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SCHOLARSHIP FOR CASSVILLE, WHEATON SENIORS — PAGE 9A



<<< LADY TROJANS ENTER FINAL STRETCH

Southwest girls at 14 wins, have chance at conference hardware. — 1B

# CASSVILLE Democrat

FEBRUARY 4, 2026 | CASSVILLE-DEMOCRAT.COM

## New airport runway coming

Upgrade has life of 30 years, changes from asphalt to concrete

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com  
The Cassville Municipal Airport is set to undergo a runway replacement aimed at addressing long-term infrastructure needs while positioning the facility for future growth. "The project is a runway

### CASSVILLE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

**What:** Runway project  
**Goal:** New concrete runway instead of asphalt  
**Cost:** \$5.1 million total, with city covering \$250,000 of cost

replacement project, and it will also include the approaches on the east and west ends that are needed for planes after they land or get ready to take off," said Richard Asbill, Cassville

city administrator.

The existing asphalt runway has reached the end of its usable life, according to Asbill, despite years of maintenance.

"The long and short is we have an asphalt runway," Asbill said. "It has served the city well; however, it is in need of a lot of major repairs."

Asbill said asphalt runways naturally deteriorate over time and eventually require full replacement.

"Black asphalt cracks, and we've filled those cracks and

maintained it," he said. "But it has reached the end of life for an airport runway."

Because the airport is a municipal facility regulated by the Federal Aviation Administration through the Missouri Department of Transportation, inspections and compliance requirements limit renovation options. The project includes removing the asphalt surface entirely and replacing it with concrete, a move Asbill believes will reduce long-term

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### WILDCAT STADIUM

**What:** New lights incoming  
**Why:** Current lights pulling too many amps, causing safety concern  
**More:** Cost is \$212,000

## Friday night brights

Safety concerns force Cassville to upgrade Wildcat Stadium lighting

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com  
Cassville High School is moving forward with plans to upgrade stadium lighting, replacing the current system with LED fixtures to improve safety, efficiency, and long-term usability.

Marilyn Johnson, Cassville superintendent, said the move was the result of safety concerns, as the current lighting system was pulling more electricity than it was designed for, creating a fire or safety hazard.

"Each side of the stadium has its own transformer and breaker box," said Dusty Reid, director of facilities and operations for the Cassville School District. "The breaker box is designed for a 200-amp service. Over the years, the lights have been pulling a lot more electricity than they did when they were new." Reid said the aging lights were beginning to strain the electrical system.

"It's just getting old and it doesn't work like it was designed," he said. "There are lots of parts and pieces in the light with the capacitors and the transistors and all those components that start to get old."

Testing by Barry Electric revealed the lights were pulling significantly more power than the system was built to handle.

"Our current lights were pulling about 275 amps, which is way more than what the system was designed for," Reid said. "Barry Electric said we have two choices: upgrade the amount of electricity coming to the stadium, or decrease the amount of electricity we are using."

Johnson said the district had planned to replace the lights with LED fixtures as part of its capital projects planning, aiming to put it in a bond issue to voters next year.

"We just determined we couldn't wait that long," Reid said. "The breakers were getting hot, and there was a concern about power going out in the

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## Barry County sees sales tax surge in January

Another interest disbursement boosts local receipts

BY MURRAY BISHOFF

Special to the Cassville Democrat  
Sales tax revenues disbursed to Barry County cities and county government entities took a sharp rebound in January, wiping out almost all the red ink seen in December.

In addition, recipients took in

two years worth of interest from the Department of Revenue, a launch generated from tax received from July 2023 to June of 2025. It was an unprecedented second month of consecutive interest payments, compared to once or twice a year, adding \$54,171.36 to 35 different taxes collected in that two-year period, some of which have sunsetted.

The seven Barry County cities took in \$910,864.66 in January. Not counting the new police sales tax in Seligman, that represented a gain of 27%, besting the pandemic January peak of almost

\$794,000. Wheaton, Washburn, and Exeter fell short of last January's totals, two by slight margins.

Cassville hit a new January record for its 1% tax payment general bills, in part because the city also received its first disbursement of the sales tax on marijuana sales, also going into the general fund. The city received \$145,840.34, including interest, up \$40,603.64 from a year ago, breaking the old record of \$114,482.23 from January 2024 even without the additional marijuana sales

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3A

## 33rd Annual Share a Heart campaign underway

Fundraiser helps local families of ill and injured children

The annual Ronald McDonald House of the Ozarks Share a Heart Campaign kicked off its 33rd year on Jan. 29 at 70 McDonald's Restaurants in the Ozarks.

Customers are encouraged to support their local families by adopting paper hearts

### SHARE A HEART

**What:** Fundraiser for Ronald McDonald House  
**When:** Began Jan. 29, runs through end of February  
**More:** Cassville, Rocky Comfort families have used Ronald McDonald House in last year

for \$1, \$5 or \$20. Supporters may enter a social media contest by posting a selfie with their heart(s) on Facebook, @RMHC.Ozarks, for a chance to win one of four \$250 Great Southern Bank MasterCard gift cards.

For 31 days, through the end of February, 100% of Share a Heart proceeds will support families of seriously ill and injured children supported by Ronald McDonald House. To recognize the impact of the Houses on their community members, more than 40 mayors — including Cassville Mayor Jon Horner — in the participating region are being asked to support the campaign by proclaiming February 9-15 "Ronald McDonald House Week" in their towns. McDonald's of

Cassville will proudly participate in the Share a Heart Campaign.

It's hard to imagine receiving the devastating news of a child's serious illness or injury. The Ronald McDonald House was built on the simple idea that nothing else should matter when a family is focused on the health of their child.

Families stay together, near the hospital, and are fully supported during the most difficult times of their lives.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2A

COVERING BARRY COUNTY, MO., LIKE THE MORNING DEW SINCE 1871.

## LOCAL

## NEWS BRIEFS

## Democratic Central Committee

## meeting scheduled

The Barry County Democratic Central Committee will meet on Feb. 11 at 6 p.m. at the Eagle Rock Fire Station, located at 30625 St. Hwy 86 in Eagle Rock. Sheriff Danny Boyd is the special guest.

## Book collection now at Bayless-Salyer house

The Barry County Genealogical and Historical Society book collection is now located at the Bayless/Salyer house on the corner of 9th and Townsend streets, behind the Post Office. This collection includes genealogical and historical information on states (including Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma), immigration and migration, the Revolutionary War, Civil War, WWI, WWII, Native Americans and African Americans. It also has a vast collection of local family histories. The research room is open Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For all other times, people may call Norma Terry at 417-827-6585, or Lynna Spellman at 417-827-9676.

## Corsicana Road District to meet

The Corsicana Special Road District will meet in regular session on Tuesday at 7 p.m., at the home of Garry and Pam Bartkoski, located at 5086 Farm Road 2057 in Monett. The public is welcome to attend.

## Voter registration ongoing for April elections

For those who are not current registered voters of Barry County and who wish to vote in the April 7 General Municipal Election, the last day to register to vote is Wednesday, March 11, 2026. People may register to vote at the County Clerk's Office or the Monett Chamber of Commerce. Registered voters should notify the Clerk's Office of any change of address or name. Photo ID is required to vote in the April General Municipal Election. Absentee voting is ongoing at the Barry County Clerk's Office in Cassville, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Two-week in-person, no-excuse absentee voting begins March 24. If unable to vote in person, voters may send a written request to the office of: Joyce Ennis, 700 Main St. Suite 2, Cassville, MO 65625, or fax to: 417-847-5311. The Office will need: name, physical address, mailing address, date of birth, last four digits of Social Security number, phone number, reason for voting absentee and signature. Those who live in the Monett area may go by the Monett Chamber Office and fill out the absentee application. They will fax it to the Barry County Clerk's office. Absentee applications are also available at sos.mo.gov. For more information, people may call the Barry County Clerk's Office at 417-847-2561, opt: 3, or email jennis@barrycountyclerk.com or ajohnson@barrycountyclerk.com.

## Cassville Farmers' Market open on Saturdays

The Cassville Farmers Market is open weekly on Saturdays on the Barry County Courthouse Square, from 8 a.m. to noon. Vendors are offering eggs, vegetables, hand-made crafts, baked goods and more. Those interested in becoming a vendor may contact Chad Sprinkle at 417-846-3539.

## Lessons offered before Seligman's Saturday dances

The Seligman Chamber of Commerce country dances at the Seligman Chamber Event Center are every Saturday from 7-10 p.m. No alcohol is allowed. Admission is \$10 per person, and 18-and-under are free. There is a potluck, 50-50 drawing and door prizes. Free dance lessons will also be given from 5-6 p.m. For more information, people may call 479-903-3640.

## OATS rides available in Barry County

OATS Transit offers regular transportation services for the rural general public of any age, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. People may call the local OATS Transit office at 417-887-9272 or 800-770-6287 to schedule a ride or find out about services in the Barry County area. People may also visit the OATS website at oatstransit.org to view local schedules under "Bus Schedules," then click on the county of service. OATS Transit is hiring drivers statewide to continue serving riders. Openings are listed on the OATS website.

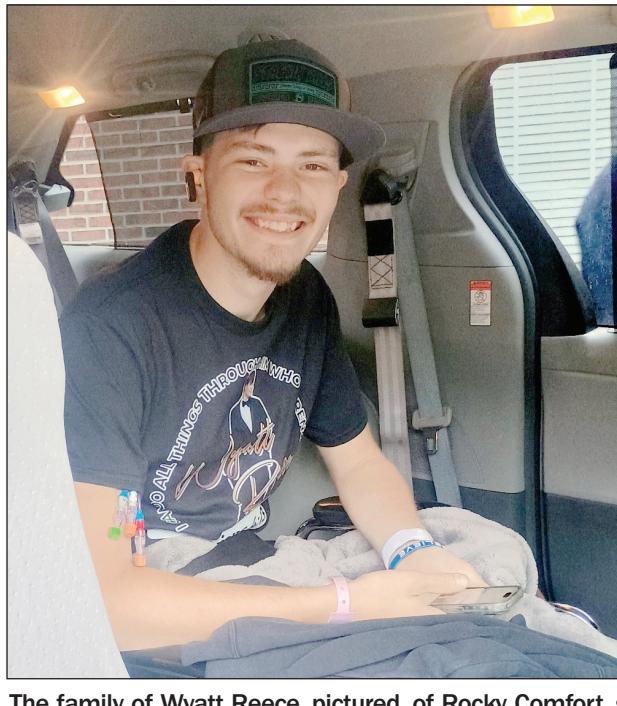


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The family of Wyatt Reece, pictured, of Rocky Comfort, stayed in the Ronald McDonald House after he was in an accident that left him on life support for eight days, resulted in a below-the-knee amputation and caused multiple fractures in his leg and back. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com



## Heart: Cassville, Rocky Comfort families benefit

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Worries about where to sleep and eat disappear and a huge financial burden is lifted. On-site staff is available 24/7.

On any given night, up to 24 families are staying at Springfield's two Ronald McDonald Houses, most traveling far from home for medical treatment. The Ronald McDonald House near Cox South Hospital has 14 bedrooms and has welcomed families for over 37 years, and the 10-bedroom Ronald McDonald House at Mercy Kids has helped families for 13 years.

Houseguests receive meals and snacks, laundry facilities, transportation to hospitals, and support from volunteers and staff who truly care. The most needed and appreciated benefit is families sharing hope, comfort and a true understanding of having an ill or injured child.

More than 17,400 families have benefited from Springfield's Ronald McDonald Houses, including 882 Barry County families, 207 of which are residents of Cassville. Profiles of families that stayed at the Ronald McDonald House in the past year will be displayed at the local McDonald's Restaurants, including Cassville's, owned and operated by Daphne Simpson. For a video tour of both Houses, family testimonials, and more information, visit <https://rmhczoarks.org>.

### Local families' testimonies

The Verde family is one of many from Cassville that has utilized the Ronald McDonald House.

Elizabeth Rose was born in November of 2023, she was diagnosed with Dandy-Walker malformation and hydrocephalus and needed life-saving medical intervention. When she was born, she was taken straight to the NICU, where the doctors and nurses were wonderful in caring for her.

Elizabeth was on and off life support, battling

seizures, and required multiple medications. With so much uncertainty surrounding how long she would need major medical care, the NICU team helped get the Verde family set up at the Ronald McDonald House.

"The NICU nurses and doctors were absolutely wonderful," the family's testimony said. "We ended up staying for almost two months, including all three holidays. Our family is so thankful to have had the Ronald McDonald House as our home away from home. They helped us celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's, all while never having to leave our sweet baby alone—providing for our every need. During such hard and uncertain times, they created comfort, kindness, and joyful spaces for our children."

"Our family will never forget what the Ronald McDonald House did for us, and we will forever be thankful."

Another family benefitting from the Ronald McDonald House is the Reece family, of Rocky Comfort.

Jindy Reece's son, Wyatt, was in an accident that left him on life support for eight days, resulted in a below-the-knee amputation and caused multiple fractures in his leg and back.

"The first three days, we stayed at the hospital in a waiting room," Jindy Reece said. "We had our other two children with us, along with a host of family and friends. A social worker stepped out and asked if we had thought about staying at the Ronald McDonald House. That was honestly the last thing on our minds. Our social worker helped us apply, and it took us less than an hour to be approved."

"When we walked into the Ronald McDonald House, we were met with smiling faces. Our children were given gifts, and we were given a change of clothes and new socks. It may seem small, but we hadn't planned any of this. We



The family of Elizabeth Rose Verde stayed in the Ronald McDonald House after she was diagnosed with Dandy-Walker malformation and hydrocephalus and needed life-saving medical intervention. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

didn't have time to pack. When your child could exit this world at any given moment, you aren't going to travel anywhere to get extra clothes."

Reece said the family was shown to their room, and it was extremely comfortable.

"We were given extra blankets, pillows and toiletries," she said. "We could actually shower! The next week, we were provided with an amazing dinner every night, along with snacks for our kiddos. In between visiting hours, our younger children could play on the playground or watch movies."

Reece said the family woke up Easter morning preparing for yet another surgery for Wyatt, not even remembering that it was, in fact, Easter Sunday.

"When we opened the door to leave, we came face to face with two Easter baskets full of

## CORRECTIONS

In the Jan. 28 edition, two event dates were incorrect. The Valentine Shop & Hop in Cassville is on Thursday, Feb. 5, and the Purdy High School Homecoming ceremony is on Friday, Feb. 6. The *Cassville Democrat* corrects factual errors or clarifies information promptly and courteously. If you have a correction or clarification, please email Publisher Kyle Troutman at [ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com](mailto:ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com).

## CASSVILLE Democrat

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FIBER NETWORK

## Taxes: Seligman January return up nearly \$1K

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tax. Cassville's use tax also inched up, receiving \$27,936.51, up almost \$2,000 from a year earlier, after going up more than \$700 from 2024.

Monett showed a similar gain without the addition of a new tax. Monett's two taxes supporting the general fund at 1% generated \$216,523.35, including interest. That was up \$35,577.46 from a year ago, but not quite over the pandemic peak of almost \$221,000 in 2023. It was the first gain in three months and enough to wipe out any drops in the second half of 2025. Both the retired sales taxes paying off the city swimming pool and the police station combined brought in almost \$1,000 in interest. Monett's use tax in January brought in a hefty \$54,590.83 in interest, down \$2,436.19

from last January.

Seligman's 1% tax supporting its general fund produced \$11,990.27, up \$988.81 from last January. That was also a January record, up more than \$400 over the 2023 pandemic peak, the first gain in three months and enough to wipe away the December dip. Seligman's use tax produced another \$6,718.15 with interest, up \$2,148.01, or 47%, from a year ago.

Purdy's 1% tax for its general fund yielded \$4,362.90 with interest, a gain of \$1,033.16 from last January. It was the fourth consecutive monthly gain for Purdy, still well below the \$8,380 sum receiving in January 2023.

Wheaton saw its 1% general fund tax generate \$4,297.10 with interest, a drop of a mere \$12.45 from last

January. Wheaton's half-cent transportation tax was back to its old tricks, yielding only 46% of the one-cent tax instead of 50%, incurring a \$340.61 decline. Wheaton's use tax, with interest, added another \$949.46 to city coffers, down \$724.95 from a year ago.

Washburn's 1% general fund tax produced \$2,226.42 with interest, a drop of \$267.28, the fourth consecutive monthly drop. Washburn's use tax, with interest, added \$3,278.72 to city funds, up \$825.01 from last January, a gain big enough to erase drops in all three Washburn sales taxes.

Exeter's 1% tax paying general bills received \$1,852.59 in January, down \$1,468.32 from a year ago, the fourth drop in five months.

Barry County's four countywide taxes all logged significant gains for the month. The two older half-cent taxes supporting the general fund and road maintenance each generated about \$231,080 with interest, up by more than \$27,000, or 13%, from a year ago. That topped the pandemic peak in 2023 of more than \$229,000. Barry County's use tax revenue was almost identical to last year, receiving \$177,525.10 with interest. Not counting interest, that was a gain of a little over \$300.

The separate .375% tax supporting 911 and central dispatching received \$178,558.77 with interest. That was up \$20,258.76 from a year ago and over the pandemic peak from 2023 by more than \$6,000.

## Lights: Brightness on field to be NCAA standard

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

middle of an event."

Reid emphasized the long-term benefits of switching to LED.

"I'm glad we're going to LED," he said. "It's the future of stadium lighting. Within 5-10 years, we will not be able to get a light bulb for our football field. Metal halide bulbs with mercury vapor are no longer being shipped overseas because of tariffs."

Cassville awarded the LED project to Qualite, a company recommended by other school districts in the region, at a price tag of \$212,557.

"Joplin High School has used Qualite and has always been very pleased with the product and the customer service," Reid said. "We were comfortable using them after we heard that as well."

The project comes at a reduced cost, with a 25-year warranty on the new fixtures.

"The bid was \$217,000, but we got a \$5,000 discount right off the bat," Reid said. "We get better lighting, a better warranty and a better price."

Two other bids came from Musco, at \$240,000, and Geotech, at \$266,850.

Once installed, the LED system is expected to meet higher standards of field illumination.

"High school football usually recommends 30 candlefoot," Reid said. "NCAA football is 50

"High school football usually recommends 30 candlefoot. NCAA

football is 50 candlefoot. We are going with 50 candlefoot lights to make sure there are no dark spots or shadows. We want it to look like we made a good decision."

**DUSTY REID, DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS**

On lighting changes coming soon to Wildcat Stadium

candlefoot. We are going with 50 candlefoot lights to make sure there are no dark spots or shadows. We want it to look like we made a good decision."

The upgrade includes the practice field as well as the main stadium and parking lot, using the existing four light poles.

"This is called a retrofit project," Reid said. "We're not adding any new poles. We're using the existing poles for the field, parking lot and practice field."

Reid said the change will also reduce energy use significantly.

"I expect it to be well over half," he said. "We may drop down to 35-40% of what we're using right now. That will also lower our bill."

The district anticipates approximately 300 hours of use per year per fixture, though final energy savings will be determined after installation.

The old lights will be retained for parts or possible use on the baseball field, Reid said.

free programmable light shows.

"When the home team scores a touchdown or players run out on the field, the lights can do different things," Reid said. "We stuck with the free eight and did not choose to spend extra on different colors — just going white. With only four poles, the light shows will all look the same."

Reid said the upgrade will modernize the stadium while keeping the project cost-effective.

"With the new LED lights, we're addressing a safety concern, reducing energy use and preparing for the future," he said.

## Barry County

### Health Corner



#### Safe sleep program available

The Barry County Health Department hosts free safe sleep education sessions for new and expecting parents and caregivers. These events provide hands-on demonstrations, expert guidance, and even free portable cribs for families in need that meet certain requirements.

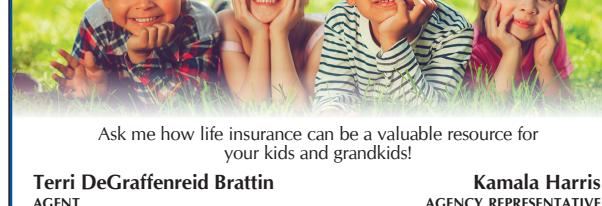
Every year, thousands of infants in the U.S. lose their lives due to sleep-related incidents, including Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and accidental suffocation. However, by following safe sleep recommendations, these risks can be significantly reduced.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends placing babies on their backs for both naps and nighttime. Infants should sleep alone on a firm, flat surface, such as a crib or bassinet with a fitted sheet, and without soft bedding, pillows, or stuffed toys. By keeping the baby's sleep area in the same room as caregivers for at least the first six months can also lower the risk of sleep-related deaths.

If you have any questions regarding the Barry County Health Departments Safe Sleep program please give us a call at 417-847-2114.

*Publisher's note: This article is courtesy of Barry County Health Department, located at 90 Barry County Drive in Cassville. The Department may be reached at 417-847-2114.*

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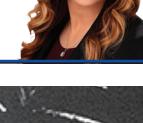
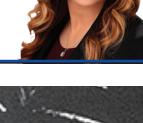
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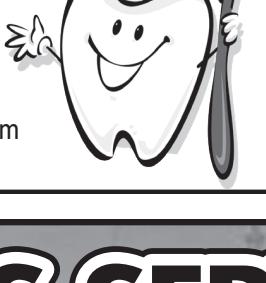
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# COMMENTARY

## PUBLISHER'S VIEW



KYLE TROUTMAN

## Lighting update long overdue

It's only February, but I'm excited for the fall. The Cassville school district is moving forward with a lighting update at Wildcat Stadium — a long overdue one in my opinion.

I've been shooting Cassville football games every year since 2014, and though the scoreboard has been updated since then, the lights have been the same for more than a dozen years.

The district had planned to upgrade the lights in two years, as they were included in the list of projects in a bond issue being developed for voters in April 2027. However, the school board members' hands were slightly forced by safety concerns.

The age of the lights was beginning to show, as they were pulling more electricity than the breaker boxes were designed to carry. This resulted in the boxes getting hot, which could present a potential fire hazard.

Barry Electric assessed the situation and advised the district to act "sooner rather than later." Avoiding a potential fire, or the lights failing in the middle of a football game, is a wise decision given the circumstances.

Cassville awarded the LED project to Qualite, a company recommended by other school districts in the region, including Joplin High School, at a price tag of \$212,557.

The switch from metal halide and mercury vapor to LED will serve a couple purposes. First, the current light bulbs are tied up in tariff issues, making them difficult to obtain. Second, LED lights will give an energy savings, hopefully cutting the district's electric use by more than half.

The old lights may also be reused, as the baseball field uses the same type of bulbs.

With the change to LED, lighting on the football field should see a boost, as the purchase will give 50 candlefoot, which is NCAA football stadium standard lighting. A term I had never come across to my knowledge, a foot-candle is a unit of light intensity measuring illuminance cast on a surface, defined as one lumen per square foot. It represents the brightness on a surface on foot away from a candle source.

I don't actually own a light meter, but I do know the aperture and shutter speed settings on my camera and will be able to tell instantly if the new lights make a significant difference.

The middle of a football field is always the brightest, but I hope this change will illuminate the end zone a little bit more. Even on my best setting, with the Wildcats wearing black at home, the corners of the end zones can be so dark it's hard to get a good late-game touchdown shot that's not terribly dark.

I have shot football at countless stadiums across the region and state. If I'm being honest, Monett is the best place to shoot lighting-wise, but the reflectivity of the turf in Monett also gives an unfair advantage.

When I was editor at The Monett Times from 2014-2022, I usually shot at least one Piece City game each year. Lighting on that field was probably better measured in candletoes. It was incredibly tough to get non-blurry photos with how dark that stadium was.

I'm hoping the upgrade at Cassville will give me more to work with, which will result in crisper photos under the Friday Night Lights, and better quality shots in the printed edition of the paper.

While the field is a focus, the new lights will also illuminate the parking lot, as well as a whole new area — the practice field. I am curious to see if there will be more youth playing in that area during games, as it was exceptionally dark down there with no lighting before.

Finally, the new lights come with a series of eight light shows. Since we only have four light poles, the light shows will all look the same. Still, it is a new feature that will add an air of excitement to when the Wildcats bust through the banner and when they score touchdowns.

Though the district had to make the change earlier than planned, I can't wait to get that first celebration photo and video under the new lights on Friday nights!

*Kyle Troutman has served as editor of the Cassville Democrat since 2014 and owner/publisher since 2023. He is a three-time ISWNE Golden Dozen award winner. He may be reached at 417-847-2610 or ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com.*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The purpose of the Commentary page is to provide a forum of various opinions, and we highly encourage letters to the editor. The opinions of columnists are not necessarily shared by the Cassville Democrat or its staff. If you have an opinion, send a letter to Kyle Troutman, Cassville Democrat, P.O. Box 486, Cassville, MO 65625, email [ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com](mailto:ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com) or scan the QR code to the right to submit a letter online.



## COMMUNITY VOICES

### Feeling blue in the bleak mid-winter? Try a mini-gratitude moment

By the time February settles into our Ozark hills, winter has a way of leaning on us.

The sky turns a dependable shade of gray, the roads look tired, and even our coffee seems to need encouragement. It is the season when motivation can tend to hibernate. Frigid weather shows up abruptly on our doorsteps with force and a will of its own in the form of snow. It might be light and lovely, or potentially heavy and icy enough to keep us tucked inside our homes for days at a time.

And yet, during this cold season I am reminded that we do not have to wait for spring to feel alive again. Sometimes, all it takes is a mini-gratitude moment, which is essentially a deliberate pause to notice something good, small, and right there in front of us.

A mini-gratitude moment might be as simple as stepping outside on a clear night and letting the stars interrupt your worries. Bundle up, tuck your hands into your coat pockets, and look up. The sky is extravagant in winter. It offers quiet proof that beauty still exists even when the ground looks frozen and uninviting. Maybe your mini-gratitude moment comes from flipping through seed catalogs and visualizing a garden that could emerge next summer. Winter does not have to be about hibernation. It can be about gentle activation.

In my own small winter ritual, I fill the bird feeders. I enjoy the few seconds of silence before the flutter begins. Then, as if they have been standing in a line I cannot see, the birds arrive. They are eager, grateful and unashamed of their need. Winter has taken away their easy access to food, so when it appears, they do not hesitate. They come quickly, fully and with purpose. Watching the birds can echo a reminder of the way I think about hunger, not just for birds, but for people.

Feeding the birds is, in many ways, like feeding the hungry. There are multiple reasons that our neighbors may be facing obstacles to having access to adequate nutrition. Some causes can include unemploy-



JANET MILLS

ment, illness, loss of income, rising prices or caregiving for young children when daycare is not affordable. The consequence of these challenges can make having enough food to eat an obstacle instead of a given.

Hunger comes as an unannounced quiet voice of suffering. It usually whispers through skipped meals, watered-down soup, or a parent who insists they are "not that hungry" so their child can eat. Like the birds in winter, many families have fewer easy options than we imagine to source their dinner tables.

As the director of Cassville Pantry, I witness in the lives of our neighbors how foundational food truly is. Being fed is not a luxury. Having a full stomach, starting with something to eat for breakfast is the first brick in the building of one's day. Without it, productivity, learning, healing, and hope all struggle to emerge. When someone has enough to eat, they have energy to work, patience to parent, focus to learn, and strength to recover. A box of groceries is never just groceries. It is a quiet restoration of purpose and possibility.

This is where mini-gratitude moments turn outward. One might consider making a pot of chili or soup and delivering it to someone who is elderly, recovering from illness or simply unable to get out easily in winter. Another outreach could include making a phone call, writing a handwritten note, or offering to pick up someone's groceries. Gratitude grows best when it is shared.

Winter invites us to cultivate even while the ground sleeps. We can cultivate projects, friendships, and compassion. We can activate instead of isolate. We can remember that community is not built only in sunshine, but in how we show up for one another when the days feel heavy and the nights feel long. Feeding the birds reminds me that kindness does not have to be complicated. It just has to be consistent.

There is a quiet joy in helping someone survive a winter day. Not in a dramatic, headline-worthy way, but in the ordinary miracle of a meal or through a supportive conversation. By touching our neighbors in small ways, we are taking baby steps in strengthening a whole community. When one person is seen, acknowledged and supported, we all stand a little steadier.

As I watch the birds scatter seeds across the frigid ground, I am reminded of simple truths and an invitation calling out to care for our neighbors in ways that are practical and heartfelt. Giving works best when it flows from an authentic, heartfelt desire rather than from obligation.

Scripture puts it this way: "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7.

In Colossians 3:12 we are encouraged, "As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience," and 3:14, "Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony."

If you are feeling blue in the bleak mid-winter, try a mini-gratitude moment. Look up. Plan ahead. Share a meal. Call a neighbor. Feed a bird. You may discover that winter did not steal your joy at all, it simply invited you to practice it more intentionally.

*Janet Mills is the director of Cassville Pantry, located at 800 W. 10th St. in Cassville. She may be reached at [cassvillepantry@gmail.com](mailto:cassvillepantry@gmail.com) or 417-846-7871.*

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

**"The NICU nurses and doctors were absolutely wonderful. We ended up staying for almost two months, including all three holidays. Our family is so thankful to have had the Ronald McDonald House as our home away from home. They helped us celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's, all while never having to leave our sweet baby alone—providing for our every need. During such hard and uncertain times, they created comfort, kindness, and joyful spaces for our children. Our family will never forget what the Ronald McDonald House did for us, and we will forever be thankful."**

— VERDE FAMILY ON THEIR STAY AT THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

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**50 years ago****Feb. 11, 1976****- CAMPBELL POINT DOCK SOLD TO IOWA FAMILY**

What was once known as Cassville's Campbell Point Boat Dock on Table Rock Lake in the early days of the reservoir has been sold by Rex Halterman and sons Russ and Dan to an Iowa family. The new owners effective March 1 will be Mr. and Mrs. Don L. Williams and three sons. The Williams family, which has also purchased residential property in Crestwood West, were Iowa residents seven and one-half years, where he was a school administrator. They are natives of the Wichita, Kansas area. Mr. Halterman, a retired Jumping-Jacks Shoe Co. executive, and sons have announced no future plans. They all reside in Aurora. With the take-over date, the Williams will become operators of the 92-slip facility located about midway in the reservoir. Campbell Point is on Route YY east of Shell Knob. Also involved in the operation is a motor sales and service marina and office dock. Campbell Point was first developed in a sheltered cove off the main White River channel by Mr. and Mrs. Glen Hall of Cassville. The facility became operational in 1960. The Haltermans acquired the dock in 1963. Williams said this week the three sons, ages 17 to 22, would be associated in the business. He said two long-time employees, Denny Leach and Fred Roller, would also remain. The fishing, boating and recreation area is among the area's leaders annually in Army Corps of Engineer accounting of tourist numbers.

**- TABLE ROCK LAKE HOLDS MOST POPULAR CORPS SPOT**

With an 11 percent attendance increase over 1974, Table Rock Lake again led Army Corps of Engineer reservoirs in the Little Rock, Ark., district. Corps figures had 6,188,100 visitors compared to 5,519,000, which represents a 597,100 increase in people. Of the reservoir total, six public use facilities in the Cassville area contributed nearly one-half million. Corps figures on the use areas are more accurate these days, since each is staffed during the season for collection of fees and regulation of the camping, picnicking, swimming and boating areas. Breakdowns furnished by Groves' office had the Eagle Rock area in front with 135,273 visitors, with Campbell Point in second with 81,347. Others in this area included: Viola 69,176, Big M 68,889, Viney Creek 30,357 and Kings River 26,211. Boat dock facilities are located at the leading areas of Viola, Big M, Eagle Rock and Campbell Point. The remaining use areas have launching, camping, swimming and picnic facilities. Table Rock's nearest rival for the leadership spot was Bull Shoals Lake with 4,385,700, but a larger percentage of increase, 19 percent. Next in line was Norfork Lake with 3,592,700 for a 12 percent increase. Both of these reservoirs are mainly in Arkansas. Beaver Reservoir, just south of the Missouri-Arkansas line, attracted 3,179,000 visitors, but had a decline of nine percent compared to 1974. Overall, projects in the Little Rock district attracted 29.3 million, for a nine percent increase over the 1974 figure of 26.9 million. "Table Rock, located in the heart of the Ozarks, has consistently led the district's lakes in attendance," said the report. The reservoir holds high ranking in southwest regional attractiveness each year. Groves notes attendance at Corps parks is determined by roadside interviews and from traffic counters at entrance roads. The

interviews also help in determining which recreation activities are participated in by visitors. In this department, fishing was the most popular recreation attraction last year, followed closely by sightseeing. Forty percent of the almost 29.3 million visitors came to the Corps parks primarily because of the reputation they enjoy as good fishing areas. Other activities in order of popularity included swimming, camping, boating and picnicking. After the 1975 recreation season, a number of parks were either partially or completely closed. Col. Edgar said the off-season cutback allows the parks to revegetate and enabled the Corps to rehabilitate areas where overuse had worn ground cover and caused deterioration of other facilities. It also helped reduce operating costs and saved on the use of fuel and electricity. Scheduled spring dates for reopening the parks for the 1976 recreation season will be published later. Growth figures for the six areas over the past few years are as follows: Comparison year figures for the six areas previous to 1975, with 1971 through 1974 listed in this order, included: Campbell Point, 129,921, 135,709, 84,975, 67,501; Big M 97,857, 74,734, 58,727, 74,956; Eagle Rock 94,004, 158,841, 125,568, 117,046; Viola 83,278, 68,840, 58,202, 84,514; Viney Creek 34,736, 46,709, 40,361, 37,861; Kings River 4,805, 11,441, 9,432, 6,338.

**40 years ago****Feb. 12, 1986****- SELIGMAN BY-PASS, BRIDGE IN STATE HIGHWAY PROJECT LIST**

Seligman by-pass and bridge projects before the Missouri Highway and Transportation Commission Friday were approved, district engineer Joseph Mickes said Monday. Processes on both projects would begin immediately, the district official in Joplin said. Elimination of a confining bridge on the present Highway 37 location in the city of Seligman will be made possible when the commission separated that project out of the overall plan to rebuild and relocate Highway 37. Mickes said once the city had secured right-of-way needs, fill requirements were met and other details, the project could be started this year. A September-October contract letting might be possible. Highway plans are to shift the curve approaches to the bridge, eliminating this unsafe condition. Both private and railroad easements on right-of-way will be necessary. Mickes said some private interests had indicated their approval of the project. It is not the policy of the department to pay for right-of-way in projects of this type. Mickes said the project was in the state's plans since the route would remain in the Missouri system when a new Highway 37 was built. The bridge area will become part of Route DD. The by-pass of Seligman by Highway 37 in the future was also approved by the commission. The project will become part of an extensive improvement project on the route from Cassville to the Missouri-Arkansas line. The action is a reversal of action by the commission two years ago that eliminated the improvement from just north of Seligman to the state line. Original decisions by the commission came after opposition was expressed in public hearings. Later urgings by Seligman area petitions reversed the attitude of the community and ultimately the highway administrators. Mickes said a design hearing on the by-pass, expected to cost \$5 million including bridge requirements, would be

# THROUGH THE YEARS



**30 YEARS AGO: EXETER COWGIRL FINISHED SHOW YEAR WITH TOP HONORS** — Kacy Harper, Exeter, finished the 1995 Sho-Me Horse Association show year with honors for herself and her three horses. Ma Solid Rock, pictured on the left, is a grand champion in walkin and a reserve champion in western pleasure. PoCo, middle, finished with a third in barrels and poles. Kacy's pony, Ms. Cherry Ann, finished the year as high point pony, capturing first place in walk-trot, western pleasure, barrels and poles. Kacy is the 9-year-old daughter of Jerry and Sue Harper. She is a member of Barry County E-Z Riders. Democrat file photo

held probably in July or August. The highway official said the project would be at least three years in the future. "Final plans, acquiring right-of-way and other phases will come first," Mickes said. North segments of the project, from the four-way stop west of Cassville to just north of Seligman, are scheduled to be under contract in 1986. Highway plans for making the bridge improvement in Seligman will be accomplished through private contractors. Mickes said a start in September was possible. The engineer said municipal officials and residents of Seligman had been extremely helpful in getting the by-pass of Highway 37 reconsidered by the commission. Citizen input was instrumental in having the bridge and curve project opened and planned by the state highway department.

**- SCHOOL DANCE ISSUE BEFORE PURDY BOARD**

The Purdy R-II board of education held its regular monthly meeting on Monday. After routine monthly board business, the board of education voted to certify the recent bond issue election results from County Clerk Rex Stumpff. Of 685 votes cast, there were 528 yes votes and 157 no votes. The percentage of yes votes in the election was 77. The board expressed their deep appreciation to the district patrons who overwhelmingly supported the proposed bond issue. The board is hopeful that construction can begin on the project by the middle of April. Under new business, the Board of Education heard a presentation by Mike Flummerfelt representing a group of district patrons who were requesting that the board of education change its existing policy which does not allow school sponsorship of dances. After an extensive question and answer session, the R-II Board of Education decided to take the matter under advisement and study the information provided to them by the group. In other action, Mrs. Joan Fox addressed the board of education and asked for a clarification of the duties of public school board members.

**30 years ago****Feb. 7, 1996****- County places E-911 and half cent road tax on April ballot**

On April 2, county voters will decide the future of a countywide Enhanced 911 system and will be asked to renew the county's half cent sales tax for roads. Barry County Commissioners voted this week to place both issues on the April ballot. The county is proposing to establish the

1995 revenue total of \$2,453,491.04. In 1994, the tax provided road districts with \$1,113,983.24, representing 53.01 percent of their total budget. "The road districts were in bad shape before the one half cent sales tax was voted on," said Lois Lowe, county treasurer. "If we don't renew it (the road tax), there's no way we'll be able to continue the progress we're making on roads and bridges in the county," said Warren. Special road district revenue has shown a consistent increase over the past five years.

— P & Z approves Taco Bell site plan

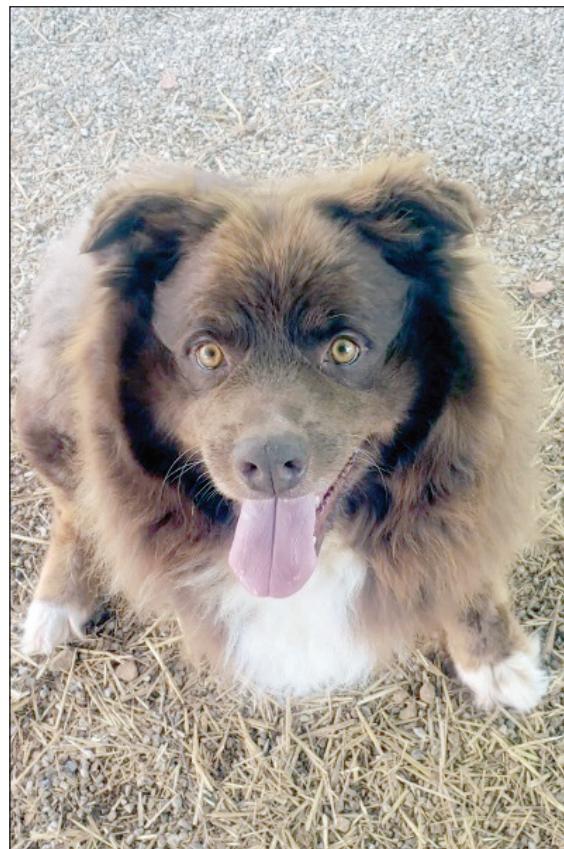
A site plan for a new Taco Bell restaurant in Cassville was approved Monday by members of the city's planning and zoning commission. The restaurant will be constructed on a commercial lot at 84 S. Main St. by K-Mac Enterprises, a corporation owned by Ken McGruder of Cassville. An existing building, which once housed Hailey Tractor, was demolished last week to make room for the new restaurant. Initial site plans, designed by G. Oney & Associates Inc. of Branson, call for construction of a 2,890-square-foot restaurant with seating for 104. The site will include a single drive-thru lane and 45 parking spaces. K-Mac purchased the lot from Evelyn Halley of Cassville. McGruder said construction on the restaurant is scheduled to begin as soon as weather permits and should be completed by mid-May.

— Purdy Ladies claim McAuley Classic title

The Purdy Lady Eagles captured the McAuley Warrior Classic girls basketball title last weekend by defeating East Newton 56-50. Purdy turned

## Haven of the Ozarks Pet of the Week

**Koda** is an Australian Shepherd/Chow Chow mix. His date of birth is Dec. 30, 2017. He is smart, goofy and protective of the ones he loves. Koda would do best in an active home, and he would do better with older kiddos. He does have some food guarding tendencies. He has lived most of his life outside and will require a fence. He loves laying in his swimming pool and does well on a leash. He will require grooming and is accustomed to it. Adopters can complete an application at [www.havenoftheozarks.org/adopt](http://www.havenoftheozarks.org/adopt). No appointment is needed. The Haven is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., seven days a week. All Haven of the Ozarks pets are fixed, up to date on their vaccinations, and microchipped. For more information, people may email [havenozarksanctuary@gmail.com](mailto:havenozarksanctuary@gmail.com), or call at 417-835-3647. Contributed photo



## OBITUARIES

**BEVERLY JEAN  
BRANSTETTER**

Beverly Jean Branstetter, 74, of Wheaton, Mo., passed away Sunday, January 25, 2026 at Mercy Hospital Springfield, in Springfield, Mo.

She was born February 17, 1951, in Berryville, Ark., the daughter of Shannon and Imogene (Bickford) Bridges, who preceded her in death.

Also preceding her in death was her husband, Richard Branstetter, and stepson, Kenny Chandler.

Survivors include her sons, Chris Branstetter and wife Kayla of Wheaton, Mo. and Josh Branstetter and wife Melluckie of Oklahoma City, Okla.; stepsons, Rick Branstetter of Marionville, Mo., Randy Branstetter and wife Glenda of Marionville, Mo., Richie Huff of Okla., Rocky Reed and wife Latricia of Hot Springs, Ark., and Skeeter

**LEONARD  
MEYREL COLLINS**

Leonard Meyrel Collins, 82, of Cassville, Mo., passed away Wednesday, January 28, 2026, at his home.

He was born February 23, 1943, in Tulsa, Okla., the son of Clyde and Mable Cleo (Parris) Collins, who preceded him in death.

Also preceding him in death was his wife Ruby Tunnell, and brothers, Bobby Collins and Carl "CL" Collins.

Survivors include his sons, Donnie Collins of Fla., and David Collins and wife Tracie of Broken Arrow, Okla.; seven grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren.

He grew up and attended school in Tulsa, Okla., graduating from Tulsa Central High School.

He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He moved to Cassville in 1985, coming from Collinsville, Okla. He enjoyed working in law enforcement. He was first employed by the Cassville Police Department before joining the Barry County Sheriff's Department where he was employed from May 15, 1995 until August 31, 2019 from where he retired as a major. He previously owned and operated Seven Valleys Motel in Cassville.

Private graveside services were held at Oak Hill Cemetery in Cassville, Mo., under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.

Services are still pending. An announcement will be published at a later date.

Survivors include his wife Linda Hayden; one son, Casey Cummins of Cassville, Mo.; two daughters, Leslie Owens and her husband Jim of Joplin, Mo. and Jocelyn Cummins-Goodrich and her husband Bubba of Omaha, Neb.; seven grandchildren; one brother, Frank Cummins of Douglas, Ariz.

He proudly served his country in the United States Army, and he was the longtime owner of Anita's Pizza, which he operated for 25 years.

A memorial service will be held Wednesday, February 4, 2026, at 1:00 pm at White Funeral Home and Crematory, a visitation will be held two hours prior to service time.

Memorials may be made to Tunnel to Towers Foundation and entrusted to White Funeral Home and Crematory.

Arrangements are under the direction of White Funeral Home and Crematory.

**W** White Funeral Home and Crematory  
Online condolences and webcasting of the funeral services may be found at [www.whitefuneralhome.org](http://www.whitefuneralhome.org)

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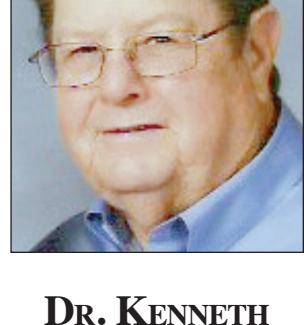
**LOIS  
ENGELSMIEIER**

Lois Engelsmeier was born on June 11, 1947 to Henry and Ruth Jones in Rural Greene County Mo.

She married her husband David on September 4, 1976, in Joplin, Mo. They settled in their home in Shell Knob, Missouri in June of 1999.

Survivors include her daughters Linda, Elizabeth, and Daina and their children, her Husband David, his Son Daniel and his children.

Services are still pending. An announcement will be published at a later date.

**DR. KENNETH  
LAVERNE HALL**

Dr. Kenneth Laverne Hall, born on November 10, 1945, in Purdy, Mo., to Hershel and Marjorie (Douthitt) Hall, peacefully passed away on January 29, 2026. He was a beloved husband, brother, uncle, and friend to many.

A distinguished individual, Kenneth graduated from Purdy High School in 1963 and continued his academic pursuits at Drury University before earning his Doctorate from UMKC Dental School in 1982. Throughout his life, Ken had a passion for flying and was an accomplished pilot who took joy in the skies whenever he could.

During his professional career, Ken dedicated his talents to various endeavors. He worked at G&R Machine during the Vietnam era, contributing to the manufacturing of parts for space shut-

tes and helicopters. He also shared his knowledge as a Science teacher at Southwest School in Washburn, Mo. In 1982, Dr. Hall embarked on a remarkable thirty-two-year journey running his own successful dental practice in Cassville, Mo.

A devout member of Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church, Kenneth was deeply involved in the community as a Trustee and member of the Building and Grounds Committee. After retiring, he delved into his passion for craftsmanship, showcasing his skills in creating jewelry and refinishing furniture. Additionally, his love for music led him to be a part of the singing quartet, The Messengers.

On July 3, 1965, Kenneth married Ann Jackson, and together they shared over sixty memorable years. His legacy lives on through his cherished wife, Ann; his sister, Rebecca Parrett (Jerry); nieces and nephews, Doug Clifton (Leslea), Tracy Rhea (Ed), Jeff Hall, Janet Wimsatt (Paul), Debi Gollhofer (Mike), Tonya Marsh (Lynn), Brad Davis (April), Meghan Clark (Billy), David Thomas (Ashley) and Sean Thomas (Cheyenne Andrews); and one sister-in-law, Pat Hall. He also leaves behind a host of extended family and friends.

Dr. Kenneth Laverne Hall is preceded in death by his parents, Hershel and Marjorie Hall, his brother Jerry Hall, and his sister and brother-in-law, Sharon and Loren Clifton. His life was a testament to dedication, compassion, and creativity, leaving a lasting impact on all who had the privilege to know him. He will be dearly missed and fondly remembered by all whose lives he touched.

Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at Buchanan Funeral Home with Reverend Jesse Cole officiating. Interment followed at Bethel Cemetery. Memorial contributions have been suggested to St. Jude Children's Hospital or Haven of the Ozarks. Arrangements are under the personal care and direction of Buchanan Funeral Home, Monett, Mo.

**PAID OBITUARY****BUCHANAN  
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[www.buchananfuneralhomemonett.com](http://www.buchananfuneralhomemonett.com)

**RONNIE  
STRICKLIN**

Ronnie Stricklin, 75, of Cassville, Mo., passed away Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at his home, surrounded by his family.

He was born May 24,

**WHITE FUNERAL HOME  
Local Death Notices**

Coy Cummins • Cassville • April 30, 1946–Jan. 25, 2026  
Kelly Towles • Cassville • Sept. 26, 1966–Jan. 28, 2026  
Robert Hughes • Seligman • May 17, 1937–Jan. 30, 2026

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Shell Knob — 417-858-8400

To view obituaries, go to  
[www.whitefuneralhome.org](http://www.whitefuneralhome.org)

1950, in Lebanon, Mo., to Raymond and Flora (Lowery) Stricklin, who preceded him in death.

Also preceding him in death was one daughter, Rhonda Kay Adamson and one grandson.

Survivors include his wife, Debbie Stricklin; one daughter, Tammy Reidlinger and her husband William, of Rogersville, Mo.; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; one brother, William Stricklin, of Webb City; and two sisters, Ethel Devers, of Pittsburgh, Kan., and Beulah Scott, of Mano, Mo.; and two special friends, Mike Mundy and Tommy Atkinson.

He proudly served his country in the United States Navy, and

was also a dedicated member of Central Crossing Masonic Lodge No. 674 and a proud Shriner.

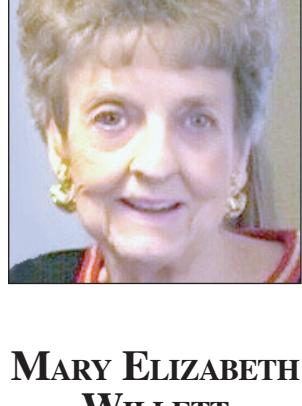
Memorials may be made to the Shrine Children's Hospital in St. Louis, Mo. and entrusted to White Funeral Home and Crematory.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Arrangements are under the direction of White Funeral Home and Crematory in Cassville, Mo.

**W** White Funeral Home and Crematory  
Online condolences and webcasting of the funeral services may be found at [www.whitefuneralhome.org](http://www.whitefuneralhome.org)

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**MARY ELIZABETH  
WILLETT**

Mary Elizabeth Willett, 89, of Cassville, Mo. passed away Friday, January 30, 2026, at Mercy Hospital in Aurora, Mo.

She was born on September 17, 1936, in Jonesboro, Ark., the daughter of Theodore Franklin and Eunice Emery (Bushong) Spence, who preceded her in death.

Also preceding her in death was her husband, Foster Willett; her son, Bobby Dean Martin; her granddaughter, Jennifer Hopkins; her brother, Johnny Spence and her sisters, Lucille Hall, Ann VanWinkle, and Francis Foreman.

Survivors include her daughter, Sharon Hopkins and husband Jimmy of Cassville, Mo.; two grandsons; one granddaughter; four great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

She attended and graduated from Nettleton High School in Jonesboro, Ark.

She worked as a Licensed Hearing Specialist for 32 years. She was a founding member of the Arkansas Hearing Society and served as the secretary and president.

She began her career at Beltone of Jonesboro and Jonesboro Hearing Service before venturing out and starting her own business. In 1974, she opened NW Arkansas Hearing Service in Rogers, Ark. She eventually expanded to Bentonville, Ark., Bella Vista, Ark., Noel, Mo. and Grove, Okla.

She also worked in real estate. She was a member of Poplar Baptist Church in Rogers, Arkansas.

A memorial service will be held later in April. Cremation arrangements are under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville, Mo.

**FOHN FUNERAL HOME**  
Cassville, Missouri  
417-847-2141

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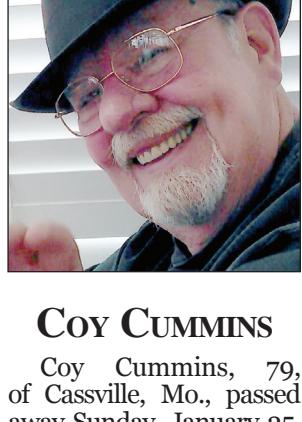
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**COY CUMMINS**

Coy Cummins, 79, of Cassville, Mo., passed away Sunday, January 25, 2026, at Mercy Hospital in Cassville.

He was born April 30, 1946, in Cordell, Okla., to Andrew and Ritta (Bruner) Cummins, who preceded him in death.

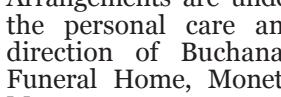
Also preceding him in death was his wives, Phyllis Cline and Terry Boucher; two brothers; and four sisters.

**DR. KENNETH  
LAVERNE HALL**

Dr. Kenneth Laverne Hall, born on November 10, 1945, in Purdy, Mo., to Hershel and Marjorie (Douthitt) Hall, peacefully passed away on January 29, 2026. He was a beloved husband, brother, uncle, and friend to many.

A distinguished individual, Kenneth graduated from Purdy High School in 1963 and continued his academic pursuits at Drury University before earning his Doctorate from UMKC Dental School in 1982. Throughout his life, Ken had a passion for flying and was an accomplished pilot who took joy in the skies whenever he could.

During his professional career, Ken dedicated his talents to various endeavors. He worked at G&R Machine during the Vietnam era, contributing to the manufacturing of parts for space shut-

**RONNIE  
STRICKLIN**

Ronnie Stricklin, 75, of Cassville, Mo., passed away Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at his home, surrounded by his family.

He was born May 24,

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Local Death Notices**

Coy Cummins • Cassville • April 30, 1946–Jan. 25, 2026  
Kelly Towles • Cassville • Sept. 26, 1966–Jan. 28, 2026  
Robert Hughes • Seligman • May 17, 1937–Jan. 30, 2026

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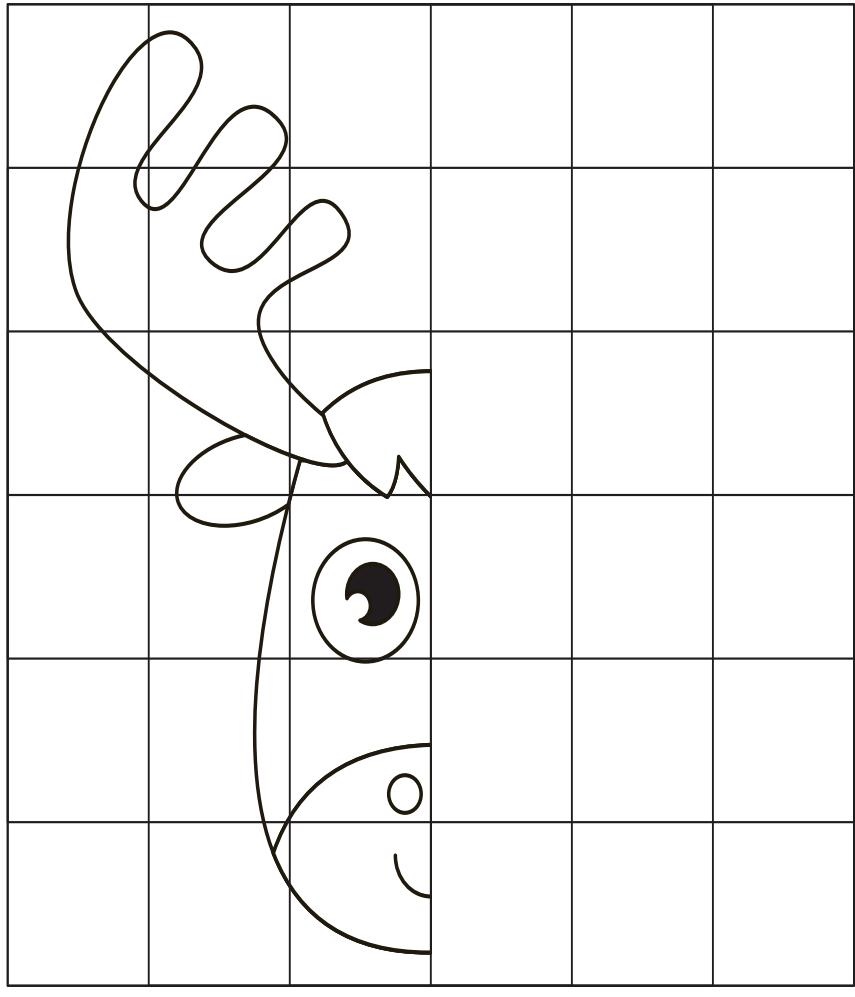
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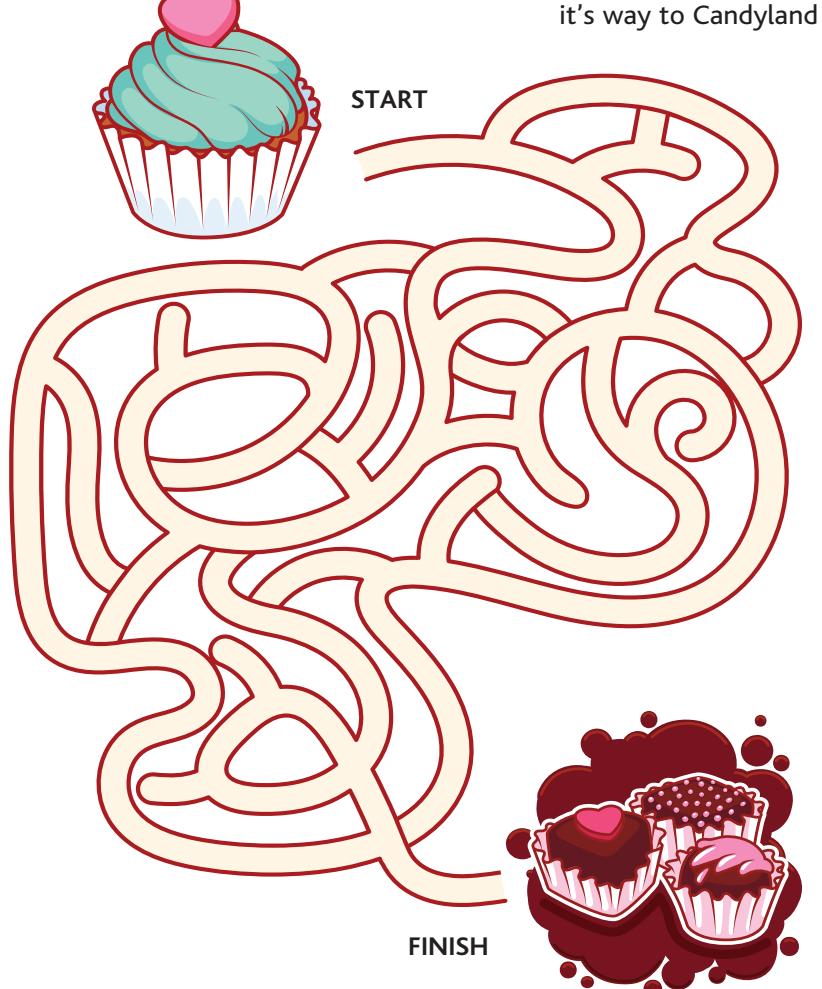
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## Amazing maze



## Sudoku 6x6

3				1	
	2		5		
4	6				
5		4	6		
	4			2	
5					3

COMPLETE EACH GRID WITH NUMBERS FROM 1 TO 6, KEEPING IN MIND THAT:

- a number can only appear once per row
- a number can only appear once per column
- a number can only appear once in each box of 6 squares

5	1	2	6	4	3
6	3	4	1	5	2
2	5	3	4	6	1
1	4	6	3	2	5
4	2	1	5	3	6
3	6	5	2	1	4

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### JUST kidding

Q: Why is basketball such a messy sport?

A: Because you dribble on the floor.



### JUST kidding

Q: How do you catch a squirrel?

A: Climb up a tree and act like a nut.



### JUST kidding

Q: What do you call six ducks in a box?

A: A box of quackers.



## Private eye

Which shadow matches the raccoon? Find the right one.



ANSWER: 5

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# CASSVILLE AREA DEVOTIONAL PAGE

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# Soul and Spirit

**S**oul and spirit are not the same.

The common tendency is to use the terms interchangeably as if they were the same, but they are not. More specifically there is a profound difference or distinction to be made between the soul of man and the Spirit of God.

The soul is a vital part of how humans are put together. We are created body, mind, and soul. All three parts indissolubly together makes us into the persons we are.

All parts are born together and die together. Just as no human body is the same as any other body and no other mind thinks exactly like any other mind, so no human soul is like any other human

soul. Every soul is distinctive, different and separate from every other soul, which immediately rules out the possibility that every soul is simply a part of God or God's Spirit which by nature has been embedded within us.

The soul is distinctively human. It is a part of our original equipment-standard issue. Everyone has one.

Like the body and mind, the soul can grow and change over time. It can also regress and deteriorate. However, time has little to do with that. Some of the best souls are "good old souls," while the souls of those much younger can unfortunately be damaged or misused.

The soul then is a part of who we are and conversely

not a part of who God is, namely a Spirit. The soul of man is our inner being when we are operating at our very best.

Our bodies give us our form, our minds our intellect and our souls our personality and character. All three, body, mind, and soul are the work of the creator which gives us a body that is not His body but one that can act, a mind which is less than His mind but one that can reason, and a soul which is not His Spirit but one that can distinguish between good and evil.

The soul can sometimes act like a conscience, though that is not its main function. The soul is a part of the image of God in us. It is the source of creativity, compassion, com-

munity and every other good characteristic we attribute to God. Of course, just as we can misuse our bodies and corrupt our minds so we can ignore the good urgings of the soul within us. It is wrong to reason that God's Spirit could lead us to do wrong. The soul of man within us is the source of good and evil. Evil is the result of a wayward soul.

While everyone has a soul not everyone possesses God's Spirit. The Spirit is the gift of God's presence around us and within us. The gift is offered to many, but unfortunately, fully accepted and utilized by too few. To the extent that God's Spirit is incorporated into our being, our souls can be nourished and even healed when broken.

There is then a real connection between the human soul and God's Spirit. God's Spirit not only breathes life into our bodies, mind, and souls, it also nourishes and repairs them. But the Spirit is not the soul. The Spirit is a gift to the soul. The soul is human, the Spirit is of God. The Spirit brings life to the soul. The soul honors the Spirit by making room for the Spirit of God to live within us.

The Spirit can enter the soul any time at the will of the Father and specifically at baptism by the promise of Christ.

*Rev. Raymond Ticknor is a retired Christian church (Disciple of Christ) pastor living in Monett. He may be reached at judith.ticknor@yahoo.com.*

## BIBLE VERSE:

"As it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived — what God has prepared for those who love him..."

— 1 CORINTHIANS 2:9

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

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662-3333

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Front & Pierce, Exeter

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## LOCAL

# Shelter scholarship available to Cassville, Wheaton seniors

Two \$1,500 scholarships to be awarded

Recognizing academic achievement in local communities is one of the main goals of the Shelter Insurance Foundation, and this spring, the Foundation will award two \$1,500 scholarships to graduates of Cassville High School and Wheaton High School.

Shelter Agent Terri Lynn DeGraffenreid Brattin sponsors and partially funds this scholarship.

Students may apply the scholarship funds toward tuition, fees or campus housing for any course of study beginning the fall after the recipient's high school graduation and leading to an academic degree at any college, university or

trade school, whether public or private, that is accredited by the U.S. Department of Education. The Foundation makes the payment directly to the school the recipient selects.

To determine who receives a scholarship, a committee of local high school officials and community leaders will consider each applicant's scholastic achievements, educational goals, citizenship, moral character and participation and leadership in school and community activities. The scholarship is given without regard to race, color, religion, sex, pregnancy, national origin or ancestry, physical or mental disability, veteran status, genetic information or any other classification protected by federal, state or local law. The name of the recipient will be announced at the close of

the school year.

Applications and additional information about the Shelter Foundation Scholarship are now available and should be completed and returned to the school official serving on the selection committee by March 31. For more information, interested seniors should contact their high school counselor, principal or Shelter Insurance Agent Terri Lynn DeGraffenreid Brattin.

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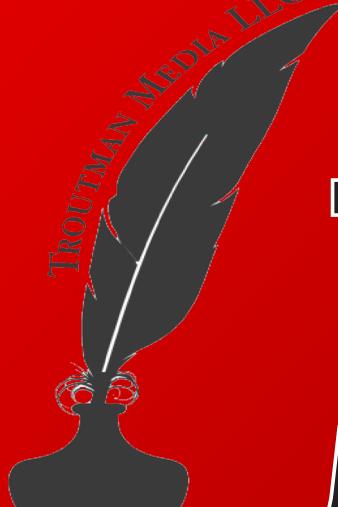
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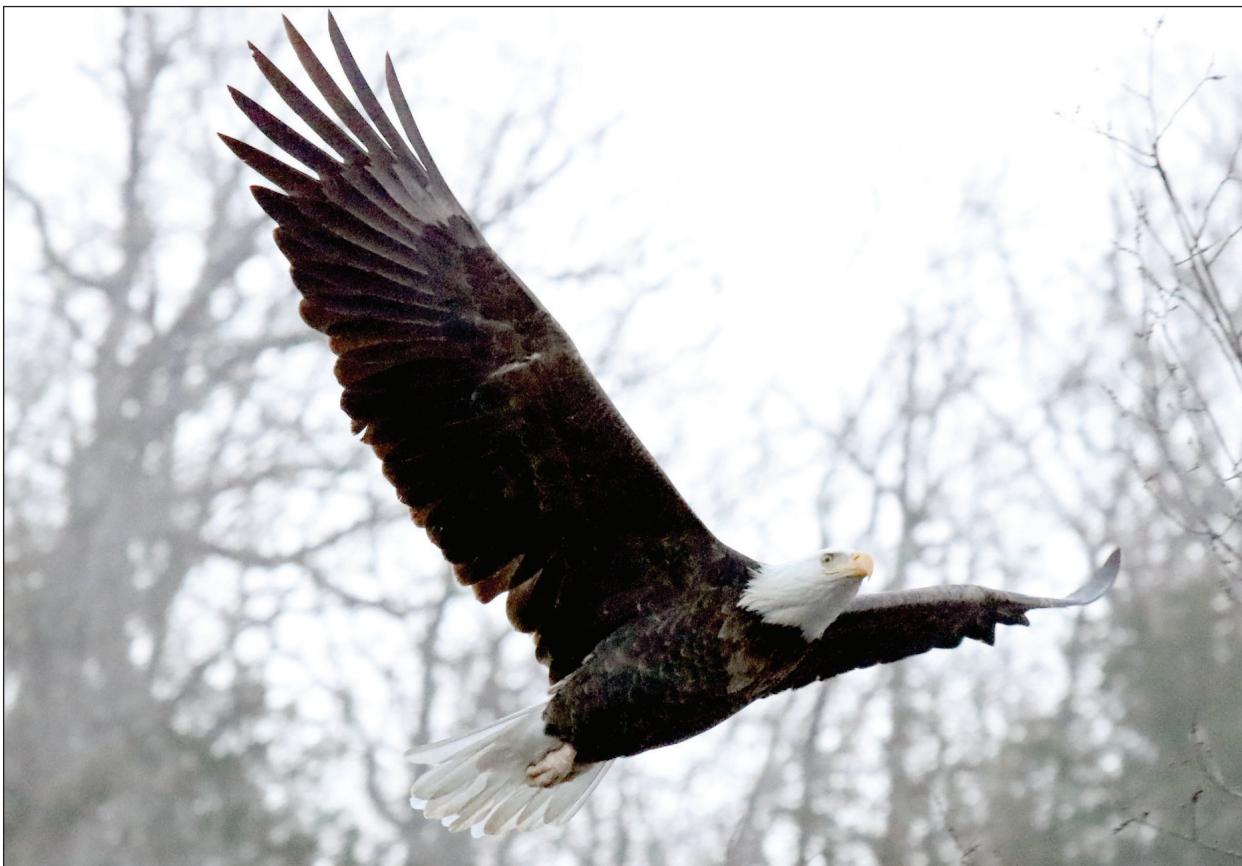
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## LOCAL

## Soaring over the snow at the river



Bald eagles wintering near Roaring River State Park made a display of flight on Thursday. The best time to spot eagles in the park is early mornings, before 9 a.m., near campground three or by the Roaring River Hatchery. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

## Airport: Plays important role

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

maintenance costs and support future expansion.

"The bid was for the complete tear out and replacement of the asphalt runway with a concrete runway," Asbill said. "We really wanted to move forward with concrete strictly for maintenance and longevity."

Concrete also provides flexibility for runway extensions in the coming years.

"We would like to in the future extend the runway," he said. "More on the east end than the west end, but it would require a little extension on the west."

The project also includes new runway lighting and navigational aids.

"The runway will also include the lights on the approach, both ends, side, and a beacon light that actually gets replaced," Asbill said. "It will make our airport more attractive to tourism traffic."

Asbill said the airport's status as a public municipal facility allows Cassville to access state and federal funding.

"It is a city municipal airport, which allows us access to certain state and federal funds," he said. "You work with your airport master plan and look at a specific need."

The runway replacement was made possible by rolling over federal allocations across multiple years with approval from FAA and MoDOT.

"When we've been able to combine those funds for several years, it's given us more funds toward a larger project," Asbill said. "You just don't go and replace a runway at a small cost. The total bid award is \$5,143,937, and our portion of that is \$258,000."

Emery Sapp & Sons was awarded the project as the low bidder. Two other companies submitted higher bids, and the winning bid closely matched the engineer's estimate. Koss Construction bid \$5,446,132.80, and RL Persons Construction bid \$7,847,999.

"The engineering estimate on the project was \$5,106,500," he said. "Emery Sapp & Sons came pretty close to that."

Asbill said Cassville's airport plays a quiet but important role in the local economy.

"I think people forget that we have the airport," he said. "It has been an economic piece for us. We do get a lot of recreational traffic from Kansas and Oklahoma that come in for the lake."

Interest in hangar space has increased, particularly from pilots relocating from larger airports.

"Pilots are relocating from northwest Arkansas and Springfield who want a smaller airport more conducive to their budget," Asbill said.

The airport typically houses about 14-15 aircraft, with additional transient traffic during peak times. Asbill said competitive fuel prices also draw visiting pilots.

"That happens with airports," he said. "We may be 10 or 15 cents cheaper than another place."

Recent airport improvements also include a new terminal building handled in-house by the city.

"We just replaced the airport terminal last year," Asbill said. "The old terminal was in the landing zone and was listed as a problematic structure."

The new terminal has received positive feedback from pilots.

"So far it's been reviewed very nice," he said. "It's heated and air conditioned, and we've gotten really good

response."

Asbill said the terminal provides basic amenities for pilots waiting out weather or planning their next leg.

"They can sit and work on a laptop, use the restroom, and weather here before they go on," he said.

The airport also recently added a courtesy car, a feature Asbill said pilots value highly.

"We are very fortunate now that we do have a courtesy car," he said. "I was very positively surprised about how many pilots look at that."

Runway construction is expected to take place during the spring and summer months, though timing may vary depending on other Emery Sapp & Sons projects.

"We're supposed to be in a construction window of April, May, June, July," Asbill said. "But it could actually be May, June, July, August."

Asbill said pilots and hangar tenants have been notified in advance to make alternate arrangements during the closure.

"We've tried to give everybody notice," he said. "Some pilots will move their planes, and some will just not fly during that time."

Looking ahead, Asbill said the runway project lays the groundwork for continued airport development.

"This gives us some life, gives us the opportunity to expand, and sets us up for future air traffic," he said.

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## LADY TROJANS ENTER FINAL STRETCH



Southwest's Jaretsi Quintanilla looks for room to put a shot up during a Southwest Tournament matchup this season. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

## 14-win squad has shot at conference title

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

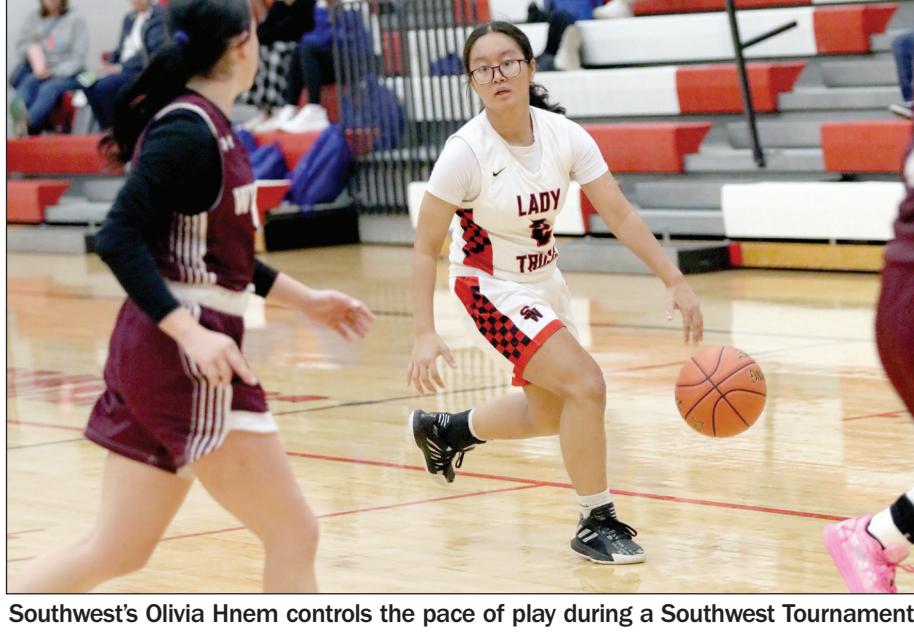
With 14 wins and seven games left on the regular-season slate, the Southwest girls basketball team is setting its sights on a conference title and making some noise in a district with two more teams with as many wins.

Shawn Johnson, Southwest girls basketball coach, said steady growth and balanced contributions have helped his team put together a strong season — on a seven game win streak as of Monday and having just won the Lady Bear Classic title. He said one of the biggest factors has been the play of his leading scorer and rebounder.

"You have [senior] Jaretsi [Quintanilla] — that does help us a little bit," Johnson said. "She's averaging around 27 points a game and around 14 rebounds, and she's getting around 6 blocks a game, so that helps us a lot."

Johnson said another positive this season has been the team's balance beyond its leading scorer.

"It's been nice because you don't really know who's going to put up 10-15 points on a given night," Johnson said. "We've had all four of the other starters do that at different times. Gracie [Swanepoel] put up 10 against Sarcoxie, Addyson [Payne]



Southwest's Olivia Hnem controls the pace of play during a Southwest Tournament matchup this season. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

put up 13, Olivia [Hnem] hit some threes and put up 15, and Sidney [Roe] had 13 against Verona," he said.

That kind of production has been encouraging.

"It's been great to see different kids step up," Johnson said. "We're starting

to shoot better, and if we can time it right going into districts, it'll be interesting to see."

Johnson said the team has also made progress shooting from the outside, which has changed how opponents

CONTINUED ON PAGE XX

## SCOREBOARD

### Lady Wildcats double up on Seneca

The Cassville girls basketball team (13-5) had a one-game week last week due to weather and returned to Big 8 Conference play Thursday night with Seneca coming to town. The Lady Cats led throughout the game and came away with the 57-25 victory to move their conference record to 2-1 on the season and 13-5 overall. Scoring for Cassville included: Audrey Kennedy, 16; Briley Artherton, 12; Taylor Kennedy, 9; Alex Holycross, 7; Aubrey Stoufer, 5; Aubrie Atkinson, 4; Briley Gross, 2; and Sammi Stockton, 2. The junior varsity team traveled to Branson Friday and Saturday and came away with a 2-1

record. The JV Lady Wildcats bested Reeds Spring, 28-23, and Clever, 37-19, before falling to Branson, 33-25. Cassville has three games this week. The Lady Wildcats played on Monday at Monett Monday, will a makeup game at home today (Wednesday) against Lamar, and travel to Ash Grove Thursday.

### Wildcats dial up game week after win Friday

The Cassville boys basketball team (8-10) hosted Seneca on Friday. The C team won by a score of 26-16, followed by the junior varsity team winning 61-30. The varsity squad capped off night with a 61-39 victory. In the varsity game, the

Wildcats were led in scoring by Tyson Bohmke with 22 points, and Aiden Whittington added 14. Spencer Drolling led the team with 10 rebounds, with Whittington adding 7 boards. This week, the Wildcats were at Monett on Tuesday night and will play Lamar at home on Thursday and Skyline at home on Friday.

### Middle school teams go 1-1 against Cherokee

The Cassville Middle School boys basketball teams saw a shortened schedule last week due to weather-related cancellations, as games against Pershing and Monett were postponed. Both teams were still able to compete in

a matchup against a talented Cherokee squad. The eighth-grade Wildcats earned a hard-fought, 48-43 victory, showing poise and toughness down the stretch against a strong opponent. Cassville's effort on both ends of the floor proved to be the difference in a competitive contest. The seventh-grade team also faced Cherokee and competed well early, matching the Warriors' intensity before ultimately falling, 46-19. Despite the loss, the Wildcats showed effort and growth against a very talented team. Following last week's action, the eighth-grade team improves to 8-1 on the season, while the seventh-grade team moves to 6-3. Cassville will return to conference play next week.

### WILDCATS WRESTLING

**What:** 63rd People's Bank of Seneca Tournament

**Results:** Team takes second place behind Seneca

**Individuals:** One champion, multiple second and third-place finishes

## Wildcats take 2nd in Seneca

Roark brings home lone gold, multiple silver and bronze finishes

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Cassville's returning state champion was the lone champion for the Wildcats at the 63rd People's Bank of Seneca Tournament on Saturday, leading the squad to a second-place team finish in the 24-team tournament.

Colton Roark, at 175 pounds, pinned his first three opponents in the first round, then delivered a major decision over Southern Boone's Owen Britton to take first place in the tournament.

Runner-up finishes went to Boni Lopez at 113 pounds, Rylen Holman at 126 pounds and Braydyn Sizemore at 150 pounds. In third place and finishing the tournament with a win was Michael Winchell at 120 pounds, Kole Fry at 132 pounds, Zachary Myers at 190 pounds and Riley James at 215 pounds.

Kellen Weldy took fourth at 138 pounds, Logan Parsons finished sixth at 144 pounds, Tyler Hodge took ninth at 157 pounds and Dylan Sorenson claimed eighth at 165 pounds.

Full results from the tournament include:

113: Boni Lopez (30-9) placed 2nd and scored 30.0 team points.

- Quarterfinal - Boni Lopez 30-9 won by fall over Alejandro Doty (Strafford) 13-18 (Fall 2:30)

- Semifinal - Boni Lopez 30-9 won by fall over Kapono Ehsa (Wyandotte) 5-2 (Fall 5:41)

- 1st Place Match - Peter Heyen (Southern Boone) 28-1 won by tech fall over Boni Lopez 30-9 (TF-1.5 3:18 (15-0))

120: Michael Winchell (22-23) placed 3rd and scored 26.0 team points.

- Champ. Round 1 - Jaden Beuthein (Southern Boone) 23-14 won by fall over Michael Winchell 22-23 (Fall 2:51)

- Cons. Round 2 - Michael Winchell 22-23 won by fall over Jackson Garcia (Seneca) 8-12 (Fall 2:40)

- Cons. Round 3 - Michael Winchell 22-23 won by fall over Carson Keefe (Versailles) 1-10 (Fall 2:57)

- Cons. Semi - Michael Winchell 22-23 won by fall over Jaden Beuthein (Southern Boone) 23-14 (Fall 1:40)

- 3rd Place Match - Michael Winchell 22-23 won by decision over Evan Dubina (Clinton) 27-9 (Dec 6-4)

126: Rylen Holman (26-9) placed 2nd and scored 29.5 team points.

- Champ. Round 1 - Rylen Holman 26-9 won by fall over Jayston Hoover (Wyandotte) 1-5 (Fall 1:06)

- Quarterfinal - Rylen Holman 26-9 won by tech fall over John Brown (Logan County High School) 5-17 (TF-1.5 1:46 (19-1))

- Semifinal - Rylen Holman 26-9 won in tie breaker - 1 over Blaine Bergthold (Southern Boone) 19-7 (TB-1 11-5)

- 1st Place Match - Brandon Brewer (Versailles) 25-2 won by major decision over Rylen Holman 26-9 (MD 11-1)

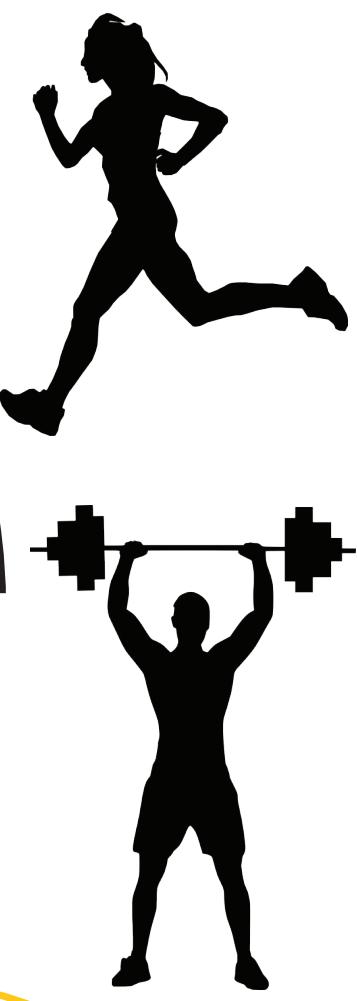
132: Kole Fry (26-17) placed 3rd and scored 28.5 team points.

- Champ. Round 1 - Kole Fry 26-17 won by fall over Ryan Southern (Hollister) 14-20 (Fall 2:46)

- Quarterfinal - Kole Fry 26-17 won by fall over Cole Hamrick (Versailles) 22-14 (Fall 3:03)

- Semifinal - Caden Groom (Seneca) 31-3 won by tech fall over Kole Fry 26-17 (TF-1.5 1:46 (19-1))

CONTINUED ON PAGE XX



## Girls Wrestling

2/5 2/20-21 Rogersville/Bolivar Class 1, District 3 Tournament Away 5:00 pm Buffalo High School

## Girls Basketball

2/5 Ash Grove  
2/9 East Newton  
2/12 Mt. Vernon  
2/20 Nevada  
2/24 Neosho  
2/26 Carl Junction

Away 7:15 pm  
Home 7:00 pm  
Away 7:00 pm  
Home 7:00 pm  
Away 7:00 pm  
Home 7:30 pm

## Boys Basketball

2/6 Skyline  
2/10 East Newton  
2/13 Mt. Vernon  
2/17 Southwest  
2/20 Nevada  
2/26 Forsyth

Home 6:00 pm  
Home 7:15 pm  
Away 7:15 pm  
Home 7:15 pm  
Home 7:15 pm  
Away 7:00 pm

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2/5 2/20-21 Rogersville/Bolivar Class 2, District 6 Tournament Away 5:00 pm Buffalo High School

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# Wrestling: Myers, James both take third place in respective weight classes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

3:29 (17-2)

- Cons. Semi - Kole Fry 26-17 won by tech fall over Tianta McNack (Clinton) 25-7 (TF-1:5 5:00 (23-7))

- 3rd Place Match - Kole Fry 26-17 won by fall over Logan Thompson (Seneca JV) 12-5 (Fall 2:07)

138: Kellen Weldy (28-14) placed 4th and scored 25.0 team points.

- Champ. Round 1 - Kellen Weldy 28-14 won by tech fall over Bentley Morris (Versailles) 7-17 (TF-1:5 0:56 (15-0))

- Quarterfinal - Kadyn Allerton (Reeds Spring) 27-4 won in the ultimate tie breaker over Kellen Weldy 28-14 (UTB 2-1)

- Cons. Round 2 - Kellen Weldy 28-14 won by fall over Hayden Tate (Wyandotte) 4-5 (Fall 1:50)

- Cons. Round 3 - Kellen Weldy 28-14 won by tech fall over Lucas Sumapang (Miami) 3-2 (TF-1:5 4:18 (21-5))

- Cons. Semi - Kellen Weldy 28-14 won by fall over Nicholas Perez (Logan County High School) 5-3 (Fall 1:23)

- 3rd Place Match - Kadyn Allerton (Reeds Spring) 27-4 won by fall over Kellen Weldy 28-14 (Fall 2:31)

144: Logan Parsons (24-18) placed 6th and scored 14.0 team points.

- Quarterfinal - Cody Parnell (Aurora) 16-11 won by major decision over Logan Parsons 24-18 (MD 12-3)

- Cons. Round 2 - Logan Parsons 24-18 won by fall over Mazime Many (Logan County High School) 5-10 (Fall 2:07)

- Cons. Round 3 - Logan Parsons 24-18 won by fall over Connor Anderson (Hollister) 6-14 (Fall 2:01)

- Cons. Semi - Jaxen Rhoades (Seneca JV) 20-8 won by decision over Logan Parsons 24-18 (Dec 3-0)

- 5th Place Match - Cody Parnell (Aurora) 16-11 won by fall over Logan Parsons 24-18 (Fall 2:06)

150: Braydyn Sizemore (32-10) placed 2nd and scored 30.0 team points.

- Quarterfinal - Braydyn Sizemore 32-10 won by fall over Louie Zepeda (Fairland)



Cassville's Zach Myers works against an opponent in the Monett Tournament this season. Kyle Troutman, ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

O-2 (Fall 1:45)

- Semifinal - Braydyn Sizemore 32-10 won by fall over Dylan Gonzalez (Buffalo) 31-12 (Fall 3:09)

- 1st Place Match - Dawson Manley (Seneca) 31-4 won by fall over Braydyn Sizemore 32-10 (Fall 0:58)

157: Tyler Hodge (24-13) placed 9th and scored 10.0 team points.

- Champ. Round 1 - Tyler Hodge 24-13 won by fall over Luke Averella (Buffalo) 0-3 (Fall 1:03)

- Quarterfinal - Lane Eitemiller (Seneca) 16-13 won by fall over Tyler Hodge 24-13 (Fall 1:56)

- Cons. Round 2 - Hunter Choate (Strafford) 8-13 won by fall over Tyler Hodge 24-13 (Fall 4:02)

- Cons. Round 3 - Tyler Hodge 24-13 won by fall over Xander Shofner (Hollister) 10-21 (Fall 2:32)

- 9th Place Match - Tyler Hodge 24-13 won by fall over Brock Crauthers (Reeds Spring) 5-18 (Fall 2:03)

165: Dylan Sorenson (5-19) placed 8th and scored 7.0 team points.

- Quarterfinal - Fisher Pack (Clinton) 14-9 won by fall over Dylan Sorenson 5-19 (Fall 1:05)

- Cons. Round 2 - Dylan Sorenson 5-19 won by fall over Hayden Woods (Aurora) 0-11 (Fall 3:14)

- Cons. Round 3 - Jalen Thorndyke (Strafford) 10-18 won by tech fall over Dylan Sorenson 5-19 (TF-1:5 2:36 (15-0))

- 7th Place Match - Dylan Holum (Fairland) 1-2 won by decision over Dylan Sorenson 5-19 (Dec 7-6)

175: Colton Roark (41-2) placed 1st and scored 38.0 team points.

- Champ. Round 1 - Colton Roark 41-2 won by fall over Bow Rush (Miami) 2-2 (Fall 0:44)

- Quarterfinal - Colton Roark 41-2 won by fall over Isaac Orozco (Hollister) 5-9 (Fall 1:35)

- Semifinal - Colton Roark 41-2 won by fall over Ethan Garber (Versailles) 24-12 (Fall 0:37)

- 1st Place Match - Colton Roark 41-2 won by major decision over Owen Britton (Southern Boone) 27-6 (MD 8-0)

190: Zachary Myers (36-6) placed 3rd and scored 28.5 team points.

- Champ. Round 1 - Zachary Myers 36-6 won by fall over Tommy Gracia (Versailles) 7-24 (Fall 0:56)

- Quarterfinal - Zachary Myers 36-6 won by fall over Jordan Gainous (Logan County High School) 6-9 (Fall 0:20)

- Semifinal - Mason O'Banion (Columbus) 33-2

- Cons. Round 3 - Zachary Myers 36-6 (Fall 0:40)

- Cons. Semi - Zachary Myers 36-6 won by tech fall over Marshall Loftin (Reeds Spring) 7-7 (TF-1.5 1:24 (17-0))

- 3rd Place Match - Zachary Myers 36-6 won by fall over Max Gabaladon (Southern Boone) 19-14 (Fall 2:57)

215: Riley James (14-3) placed 3rd and scored 29.0 team points.

- Champ. Round 1 - Riley James 14-3 won by fall over Witton Amos (Fairland) 3-2 (Fall 4:56)

- Quarterfinal - Riley James 14-3 won by fall over Kael Hickey (Seneca) 9-8 (Fall 0:31)

- Semifinal - Kash Smith (Columbus) 28-5 won by decision over Riley James 14-3 (Dec 9-2)

- Cons. Semi - Riley James 14-3 won by fall over Witton Amos (Fairland) 3-2 (Fall 0:50)

- 3rd Place Match - Riley James 14-3 won by fall over Mason Shumate (Clinton) 21-9 (Fall 2:08)

Junior varsity results included:

138: Hayden Jereczek (5-17) place is unknown and scored 0.0 team points.

- Champ. Round 1 - Ronnie Jo Clouse (Reeds Springs JV) 14-21 won by fall over Hayden Jereczek (Cassville JV) 5-17 (Fall 0:44)

- Cons. Round 1 - Hayden Tate (Wyandotte) 4-5 won by fall over Hayden Jereczek (Cassville JV) 5-17 (Fall 2:16)

144: Zaiden Hall (7-14) placed 8th and scored 7.0 team points.

- Quarterfinal - Connor Bramell (Clinton) 26-6 won by fall over Zaiden Hall (Cassville JV) 7-14 (Fall 0:35)

- Cons. Round 2 - Zaiden Hall (Cassville JV) 7-14 won by fall over Paxton Robertson (Versailles) 2-23 (Fall 0:22)

- Cons. Round 3 - Shad Schuberger (Columbus) 28-10 won by fall over Zaiden Hall (Cassville JV) 7-14 (Fall 4:47)

- 7th Place Match - Connor Anderson (Holister) 6-14 won by decision over Zaiden Hall (Cassville JV) 7-14 (Dec 9-4)

175: Carson Hutchins (13-4) placed 5th and scored 18.0 team points.

- Quarterfinal - Payton Goth (Clinton) 28-4 won by fall over Carson Hutchins (Cassville JV) 13-4 (Fall 1:57)

- Cons. Round 2 - Carson Hutchins (Cassville JV) 13-4 won by fall over Bow Rush (Miami) 2-2 (Fall 0:54)

- Cons. Round 3 - Carson Hutchins (Cassville JV) 13-4 won by decision over Journey Williams (Seneca) 10-15 (Dec 10-3)

- Cons. Semi - Ethan Garber (Versailles) 24-12 won by decision over Carson Hutchins (Cassville JV) 13-4 (Dec 11-10)

- 5th Place Match - Carson Hutchins (Cassville JV) 13-4 won by fall over Gabe Robison (Columbus) 2-3 (Fall 4:06)

215: Brylar Berank (20-21) placed 9th and scored 7.0 team points.

- Champ. Round 1 - Mason Shumate (Clinton) 21-9 won by fall over Brylar Berank (Cassville JV) 20-21 (Fall 0:51)

- Cons. Round 2 - James Maughan (Strafford) 11-19 won by fall over Brylar Berank (Cassville JV) 20-21 (Fall 2:04)

- Cons. Round 3 - Brylar Berank (Cassville JV) 20-21 won by fall over Kael Hickey (Seneca) 9-8 (Fall 2:00)

- 9th Place Match - Brylar Berank (Cassville JV) 20-21 won by fall over Tyler Annecharico (Cassville JV2) 10-18 (Fall 1:15)

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## MISCELLANEOUS

NOTICE OF ELECTION  
OF SUPERVISORS  
SWCD BOARD  
ELECTIONS

Let it be known that the Barry County Soil and Water Conservation District will hold an election for one supervisor in each of two different territories in the county. Territory 2 includes (Townships: Pleasant Ridge, McDowell, McDonald, Jenkins, Mountain, Ozark, and Crane Creek) and Territory 4 includes (Townships: Liberty, Exeter, Washburn, Ash, and Sugar Creek). The election will take place from February 1 to February 20. Ballots are available to print online at <https://mosoilandwater.land/content/barry/board-members>. Printed ballots may be returned to the district by mail and must be postmarked no later than February 20th. You may also vote in person from 8 am to 4:30 pm at 3202 County Farm Rd Cassville, MO 65625. Each eligible land representative in the district is allowed one vote. A land representative is defined as the owner or representative authorized by power of attorney of any farm lying within an area proposed to be established, and subsequently established, as a soil and water conservation district under Chapter 278, RSMO. Each farm is entitled to representation by a land representative: provided, however, that the land representative is a taxpayer of the county within which the soil and water district is located.

The following qualified candidates will be considered for election:

Territory 2 -  
Christopher Cale  
Hammen

Bryant Vaught-Jenkins  
Township  
Voyd Brown-McDowell

Township  
Territory 4 -  
Clay Hammen-Exeter

Township  
Steven Mattingly-Exeter  
Township

Supervisors manage the administration of district policies and programs, as well as district personnel and funds. The district is supported by the one-tenth-of-one-percent parks, soil and water sales tax. For additional information on the district election, contact the district office 417-847-2862 EXT: 3, stephanie.parsons@swcd.mo.gov and 3202 county Farm Rd Cassville, MO 65625

1st insertion 01/21/26  
2-6

the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri, the object and general nature of which is a Petition in Damages.

The names of all parties in this action are Josilyne Creason, and the name and address of the attorney for the Plaintiff is J. Michael Riehn, Attorney at Law, P. O. Box 324, Cassville, Missouri 65625.

You are further notified that, unless you file an answer or other pleading or otherwise appear and defend against this action within 45 days after January 28, 2026, judgment by default will be entered against you.

It is ordered that a copy hereof be published according to law in the *Cassville Democrat*, a newspaper of general circulation published in the County of Barry, State of Missouri.

A true copy from the record.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Circuit Court this 22nd day of January, 2026.

Craig Williams

by Kami Stanton

First publication:

January 28, 2026

Second publication:

February 4, 2026

Third publication:

February 11, 2026

Fourth publication:

February 18, 2026

1st insertion 01/28/26

3-6

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**IN THE 39TH JUDICIAL  
CIRCUIT COURT  
JUVENILE DIVISION  
AT BARRY COUNTY,  
MISSOURI**

In the Interest of:  
G. G. H. (M.)  
DOB: 06/11/2024  
Case No.  
25BR-JU00079

**NOTICE UPON ORDER  
FOR SERVICE BY  
PUBLICATION**

**THE STATE OF  
MISSOURI TO**

Mackenzy Gail McCarley,  
Legal Mother of G.G. H.  
(M.)

You are hereby notified that an action has commenced in the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri, the object and general nature of which is the Termination of Parental Rights for the above-mentioned child under Chapter 211 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri.

The number assigned to said action is stated in the caption above, and the name and address of the attorney for Petitioner, Missouri Children's Division, is: Sheena Garvin, 601 Commercial Avenue, Joplin, Missouri, 64801, Telephone Number (417) 625-9924.

To be published in the newspaper that is circulated in Barry County, this being the *Cassville Democrat*.

You are hereby notified that, unless you file an answer to the Petition or other pleading or otherwise appear and defend against the aforesaid Petition within forty-five (45) days after the 28th day of January, 2026, or appear and defend against the aforementioned action at the

Barry County  
Judicial Center,  
102 West Street #2,  
City of Cassville,

State of Missouri,  
judgment by default will be rendered against you, and Judgment Terminating Parental Rights will be entered.

The next hearing for this matter is scheduled to occur on March 06, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Circuit Court this 22nd day of January, 2026.

Craig Williams

Circuit Clerk

by Kami Stanton

Deputy Clerk

1st publication:

January 28, 2026

2nd publication:

February 4, 2026

3rd publication:

February 11, 2026

4th publication:

February 18, 2026

1st insertion 01/28/26

3-6

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**IN THE CIRCUIT  
COURT OF BARRY  
COUNTY, MISSOURI AT  
CASSVILLE**

**JOSILYNE CREASON,**

Plaintiff,

VS.

**JASON MAYBERRY**

d/b/a **MAYBERRY**

**CONSTRUCTION, INC.,**

Defendant.

Case No.

25BR-CC00085

**NOTICE UPON ORDER  
FOR SERVICE BY  
PUBLICATION**

The State of Missouri to JASON MAYBERRY, d/b/a MAYBERRY CONSTRUCTION, INC., LLC.

You are hereby notified that an action has commenced against you in

**REAL,  
PLAINTIFFS,  
VS.  
EDWIN L. OREM,  
EDNA L. OREM** their heirs, grantees, devisees, successors, consorts, and assigns,

**DEFENDANTS,  
Case Number:  
26BR-CC00007**

**NOTICE UPON ORDER  
FOR PUBLICATION OF  
NOTICE**

**THE STATE OF  
MISSOURI TO:**

Defendants,

Edwin L. Orem

and Edna L. Orem

if they shall be deceased,

then their

unknown heirs, grantees,

consorts, spouses or

successors of those of them

who shall be deceased.

**YOU ARE HEREBY  
NOTIFIED** that an action

has been commenced

against you in the

Circuit Court for the

County of Barry, Missouri:

Lots 65 and 66, Elmo's

Subdivision No. 2, Table

Rock Lake, Barry County,

Missouri as platted in

Plat book 5, Page 200,

Recorders' Office of Barry

County, Missouri.

The names of all the

parties to said suit are stated

above in the caption hereof

and the name and address

of the attorney for Plaintiff is

Harry D. Schwartz,

P.O. Box 276,

702 West Street,

Cassville, Missouri 65625.

**YOU ARE FURTHER  
NOTIFIED** that, unless

you file an answer or other

pleading or shall otherwise

appear and defend against

the aforesaid Petition within

45 days after the 28th day of

January, 2026 judgment by

default will be rendered against

you.

A true copy from the record.

**WITNESS** my hand and the seal of the Circuit Court this 22nd day of January, 2026.

Craig Williams

Circuit Clerk

By:

Kami Stanton

Deputy Clerk

1st Publication:

January 28, 2026

2nd Publication:

February 4, 2026

3rd Publication:

February 11, 2026

4th Publication:

February 18, 2026

1st insertion 01/28/26

3-6

-----

**DISTRICT COURT  
EUREKA COUNTY,  
NEVADA**

**NICOLETTE JOY HAYES**

Plaintiff,

VS.

**JOSHUA SHAWN**

Defendant.

**CASE NO.:**

CV 2601-276

**DEPT:**

District Court

**ORDER FOR SERVICE  
BY PUBLICATION**

Upon reading the Ex Parte

Motion for Publication and

corresponding declarations,

it appearing that a verified

complaint has been filed

and a summons was issued

directed to the Defendant;

that Defendant is a

necessary

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4B  
 27th day of JANUARY 2026.  
 by Katie Correia/DC  
 Craig Williams  
 Circuit Clerk  
 First publication:  
 FEBRUARY 04, 2026  
 Second Publication:  
 FEBRUARY 11, 2026  
 Third Publication:  
 FEBRUARY 18, 2026  
 Fourth Publication:  
 FEBRUARY 25, 2026  
 1st Insertion 02/04/28  
 4-7  
 -----

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
 OF BARRY COUNTY,  
 MISSOURI CASSVILLE**

IN RE:  
 THE NAME CHANGE OF  
 Eleece Williams,  
 Petitioner,  
 Case No. 26BR-  
 DR00002

**JUDGMENT FOR  
 CHANGE OF NAME OF  
 ADULT INDIVIDUAL**

Public notice is hereby given that on the 2nd day of February 2026, by an Order of the Circuit

Court of Barry County, Missouri,

Case No. 26BR-

DR00002,

the name of

ELEECE ELLE

NILOCETTE WILLIAMS

was changed to

LEAH TRILLA KING.

Filed February 2, 2026

Craig Williams

Circuit Clerk

Judge

Robert Foulke

1st insertion 02/04/28

4-6

**PROBATE**

**IN THE 39TH JUDICIAL  
 CIRCUIT, BARRY  
 COUNTY, MISSOURI**

Judge or Division:  
 PROBATE  
 Case Number:  
 25BR-PR00191  
 In the Estate of  
 RUTH ETTA BUCHNER,  
 Deceased.

**NOTICE OF LETTERS  
 TESTAMENTARY  
 GRANTED (SUPERVISED  
 ADMINISTRATION)**

To All Persons Interested  
 in the Estate of

RUTH ETTA BUCHNER,  
 Deceased:

On January 5, 2026, the  
 last will of Decedent having  
 been admitted to probate,  
 the following individual was  
 appointed personal  
 representative of the estate  
 of

RUTH ETTA BUCHNER,  
 decedent by the Probate  
 Division of the Circuit  
 Court of BARRY COUNTY,  
 Missouri. The name and  
 business address of the  
 personal representative  
 is:

BILL BUCHNER,  
 21705 JASMINE LANE,  
 EAGLE ROCK, MO 65641

The personal  
 representative's attorney's  
 name, business address  
 and phone number is:

CORDELIA HERRIN,  
 P.O. BOX 276  
 CASSVILLE, MO 65625,  
 417-847-2734

All creditors of said  
 decedent are notified to file  
 claims in court within six  
 months from the date of the  
 first

publication of this notice  
 or if a copy of this notice  
 was mailed to, or served  
 upon, such creditor by the  
 personal representative,  
 then within two months from  
 the date it was mailed or  
 served, whichever is later,  
 or be forever barred to the  
 fullest extent permissible  
 by law. Such six-month period  
 and such two-month

period do not extend the  
 limitation period that would  
 bar claims one year after  
 Decedent's death, as  
 provided in Section  
 473.444, RSMo, or any  
 other applicable limitation  
 periods. Nothing in Section

473.033, RSMo, shall  
 be construed to bar any  
 action against a decedent's  
 liability insurance carrier  
 through a defendant ad litem  
 pursuant to Section 537.021, RSMo.

Date of the decedent's  
 death: 20-OCT-2025

Date of first publication:  
 January 14, 2026

Date of second  
 publication:

January 21, 2026

Date of third publication:  
 January 28, 2026

Date of fourth publication:  
 February 4, 2026

Craig Williams,

Circuit Clerk  
 by S. Parker, Deputy  
 Probate Clerk  
 Receipt of this notice  
 by mail should not be  
 construed by the recipient  
 to indicate that the recipient  
 necessarily has a  
 beneficial interest in the  
 estate. The nature and  
 extent of any person's  
 interest, if any, can be  
 determined from the  
 files and records of

Personal Representative  
 ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
 OF SERVICE OF NOTICE  
 Service of the Within  
 notice is acknowledged at  
 Monett Missouri on January  
 6, 2026

PROOF OF MAILING  
 OF COPY OF NOTICE  
 OF FILING OF FINAL  
 SETTLEMENT AND

PETITION FOR  
 DISTRIBUTION

Samantha Prescott, on  
 that state(s) that a copy  
 of the above Notice was  
 mailed by the undersigned  
 on November

25, 2025 by ordinary  
 mail, according to law, to:

Heirs  
 Joe & Carolyn Whitmore  
 15238 County Lane 137  
 Carthage MO 64836

Sean Knighten Piper  
 Knighten  
 3706 Rt. 2217 Washburn  
 MO 65772

The foregoing is made  
 under oath or affirmation  
 and its representations are  
 true and correct to the best  
 knowledge

and belief of the  
 undersigned, subject to the  
 penalties of making a false  
 affidavit or declaration.

1st insertion 01/14/26  
 1-4  
 -----

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
 OF BARRY COUNTY,  
 MISSOURI PROBATE  
 DIVISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF  
 THE ESTATE OF  
 BETTY MAY JOHNSON,  
 DECEASED ESTATE NO.  
 25BR-PR00065**

**NOTICE OF FILING  
 FINAL SETTLEMENT  
 & PETITION FOR  
 DISTRIBUTION**

**TO ALL PERSONS  
 INTERESTED IN the Estate  
 of**

BETTY MAY JOHNSON,  
 Deceased:

You are hereby notified  
 that the undersigned  
 Personal Representative will  
 file a Final Settlement and  
 Petition for determination  
 of the persons who are  
 successors in interest to  
 the personal property of  
 the Estate of Betty May  
 Johnson and of the extent  
 and character of their  
 interest therein and for  
 distribution of such property,  
 in the Probate Division of  
 the Circuit Court of Barry  
 County, Missouri.

The foregoing is made  
 under oath or affirmation  
 and its representations are  
 true and correct to the best  
 knowledge

and belief of the  
 undersigned, subject to the  
 penalties of making a false  
 affidavit or declaration.

1st insertion 01/14/26  
 1-4  
 -----

**IN THE 39TH JUDICIAL  
 CIRCUIT, BARRY  
 COUNTY, MISSOURI  
 JUDGE OR DIVISION:  
 PROBATE**

In the Estate of  
 JAMES KING,  
 Deceased.  
 Case Number:  
 26BR-PR00003

**NOTICE OF LETTERS  
 OF ADMINISTRATION  
 GRANTED (SUPERVISED  
 ADMINISTRATION)**

To All Persons Interested  
 in the Estate of  
 JAMES KING,  
 Decedent:

On January 14, 2026,  
 the following individual was  
 appointed the personal  
 representative of the estate  
 of

JAMES KING,  
 decedent, by the Probate  
 Division of the Circuit Court  
 of Barry County, Missouri.

The personal  
 representative's name and  
 business address is:

WANDA FOWLER,  
 211 EAGLE NEST  
 CASSVILLE, MO 65625

The personal  
 representative's attorney's  
 name, business address and  
 phone number is:

ANGELA ARTHERTON,  
 10388 FARM ROAD 2172  
 CASSVILLE, MO 65625,  
 870-688-0619

All creditors of said  
 decedent are notified to file  
 claims in court within six  
 months from the date of the  
 first

publication of this notice  
 or if a copy of this notice  
 was mailed to, or served  
 upon, such creditor by the  
 personal representative,  
 then within two months from  
 the date it was mailed or  
 served, whichever is later,  
 or be forever barred to the  
 fullest extent permissible  
 by law. Such six-month period  
 and such two-month

period do not extend the  
 limitation period that would  
 bar claims one year after  
 Decedent's death, as  
 provided in Section  
 473.444, RSMo, or any  
 other applicable limitation  
 periods. Nothing in Section

473.033, RSMo, shall  
 be construed to bar any  
 action against a decedent's  
 liability insurance carrier  
 through a defendant ad litem  
 pursuant to Section 537.021, RSMo.

Date of the decedent's  
 death: 20-OCT-2025

Date of first publication:  
 January 14, 2026

Date of second  
 publication:

January 21, 2026

Date of third publication:  
 January 28, 2026

Date of fourth publication:  
 February 4, 2026

Date of fifth publication:  
 February 11, 2026

Receipt of this notice  
 by mail should not be  
 construed by the recipient  
 to indicate that the recipient  
 necessarily has a  
 beneficial interest in the  
 estate. The nature and  
 extent of any person's  
 interest, if any, can be  
 determined from the  
 files and records of

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
 OF BARRY COUNTY,  
 MISSOURI PROBATE  
 DIVISION**

**Estate No.  
 25BR-PR00036  
 In the Estate of:  
 Arlie Cleo Knighten  
 Deceased**

**NOTICE OF FILING OF  
 FINAL SETTLEMENT  
 AND PETITION FOR  
 DISTRIBUTION**

**TO ALL PERSONS  
 INTERESTED IN THE  
 ESTATE OF Arlie Cleo  
 Knighten, Deceased:**

You are hereby notified  
 that the undersigned  
 Personal Representative will  
 file a Final Settlement and  
 Petition for determination  
 of the persons who are  
 successors in interest to  
 the personal property of  
 the Estate of Arlie Cleo  
 Knighten, Deceased:

The foregoing is made  
 under oath or affirmation  
 and its representations are  
 true and correct to the best  
 knowledge

and belief of the  
 undersigned, subject to the  
 penalties of making a false  
 affidavit or declaration.

1st insertion 01/14/26  
 1-4  
 -----

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
 OF BARRY COUNTY,  
 MISSOURI  
 PROBATE DIVISION  
 AT CASSVILLE**

In the Estate of  
 Hubert Lee Shepherd,  
 Deceased  
 Estate Number:  
 25BR-PR00057

**AMENDED NOTICE  
 OF FILING OF FINAL  
 SETTLEMENT AND  
 PETITION FOR  
 DISTRIBUTION**

TO ALL PERSONS  
 INTERESTED IN THE  
 ESTATE OF

HUBERT LEE  
 SHEPHERD, deceased:

You are hereby notified  
 that the undersigned  
 Personal Representative  
 will file a Final Settlement  
 and Petition for  
 determination of the  
 persons who are  
 successors in interest to  
 the personal/real estate of

the decedent and of the

# ESTATE AUCTION

Monday, February 9, 10 a.m.

**REAL ESTATE (FIXER UPPER) – MISC  
 HOUSEHOLD & SHOP ITEMS**



**Misc Household & Shop Items:** old cross cut saw (nice) – old hand saws – misc long handle tools – nippers – cordless weed eaters – 32' alum ext. ladder – 16' alum ext. ladder – alum step ladder – 1 hp Magna Force air compressor – ext. cords – gas can – sm dolly cart – Coleman cooler – Coleman lantern – tackle box & tackle – handicap walker w/seat & break – TV stand – glass top dining table – glider chair & ottoman – (2) older flat screen TV's – assorted sm chest of drawers – office chair – misc end tables – old rocking/recliner – misc pictures – med size table – (4) dining chairs – Whirlpool elect dryer – Roper washer – Charm Glow electric heater – table lamps – Mr. Coffee – Mr. Heater natural gas 30,000 BTU – Panasonic sm portable TV – vacuums – floor fan – misc sheets & linens, afghan, blankets & quilts – misc. **Real Estate:** 2 could be 3 bedroom, 1 bath fixer upper, doublewide on permanent foundation plus detached oversized 2 car garage. Enter this home under a covered front porch into a nice size living room with large windows, ceiling fan & coat closet. Then, on into the dining area with large windows, joined to the kitchen. Down now the hall where the utility room is with an outside entry door, a large bedroom that could be divided to make a 2nd bedroom. Also, a full bathroom, (2) linen closets & a 2nd or could be a 3rd bedroom. **Outside amenities:** Side walk leading to the concrete driveway and the detached oversized 2 car garage with concrete floor and elect. All this on a very nice 1 & 1/2 lots on the corner on Hwy 76 & Walker St. **Note:** This is the Estate of James King Jr. James was living here until his recent passing. However, it is a fixer upper and is a great location and will be a nice 2 or 3 bedroom home when fixed up. Fixer, flipper or fix it and make it your home. Call to preview before auction day or to get pre registered for the auction. Sells subject to probate court approval. 417-847-2507 **Terms:** Cash, good check or credit card with 2 forms of current ID. Must have current driver's license to obtain bidders number. If paying with credit card a 5% convenience fee applies. All sells as is where is with no warranty or guarantee expressed or implied. Any announcements made day of auction supersede any and all printed material. **Real Estate Terms:** Qualified buyers only w/pre-approved bank letter of approval. Nonrefundable 10% paid day of auction w/balance due in cash or certified funds within 30-45 days. Buyers and sellers will be responsible for their own portion of their closing cost. Taxes will be prorated to the date of close. Sells as is where is with no warranties or guarantees. Bidders, buyers, or agent of the buyer is responsible for conducting own inspection of property prior to auction and should rely solely upon their own due diligence and inspection. This property is offered with absolutely no contingencies of any kind, no contingencies on financing, surveys, appraisals, or final walk throughs. Seller has the right to accept or reject final bid. A 10% buyer's premium will apply on Real Estate. Any announcements made day of auction supersede any and all printed material. Sells subject to probate court approval.

Estate of: James King Jr.  
 Owner: Wanda Fowler



Auctioneer:  
 Parker Stumpff  
 AR State Champion  
 Auctioneer

**417-847-2507**

## LOCAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6A  
2805 S. Ingram Mill Road  
Springfield, MO 65804  
Date of first publication  
is: January 14, 2026  
1st insertion 01/14/26  
1-4

## NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S FORECLOSURE SALE

FOR DEFAULT in the payment of debt secured by a Deed of Trust executed by

GALEN EASLEY AND VICKI D. EASLEY, husband and wife, dated April 25, 2008 and recorded on in Book 08, at Page 2575, in the office of the Recorder of Deeds of Barry County, Missouri, the undersigned Trustee will on February 24, 2026 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.,

specifically at 10:00 a.m. at the East Front Court House Door in the City of Cassville, County of

Barry, sell at public venue to the highest bidder for cash the following described real estate located in Barry County, Missouri, to-wit:

Address: 1183 State Hwy W Wheaton, Missouri

Beginning at the Northeast corner of the West Half the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest of the Northeast Quarter of Said Section 34, Township 14, Range 29; Thence South 0 degrees 08 minutes 15 seconds

West a distance of 205 feet; thence North 89 degrees 46 minutes 25 seconds

West a distance of 80 feet; thence North 0 degrees 08 minutes 15 seconds

East a distance of 75-feet; Thence North 89 degrees 46 minutes 25 seconds

West a distance of 70 feet; Thence North 0 degrees 08 minutes 15 seconds

East a distance of 130 feet to the North line of said Section 34; thence

South 89 degrees 46 minutes 25 seconds East along the North line of said

Section 34, a

distance of 150 feet to the point of beginning.

All in Barry County Missouri.

to satisfy said debt and trust.

Please publish: January 14, 2026

January 21, 2026

January 28, 2026

February 04, 2026

Jon Homer,

Trustee

Security Bank of

Southwest Missouri

Blake B. Fields,

Attorney for Trustee

Law Office of Blake B.

Fields, LLC

605 Main Street,

Cassville, MO 65625

1st insertion 01/14/26

1-4

—

## NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

WHEREAS,

JEFFERERY HEALEY

and

KIMBERLY HEALEY,

by their Deed of Trust

signed and dated the 9th

day of March, 2021, and

recorded on March 10th

2021 in the Recorder's

Office for Barry County,

Missouri in Deed of Trust

in Book 21, Page 1494,

conveyed to Robert

Haskins, as Trustee

of The Robert Haskins

Revocable Living Trust

dated November 25, 2014,

the following described real

estate situate in the County

of Barry, State of Missouri,

to-wit;

Lots 10 and 11 in Presley's 2nd Addition to the City of Cassville,

Barry County, Missouri,

and 20 feet off the entire

South side of Lot 9 in

Presley's 2nd Addition to the City of Cassville, Missouri, according to the recorded plat thereof.

which conveyance was made in trust to secure the payment of one certain note in said Deed of Trust described and

WHEREAS, default was made and still continues in payment of said note;

NOW THEREFORE, at the request of the legal holder of said note and in pursuance of the provisions of said Deed of Trust, the undersigned will sell the property above described at public venue to the highest bidder for cash at the East front door of the old County Courthouse in the City of Cassville, Barry County, Missouri, on February 6, 2026, beginning at 9:00 a.m. for the purposes of satisfying said indebtedness and the costs of executing this trust.

James J. Randall trustee  
405 E. Broadway,  
P.O. Box 151  
Monett, Missouri 65708

Telephone: (417) 235-8688

TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE CASSVILLE DEMOCRAT ON:

January 14, 21, 28 and February 4, 2026.

1st insertion 01/14/26  
1-4

—

## TRUSTEE'S SALE

IN RE: Everett Barragar and Marilyn Barragar, husband and wife Trustee's Sale:

For default in payment of debt and performance of obligation secured by Deed of Trust executed by

Everett Barragar and Marilyn Barragar, husband and wife dated February 23, 2011 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Barry County, Missouri in Book 11, Page 1317 the undersigned Successor Trustee, at the request of the legal holder of said Note will

on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 between the hours of

9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., (at the specific time of 10:50 AM), at the East Door of

the Court House, City of

Cassville, Barry County,

State of Missouri, sell at

public venue to the highest

bidding for cash the following

described real estate, described in said Deed of

Trust, and situated in Barry

County, State of Missouri, to wit:

LOT # 69-72, EMERALD BEACH ESTATES

NO. 5, AS PER THE

RECORDED PLAT

THEREOF, RECORDED

IN THE OFFICE OF

THE RECORDER OF

DEEDS, BARRY COUNTY,

MISSOURI.

to satisfy said debt and cost.

MILLSAP & SINGER, P.C.,

Successor Trustee

612 Spirit Drive

St. Louis, MO 63005

(636) 537-0110

File No:

216559.022426.464686 FC

NOTICE

Pursuant to the Fair Debt

Collection Practices Act,

15 U.S.C. §1692c(b), no

information concerning the

collection of this debt may

be given without the prior

consent of the consumer

given directly to the debt

collector or the express

permission of a court of

competent jurisdiction. The

debt collector is attempting

to collect a debt and any

information obtained will be

used for that purpose.

PUBLISH ON:

January 28, 2026

02/04/2026,

02/11/2026,

02/18/2026

1st insertion 01/28/26

3-6

—

## NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S FORECLOSURE SALE

FOR DEFAULT in the

payment of debt secured by a Deed of Trust executed by

Julie Franklin and Braxton Franklin, formerly husband and wife, dated May 24, 2016 and recorded on in Book 16, at Page 2709, in the office of the Recorder of Deeds of Barry County, Missouri the undersigned Trustee will on March 17 2026 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., specifically at 10:00 a.m. at the East Front Court House Door in the City of Cassville, County of Barry, sell at public venue to the highest bidder for cash the following described real estate located in Barry County, Missouri, to-wit:

Address:

17655 Farm Road 1090

Cassville, MO 65625

Beginning at a point 723 feet South of the Northeast Quarter of Southwest Quarter,

Section 25, Township 23, Range 28, Barry County, Missouri; hence South 259 feet to the centerline of a 20 foot roadway; thence West along said centerline 208 Feet west of the point of beginning; thence East 208 feet

to the of beginning.

ALSO at the Northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of Southwest Quarter Section 25, Township 23, Range 20, Barry County Missouri; thence South 982 feet

centerline of a 20 foot roadway; thence West along said centerline 208 feet to the point of beginning; thence North to a point on the South right of way line of another existing roadway,

which said point is 208 feet West and 515 feet

South of Northeast corner of

the Southwest Quarter, thence West along the South line of said roadway

497 Feet; thence South to the centerline of the 20 foot roadway first referred to herein above;

thence Easterly along the centerline of said roadway to the point of beginning.

LESS EXCEPT:

Beginning at a point on the South right of way of an existing roadway which is

398 feet west and 515 feet

South of the Northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 25 Township 23, Range 28; thence West along said road right of way

165 feet, thence South 281 feet, thence East 165 feet; thence North 281 feet to the point of beginning.

EXCEPT: Beginning at a point 515 feet South of the Northeast corner of Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter,

Section 25, Township 23, Range 28, being South of Private Road 2175 thence West 208 feet to the point of beginning, thence

South 208 feet, thence Southwesterly 74 degrees 250 feet, thence North 281 feet to Private Road 2175, thence East 200 feet to the point of beginning Barry County Missouri.

ALSO EXCEPT

Beginning at a point 515 feet South of the Northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter Section 25,

Township 23, Range 28, South of the Private Road 2175, thence West 550 feet for a point of beginning, thence South

281 feet thence West 135 thence North 281 feet, thence East 135 feet to the point of beginning Barry County Missouri.

EXCEPT: Beginning at a point 982 feet South of the Northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter

Section 25, Township 23, Range 28, Barry County,

Missouri to the centerline of Private Road 2176, thence West along said roadway to the Southeast corner of property owned by Patric and Nikki Caddell Recorded in the Recorders Office of Barry County Missouri, filed in

# 2025-2026

# CASSVILLE

# TIP-OFF

Theme: "Adam Sandler"

## Tip-Off Candidates



Cassville's theme for Tip-Off this year is "Adam Sandler." Candidates for Tip-Off royalty are, front row, from left: Freshman Olivia Cypret, of Cassville, daughter of Casey and Anthonly Cypret; senior Layla Bailey, of Cassville, daughter ofd John and the late Tonya Bailey; senior Claire Reuter, of Cassville, daughter of Ben and Jayme Reuter; and junior Taylor Yarnall, of Cassville, daughter of Chad and Kristi Yarnall. Back row: freshman Hayden Jereczek, of Cassville, grandson of Michael Jereczek; senior Timothy Cash, of cassville, son of Eric Cash and Holly Miller; senoir Aiden McBroom, of Cassville, son of Tony and Jennifer McBroom; and junior Carson Cash, of Cassville, son of Jona Anderson and Danel Cash.

### WILDCATS BASKETBALL



Members of the Wildcats basketball team include: Jayden Barker-Ritchie, Carlos Barrientos, Dylan Bohmke, Tyson Bohmke, Mason Bryan, Spencer Drollinger, Nicholas Edie, Mquade Farris, Wylan Farris, Wyatt Hollingsworth, Easton Hughes, Elijah Keeney, Cheney Kelley, Brayden Phillips, Cashis Smith, Kaden Stearns, Baylee Taylor, Grant Varner and Aiden Whittington.

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### LADY WILDCATS BASKETBALL

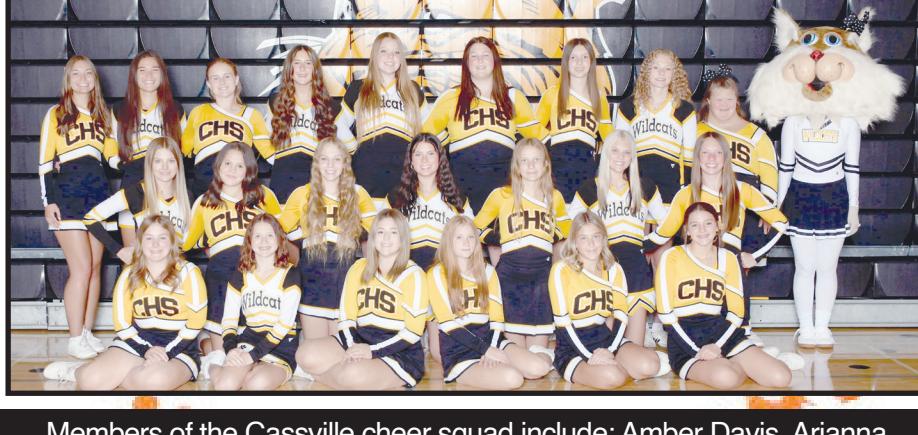


Members of the Lady Wildcats basketball team include: Briley Artherton, Aubrie Atkinson, Tomi Blankenship, Raegan Doucet, Riley Doucet, Brylee Gross, Alexandra Dawn Holycross, Audrey Kennedy, Taylor Kennedy, Addy Ramaeker, Kynzleigh Scott, Brianna Still, Samantha Stockton, Aubrey Stoufer, Mckenzie Wall, Brynn Whittenburg and Madison Yockey.

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[www.barryelectric.com](http://www.barryelectric.com)

### CASSVILLE CHEERLEADING



Members of the Cassville cheer squad include: Amber Davis, Arianna Greathouse, Lili Proffitt, Jadyn Stewart, Caysee Stillings, Courtney Wall, McKenzie Wall, Ava Hinson, Brooklyn Krallman, Kenzie Davis, Emily Anders, Reanna Royalty, Lydia Curbow, Payton Ray, Gracie Maher, Riley Harrison, Hopelyne Thompson, Olivia Cypret, Madison Humphrey, Nevaeh Hall, Lydia Cupps, Olivia Workman and Olivia Miller.



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OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI**  
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Exeter, Missouri  
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Exeter  
**417-835-3465**



Stark City  
**417-638-5513**

# TAKING ON THE TIGERS!

**Cassville vs. Skyline**




**Friday, Feb. 6, 7 p.m.**

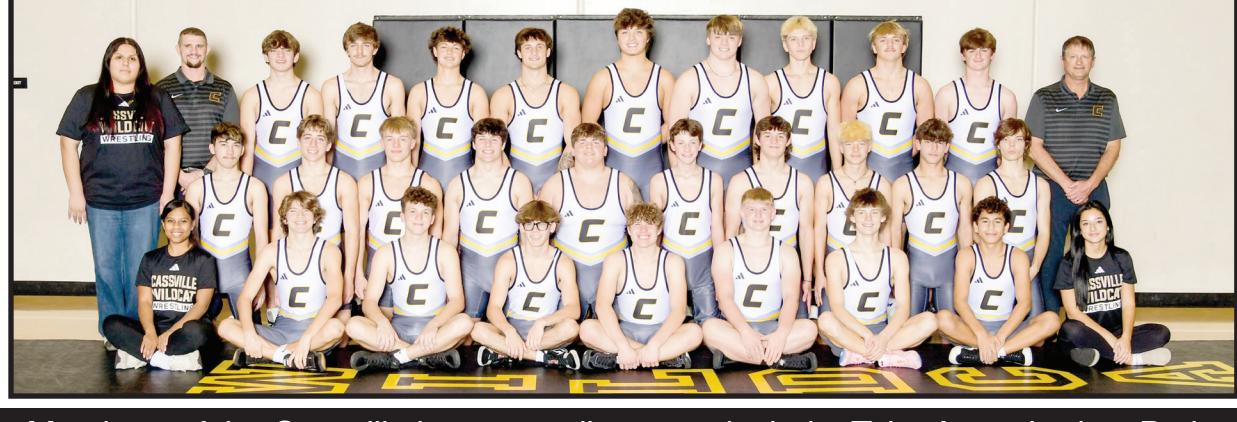


**Aiden Whittington**

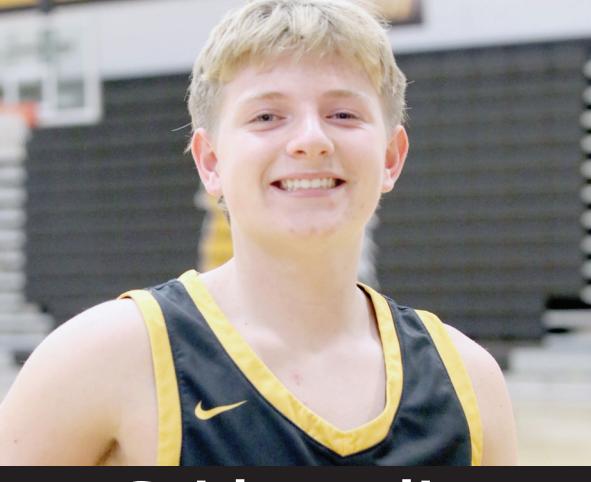
**Mike's AUTO CARE**  
417-228-6085 Cassville, MO

Go 'Cats!  
10010 FR 2160, CASSVILLE

## CASSVILLE WRESTLING



Members of the Cassville boys wrestling team include: Tyler Annecharico, Brylar Beranek, Joshua Crawford, Koby Fare, Kole Fry, Trevor Garnett, Zaiden Hall, Tyler Hodge, Rylen Holman, Carson Hutchens, Jesse James, Riley James, Devin Johns, Bonifacio Lopez, Zachary Myers, Logan Parsons, Mason Rillstone, Colton Roark, Travis Rodgers, Braydyn Sizemore, Ethan Sizemore, Easton Stone, Tristan Thompson, Noah Urias, Kellen Craig Weldy and Michael Winchell.



**Caiden Edie**

**Cassville Democrat**

Go Wildcats!  
600 Main St., Cassville • 417-847-2610



**Carlos Barrientos**

**Chad Yarnall**

Multi-Line Agent

417-847-3399

cyarnall@mof.com

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Members of the Cassville girls wrestling team include: Isabella Bauman, Allison Deaver, Myah Dunfee, Gracy Farsungchin, Estrella Garcia, Alexis Lands, Molly Pickett, Emma Roney, Hopelyne Raschelle Thompson, Anna VanDerhoef and Analeigh Winchell.



**Cash Smith**

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9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday



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**DIESEL PERFORMANCE**  
**& AUTO REPAIR**

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**Cheney Kelley**

**Fohn Funeral Home**

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Fohn, Cassville ~ McQueen, Wheaton



**Dylan Bohmke**

**Cassville Democrat**

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**Easton Hughes**

**Fohn Funeral Home**

THE AREA'S MOST OFTEN CHOSEN  
FUNERAL HOME

Fohn, Cassville ~ McQueen, Wheaton



Elijah Keeney

**Chad Yarnall**

Multi-Line Agent

417-847-3399

cyarnall@mof.com



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Grant Varner

**Chad Yarnall**

Multi-Line Agent

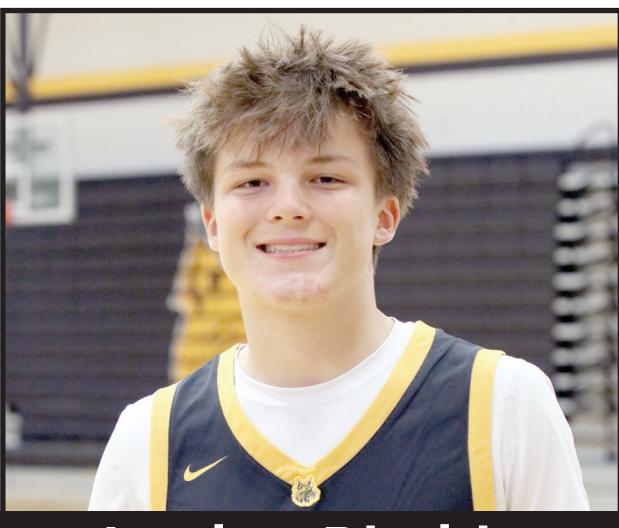
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Jayden Ritchie

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Kaden Stearns

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Masin Bryan

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(417) 847-0470

Mquade Farris

**Go Wildcats!**  
600 Main St., Cassville • 417-847-2610

Spencer Drollingher

**Go Wildcats!**  
600 Main St., Cassville • 417-847-2610

Tyson Bohmke

**ARVEST**503 Main St.  
Cassville

Member FDIC

417-846-1500

arvest.com



Wyatt Hollingsworth

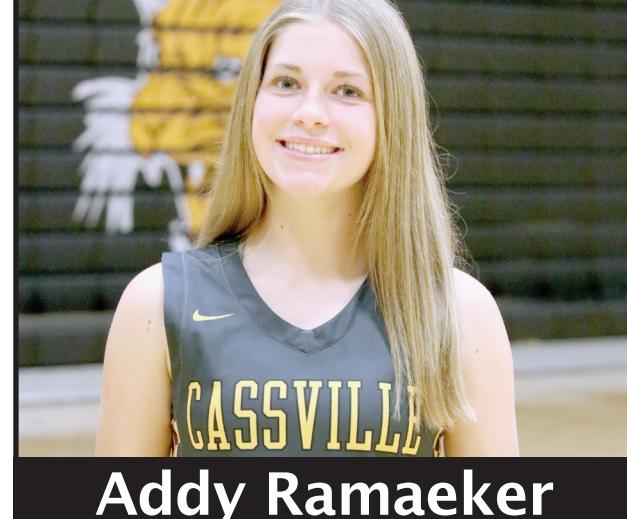
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9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday



Addy Ramaeker

**Chad Yarnall**

Multi-Line Agent

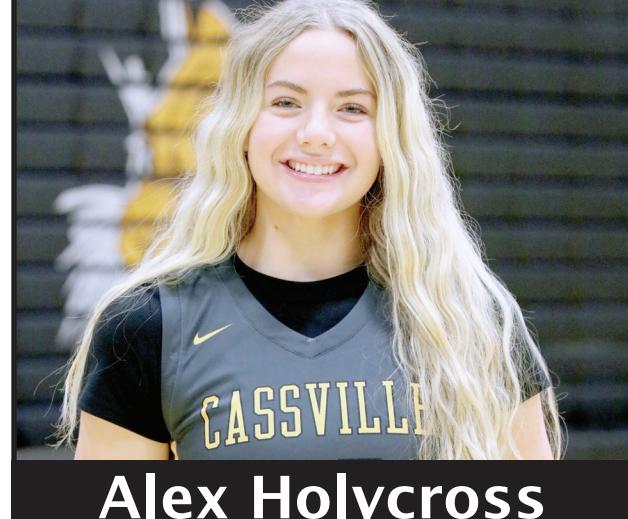
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Alex Holycross

**ARVEST**503 Main St.  
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Samantha Stockton

**Fohn Funeral Home**

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Fohn, Cassville ~ McQueen, Wheaton



Aubrey Stoufer

**ARVEST**503 Main St.  
Cassville

Member FDIC

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arvest.com



Aubrie Atkinson

**Chad Yarnall**

Multi-Line Agent

417-847-3399

cyarnall@mof.com



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Audrey Kennedy

**Go Lady 'Cats!**

417-228-6085

Cassville, MO

10010 FR 2160, CASSVILLE



Bri Still

Cassville CONTINUING TO COVER BASES  
CLOSER  
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Briley Artherton

ARVEST

503 Main St.  
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arvest.com

Brylee Gross

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Go Lady  
'Cats!  
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Brynn Whittneburg

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9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday



Kynzleigh Scott

 **Mike's  
AUTO CARE**  
417-228-6085 Cassville, MO

Go Lady  
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Madison Yockey

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Makenzi Wall

Cassville CONTINUING TO COVER BASES  
CLOSER  
LIKE THE MORNING NEWS Democrat

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600 Main St., Cassville • 417-847-2610

Reagan Doucet

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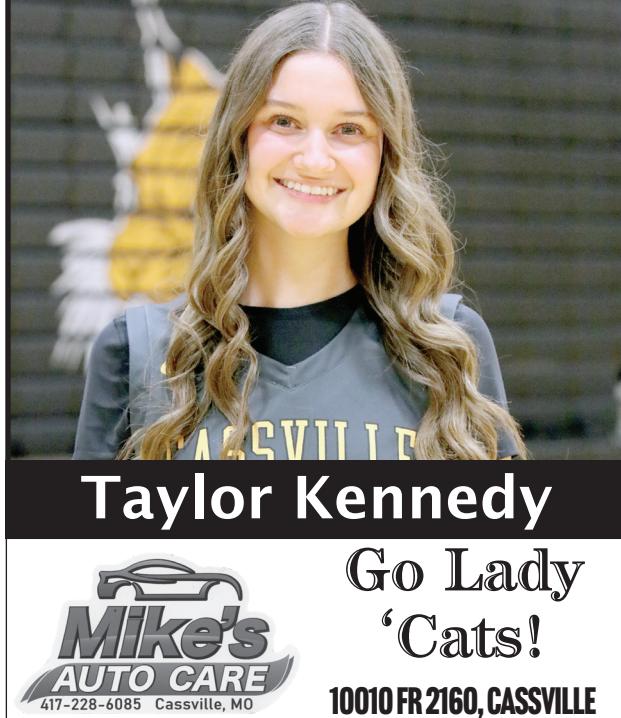
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