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PHOTOS: 3 CASSVILLE STUDENTS ENLIST — PAGE 10A

LADY WILDCATS FALL IN TITLE GAME >>>

Cassville unable to overcome Nevada shooting, defense. — PAGE 1B

CASSVILLE Democrat
MARCH 11, 2026 | CASSVILLE-DEMOCRAT.COM

Teen escapes alleged abuser, hides in ditch for an hour

Butterfield man facing pair of felonies following altercation

BY KYLE TROUTMAN
ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

FELONY ARREST
Who: Scotty Hall, 53, of Butterfield
What: Is charged with first-degree endangering the welfare of a child and second-degree domestic assault
Bond: Released on own recognizance on Monday

A Butterfield man is facing two felonies after an altercation with a teenager where he allegedly strangled the victim.

Scotty Hall, 53, of Butterfield, is charged with first-degree endangering the welfare of a child and second-degree domestic assault.

According to a probable cause statement filed by Deputy K. Jordan, with the Barry County Sheriff's Office, on Feb. 11 in Butterfield, Hall and the victim, a juvenile under the age of 17, were involved in a physical altercation where Hall allegedly "strangled" the victim by putting both hands around the victim's neck and "squeezed," causing a laceration to the left side of the victim's neck and front of the victim's neck.

Hall then allegedly pushed the victim to the ground to prevent the victim from leaving the residence. The victim continued to leave the residence to "get away," at which point Hall allegedly "grabbed" the victim by the leg and "forced" the victim back inside the residence.

The victim was able to escape by grabbing the leg of a witness and "pulling" until free, at which point the victim ran down a dark back

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2A

SALES TAXES
Overall: 4% increase countywide
Cassville: New February record
County: Up more than $11,200, or nearly 5%, from last February

Sales tax income rises in February

With use taxes, all recipients see gains

BY MURRAY BISHOFF
Special to the Cassville Democrat

Sales tax revenues to Barry County cities and county bodies showed continued growth in February, though not all the totals showed across the board increases.

Countywide taxes showed a 4% increase. The seven cities collecting sales tax grew in part because of the seven-month-old police sales tax in Seligman. Factoring out that tax, sales tax revenues reflected a 1% drop. However, hefty growth in use taxes more than offset the dip.

Cassville's 1% sales tax paying general bills generated $127,841.73, up $202.53 from a year ago. All four Cassville sales taxes had a combined revenue growth of less than $500. The totals still represented a new February record.

On top of that, Cassville's use tax of $40,730.72 for the month was up another $17,500.35 or 75%. That put revenues for the month up nearly $18,000 or 5.5% from last February. Cassville's general fund receipts for 2026 are up by more than $40,000 from the start of 2025.

Seligman's 1% sales tax paying general bills yielded $15,909.37, up $2,321.69 from a year ago. That put the general fund total for the year up by more than $3,000. The one-cent sales tax supporting police services added another $15,836.41 to city coffers. Without the new police tax, Seligman's revenues including its use tax are up 15% for the year. With the police tax, tax income is up more than $21,000 or 55%.

Wheaton's 1% sales tax for its general fund received $6,53.71, up $1,557.90 from last February. Even more surprising, Wheaton's half-cent tax was exactly half of the one-cent, a rare balancing. Wheaton's use tax was nearly even with last February. That put receipts for the month up by more than $2,000, or 29%, from the same month a year ago.

Purdy saw revenues from its sales taxes rise by the slightest of margins. The city's 1% sales tax for its general fund took in $5,099.58, up $8.14 from

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3A

MASTER GARDENERS
What: Hosting "Let's Get Growing" spring workshop
When: March 21 in Cassville starting at 9 a.m.
Programs: Invasive plants, winter interest planting, permaculture

New topics to be detailed at 'Let's Get Growing'

Annual Master Gardeners workshop March 21 in Cassville

Barry County Master Gardeners will host the annual "Let's Get Growing" spring workshop on March 21 in Cassville, starting at 9 a.m.

"We are excited to be introducing some new topics and speakers this spring, so be sure you attend," a Master Gardeners press release said. "We will meet at a new location – Cassville Methodist Church on Gravel Street."

The Master Gardeners have had requests for information on invasive plants, and the group has found a speaker to address this topic. Rhonda Rimer has been a Natural History Biologist with the Missouri Department of Conservation for 26 years. She has worked throughout the central and eastern Ozarks as well as the western prairie region of the state. She will identify some of these bothersome plants and advise attendees on how to deal with them.

E. J. Adams became a member of Missouri Master

CONTINUED ON PAGE XX

Author ent-ARR-tains on Family Night

Author Izzy B, dressed as a pirate, speaks to the audience during a Title I Family Night stage presentation Thursday, featuring animated produce characters projected behind him that will be characters in his soon-to-be-released book. Gwendylan Harmon/Cassville Democrat Intern

Weather Service urges Barry County residents to prepare for spring storms

With spring approaching in the Ozarks, meteorologists are urging residents in Barry County and surrounding areas to review severe weather safety plans as the region enters one of its most active storm seasons.

Officials with the National Weather Service office in Springfield say warmer temperatures expected this spring will increase the potential for severe thunderstorms, tornadoes and flash flooding across southwest Missouri, including Barry County.

The reminders coincided with Severe Weather Preparedness Week, observed March 2-6 in Missouri and Kansas. The annual campaign encourages residents to review emergency plans and better understand how weather alerts and warnings work.

Spring outlook

According to the weather service, seasonal outlooks call for slightly above-normal temperatures across the region, while precipitation is expected to fall near typical levels.

While that forecast does not guarantee severe storms, spring historically brings the highest frequency of dangerous weather to southwest Missouri.

Thunderstorms in the region can produce damaging winds, large hail and tornadoes. Even storms that are not considered severe can still produce lightning, heavy rain and localized flooding.

Understanding severe weather risk levels

Forecasters categorize severe weather threats using a scale developed by the Storm Prediction Center that ranges from marginal to high risk.

A marginal risk generally means isolated severe storms are possible, often producing wind gusts between 40 and 60 mph or hail up to about one inch in diameter. Slight and enhanced risk levels indicate increasing storm coverage and intensity, with the possibility of tornadoes, damaging winds and larger hail.

Higher categories — moderate or high risk — signal the potential for widespread severe

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NEWS BRIEFS

Ozark Country Quilters show April 10-11

O C the Quilts is a judged quilt show presented by the Ozark Country Quilters of Cassville/Monett. In addition to over 200 items displayed, there will be a quilt turning, demonstrations, vendors, boutique, opportunity quilt, special exhibits and knife/scissor sharpening. The event will be on April 10 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and April 11 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Crowder College in Cassville, located at 4020 N. Main. Admission is $5, and children under 12 are free.

Jenkins voters urged to vote absentee

Due to the bridge closure on Highway 248 over Flat Creek, voters in the Jenkins precinct are encouraged to vote absentee, especially those living on the West side of Flat Creek, due to the long detour that would be needed to get to the polling place on election day. Absentee voting is open Monday-Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the County Clerk's office, located 700 Main, Ste. 2, in Cassville. For more information, people may contact the Clerk's office at 417-847-2561 or by email at jennis@barrycountyclerk.com.

Master Gardeners' spring workshop on March 21

The Master Gardeners are hosting a spring workshop on March 21 from 9-1. Refreshments will be provided. Please note that there is a change of location this year: it will be held at the Methodist Church, located at 601 Gravel St., instead of the Family Life Center in Cassville. People may preregister with the Barry County MU Extension Office by calling 417-847-3161 or emailing Barryco@missouri.edu. Preregistration fee is $10, and walk-ins will be $12. Speakers include E.J. Adams on planting for winter interest, Rhonda Rime on dealing with invasive plants, and Lesa Queen and Jack Spurlin on permaculture.

Capps Creek Road District to meet

The Capps Creek Special Road District will meet in regular session on March 19 at noon at the home of Garry and Pam Bartkoski, located at 5086 Farm Road 2057 in Monett. The public is welcome to attend.

Missi Hekseth to speak at event

The Barry County Democrats are inviting the public to an open community information and public dialogue event featuring Missi Hesketh, Democratic Candidate for 7th Congressional District. The event will be held Wednesday (today) at 6 p.m. at the Eagle Shell Knob VFW Hall, located at 24204 St. Hwy. 39 in Shell Knob.

Cassville preschool, Kinder Academy, kindergarten screenings in April

The Cassville school district screening dates have been set for preschool, kinder academy and kindergarten students for the 2026-2027 school year. All screenings will take place in the FEMA 1 Building, located next to the football field. Families with an eligible child for either preschool or kindergarten screening should call the Primary Office at 417-847-2445 to make an appointment. Preschool screenings are April 13 and April 15. Preschool screening is for children ages three and four who live in the Cassville school district and will be 3 at the time of screening. Please plan for 30-45 minutes for the preschool screening appointment. Current Cassville preschool students do not need to participate in the screening. Kinder Academy and Kindergarten screenings are April 14 and April 16. Children that are 5 years old on or before July 31 should be screened for kindergarten. Families whose children are being screened for kinder academy or kindergarten should bring the following items to their appointment: Official birth certificate, immunization (shot) record, proof of residency (utility bill with name and address, real estate contract or rental agreement) and parent/guardian's photo ID. Anyone with questions may call 417-847-2445.

Strawberry-picking program at Historical Society

Did you pick strawberries growing up? Jim Randall, Monett attorney, draws on four generations of farming strawberries, with railroad connections, for an entertaining program on Tuesday from 7-8 p.m. at the Monett Historical Museum Event Center at 422 Broadway. There is no admission charge for the program.

4-H hosting 5K and 1-Mile Fun Run

The Barry County 4-H will host a 5K and 1-Mile Fun Run fundraiser on March 21 starting at the Cassville Aquatic Center, located at 501 Sale Barn Road in Cassville. Check-in is at 8 a.m., and the race begins at 9 a.m. Cost is $25 for adults and $15 for students, and cost for the 1-Mile Fun Run is $20. People may register online at https://pears.io/events/mu/4287/, or at the MU Extension office, located in the Barry County Courthouse, by March 1.

Summer Putting League kicks off April in southwest Missouri

Mini golf enthusiasts are invited to tee it up this summer with the Summer Putting League, running from April through September and featuring monthly competitive play at two local courses. League play will take place on the first and third Tuesday of each month, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Each event will consist of 36 holes, with an entry fee of $20 per night. The first Tuesday of each month will be at Coral Reef Mini Golf in Branson, and the third Tuesday of each month will be at Zone 4 Mini Golf and More in Cassville. The season will conclude with a championship event, scheduled for October or November, where league participants will compete for top honors. The Summer Putting League is open to players looking for fun, friendly competition throughout the warmer months. For more information or questions about the league, people may contact, Jody Kimble at 479-831-6757.

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.

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 today, 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 can 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. The last day to request an absentee ballot by mail is March 25. 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.

Hall: Released on OR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

road wearing a T-shirt and shorts and hid in a ditch for approximately one hour in 49-degree temperatures until located by two witnesses.

Jordan said while the victim was reporting the events of escaping to him, the vicim was shaking and began to cry, stating, "I couldn't let go of [the witness'] leg. I was scared [the witness] was going to leave, and I couldn't be left there by myself.

Jordan noted in the statement Hall has multiple felony convictions from 1997 to 2019, including possession of a controlled substance, non-support and receiving stolen property.

Jordan also noted the victim's injuries were consistent with strangulation, and the victim had defensive wounds on their arms and legs, which Jordan said were a result of Hall's actions.

Jordan said the day after the investigation started, Hall fled to Florida.

Hall was arrested on Friday on a cash-only bond of $50,000. He was released on his own recognizance on Monday, as the victim did not want Hall in custody. A condition of the release is that Hall has no contact with the victim.

A preliminary hearing in the case is set for April 16 at 1 p.m. in the courtroom of Judge Robert Foulke.

Barry County Health Corner

What your child's blood lead test means

The blood lead test tells you how much lead is in your child's blood.

Lead can harm a child's growth, behavior and ability to learn. The lower the test result, the better. However, no lead level has been proven safe.

Lead poisoning occurs when children lick, swallow or breathe in dust from lead paint. Most homes built before 1978 have old lead paint, often under newer paint. If paint peels, cracks, or is worn down, the chips and dust from the old lead paint can spread onto floors, windowsills and all around your home.

Mining has occurred in a large portion of Missouri. High levels of lead in the air, dust, and soil have been found in areas surrounding mining activity. Mining waste in these areas has been used for driveways, land fill material, and even in children's play area.

Other sources of lead include drinking water, jewelry, pottery and occupational exposures brought home. Lead paint, dust and other materials containing lead may get onto children's hands and into their mouth and swallowed or inhaled.

Many children have had some contact with lead in old paint, soil, plumbing or other sources. All children under the age of 6 should be screened for lead risk factors at each well child check. If a child is at risk for lead poisoning, he or she should be tested.

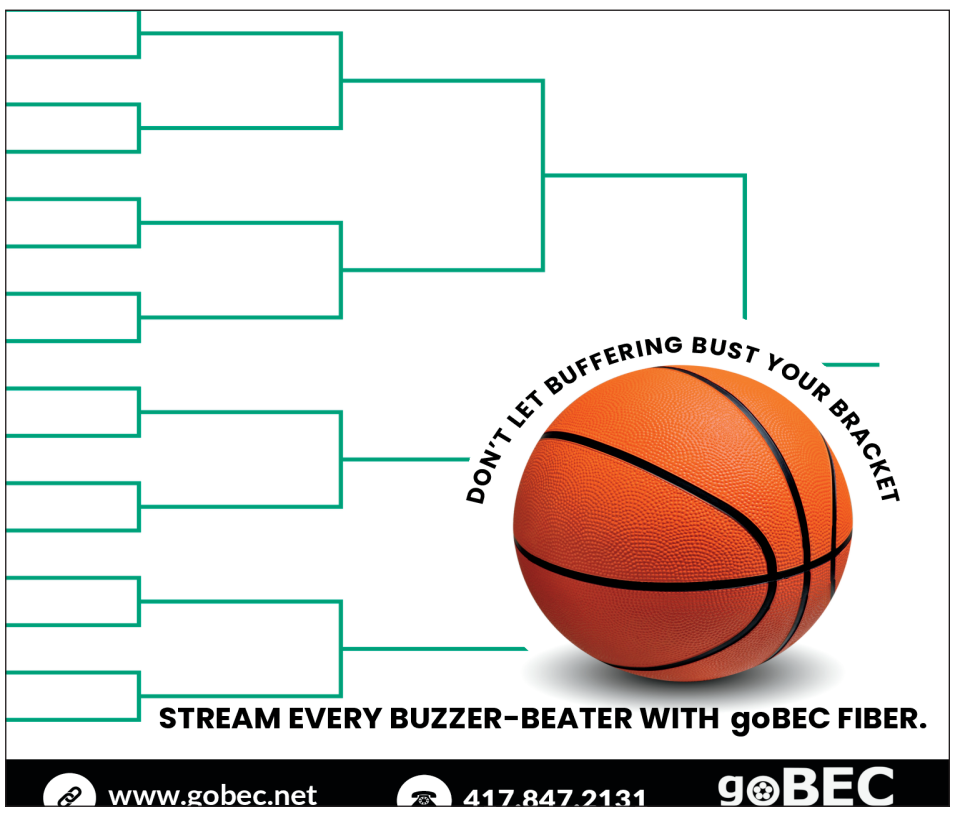
All children under the age of 4 should be provided lead education and offered a test yearly. For children up to age 6, your doctor or nurse should ask you at every well child visit about ways your child may have had contact with lead. Children who have had contact with lead should be tested. Additionally, Federal requirements are to blood lead test all children receiving Medicaid benefits at ages 12-24 months, at a minimum.

The Barry County Health Department offers a capillary lead screening test for children age 1-5 years old. We also offer lead case management for children with elevated blood lead levels. Through case management we give parents educational and nutritional advice to help lower the child's levels.

We work with the parent to ensure that the child is following up with their private physician. Blood testing must be done at regular intervals to ensure that levels are returning to normal limits.

If your child needs a lead screening, please call the Barry County Health Department at 417-847-2114 for more information.

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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CORRECTIONS

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.

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COVERING BARRY COUNTY LIKE THE MORNING DEW

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P.O. Box 486 • 600 Main Street • Cassville, MO 65625
Phone: 417-847-2610
Email address: cassvilledemocrat@outlook.com
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STAFF
Jordan Troutman. . . . . Office Manager/Reporter
Kyle Troutman. . . . . Editor/Sports Editor/Graphic Designer
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Staff promotions announced at Security Bank of Southwest Missouri

Security Bank of Southwest Missouri has announced several staff promotions, recognizing the experience, dedication, and leadership of team members across multiple departments, a bank press release said..

Morgan Mitchell has been promoted to Consumer Loan Officer. Mitchell has been with Security Bank since 2023 and brings more than five years of banking experience to her new role.

Nicole Howe has been promoted to Teller Supervisor and Bank Secrecy Act Officer. howe has more than 10 years of banking experience and will help lead front-line operations while ensuring regulatory compliance.

Annette Williamson will be taking on an expanded role within the bank's Operations Department, in addition to her current responsibilities in New Accounts. Williamson brings more than 20 years of banking experience to the position.

Sharllana Gonzales has been named Electronic Data Processing Department Supervisor. Gonzales has been a valued member of the Security Bank team for more than 10 years.

Andrea Blankenship has been named the bank's Internal Auditor. Blankenship brings more than 10 years of banking experience to her new role.

"Security Bank congratulates Morgan, Nicole, Annette, Sharllana and Andrea on their well-deserved promotions and continued contributions to serving the bank's customers and community," the release said.

Morgan Mitchell, Nicole Howe, Annette Williamson, Sharllana Gonzales and Andrea Blankenship have received promotions at Security Bank of Southwest Missouri. Contributed photo

Workshop: Two presenters from Lincoln University Extension

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Gardeners in 2002 and has been active in Barry County Master Gardeners since their formation in 2015. Her presentation will be focused on planting for winter interest in attendees' gardens and landscapes.

"Many plants are not only beautiful in the spring and summer but produce a different kind of beauty that adds interest to the winter landscape as well," the press release said.

Two presenters from Lincoln University Extension will introduce the concept of Permaculture to attendees. Lesa Queen is a farm outreach worker for the southwest region of the state and lives on a Missouri Century Farm with her husband, Mike.

Jack Spurlin retired in 2019 from Missouri Southern State University where he was a criminal justice professor and began researching and writing "The Purpose Pursuit: A Living Journal." He also established a foundation, PLANT, which stands for Permaculture Learning and Natural Teaching.

Spurlin is a Master Gardener and a Master Naturalist. Lisa and Jack Queen will provide an overview of permaculture, a design approach that works with natural systems to create sustainable food production while minimizing waste, conserving resources and enhancing long-term productivity from backyard gardens to diversified farms.

"We are excited about these learning opportunities and hope that you will plan to join us on March 21," the press release said. "We encourage you to pre-register with Barry County Extension at 417-847-3161, or by emailing Barryco@missouri.edu."

Preregistered guests will pay $10 for the workshop. Walk-ins are welcome and will pay $12.00.

The Master Gardeners will provide snacks, beverages door prizes and vendors.

Weather: More detailed language in warnings

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

weather, including strong tornadoes or large wind events that can cause extensive damage.

Alerts and warnings

Residents may notice more detailed language in some warnings due to "impact-based warning" tags used by the weather service.

Severe thunderstorm, tornado and flash flood warnings can include three impact levels: base, considerable and catastrophic or destructive.

Warnings labeled catastrophic or destructive can trigger wireless emergency alerts on cell phones within the warned area, notifying residents of particularly dangerous storms. Tornado warnings also activate emergency alerts automatically when issued.

Meteorologists emphasize that alerts are based on geographic "polygons," meaning phones will only sound if the user is located within the warned area.

Flooding risks in the Ozarks

Flash flooding remains a major concern in southwest Missouri, where heavy rainfall can quickly overwhelm creeks, streams and low-water crossings common across rural roads in Barry County.

The weather service monitors rivers and streams using several flood stage levels.

"Action stage" indicates water levels are approaching a point where minor impacts may occur, while minor flooding can affect roads and property near waterways. Moderate or major flooding may require evacuations and can disrupt daily life as structures and infrastructure are affected.

Flash flood warnings are issued when rapidly rising water is imminent or already occurring, often affecting low-lying areas and road crossings that are normally dry.

Outdoor safety

As warmer weather brings more outdoor recreation to the Ozarks, meteorologists also remind residents to remain aware of lightning and sudden storms.

Lightning can strike as far as 10 miles from a thunderstorm, even when skies overhead appear mostly clear. The weather service recommends heading indoors whenever thunder is heard.

The reminder is particularly relevant for outdoor areas popular with visitors in Barry County, including Roaring River State Park.

Before heading outdoors, residents are encouraged to check forecasts at weather.gov and monitor weather alerts throughout the day.

Reporting severe weather

Residents can also assist meteorologists by reporting severe weather when it occurs.

Reports of hail size, tornado sightings, flooding or wind damage help confirm storm intensity and can assist forecasters in issuing or continuing warnings while storms are ongoing.

Officials recommend including the time, location and photos when possible.

Serving southwest Missouri

The Springfield forecast office provides forecasts and warnings for 34 counties across southern Missouri and three counties in southeastern Kansas.

Meteorologists monitor numerous lakes, rivers and parks throughout the region and provide forecasts for aviation, fire weather, winter weather, severe storms and hydrology.

The office also launches weather balloons twice daily to collect atmospheric data, which helps improve the accuracy of weather models and forecasts used across the country.

Officials say preparation remains the best defense against severe weather.

By understanding alerts, monitoring forecasts and having a plan in place, residents can reduce risk as the Ozarks move into another spring storm season, the Weather Service said.

Taxes:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

last February. Purdy's three sales taxes received $16.80 more than a year ago. It was the fifth consecutive month Purdy received higher tax revenues. Revenues are up by more than $2,000, or 13%, to start 2026.

Washburn saw a similar gain. Its 1% general fund tax generated $5,213.94 in February, a gain of $204.93. Receipts from Washburn's use tax nearly doubled from last February, putting the month's combined increase from all its taxes up by more than $2,400, or 20%, from a year ago.

The only town falling short in February was Exeter, whose 1% sales tax generated $3,486.60, down $1,099.95 from a year ago. However, Exeter's use tax doubled proceeds from last February. Combining both taxes resulted in a $109.17 gain from a year ago.

Monett, the big sales tax generator in the county, saw its two sales taxes supporting its general fund produce $225,900.25 for the month, a drop of $7,574.03 from last February. Monett's six taxes collected a year ago showed a combined income drop of nearly $17,000 from a year ago.

However, Monett's use tax, which drains revenues from sales taxes, pulled in $153,103.43, up more than $56,000, or 58%, from a year ago, offsetting the monthly drop three times over. That put Monett's combined revenues for the month up by nearly $40,000, or more than 6%.

Countywide taxes made strong showings as well.

Barry County's two older half-cent sales taxes supporting the county's general fund and road maintenance each brought in more than $255,736, up more than $11,200, or nearly 5%, from last February. Receipts from the county's use tax skyrocketed, nearly two-and-a-half times last February's sum. That put receipts for the month from the county's four sales taxes and its use tax up by more than $228,000, or more than 24%, from a year ago.

The .375% sales tax collected separately to run central dispatching and 911 services generated $191,801.74, up $8,414.98 from last February. That represented a nearly $30,000 gain for the first two months of the year over 2025.

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COMMENTARY

COMMUNITY VOICES

Barry County and people

LYNN HILBURN

In previous editorials, I've discussed land in Missouri and in Barry County and how things developed for the first white settlements in Barry County. I will review some of that briefly.

As we know, Missouri became part of the US territories with the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. The southern portion, the portion below the south Missouri "border" line, was referred to the Orleans Territory. The land north of the southern Missouri border was first referred to as the Louisiana Territory, and after 1812, it was referred to as the Missouri Territory.

As we referenced, a territory could not get a voting representative in Congress until it had over 5,000 people, and once it reached 50,000 people, it could become a state. After Missouri set its north boundary, the state was divided into five counties, and the land in southern and southwest Missouri was part of New Madrid County at the time of statehood in 1821. In the early 1830s as the state became more populated it was determined that there needed to be a greater number of counties in order that each area of the state could be more appropriately represented.

The southwest corner of the state, consisting of Jasper, Newton, McDonald, the southern portion of Lawrence, a piece of northern Stone and Barry counties was organized into a "large" county and was named after the sitting US Postmaster General of President Andrew Jackson's cabinet, William T Barry. The county seat was a community called Mount Pleasant, which at the time was approximately two miles east of Pierce City. After McDonald and Newton County were taken away from "Barry" County, the county seat was moved to a community where Little Flat Creek joined into Flat Creek called McDonald, or McDowell.

After the portion of Lawrence County and the small piece of Stone County were removed, and due to the law that the county seat had to be within six miles of the center of the county, in 1845, the county seat was moved to its present home in Cassville. At the time of the county seat selection there were only three homes near the center of Barry County, and it has been reported that Mr. John O. Burton, who owned the land just north of Cassville, (this was land where the future Crystal Springs Fish Hatchery was to be located) campaigned that his land and home should be county seat.

A second home was that of Littleberry Mason, which was on the east side of Flat Creek near where the baseball fields are. The third choice was the home of William Kerr, who owned a house where the old LeCompte Lumber Company used to be. It was close to the Trail of Tears, close to Flat Creek, but not in a flood prone area. It must have been quite a house, as besides serving as living quarters for the Kerr family, it served as the county courthouse for a few years, and a Mr. Culton rented out one room and ran a small store until a separate store was built.

There was other competition for county seat. Before moving the county seat to Cassville, there were only two towns with stores in Barry County. One was in McDonald (McDowell) and the other was in Washburn (or Keetsville or O'Day). Since Keetsville was within six miles of the center of the county, the people of Keetsville thought they should be the county seat, since they already had an established town. Also, there were people at Exeter who thought that Exeter should be the county seat, especially after they got the railroad going through their town.

Why the name Cassville, which I also wondered growing up here? Cassville was named after US Senator Louis Cass from the state of Michigan, who had also been a soldier and a diplomat in the Northwest Territory. It is believed that Littleberry Mason and Senator Cass knew each other from the War of 1812.

A story of interest about Mr. Cass. After the Aaron Burr and Alexander Hamilton Duel in 1804, Aaron Burr's political life in Washington was over. Burr went to the Northwest Territory and tried to establish himself as a leader and started trying to establish the Northwest Territory as another country with himself as a monarch or an emperor of the territory. Remember, the Northwest Territory was Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, part of Illinois and Minnesota, east of the Mississippi River.

Also, Burr was trying to work a deal with Mexico on getting part of Texas and New Mexico as part of his "empire." Louis Cass had been appointed by Jefferson as a US Marshall over the state of Ohio, and since there were no other marshals and/or not much law north of and west of Ohio, he was also a US Marshall for the Northwest Territory. When Cass determined what Burr was trying to do, he very quickly notified President Jefferson, and Jefferson had Burr arrested and charged him with treason. Mr. Cass' prompt action may have prevented the United States from another civil war, because there was one issue upon which Mr. Cass could not be dissuaded, and that was that "nothing was going to break up our United States."

I still haven't gotten to too many people in Barry County, have I? Well, here it goes. There have been artifacts found and historical items discovered, especially around some of our caves, that indicate that there were probably people here in southwest Missouri as long as 7,000 years ago. As we discussed earlier, there were several Indian tribes in this area, mainly the Delaware, the Osage and the Sioux, that roamed through and settled in this area for as many as 2,000 years before the "white" settlers came. Many of you, if you are older than 50, may remember the store at Bates Corner on Hwy 76/86, where Mr. Bates had hundreds of Indian artifacts. In fact, it could be said that he had a mini museum there.

Back to people. Edmond Jennings is said to have been the first white American to come to southwest Missouri and stay a while in 1817. In 1818 and 1819, Henry' R. Schoolcraft and Levi Pettibone left St. Louis and came and explored the area but did not stay. And finally, in 1827, the first people to set up residency in Barry County is believed to be Sam Washburn and his family, who started his settlement about 8 miles south of Cassville at the location of the town called, you guessed it, Washburn.

A strange thing about the town of Washburn. The Washburn family left to go help fight for Texas independence from Mexico In the mid 1830s, so that they could/would receive a large quantity of land. While they were gone, two brothers named Keets started another town just east of the old Washburn settlement and called it Keetsville, and they had more than one successful store there.

After the railroad was brought through the area, another group of people started a town along the railroad called O'Day, and they thought their town should be county seat.

Apparently, things did not go as well in Texas as what the Washburn family thought, so after the Civil War, they came back to the area. Since the Keets families were not as prominent after the war, having been raided several times by both the Northern and the Southern armies, and no one could remember who O'Day was, the town name was changed back to Washburn.

Well, we still didn't get to too many people or families in early Barry County, but I promise you that we will next time. especially regarding Littleberry Mason.

Lynn Hilburn is an officer in the Barry County Genealogical and Historical Society, and invites all to come and join meetings, to provide information about their families or to look up information about their families. Hilburn may be reached at hlhilburn@hotmail.com.

COMMUNITY VOICES

The radical spirit of Cassville

TERRY HELD

The word radical has become a strange word in modern America.

Turn on the television or scroll through social media, and it is usually used as an accusation. A radical is someone unreasonable. Someone extreme. Someone bent on tearing things down.

But historically, the word meant something quite different. The word radical comes from the Latin radix, meaning root. To be radical is to return to the roots. It means holding fast to the principles that gave something life in the first place.

If that is the case, then perhaps Cassville is one of the most radical towns in America.

As the United States approaches the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in 2026, Americans will pause to reflect on what has allowed this republic to endure for two and a half centuries. Nations have risen and fallen in far less time. Yet the great American experiment continues.

One reason lies in a simple idea the founders understood well: The most important office in our republic is not president, senator or governor. It is the office of the citizenry. Citizenship is not merely a legal status. It is a responsibility. It is an inheritance passed from one generation to the next. A citizen is not meant to sit on the sidelines. A citizen participates.

And that is where the radical spirit of Cassville becomes visible. In Cassville, people show up. They show up for their neighbors. They show up for their schools. They show up for their town when something needs doing.

You see it in the steady rhythm of civic organizations like Rotary, whose members gather week after week not merely to share a meal but to ask a simple question: How can we make this town better than we found it?

Rotary has long served as a kind of civic heartbeat in Cassville, bringing together citizens who understand that healthy communities require steady care and thoughtful attention.

You see it in the work of our city government, led by City Administrator Richard Asbill and Mayor Jon Horner, who have not been afraid to lead boldly about Cassville's future. The construction of the 7th Street Bridge is more than an infrastructure project. It is a quiet declaration that this town intends to move forward, not simply stand still.

The same spirit is evident in the transformation of the old theatre property into a Pocket Park. This is a reminder that communities do not thrive by accident. They thrive because citizens care enough to imagine what something worn and forgotten might become again.

And you see it in our public schools, where teachers show up every day not only to deliver lessons but to shape the habits of citizenship in the next generation. They teach young people how to think, how to listen, how to work together and how to take responsibility for the communities they will someday inherit.

Education, at its best, prepares students not only for careers, but for citizenship.

That mission continues just up the road at Crowder College, where students from across Barry County find opportunity close to home. Community colleges often work quietly, but their influence is profound. They open doors. They expand horizons. And, they strengthen the civic fabric of the communities they serve.

When you step back and look at these pieces together, Rotary meetings, thoughtful city leadership, dedicated schools, and institutions like Crowder — you begin to see something larger emerging.

You begin to see the architecture of citizenship — the "Radical Spirit of Cassville."

Nearly two centuries ago, the French observer Alexis de Tocqueville traveled across the young United States and marveled at the habits of its people. Americans, he wrote, had an unusual tendency to form associations and take responsibility for the life of their communities. Ordinary citizens accepted obligations that in other nations were left entirely to distant authorities. That observation could easily describe Cassville today. The radical spirit of Cassville is not loud. It is not ideological. It is not theatrical.

It is rooted.

Rooted in the belief that community matters. Rooted in the understanding that freedom requires participation. Rooted in the quiet conviction that each generation has a responsibility to leave things better than they found them. You can even see that spirit reflected in the landscape around us.

Spend a morning walking along Roaring River, and you begin to understand something about endurance. The water moves patiently over stone that has been shaped for centuries. The current never seems hurried, yet it never stops moving forward. The beauty of the place lies in that quiet persistence.

The same can be said of the citizens of Cassville.

Our town does not make national headlines. It does not shout for attention. Yet, day after day, year after year, people here continue the steady work of building a community worth living in. This is why Cassville proudly calls itself "America's Real Hometown."

More than a slogan. It is a description of a place where citizenship is still practiced as a daily habit.

As we prepare to celebrate 250 years of American greatness, we, as the office of the citizenry, must search for continual renewal to honor the ideals of the founding generation. The most meaningful tribute is already happening in towns like Cassville.

It happens when citizens show up. It happens when neighbors care for one another. It happens whenever people take seriously the quiet responsibilities of the republic. Like the waters of Roaring River, the strength of this community flows not from noise, but from persistence. And if the future of America depends on citizens who remember their roots, then the radical spirit of Cassville may be one of the most enduring things our country has going for it.

Because in the end, a republic thrives, not because of the power of its government. but because of the office of its citizenry.

The radical spirit of Cassville lives on.

Terry Held is an English instructor at Crowder College, Cassville. The views expressed in this column are solely those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of Crowder College. He would appreciate hearing what you think. He can be reached at TerryHeld@Crowder.edu

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50 years ago

March 17, 1976

– BOARD STARTS PROCESS OF EMPLOYING TEACHING STAFF

While 43 observers watched, the Cassville Board of Education conducted its regular meeting Friday night, possibly drawing a larger crowd because there was no basketball game scheduled. Major business included review of faculty employment with department principals. For that discussion the board entered closed session after the meeting began at 8:25 p.m. and did not return until 11:27 p.m. Afterward, board president Freddie Evans read the resignation of high school principal Bob LeMon, who had served eight years in the position and planned to return to college to complete his doctorate degree. Ford reminded the board that the district must notify teachers of contract decisions by April 15.

– TROOP 76 HONOR COURT PRESENTS AWARD LIST

Missing only one rank, Boy Scout Troop 76 held a court of honor Monday night at the Cassville High School cafeteria. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of Eagle Scout awards numbers 44 and 45 under Scoutmaster Charles Vaughan. The awards went to Terry Beuterbaugh, son of Mr. and Mrs. F.M. Beuterbaugh, and Danny Priest, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cleburn Priest. Other advancements included Tenderfoot for Mike LeCompte and Jeff Nickols; Second Class for Keith Brisco and David Young; First Class for Stanley Beeson; and Star rank for Ricky Jagger. Jay and Jon Edmondson participated in opening and closing ceremonies. Vaughan also presented a conservation award to Terry Beuterbaugh and recognized leadership ranks for troop activities planned for the spring and summer. Assistant scoutmasters Max Fields and Leon Sanders presented the Eagle awards. Films of troop trips to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico were shown, followed by refreshments provided by parents.

– COUNTY ROAD WORK COSTING STATE $374,603

The Missouri State Highway Commission awarded a $374,603.61 contract for highway maintenance work on roads in Barry County as part of 74 maintenance projects statewide. The work called for plant-mix bituminous surface leveling on portions of Missouri routes 39, 76, 248 and Business Route 37 in Cassville. Route 39 work was divided into three sections: about nine miles from Route TT southeast to Route 248 south of Jenkins; about seven and one-half miles from Route 248 south of Jenkins to about a mile north of Route 76; and about four and one-half miles from just north of Route YY near Shell Knob to the Stone County line. Costs for the three segments were $69,831.46, $56,509.12 and $32,699.58 respectively. The Route 76 project covered about 10½ miles from Route 112 south of Cassville east to Route 39 with a low bid of $80,481.55. The Route 248 project covered a 14-mile stretch northeast from Cassville to Route 39 and cost $112,959.20. The final project involved about two and one-half miles of Business Route 37 in Cassville, running from about three-quarters of a mile south of Route 37 northwest of town to Route 112, at a cost of $22,122.70. Combination bids were permitted, and the successful bid for the entire project was submitted by Howard Construction Company of Sedalia. District 7 Engineer W.F. Stegner of Joplin was to supervise the work for the Highway Department, with G.L. Miller of Neosho serving as resident engineer.

30 YEARS AGO: FAMILY WELCOMES JOSH BACK WITH LOVING ARMS — Josh Carlisle Coffey was in good condition Monday at Cox Medical Center-South in Springfield after being lost in the woods for 72 hours in extreme conditions. He has since been released from the hospital. During a reunion with his family, Josh smiled, laughed and told stories. Pictured from left are Rex Owens, Josh's grandfather from Monett; Lynn Coffey; mother Johnny Sue Coffey; Josh; and sisters Rawn and Gerri Netzer. Not pictured is Josh's oldest sister, Missy Reeves, who was away from the hospital room when the photo was taken. Democrat file photo

40 years ago

March 19, 1986

– NO CONTAMINATED DAIRY HERDS IN COUNTY

Local and federal officials reported there were no dairy herds in Barry County contaminated with heptachlor. Approximately 100 herds in Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma were being tested to determine the extent of contamination from feed purchased from an Arkansas source. Tony Kickard, Barry County dairy specialist with the University of Missouri Extension Service, attended meetings in Fayetteville, Arkansas. A USDA team was investigating the impact on the industry. A Barry County ASCS spokesman said the local office had not received requests for indemnity payments that might be available through the federal government. The closest involvement to the area appeared to be in McDonald County west of Washburn and Seligman. Officials said contamination of dairy products removed from store shelves throughout the three-state area resulted from improper use of grain by a Van Buren, Arkansas manufacturer.

– SHELL KNOB FIRM AND MANAGER HONORED

Eddie Davison, manager of the TAPJAC Home Center in Shell Knob, was named Manager of the Year by TAPJAC Company Inc., an award given to the manager whose store achieves the best overall performance during the year. The store was also named one of four winners in the annual "Super Stores" competition for the second consecutive year, meeting high performance standards in seven of nine categories. Davison, who became manager in 1977 after serving as assistant manager, and his wife Becky received an expenses-paid trip to Bermuda. The Shell Knob home center was undergoing an expansion that would increase interior display space to about 10,000 square feet and allow growth in lawn and garden, plumbing and electrical, paint and hardware departments, along with a new housewares and small appliances section. The Davisons, active in church and community affairs in the Shell Knob area, have two sons, Joshua, nine, and Jacob, eight. TAPJAC Home Center, built in 1969, was one of the first major businesses in Shell Knob and is one of 12 TAPJAC stores operating in Missouri and Oklahoma.

30 years ago

March 13, 1996

– "MIRACLE BOY" SURVIVES 72-HOUR ORDEAL

Josh Carlisle Coffey is known nationwide as "Barry County's little miracle." After being lost for 72 hours in freezing temperatures and rough terrain, the 10-year-old Cassville youngster with Down syndrome was resting Monday in a warm hospital room surrounded by family members, eating chicken strips and watching cartoons on TV. On Tuesday, Josh was released from the hospital. Doctors at Cox Medical Center-South in Springfield said he suffered from overexposure but may not lose any toes due to frostbite. His mother, Johnny Sue Coffey, and his nurses agreed that Josh had quickly returned to "rare form." Josh survived for three nights and two and a half days on his own thanks to the companionship of several stray dogs who apparently snuggled up to him and kept him warm as temperatures dropped as low as 2 degrees with wind chills reaching 34 degrees below zero. Missing since Wednesday at 4 p.m., Josh was found Saturday at about 12:30 p.m. by Junior Nell, a Springfield cowboy searching on horseback. Josh was found reclining face down in a gully about one and a quarter miles north of his home, with one dog curled beside him and another running up a nearby hill barking. The barking led Nell to the boy. The dogs, credited with helping keep Josh alive, were taken in by Chip and Dana Kammerlohr, who planned to keep them until they could return to live with Josh and his family. Josh talked about a dog he called "Baby," a small brown and tan dachshund-beagle mix, and another he called "Brown One," a blue heeler mix now nicknamed "Angel," along with two other dogs that were never identified. His mother noticed one of Josh's cheeks was red and chafed; Josh said the dogs had been licking him. Coffey said her son has an active imagination and told several different stories about his adventure, including one about a bear, though the family believes the dogs kept him safe and may even have brought him scraps of sandwiches left by rescue workers. "The angels just slipped in beside Josh," Mrs. Coffey said. "Those dogs had wings for sure." She said doctors were amazed by his condition. "When the doctor walked out with the final report, he was shaking his head," Mrs. Coffey said. "He kept saying, 'This is unbelievable … this is a miracle.' Then he said cancel ICU and put him in pediatrics." The family recalled how they reacted when searchers reported a possible find. An officer came to the Coffey home with the news but initially did not know whether the boy was alive or dead. Mrs. Coffey sent her husband, Lynn, to the command post to listen to the radio and return home with the news. "The minute I saw Lynn's smiling face at the door, I knew," she said. "I said, 'Lord, thank you for answering my prayers. He's alive.'" As officers walked her down the road to a car that would take her to Josh, she cried, laughed and blew kisses to the volunteers lined up outside the house. "I had to be shoved into the cop car because I wanted to take time to thank everyone," she said. "At that moment I felt so loved and so blessed. It was like swimming in a sea of love." Mrs. Coffey arrived at Oak Ridge Church on Highway 248 just before Josh was flown by helicopter to Springfield. She said his first words to her were, "Mom, where have you been?" "We knew that night would have been his last night," she said. "His muscle joints had locked up and his legs had given out. He could go no further. I don't have the words to say thank you for all those who filled the hills and went looking for Josh. Without them we wouldn't have gotten Josh back." When Josh fully recovers, the Coffey family hopes to line volunteers up outside their home so they can personally thank each one with a hug. Local volunteers say they would also like to plan a special welcome home for the young boy who captured their hearts and made them believe in miracles.

– SEARCH TEAMS NEVER STOPPED BELIEVING JOSH WAS CLOSE BY

The Barry County Sheriff's Department received a report of a missing child at 7 p.m. Wednesday, launching an extensive rescue effort that eventually involved 350 volunteers from six states. The search for 10-year-old Joshua Carlisle Coffey covered an 18-square-mile area surrounding the Coffey home southeast of Highway 248 in the Forest Grove–Galena Hollow area. Searchers combed the hilly, wooded terrain by foot, by air, on horseback and with all-terrain vehicles. Josh's mother, Johnny Sue Coffey, realized he was missing at about 4:30 p.m. and searched for nearly two hours before contacting authorities. Josh was last seen wearing a red jacket, gray sweats and cowboy boots. One of the first officers to arrive was Dana Kammerlohr, a member of the Missouri Search and Rescue K-9 unit and a county reserve deputy. Trained dogs were sent into the area using the scent from a tennis shoe but initially could not locate the child. A command post was established in a bus purchased and equipped by Sheriff Ralph Hendrix and parked below the Coffey home so the family could see that the search was underway. Mark Vollenweider served as search coordinator with assistance from Jack Lowe and Paul Krull, while Lt. Connie Collins handled communications with county dispatchers Becky Davis, Mandy Blake and Peggy Clark helping sign in search teams. Volunteers made an initial sweep the first night, searching until about 4 a.m. Eight square miles were covered that night as more volunteers arrived. At one point Kammerlohr sat on a log and prayed, then looked across the hollow and saw searchers performing an arm-to-arm sweep across a hillside. "The flashlights created a straight line of lights moving from top to bottom," she said. "It was one of the most touching sights I've ever seen. It was very inspiring." The search expanded daily: 10 square miles were covered Thursday, 13 on Friday and 18 by Saturday. At one point 23 teams were searching; by the final day there were 12 larger teams combing areas "fingertip to fingertip." Unlike many searches, the number of volunteers never dwindled and the effort never stopped. "We never thought of quitting," Hendrix said. "There wasn't a night when someone wasn't looking." Throughout the search, rescue dogs repeatedly picked up Josh's scent north of the house, near where he was eventually found. Because of those indications, Hendrix concentrated teams in that direction on Saturday, sending crews out with instructions not to return until the boy was found. Searchers scoured the area inch by inch, turning over boulders and sifting through leaves. "We sent searchers into areas where rabbits don't go," Collins said. Ponds were dredged, caves and old mines were checked and a dive team searched Old Hailey Lake. Hendrix received word of a possible find around 12:30 p.m. Saturday while he and Lawrence County Sheriff David Tatum were at the Coffey home with the family. After Josh was safely returned and reunited with his mother, Hendrix said she gave him a huge hug. "She was one happy girl, and I think I was the happiest sheriff ever," he said. During the search there were emotional highs and lows. At one point a pilot spotted what appeared to be a red object on a ledge, but crews later discovered it was only a bucket. Another time a tent was spotted from the air; it turned out to belong to a 15-year-old runaway who was later returned home. Hendrix praised everyone who helped with the effort, from those who searched the woods to those who brought food, supplies and prayers. "There's a lot of people who never believed in miracles but do now," Kammerlohr said. "When the cry went out, it touched a lot of hearts. We all learned it's not over until it's over." The sweetest words Kammerlohr said she heard came when Jack Lowe radioed "10-200," the code meaning Josh had been found alive. "I screamed, jumped over Connie and grabbed the mike," she said. "I asked, 'Did you say 10-200?' and Jack answered, 'Yes ma'am I did.'" Vollenweider said the parents were overwhelmed when they heard the news. "There was quite an outburst of emotion," he said. "It's hard to put in words how they felt." Those involved also credited dogs with playing a major role. Rescue dogs kept teams focused on the correct area, and two stray dogs stayed with Josh in the woods. Hendrix later learned several strays had been around the house the day Josh disappeared and believes the boy may have followed them and become lost. In the end, the dogs and the relentless efforts of hundreds of volunteers helped save Josh's life.

Haven of the Ozarks Pet of the Week

Adorable Alani is an energetic young German Shepherd/ Red Heeler mix pup. Her date of birth is Dec. 26, 2025. Alani and her siblings are at the perfect age to bond with a new family and grow up knowing nothing but love and stability. Adopters can complete an application at 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, or call at 417-835-3647. Contributed photo

Obituaries

Donna Marie Brant

Donna Marie Brant of Cassville, Missouri, passed away Friday, March 6, 2026, at Mercy Hospital in Rogers, Arkansas. She was 59 years old.

Donna was born March 23, 1966, in Geneva, Illinois, to Richard and Margarett (Steffen) Larson. She was united in marriage to James "J.D." Brant on March 17, 1991, in Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

Donna found joy in the simple things in life. She enjoyed watching reality television and spending time at home. Above all else, her children and grandchildren were the light of her life and meant the world to her. She cherished every moment spent with them and took great pride in her family.

Donna's compassion for others continued even after her passing, as she chose to give the gift of life through organ donation, a final act of generosity that reflects the caring person she was.

She will be remembered for her love and devotion to those closest to her.

Survivors include her husband of almost 35 years Jim (JD); three sons, Lucus Larson-Brant and his wife Christina of Branson, Missouri, Karl Larson-Brant and his wife Hannah of Cassville, Missouri, and Ryan Larson-Brant and his wife Hallie of Monett, Missouri; one daughter, Sydney Larson-Brant of Cassville, Missouri; seven grandchildren; two brothers, Alan Larson and his wife Lisa of Mexico, Missouri, and Joshua Larson and his wife Gina of Clever, Missouri; one sister, Darlene Sampson and her husband Jeff of White Pine, Michigan; and a very special bonus son Charles Parker and his children of Pierce City, Missouri.

Donna is preceded in death by her parents, and one sister Doris Rivers.

A celebration of life will be held Sunday, March 15, 2026, at Countryside Christian Church in Monett, Missouri at 10:00 am.

Memorials may be made to St. Judes Research Hospital and entrusted to White Funeral Home and Crematory.

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

PAID OBITUARY

White Funeral Home and Crematory
Online condolences and webcasting of the funeral services may be found at www.whitefuneralhome.org
417-847-8100 or 417-858-8400

Robert Merideth "Bobby" Frye, Jr.

Robert Merideth "Bobby" Frye, Jr. of Shell Knob, Mo. passed away Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at his home.

He was born January 16, 1968, in Winfield, Ill., the son of Robert Merideth Frye, Sr. and Emily (Moga) Frye, who preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife, Tammy Brown; his four stepchildren, who he thought of as his own, son, Joshua Keener and wife Jessica of Aurora, Mo.; daughters, Kim Goetz and husband Trae of Purdy, Mo., Whitney Delgado and husband Raymond of Purdy, Mo. and Shelia Dyer and husband Cody of Carl Junction, Mo.; sisters, Diana Merl and husband Tim of Joplin, Mo., Jennifer Smith of Washburn, Mo. and Hiedi Wallenmeyer and husband Duane of Linn, Mo.; nine grandchildren; a niece and nephew that he raised as his own, Alicia and Joey and several nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews.

He attended school in Springfield, Mo. and was a proud graduate of Hillcrest High School. For the past fifteen years, he owned and operated Bob's Mowing Service in Shell Knob, Mo. where he also served his community as a volunteer firefighter and first responder at Central Crossing Fire Protection District. He was a member of Lohmer Full Gospel.

Services were held Friday, March 6, 2026 at Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Pastor David Donaldson conducted the services.

Contributions may be made to Central Crossing Fire Protection District in memory of Bobby.

Fohn Funeral Home
Cassville, Missouri
417-847-2141
Visit www.fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbooks and private condolences

Sue Robb

Sue Robb, 90, passed away on March 9, 2026. She was born on February 4, 1936, her dad's birthday, in Golden, Mo. the oldest of three daughters born to John and Elizabeth (Easley) Sparks, who preceded her in death.

Also preceding her in death was her husband, Earl Leon Coley, Jr.; her husband Kenny Robb; her in-laws, Earl and Thelma Coley; a son-in-law, Keith; brothers-in-law Johnny and Dan; and nephews David and Michael.

She attended Golden School for grades one through eight and graduated from Cassville High School in 1954. After graduation, she began working as a bank teller at the local bank, before stepping into the field of education and never looked back. She earned her elementary education degree from the Central Mo. State College in Warrensburg and later completed her Specialist degree in Guidance and Counseling. She served as both teacher and counselor in the Knob Noster School District for 16 years.

She continued her counseling career, dedicating 19 years to Eunice Thomas Elementary School in Cassville, Mo. She retired and moved back to Warrensburg to be closer to family. She quickly became part of the weekly Coffee Girls, the Birthday Club, Golden Agers, and volunteered at the hospital She was baptized in Owl Creek. She was proud of her Baptist faith.

Survivors include her daughters, the "Coley Girls": Micki Schrimsher; Tammy Dameron (John); and Penny Rittman (Randy); six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren; her sisters, Betty Bellinghausen and Glea Nickle, and her bonus family: Kelly Smith; Mike Robb (Debbie); Pat Robb (Carol); and Jim (Alice) Robb.

The "girls" would like to thank those who visited or called their mom in Room 114, and ACG Hospice for their support and guidance.

A family graveside service will be held at Oak Hill Cemetery in Cassville, Mo., under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.

Fohn Funeral Home
Cassville, Missouri
417-847-2141
Visit www.fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbooks and private condolences

Melissa Jane Robertson,

February 4, 1966 – March 4, 2026

Melissa Jane Robertson passed away peacefully surrounded by her family, leaving behind a legacy of love, resilience, and deep devotion to those she held dear.

Melissa was born on February 4, 1966. During many years in the 1990s, she dedicated her life to the field of medicine. As a nurse at Jefferson Regional Medical Center in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, she served patients with skill, compassion, and steady care during some of the most vulnerable moments of their lives.

She later continued that calling through her work with the Arkansas Regional Organ Recovery Agency (ARORA), helping families navigate loss with dignity and grace. Nursing was not simply her profession — it was a reflection of her heart to serve.

Melissa was preceded in death by her grandparents, Ethel and Doyle Villines of Compton, Arkansas; June and Delmer Donaldson of Springfield, Missouri; and her father, Jerry Donaldson of Shell Knob, Missouri.

She is survived by her mother, Wanda Donaldson of Shell Knob, Missouri; her older son Joey (Joe Buck) Robertson and his wife, Lauren; her youngest son Aaron Robertson and his wife, Robin; and her four beloved grandchildren, Gage, Garrett, Emmett, and Gabriel.

Above all else, Melissa was a mother and grandmother. Her love for her sons and grandchildren was steadfast, and they were the center of her world. Though her life carried both joys and hardships, her devotion to her family remained constant.

Melissa's faith was part of her journey, and she is now resting in the presence of the Lord — free from pain, restored, and at peace.

A Celebration of life will be held Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 2:00 pm at Lohmer Full Gospel Church in Shell Knob with David Donaldson officiating, a visitation will be held one hour prior to service time.

May that promise bring comfort to all who mourn her passing. "

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles.

they will run and not grow weary,

they will walk and not be faint."

Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)

PAID OBITUARY

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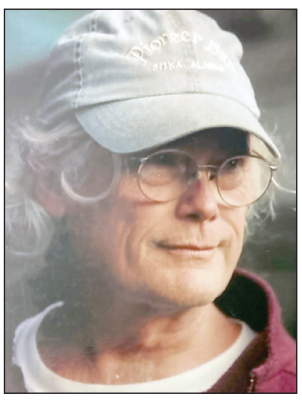

George Washington Witherspoon Williamson Wardlaw

George Washington Witherspoon Williamson Wardlaw was born on November 26, 1947, in Columbia, South Carolina to Frank Harper Wardlaw and Jane Williamson Wardlaw.

Though his family were deep rooted Carolinians (roots he nourished throughout his life), when he was two, his family resettled in Austin, Texas where he lived until young adulthood. His Texan upbringing made him a full fledged and lifelong patron of the 'Armadillo State'.

His childhood was shared with an older brother and sister as well as a younger sister. From adventures, such as constructing a marble pit by filling his closet full of sand and being turned loose, unsupervised, on the streets of Mexico while his father conducted business, his formative years were sprinkled with a blend of idyllic, baby-boom period mischief and what would be considered today as a lack if responsible parental oversight. Born to a family of bibliophiles and educators, he had an upbringing that nourished a love of books and the value of public service. This would significantly shape his future, giving him little choice than to passionately believe in the virtue of reading and education.

In his adolescence, the 60's arrived and he arrived with them. Inspired by the infectious music of the times, George learned to play both guitar and mandolin. His love of music (especially bluegrass) and playing it with others, would become a large part of who he was.

In 1966, another large part of him was to materialize when he met the love of his life after spotting her at a Bob Dylan Concert – Beverly Scott, soon to be Wardlaw.

Not long after graduating from the University of Texas with a degree in elementary education, he and Beverly were married on July 18, 1970, along the bank of the Cypress River under the largest Hackberry tree in Texas. They initiated their shared adventure of marriage by signing up to work for Fred Gipson, the author of Old Yeller, on a remote Texas ranch on the Llano River. On this ranch George learned to build fence (though in later years he never seemed much inclined to put this skill to use) while Beverly learned,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7A

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Melissa Robertson • Pine Bluff, Ark. • Feb. 4, 1966–March 4, 2026
Donna Brant • Cassville • March 23, 1966–March 6, 2026
George Wardlaw • Exeter • Nov. 26, 1946–March 6, 2026
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6A

from the kitchen's paisanos, how to make magic happen. Her ranch experience was well learned and would be well appreciated by George for the remainder of his life (her culinary delights constituting one of his great joys).

Following the newlywed's ranching sabbatical they moved back to Austin but this time to Sprinkle Road on the outskirts of Town. It was here they had their first son, Caleb, in 1975.

During this time period, being somewhat culturally tumultuous, many people looked to different ways of 'living'. Though George adopted much of the counterculture spirit he refused to label himself 'hippie'. He consistently considered himself to be an activist and to him being active did not simply mean being against things; it meant being for things. Beverly shared this vision and what they felt they were 'for' is perhaps expressed best by the mood of John Prine's song, Spanish Pipedream- Blow up your TV, throw away your paper, move to the country, build you a home, plant a little garden, have a lot of children, eat a lot of peaches, try to find Jesus on your own. And so that is what they decided to do.

Having adopted the 'Back-to-the-Land' philosophy, living in Austin no longer suited their needs. So they loaded up their newborn son and hit the road, looking for the spot where they might build their dreams. Their two requirements were a piece of property that was affordable and that had water. Traveling a great part of the country, they found their requirements met by a piece of the Missouri Ozarks in Thomas Hollow- the home George would call his for the rest of his earthly life.

Being settled in this new home, George and Beverly would have two more children, Ben in 1977, and Josh in 1981. Aside from family, his home was, on countless occasions, host to numerous friends- being constantly filled with love, laughter, conversation, music, memories and good food. If a music circle was near, you knew George wouldn't be far from it. He loved to attend gatherings; playing mandolin or guitar and singing right along. Each fall he'd head to Winfield, Kansas to join his Comfortable Shoes Family- late night jams, early morning donut tractor, and celebration of community at its purest. George knew joy and he gladly shared it with all of whom crossed his path.

George was also a devoted teacher. He taught in the Shell Knob, Exeter, Southwest and Rocky Comfort elementary schools. He was a born educator and he excelled at it. He was known for the patience, creativity, and openness he brought to the classroom. He encouraged kids to be themselves, create, and enjoy even the simplest moments. He valued what people brought to this world and that belief shone brightly in his classroom.

Shortly after his retirement from public education George was to be rechristened, G Pa. Like his role as a husband, father, and teacher, G Pa excelled and was a devoted grandparent of six grandchildren. G Pa loved his six grandchildren dearly. G Pa spent many days with his grandchildren playing at the creek, taking walks, and reading to them. He could make filling a birdfeeder a grand adventure or the smallest trinkets in a chest of drawers a treasure hunt.

Right up to his passing G Pa enjoyed the good things in life and the fruits of his 'empire'. But more significantly, he gave good things to life and gave fruit to his 'empire'. He will be loved and missed. He passed on March 6, 2026, surrounded by family and his devoted dog C.C. at his home in Thomas Hollow.

He is survived by his wife, Beverly Wardlaw; his sons: Caleb Wardlaw (Alisen Payette), Ben Wardlaw, (Liz Wardlaw), Josh Wardlaw (Lauren Wardlaw), and his grandchildren: Birdie Wardlaw, Huxley Wardlaw, Grayson Wardlaw, Roland Wardlaw, Ruthie Wardlaw, and Dahlia Wardlaw, as well as his siblings: Pat, Harriet, and Caroline. He will be remembered fondly by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

A memorial will be held in Thomas Hollow on May 30, 2026, where all are invited to join in celebrating George with music, good food, and community.

Memorials may be made in George's name to Lewy Body Dementia Research or any organization that assist children and may be entrusted to White Funeral Home and Crematory.

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

PAID OBITUARY

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Knowledge Bowl teams compete in Big 8

Cassville Middle School and High School Knowledge Bowl teams recently competed in the Big 8 Conference Tournament that was held at Monett High School. Both teams are led by Mrs. Lisa Reid, Knowledge Bowl Coach. The CHS team finished in second place. Freshmen Jonah Cupps earned second place individual overall and Hale Cox finished in 15th place individual overall. The CMS team earned a third-place finish, and San Junior placed second individual overall. The high school team, top, includes, front row, from left: Jacie Hudson, Shelby Knoefler, Cohen Adams and Roxanne Tilford. Back row: Cooper Phillips, Jonah Cupps and Hale Cox. Not pictured: Daniel Sledden. The middle school team, bottom, includes, front row, from left: Max Fields, San Junior, Jace Hayworth and Carly Odom. Back row: Kaizen Haney, Avalynn Press and Elise Remenar. Not pictured: Jenson Ritchie. Contributed photos

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Delta Dental expands Land of Smiles

Establishing strong oral health habits in life is essential. Nearly 25% of children ages 2-5 have cavities, even though tooth decay is preventable.

To help address this, Delta Dental of Missouri — a nonprofit organization and the state's leading dental benefits provider — expanded its Land of Smiles dental education program to preschoolers in the Cassville area.

The program's 15-minute video features Captain Super Grin, Terri Tooth FairySM and villain Caz CavitySM as they teach key habits: brushing twice a day, flossing, choosing healthy foods and visiting the dentist regularly. Each participating child receives a "smile bag" with a toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss and a Dental Resource Guide listing free and low-cost dental care options in their community.

Since 2002, Land of Smiles has reached 1.5 million students across 113 Missouri counties, with surveys showing significant improvement in oral health knowledge and behaviors. The program now extends to younger children through partnerships with more than 50 preschools and Head Start programs.

"Tooth decay is the most common childhood disease," said Stacy Harris, executive director of community impact at Delta Dental of Missouri. "Strong oral health habits developed early in life set the stage for lifelong healthy smiles. This free program provides a simple, effective way for preschools to support this development."

Preschool and Head Start directors and staff can request the free virtual program at www.LandofSmilesMO.org. After submitting a request, schools receive login credentials and "smile bags" are shipped directly to them.

Delta Dental of Missouri is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization and the state's leading dental benefits provider. As a nonprofit, its mission is to improve overall health and well-being in the communities it serves. It provides more than 2.41 million members with access to affordable, high-quality dental care through group plans tailored to meet the needs of organizations of all sizes, from large corporations to small businesses with two or more employees.

Delta Dental also offers dental benefit plans directly to individuals and families. It also provides access to affordable, high-quality vision care through group vision benefit plans. The company proudly supports oral health initiatives, educational programs and charitable causes that help educate people about the importance of dental health and provide free dental care to those in need.

Delta Dental of Missouri also created the Missouri Dental Care Resource Guide to help individuals access information about low-cost and free dental care options in their area—available online at https://www.deltadentalmo.com/resourceguide. To learn more about the company, visit www.DeltaDentalMO.com.

MDC to host tree planting workshop March 20

Free program will cover proper seedling handling, site prep, planting methods and more

Ever wondered about the best way to plant tree seedlings, but didn't know where to get started?

Sign up for a tree planting workshop with Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) in Barry County on March 20.

Forester Ryan Neises will lead the free workshop focused on Riparian Forest Buffer tree planting on a private property from 1-4 p.m. on March 20 at 27598 Farm Road 1162 in Eagle Rock.

Register for the event at mdc-event-web.s3licensing.com/Event/EventDetails/216122.

Riparian tree plantings provide a wide variety of benefits and are much more than aesthetics. Some water quality benefits include:

• Provide shade for streams: improves water quality by lowering the water temperature.

• Serve as Filters: improves water quality by absorbing nutrients from soils to reduce nonpoint source pollution from entering water sources.

• Serve as Ground Cover: increasing wildlife habitat.

• Reduce Soil Erosion: improving water quality by keeping the soil intact and not washing away in runoff events.

In addition to the planting plan, Neises will also go over financial assistance options.

"There are several important steps for successful tree plantings starting with matching trees to soils that will support strong growth and nut production," Neises said. "Selecting tree species to soils is just the first step, proper planting technique and future maintenance is extremely important. Planting tree seedlings to the correct depth and spacing ensures for early and strong root development and allows for future growth."

This workshop will be held outside, so participants should dress appropriately for the weather. If rained out, the workshop will be rescheduled to the same time and location on April 17.

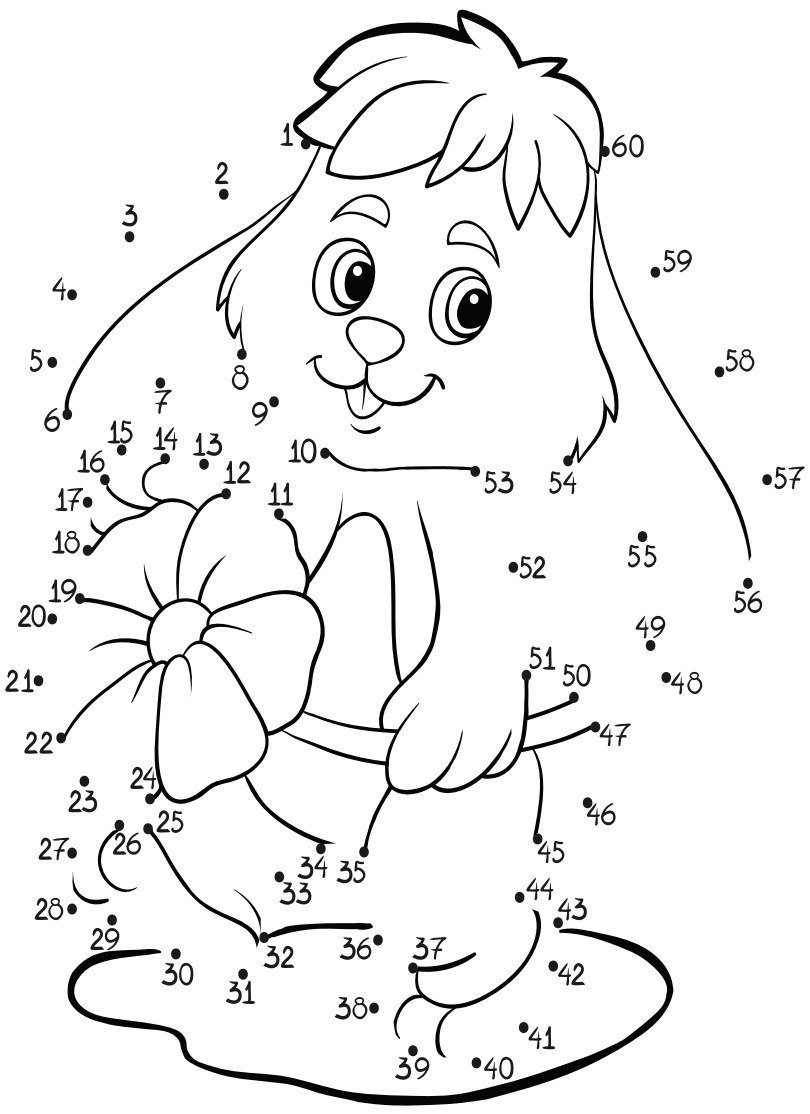
MDC is committed to accessibility at all of its nature centers, regional facilities and conservation areas, a press release said. To request an ADA accommodation for participation in MDC programs, visit mdc.mo.gov/accessibility.

Presentation ent-ARR-tains on Family Night

Ben Askew presents his puppet, Grub, during the stage show with children's books author Izzy B, entertaining the audience with props and storytelling. The performance at Title I Family Night on Thursday featured interactive comedy and visual projections during the show. Gwendylan Harmon/Cassville Democrat Intern

During a stage presentation at Title I Family Night in Cassville, Author Izzy B speaks to the audience about his book "Look Up!" that will be featured on Storyline Online. Gwendylan Harmon/Cassville Democrat Intern

DOT TO DOT



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JUST kidding

Q: Where do pencils go on vacation?

A: Pennsylvania.

JUST kidding

Q: How do you repair a broken tomato?

A: Use tomato paste.

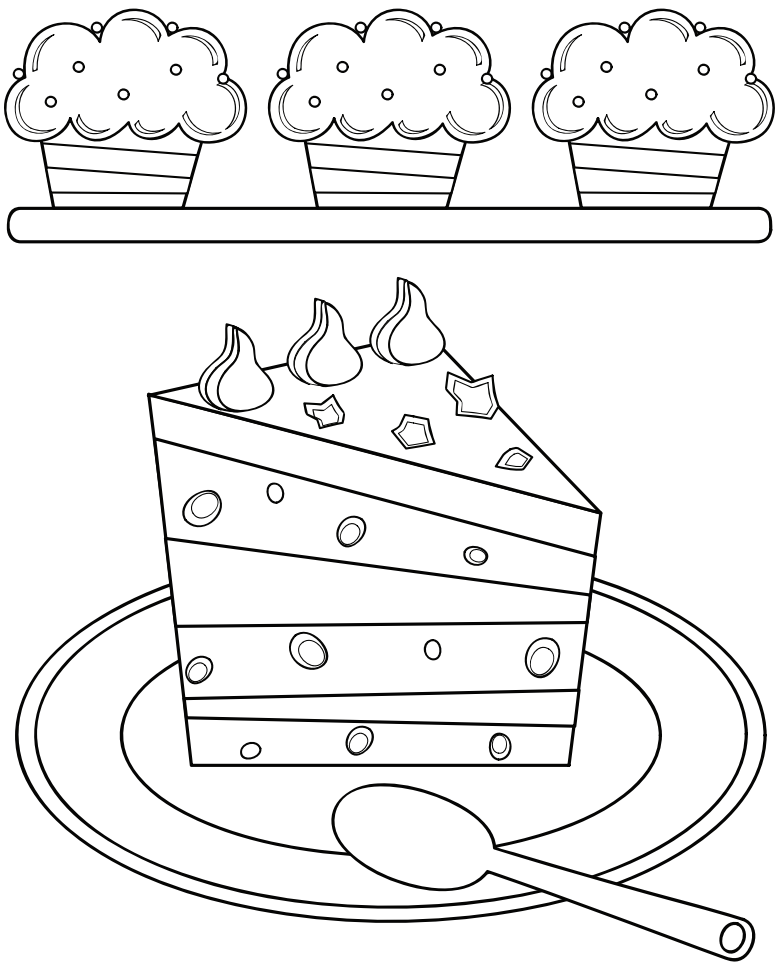
JUST kidding

Q: What do you call a pile of kittens?

A: A meowntain.

Amazing maze

For the up-and-coming artist



Sudoku 4 x 4

4		3	
	2		
		1	
	4		3

COMPLETE EACH GRID WITH NUMBERS FROM 1 TO 4, 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 4 squares

4	1	3	2
3	2	4	1
2	3	1	4
1	4	2	3

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3 Cassville students enlist

Three Cassville High School students have enlisted to serve in the military. Juniors Devin Johns, left, and Connor Rogers, right, have enlisted in the Army National Guard and will attend basic training this summer before returning to Cassville for their senior years. Senior Dalton Farris, center, has enlisted in the United States Air Force and will leave for basic training this summer. Contributed photos

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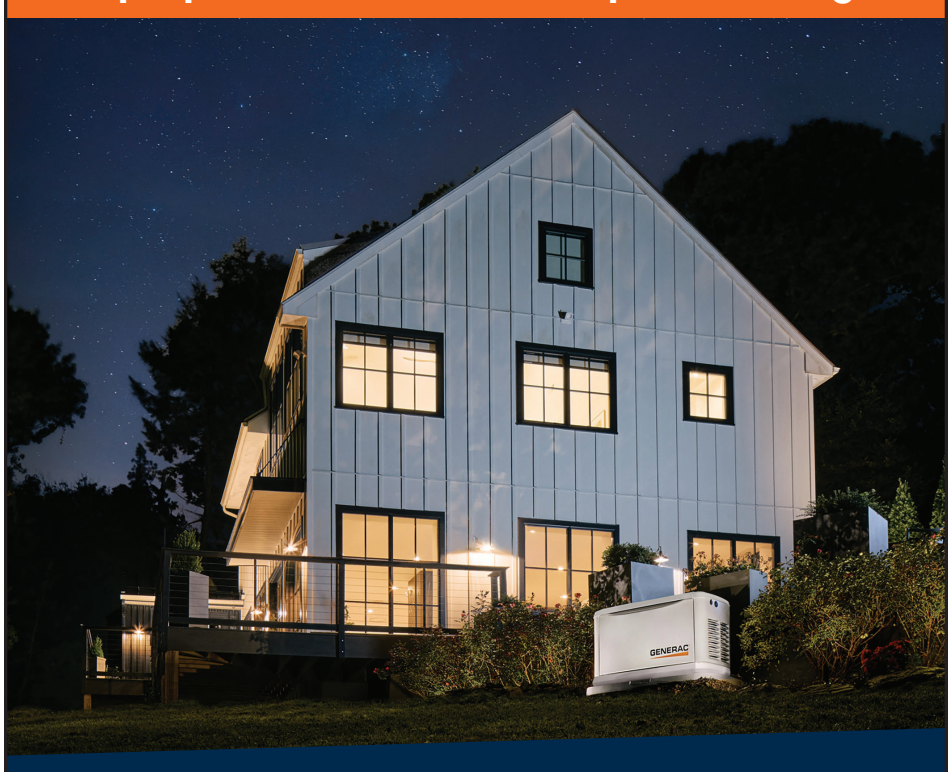

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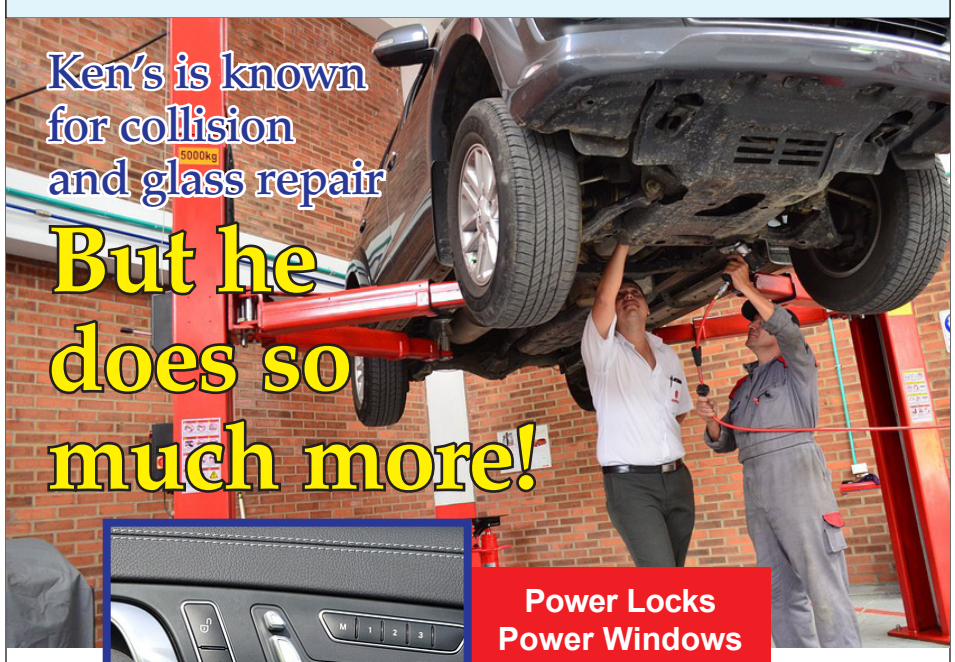

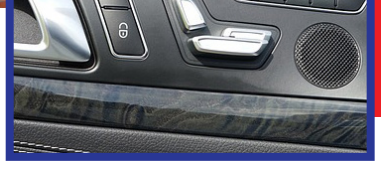

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CASSVILLE Democrat
March 11, 2026

Sports

SECTION B
Publisher Kyle Troutman
417-847-2610
ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

LADY 'CATS TAKE 2ND IN DISTRICT

Cassville's Alex Holycross scores a pair for the Lady Wildcats in Friday's district championship loss to Nevada. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Nevada's 3-point shooting, defense too much to overcome

BY KYLE TROUTMAN
ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

For the second year in a row, the Cassville girls basketball team reached the Class 4, District 12 championship game, and also for the second year in a row, the Lady Wildcats suffered the same result.

Cassville fell to Nevada, 54-29, in Nevada in the title tilt on Friday, and Coach Clayton Bagby said the Lady Tigers' shooting and suffocating defense proved to be too much to overcome.

"We came out and played hard," Bagby said. "We knew going in against Nevada that they're going to be physical with us on the defensive end and around the basket, and that we would have to be able to execute well against them. We probably didn't get off the number of shots we needed to get off against them."

LADY WILDCATS HOOPS
What: Fell 45-29 to Nevada in Class 4, District 12 championship
When: Friday in Nevada
More: Second year in a row in district title game with same result

Cassville led only once in the game, 2-0 after an Alex Holycross field goal on a pass inside. Nevada hit a 3, then got a steal and added 2 more. Holycross came up with a steal and cut the lead to 5-4, but two more Lady Tigers 3-pointers and a Taylor Kennedy 3 had Cassville behind 13-8 at the end of the first.

Nevada continued the trend in the second quarter, going on a 6-0 run after scoring on a pair of steals. Cassville made a 6-0 run of its own to end the first half, with Audrey Kennedy hitting a trey and Holycross driving and converting the and-1 to go into the locker room down 23-17.

After the break, Nevada put together an 18-2 run in the third quarter to balloon the lead to 31-19. The Lady Wildcats cut into the lead in the final frame, but the deficit was too much to overcome.

Bagby said along with getting off more shots, the Lady Wildcats also needed to hit more of the ones they took.

"We normally shoot 50% from inside the 3-point line, and on Friday, we were at 25%," he said. "So, the opportunities

CONTINUED ON PAGE XX

Lady Trojans produce 19-win season

Southwest wins most games in 13 years; program's second-highest single-season win total

BY KYLE TROUTMAN
ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

The Southwest girls basketball team turned in one of the program's most successful seasons in more than a decade, finishing with a 19-8 record and one tournament title.

"I would give this season an A," said Shawn Johnson, Southwest coach. "Finishing 19-8 is a tremendous accomplishment for our program. It's the most wins we've had in 13 years and the second most in school history, which says a lot about the commitment and work ethic of this group.

"Our players bought in from day one, and they represented our program with pride every time they stepped on the floor."

Johnson said the team's development throughout the season showed most clearly in ball-handling and game management.

LADY TROJANS HOOPS
Record: 19-8
Last result: 59-51 loss to Pierce City in the Class 3, District 11 tournament
More: Most wins in a season in 13 years, second most in school history

"The biggest improvement we saw was in how we took care of the basketball and managed the game," Johnson said. "Early in the season, we had moments where turnovers hurt us, but as the year went on, our players matured, made better decisions and understood the value of every possession."

Johnson said there were still areas where the team could have continued to grow.

"Like any team, there are always areas to improve," Johnson said. "I would have liked to see us become even more consistent on the defen-

CONTINUED ON PAGE XX

Southwest's Jaretsi Quintanilla goes to the hoop for a pair against Wheaton this season. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

WILDCATS HOOPS
Record: 10-17
Last result: 46-45 loss to Monett in the Class 4, District 12 tournament
More: Squad builds on program's system, culture under new coach

Wildcats close year with double-digit wins

Cassville builds on new system, culture under new head coach

BY KYLE TROUTMAN
ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

The Cassville boys basketball team showed growth throughout this season while adjusting to a new system and culture under first-year coach Mike Ray.

"I'm not sure of what grade the team would have this year, as it is still incomplete and won't know the real success until these young men become husbands, fathers and leaders," Ray said. "However on the court this year, they did a good job adjusting to a new coach, a new system, a new culture and doing so as a young team."

Ray said the team's improvement was evident in both mindset and defensive play as the season progressed.

"For us, the biggest improvement came in a few areas, one of which was playing and competing hard each and every day," Ray said. "Having a mindset to get better as an individual and as a team. On the court, our defense improved as the year went on."

Ray said the team continues to develop offensive skills.

"For our team, we are behind in offensive skills such as overall ball handling, passing and shooting," Ray said. "These are areas I feel we made improvement, but we still have a long way to go to be a competitive Class 4 team. We are looking for guys who are willing to do the work to get better in those areas."

Ray said several games stood out as memorable moments during the season.

"For us, each game is its own excitement, but the conference games at Aurora and at Monett in which we won were both memorable," Ray said. "Also our JV team winning the Miller shootout against Bolivar was exciting."

Ray said the team's lone senior played a key role in helping establish the program's direction.

"We only had one senior this year with Tyson Bohmke, and he did an outstanding job for us," Ray said. "It was tough for him, as he was the only senior and also having a new coach and system for this season, but his buy-in was a key for us to help establish a new culture.

"He was our primary ball handler and scorer this year and drew the attention of the other teams' defenses, and still, he battled all year and had a good season and laid the groundwork for the future."

Ray said the team relied heavily on underclassmen throughout the season.

"As a team with only one senior, our underclassmen were a key for us all year," Ray said. "We had several step into new roles and learned quickly. Masin Bryan was a starter for us and got better all year and battled injuries but brought about a toughness we needed. Easton Hughes developed into an outstanding defensive player, and Cheney Kelley was an outside scoring threat that helped take the pressure off of Tyson.

"Carlos Barrientos suffered a severe injury early in our season and came back and was starting to hit his stride as the season ended. We also played several underclassmen in freshmen Aiden Whittington who developed into one of the better players in the conference, and he will be an anchor for us moving forward. Spencer Drollinger also started all year for us as a freshmen and improved as much as anyone this season. By the end of the season he

CONTINUED ON PAGE XX

WEEKLY SPORTS SCHEDULE

Baseball

3/19-21	28th Annual Forsyth Tournament		Away
3/26-28	Cassville Classic	Home	
4/2	Marionville	Home	4:30 pm
4/3	Forsyth	Away	4:30 pm
4/7	Crane	Home	5:00 pm
4/9	Mt. Vernon	Away	4:30 pm
4/11	Purdy	Home	10:00 am
4/11	Hillcrest	Home	2:00 pm
4/13	Logan-Rogersville	Home	4:30 pm
4/14	Lamar	Away	4:30 pm
4/16	Monett	Home	4:30 pm
4/17-18	Pleasant Hill Baseball Tournament		Away
4/21	East Newton	Away	4:30 pm
4/23	Aurora	Home	4:30 pm
4/24	Diamond	Away	5:00 pm
4/28	McDonald County	Home	4:30 pm
4/30	Nevada	Away	4:30 pm
5/1	Hollister	Home	4:30 pm
5/4	Clever	Home	1:00 pm
5/5	Seneca	Home	4:30 pm
5/7	Reeds Spring	Away	4:30 pm
5/11	Blue Eye	Away	5:00 pm

Girls Soccer

3/17	Soccer Jamboree @ McDonald County		Away
3/24	Lebanon	Home	4:30 pm
3/26	New Covenant Academy	Away	4:30 pm
3/28	Aurora Shootout	Away	
3/31	Monett	Away	5:00 pm
4/2	Bolivar	Away	4:30 pm
4/6	Parkview	Away	5:00 pm
4/7	McDonald County	Home	5:00 pm
4/9	Logan-Rogersville	Away	4:30 pm
4/13	New Heights Christian	Home	4:30 pm
4/14	Aurora	Away	5:00 pm
4/21	Monett	Home	5:00 pm
4/28	McDonald County	Away	5:00 pm
5/4	Marshfield	Home	1:00 pm
5/5	Aurora	Home	5:00 pm
5/7	Fair Grove	Home	4:30 pm
5/11	Greenwood	Away	5:00 pm

Track and Field

3/26	Mustang Stampede	Neutral	
3/31	Diamond	Away	4:00 pm
4/6	Seneca Track Meet	Away	4:00 pm
4/7	Monett Track Meet	Away	
4/9	Mt Vernon Track Meet	Away	4:00 pm
4/14	Clever Track Meet	Away	
4/16	East Newton Track Meet	Away	4:00 pm
4/21	Cassville Wildcat Relays	Home	
4/30	Big 8 Conference Meet	Away	
5/9	District Track Meet	Away	
5/16	Sectional Track Meet	Away	
5/22-23	Class 3 State Track Meet	Away	

Boys Golf

3/26	Reeds Spring Invitational @ Ledgestone		Away
3/31	Monett	Home	11:00 am
4/6	Joplin Invitational @ Twin Hills	Away	
4/9	Cassville Invitational	Home	
4/16	Aurora	Away	4:00 pm
4/16	Ozark Tiger Invitational	Away	
4/20	Carthage Abbiatti's BBQ Invitational	Neutral	
4/23	Willard Invitational @ Green Hills	Away	
4/28	Marshfield Invitational	Neutral	
4/30	Monett Tournament	Away	
5/4	Big 8 Golf Tournament	Away	9:00 am

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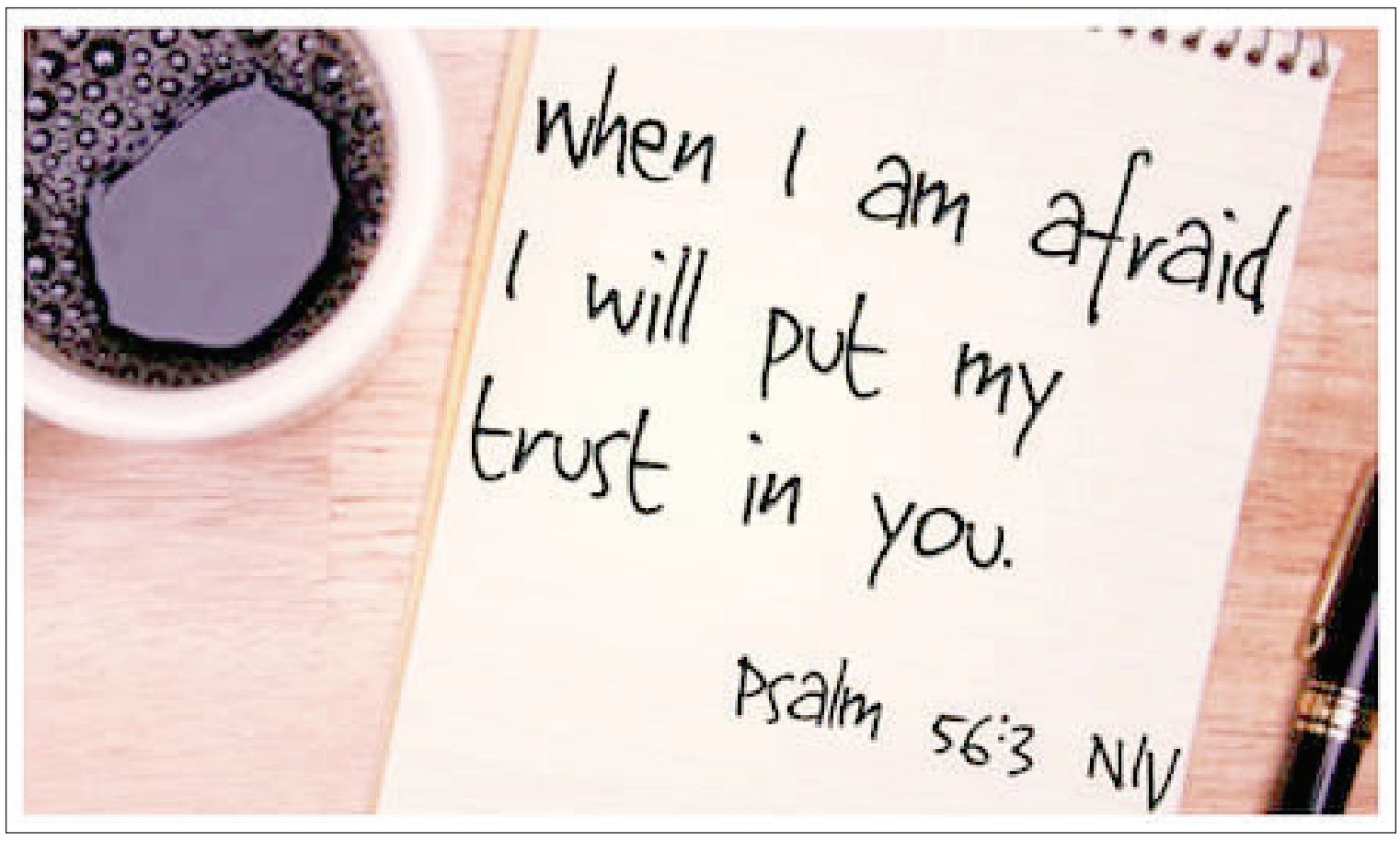
CASSVILLE AREA DEVOTIONAL PAGE

This devotional and directory is made possible by these businesses who encourage all to attend worship services.



BIBLE VERSE:

"God has saved us and called us to a holy life — not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time."

— 2 TIMOTHY 1:9

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846-3513

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HC #64, Cassville; 846-1115
MISSION SOUTHERN BAPTIST
RR 1, Washburn
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MT. OLIVE SOUTHERN BAPTIST
F.R. 2188, Cassville, 417-847-1245
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826-5840
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Local- 417-847-4597
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Washburn Community Building
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662-0076

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235-3337

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847-3622
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Wheaton, 417-652-3709
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847-4643
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Seligman, 662-3118
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FIRST CHRISTIAN
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PUPPIES: 4 female Frenchies for sale. 7 months old. $500 each. Call 316-519-6316.

Yard Sales

LOST WALLET: If you find a wallet belonging to Sandra Molton, please call 417-346-5226. Reward if all contents are included.

Miscellaneous

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of executions issued by the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Barry County, Missouri, arising out of a judgment entered by the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri, in Case No. 25BR-CC00012, and to me, as sheriff, directed and delivered, in favor of the plaintiff Servbank SB, and against the defendants

Cory R. Lebow;

Elizabeth A. Smith; Midland Credit Management;

John Doe (Tenant/Occupant);

and Mary Doe (Tenant/Occupant),

I have levied upon and seized all of the right, title, interest, and estate of the defendants

Cory R. Lebow and Elizabeth A. Smith

in and to the following described real estate, situated in Barry County, Missouri, to wit:

Beginning at the Northeast corner of the South Half of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 19, Township 24, Range 26, Barry County, Missouri, thence West 265 feet, thence South 325 feet, thence Northeasterly approximately 290 feet to a point that is 190 feet South of the point of beginning, said point being on the West right-of-way line of C Highway, thence North along said West right-of-way line 190 feet to the point of beginning. Subject to an ingress & egress easement along the North 40 feet thereof commonly known as 20027 State Highway C, Cassville, MO 65625

which I shall expose at public sale to the highest bidder for cash on the 16th day of March, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at the East Front Door of the Barry County Courthouse, 700 Main Street, Cassville, MO 65625, to satisfy said judgment and costs.

Date: January 30, 2026

Danny Boyd, Sheriff of Barry County, Missouri

Newspaper:

The Cassville Democrat

Advertising:

February 18, 2026, February 25, 2026,

March 4. 2026 and

March 11, 2026

(dates for 4 weeks of publication)

1st insertion 02/18/26

6-9

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BIDS

Capps Creek Special Road District will be accepting sealed bids to Chip and seal approximately 5 to 10 miles of roads. Written Sealed bids will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Wednesday April 15th, 2026.

Any bids received after that time will be rejected.

Bids will be opened Thursday April 16th, 2026, at noon at the monthly meeting held at the home of Garry Bartkoski,

5086 Farm Road 2057, Monett, MO.

Bids should be submitted to Capps Creek Special Road District

5086 Farm Road 2057 Monett, MO 65708.

For further information contact any of the Capps Creek Special Road Districts Commissioners, Zac Renkoski, Kyle Forgey or Steve Chapman.

District reserves the right to reject any or all bids

Only insertion 03/11/26

9

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI AT CASSVILLE

IN RE:

SHARON GRACE BERNARD

Case No.

26BR-DR00004

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF CHANGE OF NAME

On the 4th day of March 2026, the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri, entered Judgment in

Case No.

26BR-DR00004,

changing the birth name of Sharon Grace Davis to Sharon Grace Bernard.

ELLIS, CUPPS, HERRIN & SCHWARTZ

Cordelia F. Herrin

Cordelia F. Herrin – MO Bar #42220

P. O. Box 276, Cassville, MO 65625

(417) 847-2734;

Fax (417)847-5643

Attorney for Petitioner

Published in: Cassville Democrat

Dates of Publication: 3/11/26,

3/18/26

& 3/25/26

1st insertion 03/11/26

9-11

– – – – –

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI AT CASSVILLE

CHRISTOPHER LEE MAST,

Petitioner,

REBECCA MORRIS,

Respondent.

Case No.

26BR-DR00033

NOTICE UPON ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

The State of Missouri to: REBECCA MORRIS

You are hereby notified that an action has been commenced against you in the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri, the object and general nature of which is Dissolution of Marriage.

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 Petitioner is:

J. MICHAEL RIEHN

104 W. 7 STREET

P. O. BOX 324

CASSVILLE, MO 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 11th day of MARCH 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 his 5th day of MARCH, 2026.

Craig Williams

CIRCUIT CLERK

BY KATIE CORREIA/DC

First publication:

MARCH 11, 2026

Second Publication:

MARCH 18, 2026

Third Publication:

MARCH 25, 2026

Fourth Publication:

APRIL 01, 2026

1st insertion 03/11/26

9-12

Probate

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

In the Estate of

JAMES JOHN TONNIES, Deceased.

Case Number:

26BR-PR00012

NOTICE OF LETTERS TESTAMENTARY GRANTED (SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION - NON-RESIDENT FIDUCIARY)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of

JAMES JOHN TONNIES, Decedent:

On February 6, 2026, the last will of Decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was

appointed personal representative of the estate of JAMES JOHN TONNIES, decedent, by the Probate Division of

the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri. The name and business address of the personal representative is:

DAVID TONNIES, 3257 HIDDEN BROOKE COURT , NEW CASTLE, PA 16105

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

HARRY SCHWARTZ,

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

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

HARRY SCHWARTZ,

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-JAN-2026

Date of first publication: February 18, 2026

Date of second publication:

February 25, 2026

Date of third publication: March 4, 2026

Date of fourth publication:

March 11, 2026

Craig Williams,

Circuit Clerk

by S. Parker,

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 this estate in the Probate Division of the above referenced Circuit Court.

1st insertion 02/18/26

6-9

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

In the Estate of

LESLIE MARICE GRYDER SR,

Deceased.

Case Number:

26BR-PR00018

NOTICE OF LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION GRANTED (SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of

LESLIE MARICE GRYDER SR,

Decedent:

On February 17, 2026, the following individual was appointed the personal representative of the estate of

LESLIE MARICE GRYDER SR,

decedent,

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

The personal representative's business address is:

LESLIE GRYDER JR, 25655 FARM ROAD 2260, GOLDEN, MO 65658.

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

MARC EDMONDSON,

PO Box 491,

CASSVILLE, MO 65625, 417-846-0022.

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 MIO 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 Decedents 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:

Dec 18, 2025

Date of first publication: February 25, 2026

Date of second publication:

March 4, 2026

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5B

FARM AUCTION

Saturday, March 14, 2026 — 10 a.m.

Location: From Washburn Mo at the Trojan PQ Mart, go South on Hwy 37 for 2.6 miles. Turn right and follow signs. (28267 St. Hwy 37, Washburn MO)

NEW HOLLAND 4X4 CAB TRACTOR (LIKE NEW) – HAY EQUIPMENT – HONDA 4 WHEELER – DODGE DIESEL PICKUP W/ HYDRABED (ONE OWNER) – TRAILERS – ALL KINDS OF FARM ITEMS – IMPLEMENTS – POLARIS RANGER - GUNS – SOME HOUSEHOLD

Tractor: 2018 New Holland, T4, 110, 4x4, cab tractor with New Holland 655 TL, self leveling front loader, (only 1200 hrs.) Wheel weights on the rear & fluid in the tires. (Very nice). **Dodge Pickup:** 2006 Dodge Ram 2500, Cummins Turbo diesel, single cab, automatic, 4x4, with hydra bed & hydra box, only 102xxx miles. (one owner). **Hay Equipment:** 2021 Vermeer Rancher 6650, 5'x6' round baler, net wrap or string, bale kicker & tedder wheels, like new, barn kept. – Reel Vermeer R 23A hay rake, kept undercover, very nice – 2013 New Holland H7220, disc bine, kept undercover, very nice – Mdl G42 4 basket tedder, nice, kept undercover. **Implements:** Bush Hog brand 15' batwing brush hog – pull behind Rock O Matic, hydraulic rock rake – approx. 12' offset Brillian drill & iron works roller seeder – 3 pt 8' disc – 10' offset hydraulic disc – 3 pt bale spike – (2) S & H quick attach front load bale spikes – 3 pt round bale unroller – field drags – 3 pt Danuser post hole auger – 3 pt screen to protect tractor back glass when brush hogging – 3 pt. 200 gal sprayer – 3 pt. mdl M-96 seeder – cradle 3 pt wood splitter- quick attach grapple. **Trailers:** Gooseneck brand, gooseneck 20' x7' cattle trailer, stored undercover (nice) – Gooseneck tandem axle, steel floor, dump trailer (dump motor is bad). **ATV:** 2002 Honda TRX 350 Rancher, ES automatic 4 wheeler (nice). **UTV:** 2023 Polaris Ranger, 1000 XP, Camo with heat, soft doors, flip out windshield, power steering, 4x4, one owner, only 2400 miles (Very nice). **Farm Items:** (9) 10' panels – (6) 12' WW panels – (2) 8' pipe gates – (2) small alley gates – (10) round bale rings – (5) mineral feeders – (13) bunk feeders – (3) concrete bunk feeders – galvanized water tank – approx. 30 sticks of 23' sucker rod – misc 1" pipe & wood post – misc used T post – misc 8"x8" corner post – chain link dog pen – cattle rub – dehorner's – elect fence chargers calf puller – tank heaters – misc cattle supplies – many more items not listed. **Tools:** 2" socket set – stepladder – misc hand tools – lg crescent wrench – misc log chains – Husqvarna 340 chain saw – Hy Flo 220 power washer – Craftsman front tine tiller –old band saw - more tools not listed. **Guns:** Savage mdl 11, 22-250 bolt action with Simmons 3x9x40 scope, (never been fired) – New Haven 20 ga 3" pump shot gun – metal stackable gun safe. **Collectibles:** Horse Hames – single trees – old garden plows – block & tackle – old wood crates – old Truco metal gas cans & misc metal gas cans – sure to be more collectibles as we set up for the auction. **Misc:** Buck wood stove – roll away bed – more misc, household not listed. **Note:** Mr. Bishop is very meticulous and the hay equipment, tractor & truck have been kept undercover or inside & well maintained. Many items are in like new condition. There will be many more items that are not listed. In case of inclement weather, we can sell most of the auction undercover with heat. Parking is good, bring a friend or two and come spend the day with us at this awesome farm auction. **Terms:** Cash, good check or credit card with 2 forms of current ID. Must have current driver's license to obtain bidder number. All terms on bidder card apply. If paying with credit card a 5% convenience fee will be charged. If paying with a check on large items, items will be held until check clears the auction co bank unless prior arrangements have been made at least 24 hrs. before auction day. 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.

Owner: Wendell & Jan Bishop

Auctioneer:
Donnie Stumpff
MO & AR State Champion Auctioneer
#1409 | PB00051442

STUMPFF'S
REALTY & AUCTION SERVICE, INC.
www.stumpffauction.com
417-847-2507

Auctioneer:
Parker Stumpff
AR State Champion Auctioneer
#2352

INDOOR MOVING SALE

Big! Big! Big! Indoor moving sale at The Gathering Place in Purdy, March 13–14. Homeschoolers and DIYers dream sale. Homeschool kits, appliances, workout equipment, baby items, tools, home repair supplies, gardening and chicken raising supplies. $5 & $10 tables, free stuff and so much more!

Cedar Towers Apartments

600 Monroe Street, Purdy, MO 65734

2 Bedroom Apts. Now Available!

Income Limits Apply
On-Site Laundry Facilities and Playground
Tenant responsible for Electric
Rental Assistance Available

FOR MORE DETAILS CALL:

417-442-3347
RELAY #711

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4B

Date of third publication: March 11, 2026
Date of fourth publication: March 18, 2026
Craig Williams,
Circuit Clerk
by S. Parker,
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 this estate in the Probate Division of the above referenced Circuit Court.
1st insertion 02/25/26
7-10

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

In the Estate of
WILLIAM VERNON NICHOLS JR,
Deceased.
Case Number:
26BR-PR00017

NOTICE OF LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION GRANTED (INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of
WILLIAM VERNON NICHOLS JR,
Decedent:
On February 10, 2026, the following individuals was appointed the personal representative of the estate of
WILLIAM VERNON NICHOLS JR,
decedent,
by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of BARRY COUNTY, Missouri. The personal representative's business address is:
PATRICIA NICHOLS, 26888 AIRCRAFT LN., SHELL KNOB, MO 65747
The personal representative may administer the estate independently without adjudication, order, or direction of the Probate Division of the Circuit Court, unless a petition for supervised administration is made to and granted by the court.
The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is:
MEGAN ALFANO,
200 NE MISSOURI RD., SUITE 00,
LEE'S SUMMIT, MO 64086,
816-774-1107.
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:
26-FEB-2025
Date of first publication: February 25, 2026
Date of second publication:
March 4, 2026
Date of third publication: March 11, 2026
Date of fourth publication:
March 18, 2026
Craig Williams,
Circuit Clerk
by S. Parker,
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 this estate in the Probate Division of the above referenced Circuit Court.
1st insertion 02/25/26
7-10

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

In the Estate of:
TIMOTHY S. PETERS, Deceased
Estate No.
25BR-PR00095

NOTICE OF FILING OF FINAL SETTLEMENT AND PETITION FOR DISTRIBUTION

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF
TIMOTHY S. PETERS,
deceased:
You are hereby notified that the undersigned Personal Representative will file a Final
Settlement and Petition for determination of the persons who are the successors in interest
to the personal/real estate of the decedent and of the extent and character of their interest
therein and for distribution of such property, on or after April 8, 2026, or as may be
continued by the Court, and that any objections or exceptions to such Final Settlement or
Petition or any item thereof must be in writing and filed within twenty days after the
filing of such Final Settlement.
HARRY D. SCHWARTZ, Attorney
RUBIE EUBANKS
Ellis, Cupps, Herrin & Schwartz
Personal Representative
P. O. Box 276
Cassville, MO 65625
(417)847-2734
Dates of Publication – 2/25/26,
3/4/26,
3/11/26,
3/18/26
THE ABOVE REFERENCED DATE IS NOT A COURT APPEARANCE DATE.
It is an estimated date as to when the Final Settlement can be filed with the court.
1st insertion 2/25/26
7-10

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

In the Estate of
MARVIN LANCE MCCULLOUGH, Deceased.
Case Number:
26BR-PR00021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS (SMALL ESTATE)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of
MARVIN LANCE MCCULLOUGH, Decedent.
On February 19, 2026 a small estate affidavit was filed by the distributees for the decedent under
Section 473.097, RSMo, with the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of BARRY COUNTY Missouri.
All creditors of Decedent, who died on 20-MAR-2025, are notified that Section 473.444, RSMo,
sets a limitation period that would bar claims one year after the death of Decedent. A creditor may request that this estate be opened for administration.
Receipt of this notice should not be construed by the recipient to indicate that the recipient may
possibly have a beneficial interest in the estate. The nature and extent of any person's interest, if any, may possibly be determined from the affidavit on this estate filed in the Probate Division of
the Circuit Court of BARRY COUNTY Missouri.
Date of first publication is March 4, 2026.
Date of second publication is
March 11, 2026.
Craig Williams,
Circuit Clerk
by S. Parker,
Probate Clerk
1st insertion 03/04/26
8-9

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

In the Estate of
AUSTIN JAMES PRIER, Deceased.
Case Number:
26BR-PR00022

NOTICE OF LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION GRANTED (SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of
AUSTIN JAMES PRIER, Decedent:
On February 23, 2026, the following individual was appointed the personal representative of the estate of
AUSTIN JAMES PRIER, decedent,
by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri.
The personal representative's business address is:
JEFF PRIER,
27524 STATE HIGHWAY J, GOLDEN, MO 65658.
The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is:
HARRY DANIEL SCHWARTZ,
702 WEST ST,
PO 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:
04-FEB-2026
Craig Williams,
Circuit Clerk
by S. Parker,
Probate Clerk
Date of first publication: March 4, 2026
Date of second publication:
March 11, 2026
Date of third publication: March 18, 2026
Date of fourth publication:
March 25, 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 this estate in the Probate Division of the above referenced Circuit Court.
1st insertion 03/04/26
8-11

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

In the Estate of
CHAD C SPRINKLE, Deceased.
Case Number:
26BR-PR00011

NOTICE OF LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION GRANTED (SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of
CHAD C SPRINKLE, Decedent:
On February 19, 2026, the following individual was appointed the personal representative of the estate of
CHAD C SPRINKLE, decedent,
by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri.
The personal representative's business address is:
MAGGIE M SPRINKLE, 130 HODGE DRIVE , CASSVILLE, MO 65625.
The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is:
ANGELA CHRISTENE 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

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6B

160+ Guns - Ammo - 700+ Lots Antique Toys - 900+ Lots Gold & Silver Coins -Knives - Pocket Watches - Antiques

Huge Public Auction

8:00 AM * Saturday, March 14th * 8:00 AM
Location: 16623 Lawrence 1135 Mt. Vernon, Mo.

Huge Auction.
Early Start Time 8:00 AM
All Day 2 & 3 Ring Auction

Directions: From Mt. Vernon take Hwy. 39 south 6 mi. then west on P Hwy ½ mi. then straight on curve to Lawrence 2170, 1 mi. then right on Lawrence 1135 ½ mi. to Auction.

Watch for Signs Down-Home Country Cooking made from Scratch by the Mast Family

160+ Guns including 100 Rifles - 50 Handguns - 16 Shotguns including Winchester, Remington, Marlin, Henry, Ruger, Browning, Savage, Colt, Ruger, Kimber, CZ, S&W, Glock & many more. Winchesters mod. 1892 44-40 Saddle Ring (1899), 1892 32-20 (1903), 1892 Deluxe Takedown 32-20 modern (NIB), mod. 71 .348 (1950), mod. 1887 Lever Action 12ga. & many more, Remington mod. 700 BDL's, mod. 600 Mohawk .308, mod. 673 6.5 Rem Mag., mod. Wingmaster 870LW .410 & more, Savage mod. 99 .300 sav., Marlin 39's, Colt series 70 National Match Gold Cup, Kimber Custom Shop Gold Combat, Several nice Henry's, most (NIB). Just to name a few; (300+) Boxes of ammo of all kinds;(7) Remington Bullet Knives; Misc. Swords; (5) Bronzes incl. Remington, Kauba & Dallin;
900+ Lots Coins & Currency (20+) Gold Coins including $20, $10, $5, $3, $2 ½ & $1 dollar denominations, 1836 Classic Head & 1891CC Liberty Head $5, 1854 IGC AU58 & 1874 UNC $3.00 Princess Heads; (28) pcs. Gold Bullion incl. Eagles & Maple Leafs; (700+) Morgan Dollars incl. **All** of the Carson City's except 1893-S & 1895 Proof only issues; 1892-S AU53; 1893-CC AU50; 1894-O AU58, 1903-S AU58 to highlight a few; (700+) Peace Dollars including a complete set of UNC & Better in Capitol Holders; Hundreds of other good Silver Coins incl. Halves1803-XF & 1806-VF Draped Bust Halves, 1807, 1813-XF, 1824-MS65, 1827-VF, 1828-VF, 1829-XF, 1835-AU Capped Bust Halves, Seated Halves incl. 1890 PCGS MS-62; (300+) Barber, Walking Liberty, Franklin & Kennedy Halves; (400+) Silver Quarters incl. 1923-S & 1932-D; (1000+) Barber, Mercury & Roosevelt Silver Dimes; (1000's) of Wheat Pennies including 1909-S & 1931-S; (4) 2 Cent Pcs.; Few Civil War Tokens; (200+) Silver Eagles incl some Proof, NGC & PCGS Slabbed MS-70 etc... (800+) Oz. Silver Bullion including 100oz. Bar, 32oz, 16oz, 10oz, 8oz, 4oz, 2oz & 1oz Bars & Rounds; Commemorative Dollars & Halves incl. 1921 2 Star 4 Missouri Half; Proof Sets; Full & Partial Coin Albums; Confederate Note; Fractional Currency, (Very Rare 1929 "National Bank of Mt. Vernon Mo." $20.00 National Currency Note (Only 6 known to exist); Silver Certificates & Lots More.
Collection of Baseball Cards (most are unopened boxes); **700+ Lots Antique Toys** Large & Extensive Collection including Arcade, Doepke, Hubley, MARX, Wyandotte, Structo, Buddy-L, Nylint, Kenton, Ertl, Tonka, J. Chein, Tootsie, Fisher Price & Many More including (20) Large Riding Toys & Pedal Tractors; (100's) of Trucks, Tractors, Graders, Excavators, Threshing Machines, Crawlers, Trash Trucks, Cranes, Fire Trucks, Wreckers, Farm Equipment, Wind-Up Tin Toys, Trains, Erector Sets, Games, Pull Toys, Lots of Qualty Collectible Toys; (8) I/8 Scale Ertl International Tractors; **70+ Pocket Watches** By Seth Thomas, Hamilton, Waltham, Elgin, Illinois, South Bend, Ball Watch Co, Ingersoll, Bulova, Hampden, Standard Watch Co., & Others, Most all have Gold Filled Cases, Hunter Cases, Lever Sets, Hinge Backs, Sizes 3 to 18, 7 to 22 Jewel, Railroad Specials, Some Exposed Gear Faces, Most have beed professionally cleaned & in working order; **(100's of Antiques & Collectibles** including 18 pcs. Roseville Pottery; Good Cast Iron including, Skillets Bean Pots, Gate Marked Dutch Oven, "Wagner" Saleman Sample Waffle Iron; Red Wing 20 Gallon Crock Jar; Crock Jugs & Jars up to 5 Gallon, Longaberger Baskets including Fruit & Laundry Baskets; Metal Coolers; Milk Bottles; (5) Mantle Clocks; Metal Lunch Boxes; Glass Minnow Traps; Fishing Lures including Wiggle Warts & Modern Winchester 5 Hook Minnows (Mint in Box); (50+) Pcs. Amberina & Red Moon & Stars Glass including MiniWater Set, Cobalt Glass including 2 Mini Water Sets, Ruby Red Pieces; Juicer Collection; Hen on Nests; Nice Carved Jade pcs. Including 34 inch Tall Elephant Pagoda; (5)Aladdin Lamps; & Many more Nice Antiques.

There is no way to list all of the outstanding items in this Huge Auction!!
See fosterauctionservice.com for a better list & over 2000 pictures.
Call David Mast at 417-366-0198 or Write to above address for a free catalog.
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Auctioneer: Larry Foster
Galena, Mo
Cell: (417) 839-6860

PUBLIC AUCTION

Friday, March 13, 2026 — 10:00 AM

Location: 23612 Emerald Dr. Golden, Mo. From HWY's 86 & J across from Shumaker tire, take J HWY 1 mile, stay left on J HWY, go 2.6 miles, turn right on FR 2260. Go 2/10 mile. Turn left on Emerald Dr., go 2 miles, stay right on Emerald Dr

SNOOKER TABLE–BOAT–FORKLIFT–ZERO TURN MOWER–AUTO–TOOLS–SHOP ITEMS-HOUSEHOLD- MISC.

Snooker Table: Gandy 5'X 10' snooker table-pool cues, balls, etc., - Pool table light. Boat: Vintage 1986 Cobalt Ski boat with Trailer. Auto: 2013 Prius V Hybrid synergy drive, no key (Rough) Mower: Hustler shortcut, h bar steering 48' 22 HP mower. Tools: Troy Bilt super Bronco rear tine tiller- red max back-pack lead blower- Torque Wrench- Ryobi cordless tool's- Bench grinder- Echo 650 EVL Chain saw- Husqvarna 136 Chain saw- Sprayers- Kennedy Roll around Tool chest- Tire chains- Portable toolbox's- Troy Bilt mini tiller- Several AC gauges- Brinly Lus-33 Poly yard vac system – large fiberglass ext. ladder- Floor jack – Leaf shredder- shop smith- wheel barrow- ext. cords- nuts & bolts bin's- black max push mower- small yard wagon- nuts & bolts/ parts cabinet- misc. Long handle tools- come along- misc. small hand tool's such as wrenches, sockets, saws, etc.- misc. small power tools, drills, etc.- approx. 10 metal roller board. Forklift: 2006 Electric yale, 3 stage high lift forklift. Household & Misc.: GE dishwasher- GE smooth top elect range- Maytag microwave/ hood – Magic chef upright freezer- Amana chest freezer- Maple or birch kitchen cabinets (these items came out of a home being remolded) ping pong table- wood cabinet – coat rack – matching recliners – hide a bed sofa – glider- king size water bed frame- Misc. small kitchen appliances – Kitchen ware's such as misc. dishes, silverware, silverware set's (plates) cups- pats & pans etc. – Rainbow vac. – Handi cap walker- folding chairs – pictures- misc. Household items - - misc. Interior doors – large aluminum pat- turkey fryer- several pressure cookers- large stainless steel BBQ grill- McCaskill Antique Treadle sewing machine- Life jackets- metal shelves- Bringman charcoal smoker(new)- several bogs of cellulose r-19 insulation- assorted bogs of peat moss- large TV Ant. Tower- Free spirit bicycle- Horse shoes (new) – Rod & Reels- yard cart- Yard stepping stones – scrap – composter – tomato cages – 16' wire panel's- Misc. Steel T-post- Li'l rocker 5th wheel hitch system
Note: Come spend the day with us on Table Rock Lake Friday March 13th at 10:00AM. Catering and Potty on site. 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. If paying with a check on large items, items will be held until your check clears the auction company bank. All terms on bidder card apply. All sells as is where is with no warranty or guarantee expressed or implied. Any announcements made on the day of auction supersede any and all printed material.

Owner: Russ and Tonya Counts

STUMPFF'S
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www.stumpffauction.com
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Auctioneer:
Donnie Stumpff
MO & AR State Champion Auctioneer
#1409 | PB00051442

Auctioneer:
Parker Stumpff
AR State Champion Auctioneer
#2352

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5B

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-JAN-2026

Craig Williams,
Circuit Clerk
by S. Parker,
Probate Clerk

Date of first publication: March 4, 2026

Date of second publication:

March 11, 2026

Date of third publication: March 18, 2026

Date of fourth publication:

March 25, 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 this estate in the Probate Division of the above referenced Circuit Court.

1st insertion 03/04/26
8-11

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

In the Estate of
EMMETT LENDELL COCKRUM,
Deceased.
Case Number:
26BR-PR00023

NOTICE OF LETTERS TESTAMENTARY GRANTED (SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of
EMMETT LENDELL COCKRUM,
Decedent:

On February 25, 2026, the last will of Decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual

was appointed personal representative of the estate of
EMMETT LENDELL COCKRUM,
decedent

by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of BARRY COUNTY, Missouri.

The name, business address, and phone number of the personal representative is:

SAM MADSEN,
102 WEST STREET,
SUITE 5,
CASSVILLE, MO 65625,
417-847-0541

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

HARRY SCHWARTZ,
702 WEST ST,
PO 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:

22-JAN-2026

Date of first publication: March 4, 2026

Date of second publication:

March 11, 2026

Date of third publication: March 18, 2026

Date of fourth publication:

March 25, 2026

Craig Williams,
Circuit Clerk
by S. Parker,
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 this estate in the Probate Division of the above referenced Circuit Court.

1st insertion 03/04/26
8-11

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

In the Estate of MARGARET CHARLENE RICKLEFS,
Deceased
Case Number:
26BR-PR00031

NOTICE TO CREDITORS (SMALL ESTATE)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of MARGARET CHARLENE RICKLEFS,
Decedent.

On March 5, 2026 a small estate affidavit was filed by the distributees for the decedent under Section 473.097, RSMo, with the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of BARRY COUNTY, Missouri.

All creditors of Decedent, who died on 23-APR-2025, are notified that Section 473.444, RSMo, sets a limitation period that would bar claims one year after the death of Decedent. A creditor may request that this estate be opened for administration.

Receipt of this notice should not be construed by the recipient to indicate that the recipient may possibly have a beneficial interest in the estate. The nature and extent of any person's interest, if any, may possibly be determined from the affidavit on this estate filed in the Probate Division of

the Circuit Court of BARRY COUNTY Missouri.

Date of first publication is March 11, 2026.

Date of second publication is March 18, 2026.

Craig Williams,
Circuit Clerk
by S. Parker,
Probate Clerk
1st insertion 03/11/26
9-10

TRUSTEE'S SALES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

For default in the payment of debt secured by a deed of trust executed by Reva M. Burke, dated

March 29, 2024, and recorded on March 29, 2024, Document No. 202401513, in Book No. 24, at Page

1476 in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, Barry County, Missouri, the undersigned Successor Trustee

will on March 18, 2026, at 11:00 AM, at the East Front Door of the Barry County Courthouse, Cassville,

Missouri, sell at public vendue to the highest bidder for cash:

Lot Fifty (50), Fairway Heights Subdivision to the City of Monett, Barry County,

Missouri, as per the recorded plat thereof, commonly known as 213 Miller Way,

Monett, MO, 65708

subject to all prior easements, restrictions, reservations, covenants and encumbrances now of record, if

any, to satisfy the debt and costs.

SouthLaw, P.C.
Successor Trustee

First Publication: February 18, 2026. For more information, visit www.southlaw.com

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 (Casefile No. 257189-1083611).

1st insertion 02/18/26
6-9

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NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

Default having been made in the payment of that certain note secured by Deed of Trust executed by

Brenden Hall
and Alanis Hall,

husband and wife, dated October 28, 2022 and recorded on October 28, 2022 in Book 22, Page 6725, as Document No. 202206843, Office of Recorder of Deeds, Barry County, Missouri. The Successor Trustee will on March 16, 2026, between the hours of 9:00 o'clock A.M. and 5:00 P.M. more particularly at 12:00PM, at the Barry County Courthouse, 700 Main, East Front door, Cassville, MO 65625, sell at public venue to the highest bidder for cash, the following real estate:

ALL OF LOTS ONE (1) AND TWO (2), BLOCK TEN (10) IN MONETT TOWN COMPANY'S FIRST ADDITION TO THE CITY OF MONETT, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI.

For the purpose of satisfying said indebtedness and the costs of executing this trust.

S&W Foreclosure Corporation
Successor Trustee

Pub Commences February 18, 2026

LLG File No.25-041329

By: LOGS Legal Group LLP

www.LOGS.com
Servicelink

Purported address: 201 North Elm Street, Monett, MO 65708

Publication Dates: 02/18/26,
02/25/26,
03/04/26,
03/11/26
1st insertion 02/18/26
6-9

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TRUSTEE'S SALE

IN RE: James W King,
a married person
Trustee's Sale:

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

Trust executed by
James W King,

a married person dated November 16, 2022 and recorded in

the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Barry County, Missouri in Book 22, Page 7057 the

undersigned Successor Trustee, at the request of the legal holder of said Note will on Tuesday,

March 17, 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 vendue to the highest bidder for cash the following described real estate, described in

said Deed of Trust, and situated in Barry County, State of Missouri, to wit:

LOT FOUR (4), BLOCK SEVEN (7), GRANDVIEW PLACE ADDITION TO MONETT, BARRY

COUNTY, MISSOURI, AS PER THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF, SUBJECT TO ANY

EASEMENTS, RIGHTS OF WAY, RESTRICTIONS, RESERVATIONS AND COVENANTS OF

RECORD OR FACT.

to satisfy said debt and cost.

MILLSAP & SINGER, P.C.,
Successor Trustee
612 Spirit Drive
St. Louis, MO 63005
(636) 537-0110

File No: 231035.031726.464733 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:

February 18, 2026
02/25/2026,
03/04/2026,
03/11/2026
1st insertion 02/18/26
6-9

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NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

For default in the payment of debt secured by the Deed of Trust executed by

Bob Y. Lee,
Unmarried Man,

dated 7/12/2017, recorded on 7/13/2017, in Deed Book 17, Page 3750, in the Office of the Recorder of

Deeds for Barry County, Missouri, the undersigned Successor Trustee will on 3/12/2026, between the

hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, starting at 2:00 PM at the Barry County Courthouse - East Door – 700 Main Street, Cassville, MO 65625, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash (certified funds

only) the below described real estate to satisfy said debt and costs. Certified funds must be delivered to

the auctioneer at the conclusion of the auction. Purchasers take property as is, without warranty. Lots 1,

2, 3 And Lot 4, Except The East Half (12.5 Feet) Of Lot 4 All In Block 20 In The Original Town Of Wheaton,

Barry County, Missouri. Subject To Any Easements, Rights Of Way Or Restrictions Of Record Or In Fact.

More commonly known as: 118 W Main St Wheaton, MO 64874 Notice To Bidders: Please be advised

that the Trustee may require entity or trust bidders at this trustee's sale to provide information,

documentation and/or certification of the vesting instructions and the data required to be reported

pursuant to FinCEN regulations effective for transfers of residential real property to covered transferees

on or after March 1, 2026. The required information must be provided to the trustee before a trustee's

deed upon sale will be issued for covered transfers. These federal regulations will require reporting if a

trustee's deed is issued on or after March 1, 2026, even if the foreclosure sale is conducted prior to

March 1, 2026. Additional information regarding these regulations and the required transferee

information and certifications can be found at https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/08/29/2024-19198/anti-money-laundering-regulations-for-residential-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7B

ESTATE AUCTION

Saturday, March 21, 2026 — 10:00 AM

Location: Golden, MO. (Table Rock AirPort). From Hwy 86 & Hwy J across from Shumaker Tire, take Hwy J, 1 mile, stay left on J Hwy 7/10 mile. Turn left on FR 2274 go 5/10 mile. Stay right for 2/10 mile to auction. (22264 Fr 2274 Golden MO)

REAL ESTATE – BOAT SLIP – GOLF CART – ELEC RECUMBANT TRIKES – TOOLS – FURNITURE & APPLIANCES – HOUSEHOLD & MISC

Real Estate: 1990, 3 bedroom, 2 bath doublewide home on permanent foundation. 1568 sq ft of living area. Enter this home under a covered front deck that overlooks the Table Rock Airport into a nice size family room with vaulted ceiling, ceiling fan and a patio door leading out to the back deck. Also, a freestanding wood stove. To the right of the entry door is a formal dining room. From there on into the kitchen or the master bedroom. The kitchen features double sink, cabinets, countertop space, built in Whirlpool dishwasher, Whirlpool gas range with hood and a very nice SS side by side refrigerator/freezer. The master bedroom has ceiling fan, windows, walk in closet & pass through bathroom with a shower and a door leading into the utility room with outside entry door. On the North end of the home is 2 more bedrooms with ceiling fans, windows and walk in closets and a full bathroom. **Outside Amenities:** A covered front deck, back deck, and a 45'x40'x12' steel utility building used as an airplane hanger. All this on (4) nice lots consisting of 2.025 acres m/l on the Table Rock Airport and a view of Table Rock Lake from your front yard. **Boat Slip:** 10'x30' boat slip, slip #8 in Airpark Beach Dock, permit #8156. **Note:** Own property on Table Rock Airport and just up the street from Table Rock Lake. The best of both worlds. Fly in and store your plane in you own airplane hanger and spend time on Table Rock Lake. We will also be offering separately a very nice 10'x30' boat slip just a short golf cart ride away from the home and hanger. Call to preview the real estate or boat slip before auction day or to pre-register for the auction. 417-847-2507. Go to www.stumpffauction.com to view more pictures and for more information. **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.

Estate of Al Hoelscher
Boat Slip Owner: Jason & Angela Artherton

STUMPFF'S
REALTY & AUCTION SERVICE, INC.
www.stumpffauction.com

Auctioneer:
Donnie Stumpff
MO & AR State Champion Auctioneer #1409 | PB00051442

417-847-2507

Auctioneer:
Parker Stumpff
AR State Champion Auctioneer #2352

PUBLIC AUCTION

Monday, March 16, 2026 – 10 AM

Location: 23967 Finch Dr. Golden, Mo – From Hwy 86 & J hwy across from Shumaker tire. Take J hwy 1 mile, stay left on J hwy go 2.5 miles turn right on FR 2260 go 2/10 mile turn left on Emerald DR. go 1.9 miles veer left on Cardinal Dr. Then turn left on Cliff Dr. go 3/10 mile turn right on Finch Dr. to auction.

KUBOTA TRACTOR - PONTOON BOAT - TRACKER FISHING BOAT – GOLF CART –TOOL'S –TRAILER – LAKE TOYS – HOUSEHOLD – MISC

Kubota Tractor: 2018 Kubota B 2301, Hydrostat, 4X4, LA434 front loader, only 230 Hours. **Tracker Boat:** 2004 19' Tracker Targa 18 Aluminum fishing boat with 2017 Mercury 150 four stroke motor, plus Minn Kota UI Trek Trolling motor with spot lock & Tracker Trail Star Trailer. **Pontoon Boat:** 2007 Bennington 240, CR/24' Pontoon boat with 2007 Mercury 115 motor and Trailer (Pontoons have been patched). **Golf Cart:** Yamaha Gas powered golf cart with top & flip down windshield. **Trailer:** 2005 16'X16' Tandem Axle drop gate trailer. **Tools:** Craftsman Chain Saw, Homelite Chainsaw, Small upright Air Compressor, Straight shaft weed eater, Craftsman shop vac, pipe wrenches, Misc. small hand tools, misc. small power tools, yard seeder, car ramps, folding aluminum ladder, battery charger, Worx 20V power washer, Electric cement mixer, old table saw, old grinder, old band saw, bench grinder, old metal work bench, yard cart, wheel barrel, ext. cords, gas cans. **Lake Toys & Fishing Toys:** Several Life Vests, Several Rod & Reels, misc. fishing tackle, water tubes, ski's, knee boards, etc., lawn Chairs. **Household & Misc.:** GE Refrigerator/freezer, smooth top elect. Range, Vevor ice maker, microwave, Misc. Small kitchen appliances, kitchen ware such as pots & pans, plates, cups, glasses, silverware, utensils, etc., flat screen TV, pillows puzzles, board games, VHS Movies, metal lawn chair, patio firepit, BBQ, picnic table, patio gas fire pit, bar top patio table & chairs, Iron patio table & 4 chairs, patio storage box, more items not listed. **Note:** This will not be a long auction, however a nice auction with items that have been very well taken care of so come spend the day at Table Rock Lake with us. Catering & Porta Potty on site. See you there!! **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. If paying with a check on large items, items will be held until your check clears the auction company bank. All terms on bidder card apply. All sells as is where is with no warranty or guarantee expressed or implied. Any announcements made on the day of auction supersede any and all printed material.

Owner: Scott Ritchie

STUMPFF'S
REALTY & AUCTION SERVICE, INC.
www.stumpffauction.com

Auctioneer:
Donnie Stumpff
MO & AR State Champion Auctioneer #1409 | PB00051442

417-847-2507

Auctioneer:
Parker Stumpff
AR State Champion Auctioneer #2352

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5B

real-estate-transfers and https://www.fincen.gov/rre-faqs#D_5.Nestor

Solutions of Missouri, LLC Successor Trustee (888) 403-4115

1st insertion 02/18/26

6-9

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TRUSTEE'S NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To all persons interested in the estate of

RICHARD L. OTT, deceased:

The undersigned, BRENDA K. DEVANEY,

is acting as Trustee under a Trust, the terms of which provide that the debts of the Decedent may be paid by the Trustee upon receipt of proper proof thereof.

The address of the Trustee is as follows:

Brenda K. Devaney, Trustee

80 S. Reindeer Rd.

Surfside Beach, SC 29575

All creditors of the decedent are notified to present their claims to the undersigned within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this notice or be forever barred pursuant to Section

456.5-50S, RSMo.

Date of first publication is: 02/18/26

Brenda K. Devaney,

Trustee

By: Carnahan Evans PC

2805S. Ingram Mill Road

Springfield, MO 65804

6-9

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NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

For default in the payment of debt secured by the Deed of Trust executed by

Cristopher Green

And

Chelsey Green,

Husband And Wife,

dated 7/6/2023, recorded on 7/10/2023, as Instrument Number

202303387 and in Deed Book 23, Page 3320, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for Barry County,

Missouri, the undersigned Successor Trustee will on 3/26/2026, between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, starting at 2:00 PM at the Barry County Courthouse - East Door - 700 Main Street, Cassville, MO

65625, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash (certified funds only) the below described real

estate to satisfy said debt and costs. Certified funds must be delivered to the auctioneer at the

conclusion of the auction. Purchasers take property as is, without warranty. A Tract Of Land, Consisting

Of One (1) Acre, More Or Less, In The Southeast Quarter (SE1/4) Of The Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) Of

The Southwest Quarter (SW1/4), Of Section 36, Township 25, Range 26, Barry County, Missouri, And

More Particularly Described As Follows: Commencing At A Point 15 Feet North Of The Southeast Corner

Of The Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) Of The Southwest Quarter (SW1/4), Thence North 276 Feet, To A

Point On The East Line Of Said Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) Of The Southwest Quarter (SW1/4), Thence

West 158 Feet To A Point, Thence South 276 Feet To A Point, Thence East 158 Feet To The Point Of

Beginning. Subject To Easements And Rights-Of-Way Of Record. More commonly known as: 6949 Farm

Road 1182 Verona, MO 65769 Notice To Bidders: Please be advised that the Trustee may require entity

or trust bidders at this trustee's sale to provide information, documentation and/or certification of the

vesting instructions and the data required to be reported pursuant to FinCEN regulations effective for

transfers of residential real property to covered transferees on or after March 1, 2026. The required

information must be provided to the trustee before a trustee's deed upon sale will be issued for covered

transfers. These federal regulations will require reporting if a trustee's deed is issued on or after March 1,

2026, even if the foreclosure sale is conducted prior to March 1, 2026. Additional information regarding

these regulations and the required transferee information and certifications can be found at

https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/

2024/08/29/2024-19198/anti-money-laundering-

regulations-for-residential-real-estate-transfers and https://www.fincen.gov/rre-faqs#D_5 . Nestor

Solutions of Missouri, LLC Successor Trustee (888) 403-4115.

1st Insertion 03/04/26

8-11

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TRUSTEE'S SALE

IN RE:

Billy T Sharp Jr and

Emily Nicole Sharp, husband and wife

Trustee's Sale:

For default in payment of debt and performance of obligation secured by Deed of Trust executed by Billy T Sharp Jr

and Emily Nicole Sharp, husband and wife dated July 1, 2024

and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Barry County, Missouri as Book: 24

Page: 3322 and modified by Loan Modification Agreement (Deed of Trust) recorded on May 14, 2025 at Book: 25 Page: 2401 the undersigned Successor Trustee, at the request of the legal holder of said Note will on Tuesday, March 31, 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 vendue to the highest bidder for cash the following

described real estate, described in said Deed of Trust, and situated in Barry County, State of

Missouri, to wit:

LOT THIRTY-NINE (39), FAIRWAY HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION, AS PER THE RECORDED PLAT

THEREOF, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI. SUBJECT TO ANY EASEMENTS, RIGHTS OF

WAY, RESTRICTIONS, RESERVATIONS AN COVENANTS OF RECORD OR FACT.

to satisfy said debt and cost.

MILLSAP & SINGER, P.C.,

Successor Trustee

612 Spirit Drive

St. Louis, MO 63005

(636) 537-0110

File No: 231008.033126.464687 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:

March 4, 2026 03/11/2026,

03/18/2026,

03/25/2026

1st insertion 03/04/26

8-11

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TRUSTEE'S SALE

IN RE:

Harry Edward Lassley and Carole Lassley, husband and wife and Harry E Lassley

Jr. a married man Trustee's Sale:

For default in payment of debt and performance of obligation secured by Deed of Trust executed by Harry Edward Lassley and Carole Lassley, husband and wife and Harry E Lassley Jr. a married man dated January 4, 2022 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of

Deeds of Barry County, Missouri in Book 22, Page 96 the undersigned Successor Trustee, at the request of the legal holder of said Note will on Tuesday, April 7, 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 vendue to the highest bidder for cash the following described real estate, described in said Deed of Trust, and situated in Barry County, State of Missouri, to wit:

PART OF THE EAST HALF (E1/2) OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (NW1/4) OF SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 24, RANGE 27, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI DESCRIBED AS COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER THEREOF, THENCE SOUTH 0 DEGREES 21 MINUTES 46 SECONDS EAST 1000.09 FEET ALONG THE WEST LINE THEREOF TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, THENCE CONTINUING SOUTH 0 DEGREES 21 MINUTES 46 SECONDS EAST 357.29 FEET, THENCE NORTH 84 DEGREES 53 MINUTES 11 SECONDS EAST 486.87 FEET, THENCE NORTH 29 DEGREES 04 MINUTES 51 SECONDS WEST 278.66 FEET, THENCE NORTH 14 DEGREES 02 MINUTES 15 SECONDS WEST 115.02, THENCE SOUTH 82 DEGREES 44 MINUTES 43 SECONDS WEST 326.45 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, AND A TRACT OF LAND 7 FEET WIDE AND 393.68 FEET ALONG THE EAST SIDE THEREOF, AND 15 FEET ALONG THE SOUTH SIDE THEREOF MAKING THE BACK WEST LINE 372.29 FEET AND THE EAST LINE 408.68 FEET AND THE NORTH LINE WILL BE 333.45 FEET.

ACCESS EASEMENT: AN EASEMENT FOR ACCESS PURPOSES BEING 30 FEET WIDE AND HAVING PARALLEL LINES DESCRIBED ALONG THE WEST LINE AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE EAST HALF (E1/2) OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (NW 1/4) OF SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 24, RANGE 27, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI, THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 55 MINUTES 37 SECONDS EAST

215.0 FEET ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 7 TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, THENCE SOUTH 2 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 09 SECONDS EAST 791.53 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 26 DEGREES 45 MINUTES 32 SECONDS EAST 187.75 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 14 DEGREES 02 MINUTES 15 SECONDS EAST 115.02 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 29 DEGREES 04 MINUTES 51 SECONDS EAST 278.66 FEET TO THE POINT OF TERMINATION.

to satisfy said debt and cost.

MILLSAP & SINGER, P.C.,

Successor Trustee

612 Spirit Drive

St. Louis, MO 63005

(636) 537-0110

File No: 229868.040726.467569 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:

March 11, 2026 03/18/2026,

03/25/2026,

04/01/2026

1st insertion 03/11/26

9-12

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NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

WHEREAS,

Clifton O. Mitchell and Melissa G. Mitchell, Husband and Wife,

by their Deed of Trust With Future Advance Clause, dated April 5, 2001, and recorded in the office of the recorder of deeds for Barry County, Missouri, on April 9, 2001, in Book 01 Page 2173, conveyed to Gary Fields,

Trustee, the following-described property situated in the County of Ban-y, State of Missouri, to-wit: Lot 89 Coral Fountain Shopping Center, recorded in the Recorder of Deeds office, Barry County, Missouri. Subject to a permanent easement for public use as described and shown on or before mentioned plat of Coral Fountains Shopping Center. Subject to any easements, rights of way or restrictions of record or fact.

which conveyance was made to the said Gary Fields, Trustee, m trust to secure the payment of promissory notes in said Deed of Trust described; and WHEREAS, default was made and still continues in the payment of said promissory notes; and, WHEREAS, Security Bank of Southwest Missouri as the legal holder of said promissory notes has appointed Jon Homer as Successor Trustee under said Deed of Trust; NOW THEREFORE, at the request of the legal holder of said promissory notes and in accordance with the provisions of said Deed of Trust, I, Jon Homer, Successor Trustee, will sell the property above described at public venue, to the highest bidder for cash, at the East Door of the old Barry County Courthouse, at 700 Main Street in the City of Cassville, Barry County, Missouri, on April 3, 2026, at l:00 pm, for the purpose of satisfying said indebtedness and the costs of executing this trust.

By:

Jon Homer,

Successor Trustee

Cordelia F. Herrin

Ellis Cupps Herrin & Schwartz

Attorneys at Law

PO Box 276

Cassville, MO 65625

417-847-2734

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:

March 11, 18, 25, and April 1, 2026

1st insertion 03/11/26

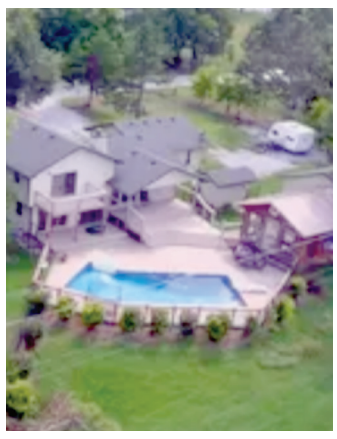
9-12

REAL ESTATE & PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION

Monday, March 23, 2026 — 10:00 AM

Location: Cassville, MO (Boarders Cassville Golf Club, hole 18) From Cassville go South on Hwy 112 miles. Turn left on FR 2205 Circle. Stay left to auction. (12655 FR 2205 Circle, Cassville MO)

CHEVY CLASSIC LBZ TRUCK – RIDING MOWER (VERY NICE) – MISC – REAL ESTATE WITH INGROUND POOL



Real Estate: 2,870 sq ft of living area, 3 bedroom, 4 bath, split level home with inground swimming pool, Mother in law quarters or separate living quarters for company, etc. Enter this home under a covered front porch into a large open floor plan. Nice big living room open to the kitchen, dual ceiling fans, vaulted ceiling with wood beams, large windows and a glass French door looking out to the pool and overlooking the 18th hole of the Cassville Golf Club. The kitchen features a bar area, GE S.S. side by side refrigerator/freezer, GE smooth top elect range, GE S.S. dishwasher, double deep sink with garbage disposal & a window looking out to the pool and custom oak cabinets. Just off the kitchen is a door leading out to the attached oversized 2 car garage w/a ½ bath, utility room w/washer & dryer and a Midwest Storm Shelter bolted to the garage floor (nice) and gas heat. From the front entry go downstairs where you will find a large family room with gas fireplace, large windows & a glass French door leading out to the large back patio that wraps around the pool and leads back to the covered back deck just off the kitchen. Also in the basement is a bathroom with walk in shower and a bedroom with windows and closet. From the front entry go upstairs where you will find the large master bedroom with his and hers walk in closets, ceiling fan, window , a patio door leading out to a big private balcony overlooking the pool and the golf course. Also the master bath with shower, double vanity and jacuzzi tub, upstairs storage closet and a 2nd bedroom with windows, ½ bath and sm walk in closet. **Outside Amenities:** Wow, where to start. Covered front porch, just out the back door is a covered back deck that steps right down to the concrete pool deck where you will find a nice inground pool that is fenced. The concrete pool apron leads to a nice big game room. From this game room you can open a door that leads to a separate living quarters, mother in law, company space, etc. Large open room, bathroom and more. From here go on into a nice 26'x40' oversized garage, lots of room for family, entertaining, etc. Room for all your toys and boarder the 18th hole on the Cassville Golf Club. Only 4 miles to Roaring River State Park. This home would also make a great rental, VRBO, etc. This home also has central heat/air, well, septic and a Generac whole house generator, plus a nice big side yard fenced for pets, kids, etc. **Note:** Don't miss this chance to own property on the Cassville Golf course and only 4 miles to Roaring River State Park. What a place to entertain, your own pool, lots of storage. This is a must see. Buyers are ready to sell. Someone will get a great deal. Call 417-847-2507 to preview the property before auction day. This auction won't take long so be on time. Real Estate sells first thing promptly at 10:00 AM. .

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.

Owners: Matt & Pauline Deiner

Auctioneer:
Donnie Stumpff
MO & AR State Champion Auctioneer #1409 | PB00051442

STUMPFF'S
REALTY & AUCTION SERVICE, INC.
www.stumpffauction.com
417-847-2507

Auctioneer:
Parker Stumpff
AR State Champion Auctioneer #2352

ESTATE AUCTION

Saturday, March 28, 2026 — 10:00 AM

Location: Shell Knob, MO. From Hwy 39 across from Central Crossing Fire Department, take Stallion Bluff Rd 8/10 mile. Keep right on Stallion Bluff Rd and go 1.1 mile to auction on left. (25924 Stallion Bluff Rd, Shell Knob, MO)

MINI EXCAVATOR – ZERO TURN MOWERS – GOLF CART – LOG SPLITTER – TRAILER – GUNS – IMPLEMENTS – KUBOTA TRACTOR – ATV – TOOLS & WOOD WORKING TOOLS – FURNITURE & APPLIANCES – HOUSEHOLD & MISC – 37.5 ACRES M/L THAT BOARDERS THOUSANDS OF ACRES OF NATIONAL FOREST, WITH A NICE HOME AND LOTS OF NICE OUTBUILDINGS

Go to stumpffauction.com to view complete listing and photos

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.

Estate of Sharon Ott Deal
Owner: Jack Deal

Auctioneer:
Donnie Stumpff
MO & AR State Champion Auctioneer #1409 | PB00051442

STUMPFF'S
REALTY & AUCTION SERVICE, INC.
www.stumpffauction.com
417-847-2507

Auctioneer:
Parker Stumpff
AR State Champion Auctioneer #2352

Cassville: Lady 'Cats future is bright

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

we were able to get, we just didn't convert on."

Bagby said Nevada does well from 3-point range, and their center is a solid rebounder.

"No. 10 does a really good job around the basket, rebounding especially, but there's five girls on the floor all the time that can shoot the ball from the 3-point line. That was an emphasis going in, and I thought we did a decent job overall throughout the game guarding that. They were just able to get a couple there early and get that lead, and they are one of those teams that once they get a lead, it can be hard to come back on them because they wear out the possession on the offensive side and really make you work on your offensive side to be able to get shots."

Nevada had six 3-pointers in the contest, and Cassville made three.

"Once we got down there in the third quarter we kind of had to start switching out of defense that we had played most of the game," Bagby said. "They were just able to get more shots in."

Despite the second consecutive championship loss, Bagby said the future for the Lady Wildcats is bright, losing only one senior in Aubrey Stoufer.

"We're going to miss Aubrey tremendously," Bagby said. "She's one of those that puts up good stats, but she also does a lot of stuff that just doesn't show up. Against Mount Vernon in the district tournament, the number of rebounds that she went and got was amazing. We should have four starters coming back. If we can get Briley Gross healthy, as she was out for the whole season, she will definitely be a difference maker.

"Then, we've got the girls coming up and the athleticism there. In games like that one, we've got to develop the ball handling and ability to handle that physicality so we can pull one of those out."

Cassville's season ended at 20-8, including a 9-1 run from Jan. 15 to Feb. 12.

Cassville's lone senior, Aubrey Stoufer, passes the ball to the corner in Friday's district championship loss to Nevada. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Cassville's Audrey Kennedy puts up a shot in Friday's district championship loss to Nevada. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Cassville's Tyson Bohmke drives to the hoop in a home game against Hollister this season. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Wildcats: Loss to Monett in districts

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was one of our top players on both offense and defense."

Several other underclassmen also played key roles for Cassville, including Dylan Bohmke, Jaden Ritchie, Brayden Phillips, Grant Varner, Wyatt Hollingsworth, Wylan Farris and Mquade Farris.

"Many of those also led our JV team to an outstanding record of 19-3," Ray said.

As a team over the course of the season, the Wildcats focused on establishing a strong culture and work ethic.

"Our goal each year is to be the best version of our team that we can be," Ray said. "I thought at times we were, but we were not consistent in that effort, so I think that leaves us all wanting to keep improving. I do think we began to establish a culture of hard work and being connected as a team."

Looking ahead, Ray said the program will continue building on its foundation.

"Our goals for next year is to be the best team we can be," Ray said. "I do think as a group we have the foundation to build a group that will be successful on the court and off the court."

Ray said the Wildcats finished the season with a 10-17 varsity record and a 19-3 mark at the junior varsity level.

"I want to thank my assistants, Collin Pearman and Jim Kleine, for all their work at the high school," Ray said. "Also, Jack Reynolds and Trey Dalton at the junior high. I also want to thank the other coaches here for their support and the parents of our players. Most importantly, I thank the student athletes for working hard and trying to get better each day."

Cassville's season came to a close with a 46-45 loss to Monett in the Class 4, District 12 tournament

Southwest: Program makes progress

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sive end and stronger on the boards. When we were locked in defensively and rebounding well, we were a very tough team to beat."

Johnson said one of the most memorable moments of the season came in a comeback road victory.

"One moment that really stands out was our comeback win at Sarcoxie," Johnson said. "We were down 10 points in the third quarter on the road, and our players never panicked. They stayed together, competed, and ended up winning the game by 7. That game really showed the character and resilience of this team."

Johnson also pointed to a historic individual performance during the season.

"Another special moment was Jaretsi Quintanilla scoring 49 points and breaking the school record for points in a single game," Johnson said. "It was an incredible performance and a great moment for her and our program."

Johnson said the team's only senior played a major role in the program's success.

"Jaretsi was our lone senior, but her impact on this program is enormous," Johnson said. "She set the standard every day with her work ethic, leadership and competitiveness.

"She led by example and pushed everyone around her to be better. Her contributions to this program will leave a lasting legacy."

Johnson said the team's younger players took steps that should help the program moving forward.

"Our underclassmen gained a lot of valuable experience this year," Johnson said. "They're going to bring energy, aggressiveness, and a competitive mindset moving forward. They've seen what it takes to win, and now it will be their turn to step up and lead."

Johnson said the team achieved the goals it set at the start of the season.

"One of our goals was to improve our win total from last season, and another was to reach the district semifinals, and we accomplished both," he said. "Our players put in the work and earned those results.

"Our goal next season is to build on the success we had this year. We want to continue improving every day and compete in each and every game. Most importantly, we want to keep developing players who represent our program with hard work, toughness and pride."

Johnson said the season represents meaningful progress for the program.

"I'm incredibly proud of this group," Johnson said. "They showed toughness, resilience and pride in representing our school and community. This season was a big step forward for our program, and I believe it has laid the foundation for even greater success in the future."

Southwest's season came to an end with a 59-51 loss to Pierce City in the Class 3, District 11 tournament.

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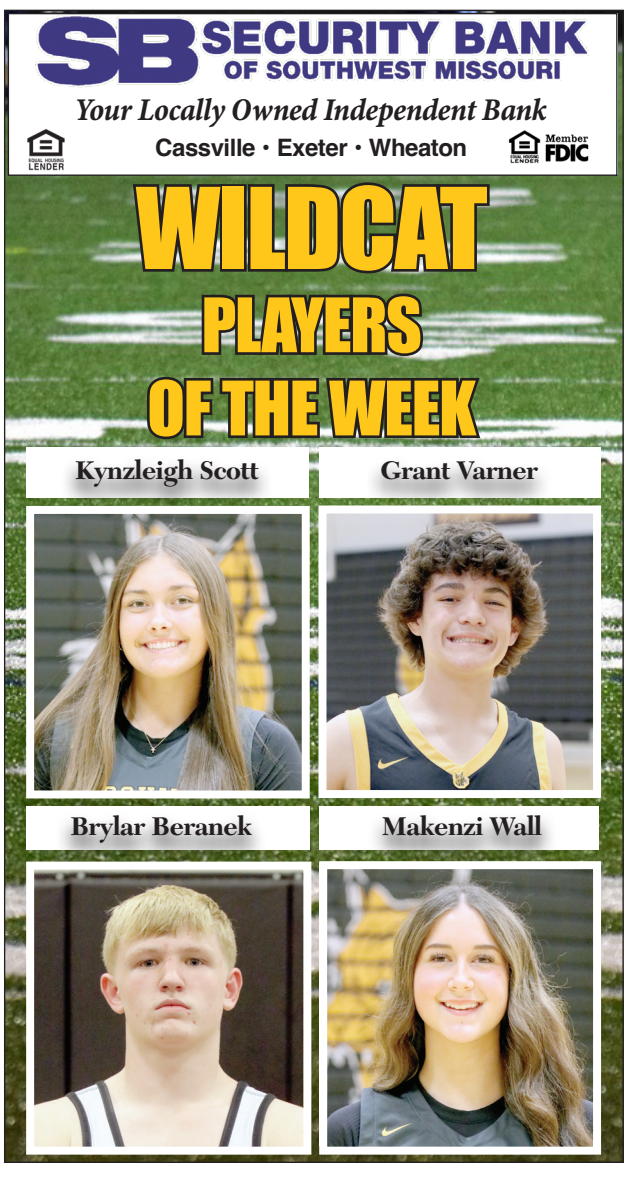

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