrison, Owner** Myles McWhorter - 573-263-3759
 John P. Harrison - 573-220-1482 **573-999-7197** Glenn Stegeman - 573-619-8495
 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 Niemeyer - 573-470-1017 24 hour recording Kevin Miliken - 417-588-0307
 Tyler Harris - 573-220-2766 Carson Poe - 573-550-9133 Craton Blattell - 417-650-7688

PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026 AT 12 PM

AUCTION LOCATION: 29949 Audrain County Road 756
Martinsburg, MO 65264
Directions: From Auxvasse, MO take Hwy B east 8 miles to Callaway County Road 1067, turn left and go north 3 miles to the auction site OR from the railroad tracks on Hwy N in Martinsburg, go south 4 miles to ACR 756, turn right and go west 4 miles to the sale site.



PERSONAL PROPERTY INCLUDES
 TRUCK, TRACTOR & FARM MACHINERY, SHOP TOOLS, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS & MORE.

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WWW.WHEELERAUCTIONS.COM

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

Classifieds

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

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.

FOR RENT

ONE-BEDROOM Louisiana apartment. Country style, stairs. See to appreciate. 636-795-1808.

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

TWO-BEDROOM Clarksville apartment. Great area, new paint and flooring. See to appreciate. 636-795-1808.

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

FOR SALE

LAST RUGER AR-556's. \$575. MO. Firearms Co. 573-470-9111. (c2-21)

PRICES DRASTICALLY SLASHED on select items: lamps, end tables, coffee tables and more. Come take a look at Vandalia Firestone & Appliance. 594-6624.

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

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 HUNTING

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

SERVICES

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

SERVICES

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)

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.

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. (tf)

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



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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Pike County Highway Dept., is now accepting bids for a new tractor with a trade in of a 2017 X6.430 McCormick tractor with approximately 4,483 hours. Sealed bids must be received at the Pike County Clerk's Office, 115 W. Main St., Bowling Green, MO 63334 by 10 a.m., Thursday, April 23, 2026. Please contact Pike County Highway Dept., for specifications, questions or to view trade in at 573-324-3902. Pike County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

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Position: Library Director (Full-Time)

Location: Bowling Green Public Library
Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and three references to bowlinggreenlibraryboard@gmail.com by: Friday, April 17, 2026. Application may be picked up at the Bowling Green Library any time between the hours of 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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with \$100 Off Extra Savings!

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