



THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

NEWS FOR PIKE, EASTERN AUDRAIN & NORTHERN LINCOLN COUNTIES

Published Every Tuesday • Vol. 30 - No. 33 • Tuesday, June 30, 2026 • Online at www.thepeopletribune.com

A 'Coterie Of Barnacles'

Local Men Take On Whiskey Ring Suspects

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

James Overton Broadhead was not President Ulysses S. Grant's first choice to replace John Brooks Henderson in the Whiskey Ring prosecutions of 1875.

But canning the former Missouri U.S. Senator from Louisiana had created a political firestorm, and Broadhead initially seemed the perfect extinguisher.

Henderson left with a perfect record of convictions or guilty pleas from dozens of suspects. He said the comments that got him fired were not meant as a personal attack on Grant, but a criticism of inaction by complicit government regulators. Grant's decision only turned up the heat.

"The impolitic act of the president and his cabinet opened the floodgates of invective," wrote author Hamlin Garland. "All that had gone before, in way of abuse, was but the babbling of children in comparison with the shrieks of madmen."

Broadhead was appointed three days after the indictment of Orville Babcock, Grant's longtime friend and White House chief of staff. Unlike Henderson and prosecutor David Patterson Dyer, Broadhead was a Democrat. Grant hoped that having a prosecutor from the other party would cool the furor. It didn't. As with Henderson, Broadhead cared more about the law than politics.

Babcock's trial got under way on Feb. 8, 1876. at the

U.S. Post Office and Custom House, a site that today is part of the Gateway Arch grounds.

Broadhead and Dyer laid out the conspiracy from the time of its conception to telegrams the prosecution claimed linked Babcock to the Ring. The defense argued that a function of government officials was to communicate with one another, and that there was no proof Babcock had written or received any conspiratorial telegrams. In addition, the prosecution by Broadhead and Dyer was portrayed as a way of getting to the president.

"Of course, there was no ground for such a defense," Dyer responded. "No one had breathed a word against Grant."

The Chicago Tribune called Dyer "the untutored savage of Pike County," but praised Broadhead for "a splendid judicial display" that anyone could understand.

"Broadhead's was a legal oration, and in argument as wide as a door and deep as a well," the paper said. "It piled up point on point, and precedent on precedent, 'till assent to his conclusions became irresistible."

Seeing the writing on the wall, Grant announced he planned the unprecedented move of appearing on Babcock's behalf. A sitting president had never — and still hasn't — voluntarily testified as a defense witness in someone else's criminal trial.

Secretary of State Hamilton Fish talked Grant out of traveling to St. Louis. So, on

the morning of Saturday, Feb. 12, 1876, Supreme Court Chief Justice Morrison Waite arrived at the White House to depose Grant. The president was known for having a photographic memory, but suddenly could not seem to recall specifics about an investigation he had ordered.

"A litany of dismembrances familiar to any student of modern presidential testimony characterized Grant's deposition," according to Timothy Rives of the National Archives and Records Administration. "The President applied his ignorance and poor memory to more than thirty-five questions regarding Babcock's relationship with the Whiskey Ring conspirators."

However, Grant fervently and unequivocally defended Babcock.

"I have always had great confidence in his integrity and his efficiency," the president said. "And as yet my confidence in him is unshaken. I have never learned anything that would shake that confidence."

Though no longer part of the case, Henderson was just as enthralled as others. He told the Chicago Tribune that while some evidence was circumstantial, it was "yet so strong and unbroken as to form a network around Babcock from which escape will be impossible."

Perhaps that's why there was what the St. Louis Republic called "universal surprise" when it took the jury just two hours to acquit Babcock.

Next time: Aftermath.



Nothing Wrong With 'Crazy'

Debbie Ingram channels legendary country music singer Patsy Cline during one of two concerts June 27 at the Bowling Green High School Auditorium. The shows, entitled "Crazy: The Music of Patsy Cline," showcased a variety of songs from the musician's career, which was cut short when she died in a plane crash on March 5, 1963. It was the first time Ingram had done a full slate of Cline songs since 2018. Raintree Arts Council sponsored the concerts, which drew a total of more than 150 spectators.

Vandalia Citizens Learns Details Of Proposed Downtown Park Project

More than just a park, organizers say the proposed Downtown Vandalia Park Project is intended to become a lasting community asset that celebrates the city's history while providing a gathering place for residents and visitors for generations to come.

That vision was shared during a Community Engagement Meeting hosted by the Vandalia Area Historical Society (VAHS) on Tuesday, June 23 at the organization's Genealogy Center. Paul Ray and Cami Blackman presented a PowerPoint outlining the project's purpose, preliminary design, funding strategy, anticipated timeline and next steps before opening the floor for questions from attendees.

Each participant received a copy of the preliminary park drawings to follow throughout the presentation.

The evening opened with a quote from author William S. Burroughs: "When you stop growing, you start dying." Presenters said the quote reflects the importance of continuing to invest in Vandalia's future while preserving its rich history.

The proposed project includes the renovation of two city-owned blocks in downtown Vandalia. According to the presenters, the park is being designed to blend functionality with aesthetics while serving as both a community gathering space and a destination for visitors.

"Our goal is to create a community asset that will serve Vandalia for decades to come," presenters told those in attendance.

The conceptual drawings feature landscaped green space, a walking trail, gathering areas, picnic facilities, historical elements and areas designed to host community events while remaining available for everyday public use.

Bill Howell of Renner & Howell Architects of Columbia is serving as project architect. A Van-Far graduate, Howe previously designed the Vandalia YMCA. He is expected to provide a detailed construction cost estimate, with the current vetted estimate projected at approximately \$1 million.

Presenters explained that the project has been structured so construction would not require the City of Vandalia to provide upfront funding.

The primary funding plan calls for approximately 40 percent of the construction budget to come from a large local foundation grant, with 40 percent funded through the Missouri Land and Water Conservation Grant program with the remaining 20 per-

cent from local fundraising, donations and small grants.

Because the Land and Water Conservation Grant does not cover certain historical components of the project, including relocating and restoring the Historical Church, relocating and installing a historic windmill, and installing historical interpretive markers throughout the park, those improvements would be funded separately through smaller grants, community donations and local fundraising.

To bridge the timing difference between construction payments and grant reimbursements, VAHS plans to secure a long-term bridge loan. Potential lending partners include Central Bank of Vandalia, United Credit Union of Vandalia and USDA financing programs.

Under the proposed funding plan, the Missouri Land and Water Conservation Grant would reimburse the City of Vandalia quarterly during construction. The large foundation grant would reimburse VAHS over a period of five to 10 years, while proceeds from smaller grants and local fundraising would be transferred to the city before and during construction as funds become available.

Presenters also outlined the steps necessary before construction can begin.

The City of Vandalia must formally approve moving forward with the Missouri Land and Water Conservation Grant application, which is expected to be considered by the Board of Aldermen in August. Mark Twain Regional Council will assist VAHS and the city in preparing the application.

The project also depends upon securing the large local foundation grant, receiving the Land and Water Conservation Grant award, and continuing successful community fundraising efforts. Presenters noted that the project budget also includes improvements to the long-standing storm sewer drainage issue along State Street between Main Street and Lindell Street.

If funding proceeds as planned, organizers hope to secure the major grant and submit the Land and Water Conservation Grant application during 2026 while continuing to pursue smaller grants and local fundraising. Grant approval is expected in 2027. If approved, organizers hope to relocate the Historical Church that year before beginning park construction in 2028.

Following the presentation, attendees participated in an extended question-and-an-

swer session, with questions submitted both before and during the meeting.

One of the most frequently discussed topics involved project funding. Presenters reiterated that construction would not begin until all required funding has been secured and that the City of Vandalia would not be responsible for covering any funding shortfall should local fundraising fall below expectations. Instead, VAHS would continue fundraising until the remaining funds are obtained.

City Administrator Darren Berry addressed questions regarding public restrooms, explaining that restrooms are not currently planned because of ongoing maintenance concerns, vandalism and misuse experienced at existing public facilities.

Other questions focused on why the Vandalia Area Historical Society is leading the project. Presenters explained that both the city and VAHS qualify for different grant opportunities, making the partnership beneficial. While VAHS will pursue many of the grants and fundraising efforts, all funds will ultimately be transferred to the City of Vandalia, which will own the park and pay all construction expenses.

Attendees also asked about ownership, maintenance and future use of the park. Presenters explained that the City of Vandalia will continue to own and maintain the property, including all park improvements. Existing Rotary monuments and the current shelter will remain in the park.

Several residents asked why the project includes two city blocks. Organizers explained that the Missouri Land and Water Conservation Grant requires a walking trail, and the additional space is needed to accommodate the trail along with picnic tables, benches and other park amenities.

Questions also centered on Prairie Days and other community events. Organizers said Prairie Days would benefit significantly from the completed park, while emphasizing that the park's greatest value lies in its year-round use by residents and visitors rather than only during annual festivals.

The meeting concluded with an invitation for residents to continue asking questions and sharing ideas as planning moves forward. Anyone seeking additional information is encouraged to contact Mayor Pete Nasir, City Administrator Darren Berry, or VAHS committee members Paul Ray or Cami Blackman.

The People's Tribune will be closed Friday, July 3

Community News

When The Heat Is One, These Shrubs Deliver

Midwesterners are all too familiar with scorching summers. While mid-summer doesn't offer the vivid floral displays of spring shrubs, great options are available, said University of Missouri Extension horticulturist David Trinklein.

Gardeners willing to embrace a more subtle look can choose from several tough, drought-tolerant shrubs that continue to bloom beautifully despite the heat.

Rose Of Sharon

One such shrub is rose of Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus*), a hardy member of the hibiscus family. Achieving a mature height of 6-10 feet, it provides summer color in shrub borders or screens. Cultivars are available with purple, violet, red, pink or white flowers. Rose of Sharon is a resilient, low-maintenance flowering shrub renowned for stunning blossoms that provide vibrant color during the late summer when most garden blooms have faded.

Japanese Spirea

Japanese spirea (*Spiraea japonica*) and hybrids of it are also tough, summer-blooming shrubs. They are a colorful, low-maintenance landscape favorite. Known for its stunning, mounded habit, this deciduous shrub dazzles with flat-topped clusters of pink or white blossoms.

It also boasts gorgeous, color-shifting foliage that transitions from fiery bronze in spring to vibrant hues in autumn. It has a mounded growth habit to a height of around 4 feet.

'Shirobana' is a noteworthy cultivar that has flowers that range from white to pink to deep rose in color. 'Little Princess' produces light pink flowers over low, mounded mint green foliage.

Bumwald Spirea

Bumwald spirea (*Spiraea x bumalda*) is a cross between *Spiraea japonica* and *Spiraea albiflora*. This exceptional, multiseason shrub is celebrated for its dramatic foliage. Emerging with warm-toned hues in spring, it dazzles into summer with flat-topped clusters of pink

or carmine blooms. This highly adaptable, low-maintenance shrub brings continuous charm and butterfly-attracting color to the garden. It grows only 2-3 feet tall.

There are more than 20 named cultivars of bumald spirea. The oldest and perhaps most popular is 'Anthony Waterer,' which flowers throughout the summer, producing pinkish-red flowers over deep reddish-purple foliage. Other noteworthy cultivars include 'Goldflame' and 'Gold Mound.' Both have golden yellow foliage that contrasts nicely with their pink flowers.

Although not a true spirea, Blue Mist spirea (*Caryopteris x clandonensis* 'Blue Mist') also produces nice color in the heat of summer. This hybrid caryopteris produces fragrant, purple-blue flower spikes over grey-green foliage. The flowers are attractive to butterflies, bees and other beneficial insects. Plants are bushy and may grow 2-3 feet tall. Flowers are produced on new (current year's) wood. So even if a severe winter should kill back much of the top, it will come out in the spring and flower that summer.

Vitex

Another shrub that produces blue flowers in late summer is vitex (*Vitex agnus-castus*). Also known as chaste tree, vitex is a remarkably resilient, heat-tolerant marvel. It has stunning, lavender-blue summer spikes and deeply aromatic, star-shaped foliage that reaches up to 15 feet in height.

This robust shrub is a magnet for pollinators while requiring remarkably little attention. It is reliably winter-hardy only through Zone 6; farther north, it often is killed back to the ground each winter and grows only 3-5 feet the following summer.

Buddleia

Staying with the color blue, buddleia (*Buddleia davidii*), widely known as the butterfly bush, is an attractive, low-maintenance shrub

with cascading, honey-scented spikes bursting with saturated colors that draw graceful pollinators to the garden. The species grows 6 feet or more in height. However, hybrids derived from the species have the advantage of being more compact in growth habit, more floriferous and nearly sterile.

For example, the Pugster series bears large flower trusses on plants that achieve a height of only about 2 feet. Most hybrid buddleias come in a variety of colors, including blue, lilac, pink and white.

Potentilla

For gardeners who want yellow summer flowers on durable shrubs, potentilla (*Potentilla fruticosa*) might be the answer. This shrub bears buttercup yellow flowers on low, mounded plants that average about 2-3 feet in height. Potentilla is an excellent choice for dry, sunny areas. Flowers normally are produced in June and continue through frost. There are cultivars available in other colors, although the yellow ones, such as 'Goldfinger,' are the most characteristic this species.

Crape Myrtle

Finally, for excellent summer-through-autumn color, few shrubs can match crape myrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*). Often dubbed the "lilac of the South," crape myrtle is an elegant ornamental shrub that delivers spectacular beauty. Famous for its crinkled, paper-like summer blossoms and smooth, exfoliating bark, it is a remarkably resilient, low-maintenance centerpiece for any garden or landscape. In addition to red and rose, hybrid cultivars have expanded the color range to include white, pink, mauve, lavender and purple.

Additionally, some cultivars bear flowers that are pleasantly fragrant. 'Natchez,' which was developed by the U.S. National Arboretum, is a popular cultivar, as is 'Dynamite,' which is renowned for its deep red flowers.

MDC Reminds People To Celebrate Safely

With holiday celebrations happening, the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) reminds everyone to be careful with fireworks, campfires, and other sources of fire that could cause a wildfire.

FIREWORKS: Don't light fireworks in any areas where the sparks could ignite dry grass, leaves, or other potential fire fuel. Always have an approved fire extinguisher and an available water supply to douse sparks or flames. Wet the area around where fireworks are being discharged. Fireworks are not allowed at conservation areas. Check with local ordinances and authorities for bans on fireworks and open burning.

OUTDOOR BURNING: Don't burn during wrong conditions. Dry grass, high temperatures, low humidity, and wind make fire nearly impossible to control. Check with local fire departments regarding burn bans that may be in place. A person who starts a fire for any reason is responsible for any damage it may cause.

DRIVING OFF ROAD: Wildfires can start when dry fuel, such as grass, comes in contact with catalytic converters. Think twice before driving into and across a grassy field. Never park over tall, dry grass or piles of leaves that can touch the underside of a vehicle.

When driving vehicles off road, regularly inspect the undercarriage to ensure that fuel and brake lines are intact, and no oil leaks are apparent. Always carry an approved fire extinguisher on vehicles that are used off road. Check for the presence of spark arresters on ATV exhausts.

MAKING A CAMPFIRE: Clear a generous zone around fire rings. Store unused firewood a good distance from a campfire. Never use gasoline, kerosene, or other flammable liquid to start a fire. Keep campfires small and controllable. Keep fire-extinguish-

ing materials, such as a rake, shovel, and bucket of water, close. Extinguish campfires each night and before leaving camp, even if it's just for a few moments. Learn more about camping on MDC areas at mdc.mo.gov/discovers nature/activities/camping.

CALL FOR HELP: Call 911 at the first sign of a fire getting out of control.

REPORT FOREST ARSON: Wildfires are sometimes set by vandals. Help stop arson by calling 800-392-1111 and reporting any potential arson activities. Callers will remain anonymous, and rewards are possible.

PRESCRIBED FIRE: Fire used in the wrong way can create disasters. Used in the right way, fire can help create habitat for wildlife. For more information on using prescribed fire as a land-management tool, visit mdc.mo.gov/your-property/fire-management/prescribed-fire.

Nominate Tree Stewards For Arbor Awards By Aug. 24

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and the Missouri Community Forestry Council (MCFC) are accepting nominations for the 2026 Missouri Arbor Award of Excellence. The annual award recognizes communities, institutions, businesses, organizations and individuals that make significant and long-lasting efforts to care for trees in their communities.

The Arbor Award of Excellence shines the spotlight on anyone who has improved trees in their community. Any significant program, project, or event over the last two years that contributes to the care or maintenance of trees could qualify for an award.

"Trees bring so much value to our communities, but their overall health depends on people practicing good tree stewardship," said MDC Community Forester Coordinator

Russell Hinnah.

Winners receive a framed award, a full registration scholarship to the MCFC conference in September in Springfield, an extra ticket to the award banquet during the conference, a community forestry reference book, and a \$50 gift card.

Nominations are due by Monday, Aug. 24. For more information and nomination forms, visit mdc.mo.gov/about-us/awards-honors/missouri-arbor-award-excellence.

SOME PAST WINNERS

Examples of past winners include arborist Jason O'Malley who helped secure an \$8 million federal grant for St. Louis. His efforts funded a five-year initiative to remove 1,600 dead trees and plant 3,200 new ones, revitalizing disinvested neighborhoods and driving critical tornado recovery across the city.

STL Neighborhood Foresters (STL TreeLC) was honored for its innovative, volunteer-led urban forestry stewardship. Hosting 75 "blitzes" across nine St. Louis neighborhoods, the grassroots group empowers residents to care for over 500 trees in their communities. Their hands-on education and mapping technology proved vital for community recovery after the May 2025 tornado.

The City of Kirkwood for transforming their urban forest and utility management programs. Examples of this transformation were hiring certified arborists, updating tree ordinances, and creating a reimbursement program to plant trees. Their innovative partnerships and community engagement demonstrated their commitment to preserving their canopy.

Agape House Receives Grant

Agape House is waiting for a bid to replace the steps at the back door to the home. Some other minor maintenance work needs to be completed.

They are grateful to receive a grant from POET Bioprocessing - Laddonia which will benefit those families who have children visiting prisoners.

Monetary donations received in May were from Bethlehem Baptist of Centralia, Farber Baptist, Hopewell Baptist of Thompson, Hopewell Baptist of Wells-ville, Curryville Baptist and New Harmony CWF of Cur-

Rockhurst Spring Dean's List

Rockhurst University has announced the dean's list for the spring 2026 semester. This honor recognizes students who have achieved a grade-point average of 3.5 or above.

Atticus Wilmes of Bowling Green was named to the list.

Walker Earns Degrees From CMU

Central Methodist University celebrated its Spring 2026 commencement on May 9 in Puckett Fieldhouse on the Fayette campus. CMU alumnus Terry Henderson '83 gave the commencement address as a packed house of family, friends, faculty, staff, and other guests celebrated the graduates.

Students were recognized for earning degrees at the master's, doctoral, and associate's levels.

Riley Layne Walker, of Eolia, was among the CMU graduates for the semest. Walker graduated with the following degree: master of science in athletic training (athletic training).

ryville, Beth Schnitker of Middletown, First Baptist of Vandalia, First Presbyterian of Vandalia, Southside Baptist, Spencer Creek, all of Vandalia and Julie Worsam, PEO of Montgomery City.

Donations of food and laundry items were received from the PEO of Montgomery City United Methodist Presbyterian Church.

Thank You

I would like to thank the Van-Far and Pike EMT Units, and the Van-Far Fire District for their quick response after my accident on June 11 at the Vandalia Country Club.

Special thanks to Ed and Penny Kampeter, Tim Gamm, Dewey Straube. Also to Nancy Case for taking care of my yard.

Thank you so much. God bless each of you.

Bob Suddarth

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 6-22-2026				Monday Receipts 1,594 Head			
948	Steers, medium & large			392	Heifers, Med. & Large		
	Computer Avg.			Computer Avg.			
14	300 & Down	710 790		35	300 & Down	570 720	
63	300-400	590 685		44	300-400	540 575	
198	400-500	570 630		132	400-500	485 535	
271	500-600	505 563		134	500-600	440 465	
260	600-700	450 480		23	600-700	380 420	
92	700-800	390 417		18	700-800	320 344	
25	800-900	350 360		6	800-900	315 325	
	900-1,000				900-1000		
8	Bred Cows - Better	3170 4000			Others		
10	Pairs	3600 3900					
					Slaughter Cows	185 195	
	High Dressing	175 188			Low	145 155	
	Bulk	160 180			Thin	100 130	
10	Slaughter Bulls	220 240					

ALL SLAUGHTER STEERS & HEIFERS SOLD ON MON. NOON

23	Choice 2 & 3	254 256.5		Steers & Heifers	
				Mixed Select	250
				Select	235

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

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

Jack Harrison - 573-999-7197	Jack Harrison, Owner	Myles McWhorter - 573-263-3759
John P. Harrison - 573-220-1482	573-999-7197	Glenn Stegeman - 573-619-8495
Roger Temmen - 573-680-4538	Market Report	Jarrod Simpson - 573-247-0706
Justin Oberling - 217-440-7724	573-522-9244	Chad Nickelson - 573-631-1627
Claude Niemeyer - 573-470-1017	24 hour recording	Kevin Miliken - 417-588-0307
Tyler Harris - 573-220-2766	Carson Poe - 573-550-9133	Craton Blattel - 417-650-7688

NO TAX SALE

July 3 & 4

NO TAX ON ANYTHING

Stop by to see our new lower prices!

Doelan Wilcox

WEEKLY RAFFLES

New Inventory Arriving Daily!

Veteran Owned, Family Operated

Special Order Available

- Firearm Sales - Laser Engraving
- Custom AR's Cerakote
- Parts & Accessories
- Reloading Equipment
- Suppressors
- Gunsmithing

573-213-4353

115 Business Highway 61 N.
 Bowling Green, Mo 63334
dgfirearms@gmail.com
www.dgfirearmsllc.com

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

Hart Care Chiropractic

Got pain?

Digestive problems?

No Energy?

L. Shane Hart D.C.

Serving the
 region
 for 32 years

Being healthy & staying healthy is really **QUITE SIMPLE!**

Call today - 573-324-2225

300 W. Main
Bowling Green

Community News

From The Mayor's Desk...

Land of the free and the home of the brave. That is the epitome of what this beautiful country stands for, and what makes it possible for anyone to accomplish what they may define as their own American dream.

The American dream doesn't come easy, it's not a lucky lottery ticket or a big lawsuit win, it is much more than that! It's an idea that takes determination, discipline, sacrifice, blood, sweat and many tears.

It takes long days and short nights, missed ballgames and crazy busy weekends. It pushes you to your limits with small failures, yet draws you back in with timely successes. It's nurtured every step of the way, and it takes precedence over almost everything else. The American dream is far from free, but worth much more than the expense. No other place in the world provides this type of capitalistic environment or opportunity.

Saturday our Country turns a quarter of a millennium old. Or should I say young? The United States of America has accomplished

many great things in the past 250 years, and we are just at the beginning of what we are capable of doing. From the writing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, to the Apollo 11 landing on the moon in 1969. From the Allied victory in World War II marking the end of global fascism, and the passing of the 13th and 19th Amendments, to the Civil Rights Act of 1964. There is no telling what our great Country has in store for us, but it's exciting to be able to witness it from our own front porch.



TOM THOMPSON-MAYOR
CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

We are not a flawless nation, but through adversity, setbacks, and resiliency, we have learned from our missteps and have become a better Country because of them. We are One Nation Under God, so let us celebrate in unity this Saturday to embrace this Country, give thanks for the opportunity it provides, celebrate its freedoms, and join with our neighbors to pay tribute to the greatest place on earth. The Mighty USA!

Happy 250th Birthday, America!
From sea to shining sea.

Pike To Pike ...



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

Happy 250th Birthday, America!!!

The Pike County Senior Citizens Center at 220 West Adams Street in Pittsfield will be holding their fundraiser Fish Fry a week from this Thursday at 4:30-6 p.m. The menu will be your choice of catfish fillet or buffalo with three set sides which will include this month potato salad, macaroni and cheese, glazed carrots plus your choice of dessert and tea. Eat-in or carry-out. All ages are welcome. Remember, the date is July 9. Questions? Please call 217-285-4969.

Note: They do not receive any federal or state funding and appreciate everyone's ongoing support to help keep the center up and running.

Birthdays and anniversaries for the week of July 1-7, 2026:

- July 1 - Cameo Fesler, Lilly Grace Bedenbender
 - July 3 - Carol and Scott Miller
 - July 4 - Tim Myers, Carla and Ed Butler
 - July 6 - Addie Rhodes, Andy Ehlert, Tammy Knight, Donnie and Becky Walston
 - July 7 - Caitlyn Harter, Carolyn Baker, James and Brandi Francis
- Mark These Dates on Your Calendar:
July 3 - America 250 honoring our roots in Pike County Ill. - Pike County Courthouse starting at 4 pm.
July 4 - America's Birthday

July 11 - Big River Band -- Red Rooster Restaurant starting at 6:30 p.m.
July 16 - Big River Band -- Nebo Community Center starting at 2 p.
July 25 - Big River Band -- Pike County Senior Center starting at 6 p.m.

Another "Meet, Greet, & Eat" is being thought about and will be planned soon. Single senior adults (both men and women) ages 62+ call or text the number above if you are interested in joining this not-for-profit group which means there is no charge to be in this group. But you are required to pay for your own meal and figure out your own transportation.

Trivia Questions For This Week:
1 Where was the nation's capital right before it was moved to Washington, D.C.?
2 In the Bible, How many spies did Moses send into Canaan?
3 Who wrote the lyrics to the "Star Spangled Banner"?

June 27 found an excellent attendance of 52 people (which does not include the band, the concession stand workers, or the ticket lady) at the Pike County Senior Center to listen and enjoy the BIG RIVER BAND. If you didn't make it there, you really missed a great evening of music, fun, and getting together with others. A great evening was had by all.

Just a few ways to improve churches everywhere:
1 Take time to greet everyone at church. Maybe play music and instruct everyone to go around the room and tell everyone you are glad to see them.
2 If someone has been coming to church, and then they start missing, someone or several "someones" should at least call and tell them they were missed.
3 You know cliques are basically everywhere (in school classes for eternity it seems, at work no matter where you work) and even in churches. Bash those cliques to dust.

MU Extension Offers Free Webinar On Woods For Wildlife

University of Missouri Extension will offer a three-part webinar series for landowners interested in improving their woods for wildlife.

The free series runs noon-1 p.m., Wednesdays, July 8-22, said Brian Schweiss, MU Extension sustainable forestry specialist.

"Many woodland acres set idle with minimal management," said Schweiss. "While this provides some habitat, management actions can be implemented to improve it for better turkey nesting cover and feeding areas. Or fawn bedding areas that provide greater protection from predators."

The webinar will include a review of oak forests and their current condition and some management actions to improve them for desired

wildlife.

Resource professionals will discuss the status of wildlife populations including turkeys in the second session. In the third session, Morgan County landowner David Haake will discuss his experiences with prescribed fire, timber sales and forest thinning and how they benefit a variety of wildlife, including deer, turkey and songbirds.

The webinar series offered free of charge by MU Extension with support from the Forest and Woodland Association of Missouri and partial funding from the National Wild Turkey Federation. All registrants are encouraged to attend the live sessions. Recordings will also be made available at the conclusion of the three sessions.

Attorney General Shares Fireworks Safety Tips

As our country approaches our 250th Anniversary, Attorney General Catherine Hanaway is urging residents to use precautions to safely celebrate the Fourth of July.

"It is an exciting and historical moment for our country, but I encourage Missourians to celebrate responsibly," said Attorney General Hanaway. "Independence Day brings traffic to our roads, boats to our waterways, and fireworks to our skies. A few simple precautions can ensure safety for everyone celebrating our nation's birthday."

The Attorney General's Office offers the following safety tips to help ensure a safe and enjoyable holiday season:

- General Firework Safety Tips**
- Legal firework sales in Missouri begin June 20 and end July 10.
- Never allow children to handle or ignite fireworks.
- Do not use fireworks

while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Keep a safe distance from fireworks during use.

Do not attempt to relight a malfunctioning firework.

Soak used or malfunctioning fireworks in water before disposing of them.

Choose a safe location: Select a clear outdoor area away from people, buildings, vehicles, dry grass, and flammable materials.

Check location ordinances: Some areas restrict usage near schools, churches, or hospitals.

Keep pets indoors and ensure they have ID tags in case they become scared and run away.

Roadway and Waterway Safety

Follow law enforcement guidance when attending public celebrations (parades, firework shows).

The MoDOT Traveler Information Map provides up-to-date information on road closures, delays, construction zones, and alternative

routes.

Do not leave children or valuables unattended.

Boaters should wear life jackets when near, on, or in the water.

Designate a sober operator for vehicles or vessels if your celebration includes alcohol or other impairing substances.

Missouri law prohibits the discharge of fireworks from a vessel.

Boaters are reminded to watch their wake, share the waterways responsibly, and help ensure the safety of everyone enjoying Missouri's lakes and rivers

If you see something that does not look right, report it to local law enforcement.

The Attorney General's Office encourages all Missourians to stay alert, follow safety guidelines, and make responsible choices to ensure a joyful and injury-free Fourth of July.

We Buy Salvage Cars & Farm Equipment
Will Pick Up
Ben's Auto Salvage
754-3265 or 754-0508

MIKE INGRAM PLUMBING SALES & SERVICE

PLUMBING SERVICES

Our Services

- Sewer Camera Inspections
- New Construction
- Tankless Heater Installations
- Sales & Service

573-719-9474
mingramplumbing@gmail.com
18080 Bluebonnet Lane
Bowling Green

Be prepared before the next power outage.

It's not just a generator. It's a power move.™

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$535.

Call 844-412-6677 to schedule your free quote!

*Terms and Conditions apply. **GENERAC**

We Welcome Your Local News

PETE NASIR AUDIO SERVICES

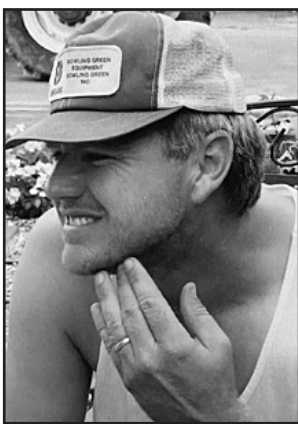
573-473-2273
pnasir1955@gmail.com

Call 324-6111 To Place Your Ads

CLASSIFIEDS

Put Our Classifieds To Work For You

Obituaries



Jeffery 'Jeff' John Miller

Jeffery "Jeff" John Miller, 57, of Bowling Green died Thursday, June 18, 2026.

Memorial services for Jeff was held Thursda at 7 p.m., at Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Bowling Green with Deacon Wayne Korte officiating.

Visitation was Thursday from 4-7 p.m., at the funeral home.

Jeff was born Dec. 19, 1968, in Hannibal to Nolan John and Delores "Dee" Belle McBride Miller. Jeff was united in marriage to Heather Morris on March 11, 2000, at Holy Family Church in Hannibal, by Fr. Mike Quinn. Heather survives.

Also surviving are his mother, Dee Miller; children, Jesse Miller and Nicole Miller, both of Bowling Green; grandson, Kyler Clair; sister Diane Dempsey and husband, Robert of Curryville; close cousin, Clete Miller and wife, Jennifer of Bowling Green; niece, Lauren Dempsey; and nephew, Tyler Dempsey and wife, Jessie; as well as a large extended family.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, and his father, Nolan.

Jeff grew up and lived in Bowling Green his entire life. He attended St. Clement Elementary School. He was a 1987 graduate of Bowling Green High School where he was active in basketball, baseball, football, and FFA. Farming was Jeff's passion and he loved operating the family farm. He was a former Lion's Club member and also belonged to the St. Clement Knights of Columbus.

Jeff enjoyed golfing, racing, and participating in tractor pulls with his dad and their Oliver tractor, as well as truck pulls with his son. He also enjoyed NASCAR and dirt racing. He spent his free time in the summers preparing for and working at the Pike County Fair. Jeff loved fishing and camping at Bennett Springs. He also loved listening to 80s music. Jeff's favorite way to pass free time was sitting at Miller Ag, visiting with Clete and friends, and driving around checking his fields.

He was a loving and dedicated son, husband, father, and grandfather. He had many close friends and family. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Memorials may be made to Bowling Green FFA.



Robert 'Bob' Wayne Momphard

Robert "Bob" Wayne Momphard, 77, of Silex died Saturday, June 20, 2026, at SSM Hospital in St. Charles.

Memorial services for

Bob were held Friday at 6 p.m., at Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes and Crematory in Silex, with full military honors.

Visitation was from 3-6 p.m., at the funeral home.

Bob was born Sept. 5, 1948, in Silex to Robert Tennessee and Edith Maurine McDonald Momphard. They both preceded him in death.

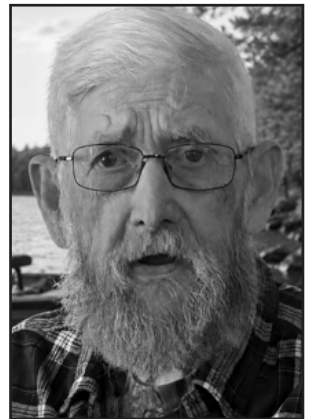
Bob grew up and lived most of his life in Silex, other than when he was serving active duty in the United States Air Force. Bob was proud of his service to his country. He spent time employed with Binkley's in Warrenton, Slate in Wentzville, and Wal-mart in Troy, working in the lawn and garden department. Bob also spent four years serving as the mayor of Silex.

Bob loved sitting on his front porch, watching the world go by. He always knew what was going on in town, and he loved to share that information with others.

Bob loved spending time with his grandchildren, whom he dearly loved. His grandchildren were truly the center of his world. He cherished every moment he spent with them and rarely missed an opportunity to be part of their lives. Whether it was attending their activities, sharing stories, offering advice, or simply spending time together, Bob found his greatest joy in being their Pa Pa. He was incredibly proud of each of them and loved celebrating their accomplishments, big and small. His grandchildren will forever remember his unwavering love, support, sense of humor, and the countless memories they shared with him. The time he spent with them was among the most treasured parts of his life, and the bond they shared will remain a lasting part of his legacy.

Surviving to carry on Bob's memory are his daughters, Michelle Momphard of Silex and Melissa Montes of Troy; grandchildren, Melvinie Momphard and Matt Jordan, Caiden Crabtree, Isabella Montes, Mariana Montes, and Sofia Montes; great-granddaughter, Brynlee; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, and extended family.

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



Larry E. Smith

Larry E. Smith, 84, of Louisiana died Saturday, June 20, 2026 at his home surrounded by his family.

Graveside services and interment were at 10 a.m., Wednesday at Riverview Cemetery in Louisiana. The Rev. John Davis officiated.

Larry was born April 5, 1942 in Bowling Green to Virgil and Ethel Myers Smith. He was married to Dorothy Irene "Rene" Rue on Dec. 4, 1966 and were married 60 years.

He is survived by his wife, Rene Smith; a brother, Darrell Smith; the children he loved and was a part of their lives and giving each of them nicknames, Bobbie "Sug" Francis, Kaitlyn "Pumpkin" Langley, Dannielyn "Pearl" Smith, Peggy "Tootie" Batchelor, Juanita "Pokey" Butler, Karley "Curly Sue" Langley, and Kallie "Lucy" Langley; they loved him so much and was

with him until his death, and many other extended family.

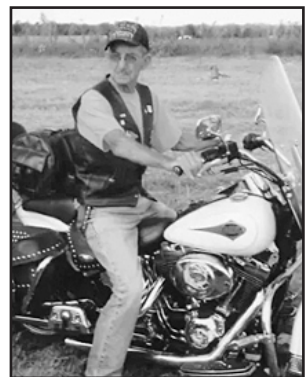
He was preceded in death by his parents, and siblings, Virginia Johnson, Bonnie Gates, Millie Gish, Helen Shipley, Danny Smith, and Judy Gipson.

Larry previously worked at Tallmans and was also employed at Louisiana Manufacturing working many years with perfect attendance. Larry and Rene were caregivers for his mother in-law Juanita Rue and sister in-law Fay Smith.

He was an avid fisherman, and enjoyed mowing for the neighborhood widows and individuals. Everyone he met was his friend. When he knew and took Jesus into his heart, it changed his life. He was very loved and is already missed by his family. He now dwells in Heaven and we will see him again when we go to Heaven if Jesus is in your heart.

Pallbearers were Kenny Smith, Kenny Smith, Jr., Cody Smith, Danny Smith, Darrell Smith, and Cameron Price. Honorary pallbearers were Charlie Shelton and Bill Turnbough.

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



Robert Ross Righter

Robert Ross Righter, 91, of Laddonia died Saturday, June 27, 2026 at Columbia Post Acute in Columbia.

Private family services will be held at a later date. Bienhoff Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Mr. Righter was born Dec. 30, 1934 in Utica, N.Y., the son of Douglas and Lena Young Righter. Bob married Dorothy Jean Leonard on Jan. 7, 1954, in Mexico. She preceded him in death on April 24, 2022.

Survivors include one son, Doug Righter of Laddonia; two daughters, Roberta Cope and husband,

Roger of Martinsburg and Celeste Winkelman and husband, Steve of Benton City; six grandchildren, Audrey Stewart and husband, Shane, Kristen Smith, Keith Sappington and wife, Crystal, Bryan (Susan) Sappington and wife, Ashley, Robert Paschang, and Brandi Cross and husband, Tyler; 14 great-grandchildren, Allie, Taylor, Evelyn, Colton, Lynlea, Benson, Autumn, Chayce, Truxton, Scottlyn, Andrew, Abigail, Aftan, and Aria; and two great-great-grandchildren, Georgia and Lucy.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one daughter, Teri Elsenratt and one grandson, Carl Paschang.

Bob served his country honorably in the United States Navy from 1954 to 1958 as a machinist. He would work for National Refractories for 47 years and then as a corrections officer at WERDCC in Vandalia. He enjoyed riding his motorcycle and fishing but most of all he enjoyed his time spent with his family.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital and can be mailed, c/o Bienhoff Funeral Home, P.O. Box 6, Laddonia, MO 63352.



Katherine Ann Epperson Stewart

Katherine Ann Epperson Stewart, 87, of Vandalia was welcomed into Heaven by her parents at on Friday, June 26, 2026, at Baptist Homes of Tri-County in Vandalia.

She was born Oct. 15, 1938, to Robert Leo and Mary Golden Kisor Epperson.

She had one older brother, Robert Leo "Bob" and wife, Carolyn, who preceded her in death. She graduated from New London High School in 1956.

From her previous marriage to Wayne Lake, Katherine was blessed with her three greatest joys, LeeAnn Ellis and husband, Greg,

Leslie McMillen and husband, Mike, and John Lake and wife, Sharon. She later married Dale Stewart on Oct. 2, 1985 in Miami, Okla., and lovingly welcomed his son, Shane Stewart and wife, Audrey, into her family. She thought the world of them and could often be found cheering them on, supporting their endeavors, and celebrating their accomplishments. Her family was the center of her life, and she treasured every moment spent with them.

Known best as "Maw-Maw," she had nine grandchildren, Tara Zieger and husband, Steve, Raini Rane and husband, Brian, JaCee Hickerson and husband, Glen, Shelton McMillen and wife, Amber, Whitley Wilson and husband, Steve, Austin Lake and wife, Carrie, Taylor Cleary and husband, Steven, Evelyn and Colton Stewart. She is blessed with 21 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

Working for Dr. Farrel at the dental office in Hannibal, is where Katherine began her nursing assistant role. Later, she would go on to work for Dr. E.P. Hansen and Dr. Hevel at Frankford Clinic and Dr. Griffin in Bowling Green. She then took a change of scenery and would go on to work in the insurance field with

Betty Davis and enjoyed helping at the local H&R Block. She enjoyed helping others and a tidy workspace.

Holiday meals were a favorite of hers. She enjoyed cooking for her loved ones for any occasion. She enjoyed cooking daily for Dale until she wasn't able to and then the both of them enjoyed outings together to eat at local places, specifically Liter's with the old Liter's coffee crew.

Katherine was known best as the "Mary Kay Lady" and took the title to heart by simply living and breathing her skin and beauty routine. She was always known to have her jewelry, make-up and hair in place. She enjoyed her nails being painted and loved her weekly hair appointments.

Devoted to her Lord Jesus Christ, Katherine was an exceptional pianist and enjoyed playing for Adiel Baptist Church and later Salt River Christian Church. You could find her every Sunday in a church pew. She loved to sing hymnals and share her love of Jesus.

A woman of unrecognizable strength, grace, and an occasional "shit fire" Katherine lived a full-filling life of worship and an occasional "Horse Feathers." Whether you'd find her catching chickens or helping

See OBITUARIES on page 6

MCCOY-BLOSSOM FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY

Bowling Green
MODERN FACILITIES
AT AFFORDABLE COSTS
- COMPARE PRICES
SIMPLE CREMATION OR
TRADITIONAL -
CARING, FRIENDLY
STAFF

1-573-213-5110 or 1-636-528-8244

FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY

DOGPATCH FIREWORKS

**Open 9 a.m.
DAILY**

Two & a half miles north
of New London on Hwy. 61 at the
Mark Twain statue at
Injun Joe Campground exit

**Climate Controlled
Open All Year!!!**

**500
Gram**

Cake Specials

**• One Bad
Step-Mother
SALE \$44.99**

PLUS Several others

**120 Cake
Start At
\$23**

\$90

Excalibur

\$121.50

Excalibur Platinum

Major credit cards, debit cards & checks accepted

CALL 217-316-2798

Card Of Thanks

We would like to thank everyone for your kind words, condolences, cards, food, visits and any other acts of kindness during the time of our loss.

Your thoughtfulness during this difficult time has meant more to us than words can express.

Special thanks to Waters Funeral Home.

**The Family Of
Dorothy Joanne Cockrell**

THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

NEWS FOR PIKE, EASTERN AUDRAIN & NORTHERN LINCOLN COUNTIES



Pay Online Now!!!

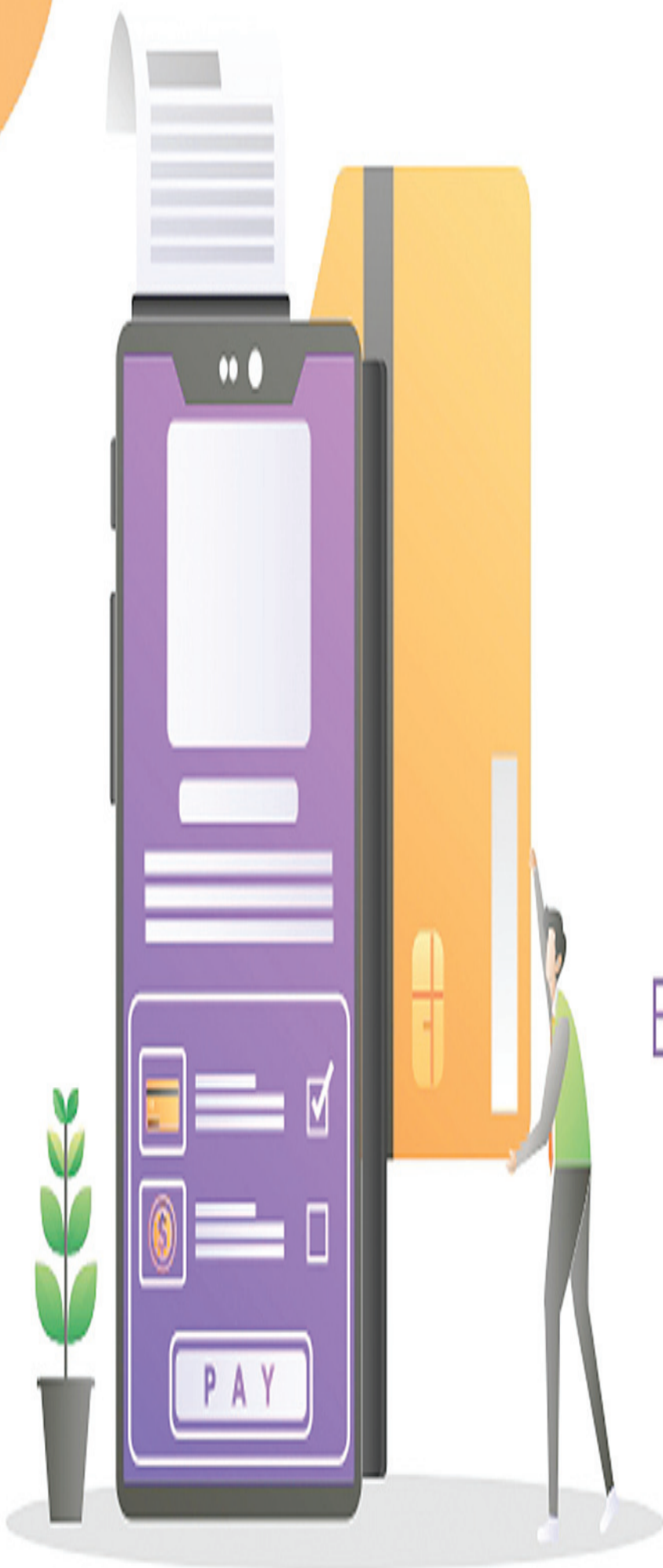


NEW!

PAYING YOUR ADVERTISING
INVOICES JUST GOT EASIER.

YOU CAN NOW PAY YOUR INVOICE
ONLINE DIRECTLY THROUGH OUR
WEBSITE. JUST VISIT OUR SITE,
CLICK THE PAY YOUR BILL ONLINE
BUTTON IN THE UPPER RIGHT-HAND
CORNER.

IT'S QUICK, EASY, AND NO TRIP TO
THE POST OFFICE IS NEEDED.



Online Payments Now Available



Community News

Cannabis Microbusiness License Application Deadline

The Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) will accept the third round of microbusiness license applications electronically, through the online registry portal from July 13-27, 2026.

License issuance is expected to occur in December of this year. A current list of licensed microbusiness facilities can be found on the department's website.

Microbusinesses are marijuana facility licenses that are only issued to eligible entities and individuals and are designed to allow marginalized or underrepresented individuals to participate in the legal marijuana market.

Ahead of the application acceptance timeframe, microbusiness applicants should be aware of the following:

An entity, which includes individuals, may apply for and obtain only one license to operate a marijuana microbusiness facility, which may be either a microbusiness dispensary facility or a microbusiness wholesale facility. This means an individual's name must only appear in one application; appearing in more than one application is cause for denial of all applications in which that individual appears.

A microbusiness applicant may not have an owner who is also an owner of an existing medical, compre-

hensive, or other microbusiness marijuana facility license or certification. This limitation ensures everyone who applies has an equal chance at obtaining a microbusiness facility license.

Applicants for a microbusiness license shall be majority-owned and operated by individuals who each meet at least one (1) of the eligibility requirements. These requirements can be found on the department's website.

At least one (1) eligible individual who contributes to the majority ownership must complete pre-application training, as specified by the department.

Microbusiness licenses are selected via random lottery drawing. To ensure the integrity of the applicant selection process, the Missouri Lottery will conduct the drawing without reference to applicants' identities.

All timely applications submitted with the application fee will be entered into the lottery drawing. Untimely applications, or those submitted without an application fee, will be denied and will not go to lottery.

After the application submission window closes, qualifying applicants will be sorted by congressional district and license type (wholesale or dispensary) and then assigned a sequential applicant identifier within those groups. Each group will be considered its

own lottery set, for a total of 16 lottery drawings. All applicants will receive an email notice prior to being sent to the lottery with their applicant identifier.

The lottery is scheduled to take place on Sept. 9, 2026. The lottery drawing results will be posted to the department's website as soon as they are available. Results will be listed by congressional district.

Through variance to the requirement in 19 CSR 100-1.060(3)(k), fingerprint submissions will not be required within two weeks of application submission. The department will instead require fingerprint submissions post-lottery from individuals subject to disqualifying felony offense analysis as needed for review of top-drawn applications.

Those needing assistance with eligibility requirements or application forms can contact Facility Application Services at Cannabis-FAS@health.mo.gov.

The department is committed to providing enhanced communications and educational opportunities ahead of the third round of microbusiness licenses. For information on microbusiness outreach events, applicant eligibility requirements and instructions on how to apply or subscribe to email updates, visit Cannabis.mo.gov.

Community Calendar...

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

On July 4: Clarksville Memorial VFW Post, Auxiliary will participate in the celebration in Louisiana on the riverfront.

On July 6: Clarksville Memorial VFW, Auxiliary to hold regular meetings at 6 p.m. Post and auxiliary dues are now due.

On July 10: Bethel AME Church-Paynesville annual fish fry, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., unless sold out. Selling plates and sandwiches.

Burns Makes Spring President's List

Washburn University is pleased to announce its president's list honorees for the spring 2026 semester.

Tressa Burns of Elsberry was named to the list.

To qualify for the president's list, an undergraduate student must complete at least 12 hours of graded credits and earn a semester grade point average of 4.0.

More than 800 students qualified for the President's List.

"These students have earned this recognition through their hard work, dedication and commitment to academic excellence," said Dr. JuliAnn Mazachek, president, Washburn University. "We congratulate them on this outstanding achievement and are proud to recognize them among Washburn's highest-performing students."

Route D Resurfacing Rescheduled

Due to weather delays, the resurfacing project on Route D in Pike County, has been rescheduled for the week of July 6. This work will occur between Missouri Route 79 near Louisiana to U.S. Route 61 in Eolia.

Traffic will be reduced to one lane with a 10-foot width restriction in place at the location where crews are actively working. Flagger 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 expected to be complete by late summer.

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

PUT OUR CLASSIFIEDS TO WORK

OBITUARIES

Continued from page 4
with make up, Aunt Tootie was a forever supporter of those most important to her and will be dearly missed by all.

Serving as pallbearers will be Neil Raney, Austin Lake, Shelton McMillen, Steve Zieger, Glen Hickerson, Brian Raney, Darin Epperson, and Doug Epperson.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Tuesday (today) at Waters Funeral Home in Vandalia. Burial will follow in Hays Creek Cemetery in rural Vandalia.

Visitation will be held from 9 a.m., until the time of the service at the funeral home.

The family is being served by Waters Funeral Home in Vandalia.

Memorials may be made to Adiel Baptist Church or Salt River Christian Church.



Ruby Guthrie

Ruby May Guthrie, of Louisiana went to be with her Lord and Savior on Saturday, June 27, 2026.

She was born July 18, 1930, at her family home in Louisiana to Coleman and Ruth Jones Loneragan.

Ruby attended Louisiana High School. After high school she began working as a CNA at Methodist Hospital in St. Joseph. After returning to Louisiana, she continued her calling at Pike County Memorial Hospital, where she worked as an LPN and dedicated her entire nursing career before retiring in 1995.

Ruby's faith was an important part of her life. She was baptized at Grassy Creek Church as a child and later became a devoted member of First Baptist Church in Louisiana, Missouri. There, she faithfully taught Sunday School and Children's Church for many years. She was also an active member of the Baptist Women's Missionary Union (WMU).

She was very committed to volunteering many hours with the Pike County Memorial Hospital Ladies Auxiliary. Ruby also served as a past Noble Grand of the Louisiana chapter of the Rebekahs IOOF Lodge, demonstrating her dedication to service and fellowship.

Ruby is survived by her daughter, Ellen K. Dillender; granddaughters, Tami Schneider and husband, Kurt, Suzanne Howland and husband, Richie, and Jennifer Asquith and husband, Jason; grandsons, Brian Guthrie and Daniel Guthrie; great-granddaughters, Taylor Haddock and husband, Mason, Ashton Schneider, Zoey Guthrie, Wren Asquith, and Olivia Asquith; great-grandsons, Mason Howland, Greyson Asquith, and Maximus Guthrie; and great-great-granddaughter, Cirilla Haddock. She is also survived by her sister, Frankie Whitten, along

with numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; infant sister, Mary Frances Loneragan; a brother, Jim Loneragan; one son, Jim Guthrie; a nephew, Rodney Branham; and a son-in-law, Jim Dillender.

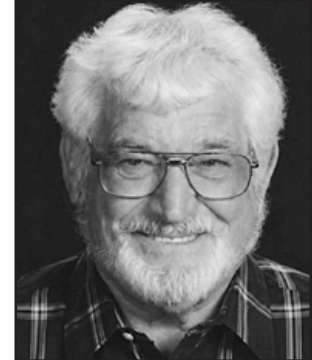
Pallbearers will be Brian Guthrie, Daniel Guthrie, Jason Asquith, Austin Stewart, Ben Grover, and Thomas Branham.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m., Tuesday (today) at Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana. The Rev. Don Amelung officiating. Burial will be at Fairview Cemetery near Louisiana.

Visitation will be held from 4-7 p.m., Monday at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to First Baptist Church Women's Missionary Union or to the donor's choice.

Online condolences may be sent at collierfuneral.com.



Ron Dixon

Ron Dixon, 88, of Bowling Green died June 26, 2026, at Pike County Memorial Hospital.

Visitation will be held Tuesday (today) from 4-7 p.m., at Bibb Veach Funeral Home.

Private burial of his ashes will be held at a later date.

He was born the son of Wyatt Fred Dixon, Jr., and Vera Dixon. He was a life-long resident of Pike County and a member of New Hartford Baptist Church.

He married Wilma Davis on June 5, 1960. To this union was born a daughter, Donna Dixon Meyers and a son, Kent Dixon.

He is survived by his wife, Wilma; a sister, Joyce Gamm and husband, Vernon; a daughter, Donna Meyers and husband, Trenton; one son, Kent Dixon and wife, Penny. He is also survived by two grandchildren, Wyatt Meyers of Louisiana, Samatha Fox and husband, Lance of Bowling Green; and two great-grandchildren, Tori Charlton and Brantley Fox.

Ron graduated Bowling Green High School and worked as a draftsman for LaCrosse Lumber and then Bowling Green Lumber. He took a break from the drafting job to serve in the U.S. Army as a cook where he earned the rank of sergeant and also served in the Army National Guard. His ability to cook did not come home from the army with him as he never cooked at home. Ater some time in the drafting profession, he decided he wanted to build the houses he drew. He built many houses in and around the Pike County area. He made trophies and did woodworking projects under the name Big D's Novelties. Later in life, he gave up the house building and did a lot of woodworking projects.

In addition to his family, Ron had a love for ice cream. If there was ice cream, he was there. He especially loved Dairy Queen ice cream and could be found there on Saturday afternoons (and other days as well) so he could get his ice cream fix.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Lung Association, the American Heart Association or the National Kidney Foundation.

MU Extension, MDC Continue To Offer Free Testing For Oak

University of Missouri Extension's Plant Diagnostic Clinic, in partnership with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), continues to offer free testing for all common oak tree diseases.

"We had a great season in 2025, as we received over 100 oak samples and diagnosed diseases including tubakia leaf spot, bacterial leaf scorch, oak wilt, anthracnose, leaf galls and so on," says Peng Tian, director of the Plant Diagnostic Clinic on the MU campus.

"This allowed us to monitor the prevalence of the common diseases currently affecting oak trees in Missouri and scout for new or invasive diseases to better assist MDC with controlling forest pest problems," Tian says. "With this service, we hope to continue collecting information on the location and host species of oak diseases across the state and monitor the tree health of the state."

Oaks are the most abundant trees in yard and forest settings across Missouri. Two common oak diseases are bacterial leaf scorch and oak wilt. Oak wilt weakens white oaks and kills red oak trees within months of infection. Bacterial leaf scorch is a chronic disease that

worsens over several years. Both diseases spread to nearby oaks.

In red oak trees, oak wilt symptoms first appear in late spring or early summer. Leaves discolor, wilt and fall, first at the top of the tree and later at the tips of lateral branches. Leaves turn a dull, bronzed brown at the tips and along the outer margins. Similar symptoms appear in white oak trees in mid-to-late summer. Trees infected for two or more years commonly develop isolated dead branches in the crown.

Bacterial leaf scorch infects the xylem of susceptible trees and prevents transport of water and nutrients. There is no cure for bacterial leaf scorch on oak, and trees die in 5-8 years. Symptoms may look like drought stress and can only be diagnosed by laboratory analysis.

If you suspect either disease in your trees, Tian recommends sending samples to the clinic for testing and confirmation.

First, send 3-5 photos of the tree to the clinic through digital sample submission at <https://muext.us/PlantClinicDSS>. The fee noted on the website will be waived for tests for common oak diseases. Tian suggests taking

both close-up photos and photos from a distance.

"MU Plant Diagnostic Clinic staff will contact you regarding the physical sample submission guidelines, depending on the tree health problems observed in the photos," he says.

For bacterial leaf scorch, select leaves that are still green but show leaf scorch symptoms. Collect 20-30 leaves with the petiole (leaf stem) attached, and pack them in a sealed plastic storage bag with a damp paper towel. Keep the leaves cool. For oak wilt testing, collect 4-6 branch sections that are about 8-12 inches long, roughly 0.5-1.5-inch in diameter and alive but showing symptoms of leaf wilt.

"Keep samples cool, but do not freeze them," says Tian. "Samples that get hot during transit to the lab may not test positive for the fungus."

For more information on sample submission, go to the MU Plant Diagnostic Clinic website at <https://muext.us/PlantClinic>.

The clinic is at 1100 University Ave., 28 Mumford Hall, on the MU campus in Columbia and is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday.

WOODS SMOKED MEATS, INC.

4TH OF JULY SALE

CELEBRATING 250 YEARS

5 LB. PORK BURGER \$17.49/BOX	PORK STEAK \$2.50/LB GROUND PORK \$2.50/LB	BRAT BURGERS \$4.49/LB.
FRESH BRATS \$4.49/LB.	PORK SAUSAGE \$2.50/LB PORK SAUSAGE LINKS \$2.50/LB	BONELESS RIBEYES \$17.99/LB.
	WOODS ORIGINAL HOT DOGS \$2.50/LB SMOKED COARSE GROUND FRANKS \$2.50/LB	WHILE SUPPLIES LAST
	ELK SALAMI (WHITE LABEL) \$2.50 EACH	

Classifieds

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

**PUT
OUR
CLASSIFIEDS
TO WORK
FOR YOU**

MOBILE HOMES

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

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

FOR RENT

1 BEDROOM Louisiana apartment, upstairs, roomy, nice. See to appreciate. \$525 per month plus deposit. 636795-1808.

2 BEDROOM Louisiana home, great yard, distinctive home. See to appreciate. \$900 per month plus deposit. 636-795-1808.

1 BEDROOM Clarksville Apartment. Great area. See to appreciate with laundry. \$525 per month plus deposit. 636-795-1808.

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

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

FOR SALE

GOOD selection new furniture to choose from. Vandalia Firestone & Appliance, 594-6624.

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

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

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

HELP WANTED

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE: Qualifications: computer experience, licensed or willing to obtain Insurance License. Duties: Answer the phone, process insurance premium payments, print off declaration pages and process renewals. This would be a 9 a.m.-5 p.m., position, Monday-Friday. Contact: Betty Davis Insurance Agency LLC, P.O. Box 179, 100 North Main Street, Vandalia, MO 63382 or you may email your resume to info@bettydavisinsurance.com.

JAY HURD TREE SERVICE
485-2332 or 573-470-1929
FREE ESTIMATES - LICENSED - BONDED - INSURED
I.S.A. Certified Arborist On Staff
Now accepting most major credit cards

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.

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.

AD DEADLINE MONDAY AT 9 A.M.

Scherder Autobody LLC
Phone: 573.324.6023
Email: scherderautobody@gmail.com
16637 Pike 318
Bowling Green, MO 63334
5.4 miles from St. Clement on Hwy J (call for directions if needed)
- Collision repair
- Insurance work welcome
- Free estimates

TARGET WINDOWS & DOORS
Local Manufacturer
Now Accepting Applications
Apply in person at:
Target Windows & Doors
800 W. State St.
Vandalia, MO 63382
Monday-Friday 6:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Health & Life Insurance / 401K
Paid Holidays / Paid Vacation
EOE

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. (tf)




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

LaCrosse
A STEP AHEAD
Jonny Lama
RED WING SHOES
EST. 1905
DOUBLE-H Boots
HOURS: Sat. 9 a.m.-noon
Hickerson Shoe Repair
116 N. Court - Bowling Green
573-470-3413

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE
Date of Sale: July 21, 2026. Time of Sale: at 10:00 a.m. (Registration 9:30 a.m.). Place of Sale: 1819 Adams Place, Bowling Green, MO 63334 (Westwood Court at the end of the Cul-de-Sac). Selling All of vacant lots 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, and 10 of Westwood estates in the city of Bowling Green, Pike County, Missouri.
Minimum bid: \$ 35,459.00. Property may be inspected at: Drive by only. For more information, including pictures, terms and driving directions, visit our website at www.irsauctions.gov. Under the authority in Internal Revenue Code section 6331, the property described above has been seized for nonpayment of internal revenue taxes due from Y2 Construction LLC. The property will be sold at public auction, as provided by Internal Revenue Code section 6335 and related regulations. Only the right, title, and interest of Y2 Construction LLC in and to the property will be offered for sale. If requested, the Internal Revenue Service will furnish information about possible encumbrances, which may be useful in determining the value of the interest being sold. Payment terms: Deferred payment as follows: 20% of the successful bid is due upon acceptance of said bid with balance due on or before August 20, 2026. All payments must be by cash, a certified, cashier's, or treasurer's check drawn on any bank or trust company incorporated under the laws of the United States or under the laws of any State, Territory, or possession of the United States, or by a United States postal, bank, or express money order. Make check or money order payable to the United States Treasury. For more information, contact Gloria Garcia, Property Appraisal & Liquidation Specialist at gloria.e.garcia@irs.gov, (956) 460-4016, or visit the website listed above.

Cut Rate Plumbing, Sewer & Drain Service
Gary Motley
CALL TODAY - 573-330-8507
"Specializing in home repair, plumbing, drain cleaning & service work"

 **\$27,534**
Stock #970 - 2023 Ford Escape Active, Interior Color Space Gray, Exterior Color Vapor Blue Metallic, Auto, All-Wheel Dr., 16,660 Miles
Poage Ford
573-324-5130
1110 Bus. Hwy. 61 S. • Bowling Green, MO
Shop 24 hours at
www.poageford.com

ONE STOP to handle your insurance...
auto, home, life, farm, business
STOP
GREAT RATES →
PERSONAL SERVICE →
SHELTER INSURANCE
We're your Shield.
We're your Shelter.
ShelterInsurance.com

Brent Branstetter
740 S Bus Hwy 61, Ste A
Bowling Green
573-324-2446
BBranstetter@ShelterInsurance.com

Ashley Jenkins
3404 Georgia St.
Louisiana
573-754-3453
TJenkins@ShelterInsurance.com

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

Community News

Amazon Investing \$10 Billion In Montgomery County

In a Monday, June 15 press release, Amazon announced its plans to invest \$10 billion to construct a new, state-of-the-art data center campus in Montgomery City.

Announced during a press conference with state leaders, community members, economic development and utility partners, the project is expected to create 400 new direct jobs, thousands of construction jobs, and generate significant economic activity through construction, infrastructure investment, and long-term operational growth in the region. Montgomery County estimates this investment will generate hundreds of millions of dollars in new property tax revenue over the next 25 years.

"Today's announcement represents more than a major investment in Missouri's future—it represents new opportunities for Montgomery County and the surrounding region," said Governor Mike Kehoe. "Projects like this create lasting benefits for local communities by supporting critical infrastructure improvements, generating new tax revenue for schools and public services, and strengthening the foundation for future economic growth. Amazon's continued investment into our state demonstrates confidence in Missouri's workforce, business climate, and communities, and we're proud to celebrate this milestone alongside our local partners and residents."

This investment builds on Amazon's longstanding presence in Missouri as an employer of over 10,000 Missourians through a variety of facilities across the state. Amazon's Missouri footprint includes fulfillment and sortation centers, delivery stations, Rural Super Rural delivery stations, and Whole Foods Market locations.

"Missouri has been home to Amazon since 2017 and more than 10,000 Missourians come to work with us every day. Today's announcement reflects what we've learned over those years: that when you show up as a real partner, listen to the community, and invest for the long term, everyone benefits," said David Zapolsky, Chief Global Affairs and Legal Officer at Amazon. "We're building data centers that will create hundreds of new jobs, support educators and students, and strengthen local infrastructure. That includes \$3 mil-

lion to support local emergency dispatch services, and more than \$1 million for a new community gathering space at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds. Our investment matters most when the community is better for it."

This \$10 billion investment further strengthens Missouri's growing role in the digital economy and supports increasing global demand for secure, reliable, and scalable cloud computing infrastructure.

"Behind every major investment are local leaders, utility partners, educators, and community members working together to create opportunities for the future," said Michelle Hataway, Director of the Missouri Department of Economic Development. "Amazon's announcement in Montgomery County is a testament to what can be accomplished through strong collaboration and a shared commitment to growth. This project will help strengthen the region's capacity for future development while reinforcing Missouri's position as a destination for innovation and investment."

Alongside its investment, Amazon is committing over \$7 million in community contributions, including \$3 million to support emergency dispatch services in Montgomery County, over \$1 million for a new community gathering space at the County Fairgrounds and an additional \$3 million in community programs. As part of those contributions, Amazon is launching a \$150,000 Community Fund to provide grants for Montgomery County community projects.

Amazon has worked with the local electric utility, Ameren Missouri, and will pay for 100% of the costs to provide electric service to this new data center campus in Montgomery County, including all costs with connecting to the energy grid, with no incentives or discounts on electric rates.

In 2025, Senate Bill 4 was passed by the General Assembly and signed by Governor Kehoe, requiring the Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) to adopt rates for large load customers — including data centers — that reflect those customers' share of their costs and prevented other customers — like residential and commercial customers — from being charged any unjust or unreasonable costs arising from service to large load customers. Learn more on utility tariffs for large

load customers in Missouri.

The company is also working with agricultural technology company Arable Labs to implement technology to help Missouri farmers improve irrigation efficiency, eliminate unnecessary watering and help reduce groundwater withdrawals. The project is expected to reduce water use by 100 million gallons of water.

Learn more on Missouri's efforts to ensure the effective management of natural resources surrounding data centers from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

"We are proud to welcome Amazon to Montgomery County," said Ryan Poston, Montgomery County Presiding Commissioner. "This investment represents a tremendous opportunity for our community and will help create new opportunities for our workforce, local businesses, schools, and future generations."

"Amazon's investment in Montgomery County reinforces Missouri's strong position as a hub for innovation and a state with an exceptionally skilled workforce," said Martin J. Lyons Jr., Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Ameren Corporation. "We applaud local and state leaders who support economic growth and job creation while ensuring that consumers are protected. At Ameren, we are committed to serving all our customers with reliable service at the lowest possible cost."

"We are excited about the long-term opportunities this investment brings to Montgomery County," said Brent Speight, Chairman of the Greater Montgomery Economic Development Council. "Amazon's commitment to the region will help drive economic growth, strengthen our local economy, and support future development opportunities throughout the county."

"Amazon's decision to continue investing in Missouri is a testament to the partnerships and people that make our state a great place to grow," said Subash Alias, CEO of Missouri Partnership. "These investments deliver benefits that extend well beyond the project itself — supporting local businesses, creating career opportunities, and strengthening communities across the state. We look forward to Amazon's continued success in Missouri and the positive impact it will have for years to come."

Join MDC For A Get Started With Hunting In Missouri

Frog hunting is already underway and fall hunting seasons begin in the Show-Me-State with dove season on Sept. 1—merely two months away. Have you ever wanted to hunt in Missouri but didn't know where to start?

If so, the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) invites you to join a virtual Get Started with Hunting in Missouri presentation on Wednesday, July 1 from 6–7 p.m. The program is free and open to anyone age six years and up.

"This is meant to be a very basic class to introduce people to the idea of hunting and the first steps they can take to get them started on their journey," said Nicki Wheaton, MDC conservation educator.

The online program will focus on the late summer through early winter hunting opportunities that Missouri offers. It will discuss the process and requirements to get Hunter Education certified, deadlines to register for managed hunts, different places to hunt, and upcoming programs that can help anyone take the first steps in their hunting journey.

New hunters can will learn about apprentice permits and mentored hunts. Of course, the variety of game Missouri has for hunters pursue; key hunting regulations will be featured as well. We will also discuss why hunting is important and differ-

ent game you can hunt, regulations, mentored hunts, and programs that are coming up to take next steps.

There will be a Q&A period after the program.

The Get Started with Hunting in Missouri is a free online event, but advanced online registration is required by going to <http://short.mdc.mo.gov/ocT>.

A Webex link for this program will be sent by email the day of the event. Attendees should check junk mail folders if no email is received.

Sign up for email or text alerts to stay informed of MDC's latest programs and events by going to <https://short.mdc.mo.gov/ZoP>.

NOTICE FIREWORKS IN CITY LIMITS

The City of Bowling Green would like to remind everyone that, as per City Ordinance 215.580, the use of legal fireworks is allowed on private property with permission of the property owner only on July 4 from 12 noon-11 p.m. If the city has a burn ban in place at that time, no fireworks shall be allowed under this exception. All other firework displays will be considered illegal and the ordinance will be enforced by the Police.

Please take into consideration, your neighbors, as some may be elderly or have PTSD. Pets are also unpredictable, so please make sure they are taken care of.

City of Bowling Green



573-324-3333
BGMEDICALGROUP.COM

WE CARE about YOUR HEALTH



Denise Geisler
DMSc, PA-C



Marcie Norton
FNP-C



Tom Holman
MMS, PA



Sarah Moses
FNP-C



573-324-3333

WE CARE about YOUR HEALTH



Tom Holman
MMS, PA



Sarah Moses
FNP-C

accepting
NEW PATIENTS
-BGMEDICALGROUP.COM-

EASTERN MISSOURI TRUCK PULLERS & XCALIBER TRACTOR PULL



JULY 2ND, 2026 - 7 PM
THE VANDALIA FAIRGROUNDS
1501 S MAIN ST, VANDALIA, MO 63382

GENERAL ADMISSION \$20
AGES 4-12 \$5
AGES 3 AND UNDER FREE
\$15 COOLER FEE