

Community News

MO DNR Opens 2026-27 Bus Grant Program

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources Division of State Parks is pleased to announce the opening of the Bus Grant Program grant round for the 2026-2027 school year.

This is a noncompetitive grant that is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis to qualified applicants. The deadline to apply is May 14, 2027.

The Bus Grant Program is available to public school districts, private schools, charter schools and youth-focused nonprofit organizations with 501(c) 3 status. The Bus Grant Program is available only to Missouri

schools and nonprofit organizations.

MoDNR's Division of State Parks offers busing grants to underwrite the cost of the field trips for schools (pre-K-12 grade) and nonprofit organizations to connect youth with nature at our Missouri state parks and historic sites.

For more information and to download the grant application guidance, visit Missouri State Parks Bus Grant Program. For questions, contact mspgrants@dnr.mo.gov.

The primary source of funding for the state park system is half of the ded-

icated constitutional tax of one-tenth-of-one-percent Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax. The tax provides about three-fourths of the division's budget for operation and development of state parks. All additional funding for Missouri's Division of State Parks comes from revenues generated in the state park system and some federal funds.

For more information on state parks and historic sites, visit Missouri State Parks. The Division of State Parks is part of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

How To Keep Snakes From Seeking Shelter In Your Home

Late summer and fall are good times to locate potential entry areas around your home or buildings and take action to prevent snakes, rodents and other nuisance critters from accessing these areas, says Robert Pierce, University of Missouri Extension state wildlife and fisheries specialist.

From late August through early October, snakes are moving around, looking for shelter, food or spots to spend the winter. In addition, young from species of nonvenomous snakes, such as western rat snakes and prairie kingsnakes, hatch from eggs during the late summer and will be on the move.

"Few animals are more disliked or misunderstood than snakes," Pierce says. "Irrational fears and feelings that people have about snakes come from misunderstandings and superstitions handed down from one generation to another. Snakes are not mysterious at all, and their colorful, fascinating life histories do not justify the anxiety many people feel about them."

Pierce notes that snakes are beneficial to have around: They eat a variety of foods such as insects, slugs, worms, and rodents such as rats, mice and voles, as well as provide food for predators, such as hawks.

Many times, humans are not even aware of snakes, such as in their gardens and flower bed. Snakes don't limit their house-hunting activities to winter. They are also seek out cool, dark and moist places in the summer, such as crevices between rocks, trees and house vents.

But these summer retreats can lead to attics, crawl spaces, garages and other entry ways into your home.

Pierce says there are some things you can do to make your home less inviting.

Reduce the cover that attracts snakes. Store firewood at the back of your property, not up against your home's foundation. Remove brush piles near your home. Cut back shrubs growing next to a foundation, and keep grass mowed.

Seal visible cracks and cre-

vices around pipes and dryer vents. Use expanding foam or mesh hardware cloth. Repair cracks in mortar or your home's foundation.

Be aware of what snakes are common in your area. Know what species are likely to be found and that are commonly observed. Proper identification is important. Pierce recommends "A Guide to Missouri Snakes" published by the Missouri Department of Conservation and available as a free PDF at <https://mdc.mo.gov/magazines/freepubs/guide-missouri-snakes>.

Don't leave pet food bowls out overnight. This attracts unwelcome animals such as rodents, raccoons, opossums and skunks.

Keep bird feeders away from your house. Dropped seed attracts rodents and other animals, which, in turn, attract snakes. Store extra birdseed in metal containers.

Deal with underlying rodent issues. Snakes may come indoors because they're following a food source, such as rodents. Inspect the area to see if you have a hidden rodent issue. Eliminating the rodents will encourage the snake to hunt elsewhere.

What To Do If You Find A

Snake In Your House

If you find a snake indoors, the snake is likely just as scared as you are and wants nothing better than to escape, says Pierce. Follow these tips for removal:

Try to keep the snake contained in one room, if possible. Roll up a towel to keep it from slipping out under the door. If it's hiding under something like furniture, you can set out a rumpled wet towel which may attract it so you can reach the animal.

Trap it in a bucket or box. Use a 5-gallon bucket or large moving box and gently coax it into the container with a broom or other object. If it's a large snake, you'll probably need to cover the bucket, so it doesn't wriggle out as you're moving it outdoors. Make sure to seal any openings into your home so the snake doesn't return.

Call a reliable wildlife or pest control professional for assistance if needed.

More information can be found in MU Extension publication G9450, "Snakes: Information for Missouri Homeowners," which is available for free download at <https://extension.missouri.edu/publications/g9450>.

Buy Native Trees, Shrubs From MDC State Forest Nursery

Need trees and shrubs for your landscape? Go native with tree and shrub seedlings from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). Native trees and shrubs can help improve wildlife habitat and soil and water conservation while also improving the appearance and value of private property.

MDC's George O. White State Forest Nursery offers a variety of low-cost native tree and shrub seedlings for sale for reforestation, windbreaks, erosion control, wildlife food and cover, and other purposes.

bud, ninebark, elderberry, sumac, wild plum, witch hazel, and others. MDC recommends ordering early for the best selection.

"The nursery grows millions of seedlings each year, but some species are very popular and sell out quickly," said Forest Nursery Supervisor Mike Fiaoni. "And some seedlings occasionally succumb to harsh weather or hungry wildlife, despite the nursery staff's best efforts."

Fiaoni added that even if a species is listed as "sold out," customers can still place an order for those seedlings because other orders may get cancelled, freeing up inventory. Customers won't be charged for seedlings unless they are available to ship.

Seedlings are available in bundles of 10 or increments of 25 per species. Prices range from 44 cents to \$2.75 per seedling. Sales tax will be added to orders unless tax exempt. There is a shipping fee and a \$9 handling charge for each order. Receive a 15 percent discount up to \$20 off seedling orders with a Conservation ID Number.

Orders will be shipped or can be picked up at the nursery, located near Licking, from mid-February through mid-May.

With rising costs to run the nursery, MDC has needed to increase all seedling prices by 10 percent. In addition, some plant species take two years to grow with nursery staff spending twice the funds to apply two years' worth of fertilizer and weed control. In the past MDC charged the same amount as the species that take one year to grow. MDC will be increasing the price for two-year-old seedlings of eastern white pine, hickories, pawpaw, buckeyes, deciduous holly, and American beautyberry.

Seedling orders can be placed online beginning Sept. 1 through April 15, 2027, at mdc.mo.gov/trees-plants/tree-seedlings.

The nursery provides mainly one-year-old, bare-root seedlings with sizes varying by species. Seedlings varieties include pine, bald cypress, cottonwood, black walnut, hickory, oak, persimmon, river birch, maple, willow, sycamore, blackberry, buttonbush, hazelnut, red-

Learn more from MDC's 2026-2027 Seedling Order Form. Find a link to it in the September issue of the Missouri Conservationist. Get copies at MDC regional offices and nature centers or contact the State Forest Nursery at 573-674-3229 or StateForestNursery@mdc.mo.gov.

Agape House Searching For New Manager

The Agape House of Vandalia will be replacing the flooring in all the guest rooms downstairs thanks to a donation from Columbian Charities of Missouri.

They are also in the process of searching for a new manager following the unexpected death of manager, Teena Wooley.

Treasurer Kay Robnett reported that they have given three of the Fill the Tank, Fill the Heart cards to families who have children visiting thanks to

the grant from Poet Bioprocessing of Laddonia.

Donations were received from Bethlehem Baptist Centralia, Christian Church of Vandalia, Columbian Charities of Missouri, Curryville Baptist Church, Farber Baptist Church, First

Presbyterian Church of Vandalia, Hopewell Baptist Church Thompson, Hopewell Baptist Church Wellsville, Laddonia Christian Church, Southside Baptist Church and Spencer Creek Baptist Church both of Vandalia.

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- 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 8-24-2026										Monday Receipts 1,536 Head			
959 Steers, medium & large					399 Heifers, Med. & Large								
Computer Avg.										Computer Avg.			
3 300 & Down		460	547			300 & Down							
50 300-400		480	520	4		300-400		480	517				
79 400-500		450	526	30		400-500		450	485				
158 500-600		390	462	43		500-600		420	455				
129 600-700		365	390	186		600-700		370	407				
166 700-800		335	348	117		700-800		340	357.75				
309 800-900		325	335	13		800-900		257	287				
61 900-1,000		290	294	3		900-1000		260	280				
15 Bred Cows - Better		2800	4025			Others							
5 Pairs		2700	3000										
				Slaughter Cows		105							
High Dressing		15	165	Low		120		130					
Bulk		140	155	Thin		80		110					
15 Slaughter Bulls		200	228										
ALL SLAUGHTER STEERS & HEIFERS SOLD ON MON. NOON													
Choice 2 & 3		228	230	Steers & Heifers		16							
Select		217		Mixed Select		225							
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				Cration Blattell - 417-650-7688					

EARLY DEADLINE THURSDAY, SEPT. 3 AT 10 A.M.

Vandalia Barber Shop

215B S. Main - Vandalia

573-594-3521

Tuesday - Wednesday

Thursday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Friday By Appointment

All haircuts \$10

Harold Williams

Accepting Bids

Buffalo Township Fire Protection is accepting bids for yard maintenance at the fire house.

This would include mowing, weed eating and chemical application. Bids will be accepted until 9/1/2026.

You can submit bids to P.O. Box 161, Louisiana, MO 63353.

THORNHILL AUCTION

& REAL ESTATE COMPANY

We will sell the following Real & Personal Property of the Late Carl & Donna Yager at Public Auction on

Friday, Sept. 11, 2026

Beginning At 9:45 A.M.

SALE SITE: 310 West Olive St.; Vandalia, MO 63382

DIRECTIONS: Take Hwy 54 to Vandalia go south on N. Main (Hwy F) 0.3 mile to right on W. Olive St. to home on left #310.

ABSOLUTE REAL ESTATE AUCTION

SELLS AT 12:00 NOON

REAL ESTATE: Lot 3 Block 55 (60'x120') & Lot #4 (60'x120') of Block 55 fronting on W. Olive St. & S. Walnut St. in the City of Vandalia, Audrain County.

Improvements include a 969 sq. ft. 5 room ranch home built in 1960. The home features 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, living room & kitchen with refrigerator & cook stove stay. Home has a gas furnace w/central air & is on city water & sewer sitting on Lot 3.

Other improvements include a gazebo & 12'x18' storage shed.

NOTE: Real Estate will be sold as one tract including both lots.

Terms: 10% down day of sale with the balance of cash at closing on or before 30 days after the sale with possession at closing.

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HOUSEHOLD & MISC.: 4 piece bedroom set; Sanyo TV; Kingsford grill; Expert grill; 2 vacuums; 1 Kenmore; Kitchen table & 4 chairs; Flat screen TV; 4 book shelves; 2 Rubbermaid storage cabinets; Patio storage boxes; Patio furniture; Lot yard décor; concrete, etc.; Desk & office chair; Pots, pans, bakeware.

LAWN & GARDEN: Wizard 14.5 hp riding lawn mower; John Deere 44" lawn sweep, like new; Reese drop hitch; Remington electric chainsaw; Lot yard & garden tools.

YAMAHA 49CC SCOOTER

Shop Tools: 5' tall x 41" wide Kobalt stackable toolbox, like new; Campbell Hausfeld 200 PSI portable air compressor, like new; 1/3 hp All Power 3 gallon compressor, like new; 24v power tool set; Task Force 2 piece toolchest; 1/2" impact wrench; 6 gallon shop vac; Quick Start battery charger; Lot tool sets; Lot adjustable wrenches; Lot pipe wrenches; Lot socket sets; Lot ratchets; Prybars; Ratchet wrenches; Locking pliers; Welding clamps; 2 piece tool cabinet; Partial list.

CHRISTMAS & FALL DECOR: Blow Mold Nativity Set; Blow Molds; Santa, Candle Sets, Winnie Pooh, Carolers; 7' PreLit Christmas Tree, N.I.B.; Fiber Optic witch; Lighted sleigh; Small ceramic Christmas Tree; Lot Halloween décor; 5 totes Christmas ornaments; Partial list.

FISHING TACKLE: 15+ rods & reels; Lot tackle boxes & tackle.

ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES: Cedar chest; Oil lamps; Harley Davidson lamp; Lot Cherish Teddies; Pyrex; Tupperware; Fisher Price Toys; Lot vinyl records; Games; Toys; Partial list.

MODEL PLANE FUEL & REPAIR PARTS

AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Carl was an electrician at the Brick Plant. Carl had a passion for collecting toys, we have moved them to our Auction Barn in Troy & will sell the collection on Saturday Sept. 12. David, Dusty & Bill

OWNERS: LATE CARL & DONNA YAGER

ROSE YAGER EXECUTOR

Auctioneers

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

For terms on this auction go to: Thornhillauction.com





Community News

From The Mayor's Desk...

As we bid adieu to the scorching hot dog days of summer and welcomely invite in the hoody and jean weather of the fall, let us not forget about Labor Day, and the meaning behind the beloved 3-day weekend?

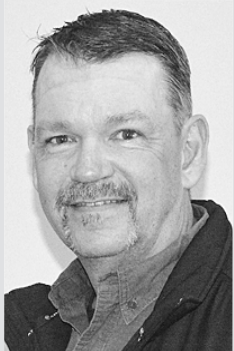
Labor Day was originally designed in the late 1800's to give union workers a day to celebrate the social and economic achievements that they have accomplished, and take a break from the everyday toils of labor. It is always celebrated on the first Monday in September, and provides a brief respite from the daily grind. A day designed to relax, kick off your shoes, and find a comfy, cozy recliner. A day to nap intermittently while attempting to watch your favorite program on the idiot box.

This holiday weekend I ask you to reflect on all the hard work that you put in to get you where you are today? Look around and understand that all the things in your house came

from the sweat on your brow, the pain in your back, and the stiffness of every joint in your body. It is something to be proud of, because after all, you are trading time at work for these things. 1 1/2 hours at work you may have traded for that umbrella stand in the corner. Three hours of work you might trade for a dinner with the spouse? You may have traded 40 hours of work for a single month of having the car that sits in the garage, perhaps? Let us not talk about the work tradeoff for the garage and the house attached to it, please?

If you use this time wisely you can charge your battery, and batten down for the last working quarter of the year. I hope that next Monday brings you comfort, rest, and the energy you need to cap off the rest of 2026?

Allow me to Thank You for doing whatever it is that you do? Keep churning away Bowling Green. You all are doing amazing things.



TOM THOMPSON-MAYOR
CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

Fuel Your Fall Workouts With Chocolate Milk

Sunday, Sept. 27 was National Chocolate Milk Day, and, with football, volleyball, soccer, cross country and other fall sports in full swing, it's the perfect time to highlight one of the simplest and most delicious ways to recover after exercise: a glass of cold chocolate milk.

When it comes to post-workout nutrition, chocolate milk provides a 3-1 ratio of carbohydrates to protein, an ideal balance that helps recharge and repair muscles. "Proper refueling is an essential part of training," said Jessica Kassel, nutrition educator and registered dietitian with the St. Louis District Dairy Council. "Within an hour after exercise, your body needs three key things: carbohydrates to replenish the energy you used, protein to help repair and rebuild muscle, and water and electrolytes to rehydrate. Chocolate milk naturally provides these nutrients, making it a great recovery option."

Properly refueling after a workout will also reduce fatigue and muscle soreness, helping athletes prepare for their next practice, game or workout. An 8-ounce serving of chocolate milk not only provides 24 grams of carbohydrates and 8 grams of protein needed for recovery but also other essential nutrients like calcium and vitamin D to support strong bones; B vitamins to convert food into energy; and electrolytes, including potassium, magnesium, calcium and sodium, to regulate muscle and nerve function and fluid balance. Chocolate milk is also readily available in grocery stores and other retail locations, making it a convenient and accessible

sible refueling option.

Chocolate milk isn't just for post-workout recovery. It can also be a delicious way to add high-quality protein and essential nutrients to your day. For those looking to increase their protein intake even further, try ultra-filtered chocolate milk, which offers at least 14 grams of protein per 1 cup serving. Ultra-filtered milk is made from real cow's milk that goes through a filtration process to concentrate protein and calcium while reducing some of the natural sugar. Many ultra-filtered milks are also lactose-free, making them an option for people with lactose intolerance. "For those looking to add more protein to their day, ultra-filtered milk is a convenient option that provides more protein per serving while still delivering the essential nutrients found in traditional milk," Kassel said.

Ultra-filtered milk can also be incorporated easily into everyday meals and snacks. Try using it in

place of regular milk in oatmeal, smoothies, cereal or other recipes for an added boost of protein. And while the filtration process may be different, ultra-filtered milk goes through the same safety and quality measures as traditional milk, including testing and pasteurization before it reaches consumers.

Whether you're an Olympian, a student athlete or simply someone who enjoys being active, proper recovery can help you get ready for whatever comes next. After your next workout, help your body refuel, rehydrate and recover with a glass of cold chocolate milk.

The St. Louis District Dairy Council (SLDDC) is a nonprofit nutrition education organization funded by local dairy farmers. Since 1932, SLDDC has served 131 counties in central/southern Illinois and eastern Missouri as the go-to educational resource and advocate for the role of dairy foods as part of a healthful diet.

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Pike To Pike...



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

Saturday, Sept. 5 will be the date the Big River Band plays good country music at the Red Rooster Restaurant, 635 West Washington Street, Pittsfield, and they have a new band member. Music starts at 6 p.m. Come early to get a good place to park and a seat inside and have time to order your evening meal off the menu at the counter. 50/50 tickets to purchase. No admission price but a donation will be taken up to pay the band. Be looking for you there.

The Pike County Senior Citizens Center at 220 West Adams Street in Pittsfield will be holding their fundraiser fish fry on Thursday, Sept. 10, 4:30-6 p.m. The menu will be your choice of catfish fillet or buffalo with three set sides which will be potato salad, baked beans, fivecup salad, plus your choice of dessert and tea. Eat-in or carry-out. All ages are welcome. They thank you for your continued support. Questions? Please call 217-285-4969. They also have gift certificates available for any amount. 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 Sept. 2 - 8, 2026:

- Sept. 2 - Heather Burnett, Steve and Jennifer Cox
- Sept. 3 - Adah Helm, Thelma McGraw
- Sept. 4 - J.D. Blacketer
- Sept. 5 - Jerry Kirgan, Lorrie Hall
- Sept. 6 - Jane Dunham, Carl and Cindy Lawber
- Sept. 7- Linda Lipcamon, Shannon Ducey

Congratulations and best wishes to Madi and Tim Myers on their recent marriage.

SEPTEMBER DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, Sept. 5 - Big River Band -- Red Rooster Restaurant - menu to choose from - music starts at 6 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 10, Thursday - Pike County Senior Center fish fry - 4:30-6 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 19 - Big River Band - Pike County Senior Center - music starts at 6:30 p.m.

Carla and Gary Furniss of Barry are back home after doing quite a bit of traveling going to family to celebrate birthdays. They went to Oklahoma first where they enjoyed their son Scott, his wife Cathy, and their son, Aidan and wife, Tayrn, and children, Oakley and Mason. On Aug. 14, they celebrated the birthdays of Cathy and Tayrn. On Aug. 16, they celebrated Oakley's first birthday which was Aug. 14 and Mason's third birthday which was Aug. 17. Then Gary and Carla went to the St. Louis area which is the home of their son, Ryan, his wife Katie, and their children Carter and Milly. On Aug. 22, a family dinner was held and the birthdays of Ryan (July 23), Carter (July 26) and Milly (Aug. 4) were celebrated.

Jamie and Wyvetta were Quincy callers on Wednesday, Aug. 26. While there, we enjoyed eating a late breakfast at D's Diner which is a great place to eat.

Single Seniors + One had their "Meet, Greet, & Eat" on Thursday, Aug. 27, at Milkey's Restaurant in Barry with 26 people in attendance. Everyone had a good time and a good meal. The service and staff were great and extremely timely and efficient. Now is the thinking stage on what to do next month. Anyone interested in attending these once a month get-togethers, call 1-217-320-8438.

James and Amanda Niffen of Annada, Missouri, met his dad and step-mom, Jamie Niffen and Wyvetta Davis of New Salem for supper in Elsberry Aug. 28. Had a good meal and a good visit.

I would like to have an idea just how many of you read my PIKE TO PIKE NEWS' column. If you could let me know by either texting or giving me a short call at the number above, I would really appreciate it. Also if anyone has any news that they would like to share in this column, please call the number above.

I found this modern day version of "A Time for Everything" that the original is found in Ecclesiastes. Here are the next few of TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A TIME...

A time for starting new projects, and a time celebrating victories;

A time for employment, and a time for retirement;

A time for overtime, and a time for vacation;

A time for making hay, and a time for lying down on a stack of it to watch the clouds go by.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held at 11:00 A.M., September 10, 2026, at Pike County Courthouse at which time citizens may be heard on the property tax rates proposed to be set by Pike County. The tax rates shall be set to produce the revenues which the budget for the year 2027 shows to be required from the property tax rate. This rate is determined by dividing the amount of revenue required by the current assessed valuation. The result is multiplied by 100 so the tax rate will be expressed in cents per \$100 valuation.

Assessed Valuation (By Categories)	Current Tax Year 2026	Prior Tax Year 2025
Real Estate	\$188,249,870	\$181,981,270
Personal Property	\$87,384,007	\$85,909,886
Railroad & Utility	\$140,338,758	\$119,461,748
Total	\$415,972,635	\$387,352,904
Fund	Amount Property Tax Revenues Budgeted for 2027	Proposed Tax Rates for 2027 (per \$100)
General Revenue	\$1,295,754.76	0.3115
Special Road & Bridge	\$1,330,280.49	0.3198
Hospital Maintenance	\$900,996.73	0.2166
Senate Bill 40	\$819,050.12	0.1969
Total	\$4,346,082.09	1.0448
Surtax on Commercial Property	\$522,806.23	0.32

County Court of Pike County
By _____ Laura Stumbaugh _____

Pike County Clerk

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Obituaries



Frederick Melburn Fisher

Funeral services for Frederick Melburn Fisher, 88, of Perry, were at 11 a.m., Thursday at the Perry Christian Church with pastor Leanne Reed officiating. Burial followed in Fairview Cemetery in Frankford.

Visitation was Thursday from 10 a.m., until the time of the service at the church.

Mr. Fisher went to be with his Lord and Savior on Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2026 at Beth Haven Nursing Home in Hannibal.

Melburn was born Aug. 29, 1937 in Hannibal, the son of Solomon Frederick and Beulah Ardrey Fisher.

After graduating from high school in Frankford, Melburn served his country honorably in the Missouri National Guard for six years.

He married the love of his life, Eunice Marie Kaden, on March 18, 1962 at West Ely. They were happily married for 63 years until Eunice's death on May 21, 2025.

Melburn is survived by nieces and nephews, Pat Kuntz, Judy Lindsay and husband, Dale, Linda Raney and husband, Gary, Betty Scherder and husband, Bruce, Jim Kuntz and wife, Diane, Nancy Pilliard and husband, Dale, Debbie Hoshaw and husband, Kevin, Aaron Drebes and wife, Sheila, Melanie Bradford, Michael Kaden, Kelly Kaden, Larry Kaden and Chris Wellman, along with numerous great-nieces and -nephews, great-great-nieces and -nephews; other relatives and a host of friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters, Darlene Kuntz and Goldie Drebes, two brothers-in-law, Ferd Kuntz and Leo Drebes,

a nephew, Bob Kuntz, and great-niece, Darla Pilliard Boehm.

Melburn was a lifelong area resident who devoted much of his life to farming. He took great pride in working side by side with his wife, Eunice, whether on the farm or through the many other endeavors they shared throughout their 63 years of marriage.

Farming was an important part of Melburn's life. In 1967, he purchased a 320-acre farm near Stoutsville, where he raised crops and livestock. He was recognized as an Outstanding Young Farmer in Monroe County and served on the Monroe County Extension Council. Melburn was also deeply involved with the National Farmers Organization (NFO), serving in numerous leadership roles at the district, state, and national levels. His work with the NFO took him throughout the country and allowed him to build many lasting friendships. He was also proud to have helped build one of the first mechanical tractor pull sleds in the area.

Melburn was a lifelong believer in God, and his Christian faith was at the center of his life. He was very active in the church throughout his lifetime, serving in a number of positions and was willing to give his time wherever he was needed.

Away from his work and community involvement, Melburn enjoyed music and was an avid deer hunter. Above all, he treasured the life he built with Eunice and the many years they spent working together, traveling, serving their community, and enjoying life side by side.

Pallbearers were Dale Lindsay, Gary Raney, Bruce Scherder, Jim Kuntz, Dale Pilliard, Aaron Drebes, and Kevin Hoshaw.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Perry Christian Church or Fairview Cemetery, c/o Bienhoff Funeral Home P.O. Box 427, Perry, MO 63462.

Online condolences may be made at www.bienhoff-funeralhome.com.



Jacob Daniel Buckley

Jacob Daniel Buckley, 95, of Clarksville died Friday, Aug. 21, 2026 at his home.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m., Monday, Sept. 28, 2026 at Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana. The Rev. Nathan Adams will officiate.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m., until time of service at the funeral home.

Dan was born July 31, 1931 in Jacksonville, Ill., to Fred and Kathryn Chance Buckley.

He grew up in Blue Mound, Ill. During his high school years he moved to Pana, Ill., where he started working at his dad's monument company at age 16 and was later drafted into the Army on Feb. 14, 1952 serving in the Korean War. He was honorably discharged at the the rank of corporal on Feb. 8, 1954. After being discharged he came home to Pana, Ill., where he met the love of his life, Shirley Jane Hilton. They were married June 5, 1955.

Dan and wife, Shirley eventually settled in Clarksville with their three children, Kathy Weiss and husband, Gary Webber, Brian Buckley and Mindy Jensen and Scott Hipes. Dan and Shirley were married for 63 wonderful years before Shirley's death.

Dan also has four grandchildren, Travis Glascock and wife, Amanda, Alex Jensen and wife, Emily, Kim Walters and husband, Keith and Dakota Hipes and Noah Birk; and had 10 great-grandchildren, Blaine, Jacob, Sarah, Abram, Bradyn, Bailee, Owen, Haley, Allie and Grant.

After many business ad-

ventures including sand-blasting, cabinet sales, refrigeration, car restoration and sale, monument lettering and many more.

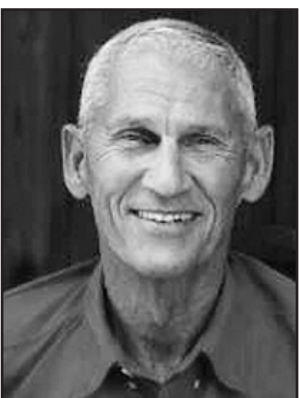
Dan was Lockmaster at Lock & Dam 24 for many years and retired after 30 years of federal service he retired in December of 1988. Even after retirement Dan would always be working on something. He was known for being the love of his family, being hard working and extreme knowledge of about every subject imaginable.

Dan was preceded in death by his loving wife of 63 years, his sisters and brother, Lorraine, Judith, and Dave, a daughter, Kathy Weiss, and a great-granddaughter Bradyn Jensen.

He loved the rewards of hard work, his family, and probably above all sitting on his porch enjoying the view.

Memorials can be made to Pike County Hospice.

Online condolences can be sent at collierfuneral.com.



Jim York, Sr.

Jim York, Sr., a lifelong educator, coach, photographer, Christian, and lover of animals, died Monday, Aug. 24, 2026, at Mercy Heart Hospital in St. Louis at the age of 84.

Born June 30, 1942, in Hannibal to Donald Lee and Leona Pennewell York. Jim returned to his beloved hometown of Louisiana, in 1970 and spent the rest of his life serving the community he loved.

Jim's family moved to Louisiana when he was in fifth grade, and he continued to attend the Louisiana schools, graduating from Louisiana High School in 1960. He graduated from Missouri Valley College in

Marshall in 1964 and began teaching history and coaching football and track in Lee's Summit.

In 1967, Jim started and developed the football program at Van-Far High School in Vandalia, Missouri.

In 1970, Jim brought his family home to Louisiana, where he served in various positions in the school district: teacher, coach, principal and later as a member of the board of education. He also worked in inside sales at Sonoco Paper Products and as harbor master at Two Rivers Marina before returning to his first love: education.

Jim met Peggy Calhoun while they were students at Louisiana High School. They were married on Aug. 1, 1964. Peggy survives.

Also surviving are their two children, Melinda Webert and James York, Jr., and wife, Carmen; five grandsons, Chase Webert and wife, Bela, James York III and wife, Kathleen, Quentin Webert and wife, Olivia, Jonathan York and wife, Megan, and Tyler York and wife, Sarah; and great-granddaughter, Estelle Louise York.

Jim is also survived by nieces and nephews, Susan Liter and husband, Jason, Kim Brown, Randee Wahlgren and husband, Rob, Joe Calhoun and Rich Eickelman; and great-nieces and nephews, Amanda Brown and Shelly, Payton Weber, Macy McCurdy, Maddie Christal and husband, Kamaron, Marli Liter, Alex and Sam Wahlgren, Brittain and Chance Sinroll, Matthew Calhoun, Kaeden Jenkins, Sona McDowell, Colin, Charlie and Archie Calhoun, and Sean Eickelman.

Preceding Jim in death were his parents, Don and Penny York; his in-laws, Joe and Eleanor Calhoun; his sister, Sudy Jenkins; his brother-in-law, David Jenkins; and his brother-in-law, Rockne Calhoun.

While Jim enjoyed all of his professions, he was especially proud of his career as a high school principal. He had great love and respect for the students and teachers. His students remember hear-

ing his shoes clicking in the halls, warning them that he was coming. They also remember "the snake bite," his special way of calling them to him by flexing two fingers. Jim was also known for wearing a suit and tie to school every day to show respect to his students and staff. When he retired, one student said, "But, Mr. York, what will you do with all your suits?"

Jim was an avid boater his entire life. Sharing the beauty of the Mississippi River with family and friends brought him immense joy. He spent many years running up and down the river with special friends the Bells, Harts, and Clarks, and in later years the Branstetters and Ballmanns. On any given day, you could find Jim at Two Rivers Marina cleaning on his boats. He especially enjoyed helping new boaters "learn the ropes" of boating on the river.

Jim was also a lover of all animals. There was no such thing as a stray animal to him. He and his dog, Wulf, were a familiar sight driving through the streets of Louisiana.

A visitation was held at Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana Friday from 4-7 p.m.

Funeral services were at Collier Funeral Home on Saturday at 10 a.m. A luncheon at the Keeley Center in Louisiana followed.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Louisiana Football Boosters Club or the Louisiana John Cotton Animal Shelter.

See OBITUARIES on page 6

EARLY DEADLINE THURSDAY, SEPT. 3 AT 10 A.M.

Labor Day

SALE

Woods Smoked Meats

1501 Business HWY 54 W Bowling Green

573-324-2247

HOLIDAY HOURS

AUG 31-SEPT 7

MON-FRIDAY 8:00-5:30

CLOSED SAT-MONDAY

Ground Beef Frozen Only \$5.69 for 1 lb. pkgs

Chuck Roast While supplies last \$8.95 lb.

Pork Steaks \$2.89 lb.

K.C. Strip Steaks \$14.00 lb. Buy 10 or more lbs \$13.99 lb

5 lb Porkburgers \$17.95 box

Fresh or Smoked Brats Mix & Match Buy 4 get 1 free

Snack Stick Ends and Pieces Buy 3 get 1 free

ALL SALES ARE IN-STORE ONLY • SALE RUNS AUG 31-SEPT 4

No pre-orders. | While supplies last.

Happy LABOR DAY!

Community News



Michelle Larson, Morgan Murry & Cheryl Ward



Michelle Larson, Nickki Stroud & Cheryl Ward



Cheryl Ward, Bryca Ince & Michelle Larson



Cheryl Ward, Kindell Robb & Michelle Larson



Danielle Robinson, Molly Oberneufemann & Amy Becker standing in for Becky Turner

Pike Retired School Personnel Hand Out Grants

Pike County Retired School Personnel had the privilege to hand out \$1,700 worth of grants recently to Pike County public school teachers.

Missouri Retired Teachers Foundation awarded \$1,500 to Pike County Teachers. Danielle Robinson, BGHS yearbook and photography teacher, received \$500 to buy new photography equipment. Molly Oberneufemann, BGE kindergarten teacher, received \$500 for oral reading books. Kindell Robb, BONCL third and fourth teacher, received \$500 for organizational materials for each student.

The Pike County Retired School Personnel unit also awarded a total of \$200 to the following: Becky Turner, BGMS, Nikki Shroud, Pike Lincoln Tech, Morgan Murry, Louisiana Elementary, and Bryca Ince, BONCL.

Free Breakfast The Morning Of Heritage Day At United Methodist

Begin your Heritage Day celebration with a free breakfast at the First United Methodist Church in Bowling Green, located at the corner of Church and Broadway Streets.

Pancakes, sausage, juice, and coffee will be served from 7:30-9:30 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 12. Everyone in the community is invited to attend.

This is the 13th breakfast the church has provided to the community through its Acts of Kindness ministry. Additional Acts of Kindness ministries the church supports includes providing a hygiene care box for the community, handing out candy and serving food during Halloween Trunk or Treat, providing children with Christmas gifts, assembling

personal hygiene kits, hosting blood drives, supporting Anne's Anchor, supporting the Every Child Every Day program, and providing food to the Hope Center.

The Methodist Church's mission is to reach out, as a community of believers in Jesus Christ, to all persons, to nurture them as Christian disciples, and to enable them to share with the world God's love and grace. The church welcomes everyone with open hearts, open minds, and open doors to their worship service each Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

To learn more about the First United Methodist Church in Bowling Green, visit the church's Facebook page at Bowling Green First United Methodist Church.



1ST ANNUAL



MEMORIAL CELEBRATION



WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 30, 2026
5:00 PM



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VISITORS' CENTER
18047 Business Highway 161
Bowling Green, MO 63334

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EARLY DEADLINE FOR LABOR DAY
THURSDAY - 10 A.M.

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Community News

OBITUARIES

Continued from page 4



Dale W. Menne

Dale W. Menne died Saturday, Aug. 22, 2026 while in Canada on a fishing trip. Dale W. Menne was born Aug. 8, 1956. The second son of Bernard W. Menne and Marilyn D. Twellman Menne. He grew up in Troy and attended Troy schools, graduating from Troy Buchanan High School in 1975. While in school, Dale met his first wife, Beverly Ann Thornhill. They were married on Oct. 16, 1976 by The

Rev. Zacher, and through that marriage they had two sons, Christopher Edward Menne, and Lance W. Menne. Bevi Ann, as Dale would refer to her, was called to heaven along with their unborn child. After which Dale started to date and then marry Beverly L. Havlik. They were married on Sept. 12, 1981. They had two sons, Jared D. Menne of Troy, and Bryce W. Menne. After graduating, Dale then attended Quincy Tech in Quincy, Ill., where he would receive his degree in electrical and refrigeration while working nights at UPS. Dale then came back to Troy where he became a silent partner in many businesses, one of the first being Briggs TV and Small Appliance Shop just off Main Street in downtown Troy with partner Howard Briggs. That is where Dale honed his customer skills and ability to as many would say "work on anything." While with Briggs TV and Appliance Shop, Dale had the TV

rental contract with the Troy hospital where he and The Rev. Zacher would walk the halls together. Dale would always say when he was with the reverend, he was told that he would need asbestos underwear if he did not change his ways. That same year he graduated from Quincy Tech, Dale started Menne's Refrigeration and Electrical. Later the name would streamline to Menne HVAC & Electric. Dale's familiar phrase when answering the phone was almost like a trademark "Yelloow, Menne's" was the greeting he gave to customers and friends alike. If you knew Dale, then you knew his true love for hunting and fishing. A love that had allowed him to travel throughout North America with many friends. Also, making four trips to Africa. Dale passed away on his last trip while in Canada. He was heard while at the main base of Rusty Myers Fly-in Service that this year marked 45 years since his

first trip with the "boys" from Iowa. One of many trips Dale would go on a year with best friend Mike McConahay. Dale could be found at every bait and tackle store to buy one or two of a special lure that was destined to catch the "big one". Dale also had a passion for farming, whether helping Lance in the fields with planting & harvest or Jared in the hay fields with cutting or raking his love for being outside was known. Dale also loved to travel on the many adventures with youngest son Bryce; from their trips to the gulf or going with Bryce to the beach for a family get away. He could also be found at the Lincoln County fair working throughout the years later carrying on with the watermelon eating contest. Dale was known for working hard and instilling those work ethics in his sons. He was also passionate about grandchildren. Dale leaves behind five grandchildren, Reagan Menne, Isabella Menne,

Avery Menne, Christopher Menne, and Anna Menne. Dale is also survived by his wife, Beverly Lynn Havlik Menne; son, Lance Menne and wife, Angie of Troy, son, Jared Menne and Drew Proir, Ashley Menne of Troy, son, Bryce and Jeanette of Troy; parents, Bernard and Marilyn Menne of Troy; older brother, Butch Menne and wife, Jeanette of Silex; a sister, Kay Bobeen and husband, Tracy of Troy; brothers from another mother as Dale would call them, Brad Danback and Darryl Mordt; sister-in-law, Liz Harrelson and husband, Brett of Bowling Green, Nancy Pieper and husband, Bill of Troy; and a brother-in-law, Mike Havlik of Silex. He is preceded in death by a son, Christopher Edward Menne, Beverly Ann Thornhill Menne and infant son, in-laws, Bob and Bertha Thornhill, and Henry and Betty Havlik, brother-in-law, Tom Havlik. Dale is also survived by countless nieces and

nephews. Countless walk-about friends, Mike McConahay, Rick Henke, Keith Sturm, Dennis McVey, Jim Price, and many more. "He was the best husband, father, grandfather, and friend anyone could ask for." Visitation will be from 2-8 p.m., Thursday at McCoy-Blossom Funeral Homes & Crematory, 1304 Boone St., Troy. A funeral service will be at 10 a.m., Friday at the funeral home with Pastor Jack Gillespie to officiate. Pallbearers will be Brad McConahay-Luke Shafer-Brad Danback-Nick Howard-William Menne-Dustin Harrelson-Dusty Thornhill and Mike Crouch. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to: (Troy FFA Alumni) for future scholarships, c/o the funeral home. Family and friends are invited to sign our online guestbook at: www.mccoy-blossomfh.com

Continued To Page 8

Hardworking Men & Women

Monday in September in all states and
Join these fine sponsors in saluting the
have a safe and happy Labor Day weekend!

Where did Labor Day come from?

On September 5, 1882, some 10,000 workers assembled in New York City to participate in America's first Labor Day parade. After marching from City Hall to Union Square, the workers and their families gathered in Reservoir Park for a picnic, concert, and speeches. This first Labor Day celebration was initiated by Peter J. McGuire, a carpenter and labor union leader who a year earlier co-founded the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions, a precursor of the American Federation of Labor.

McGuire had proposed his idea for a holiday honoring American workers at a labor meeting in early 1882. New York's Central Labor Union quickly approved his proposal and began planning events for the second Tuesday in September. McGuire had suggested a September date in order to provide a break during the long stretch between Independence Day and Thanksgiving. While the first Labor Day was held on a Tuesday, the holiday was soon moved to the first Monday in September, the date we continue to honor.

New York's Labor Day celebrations inspired similar events across the country. Oregon became the first state to grant legal status to the holiday in 1887; other states soon followed. In 1894, Congress passed legislation making Labor Day a national holiday.

For many decades, Labor Day was used by workers not only to celebrate their accomplishments, but also to air their grievances and discuss strategies for securing better working conditions and salaries. Nowadays, Labor Day is associated less with union activities and protest marches and more with leisure. For many, the holiday is a time for family picnics, sporting events, and summer's last hurrah.



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Classifieds

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

MOBILE HOMES

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

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

FOR RENT

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

MODERN MATUR-ITY BUILDING - Van-dalia - Family reunion, shower, birthday. Call Art Wiser, 594-3224. (tf)

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GEEKY HILLBILLY COMPUTER SERV-ICES LLC - B.G. com-puter repair & recycling, 573-324-7176, 573-567-6164.

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Fall Consignment Auction

Ashley, MO

Saturday, October 3rd

At 9:00 am

Now Accepting Consignments for
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We are seeking highly motivated/skilled individuals for:

Die Cast Operation - 2nd and 3rd Shift

Requirements:

- Strong mechanical/technical aptitude
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PUBLIC AUCTION

Friday, September 25, 2026 At 6:00 pm

Location:

Ashley Community Center, Ashley, MO

14087 Pike 496, Ashley, MO 63334

Directions: 6 Miles South of Bowling Green, MO,

Route 161, Corner of Pike Road 496 & 497

Watch for signs day of sale.

ABOUT 50 GUNS/PISTOLS

COINS - BANKS

KING KUTTER ITEMS - WINCHESTER ITEMS

VINTAGE BLACK AMERICANA

AUNT JERMIMA PIECES

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Photo ID Required to Purchase . . . FFL Rules Applied

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Louisiana
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TJenkins@ShelterInsurance.com



Frank Wallace

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

Community News

Obituaries

Continued from page 6



Ricky Ray Nation

Ricky Ray Nation, 61, of Vandalia died Sunday, Aug. 23, 2026, in Vandalia.

Funeral services were at 10 a.m., Saturday at Waters Funeral Home in Vandalia.

Visitation celebrating Ricky's life was from 5-7 p.m., Friday at the funeral home. The Rosary was recited at 6:30 p.m., during the visitation.

He was born April 6, 1965, in Mexico, the son of Marlin and Margaret Husted Nation.

Ricky worked for UPS for many years and also worked for Green Supply. Most recently, he delivered parts for Carquest.

A man of Catholic faith, Ricky attended St. Clement Catholic Church, where he was a distinguished member of the Knights of Columbus. Ricky was a member of the Knights of Columbus for 25 years and was honored as Knight of the Year in 1995.

Ricky enjoyed traveling to Alaska, where he especially loved taking photographs and capturing the beauty of the scenery. He was also an avid collector of toy tractors and had a special love for MOPAR.

He is survived by a son, Kylen Nation; Kylen's mother, Heather Workes; a sister, Brenda Nation Robson; nieces, Hope Robson and Indigo Robson; along with other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Marlin and Margaret Nation.

Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Clement Knights of Columbus in Ricky's memory.

Arrangements were under the direction of Waters Funeral Home.



September Library Book Review

Hunger Winter by Rob Currie (Juvenile Fiction)
Reviewed by Brenda Gower, Farber Branch Library Manager

Hunger Winter takes place in late 1944 in the Netherlands. The Nazis are expanding their empire, and the Allies are making headway, as well as the Resistance. The main character is Dirk who finds himself, at 13-years-old, solely responsible for his six-year old sister. His mother has passed away and his dad is a leader of the Resistance and is in hiding; the Gestapo has captured his older sister. The Nazis know who he is



Brenda Gower

and are searching for him and his younger sister. Can they make it across the Netherlands to safety?

War is a difficult subject to read about and it takes a

good author to bring it to life for younger readers. This story was a page-turner. It exposes the reader to the challenges of living at this time without the descriptive horrors of war, which World War II had a lot. This is a good book for a middle school reader, as well as an adult, to learn of another time.

I enjoyed this book and will give it a 5/5. There is also a sequel, Time for Courage, which I look forward to reading. Hunger Winter can be checked out at your Mexico-Audrain County Library.

Clowning Around With Purpose

What can juggling, mime and balloon animals teach young people about handling life's challenges? Quite a bit, according to University of Missouri Extension's 4-H Clown College, which uses clowning arts to help rural youths build confidence, resilience and healthy coping skills.

Launched in the summer of 2024, 4-H Clown College has reached youths ages 8 to 12 across Shannon, Reyn-

olds, Ripley, Carter and Oregon counties. Delivered in local schools, 4-H day camps, community clubs and vacation Bible schools, the initiative pairs traditional clowning arts with foundational social-emotional learning and mental well-being skills, says program creator Emily Doosing, MU Extension 4-H specialist.

Teen 4-H Ambassadors ages 13 to 18 assist in deliv-

ering the curriculum, providing near-peer mentorship throughout the program.

Participants explore key life skills, define personal boundaries, learn to respect the boundaries of others and establish boundaries to foster safety. Through activities like painting "Scribble Stones" and performing color-changing scarf magic tricks, members learn that differences strengthen communities, Doosing says.

Holiday Deadline Thursday - 10 a.m.

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30 Years of Caring

LYNN'S HERITAGE HOUSE, INC.
30th Anniversary Community Celebration

For 30 years, Lynn's Heritage House has been proud to serve seniors and families in our community.

Please join our residents, families, staff, healthcare providers, community partners, friends, and neighbors as we celebrate *three decades of caring, friendships, and memories.*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026
Grandparents Day & the Kickoff to Assisted Living Week
2:00 - 4:00 PM

Lynn's Heritage House, Inc.
800 Kelly Lane
Louisiana, Missouri 63353

REFRESHMENTS ANNIVERSARY CAKE TOURS MEMORIES FELLOWSHIP

Whether you have been part of our story for many years or would simply like to learn more about Lynn's Heritage House, *we would love to celebrate with you!*

30 YEARS • COUNTLESS MEMORIES • ONE VERY SPECIAL COMMUNITY

SPECIAL COW SALE

Callaway Livestock Center, Inc.

Kingdom City, MO

Thursday, Sept. 3

6 P.M.

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Schuster Farms - Blackwater

9 Bred Heifers

Black, large-frame, home-raised & gentle Bred to easy-calving Mead Angus bull

Start calving Sept. 20 for a 3-week window

Vaccinated for blackleg, respiratory, & vibrio/lepto

C-Bar

95 Bred Cows

Black or Black Whiteface

3-5 years old

Bred to registered Angus bulls

Start calving Sept. 15 for 45 days

McElwain

30 Bred Cows

Black

5-6 years old

Bred Angus

Due Oct. 1 for 60 days

Turnkey

45 Bred Cows

Black or Black Whiteface

3-4 years old

Bred Angus

Due starting Sept. 1

Arens

90 Bred Cows

Black or Black Whiteface, few Red

3-6 years old

Bred to Black bulls

Due starting Sept. 1

Burbank

15 Bred Heifers

Black, first-calf heifers

AI or naturally bred to Angus

Due Sept. 15

Approx. 1,100 lbs

Goldhammer

45 Bred Cows

Black, few Charolais

6-10 years old

Bred Angus

Start calving Sept. 20

Kruger

16 Pairs

Black, 3-4-year-old cows

Black 200-400 lb. calves by side

Rebred to Angus bulls

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