



THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

NEWS FOR PIKE, EASTERN AUDRAIN & NORTHERN LINCOLN COUNTIES

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Public Meeting To Be Held For Route 61 Interchange

The public is invited to an informational meeting about the future interchange project on U.S. Route 61 in Lincoln County, located at the intersection of Routes B and E near Auburn.

The public meeting is planned for Wednesday, June 17, 2026, from 4-6 p.m., in the Community Room at the Cuivre River Electric Cooperative, located at 1112 E. Cherry Street in Troy.

Details about the project, including a project schedule, will be shared at the meeting through displays and discussions with Missouri Department of Transportation engineers and its consultants, Bartlett & West. The meeting is open-house style, so there will be no formal presentation. Attendees can join in anytime between 4-6 p.m.

"We encourage individuals to come to the public meeting and learn about this important project," said MoDOT Project Manager Chris Knapp. "The new interchange will be constructed near the existing roadway and feature a new bridge consisting of two 12-foot lanes with 4-foot shoulders, and roundabouts at the east and west ramp terminal intersections."

As the project moves forward, environmental studies will be completed, and additional right-of-way will be required. Construction is tentatively anticipated to begin during the 2028 construction season.

All displays and information provided at the public meeting will be posted on the project webpage immediately following the meeting. A public comment

period will be available for two-weeks, beginning on June 17, 2026. All comments must be received by June 30, 2026.

To learn more about the project, review meeting displays and materials, or to submit an online comment, please visit the project webpage at <https://www.modot.org/projects/us-route-61-route-b-and-route-e-interchange-improvements-lincoln-county>. We also encourage anyone interested to sign up for emails about the project at <https://www.modot.org/eupdates>

For more information, call MoDOT at 888-ASK-MODOT (275-6636) or visit www.modot.org. To receive the latest statewide news and text alerts, sign up for e-updates.

Farber Implements New Fence Ordinance, Permit

Highlights from the May 11 Farber Board of Alderman meeting include:

A new fence ordinance and permit process was approved. The pending new home building permit was approved.

Citizen complaints and questions were heard. Under new business, the board supported the plan to begin depot repairs and fundraising. Both wastewater and drinking water engineering RFQs were presented, and a work session was planned

for June 1 to review and score the responses.

City Attorney Christa J. Broughton was asked to draft a resolution for delinquent or inactive water service accounts stating that the meter will be locked out when shut off for non-payment. Property owners that desire the meter be removed must submit a written request.

The third Friday community supper will be held June 19 at the Farber Com-

munity Building. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., eat at 6 p.m., followed by a water balloon fight in the park.

The depot will be open. Bring family and friends along with a covered dish. Barbecued hamburgers, hot dogs, tea, water and table service provided by Farber Community Betterment.

The board thanked Barb Straube for all she has done for the city as the city clerk.

Next board meeting will be June 8, 5:30 p.m.

Show Your Colors!

Louisiana Community Betterment is sponsoring a Patriotic Decorating Contest to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America.

This contest includes the entire 63353 zip code area. Even if you are not a city resident, but your zip code is 63353, you may enter. All businesses and residents are encouraged to join in.

You may enter the contest by submitting a photo of your Patriotic Decorations by email at Lmo-combtrmt@yahoo.com or by texting to 314-640-4420. All entries must include your name, address and phone number with your submission. Entries will be accepted until midnight, June 26. Late entries will not be eligible for prizes. Winners will be announced on July 3.

Cash prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place winners. All entries will be shared on the LCBA Facebook page.

Let's join together in some friendly competition and turn all of Louisiana Red, White and Blue for the nation's 250th Birthday. LCBA can be contacted by calling Diana Huckstep, LCBA Chairperson at 314-640-4420.

George Rives Loves Experimenting With Chili Recipes

BY BRENT ENGEL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER
George Rives loves experimenting with chili recipes.

The 75-year-old Eolia man is a world champion chef and will participate in the Missouri State Chili Cook-Off Saturday, June 13 at Clarksville.

The event, hosted by Raintree Arts Council, is from 11 a.m.-5 p.m., in Riverview Park. Admission is \$3, with chili samples from cooks for 50 cents each. There will also be other foods, beverages, music and vendors.

"I have tried different recipes at home to see if anything can be improved upon," said Rives, whose last name is pronounced with a long "e" sound. "Chili can be served in many ways - hot dogs, eggs, dips, etc. With that being said, it is a true filling dish, and that is why chili is so well received."

The self-proclaimed "chili head" fondly recalls being talked into conjuring a batch for the first Clarksville cook-off in 1993, the year of the Great Mississippi River flood.

"I knew I would be going against some of the best chili cooks in the country," he said. "To my surprise, I won and that 'set the hook' to start cooking competition chili."

The 2018 world championship was held at what is now World Wide Technol-

ogy Raceway outside of St. Louis. Rives competed in homestyle, basically an "anything goes" category that offers the freedom to use many ingredients.

All of the competitors had won a state or regional cook-off, so the clash was tough. Rives said he was "beyond excited and surprised" when he captured first place.

The winning recipe, which can be found online, combines ground beef, pork sausage, pinto chili beans, chicken and beef broth, tomato sauce, diced tomatoes, hot tomato sauce, whole green chiles, oil, Tabasco sauce, jalapeno peppers and onions. For the spice mix, he used chili powder, cumin, garlic powder, cayenne powder and brown sugar. The meat spices included white pepper. Arrow root and sea salt were used as needed.

For three decades, Rives had a muse and taste tester close at hand in companion Mary Cannon. She was a culinary queen who placed second in homestyle behind Rives at the 2018 world championship. The two worked well together because their products were different. Mary died at 71 on Aug. 28, 2023.

Rives is a stickler for making sure "the preparations are done right." But cooks have to be on their toes if something goes wrong. One anecdote from an experience he and Mary

had sums it up.

"We were cooking in Arkansas and she burned hers," Rives said. "It smelled like hell. It was burned on the bottom of the pan. Luckily, we had another pot. We poured the (remaining good) chili into the other pot. She went on to win."

Rives has cooked, and won, all over the country. While each chef wants to come out on top because prizes can be in the tens of thousands of dollars, the events are more about camaraderie than competition.

"You make a lot of friends doing this," said Rives, who fondly recalls participating in the Budweiser Chili Cookoff in Hannibal among many others. "It's kind of like a bunch of gypsies. Everybody helps everybody. It's not cut-throat."

Categories at Clarksville are red, verde and homestyle. Cooks must have their own utensils and have three hours to provide a quart of competition product from each category entered. Volunteer judges award points based upon taste, spices and color.

Cooks also must be an International Chili Society member. The \$10 registration for one event may be made online at www.ics.com. Organizer and Raintree Board Member Linda Blakey says judges are needed. They can sign up at the information



Van-Far Fire Protection District President Brandon Straube, right, is pictured receiving the donation of a pumper truck from Northwest Fire District Chief George Creamer.

Van-Far Fire District Receives Donation Of Pumper Truck

The Boone County Fire Protection District held a handoff ceremony Wednesday to celebrate the donation of two 2000-model Pierce Freightliner pumper tankers, fire trucks that both pump and haul water, to the Van-Far and Northwest fire protection districts.

Both the Van-Far and Northwest fire districts planned to try to buy the trucks after the Boone County Fire District put them up for sale. The Boone County Fire District recently replaced and retired the trucks.

Because the Van-Far Northwest fire districts were

experiencing either financial challenges or were startup districts, the Boone County Fire District Board of Directors met to discuss and ultimately decided to donate the trucks.

"Today is a great day," Northwest Fire District Chief George Creamer said. "We're incredibly grateful to the Boone County Fire District to donate something like this that we could not afford on our own."

The pumper tankers carry 1,500 gallons of water, which make them especially critical to rural communities, Boone County

Fire District Chief Doug Westhoff said.

"It's a situation of not having fire hydrant water systems in place," he said. "In rural Missouri, you have to take the water with you to fight the fire. These are an essential item to be able to suppress these fires."

Van-Far Fire Protection District Chief Brandon Straube said the timing of this donation couldn't be any better.

Straube and Van-Far Fire Protection District board member and secretary Mark Woodward were instrumental in receiving the donation.



Pictured are members of the Van-Far Fire Protection District with the newly donated pumper truck from the Boone County Fire District, from left: Justin Hopke - board member (vice president), Mark Woodward - board member (secretary), Dean Middleton - board member (treasurer), Heather Williams - previous board member and emergency medical responder, Kurtis Stubblefield - firefighter, Dewey Straube - assistant chief, Jamie Day - lieutenant, Andrew Myers - firefighter, Harold Williams - Auxiliary chief, Ashton Garnett - firefighter, Braden Prior - firefighter, Gary Stubblefield - battalion chief, Marvin Yager - board member (at large), and Brandon Straube - fire chief.

Louisiana Adopts Budget, Expands Public Access Through YouTube Streaming

BY BRICE CHANDLER
EDITOR

The City of Louisiana has approved its fiscal year 2026-27 budget following additional review by city officials and has announced a new method for residents to follow city government proceedings.

The Louisiana City Council adopted the budget during a special meeting on June 2 after tabling the measure during a May 29 meeting to address concerns

regarding a line item in the police department budget.

According to a memorandum released by City Administrator Cameron Carlile following the May 29 meeting, the city continued operating under its 2025-26 appropriations while officials reviewed the proposed budget. Carlile noted at the time that city services would continue uninterrupted during the process.

The budget was ultimately approved following

additional discussion by the council. According to reports from the June 2 meeting, one of the primary topics of discussion involved a police department line item identified as officer housing and listed as a confidential personnel expense. Following discussion, city officials approved the budget.

The budget comes as the city continues to transition under new leadership following the April municipal election, which brought a new mayor and new council members to office.

In a separate announcement, the city said it will begin livestreaming public meetings through YouTube rather than Zoom in an effort to reduce costs while increasing public access.

City officials said the change will allow residents to watch meetings live and access recordings of both past and future meetings at any time. Residents can view meetings through the City of Louisiana's official YouTube channel.

The city said the move is intended to improve accessibility and help keep residents informed about local government activities and decisions.

You can attend the city hall meetings in person or watch at www.youtube.com/@CityofLouisianaMissouri



History Relived

Gene Nothaker portrays Mark Twain during the Clarksville Library's Civil War History Walking Tour and Dinner Saturday, May 30 at The Apple Shed. Renactors portrayed seven other locally and nationally significant people as part of the fund-raiser, which included a tour of historic Clarksville structures. More than 100 people participated in the event, proceeds of which will benefit the 116-year-old library's ongoing renovation.

Photo by Brent Engel

Community News

Mizzou Dean's List

Laddonia
Clayton Michael Jennings, sophomore, journalism
Sam Elizabeth Northcutt, sophomore, Agr-Food Nat Resources
Carmen Alivia Wilburn, junior, Agr-Food Nat Resources
Erica Grace Windmann
Vandalia
Erin Elizabeth Childs, sophomore, Agr-Food Nat Resources
Ennis Edward Childs, senior, Agr-Food Nat Resources
Reece Shannon Culwell, sophomore, Agr-Food Nat Resources
Rebecca Danielle Motley, sophomore, Education Human Development
Bowling Green
Josh Carroll, senior, engineering
Brandon L. Gamm, senior, engineering
John Thomas Gamm, senior, Agr-Food Nat Resources
Andrea Suzanne Korte, senior, Health Sciences
Sophia Alice Lucero, junior, Arts Science
Olivia Claire Lucero, junior, Health Sciences
Bethany Clare Chau Lan Perry, senior, Health Sciences
Hannah Marie Post, senior, Agr-Food Nat Resources
Clarksville
Chase Cooper Hall, senior, Agr-Food Nat Resources
Curryville
Clara Lea Bailey, junior, Agr-Food Nat Resources
Kelley LeeAnn Lewis, senior, Health Sciences
Abbie Waddell, senior, Agr-Food Nat Resources
Eolia
Lauren O. Blackwell, sophomore, Nursing
Maelyn Elsie Brune, senior, Agr-Food Nat Resources
Peter Ioannes Daskalakis, freshman, Engineering
Louisiana
Tegan Elin Carrington, senior, Arts Science
Cooper Eugene Lumley, sophomore, Health Sciences
Tyler Michael Pedersen, sophomore, Agr-Food Nat Resources
Ashlynn Grace Tredway, junior, Health Sciences
Katie Elizbeath Wallace, sophomore, Business

Celebrating America 250, New Happenings At The 2026 Missouri State Fair

The Missouri State Fair is celebrating 250 years of America! This year's Fair's theme, "Show-Me Stars & Stripes," will showcase this milestone through new events, new livestock shows, and new campground competitions along with fan favorite exhibits from previous years. Special promotions and exhibits to look forward to include: Opening Day Parade entries from local patriotic organizations. Special exhibits planned and free tram rides for military and their families on Military Appreciation Day, Aug. 16, including the return of the Patriot Gaurd Riders. Freedom 250 Truck Mobile Museum, Aug. 15-16. U.S. Army Special Operations Adventure Trailer, Aug. 13-17. Patriotic entertainment including Tribute to the Troops, Aug. 13-17 and THE AmirrorCAN MAN America 250 Mural on the Fine Arts Building. Missouri FFA will be packing 250,000 meals on Aug. 17 and 18 to help feed hungry Missouri families for the Drive to Feed Kids Military Flag Retreat Ceremonies, Patriotic Photo Stations, the National Anthem played over the loudspeaker each day, and more. Patriotic Livestock Shows, Contests & Buildings: Dairy Cattle "Red, White, and MOO!" contest. Patriotic Ribbons for Best of Show, Livestock Patriotic Spirit Award, Overall Grand Patriotic Exhibits, and Most Patriotic Livestock Stall/Pen. Golf Car Decorating Contest throughout the campground. Livestock stall and penning decorating contests. Home Economics Foods and Household Arts contests. Red, white and blue bunting on many of the Fairgrounds historic buildings.

NECAC Continues Effort To Cut Housing Fraud

NECAC continues as a partner in the federal effort to crack down on fraud in the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program. While rare, fraud does happen. Most often, tenants hide assets or income or misrepresent who lives in the home. The Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Inspector General and NECAC are committed to eliminating fraud, waste and abuse in the program, which provides partial rent payments to income-qualifying people. Landlords who participate in the program also are subject to fraud elimination guidelines. "With the current affordable housing shortage, our waiting lists are long," said NECAC Rental Assistance Programs Director Michelle Worthington. "Cheating the system will not be tolerated. People who fraud the Section 8 program are taking assistance away from waiting list applicants who are willing to participate in the program honestly." The law requires Section 8 clients to report all household income and changes in household composition. Failure to do so can result in termination from the program, repayment of overpaid subsidies and, in some cases, federal criminal charges. Public housing authorities such as NECAC are required to use HUD's Enterprise Income Verification as a third-party source to double-check employment and income data during annual examinations. The system puts together a verity of information. Housing authorities also get quarterly wage reports through computer matching agreements with state collection agencies. People who sign up for Section 8 authorize HUD and NECAC to pull this data.

NECAC urges people to report suspected housing fraud to the email housing@necac.org. All reports are investigated by the agency and are kept confidential.

Fragrant Plants Invite Pollinators To Your Garden

Fragrance gardening is an easy way to enhance the enjoyment of gardens, said University of Missouri Extension horticulturist David Trinklein. Our sense of smell has the power to evoke deep emotions, Trinklein said. Fragrance is an extension of a plant's charm, transcending its physical space. Plants emit fragrance for various reasons, a primary one being to attract pollinators. A fragrant flower is declaring "open house" to any insect (and bats and hummingbirds in certain cases) in the area to visit. Many night-blooming plants are extremely fragrant since they cannot rely on visual attraction alone. Not all floral fragrances are pleasant to humans. The flowers of the carrion plant (Stapelia gigantea) reek of rotten meat to draw blow flies and other insects that deposit eggs in decaying flesh. In other cases, plants use fragrance to repel rather than attract; their leaves and stems produce pungent, spicy odors to ward off predators. The aroma of basil, while enticing to many humans, is an effective fly and mosquito repellent. "Indeed, basil has been suggested by some as a substitute for chemical insect repellents, if you don't mind smelling like salsa," said Trinklein. Site and plant selection are important for the success of a fragrance garden. Many fragrant plants are sun lovers, so it is wise to pick a spot that gets at least four to six hours of sunlight daily. Try to select a location that is protected from the wind to allow fragrances to linger longer in the garden. Many fragrant plants are more aromatic at night, so you might want to locate a fragrance garden relatively close to the home where it can be enjoyed while relaxing on a patio or deck in the evening. Nearly any plant with fragrant flowers or foliage is a candidate for a fragrance garden, but there are some things to keep in mind when selecting plants: Select plants with similar requirements related to sun exposure, soil fertility and moisture. Choose "good neighbors." Overly aggressive plants such as mints can be held in check by planting them in a bottomless container. If using perennials, choose plants with different blooming periods for season-long fragrance. Think safety. Angel's trumpets (Brugmansia spp. and Datura spp.) are some of the most fragrant flowers in the gardening world, but they are toxic and should be used with great care. Plants with fragrant flowers: Brugmansia, Dianthus, Garden phlox, Heliotrope, Lilies, Nicotiana, Pansy, Peony, Rose, Stock, Sweet alyssum, Plants with fragrant foliage: Artemesia, Basil, Creeping thyme, Lavender, Lemon sage, Mints, Rosemary, Sage, Scented geraniums, Fragrant shrubs and trees: Black locust, Buddleia, Clethra, Lilac, Linden, Magnolia, Mock orange, Viburnum, Witch hazel, Yellow wood.

Applesauce Barbecue Chicken Recipe

Yield: 4 servings
Prep: 5 min
Cook: 15 min
Ingredients: 4 boneless skinless chicken breast halves (6 ounces each)
1/2 teaspoon pepper
1 tablespoon olive oil
2/3 cup chunky applesauce
2/3 cup spicy barbecue sauce
2 tablespoons brown sugar
1 teaspoon chili powder
Directions: Sprinkle chicken with pepper. In a large skillet, brown chicken in oil on both sides. In a small bowl, combine the remaining ingredients; pour over chicken. Cover and cook until a thermometer reads 165°, 7-10 minutes.
Nutrition Facts
1 chicken breast half: 308 calories, 8g fat (2g saturated fat), 94mg cholesterol, 473mg sodium, 22g carbohydrate (19g sugars, 1g fiber), 35g protein.

Report Turkey Sightings To Help With Survey

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) is asking the public to help it monitor the state's wild turkey population this summer by reporting wild turkey sightings through the MDC Wild Turkey Brood Survey. While anyone can contribute observations to the brood survey, registering to become an official brood survey cooperator has additional benefits. Cooperators will receive a reminder email that the survey is about to begin and a summary report at the end of each survey. They can also receive a copy of their submitted observations upon request. To learn more and to sign up to report wild turkey sightings, visit mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/turkey/wild-turkey-brood-survey.


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 6-1-2026				Monday Receipts 3,930 Head			
Steers, medium & large		Heifers, Med. & Large		Steers, medium & large		Heifers, Med. & Large	
2,411		1,261					
	Computer Avg.		Computer Avg.				
7	300 & Down 630	770	17	300 & Down 550	680		
70	300-400 580	680	91	300-400 535	580		
405	400-500 525	600	383	400-500 470	545		
493	500-600 495	560	363	500-600 445	465		
572	600-700 445	489	265	600-700 400	400		
251	700-800 380	414.5	129	700-800 340	378		
415	800-900 352	361.5		800-900 308			
176	900-1,000 341	352.5		900-1000 292			
2	Bred Cows - Better Pairs 2700	3250	550	Others			
			Slaughter Cows	175	195		
	High Dressing 175	195	Low	150	160		
	Bulk 165	185	Thin	80	130		
25	Slaughter Bulls 205	235					
ALL SLAUGHTER STEERS & HEIFERS SOLD ON MON. NOON							
39	Choice 2 & 3 248	253.5	Steers & Heifers				
			Mixed Select	245	Select 239		

Receiving Hours Sat. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
We appreciate your business both buyers & sellers! For more info contact:
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Justin Oberling - 217-440-5733
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Tyler Harris - 573-220-4177
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573-594-3521
Tuesday - Wednesday
Thursday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Friday By Appointment
All haircuts \$10
Harold Williams



THORNHILL AUCTION

& REAL ESTATE COMPANY

Clarissa J. Woods vs. John B. Boyd Cause No. 23PI-CCC00033 Pike County, MO
Per Court Order we will sell the following Real Estate At Public Auction on
Sunday, June 28, 2026
At 2:00 P.M.

SALE SITE: Thornhill Auction Barn; 421 John Deere Dr.; Troy, MO 63379
REAL ESTATE PARCEL #1: 17018 Hwy W; Clarksville, MO 63336
DIRECTIONS: Hwy 79 & Hwy W at Clarksville, MO go south on Hwy W approx. 1 1/2 miles to home on right.




REAL ESTATE: 4 acres m/l fronting on State Hwy W in US Survey #1709 Section 21 TWP 53N R1 E in Pike County, MO
Improvements include a 1860s brick 2 story Plantation style home approx. 2738 sq. ft. Home has been gutted & ready for restoration. Deep well & county water available.
REAL ESTATE PARCEL #2: 1100 North Carolina St.; Louisiana, MO 63353
DIRECTIONS: Take Hwy 79 to Louisiana, MO go west on North Carolina St. 8 blocks to home on left.

REAL ESTATE: All of Lots 7, 8, 11 & 12 in Block 2 in John W. Fritz addition to the City of Louisiana, MO. Lots approx. 128'x240'.
Improvements include 1858 L-angled Revival Plantation style 2 story brick home built by William Luce featuring 9 rooms & 3 baths.
The main level has 5 rooms; living room, kitchen, dining room, breakfast room, primary bedroom & 1 bath. The 2nd story has 4 rooms; 3 bedrooms, sitting room & 2 baths. The home has many updates, 2 story entry foyer, and main floor laundry. The lady's parlor has the original fireplace w/built in bookcases, the kitchen has a center island w/georgous cabinetry, an attached 2 car garage & renovated smoke house, workshop & storage area.
The home is on public city sewer & water w/electric FA furnace & central air w/natural gas available. Beautiful hilltop setting, updated wiring & plumbing, summer porch w/covered front porch.
Note: Above home was occupied until 5-20-26.
Open House on Thursday, June 18, 2026 from 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. or for a private showing call our office at 636-366-4206 for appointment.
NOTE: Again, sale will be held at Thornhill Auction Barn; 421 John Deere Dr.; Troy, MO 63379 & not on site.
AUCTIONEERS NOTE: This is an ABSOLUTE AUCTION both homes sell to the highest bidder, come bid to buy. NO Buyer's Premium. David, Dusty & Bill
OWNER:
CLARISSA J. WOODS VS. JOHN B. BOYD
CAUSE NO. 23PI-CCC00033

DAVID THORNHILL
314-393-7241
Troy, MO

DUSTY THORNHILL
314-393-4726
Troy, MO

BILL UNSELL
573-470-0037
Frankford, MO

Troy Office: 636-366-4206 Thornhillauction.com

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Community News

From The Mayor's Desk...

I am excited to announce that the City of Bowling Green will be throwing a Welcome Home Party for our very own Cotton Fitzsimmons very soon. I will be starting a grassroots fundraising campaign next week to bring a life-size bronze statue of Cotton to our beloved city. The best part of this is that not a single dime of tax-payer money will be used to fund this project.

I have had the wonderful opportunity to be in constant contact with Cotton's widow, the lovey JoAnn Fitzsimmons. It took me a little while to find her, but with help from State Representative Chad Perkins, I was able to track her down. When I spoke to her by phone the very first time, she burst into tears in appreciation. Since then, she has sent me video tributes from the Phoenix Suns, and has shared many stories of Cotton with me.

With the statue, there will be a plaque that will display significant donor's names and businesses on it. This plaque will give thanks to all the people and businesses, and will be seen by hundreds of thousands

of people over the next 100 years or so. The plaque will be located in a place that will allow people to walk up to it, read a short bio of the legendary coach, and see all the names of the people who helped to bring Cotton back home.

None of this could've happened without the full support, and backing of our wonderful city aldermen and alderwomen. Our city administrator and city attorney were also instrumental in making this idea spring into fruition, and I am so appreciative of the entire team's contributions to this cause. I would also like to thank JoAnn for allowing this tribute to proceed.

The fundraising campaign begins on Monday, June 15, so if you want to leave your mark and donate to this endeavor, please call me or city hall for details. Any donation over \$1,000 will have your name cast in bronze for many, many decades, if not longer. Thank you for your support in advance, and I cannot wait to unveil this statue with you all in the near future. Welcome home, Cotton!

4-H Teen Conference Helps Youth Grow

More than 200 Missouri 4-H members gathered on the University of Missouri campus May 26-27 for Missouri 4-H Teen Conference, an annual event for 4-H members ages 11-13. This year's conference welcomed 218 youths and 24 chaperones from across the state.

With the theme "The More You Know, The More You Grow!" participants explored leadership, service and personal growth while building friendships with fellow 4-H'ers from communities in Missouri.

At the two-day conference, youths participated in leadership-focused workshops, completed a community service project, experienced campus life at the University of Missouri and enjoyed games, activities and a dance.

As part of the conference's service-learning focus, participants collected books and created tie blankets to donate to

MU Children's Hospital. The project gave youths an opportunity to put 4-H values into action while helping bring comfort and encouragement to children receiving care and their families, said Megan Kershner, University of Missouri Extension state 4-H leadership and civic engagement educator.

The conference keynote speaker, Zoe Engelbrecht, a Missouri 4-H alumna and current nursing student, talked about how her experiences in 4-H helped her discover her passion for healthcare. Engelbrecht said her interest in nursing began through participation in the 4-H first aid project, demonstrating how 4-H experiences can help young people explore future educational and career paths.

The event was planned by Missouri 4-H civic engagement ambassadors, youth leaders who promote community involve-

ment and leadership within 4-H.

Teen Conference is designed to help young people develop leadership skills, gain confidence, build meaningful friendships and discover ways they can make positive differences in their communities, Kershner said.

Support for Missouri 4-H Teen Conference is provided by the Missouri 4-H Foundation in partnership with the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives, Miller Family Foundation, Missouri Corn Growers Association and the Missouri Soybean Merchandising Council.

Missouri 4-H, the youth development program of University of Missouri Extension, helps young people build confidence, leadership, citizenship and life skills through hands-on learning experiences that prepare them to be Beyond Ready for college, careers and life.

Pike To Pike...



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

Have I not commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest. Joshua 1:9

We would like to say congratulations to Casen Shoemaker who won the Talent Contest at the Pike County Fair in Pleasant Hill this past week. He will be Springfield bound next. Way to go, Casen.

Bis River Band will be at the Red Rooster, 635 West Washington, Pittsfield, this Saturday. Doors will open at 5 p.m., to order food which will be a choice of barbecue pork sandwiches or maid rites with potato salad and baked beans. The music by the Big River Band will start at 6 p.m. 50/50 tickets will be available to purchase. Come on out for a good evening of music and fun.

The Pike County Senior Citizens Center at 220 West Adams Street in Pittsfield will be holding their fundraiser fish fry on Thursday, June 11 from 4:30-6 p.m. The menu will be your choice of catfish fillet or buffalo with three set sides which will include potato salad, slaw, cinnamon apples, plus your choice of dessert, and tea. Eat in or carry out. All ages are welcome. Questions please call 217-285-4969. They also have gift certificates available for any amount.

Another "Meet, Greet, & Eat" of Single Seniors + one

State Tech Announces

Dean's List

Students from State Tech are listed for making the dean's list for the spring of 2026.

To be placed on the dean's list, a full-time student must earn a semester grade point average between 3.5 and 4.0 on a 4-point scale.

Bowling Green - Caleb Graver
Curryville - Zane Allen
Elsberry - Nolan Wilson
Eolia - Madison Akers
Ladonia - Devin Vandriet

Louisiana - Donovan Richards
Middletown - Noah Chesser
Vandalia - Ainsley Jacycyna and Katelyn Pargeon
Wellsville - Ashton Chappins, Caden Gilbert, and Alex Retterath

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has been planned. To qualify to be in the group for both men and women, you must be at least 62 years old, single (widowed, divorced, or never married), be able to pay for your own meal, and either have your own transportation or you can make arrangements to ride with someone else.

We get together once a month at a restaurant to enjoy visiting with each other (and talking and sharing conversations is extremely important and strongly suggested. In other words, do not sit there quietly and criticize others who do talk) and to enjoy a good meal. This is definitely not a matchmaking group.

We have went to various restaurants in both Pike Counties in Illinois and Missouri, as well as Quincy, Hannibal, and Jacksonville. Sincerely interested people please call 1-217-320-8438.

It's worth every mile to show others your smile. Wyvetta

Birthdays and Anniversaries for the week of June 10-16:

June 10 - Mrs. Dick Lambeth, Mrs. Fred Lambeth, Kyla McDonald, Robbie McDonald

June 11 - Jason Simmerman

June 12 - Becky Phillips, Janice Swartz, Paul and Neta Lennon

June 13 - Oakland Niffen, Tracy Niffen

June 14 - Dylan Myers, Ryan Dixon, Sue Yackley, Sam and Lesley Myers

June 15 - Chris and Ron Phipps

June 16 - Jody Miller, Sally Garner

Mark These Dates on Your Calendar:

June 11 - Fundraiser fish fry at Pike County Senior Center from 4:30-6 p.m.

June 13 - Big River Band playing at the Red Rooster starting at 6 p.m.

June 17 - Big River Band will be playing at the Griggsville Fair at the Food Tent starting at 5 p.m.

June 21 - Father's Day

June 27 - Big River Band playing at the Pike County

Senior Center starting at 6:30 p.m.

The first concert/show of the Big River Band at the Nebo Community Center was held on June 4. Even though the gathering was small, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and were happy to be there. It would be very good if more people would attend, and if you decide to come, bring someone with you.

The band worked hard to give this premier performance, and all the many songs they sang, it showed. They plan to be in Nebo again sometime next month and hope everyone will try to make it.

Here are this week's Ways to manage stress that I found recently. Hope these help:

1. Divide big tasks into smaller, more manageable ones.

2. Eat a well balanced diet, full of whole grains, fruits and vegetables. Limit sugar.

3. Get plenty of sleep each night.

4. Include moderate exercise into each day to boost your energy level and improve your mood.

Need A Ride

OATS Transit is currently offering regular transportation services to the rural general public of any age.

To schedule a ride or to inquire about services available in your area, please call the OATS Transit office at 660-415-0901 or 800-654-6287.

You can also visit our website at www.oatstransit.org, where you can find your local schedule by clicking on your county under the "Bus Schedules" tab.

Our offices will be closed and regular routes not running on Friday, June 19 for Juneteenth Day.

Summer Wildflowers Bring Effortless Color To Roadsides, Backyards

For many, the term "wildflower garden" conjures images of a delicate spring native to lightly shaded woodland sites or moist meadows. But there are many summer-blooming wildflowers native to dry, sunny hillsides, glades and other places with more austere growing conditions.

Many of them are much easier to grow than spring wildflowers and are ideal for adding color to a low-maintenance, summer flower garden, said University of Missouri Extension horticulturist David Trinklein.

"First, it must be emphasized that wildflowers should not be dug from the wild," Trinklein said. In Missouri, it is illegal to dig or remove any plants or plant parts from rights of way without permission. However, Missouri statutes do allow "the collection of seeds, fruits, nuts, berries, edible wild greens or flowering parts of plants" for personal use.

One of the most colorful summer wildflowers is butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), which is often found growing in poor soil along roadsides. In summer, it produces clusters of small, bright orange flowers that are strikingly attractive, especially to butterflies.

A member of the milkweed family, butterfly weed produces pointed seed pods containing fluffy seeds distributed by the wind. Easily grown from seeds, it forms dense, colorful clumps. The flowers are useful for cutting and displaying in arrangements. In a garden, members of the genus *Asclepias* serve as the sole source of food for monarch butterfly larvae. Therefore, growing this species is a good way to help in the monarch butterfly preservation effort.

Another useful Missouri

wildflower is black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*). Drought- and heat-tolerant, it produces abundant amounts of daisy-like flowers with golden petals and dark centers. It also is attractive to pollinators and provides long-lived cut flowers to use indoors.

Purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*) produces daisy-like flowers with purplish-pink petals and dark, reddish-brown centers. Commonly found along roadsides and in prairies, it is easy to start from seeds. The latter can be direct-seeded any time in late summer. Alternatively, you can plant seeds in cold frames in late winter or early spring, then transplant young plants to the garden when they are large enough to handle. Purple coneflower also is very pollinator-friendly.

For the gardener who wants extended bloom time from a single native plant, rose verbena (*Glandularia canadensis*) is a good candidate. This low, sprawling plant bears clusters of small lavender or magenta flowers. It makes an excellent rock garden plant. In sunny locations, it may flower from spring until a late fall freeze.

In locations with light shade and fairly moist soil, several other summer-blooming wildflowers may be used. One of the best is campanula, or tall bellflower (*Campanula americana*). It, too, flowers through most of the summer, producing blue flowers on a tall spike. Under ideal conditions, stalks of tall bellflower may grow up to 6 feet.

Blue lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*) is related to tall bellflower and grows in similar locations. Also known as blue cardinal flower, it blooms in late summer, producing flowers

that range from light to dark blue. Blue lobelia normally grows no more than 3 feet in height.

For vivid red flowers, cardinal flower or cardinal lobelia (*Lobelia cardinalis*) is spectacular. This extremely hardy plant is famous for attracting hummingbirds and swallowtail butterflies. Like blue lobelia, it likes low, moist areas and light shade.

There are many other prairie and woodland summer-flowering native perennials that may be used in the garden. Two examples are aromatic aster (*Symphyotrichum oblongifolium*) and goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.). Additional wildflowers for garden use include blazing star (*Liatris spicata*), evening primrose (*Oenothera biennis*), beard-tongue (*Pentstemon* spp.) and perennial sweet pea (*Lathyrus latifolius*).

For additional information, see MU Extension publication G6660, "Wildflowers in the Home Landscape," at <https://extension.missouri.edu/publications/g6660>.

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GENERAC

Obituaries

MDC Modifies Regulations For Non-Resident Deer Hunting

The Missouri Conservation Commission approved proposed regulation changes at its May 29 open meeting in Washington from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) regarding nonresident deer hunting.

The approved regulation change for the upcoming 2026 deer season reduces the nonresident antlered buck bag limit from two to one. Nonresident landowners who qualify for nonresident-landowner permits will maintain an antlered buck bag limit of two.

The Commission also gave initial approval to a regulation change that would require nonresident deer hunters to purchase a Nonresident Public Land Deer Hunting Permit for \$165 to be able to pursue, take, possess, and transport deer on public land in Missouri such as conservation areas and other state and federal public lands, beginning with the 2027 deer season.

MDC welcomes public comments on the Nonres-

ident Public Land Deer Hunting Permit online July 16 through Aug. 14 at mdc.mo.gov/contact-engage/public-commenting-opportunities.

The Commission will then review information from public comments and give final consideration to the proposed regulation changes regarding a Nonresident Public Land Deer Hunting Permit at its Sept. 11 open meeting. If given final approval, the changes will become effective for the 2027 deer season.

According to MDC, nonresident participation in Missouri's deer season has increased considerably in recent years and some resident hunters have expressed concern about how it is impacting their hunts, particularly on public land.

MDC deer-hunting data shows there were approximately 20,000 nonresident deer hunters who hunted in Missouri 20 years ago. That number was about four percent of the state's nearly 475,000 total deer hunters.

By 2025, that number had more than doubled to about 42,000 nonresident deer hunters in Missouri, accounting for about nine percent of the state's total deer hunters.

MDC notes that nonresident hunters make valuable contributions to local economies and communities when traveling to Missouri. Many small businesses and Missouri landowners benefit from the contributions of nonresident deer hunters.

"MDC strives to provide quality hunting opportunities for resident hunters and recognizes the important contributions resident hunters and landowners make to sustaining a healthy deer herd in Missouri," says MDC Cervid Program Supervisor Jason Isabelle. "We're thankful for the input from our resident hunters on this issue and certainly appreciate their concerns. The proposed changes to nonresident deer hunting are designed to address those concerns and help alleviate the increasing nonresident deer hunting

pressure in our state."

MDC values public input and previously asked for feedback from deer hunters about nonresident deer hunting in a 2024 survey of deer hunters and a public commenting opportunity conducted as part of the Department's Deer Management Plan update that year.

MDC also surveyed a sample of 56,000 resident hunters and 1,800 nonresident hunters in 2025 regarding resident and nonresident hunting and collected public comments. MDC also held 10 open houses around the state in 2025 to seek public input on deer management in Missouri.

MDC asked for public comments on non-resident deer hunting during April of this year and continued the conversation through small-group meetings with members of the public around the state in May.

Learn more about deer hunting in Missouri online at mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/deer.

MDC Invites Public Comments On Proposed Camping Permits

Camping is a popular activity for many people in Missouri including hunters, anglers, floaters, and other outdoor enthusiasts. The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) manages about 1,000 conservation areas around the state with more than 320 offering free camping.

While camping remains a popular activity on MDC areas, campers and staff have noted an increasing number of problems involving compliance issues, safety concerns, and environmental impacts from vandalism, illegal activities, and illegal stays on camping areas.

To help better regulate and monitor activities on its camping areas, MDC is proposing requiring permits for camping on MDC areas.

The Missouri Conservation Commission gave initial approval of the proposed regulation changes on camping permits at its May 29 open meeting in Washington.

WHY CAMPING PERMITS ARE NEEDED

MDC data shows camping-related violations and warnings for camping outside of designated areas and camping for longer than allowed on MDC areas have increased significantly over the past decade. In 2015, staff issued 11 violations and 2 warnings. By 2024,

this number rose to 30 citations and 153 warnings.

MDC notes that these numbers only represent individuals who could be identified and do not include other violations related to littering, off-road vehicles, arrest warrants, drug arrests, and others.

Campers on MDC areas do not currently need a permit, do not pay a fee, and do not register to camp. This lack of identification of campers creates a difficult job for conservation agents and other MDC staff to regulate activities on the camping areas or identify campers causing problems or taking part in illegal activities.

PROPOSED CAMPING CHANGES

MDC recommends the following regulations regarding camping permits for implementation starting in March 2027:

Require a low-cost (\$5), five-day permit for all camping on conservation areas for up to 10 people. The "\$5-for-5-for-10" permit would cost \$5 for up to five days (four nights) of camping for a group of 10 people or fewer even if fewer days were used and fewer people participated.

Require groups of more than 10 people to have a Special Use Permit and camping permit to camp on MDC areas.

Each person would be

limited to three consecutive camping permits and six camping permits annually.

Require that no personal property may be left unattended longer than 24 hours at campsites or areas for camping purposes.

According to MDC, the "\$5-for-5-for-10" camping permit fee for up to a party of 10 is a great value for the price. In comparison, Missouri State Parks offers individual back-country camping permits for \$10 per night; basic, individual, walk-in camping at a nightly rate of \$13-\$16; and campsites with amenities such as electric/sewer/water for \$29-\$36 per night. Camping in Mark Twain National Forest of the U.S. Forest Service costs \$10 - \$25 per night per individual including basic sites and sites with amenities. Camping costs at private facilities vary widely based on location, offerings, and other factors.

PERMIT BENEFITS

Requiring a low-cost camping permit will benefit campers by providing better and safer camping experiences on MDC areas.

MDC notes that camping permits will help deter illegal activities, allow better tracking of how long individuals are camping on conservation areas, and allow for expansion of camping opportunities where appropriate. By implementing a permit-based

system and consolidating camping opportunities, MDC can balance the needs of recreationists with the imperative to conserve Missouri's natural resources for future generations.

Camping permits would be purchased online, at a permit vendor, or over the phone using MDC's permit system, and would be displayed in MDC's MO Fishing and MO Hunting apps. The simple, online registration system will provide important information on how many people are camping on MDC areas to help staff build positive relationships with campers and to monitor and manage unwanted activities by campers on MDC areas.

COMMENT ONLINE

MDC is seeking public comments on the proposed camping regulations from July 16 through Aug. 14 at mdc.mo.gov/contact-engage/public-commenting-opportunities.

The commission will then review information from public comments and give final consideration to the proposed regulation changes at its Sept. 11 open meeting. If given final approval, the changes will become effective Feb. 28, 2027.

Get more information on camping on MDC areas at mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/activities/camping.

Safety Tips For The Summer

Although summer doesn't officially begin until June 21, many Missourians already experienced 90-degree temperatures during a historic early-season heat wave in mid-March. It is important for everyone to be aware of the dangers posed by extreme heat and humidity and take precautions as they spend more time outdoors in the coming months.

To help prepare, the state observed Summer Safety Day on Friday, June 5. The Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) and the National Weather Service (NWS) encourage everyone to pay attention to local forecasts and plan accordingly when working or participating in activities outside. Humidity can amplify the feeling of heat measured by a heat index, so it is especially important to keep a close eye on friends and family and know the signs of heat-related illnesses.

Lightning fatalities also peak during the summer months when leisure activities are typically outside, so it is important to adjust plans when thunderstorms are forecasted and know where it is safest to take

shelter if necessary.

"It's always important to keep heat, humidity, and severe weather top of mind during the summer," SEMA Director Jim Remillard said. "This year, we will welcome thousands of visitors to Kansas City and Missouri for the World Cup, which will generate additional time spent outdoors - sometimes several hours - for events, waiting in lines, and in large crowds. Especially for more vulnerable groups like children, the elderly and those with pre-existing medical conditions, we must remember that these seasonal hazards stress the body, sometimes very quickly. Please pay attention to the forecast, including the heat index, dress accordingly, and drink plenty of water - even ahead of the days you plan to participate in outdoor activities."

According to data from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS), last year there were 35 deaths in Missouri with heat-related causes. One death was occupational, while five deaths were in hot vehicles. Twenty-one of the people who died also had documented heart disease. A

heat stroke is a severe medical emergency and occurs when the body becomes unable to control its temperature with symptoms being hot/dry skin, confusion, and/or loss of consciousness.

Never leave a child or pet alone in a vehicle. Even on a cooler day or with the windows down, the temperature inside a vehicle can rise by 20 degrees in 10 minutes and pose a serious threat to anyone left inside. Stress, distraction and being out of a normal routine can all contribute to forgetting a child in a car seat. Always "look before you lock" and check the back seat each time you exit your vehicle. If you see someone in a hot car or experiencing a heat stroke, call 911 immediately.

Remember these other safety tips to protect yourself and your family during the summer heat:

Start acclimating to the heat gradually at the beginning of the season.

During heat and humidity, limit outdoor exposure and avoid strenuous activities during the hottest part of the day - typically 3-5 p.m.

Drink plenty of water

(even if you are not thirsty), and limit intake of alcoholic beverages.

Eat light, well-balanced meals at regular intervals.

Understand that your medications or health conditions, such as heart disease, may significantly impair your body's response to heat.

Wear loose-fitting, lightweight, light-colored clothes that cover as much skin as possible.

Wear a wide-brimmed hat to protect your face and head. Use at least SPF 30 sunscreen and reapply often. If you do not have air conditioning, consider spending the warmest part of the day in public buildings such as libraries, schools, movie theaters, shopping malls or other community facilities. Find a nearby cooling center.

Check on family, friends and neighbors who may not have air conditioning or spend much of their time alone.

Make sure outdoor pets have plenty of fresh water and access to shade.



Evelyn Marie Houchins

Evelyn Marie Houchins, 90, of Frankford died peacefully surrounded by her family on Tuesday, June 2, 2026.

Funeral services for Evelyn were Friday at 11 a.m., at Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Bowling Green with the Rev. Richard Epperson officiating. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery in Frankford.

Visitation was from 10-11 a.m., at the funeral home.

Evelyn was born June 22, 1935, in St. Louis to Lucille and Joseph Robinson. Evelyn was the eldest of 11 children. She graduated Frankford High School in 1954. Evelyn and Dale were married on April 7, 1957. He preceded her in death.

Evelyn was a deeply loved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and friend. Nothing brought her more joy than her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They were truly the light of her life, and she never missed an opportunity to share stories about their accomplishments and adventures. Evelyn enjoyed spending time with her family and friends and liked to play cards in her spare time.

She is survived by her children, Michael Houchins and Aaron Houchins and wife, Paula; daughter-in-law, Mary Houchins; grandchildren, Mikala Simons and husband, Chad, Patrick Houchins and wife, Kaitlyn, Katie Houchins, Matt Marshall and wife, Alexa, and Jake Marshall and wife, Madison; great-grandchildren, Everhett Simons, Elodie and Adalynn Marshall; siblings, Pat Robinson, Rita Kalman and husband, Pete, Tom Robinson, Frank Robinson and wife, Pam, Neil Robinson and wife, Elaine, and Raymond Robinson and wife, Sheila; and sister-in-law, Margaret Brown and husband, Cuff.

Evelyn was preceded in death by her husband, Dale Houchins; a son, Leandrew; siblings, Jerri Ann Kurz, Dan Robinson, Ruth Brakebill, and Theresa Pittsley; sisters-in-law, Marilyn Robinson, Debbie Robinson, and Catherine Houchins; and brother-in-law, Floyd Houchins.

Serving as pallbearers were Scott Burroughs, Darin Epperson, Doug Epperson, Tony Schindler, Ronnie Spegal, and Tracy Finnigan. Honorary pallbearers were Jack Spegal, Bob Don Jackson, and Calvin "Cuff" Brown.

Memorials may be made to the Susan B. Komen Foundation.



Lois Parsons

Lois Parsons, 88, transitioned on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at her residence in Columbia, S.C.

Born in Pike County, she was the fourth and youngest child of the late Richard and Evelyn Douglas Parsons.

She was a graduate of Lincoln University in Jefferson City, earning a BS degree in business education, completed further studies at the University of Maryland, College Park, DC Teachers College in Washington, D.C., and earned a masters degree in business administration from Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas. Her diverse employment experiences included: U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development in

Washington, D.C., US Peace Corps, St. Croix, Virgin Islands, Volunteer Services to America (VISTA); Prairie View A&M University and corporate management in Texas, with Tenneco, Sun Oil, and NL industries. In the 80s, she returned to Missouri and served as the administrative assistant to the late Senator John F Bass of St. Louis' 4th Senatorial District. Later, she moved to Sumter, S.C., was employed at the YWCA, and retired in 2007.

An elder in the New Harmony Presbytery and recently with Trinity Presbytery, Lois served as moderator of Presbyterian Women, Mission Committee and Committee on Preparation for Ministry. Additionally, she served two terms as president of the Sumter Unit, Church Women United. She has served in leadership roles with the local and state League of Women Voters, Sumter Senior Services, and the YWCA of Sumter. She was a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Sunday, May 31 at Northminster Presbyterian Church, Columbia, S.C. The AKA Ivy Beyond the Wall was Saturday, May 30 at 4 p.m., at the Palmer Memorial Chapel, 304 South Main Street, Sumter, S.C.

The public viewed on Saturday, May 30 from 2-4 p.m., at the Palmer Memorial Chapel in Sumter, and on Sunday from noon until the hour of service at Northminster Presbyterian Church in Columbia.

Graveside services will be held Friday, June 12 at Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Bowling Green.

Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory of Bowling Green is coordinating the local arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to: Northminster Presbyterian Church, Columbia, S.C., and Church Women United.



Kay Hill

Kay Hill, 89 of Marceline died peacefully Friday, May 29, 2026, leaving behind a family who loved her deeply.

She was the kind of woman who always spoke her mind. Whether you agreed with her or not, you never had to wonder where you stood. Her honesty could be sharp, funny, comforting, or exactly what someone needed to hear at the right moment. She had little time for sugarcoating life, and those who knew her best wouldn't have wanted her any other way.

Behind her strong opinions and fearless words was a woman who cared deeply for her family and friends. She loved fiercely, laughed loudly, and lived authentically. Her strength, wit, and unwavering loyalty left a lasting impression on everyone fortunate enough to know her.

Kay was born March 9, 1937, in Frankford. She met and married Jim Hill on July 5, 1958, in Union. Together, they spent years living abroad and on the East Coast before eventually settling in Marceline. There, Kay and Jim built a loving life together and spent the majority of their careers at Walsworth Publishing. Later, Kay founded and operated her own business, Vintage Publications.

Kay is survived by a son, Christopher Hill of Marceline; one brother, Michael Kurz and wife, Doris of Frankford; two sisters, Kelly Stangl and husband, Wayne of Silver City, Iowa, and Lee Ann Kelly of New London; along with many extended family members and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jim Hill, and her parents, Bud and Helen Kurz.



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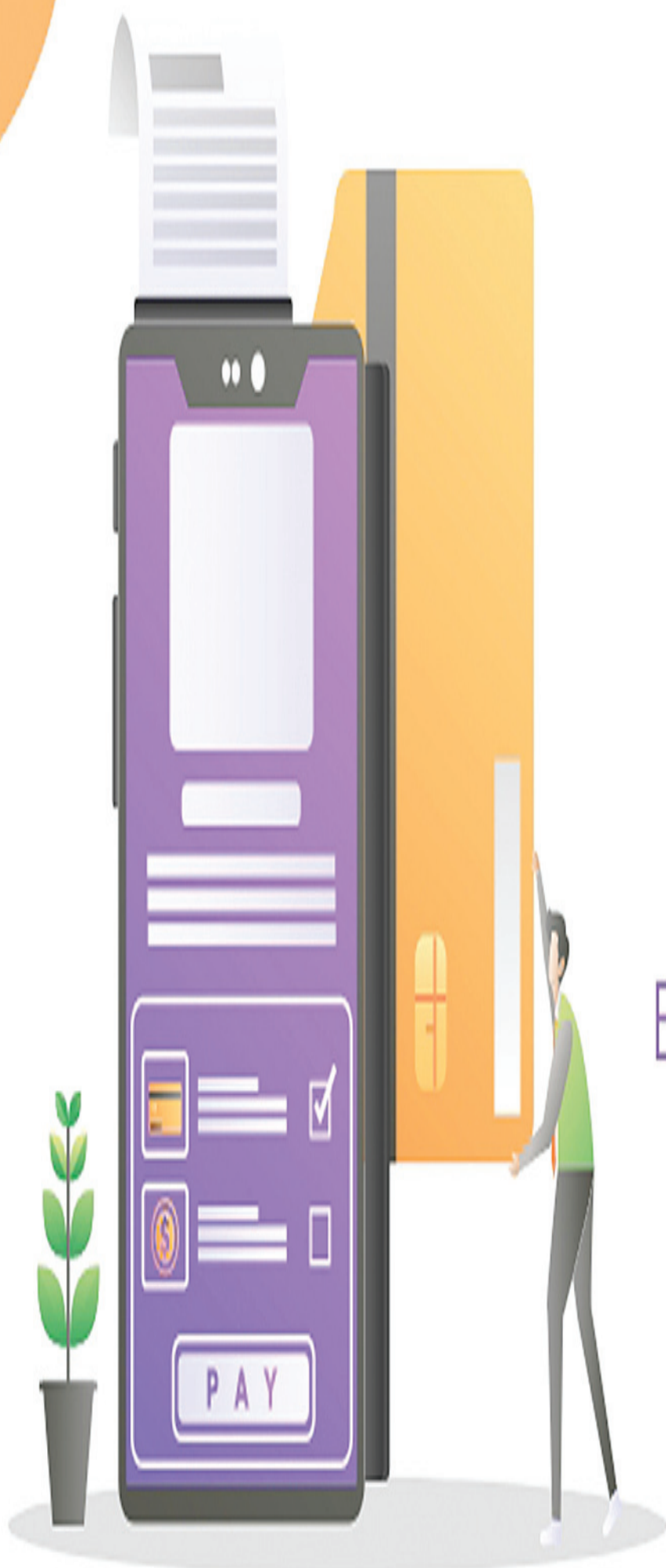


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Community News



Bowling Green DAR Installs Officers

On Thursday, May 28 the Bowling Green Chapter DAR installed its new officers for the upcoming term. Pictured, from left: Joy Davis from Vandalia, Suzanne Randolph Chapter installed the officers; Millie Powell, regent; Charlene McCune, vice regent; Joyce Edwards, chaplain; Carol Marshall, secretary; and Lisa Finley, treasurer.

MDC Reports Hunters Took 45,475 Birds During Season

Preliminary data from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) shows turkey hunters checked 45,475 birds during Missouri's 2026 regular spring turkey season. Top harvest counties for the regular season were Macon with 979 birds harvested, Callaway with 926, and Franklin with 879.

Young turkey hunters also harvested a near-record 5,255 turkeys over the spring youth weekend, April 11 and 12, bringing the overall 2026 spring turkey harvest to 50,730.

"Good gobble carryover from the 2023 hatch and a decent 2024 hatch resulted

in a strong population of adult birds this year," said MDC Wild Turkey Biologist Nick Oakley. "While harvest was down a couple hundred birds compared to last year, harvest was still up 6% compared to harvests going back to 1998. Strong hatches lead to better hunting down the road. Managing for good nesting and brooding habitat is key to success in the field."

Last year, young turkey hunters harvested 4,449 turkeys over the spring youth season and hunters harvested 46,562 during the regular spring season for a 2025 spring season total harvest of 51,011.

Get more information on this year's spring turkey harvest numbers by county at extra.mdc.mo.gov/widgets/harvest_table/.

See more information on turkey harvest numbers for past seasons online at mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/turkey/turkey-reports/turkey-harvest-summaries.

For more information about turkey hunting in Missouri, visit MDC online at huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/turkey.

For more information on how to improve nesting and brooding habitat on private property, visit mdc.mo.gov/MOTurkeys.

How Gardens Help Children Thrive

Of all the things growing in a garden, children are the most important. April is National Gardening Month and an ideal time to discuss the need to teach youngsters about what unfortunately is becoming a lost art, said University of Missouri Extension horticulturist David Trinklein.

"The benefits of encouraging a child to plant their own garden are numerous, long-lived and transformational," said Trinklein.

Gardening is an excellent way for children to explore nature and the plant world through hands-on learning, he said. Gardening encourages creativity and self-discipline while leading to a sense of accomplishment and self-worth.

Additionally, children who grow their own vegetables in a garden have been found to consume more of them. "The result is a healthier diet and more active lifestyle," said Trinklein. "In short, there is no better way for children to grow than to plant a garden."

Trinklein offered some suggestions on making a child's first gardening experience a success.

Set Realistic Goals

When working with children, it is important to establish attainable goals. Therefore, don't overdo it when involving them with gardening for the first time. Even a relatively small plot planted with a mix of flowers and vegetables can instill not only an appreciation of nature but also provide a place for fun learning activities.

Choose Easy-To-Grow Plants

Carrots, radishes, lettuce and tomatoes are good vegetables to consider. If space permits, consider planting a pumpkin whose fruit can be

used at Halloween. This can make the garden experience last a little longer.

Choose Annual Flowers

When choosing flowers for a child's garden, select annuals that are relatively easy to grow. Be sure to include at least a few that can be used as cut flowers for the home or for special gifts. Zinnias, marigolds, celosia and sunflower are a few species worth consideration.

Choose Large Seeds

When establishing plants by directly seeding them in the garden, select species with relatively large seeds, which are easy to handle (e.g. beans and sunflower).

Personalize The Experience

Children take special pride in having something that is their very own. Consider placing a sign in a child's garden that lists the child's name (such as "Emma's Garden"). For real personalization, make plant labels that say, "Emma's beans," "Jacob's zinnias," etc. Such labeling promotes a sense of ownership and responsibility in children.

City families can still create meaningful gardening experiences for children, even without an outdoor garden plot.

Vegetables and flowers can be successfully grown in pots and containers. A container garden on a balcony, patio or deck can produce a lot of flowers and vegetables, and it often makes the task of tending plants easier.

The miracle of watching a plant emerge from a seed is a process that fascinates most children, Trinklein said. Colorful pictures help children imagine what will eventually grow where the seeds have been sown.

Keeping weeds in check is

a bit more of a challenge. It can be difficult at first to tell small garden plants from small weeds. Therefore, allow plants to grow a little before showing youngsters the difference. Characterize weeds as "bullies" that want to take food and water away from the "good" plants.

Gardening also provides an opportunity for parents to talk with their children. Of course, talking about how plants grow, and other aspects of nature associated with a garden is important. But the privacy and quiet of a garden is also an excellent place to just talk about things such as school, friends, hopes and dreams, said Trinklein. The opportunity to hear their child's thoughts will help parents guide their personal growth as well as their gardening growth.

"Whether you are in a city, suburb or rural area, the future of our children is a concern to all," Trinklein said. "Instilling love, respect and understanding of how nature works by gardening produces results that last a lifetime."

Acknowledgement: Adapted from an article by the National Garden Bureau.

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

Turning Data Into Disaster Readiness

Geospatial analysis by University of Missouri Extension researchers can help planners and emergency managers better understand how social vulnerability shapes disaster impacts and recovery.

By mapping both exposure to disaster impacts and community-reported needs, the research can aid in prioritizing investments in preparedness, mitigation and recovery, says Michael Sunde, an MU Extension natural resources specialist.

Researchers combined satellite imagery and geospatial data, including road closures, population density and mobile home locations, to identify communities most affected by flooding and disruptions in the wake of Hurricane Helene, which caused widespread damage and loss of life in the southeastern U.S. in 2024.

Complementing this work, MU School of Social Work professor Jennifer First led a community survey examining health, housing, financial and infrastructure needs five months after the hurricane.

First, who is one of the country's leading researchers on the relationship between climate and weather-related hazards and physical and mental health, says damage extended well beyond infrastructure.

"A substantial portion of residents continued to report moderate to severe mental health symptoms, including PTSD (35 percent) and depression (27 percent), alongside ongoing physical

health issues linked to environmental exposures like mold and contaminated water," First says.

"Residents described how damaged infrastructure, including debris, road closures, and prolonged power and communication outages, combined with displacement, health challenges and financial strain to create compounding burdens that made recovery more difficult and prolonged," she said. "Many also expressed a sense of being left behind or unsupported, as recovery resources were delayed, difficult to access or insufficient for the scale of need."

Together, the geospatial analysis and post-disaster survey data provide planners with a more complete picture of disaster impacts across southern Appalachia, linking where flooding occurred with who was most affected and why recovery was uneven.

The report highlights that "recovery is not a short-term phase but a multisystem, long-term process that requires community-driven planning and sustained investments that address these interconnected needs," said First.

The study, Flood Exposure, Health Outcomes, and Recovery Needs Following Hurricane Helene in Southern Appalachia, published in the journal Environmental Hazards, offers a framework planners can use to anticipate post-disaster needs, identify high-risk areas and guide decisions

related to land use, evacuation planning, infrastructure investment and disaster mitigation funding, she said.

The study found that more than 20 percent of North Carolina residents lived in areas with high social vulnerability during Hurricane Helene. Rural communities and low-income residents were hardest hit, with the most severe impacts among older adults, people with disabilities and those living in mobile homes.

The research can help move disaster planning from reactive to proactive, First said. By identifying where socially vulnerable populations and flood exposure intersect, planners can determine where resources should be pre-positioned, which infrastructure investments could reduce future losses and how recovery strategies can be designed to reduce long-term inequities.

Other authors on the publication were Megan Waddle and Brian Houston of the University of Missouri, Kristina Kintziger and Sarah Scales of University of Nebraska, and Kelsey Ellis and Jordan Fazio of University of Tennessee.

The project was funded by the National Hazards Center, University of Colorado, Boulder, <https://hazards.colorado.edu/>. The center's research focuses on the social, behavioral, socioeconomic, mental health and other societal aspects of hazards and disasters, using quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods approaches.

MDC Modifies Regulations For

MDC modifies regulations for nonresident deer hunting for this fall and seeks public comments for future changes

Some nonresident deer hunters will be limited to one antlered buck instead of two.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – The Missouri Conservation Commission approved proposed regulation changes at its May 29 open meeting in Washington from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) regarding nonresident deer hunting.

The approved regulation

change for the upcoming 2026 deer season reduces the nonresident antlered buck bag limit from two to one. Nonresident landowners who qualify for nonresident-landowner permits will maintain an antlered buck bag limit of two.

The Commission also gave initial approval to a regulation change that would require nonresident deer hunters to purchase a Nonresident Public Land Deer Hunting Permit for \$165 to be able to pursue, take, possess, and transport deer on public land in Missouri such as conservation areas and other state and

federal public lands, beginning with the 2027 deer season.

MDC welcomes public comments on the Nonresident Public Land Deer Hunting Permit online July 16 through Aug. 14 at mdc.mo.gov/contact-engage/public-commenting-opportunities.

The Commission will then review information from public comments and give final consideration to the proposed regulation changes regarding a Nonresident Public Land Deer Hunting Permit at its Sept. 11 open meeting. If given

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The Commission will then review information from public comments and give final consideration to the proposed regulation changes regarding a Nonresident Public Land Deer Hunting Permit at its Sept. 11 open meeting. If given final approval, the changes will become effective for the 2027 deer season.

According to MDC, nonresident participation in Missouri's deer season has increased considerably in recent years and some resident hunters have expressed concern about how it is impacting their hunts, particularly on public land.

MDC deer-hunting data shows there were approximately 20,000 nonresident deer hunters who hunted in Missouri 20 years ago. That number was about four percent of the state's nearly 475,000 total deer hunters. By 2025, that number had more than doubled to about 42,000 nonresident deer hunters in Missouri, accounting for about nine percent of the state's total deer hunters.

MDC notes that nonresident hunters make valuable contributions to local economies and communities when traveling to Missouri. Many small businesses and Missouri landowners benefit from the contributions of nonresident deer hunters.

"MDC strives to provide quality hunting opportunities for resident hunters and recognizes the important contributions resident hunters and landowners make to sustaining a healthy deer herd in Missouri," says MDC Cervid Program Supervisor Jason Isabelle. "We're thankful for the input from our resident hunters on this issue and certainly appreciate their concerns. The proposed changes to nonresident deer

hunting are designed to address those concerns and help alleviate the increasing nonresident deer hunting pressure in our state."

MDC values public input and previously asked for feedback from deer hunters about nonresident deer hunting in a 2024 survey of deer hunters and a public commenting opportunity conducted as part of the Department's Deer Management Plan update that year.

MDC also surveyed a sample of 56,000 resident hunters and 1,800 nonresident hunters in 2025 regarding resident and nonresident hunting and collected public comments. MDC also held 10 open houses around the state in 2025 to seek public input on deer management in Missouri.

MDC asked for public comments on non-resident deer hunting during April of this year and continued the conversation through small-group meetings with members of the public around the state in May.

Learn more about deer hunting in Missouri online at mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/deer.

MO 4-H Tops 2.5 Million Meals

Through Feeding America

Missouri 4-H youths helped provide 250,271 meals to families facing food insecurity through the 2026 4-H Feeding Missouri campaign, pushing the initiative past 2.5 million meals statewide since 2019.

Held annually from January through April, the campaign mobilizes young people to serve their communities through volunteering at food banks, organizing drives, raising funds and building awareness about hunger in Missouri, said Sherry Grace, marketing and communications coordinator for Missouri 4-H, a program of University of Missouri Extension.

Moniteau County earned

top honors in this year's county competition, contributing 77,477 meals.

4-H Feeding Missouri is a partnership of Missouri 4-H and two statewide organizations focused on agriculture and hunger relief: Missouri Farmers Care and Feeding Missouri. Together, they work to support Missouri families, raise awareness about food insecurity and empower youths to give back through service.

Through the Drive To Feed Kids matching grant program, youths lead hunger-relief efforts in their own communities, Grace said. Matching grants ranging from \$250 to \$750 are awarded to 4-H clubs, FFA

chapters, collegiate organizations and career and technical education programs to support local projects addressing food insecurity. Participating groups raise matching funds and secure in-kind contributions to expand the impact of their service efforts. This year, 24 Missouri 4-H clubs received Drive To Feed Kids grants to support local hunger-relief projects.

"4-H youth are showing what it means to lead through service," said Tim Tanner, Missouri 4-H senior program director. "Their passion for helping others continues to create real impact in communities across Missouri."

Card Of Thanks

We would like to thank everyone for their kind words, food, visits, and any other acts of kindness during the loss of our mother, Rosie Mefford.

Cindy Kohl & Family
Dan & Evone Mefford & Family
Wilma Leake & Family
Harold Tolar & Family

Classifieds

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

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

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COFFEE & end tables 75% off. Vandalia Firestone & Appliance, 594-6624.

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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.

WE WELCOME YOUR LOCAL NEWS

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

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

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

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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.

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FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
 Default has been made in the payment of the debt and the performance of the obligations of the note described in and secured by a Deed of Trust dated Dec. 6, 2024, executed by TREY CARNEY and REBECCA SKLANDER, Husband and Wife and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Pike County, Missouri, on December 6, 2024, in Book 334 at Page 3634, and conveying to the undersigned Trustee the following described property in County, Missouri, to-wit:

Tract I
 The East 40 feet of Lots 229 and 230; and the East 40 feet of the South 6 feet of Lot 231, all in Block 23 of the Original Town of Louisiana, in the County of Pike and State of Missouri.

All of Twenty (20) feet off of the West end of the East one half (1/2) of Lots Numbered 229 and 230, and also Five (5) feet off of the South part of the West twenty (20) feet to the West end of the East one half (1/2) of Lot Numbered 231, all in block Number Twenty three (23), of the Original town, now City of Louisiana, Missouri, as shown by the recorded plat of said Town, now City of Louisiana, Pike County, Missouri, known as and numbered 317 Georgia Street.

Together with an Access Easement as described in document recorded in Book 331, at Page 7656 of the Pike County, Missouri Deed Records to which deed reference is hereby made for a more particular description.

Tract II
 Twenty (20) feet front on Georgia Street off the West end of Lot Numbered One Hundred Seventy-two (172) in Block Numbered Twenty Three (23) of the Original Town, now City of Louisiana, Pike County, Missouri.

Tract III
 All of the East 40 feet of the West one-half of Lot Number 172, Block 23, of the Original Town, now City of Louisiana, Pike County, Missouri.

The first scheduled date did not take place due to the failure of the selected newspaper to publish as requested. Therefore, at the request of the legal holder of said note who has elected to declare the entire indebtedness due and payable, and in accordance with the provisions of the said Deed of Trust, the undersigned Trustee will on Friday, the 26th day of June, 2026, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., to-wit: at 10:00 A.M., sell said property at public vendue to the highest bidder for cash at the South front door of the County Court House, in the City of Bowling Green, Pike County, Missouri, to satisfy said note and costs.

-James F. Lemon
 James F. Lemon, Trustee

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Frank Wallace
 610 W Hwy 54
 Vandalia
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 FEWallace@ShelterInsurance.com

Community News

MDC Proposes Permits For Use Of Unstaffed Firearms

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) offers free recreational firearms shooting on more than 35 unstaffed shooting ranges around the state. The ranges were designed decades ago primarily for hunters with most traditional use being in the spring and fall in preparation for various hunting seasons.

According to MDC, range use has increased significantly in recent years with more home/self-defense firearms practice and increasing use of modern sporting rifles.

Increased use has also resulted in increasing damage to shooting range signs, booths, and other infrastructure from some shooters, along with increasing litter from some shooters in the form of spent shells, targets, and other items not being collected and properly disposed of.

To help reduce range damage and misuse, MDC is proposing requiring users of its unstaffed firearms shooting ranges to have a valid small game permit. Existing age and disability exemptions will remain. The proposed regulation changes would apply only to MDC owned unstaffed firearms shooting ranges, not partner ranges or MDC's five staffed shooting ranges.

For residents, the allowable permit options start at \$11.50 for an annual small game permit. For non-residents, daily small game permits are \$16 and annual small game permits are \$108.50.

The Missouri Conservation Commission recently gave initial approval to the proposed MDC permit recommendation at a meeting in Washington.

MDC invites online public comment on the proposed regu-

lation changes July 16-Aug. 14 at mdc.mo.gov/contact-engage/public-commenting-opportunities.

The Commission will then give final consideration to the proposed regulation changes at its Sept. 11 open meeting. If given final approval, the changes will become effective Feb. 28, 2027.

WHY PERMITS ARE NEEDED

"The illegal misuse of MDC unstaffed shooting ranges has resulted in significant increases in damage from some users intentionally targeting range signs, booths and other infrastructure, along with more litter such as spent rounds left on the ground," said MDC Hunter Education and Shooting Range Specialist Justin McGuire.

McGuire added that the rising popularity of home/self-defense firearms practice and

other high-volume recreational use has led to many more people using the ranges throughout the entire year and much more spent ammo being left as litter.

McGuire explained that the permit requirement would have several benefits.

"Unless exempt, Missouri hunters are required to have completed a certified hunter education program to get firearms hunting permits. Hunter education teaches shooting safety, ethics, and etiquette," he said. "Requiring a small game permit to use MDC unstaffed firearms shooting ranges would ensure that users have completed hunter education to help improve safety for themselves and other range users, visitors, neighbors, and MDC infrastructure. It also gives conservation agents another tool to improve public safety at MDC ranges."

He added that requiring a permit will also help create an increased sense of ownership of the ranges, respect for the facilities, and compliance with posted rules for safer and more responsible range use.

McGuire noted that many shooting range users won't be affected by the new permit requirement because they already purchase a small game hunting permit or they're exempt from needing one.

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Seal Coat, Resurfacing Operations Continue In Lincoln, Pike Counties

Seal coat and resurfacing operations will continue on various routes in Lincoln and Pike counties. Weather permitting, as early as the week of June 1, seal coat operations will begin on Route U, from Missouri Route 47 near Hawk Point to just west of U.S. Route 61 near Moscow Mills. Once complete, work will proceed in the following order:

Lincoln County

Route W - Seal coat from Route B near New Hope to Route KK at Brussels

Route B - Seal coat from U.S. 61 near Auburn to MO 79 at Elsberry

Pike County

Route D - Resurfacing from MO 79 near Louisiana to U.S. 61 in Eolia (Tentatively scheduled for late June)

Traffic will be reduced to one lane with a 10-foot width restriction in place at the location where crews are actively working. Flaggers and a pilot car will direct motorists through the work zone. Signs and message boards will be in place to alert motorists as schedule changes occur. All work is weather-dependent, and schedules are subject to change.

The \$3.1 million contract was awarded to Magruder Paving, LLC of Troy, and includes the following resurfacing projects in Lincoln County that have already been completed. All work is scheduled to be complete by November 2026.

Route W - Resurfacing from Route KK at Brussels to MO 47 near Troy

Route EE - Resurfacing from Route Y to MO 47 near Winfield

For more information on this and other projects in your area, please contact

MoDOT's Customer Center toll-free at 1-888-ASK MODOT (275-6636). Work with us in the work zone! Please remember to obey all work zone signs and personnel. With an increased number of highway work zones in Missouri, we urge

all drivers to pay attention every second while driving, especially through a work zone.

Be informed of your route by checking the MoDOT Traveler Information Map before you travel.

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