



# THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

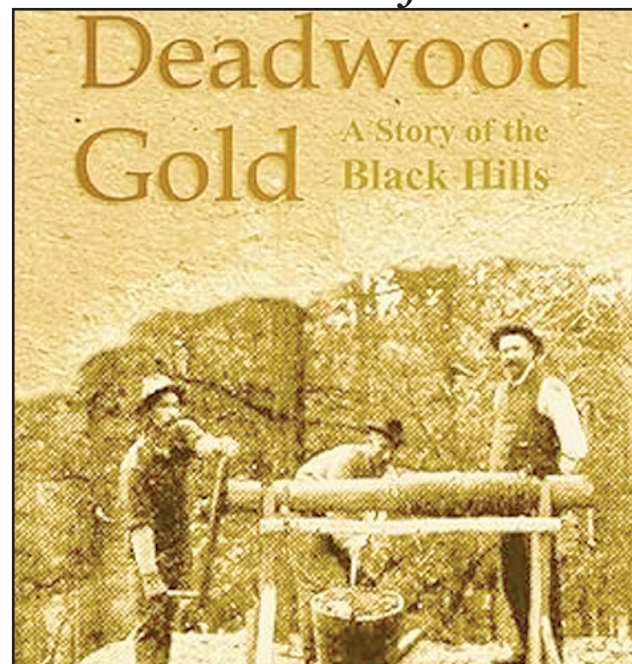
NEWS FOR PIKE, EASTERN AUDRAIN & NORTHERN LINCOLN COUNTIES

FREE

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## Pure Gold

Man Chronicles Life As A Fortune Seeker



The front cover of George Stokes' autobiography "Deadwood Gold: A Story of the Black Hills."

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

Boredom can be a good thing. Just ask George Stokes. Over two years, the Pike County native had grown weary of wacky people and wild weather while digging for gold in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

So, he decided to sell his two mining claims and find adventure in a place where explorer Christopher Columbus had sought the precious metal almost 400 years earlier.

Stokes enthusiastically accompanied an engineering colleague on a three-month trip to Santo Domingo, now known as the Dominican Republic.

"I had never seen salt water, and all I knew of things nautical was gained from spasmodic reading," Stokes wrote in his autobiography. "Here was an excuse to get to the seaboard." Stokes fell in love with the mild temperatures and friendly people of the Caribbean.

"A sudden transition it

was from the wilds of the West to a land of memories," he said. "It was like stepping suddenly into another world."

Some things never change, however, and Stokes quickly found that greed for gold was just as rampant in Santo Domingo as it had been in the States.

"In the mad scramble for it, men of all ages have left ever a trail of blood and sorrow," he reported.

Though failing to acknowledge his role in perpetuating the lust for gold, Stokes did emerge from the experience with a priceless artifact. He was given a small piece of bone from the grave of Columbus, which was at the church whose construction he had started. Stokes got it from a Cuban engineer who was hired to renovate the structure.

Stokes kept the fragment for several years before selling it at an undisclosed price to John Boyd Thatcher, a businessman, politician and collector of historical items whose vast collection included autographs from every man who signed the Declaration of Independ-

ence. In 1904, Thatcher gave Stokes his six-volume set of books about Columbus and \$250 – the equivalent today of \$10,000.

The journey to Santo Domingo did not produce the amount of gold for which Stokes had hoped, so he came back to America to settle, first in North Carolina and then in New York.

There would be other gold fields to search and tales to tell, some of which Stokes would publish in magazines. But the ones he would recall with the most fondness were his days scouring the Black Hills.

"Nearly all our miners were straight, honest men," he wrote. "There were a few bad ones, of course, but the most of us had to be and were square-dealing fellows, and we got along fairly well."

The autobiography was published in 1926, a year after Stokes died at age 78. The book, "Deadwood Gold," was done in collaboration with artist Joseph Easley and college professor Howard R. Driggs, and can be found online.

"All in all, this little book offers valuable information, as well as a choice, wholesome story of American adventure for American boys and girls and their elders," Driggs said.

In a letter to The New York Times, historian and author Robert Bruce said Stokes "retained to the last remarkably clear and vivid memories of the Old West and was one of the comparatively few survivors" of the era.

The publisher, World Book Co., said it hoped the stories would be kept alive for generations.

"It is important, especially for the younger generation, to see the upbuilding of our nation through vivid narratives that are authentic rather than through books and moving pictures that are fictitious," it said.

## Louisiana Retains MO Blue Shield Designation

BY BRICE CHANDLER EDITOR

The City of Louisiana is proud to announce that it has received official word from the Missouri Department of Public Safety that it has retained the Missouri Blue Shield designation for 2026. This honor recognizes Missouri communities that demonstrate a strong commitment to enhancing public safety, supporting law enforcement, and building meaningful partnerships between police and the community. Louisiana was also recognized with a Blue Shield designation in 2025.

The Missouri Blue Shield Program was created by Governor Mike Kehoe in January 2025 through Executive Order 25-03. "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 Louisiana, that have answered the Blue

Shield challenge," said Mark James, Director of the Missouri Department of Public Safety.

Louisiana Police Chief Josh Baker emphasized the importance of the program.

"Applying for the Blue Shield designation forces agencies and city leadership to take a hard look at the needs of our community. It requires supervisors to evaluate where we are, where we need to improve, and how we can be more engaged and visible in the community we serve. That process alone strengthens our department and our partnerships."

Chief Baker also highlighted the tangible benefits the program has already brought to Louisiana.

"Through last year's Blue Shield funding, we were able to fully fund license plate reader technology for our city for the next two years, which is already helping us identify and apprehend individuals with outstanding warrants. We also completed a major up-

grade to our body-worn camera system, ensuring greater transparency and accountability for our officers and the public we serve."

"On behalf of the City of Louisiana, I congratulate the Louisiana Police Department on once again being recognized as a Missouri Blue Shield City Program recipient," outgoing Louisiana Mayor Tim Carter stated. "This honor reflects their continued dedication to public safety and their strong partnership with our community. We are proud of their service and commitment to excellence."

Communities are eligible for the Missouri Blue Shield designation based on their dedication to reducing crime, making meaningful investments in public safety, and fostering collaboration between law enforcement and community stakeholders. Each community must reapply annually to demonstrate continued alignment with the program's goals.

## Bowling Green Man Dies In Motorcycle Crash

BY BRICE CHANDLER EDITOR

A 61-year-old Bowling Green man, Paul Redmond, lost his life Thursday, March 26 following a motorcycle crash in Pike County, according to the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

The crash occurred at approximately 8:45 p.m. on U.S. 291 west of Pike County Road 54.

According to the patrol's report, Redmond was traveling westbound on a 2013 Kawasaki Ninja ZX-14R when he failed to negotiate a curve. The motorcycle crossed the

center of the roadway, traveled off the south side, struck a ditch, and overturned.

Redmond was ejected from the motorcycle during the crash.

He was pronounced deceased at the scene at 8:54 p.m. by Pike County Coroner Holly Leverenz and was later transported to Bibb-Veach Funeral Home.

The patrol reported Redmond was wearing a helmet at the time of the crash.

The motorcycle was totaled and removed from the scene by a towing service. Pike County deputies assisted the Missouri State Highway

Patrol.

A fundraiser has also been organized by Redmond's family to assist with funeral expenses. In a message shared online, his wife, Christina Redmond, described the loss as sudden and heartbreaking, noting the family was unprepared for the financial burden of final arrangements. Those wishing to support the family can find more information through an online GoFundMe page.

For those wishing to donate visit <https://www.gofundme.com/f/honoring-paul-redmonds-memory-with-love>

## Pike County Voters To Decide On Use Tax Proposal

BY BRICE CHANDLER EDITOR

Pike County Voters to Decide on Use Tax Proposal in April

Pike County voters will consider a proposed use tax on the April ballot, according to information released by Pike County Clerk Laura Stumbaugh.

The measure, listed as Proposition L, would allow the county to collect a tax on certain out-of-state purchases—often referred to as an "internet tax"—at the same rate as the county's current sales tax.

According to the informational pamphlet, a use tax is designed to replace local sales tax revenue that is lost when goods are purchased from out-of-state vendors and brought into Missouri for use.

Examples of such purchases include items like construction materials, vehicles, office equipment, and other goods ordered from outside Missouri.

The tax is called a "use tax" because it applies when those goods are shipped into the state and used by the purchaser.

Missouri already collects a statewide use tax at a rate equal to the state sales tax, currently 4.225 percent, according to the pamphlet.

The pamphlet states that it is intended to address what it describes as an imbalance between out-of-state sellers and local businesses.

Local merchants, the pamphlet notes, collect sales tax on purchases, while some out-of-state vendors may not collect equivalent local taxes, potentially placing local businesses at a disadvantage.

The measure is also described as a way to help offset revenue losses. The pamphlet estimates Pike County could lose approximately \$100,000 in revenue following a recent Missouri Supreme Court decision.

If approved, the use tax would be collected in one of two ways:

Out-of-state vendors with a presence in Missouri would collect the tax and remit it to the Missouri Department of Revenue, which would then distribute the funds back to Pike County. Individual purchasers may be required to file a use tax return for certain purchases if the vendor does not collect the tax, depending on the amount spent.

The pamphlet notes that some vendors already collect use taxes for certain jurisdictions, but Pike County

does not currently receive all applicable revenue.

The proposal will appear on the ballot as follows:

"Shall the County of Pike receive the internet tax for online purchases at the same rate as the county sales tax rate, currently at a rate of 3.0625 percent? If the county sales tax rate is reduced or raised by voter approval, the internet tax rate shall also be reduced or raised by the same action?"

Voters will be asked to select "Yes" or "No."

According to the pamphlet, a "yes" vote would allow the county to collect additional revenue that could be used to support services such as:

Road and bridge maintenance

Law enforcement

Courthouse operations

It also states that the tax could reduce pressure to increase other local taxes and allow the county to capture revenue from large out-of-state projects, such as pipeline or powerline construction.

The pamphlet adds that more than 80 counties in Missouri including nearby Marion, Ralls, Monroe, Audrain, and Montgomery counties, have already adopted similar use taxes.

## Lincoln's Last Act?

Pike Lawmaker Seeks Pardon On Fateful Day

BY BRENT ENGEL CONTRIBUTING WRITER

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

John Brooks Henderson of Louisiana remains a key player in one of the most compelling anecdotes from a presidency that featured countless such stories.

A crucial piece of the puzzle has never been found, but there is enough evidence to at least keep intrigue about the tale alive more than 160 years after Abraham Lincoln's assassination.

It all started with the Missouri U.S. Senator's visit to the White House on the afternoon of what would become an infamous date – April 14, 1865.

The story goes that Henderson was seeking Lincoln's pardon of George S.E. Vaughan, a 41-year-old Confederate spy from Canton, Mo., who had been convicted three times and was scheduled for execution on April 16.

Vaughan was a Virginia native who was six when the family moved to Missouri. After his father died two years later, the boy was raised by relatives in Pike County.

At 18, Vaughan joined the Missionary Baptist Church and later wrote that he "tried to live a Christian life." The move to Lewis County came in 1845.

Vaughan was recruited for the rebel cause by a close friend, 47-year-old Martin Edwin Green, an organizer of the Missouri State Guard. Green and his brothers owned a Lewis County sawmill. One of the siblings, James, was a pro-slavery former Missouri U.S. Senator.

Shortly after the Battle of Shiloh in April 1862, a homesick Vaughan plotted with Green for a clandestine

visit to Canton. He got on an Iowa-bound boat at St. Louis wearing a disguise so good that a Lewis County acquaintance who was on board did not recognize him.

When the vessel reached Canton, Vaughan said he "leaped ashore and disappeared into the darkness" of the night. The next day, he "made my presence known to a few of my most intimate friends in town."

A Confederate officer who was recovering from battle wounds soon approached Vaughan and suggested they get back to the fighting.

"After walking a long distance, we stopped to rest and sleep almost a mile west of La Grange," he recalled. "Somebody had seen us pass near that place – who, we never learned – and our actions had excited suspicion."

Union soldiers quickly captured the two without a fight and charged them as spies. Vaughan claimed he simply was visiting family and dropping off letters to Green's wife. The men were jailed, first at La Grange and then at Palmyra. Vaughan imagined the worst.

"My fears were not mitigated by the (other) prisoners, who informed me through a hole in the floor that the cell I occupied was the one in which condemned prisoners were confined, and from it 10 men had been taken only a few days before and shot," he said.

The inmates almost certainly were referring to an incident that became known as the Palmyra Massacre of Oct. 18, 1862. Ten Confederates were removed from the jail and executed in reprisal for the kidnapping of a Union supporter.

Vaughan was tried, found guilty, sentenced to death by

firing squad and sent to a lockup in St. Louis. His compatriot would be freed a year later.

Henderson got involved after an appeal from Vaughan's 38-year-old brother, Almond, who, in an irony not uncommon during the Civil War, was a Union captain under Gen. Ulysses S. Grant. His name sometimes is written as "Allmon."

"If the brothers loved each other previous to this occurrence, Allmon's affection seemed to have acquired ten-fold additional strength in consequence of it," according to the 1910 essay "Brother Against Brother" by Clara Holzmark Wolf. "To save him was now his one thought."

The Vaughan family had been among those that raised Henderson after the senator's parents died when he was 10. Henderson took the case to Lincoln, who ordered two more military trials. Both ended in the same verdict.

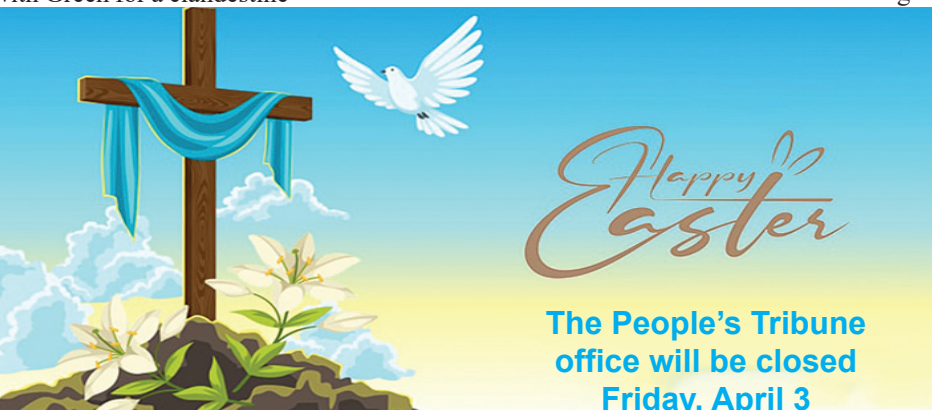
Green did not live to see the drama play out. He died at the Siege of Vicksburg on June 27, 1863. A Union sharpshooter put a slug in his head moments after the brigadier general famously uttered the words "A bullet has not yet been molded that will kill me."

Vaughan had gone into his last trial with guarded optimism, but the feeling faded.

"I thought that this was my last chance for life, and when I learned that for the third time a court-martial had declared my life forfeited, I gave up all hope," he said.

But Henderson did not. His "blood was stirred, and he was now more determined than ever not to give up as long as there was the faintest chance left him," Wolf wrote.

Next time: A better angel.





# Community News

## From The Mayor's Desk...

Ministries like Bright Futures at the Bowling Green Schools, Pike County Second Chance Coalition, and Love Thy Neighbor are designed to intervene early within the needs of individuals, families, and our community.

The Hope Center, Pike Resale Shop, our churches are desiring to interact immediately to reduce harm and support individuals and families when it matters most. Bowling Green is not an affluent town, but we certainly are a caring and giving town. Especially, where children are concerned, our city is quick to respond to the needs of our next generation and beyond!

These are components that make for a thriving community. We are at a point in our American society where we really need to focus on the upcoming generations.

From agriculture to mental illness, social skills to work ethic, and from fuel producers to understanding our Constitutional rights! We need to help shape America's next Chapter. As we approach America's 250 Anniversary, we need to look to bold ideas, our American ingenuity, and our spirit of innovation which can start right here in Bowling Green. We can't miss the chance to share your vision for our marvelous community! From all ages and backgrounds and from entrepreneurs to dreamers, we need to step out and live life to the fullest and go with smart abandon.

However, at the foundation of every successful project is a well-prepared volunteer group. Who will step up and lead such a voluntary group? Our Rotary or Lion's club? The Relay for Life, now Hope volunteers catapulted its

success with dedication to a purpose and a cancer cause. Does Bowling Green have a "volunteer organization?" I know our town is full of volunteers for the city's park and rec, planning and zoning, airport boards.

Our churches are full of volunteers as well as various clubs and organizations, but do we have a group of volunteers that do things for the city?

Every city needs volunteers for beautification projects. These volunteers pick up litter, refresh painted areas like crosswalks, plant flowers, and remove unwanted items to recycle or trash from neighbors' yards...for examples. Let's increase our City Volunteer base.

Let's flex our muscles in accomplishing beautification for Bowling Green. Volunteers bring diverse skills and perspectives so Answer the call to bring volunteerism and help our city be as beautiful as it can be.

Don't forget that it is Women's History Month as we honor Women whose courage, service, and leadership have shaped generations. From families to classrooms, and from community involvement to battlefields, women have touched the lives of all of us.

Are you an American patriot? Are you supporting, with prayers and voting, for America to succeed, to become united, to win over evil, and to help your neighbor and those less fortunate? Bowling Green is a microcosm of what's happening in America. A house divided cannot stand. We must support each other as a town, or we will not prosper and develop to be the best we can be. Love Thy Neighbor.



JIM ARICO, MAYOR  
CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

## Pike To Pike...



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

The Pike County Senior Citizens Center, 220 West Adams Street, in Pittsfield will be holding their Fish Fry Fundraiser, Thursday, April 9, 4:30-6 p.m. The menu will be your choice of catfish fillet, or buffalo with 3 sides of potato salad, slaw, and rosy pear dessert plus a choice of dessert. Eat-in or carry-out. All ages are welcome. Gift certificates are available. Questions call 1-217-285-4969.

Big River Band will be having their show on Saturday, April 11, at the Red Rooster, 635 West Washington, in Pittsfield, with people allowed to order food starting at 5 p.m., and the show starting at 6 p.m. The music will be good, and so will the food. Plenty of parking. Talking about the Big River Band, they enjoyed playing this past Saturday at the Pike County Senior Center to a good crowd. They appreciate everyone that took the time to be there.

Birthdays and anniversaries for the week of April 1-7:

April 1 Jennie Johnson, Lynnex Larson  
April 2 Bonnie Martin  
April 4 Bob Ryan, Frank York

April 5 Lainey Kirk, Lynn Scott

April 6 Rick Musgrove  
April 7 David Haughey

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. Now the God of patience and conso-

lation grant you to be like-minded one toward another according to Christ Jesus. Romans 15:4, 5

To celebrate our daughter, granddaughter, sister, and wife Jacqueline Mefford's birthday, several of us met at the Boatel on Sunday, March 29, for delicious dinner and lots of visiting. Those in attendance were: Kit Mefford; Nathan Davis and Lori Capps; Wyvetta Davis and Jamie Niffen; Wess Davis; and Amy Davis and Raylan Smith.

Another Single Seniors +

One has been planned. This group is for adults, 55+, men and women, who are single (widowed, divorced, or never been married), and is not a matchmaking group. Just a group who enjoys getting together to have a meal at a restaurant and likes visiting with others.

The group is basically from west central Illinois but people who live in surrounding areas would definitely be welcome. Only people who are interested in joining (no one has to pay to join) should call 1-217-320-8438.



## Buddy Poppy Tray Favors

Clarksville Memorial VFW Post 4610 Auxiliary President Mary Tarpein and Treasurer Joanne Hammuck, visited Mexico Veterans Home on Tuesday, March 10 and left items for the Veterans. They also delivered the Buddy Poppy Tray Favors from the February C Of A, they were very appreciative. In the boxes were blankets, toiletries, books of all kind and calendars and more. Pictured, from left: Mary Tarpein, president, Clarksville VFW Auxiliary; Makenzie Ruth-erford, volunteer services coordinator for home; and Joanne Hammuck, Clarksville Auxiliary treasurer.

## State Representative Chad Perkins Report



Rep. Chad Perkins

"We're back from spring break and it's been a busy week at the Capitol. Our office remains focused on making a strong push for the priorities that matter most to our district and Missouri as we approach the end of session."

-Speaker Pro Tem Chad Perkins

### HOUSE APPROVES \$52 BILLION STATE OPERATING BUDGET

The Missouri House has passed its version of the state operating budget, advancing a fiscally responsible plan that prioritizes core services while reducing overall spending compared to both last year and the governor's proposal.

The House-approved budget totals \$52.27 billion, approximately \$1.5 billion less than the amended proposal from Governor Mike Kehoe and below the current fiscal year's spending levels. General revenue spending is also reduced by roughly \$426 million, reflecting a deliberate effort to rein in spending and align the budget with more sustainable long-term revenue expectations.

House Budget Chairman Dirk Deaton emphasized a disciplined approach focused on maintaining essential services while controlling growth in government spending. This year's budget marks a transition from the surge in spending seen during years of federal stimulus to a more stable and sustainable fiscal path.

Even with tighter constraints, the budget makes strong investments in education. The House fully funds the K-12 foundation formula at a record \$4.28 billion, maintains school transportation funding, and increases support for the Empowerment Scholarship Program to \$60 million. Additional investments include funding for workforce diploma programs and student assessments, while higher education funding is maintained at current levels with a new student-centered funding model designed to better reflect enrollment trends. Missouri's major scholarship programs (Bright Flight, Access Missouri, and A+) also remain fully funded.

The budget also prioritizes public safety and support for veterans. Continued funding for the

Blue Shield program will assist local law enforcement with training and equipment, alongside additional support for academy training costs and security grants for at-risk communities. Investments in weather radar systems and ongoing improvements to veterans homes, including staffing and modernized health records, are included, along with new funding for veterans housing assistance and innovative treatment options for conditions such as PTSD and traumatic brain injuries.

Beyond these priorities, the budget supports critical infrastructure with nearly \$4 billion for transportation systems, strengthens the state retirement system, and restores funding for programs focused on workforce development, recidivism reduction, and community-based services. It also maintains funding for key social services, including Medicaid and rural healthcare transformation efforts, while supporting programs for victims of crime, foster youth advocacy, and substance abuse treatment. The House budget also continues funding for key programs such as MOScholars, while taking a cost-conscious approach in areas like childcare by maintaining the current, more affordable attendance-based subsidy model.

Overall, the budget reflects a balanced approach—reducing spending, maintaining fiscal discipline, and continuing to invest in priorities like education, public safety, and workforce devel-

opment. The plan now moves to the Senate for further consideration as the legislature works toward final passage.

### EXPANSION OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY REQUIREMENTS IN SCHOOLS

The House approved HCS HB 2748, expanding physical activity requirements for students across all grade levels beginning in the 2027-2028 school year. The measure builds on current elementary standards by requiring daily physical activity for students in grades K-12 and encouraging a mix of coordination, strength-building, and bone-strengthening exercises. HCS HB 2748 also requires school districts and charter schools to adopt policies to ensure students meet these standards.

### AI PROTECTIONS & RESTRICTIONS ON ARTIFICIALLY GENERATED CONTENT

Lawmakers approved HCS HBs 2035 & 2350, establishing new guardrails on the use of artificial intelligence. The bill prohibits AI systems from being marketed as licensed mental health professionals and creates penalties for violations. It also establishes protections against the unauthorized use of a person's likeness in explicit material and expands existing criminal statutes to include AI-generated depictions in definitions related to child pornography and explicit content.

HCS HBs 2035 & 2350 aim to address emerging challenges posed by rapidly evolving AI technologies.



Rep. Chad Perkins is pictured with his girls, Lucy and Reagan.

## NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Pike County Commission is now accepting sealed bids for culvert pipe and rock.

Bid specs may be picked up Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at the Pike County Highway Dept., 119 E. Park Dr., Bowling Green, MO.

Bids must be received at the Pike County Clerk's Office at 115 W. Main St., Bowling Green, MO by 10 a.m., April 13, 2026.

Pike County reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

**Ashley Community Center Fish Fry**  
April 3  
4:30-8 p.m.  
Adults \$14 • Kids 11-5 \$7 • 5 & Under Free  
Dine-In or Carry-Out  
**Catfish & Buffalo Served**

## 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.



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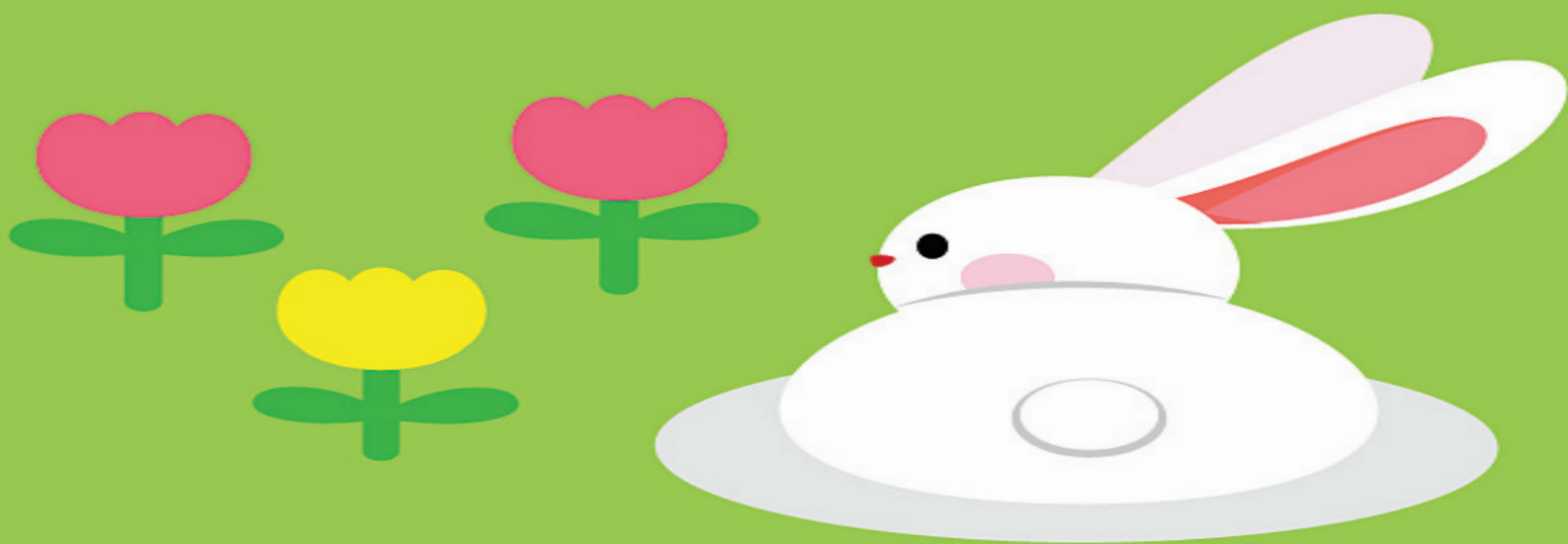
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# Community News

## Livestock Exhibitor Camping Reservations Start April 1

Missouri State Fair livestock exhibitor campsite reservation request opportunities will open at 9 a.m. on April 1. Exhibitors will have the option to submit an online reservation or a paper form. Requests are processed in the order they are received. Site availability and specialized requests can be made but are not guaranteed. For more information regarding livestock exhibitor camping reservations please visit the Fair's website. If you have questions, please email [campgrounds@mda.mo.gov](mailto:campgrounds@mda.mo.gov).

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# Community News

## April Farber News

BY RUTH WILLIAMS

March 9 Board of Alderman highlights: Meeting was called to order with Pledge of Allegiance. Agenda, minutes and accounts payable were approved as presented. Mayor and city clerk reports were presented.

Maintenance: it was decided to open the lagoon for Farber residents stick and yard waste collection for one week in the spring, fall, and for major storm clean up. Dates will be posted on "Farber, MO" Facebook page and notices around town. Water lines will be flushed.

Unfinished Business: Procurement policy approved. Board approved funding for the concrete apron at the Community Building garage door. This will complete the new concrete walkways funded by Mark Twain Regional Council of Gov. Impact Grant. DNR Engineering grants are still pending. New Business: Fence ordinance was discussed.

Telephone service at City Hall was reviewed. Next Farber Board of Alderman meeting will be April 13, 5:30 p.m., at the Community Building.

\*\*Lagoon yard waste collection site will be open April

1-10 (weather permitting) for Farber residents to take your sticks and yard waste for disposal. Please drop off in designated area.

It's Van-Far baseball season at Sportsman Park. Current schedule shows: Friday, April 3 at 5 p.m., V-F vs. Wellsville-Middletown; Monday, April 6 at 5 p.m., V-F vs. Louisiana; Tuesday, April 7 at 5 p.m., V-F vs. Wright City; Monday, April 13 at 5 p.m., V-F vs. MMA; Tuesday, April 14 at 5 p.m., V-F vs. Elsberry; Tuesday, April 21 at 5 p.m., V-F vs. Montgomery City; Monday, April 27 at 5 p.m., V-F vs. Silex; Wednesday, April 29 at 5 p.m., V-F vs. Veritas Christian Academy; Thursday, April 30 at 5 p.m., V-F vs. Christian Fellowship; Friday, May 8 at 5 p.m.; V-F vs. Monroe City.

Concession stand will be provided by V-F High School Student Council.

Watch for the Plant Swap and Share announcement, scheduled for May 2 on the Library lawn History ?? -

When was the depot built? March answer - Farber is 154 years old. Open House at the Farber Depot! Come explore our "treasure in plain sight" on Sunday, April 19, from 2-4 p.m. We want to hear from you. Help us de-

cide what's next for the depot and prioritize future improvements. This event is open to everyone - stop by anytime to walk through and share your thoughts.

In case of a tornado warning, these local citizens have agreed to open their basements to their neighbors. If you have a basement that would also be available, please advise city hall. □

Farber Presbyterian Church, 101 S. Oak St.; PA and Judy Hull, 202 E. Franklin; Heath and Jennifer Williams, 103 N. Centre.

Check Ready.gov for info on stocking an emergency supplies kit. Prepare a waterproof, portable container (like a binder or plastic bin) for essential documents to grab during a storm evacuation.

Key documents include IDs, birth certificates, insurance policies, medical records, and financial records. Store these in a secure, easy-to-access location for a quick, five-minute exit.

Free community supper April 17, doors open 5:30

p.m., eat at 6 p.m., at the Farber Community Building. Bring friends and family and a covered dish. Main dish is pulled pork with iced tea and water. Table services provided. Sponsored by the Farber Community Betterment. All ages welcome.

## We Welcome Your Local News

### 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*




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**Jamie Niemeyer 573-470-8810**

### SPECIAL COW SALE

**Callaway Livestock Center, Inc.**  
Kingdom City, MO  
**Thursday Night, April 2, 2026 • 5 p.m.**  
**SPECIAL Bred Heifers, Cow/Calf Pairs, & Breeding Bulls**  
*Early Consignments*  
**Leachman Genetics**  
41 blk (few red) 16-24 mo stabilizer herd bulls  
100 head 3-6 yr old mostly blk bred cows (fall calving, Leachman bulls)

**Gerber**  
35 blk heavy bred hfrs & cows (22 hfrs, 13 cows) - bred to Leachman bulls  
After Leachman Genetics, moves into regular sale  
Bulls (Start of Regular Sale)  
3 fancy registered 16 mo Angus bulls  
1-4 yr old Angus bull  
1-3 yr old Char bull  
1-3 yr old Red Angus bull

**Heifer Pairs**  
**Cbar**  
20 blk/blkwf 1st calf hfrs rebred to Wheeler Angus w/300 lb blk calves at side

**Deeken**  
•30 big fancy blk/blkwf 1st calf hfrs w/fancy blk early Feb calves

**Girod**  
25 fancy blk/blkwf 1st calf hfrs w/fancy blk Feb calves

**Conroe**  
15 fancy blk 1st calf hfrs w/fancy blk Feb calves

**Kautsch Family**  
20 fancy blk/blkwf 1st calf hfrs w/fancy blk Jan calves

**Temmen**  
10 fancy blk 1st calf hfrs w/fancy blk Feb calves

**Schulte**  
10 fancy blk 1st calf hfrs w/fancy blk Feb calves  
Strodtman  
10 fancy blk 1st calf hfrs w/fancy blk calves

**Meyer**  
10 big fancy blk 1st calf hfrs w/ fancy blk calves

**Cows**  
**Duenke**  
80 red Angus cows (3-4 yr olds)  
60 AI bred to Select Sires Small Town Kid 9023 (Hereford)  
20 bred naturally to Angell Thomas Char bulls  
Due Sept 15 (45 days)

**Sudbrock**  
•56 red Angus cows (3-4 yr olds)  
•30 AI bred to Hereford (due 9-15-26)  
•Remainder cleaned up to Char or Red

**Turnkey**  
45 blk/blkwf cows (3-4 yr olds)  
Bred blk - due Aug 20

**Sherwood**  
65 blk/blkwf cows (3-5 yr olds)  
Bred blk bulls (2nd-3rd period)

**Arens**  
80 blk/blkwf cows (3-5 yr olds)  
Bred blk - start Aug 15

**Cbar**  
30 blk/blkwf cows (3-4 yr olds)  
Bred blk - heavy 3rd period

**Thompson**  
25 mixed cows (6-10 yr olds)  
3rd stage

**Swartzenstruber**  
15 blk cows (5-8 yr olds)  
Bred blk - due Sept

**Eicher**  
20 blk/blkwf cows (6-10 yr olds)  
Bred blk - 3rd period

**Girod**  
10 blk/blkwf cows (7-9 yr olds)  
w/ big stout blk calves

**Conroe**  
15 blk/blkwf cows (5-7 yr olds)  
w/blk Feb calves

**Strope**  
25 blk/blkwf cows (8-12 yr olds)  
½ w/ blk calves, remainder 3rd period

**Naylor**  
30 char-cross cows (10-12 yr olds)  
w/ 200-300 lb char-cross calves

## THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who donated prizes to the fundraiser bingo for the Modern Maturity Senior Center in Vandalia. Also thanks to everyone who helped with food and anything else to make the evening a success.

**Second Missionary Baptist Church**  
West Hwy. 54 - Vandalia

## FISH FRY

**Friday, April 3 - 11 a.m.-?**  
**\$14** Serving catfish, fried potatoes, baked beans, cole slaw  
Carry-Outs • Delivery Call 594-2146

# 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.**



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John P. Harrison - 573-220-1482	573-999-7197	Glenn Stegeman - 573-619-8495
Roger Temmen - 573-680-4538	Market Report	Jarrold 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 Blattel - 417-650-7688

# 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, marketwainmobilehomes.com. (tf)

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

### FOR RENT

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

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

### FOR SALE

USED dryer. Vandalia Firestone & Appliance. 594-6624.

BE SURE to check out sale prices on furniture items 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 TRESPASSING OR HUNTING on the property of Cherlyn Boots. Violators will be prosecuted. Not responsible for accidents on property.

### SERVICES

PREMIERE PRESSURE 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)

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.

### SERVICES

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

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

## Put Our Classifieds To Work For You

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 Harold Williams

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

# THE DAY DEATH DIED

## WHY THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST CHANGES EVERYTHING

BY DUKE DUVALL

There are moments in history that change everything. The fall of empires, the signing of treaties, the discoveries that reshape civilization. But no event in all human history compares with the moment when the stone rolled away from the tomb outside Jerusalem. On that morning the greatest enemy of mankind—death itself—was put to death. Christianity does not rest upon philosophy, tradition, or moral instruction. It rests upon a single, staggering claim: **Jesus Christ is alive! Death is defeated!**

If that claim is false, Christianity collapses. If that claim is true, it changes everything about life, death, eternity—and you.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is not merely an inspiring religious idea. It is the foundation of Christianity and the assurance of eternal life for all who believe in Jesus as their personal Savior, that is, who trust in Jesus Christ plus nothing else and no one else for his or her entrance into Heaven.

### A RESURRECTION FORETOLD

John's Gospel tells us something remarkable about that first Resurrection Sunday morning:

**"For as yet they knew not the scripture, that He must rise again from the dead" (John 20:9).**

Notice the word **must**. In Greek, it is saying it "cannot NOT happen." The resurrection was not an unexpected miracle that surprised Heaven. It was the divinely ordained plan of God. Centuries before the cross, God declared the Messiah would suffer, die, and rise again. The Hebrew scriptures show the certainty of this promise. Psalm 16:10 prophesies:

**"For Thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt Thou suffer Thine Holy One to see corruption."**

Centuries later, Peter the Apostle would stand in Jerusalem and declare that this prophecy pointed directly to Christ's resurrection (Acts 2:27–31). The resurrection was not optional—it was necessary. The justice of God required that the sacrifice offered on the cross be vindicated. The Father publicly affirmed that He had accepted the Son's atoning work as payment in full by raising Him from the dead:

**"Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that He should be holden of it" (Acts 2:24).**

Death cannot hold Him because He is the Author of life!

### WHY THE CROSS NEEDED AN EMPTY TOMB

The cross stands at the center of our Christian faith. On that rugged hill outside Jerusalem, Jesus Christ bore the sins of every person who would receive His gift of eternal life. Isaiah had foretold it centuries earlier:

**"He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities" (Isaiah 53:5).**

But don't miss this truth: **the cross alone was not enough.** If Jesus had stayed in the grave, it would have been the tragic execution of a righteous man. The resurrection is what turns the crucifixion into the triumph of redemption. Paul, The Apostle, stated it plainly in 1 Corinthians 15:17:



**"If Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins." (1 Corinthians 15:17)**

Without the resurrection there is no proof that sin has been conquered. Without the resurrection there is no assurance that your sin debt and mine has been paid. But because Christ rose from the dead, He is now every Believer's Savior:

**"Who was delivered for our offences and was raised again for our justification" (Romans 4:25).**

The empty tomb is God's receipt that the payment for sin has been accepted in full. No other receipt will be accepted at Heaven's Gate for your admission.

### THE PROMISE OF LIFE BEYOND THE GRAVE

Every human being faces the same question: What happens when we die? The resurrection of Jesus Christ provides the answer. Scripture teaches that those who belong to Christ will share in His victory over death. The believer's spirit immediately enters the presence of God. Paul writes:

**"To be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord" (2 Corinthians 5:8).**

But the Christian hope does not end with the soul's presence in Heaven. The Bible promises a future bodily resurrection in 1 Corinthians 15:52–53:

**"The dead shall be raised incorruptible...for this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality."**

The same God who formed Adam from the dust will restore the bodies of those who belong to Him.

### THE EYEWITNESSES

The resurrection is no myth. The Bible presents it as a historical event seen by hundreds in 1 Corinthians 15:

- Jesus appeared to Peter.
- He appeared to the twelve apostles.
- He appeared to more than 500 people at once.
- He appeared to James.
- Finally, Jesus appeared to Paul himself.

### THE DEATH OF DEATH

Death is the great shadow that hangs over every human life. The Bible tells us that death entered the

world through sin (Romans 5:12). But Jesus Christ, through His resurrection, has conquered this enemy. Because Christ has risen, death has lost its final authority over the believer.

**"Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:57).**

### LIVING IN THE POWER OF THE RESURRECTION

The resurrection is not merely a doctrine to be affirmed once a year on Resurrection Sunday. It is a truth that should transform every day of the believer's life.

Because Jesus Christ lives and defeated death forever:

- Our sins are forgiven.
- Our future is secure.
- Our labor for God is not in vain.

**"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58).**

### THE STING HAS BEEN REMOVED

A father and son were driving when a bee flew through the open window. The little boy was terrified because he was severely allergic to bee stings. Quickly the father reached out, caught the bee in his hand, and then released it. The boy screamed in terror again! But the father gently held out his hand and showed his son the bee's stinger embedded in his own skin. "Look, son," he said. **"You don't need to be afraid anymore. I've taken the sting for you."**

That is exactly what Jesus Christ has done for us! On the cross He took the sting of death so that those who trust Him alone for salvation would share in His resurrection power!

**"O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor 15:55-57).**

Dear Friend, are you trusting solely in Christ's sacrificial death on the Cross and His Resurrection from the dead as your Way to Heaven? Have you received by faith that which the Bible calls the GIFT of righteousness (Romans 5:17) that only Jesus Christ could pay for? God makes YOU this promise:

**"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Romans 10:9).**

But, Dear Reader, never mistake God's promise as just a mere invitation to be considered. Receive God's only begotten Son as His commandment that each of us must obey. Every human being will be judged in his or her own sins or else in the perfect righteousness of Jesus Christ. Your eternity is at stake. The Bible's warning to us is crystal clear:

**"The times of ignorance God winked at: but now commands all men everywhere to repent: Because He hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that Man whom He hath ordained; whereof He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He has raised Him from the dead." (Acts 17:30-31)**

The day Jesus Christ rose victorious is the day death died! He secured eternal life for all who put their trust in Him and Him alone as the Only Way to the Father. Dear Friend, in holy faith, cry out to God today to save you. Today can be your resurrection day, too! **Death is dead and Jesus Christ is alive forevermore! Thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!**

THIS FULL NEWSPAPER PAGE IS A MUCH-SHORTENED VERSION OF A VALUED SIX-PAGE COLLECTION OF ARTICLES. WRITE AND WE'LL SEND YOUR FREE COPY TODAY!

*"He is not here: for He is risen, as He said! Come, see the place where the Lord lay."*

*Matthew 28:6*

If you have trusted solely in the Resurrected Savior for your eternal life, here are just 10 of God's promises that are at work and alive in you!

#### 1: Assurance That Jesus Is the Son of God—Romans 1:4

"And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead."

#### 2: Justification Before God—Romans 4:25

"Who was delivered for our offences and was raised again for our justification."

#### 3: New Birth / Spiritual Life—1 Peter 1:3

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

#### 4: Victory Over Death—1 Corinthians 15:54–57

"So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

#### 5: A Living Savior Who Intercedes for Us—Romans 8:34

"Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, Who is even at the right hand of God, Who also maketh intercession for us."

#### 6: Power for a New Life—Romans 6:4

"Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

#### 7: Our Future Resurrection—1 Corinthians 15:20–22

"But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by Man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive."

#### 8: A Living Hope—1 Peter 1:3–4

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and that fadeth not away, reserved in Heaven for you."

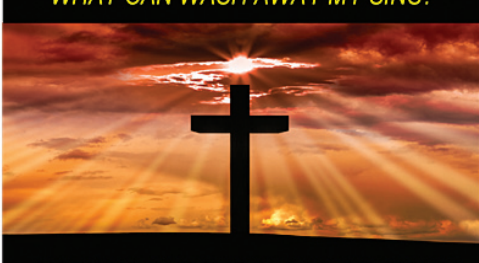
#### 9: The Promise of Eternal Life—John 11:25–26

"Jesus said unto her, I am the Resurrection, and the Life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die."

#### 10: The Defeat of Satan's Power—Hebrews 2:14–15

"Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took all part of the same; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were their lifetime subject to bondage."

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