



<<< PURDY SOFTBALL REACHES FINAL FOUR
Lady Eagles take third place in Class 1 after Monday contests. — 1B

CASSVILLE Democrat

MAY 27, 2026 | CASSVILLE-DEMOCRAT.COM

Public meeting for Cassville sludge tank set

DNR to take comments at Crowder College in Neosho June 25

BY SHEILA HARRIS
sheilaharrisads@gmail.com

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will host an in-person public meeting on June 25 from 12:30-2:30 p.m. in response to requests and concerns about

PUBLIC MEETING

For: Proposed sludge storage tank near Cassville
Where: Meeting to be held at Crowder College in Neosho
More: Tank located along the east side of Farm Road 1095, approximately two miles north of Cassville

the proposed operation of sludge storage tanks in Barry,

Hickory and Newton Counties, including one tank that will be located two miles north of Cassville.

The public hearing will be held at Crowder College, located at 601 Laclede Ave in Neosho. At the meeting, the DNR will receive public comments about the department's proposed permit decisions for the tanks.

HydroAg Environmental,

LLC, proposes to build a new storage tank designed to hold a maximum volume of 828,994 gallons, with one foot of freeboard space maintained above that volume, at all times.

"When accounting for the 12 inches of freeboard, the tank has a capacity of 905,688 gallon which is designed for inclement weather use, with integrated secondary contain-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7A

TROUT FEST

What: Annual event in Cassville and Roaring River State Park
Events: Concert, fireworks, free swim day, fishing derby and more
When: June 5-6

Trout Fest on tap!

Annual event June 5-6 with free concert, fireworks, new trout derby

BY GWENDYLAN HARMON

Special to the Cassville Democrat
Families, anglers and visitors from across the region are invited to gather in Cassville on June 5-6 for the return of Trout Fest, a weekend celebration focused on community, outdoor recreation and family-friendly entertainment.

Hosted throughout Cassville and at Roaring River State Park, this year's Trout Fest will feature free concerts, fireworks, a trout derby, a pickleball tournament, citywide yard sales, live music, food trucks and activities for all ages.

Rachael Freeman, with Full Court Media and Consulting, said local churches, law enforcement, Roaring River staff, city officials, the Cassville Area Chamber of Commerce and even Cassville High School students help make the weekend possible.

"Trout Fest really is a community effort, and it wouldn't happen without so many people and organizations willing to serve," she said.

According to Freeman, one of the biggest additions for 2026 will be the festival's first-ever fireworks show, celebrating the United States' 250th anniversary, scheduled to follow Friday night's concert at the Cassville Aquatic Center.

"This will be a fun way to celebrate America's 250th, as well as kick off a summer of enjoying the outdoors in Cassville," Freeman said.

Friday evening festivities begin with food trucks opening at 5 p.m. Music starts at 6 p.m., followed by fireworks at dark. Freeman said the concert and fireworks are expected to draw the largest crowds of the weekend.

She also hinted at a surprise planned for the conclusion of the fireworks display.

"I'm personally most excited about the fireworks show and a special addition we have planned at the end of it," Freeman said. "I don't want to give too much away, but I'm really looking forward to seeing how it all comes together."

"With Trout Fest celebrating the outdoors, Roaring River and everything that makes Cassville special, it felt right to add something memorable to the sky this

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7A

Check it out!



Nicole Sutphin, assistant supervisor and youth services director at the Cassville Branch Library checks out a young patron at the library on Friday. Kyle Troutman/ktoutman@cassville-democrat.com

City settles on summer paving projects

First Street, Old Exeter Road to receive attention

GWENDYLAN HARMON

Special to the Cassville Democrat

The City of Cassville is preparing for a busy summer of street improvements, with paving projects and upgrades near the Cassville Aquatic Center aimed at improving travel conditions, reducing dust and addressing long-standing concerns from residents.

Public Works Director Mike Hagins said the city focused this year's paving proposal on some of Cassville's roughest and most

heavily traveled streets, including First Street and Old Exeter Road.

"What I did when we put the proposal together, we went through some of our worst streets," Hagins said. "First Street is pretty rough."

Hagins said First Street and Old Exeter Road were selected as the base bid because of both their condition and the amount of daily traffic they receive.

"First Street, Old Exeter Road, is the most traveled road in Cassville," he said. "It's getting pretty bad."

According to Hagins, the city structured the paving proposal with a base bid and several alternate street options so officials

could adjust projects depending on the available budget.

One of the alternate projects selected was Meadowbrook Drive, which Hagins described as another heavily used street, especially during the school year.

"We went ahead and picked alternate Meadowbrook Drive, which is a shorter run, but it's pretty rough," he said. "It's a heavily traveled road, especially during school. That's the road that a lot of the buses take to go between the elementary and the high school."

As part of Meadowbrook Drive is owned by the school district, Hagins said the city

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2A

Fairview man accused of stealing 40-foot trailer

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

ktoutman@cassville-democrat.com
A warrant has been issued for a Fairview man accused of stealing a 40-foot trailer.

Stephen Lucariello, born 2004, of Fairview, is charged with felony stealing - \$750 or more.

According to a probable

FELONY WARRANT

Who: Stephen Lucariello, born 2004, of Fairview
What: Charged with felony stealing
More: Warrant issued with \$15,000 cash only bond

cause statement filed by De. Jeremy Berner, with the Barry County Sheriff's Office, on May 18, authorities began investigating the theft of a 2009 40-foot, triple-axle goose-neck trailer valued at \$15,000.

On May 20, Berner gathered information from an inmate jail phone call from an inmate to Lucariello. In the phone call, Lucariello allegedly told the inmate he had gotten an item and gotten rid of it already.

The inmate asked Lucariello if he'd stolen a 40-foot trailer from the victim, stating the victim's name, and Lucariello allegedly stated that he did.

A arrant has been issued for Lucariello's arrest, with a cash-only bond set at \$15,000. Berner noted in the state-

ment Lucariello has a history of fleeing and it is unknown where he resides. He has pending charges in Barry County of tampering with a motor vehicle, armed criminal action, resisting arrest, felony possession of drug paraphernalia and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia. Berner also noted Lucariello as under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Those charges stem from a Jan. 8 incident where

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3A



LOCAL

NEWS BRIEFS

Wheaton Road District to meet

The monthly Wheaton Road District Meeting will be held on June 2 at 5 p.m. at the Wheaton Road District barn on Highway A across from Holmes Farm Supply.

Old Church Gallery Farmers Market open

The Old Church Gallery Farmers' Market runs every Thursday from 8-11 a.m. at the Gallery, located on Farm Road 1240 in Shell Knob. The market offer farm fresh produce, eggs, jellies, relishes, baked goods, cut flowers, handmade crafts and more. The selection varies every week, so come early for the best choice. For more information, people may call 417-342-8671.

Pizza Party Potluck in Eagle Rock

The Eagle Rock Community Association, located at 27824 Hwy. 86, will host its monthly potluck at 6 p.m. on June 8. The pizza party potluck invites attendees to make their own pies for sharing.

Tabor to perform at Senior Center

On May 27 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. singer and guitar player Thomas Tabor will be performing at the Cassville Senior Center. His repertoire includes music from singers such as Charlie Pride, Mary Robbins, Patsy Cline, Johnny Cash and others.

Cassville Branch Library hosting events

The Cassville Branch Library will host the following events in the coming week: Thursday, Move 'N' Groove Low Impact Exercise Class, 11 a.m., Discovery Center at FEMA Event Center, 1:30 p.m., Re-Fit, 5:30 p.m.; Friday, Teen Paint, 3:30 p.m., Bingo Bash, 5:30 p.m.

Calling all Eagle Rock school alumni

A reunion of all Eagle Rock School alumni is planned for Oct. 10, and organizers are seeking assistance. They are trying to find former students, regardless of how long they attended the school. Please contact Kelly at ercnewsletter@gmail.com with any names and contact information for Eagle Rock alumni.

Barry County Community Garden meetings set

The Barry County Community Garden has scheduled its monthly meetings on the first Monday of every month, at Harvick Farms, located at 16062 Hwy. 76 in Cassville. The work in the garden days are from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Garden, located at on 10160 Farm Road 2160. Tentative working days depend on the weather and will be updated on the organization's Facebook page, "Barry County Community Garden," and people may contact the page for more information. Produce from the garden goes to the Cassville Pantry. New members and/or volunteers may come and reserve a plot.

Cassville Farmers' Market open on Saturdays

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

Lessons offered before Seligman's Saturday dances

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

OATS rides available in Barry County

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

Check it out!



Embree Sleeth, left, 3, of Cassville, and Evalee Hayward, 2, of Cassville, accept free pencils while attending the Cassville Branch Library's Open House celebrating its recent renovation of the main floor. Kyle Troutman/ktoutman@cassville-democrat.com



Jaydon Morris, 3, of Cassville, decides where to put the first piece to a puzzle while playing at the Cassville Branch Library on Friday. The facility recently completed its main floor renovation, hosting an Open House and ribbon cutting to celebrate the new digs. Kyle Troutman/ktoutman@cassville-democrat.com



Soren Sleeth, 10, of Cassville, reads a book in the newly refurbished children's area at the Cassville Branch Library on Friday. An Open House and ribbon cutting was held to celebrate the facility's renovation. Kyle Troutman/ktoutman@cassville-democrat.com

Paving: Double chip-and-seal at Aquatic Center

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

will only pave the portion under the city's ownership.

To avoid interfering with buses and school traffic, the city plans to complete the work after summer school is out.

The paving contract was awarded to Blevins Asphalt, and city officials are currently coordinating schedules with the company.

"We're hoping mid- to late summer," Hagens said. "Blevins Asphalt out of Mount Vernon got the bid, so I'm working with them and their schedule right now to get that going."

While much of the paving work is expected to create minimal disruptions, Hagens said drivers should expect temporary traffic control measures during construction on Old Exeter Road.

"The one on Old Exeter Road, they'll have to have traffic control on that road," he said. "It'll most likely be one lane while they're paving."

In addition to the paving projects, the city is also planning improvements

near the Aquatic Center and yard waste site. Instead of fully paving the gravel road leading to the yard waste area this year, crews will apply a double chip-and-seal treatment designed to reduce dust and strengthen the street.

"We're not paving the Aquatic Center," Hagens said. "The gravel road that leads down to the yard waste, we are doing a double chip and seal on it to get a good base to future pave."

Although future paving is being considered, Hagens said no timeline has been finalized.

Hagens said the gravel road has caused ongoing issues for both residents and Aquatic Center operations because of the amount of dust kicked up by vehicles.

"A lot of dust comes off that gravel road," he said. "The dust was also causing issues for us because it would kick up, go over and settle in the pool."

The chip-and-seal project is tentatively planned for the second or third week of

June, depending on weather conditions.

The city intentionally avoided scheduling the work during Trout Fest to minimize disruptions during one of Cassville's busiest weekends.

Although the project may temporarily affect access to the Aquatic Center area, Hagens said the interruption should be brief and should not significantly impact summer activities or youth sports.

"It might have to be shut down for a day, maybe a day and a half, to get it put in," he said. "But it shouldn't affect the little kids sports or the aquatic center activities very much."

Hagens acknowledged that chip-and-seal roads are not always popular with drivers because of loose gravel during the initial application process, but he said the treatment is a much more affordable option than full paving.

"You know, at first, nobody likes chip and seal," he said. "But this will help

cut the dust down, because paving that long a section is very pricey."

Hagens said the city's decisions ultimately came down to balancing road conditions with responsible spending of taxpayer dollars.

"It is my responsibility to make sure taxpayer dollars go to the best — that we're spending them the best way we can," he said.

Hagens said the city receives frequent comments and complaints from residents about road conditions, particularly along Old Exeter Road and First Street.

"That is the road I've had the most complaints about," he said. "The ones that we did not choose this year, they are our top priority next year, unless something else changes drastically and we have to do another road."

Once construction is complete, Hagens believes residents will quickly notice the improvements.

"How smooth the road is, yes," Hagens said when asked what residents will notice most.

We can't compete with Mom's connection.

But we can make sure everything else stays connected.

Happy Mother's Day!

www.gobec.net 417.847.2131

gobec
FIBER NETWORK

CASSVILLE DEMOCRAT

May 27, 2026
Volume One Hundred Fifty-Five
Number 20

(USPS092920)
600 Main Street - P.O. Box 486
417-847-2610
Troutman Media LLC

Annual Subscription Rate
Local and non-local rate \$52.00
Senior and military discount rate \$47.00
Periodicals Postage Paid At Cassville, Missouri 65625
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Cassville Democrat P.O. Box 486 Cassville, MO 65625
EMAIL: cassvilledemocrat@outlook.com

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 ktoutman@cassville-democrat.com.

CASSVILLE Democrat
COVERING BARRY COUNTY LIKE THE MORNING DEW

Troutman Media LLC
Troutman Media LLC is family owned and operated.

KYLE TROUTMAN, OWNER/PUBLISHER
JORDAN TROUTMAN, OWNER/GENERAL MANAGER

P.O. Box 486 • 600 Main Street • Cassville, MO 65625
Phone: 417-847-2610
Email address: cassvilledemocrat@outlook.com
Website: www.cassville-democrat.com

STAFF

Jordan Troutman..... Office Manager/Reporter
Kyle Troutman..... Editor/Sports Editor/Graphic Designer
Sheila Harris.....Sales Executive/Reporter

A fresh take on history



Christi Corn, of Seligman, peruses historical photos posted in the Barry County Courthouse's courtroom, which was recently renovated to recreate a historical look. Kyle Troutman/kttroutman@cassville-democrat.com



Renovations to the Barry County Courthouse's courtroom included the reopening of the balcony, decorated patriotically to give a historical feel. Kyle Troutman/kttroutman@cassville-democrat.com



At the Open House at the Barry County Courthouse's courtroom on Thursday, multiple visitors enjoyed punch and cookies while conversing and perusing old courtroom photos. Kyle Troutman/kttroutman@cassville-democrat.com



Jeremiah Buntin, historian at the Barry County Museum, peruses historical documents on display at the Open House at the Barry County Courthouse's courtroom on Thursday. Kyle Troutman/kttroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Theft: \$50K cash bond

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Lucariello was allegedly driving a stolen vehicle on Highway 97 in Barry County and fled from a Missouri State Highway Patrol trooper at more than 100 miles per hour in torrential rain. The vehicle crashed into a ditch, and after the arrest, a firearm was found in the vehicle, and Lucariello allegedly admitted to using methamphetamine

found in a bag in the vehicle.

In that case, Lucariello had a \$50,000, cash-only bond. On Jan. 22, that bond was reduced to \$25,000, cash or corporate surety, and it was met the following day.

Now in circuit court, the case is set for a disposition hearing on July 8 in the courtroom of Judge David Cole.

Call 847-2610 to subscribe

Event Center Coordinator

The Monett Historical Museum currently has an opportunity available for an individual to manage the scheduling and facilitation of our Event Center. The successful candidate should have experience in managing independent projects with a high degree of responsibility and good communication skills. A strong commitment to and interest in promoting the Museum and Event Center would be a requirement. You must be 21 years of age to apply. For details, please contact Jeanne Ann, 417-669-3975.

Medical Directory

CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY

ACCESS FAMILY CARE
Medical & Dental Clinics

417-847-0057
www.accessfamilycare.org

"On the Square"

Whitley Pharmacy
Prescription Medicines • Cards & Gifts

417-847-2717
— Full Old Fashioned Fountain Service —
Mon. - Fri. 8:30 - 5:30
Sat. 8:30 - 1

AREA BUSINESSES SERVING YOU!

BARRY COUNTY FARMERS COOP
Exeter, Missouri

**PROPANE
DIESEL
FEED
FERTILIZER**

PURINA Exeter Stark City
417-835-3465 417-638-5513

TUCKER HEATING & AIR

Sales and service since 1971

417-847-2699

If you're in Barry County, I'm for you.

Chad Yarnall - Agent
(417) 847-3399
chad.yarnall@mofb.com

MISSOURI FARM BUREAU INSURANCE
We've got Missouri covered.
AUTO HOME LIFE

BARRY COUNTY READY-MIX

3 Locations To Serve You

Cassville: 417-847-3200 • Eagle Rock: 417-271-3200
Shell Knob: 417-858-3200

TROUTMAN MEDIA LLC

NOW OFFERING...

- Envelopes • Letterhead • Business Cards • Banners • Calendars
- Greeting Cards • Signs • Posters
- Business Checks • Receipt Books

...AND MORE!

417-847-2610
9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday

Four State Stockyards

Serving the Four State-area since 2019
Exeter, MO

Feeder calf sale every Tuesday 10am, slaughter cows to follow
Bred cows/pairs every Tuesday 6pm
Special Cow Sale — April 18, 5 p.m.

Clay Hammen (417) 489-5732 Colby Hammen (417) 489-2684
Cale Hammen (417) 669-9593 Cade Hammen (417) 342-3407
Chris Keeling (417) 737-9148

SAVE WHEN YOU BUNDLE INSURANCE WITH US

CALL (417) 847-3128 TODAY TO SEE HOW I CAN HELP PROTECT WHAT MATTERS MOST.

AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE

Burl Mitchell, Agent
58 Main St
Cassville, MO 65625
Monday - Friday 8:30 - 5:00
bmitche2@amfam.com

MFA AGRI SERVICES

Gerald Ritchie
Agri Services Manager
Hwy. 248 East, Cassville
417-847-3115

Sean Priest
Fertilizer Plant Manager
Hwy A Wheaton • 417-652-3526

- Feed
- Forage Seed
- Row Crop Seed
- Ag Chemical
- Bulk Fertilizer
- Precision Grid Soil Testing & Variable, Rate Fertilizer
- Custom Application
- Crop & Livestock Insurance

GRAFTED IN Cabinetry

Custom, stock, frameless cabinetry
Laminate, solid surface countertops
Custom CNC cutting

Purdy, MO

Robert Bergeron — 417-323-5250

COMMENTARY

STAFF VIEW



SHEILA HARRIS

Swallowing a horse-pill

It's that time again. The Parks, Soil and Water (PSW) Sales Tax will appear on the Aug. 4 ballot this year as Amendment 1. The amendment, which appears on the ballot every 10 years, gives voters the chance to renew the one-tenth-of-one-percent sales tax that benefits Missouri State Parks and the Missouri Soil & Water Conservation Program.

In 2025, the tax generated about \$140 million, revenue split evenly between the park system and the soil and water program.

Ten years ago, the amendment passed in every Missouri county. But this year, we have an inconsistency that begs for attention, because the PSW sales tax amendment could present Barry County voters with a conundrum.

In 2016, the last time the amendment was on the ballot, the land-application of untreated, industrial meat-processing sludge was not a common practice in our county. Since then, land-application has ramped up, and multiple permit applications to apply the noxious brew to Barry County farmlands are now pending with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

The DNR has oversight of both the parks system and the soil and water conservation program, entities that directly benefit from the PSW sales tax, which people like you and me pay when we buy groceries and other goods.

State parks receive about 75% of their operating budget from the state sales tax, while farmers benefit from cost-share reimbursements from the soil & water conservation program.

The mission of the Barry County Soil and Water Conservation District, one of 114 in Missouri, is exemplary. It includes partnering with farmers to implement practices to prevent soil erosion and protect water quality. Farmers who sign contracts with the organization receive cost-share reimbursements from the state, courtesy of the Parks, Soil and Water Sales Tax.

To be clear, the Barry County Soil & Water District does not authorize nor fund the land-application of sludge. However, some of the recipients of past cost-share reimbursements have chosen, or do choose, to land-apply sludge.

The fault for what many of us see as an inconsistency in the program lies with the state legislature for allowing the practice, and with the state DNR, for acting as though Barry County's peculiar hydrogeology and soil can be regulated by the same standards used for northern Missouri's fertile soil and non-karst bedrock.

Historically, agriculture and tourism have been odd bedfellows within Barry County. Never more so, perhaps, than with the inception of the land-application of sludge above our karst hydrogeology, which allows land-applied nutrients and toxins to leak downward through fissures in the bedrock, into the groundwater — in addition to running off the surface.

With its porous, soluble proclivities, karst provides rapid-transit avenues for groundwater. However, karst isn't mentioned in the DNR's pending draft permits for industrial, land-applied sludge. In a recent DNR meeting on the topic, the mention of karst seemed to be carefully skirted around, as if Barry and other counties with karst hydrogeology aren't relevant to farm-talk and proposed regulations.

However, their pending rules will directly affect Barry County, and not in a good way.

A proposed rule requiring only annual soil sampling on properties where sludge is to be land-applied is a slap in the face. Actually, it's part of the new law passed by the legislature in 2024.

A lot of sludge can be dumped on Barry County soil in a year. Even farmers who land-apply sludge know that the phosphorous contained in meat-processing waste cannot be fully taken up by the grasses grown in Barry County. Repeat applications during a year — the interval between soil samples — will result in banked soil phosphorous and dissolved phosphorous entering ground and surface waters, where it will cause excess algae.

The water quality in Roaring River Spring — in our very own state park — is in danger if the long-term, land-application of industrial residuals is allowed to happen within its recharge area. Any hydrologist will tell you the same.

My partiality for Roaring River State Park, the gem just down the hill in our backyard, is no secret. It's home to the deepest explored spring in Missouri, and it regularly ranks within the top five most-visited of Missouri's 93 state parks and historic sites.

We love our state park and the idea of protecting soil and water. But, being asked to vote for a sales tax that, on one hand, benefits our state park, while, on the other hand, benefits some farmers who will land-apply sludge and contaminate our state park's water, is the height of irony.

It's a choice we shouldn't have to make.

Sheila Harris is a long-time Barry County resident and a sales executive and investigative reporter for the Cassville Democrat with a particular interest in environmental topics. She may be reached at sheilaharrisads@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY VOICES

Crossroads in rural education: Keeping opportunity close to home

"The Times Are A-Changin'." Bob Dylan's famous song of the 60's became a cultural anthem with universal appeal. Today, it has become a phrase often heard in small towns when difficult decisions arrive quietly and without ceremony: Usually, those words are spoken with a shrug, a sigh, or a little disbelief. But behind them lies something larger, a recognition that institutions we once assumed would always remain steady are now being forced to adapt to realities few people fully see.

Community colleges across Missouri are standing directly in the path of those changes. It applies to us, dear Cassvillians. In recent weeks, conversations about education funding have intensified throughout the state. Public schools are concerned about uncertain state allocations, and higher education institutions are confronting difficult questions about enrollment, sustainability, staffing and the future shape of public education itself. As reported this week, Missouri lawmakers finalized a budget plan with no increase for public education programs or higher education funding, even as institutions continue to face inflationary pressures and demographic decline.

Those realities may feel distant when discussed in Jefferson City, but they arrive very personally in rural communities. For many of us in Barry County, Crowder College is not simply a collection of classrooms. It is a bridge. It is an opportunity within driving distance. It is the first college classroom that many local students have ever entered. It is workforce training for adults changing careers. It is a dual-credit opportunity for high school students. It is continuing education, nursing preparation, technical instruction, speech classes, literature courses and second chances.

And yet, community colleges now operate in a landscape vastly different than even 10 years ago. Birth rates have declined nationally. Rural populations have aged. Many students work longer hours while attending school. Online education has exploded. Economic uncertainty has forced families to become increasingly cautious about educational spending. Meanwhile, institutions are asked to do more with less while simultaneously proving their immediate economic value at every turn.

That pressure is especially acute in smaller satellite campuses like Cassville. Enrollment numbers tell a story that is difficult to ignore. The realities of staffing and budgeting eventually catch up with every insti-



TERRY HELD

tution, even those driven by service and goodwill. Colleges must make difficult decisions not because they no longer believe in rural education, but because they are trying to preserve it.

That distinction matters. It is easy, in moments of institutional adjustment, for communities to interpret change as abandonment. But adaptation is not retreat, not now, not ever. Sometimes it is survival. Sometimes it is stewardship. Sometimes it is an institution attempting to ensure it can continue serving students five, ten, or twenty years from now rather than simply preserving yesterday's structure.

And this challenge is not unique to Crowder.

Across Missouri, educators at every level are sounding similar warnings. Cassville Superintendent Merlyn Johnson recently noted that unreliable state funding streams and budget uncertainty create real-world consequences for schools and communities. Those consequences do not remain abstract. They affect staffing, course offerings, maintenance, transportation, and the educational opportunities available to rural students. Higher education faces similar pressures, though often discussed less publicly. Still, amid these headwinds, something important must not be forgotten:

Rural communities need community colleges now more than ever. At a time when the cost of four-year universities continues to climb, community colleges remain one of the most accessible educational pathways in America. They allow students to stay close to home, reduce debt, explore careers, transfer credits, and gain practical skills without uprooting their lives. For many first-generation students, institutions like Crowder are not secondary options; they are the doorway itself.

But perhaps the value of a community college extends beyond economics.

A college campus, even a small one, like Crowder Cassville, creates cultural gravity. Our nursing program is a showcase of academic

rigor, administered to provide a much-needed service in our community. Everyone wins when our nursing programs flashes its brilliance...and brilliant it is. We host dialogues between students and the community, opening the door to civic participation. Speakers, artists, performances, civic events, literacy initiatives, and educational energy are brought into Barry County through Crowder. We are here to remind this community that intellectual life belongs everywhere, not just in urban centers. In rural America, where many communities fear decline or invisibility, educational institutions become anchors of identity and aspiration.

That is why these present financial challenges deserve public conversation rather than quiet resignation. Communities should ask how they can support educational institutions, not merely how institutions can support them. Businesses, civic organizations, schools, local governments, and residents all have a stake in whether accessible education survives in rural Missouri. Partnerships matter. Visibility matters. Participation matters. Enrollment matters.

And perhaps most importantly, belief matters. Because if rural communities stop believing education belongs locally, then eventually it won't. The future of higher education in Missouri is likely to look different than its past. There will be consolidation, hybrid roles, technological expansion, difficult financial decisions, and institutional restructuring. Those realities are already here. But none of that means the mission itself has disappeared.

In fact, the mission may be more important now than ever. The challenge before institutions like Crowder College is not merely how to survive financially. It is how to continue serving communities while navigating a rapidly changing educational landscape. That work will require creativity, flexibility, honesty and public trust. And for communities like Cassville, it may also require remembering something simple but profound:

A college is not only a place where students attend. It is a declaration by a community that learning still matters here, and for the generations that follow.

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.

YOUR VIEW

Kudos to local animal clinics

Dear Editor:

As animal lovers but career individuals, we want to give a huge hats off to Barry County Veterinary Clinic and their team.

Running a successful business, caring for animals, managing customer relationship, etc can be overwhelming for a team.

They do an incredible job in today's society meeting expectations, because it is a balance when animals tend to harm themselves or get sick outside of normal working hours.

To care for animals but also maintain somewhat of a work/life balance is not always easy. Society isn't always the

best at remembering that professionals have lives outside of work.

Cassville and surrounding areas are very fortunate to have these vet clinics who care and care deeply about the welfare of animals. Barry County Veterinary, Herrin Animal Hospital and Riverview Animal

Clinic — all of them step up to help when it is needed and as a community we are blessed to have that right here in our backyard and not have to travel a huge distance.

Sarah and David Dalton
Washburn

YOUR VIEW

Sickened by social media posts

Dear Editor:

Every person is solely responsible for his own actions.

Not father, mother, siblings, children, grandma, grandpa,

friends or anyone who happens to enter his orbit for any reason. None of those people are responsible parties for his acts.

To denigrate, vilify,

cast aspersions or otherwise verbally abuse anyone else is vile.

If you feel the need to behave this way, perhaps you should look at your own soul.

I am sickened at some things I have seen posted on Facebook recently.

Kathy Casey
Cassville

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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



Bulk business orders!

TROUTMAN MEDIA LLC

CALL US TODAY FOR.....

Business Cards • Signs • Posters • Booklets • Promotional Items • Banners • Stickers • Greeting Cards • Business Checks • Receipt Books

.....AND MUCH MORE!

Design assistance available — competitive pricing — Mailed to your door or pick-up in Cassville

417-847-2610 600 Main St., Cassville

9 a.m. to 4 p.m, M-F ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Save big with local business!

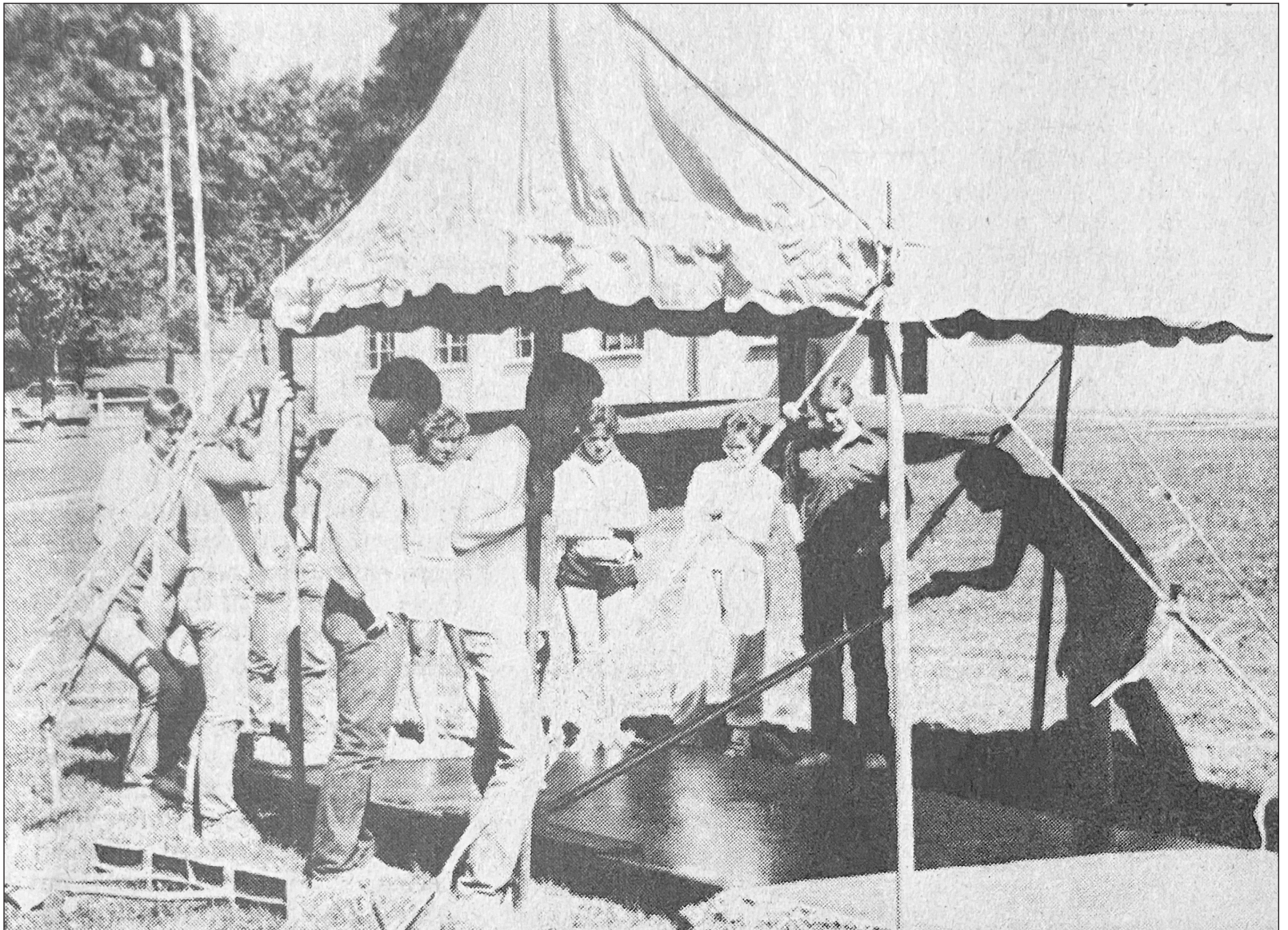
50 years ago

June 2, 1976
— JAYCEE AWARDS AND OFFICERS DURING BANQUET

Jaycees installed officers for the coming year and presented club and community awards in their banquet meeting at Dell's Cafe last week. President John Bartkoski and Dr. Chip Kammerlohr were in charge of the program. Bob Holbart of Springfield, U.S. Jaycee vice-president, spoke to the group on attitude and motivation. He told the community's youngest civic club they had "new adventures of another year... use them for the benefit of the community." The officer slate installed, consisting of hold-overs who were involved with organization last winter, included: Bartkoski, president; John Stringer, vice-president; Kammerlohr, vice-president; Vaughn Smith, treasurer, Raymond Fisher, secretary and directors: Harold Brock, Hal Smith, Rex Stumpff, Max Stumpff and Allen Sparks. Hal Smith installed two new members, Ken Sharp of Seligman and Roger Hilburn of Shell Knob. Awards presented included: Outstanding community and club service, and honorary J.C., to Bob Mitchell and the Cassville Democrat. General appreciation certificates to Bob Edwards, Bob Whitescarver, Johnny Brock and John Seely. Kammerlohr received the officer of the quarter award. Merl Rogers, chairman of the quarter award for archery shoot organization; Jaycee of the quarter went to Millard Andrews and local merit awards went to Doug Samuel and Allen Sparks for organization of Little League and youth activity events. Principal Jaycee project this summer is organization and administration of the Summer Youth Baseball activities. They have also included adult softball participation at city park. Among the major improvements have been infield rebuilding and addition of lights to the field for play which begins next Monday.

— BOARD REDUCES R-4 FACULTY REQUIREMENTS FROM 17 TO 6

The Cassville board of education is whittling away at the vacancy list of the R-4 faculty, adding six new members during a meeting Thursday night. Board president Charles Thompson noted the first of May the system had 17 vacancies, with the number now reduced to six. For the total replacement need, the board has received 80 elementary applications and 154 in the middle and high school divisions. Last year the faculty had 76 professional members. New assignments in contracts offered by the board last week included: Rebecca Scroggs of Cassville will teach second grade. Sheryl Sieve of Roaring River offered remedial language arts pending Title I approval. Karen Helton of Monett, migrant tutor pending Title I approval. Rebecca Ryder of Purdy will teach elementary physical education. Mrs. Sidney Smith of St. Louis and Cassville, employed as junior high art instructor. John Maddox of Bartlesville, Okla., employed for both football and basketball and physical education in junior high. Maddox, a former coach at Southwest High, will assume all athletic duties in the middle school, eliminating one position in this department for funds to be used in curriculum enlargement. Remaining to be employed by the school is a K-12 speech therapist and social studies instructor in grades six and seven. A contract offered Cathy Nations of Cassville was voided after Miss Nations accepted employment with the Neosho schools. Four vacancies remain in the high school system, including football and basketball coaches. Board action could fill these with combination posts in coming weeks. In addition to Thompson,



40 YEARS AGO: NAMES ON THE SIDEWALK — A tradition in Cassville, placing the senior class names on a section of sidewalk was in progress last week. Here, class representatives watch as Gary Youngblood, school maintenance force, prepares the surface. Class members then used letter imprints to put names of the 87-member class in the section. This particular section of walk is between the vo-ag and industrial arts building and the senior high gym. Democrat file photo

board members attending the session were James Stephens, Ronald Stewart, Freddie Evans, Carroll Craig and Herschel Stehlik. Superintendent-elect Ronald Evans, principals Paul Watson, Eunice Thomas and Don Trotter were also at the meeting. In other business before the board, minor alterations in bus orders had been completed with successful bidder, Blalack-Koon Chevrolet. School audit will be completed by Neosho firm as per low bid submitted to the board of education. Everett Williamson, adjoining campus property owner, requested school assistance in road repairs on access route to main parking lot. Superintendent Evans is to obtain bids on the project. Trotter granted expense allowance for attending Big 13 meeting at Stockton next week. Will be accompanied by either J.C. Duncan, athletic director or John Jones, assistant high school principal. Board moved into executive session to discuss personnel. Of the six remaining vacancies on the staff, review of the large number of applications is being handled by principals involved to present recommendations to the board.

40 years ago

June 4, 1986
— CITY LAST TO GET OUTDOOR GRANT FOR NEW PARK WORK

On try number four in that number of years, and last in line this year, Cassville finally got an outdoor recreation grant from Missouri. The \$30,000 fund grant was approved by the Missouri Inter-agency Council for Outdoor Recreation. It will be matched by local funds for acquiring about seven acres of land and making other park improvements here. City clerk Jo Ledgerwood, who was in Jefferson City, said 56 cities, counties and school districts made applications for funds totaling \$2.7 million. The clerk said more than \$900,000 in funds were awarded for 25 projects in Missouri. The eight-member council distributed funds, coming from the federal government, originating from mineral rights leases, federal surplus property sales, motorboat fuel taxes and recreation fees. Mayor Rolland Meador said the funds would be matched by local money which has been planned for a year in advance. Development of the project was guided by Meador, Ledgerwood and city engineer George Ulmer. This was the fourth year for Cassville to make application for grant funds. Unsuccessful in years past, city government developed this year's plan on acquir-

ing additional land for park purposes. Included in the acquisition phase will be a 3.65 donated piece of land adjacent to Flat Creek by Evan Hutchens Construction Company. The Cassville contractor has agreed to donate the property which has been used for years as a dump for demolished concrete and dirt. Also in the project is a proposed purchase of just under four acres from Rachel Rush of Hollywood, Florida. Asking price on the property is \$10,000 at last report. The property, just across Flat Creek on the Seventh Street bridge, is the site of the old Rush Canning Factory. Mrs. Ledgerwood said federal law requires a registered appraisal of the property before purchase could be completed. A breakdown of the proposed city project, costing a total of \$60,000 with state and local funds, includes: \$15,000 for streets and parking paving; \$20,000 for lighted multi-use court; \$7,600 for playground equipment, benches, trash containers; \$3,000 fencing; \$1,200 move utilities underground; \$1,200 drinking fountains; \$7,000 planning and engineering and \$5,000 acquiring land. City officials said acquiring the land, on the north side of Seventh Street, adjacent to Flat Creek and behind the Sam Bowsher property, would be a good cleanup project for the area. The land is located north of the present city park complex on the east side of Flat Creek. While subject to flooding, and located in the Cassville flood plain, the area has proven quite adaptable to park facilities. City plans for the area include a nature walk and running paths along the Flat Creek portion. These probably would be accomplished further down the line when funds become available. Ledgerwood said the park development funds had been provided in previous budget items. She said recent reductions in street programs and departmental cut-backs would not affect the park program. Sergeant Lonnie McCullough of the Cassville police force, who doubles in Emergency Preparedness Office, accompanied Mrs. Ledgerwood on the Jefferson City trip and met with disaster officials in the state capital. He said future dates would be established for testing of emergency sirens in the Cassville area. Cassville has been approved for assistance in making warning equipment available. McCullough said testing agreed upon by state officials would be necessary here because of the Seven Valley location of town. He said residents

would be notified when state disaster people would be here to make the tests. At the May 28 award, the Federal Land and Water Conservation Funds were allocated to one county, one school district and 23 cities, according to Frederick A. Brunner, director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, administrating agency for the program.

30 years ago

May 29, 1996
— GOLF ASSOCIATION MEMBERS "TEE OFF" ON NEW CLUBHOUSE

Members of the Cassville Golf Association voted to proceed with construction of a new \$500,000 clubhouse during a meeting held last Thursday night. The vote was almost two to one in favor of the project. According to Steve Chasteen, board member and head of the building committee, the 6,000-square-foot facility will be built on the site of the existing clubhouse. The old building, erected 31 years ago when the course was first established, will be demolished to make room for the new facility. During construction, the club will operate out of a temporary facility. Architects Jim Lohmeyer and Randy Russell of Springfield designed a cross-shaped structure that will include: a pro shop, dining area, kitchen, conference room, men's and women's locker rooms, a covered entrance and vestibule area. The clubhouse will be of wood framed construction with brick and block veneer. The roof structure system will utilize a standing seam metal

roof over wood trusses. The blueprints also show several enclosed, open air patios with roof overhangs. These outdoor spaces provide an additional 1,000 square feet to the facility. Plans also include a new parking lot, which will park close to 100 cars. The paved lot will be located on a one-acre tract north of the course that the association recently purchased. Funding for the project will not require an increase in club dues, Chasteen said. "We feel like we can restructure our existing debt back out to 15 years and handle it (construction of the clubhouse) under our current dues structure," explained Chasteen. Construction of the clubhouse is scheduled to begin in the fall and should be completed by the first part of April. By building the facility during the off-season, the club hopes to minimize disruption to play. A new clubhouse is part of the association's master site plan, which was approved by members last year. A new \$80,000 swimming pool was constructed last spring, and a restroom and concessions building adjacent to the pool was completed in May. Association board members include president Ken House, Chasteen, Bill Roller, Fred Arning, Stan Boyd, Dennis Ledgerwood and Dennis Swofford. The association has 249 members.

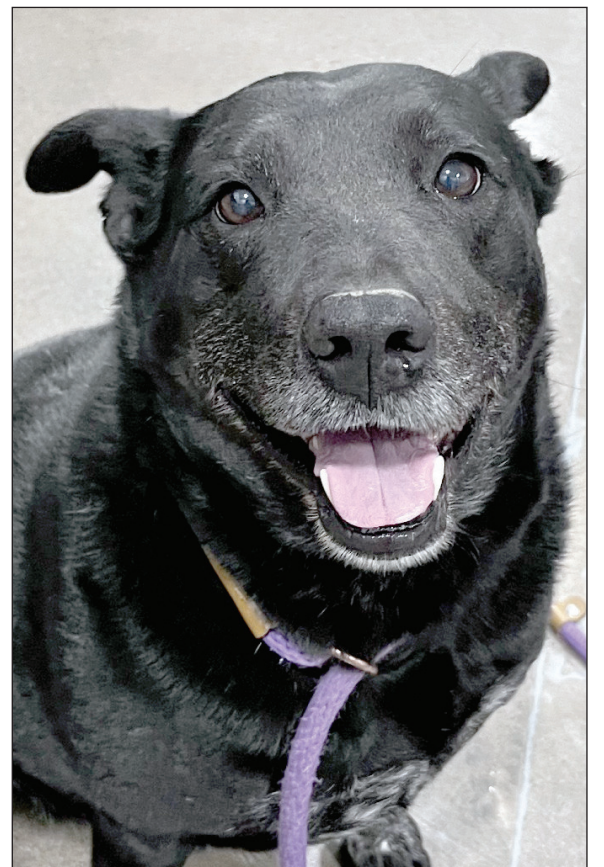
— CASSVILLE RECEIVES GRANT APPROVAL FOR PHASE TWO OF GREENWAY TRAIL

City officials dedicated Cassville's new Greenway Trail last month, and area residents are already ask-

ing about phase two of the project. Greg Beavers, city administrator, said the city has been approved for a \$72,760 enhancement grant through the Missouri Highway and Transportation Commission to complete the second portion of the greenway through the city's new park area. Under the grant program, the city will receive \$50,932 in federal funds and will have to provide \$21,828 in matching funds. The first portion of the greenway was funded through a similar grant. Beavers said completing phase two of the greenway will be a "long process." He said the city was now waiting for approval to proceed with bids on engineering specifications. He anticipates that the project will take 23 months to complete. The second portion of the greenway will extend 2,500 lineal feet along Flat Creek. It will include 2,220 feet of paved asphalt and 280 feet of boardwalk and bridges. Beavers said he budgeted \$14,000 for landscaping in the grant proposal. Cassville's newest park will also receive some help from the Missouri National Guard. The 203rd Engineering Battalion out of Pierce City will be in Cassville July 13-27 to work on the new park area located off of Sale Barn Road. Guardsmen will grade the land, provide surface drainage, install fencing for three youth ballfields and excavate and haul gravel to the parking area. The city will be required to provide materials and fuel for equipment.

Haven of the Ozarks Pet of the Week

Meet Luna Dipper! Luna is so so sweet. She really enjoys all people of all ages. Luna loves walking and does fantastic on a leash, and she does great in a fenced in yard. Some dogs will do anything to get out and explore, but not Luna! She is a kind and gentle soul ready to live out her best life next to her human. She currently weighs 65 pounds and is 7 years old. 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





PATRECIA A. CHASTEEN

Patrecia A. Chasteen, born June 8, 1951, in Stone County, Missouri, passed away on May 15, 2026, in Springdale, Arkansas. She was one of six children of Claud and Virginia (Batson) Jones.

Patrecia was a devoted mother of three and a loving grandmother. She enjoyed camping, family dinners, trips to the drive-in theater with her grandchildren, and playing cards. She loved her family and her grandchildren deeply.

Patrecia is survived by her three children; Twilla (Bill) Taber, Reba Nelson, Dwane (Melissa) Chasteen, her grandchildren; Jeffery Usrey, Taylor Inman, Wyatt Poe, Hunter Chasteen, great-grandchildren; Paxton Miller, Bayley Jo Usrey, Adlee Miller, Garrett Chasteen, Grant Smith, Bentley Chasteen and her sister; Pauline Moudy.

She is preceded by her parents; Claud and Virginia Jones, brother; Woodrow Calhoun, sister; Rosie Mae Hilton, brother; Billy Gene Jones, and sister; Maxine Childress.

Service time and date are to be announced. Arrangements are under the direction of Nelson Funeral Service. Online condolences may be sent to nelsonfuneral.com.

PAID OBITUARY

Cassville Education Fund grant awarded

5 teachers receive more than \$5,000 in funds

Five grants totaling more than \$5,000 from the Cassville Education Fund were awarded to Cassville teachers on May 7 at the Cassville Performing Arts Center.

Kendale Ellis received \$2,000 for Behavior Reinforcers for Special Services students.

Jordan Ellis was awarded \$1,345 for equipment for the Turf Grass and Landscape classes in the CHS Ag Education department.

Dove Haney received \$765 for standing desks for use in CMS math classes.

Cindy McCullah was awarded \$474 for a kiln shelf for the CMS art classroom.

Suzy Parnell and Maggie Cornell received \$430 for program materials for the K-2 Reading Intervention department.

Established in 2010 by community volunteers, the Cassville Education Fund is a permanent endowment fund benefiting Cassville school district academic programs.

Grants from the fund are awarded annually. Nearly \$50,000 in grants have been awarded to Cassville teachers over the past 16 years.



Five Cassville educators received more than \$5,000 in grants from the Cassville Education Fund on May 7. From left, Suzy Parnell, Morgan Williams (Cassville Education Fund), Maggie Cornell, Dove Haney, Rachael Freeman (Cassville Education Fund), Jordan Ellis, Kendale Ellis and Cindy McCullah. Contributed photo

Cassville grad earns Gilman Scholarship

Chappell one of two recipients, will spend time in Greece

Drury University undergraduates Avery Chappell, of Cassville, and Mackenzie Richardson, of Ozark, have been selected as finalists for the prestigious Gilman Scholarship for Study Abroad.

Chappell and Richardson are Drury's 11th and 12th Gilman recipients since 2022 and will receive scholarships to facilitate their proposals.

Administered by the U.S. Department of State, the Gilman Program has awarded more than 50,000 undergraduate scholarships since the program's inception in 2001.

"We are so pleased that Gilman continues to be impressed by the caliber of Drury applicants," said Shelley Wolbrink, Drury professor of history and fellow for national scholarships. "Both Avery and Mackenzie wrote stellar essays advocating for their global citizenship. Their travel experiences will enhance intercultural understanding both overseas and when they

are back on campus."

Chappell (Marketing and Management, Business Economics), a sophomore and a member of the women's golf team, will travel to Greece this summer thanks to a \$2,500 scholarship from Gilman. In Greece, she will study the history of the Mediterranean and Ancient Greek culture.

Chappell will use this opportunity for study, to learn how to engage with different cultures and how to make more well-rounded and inclusive business decisions after she graduates and enters the workforce.

Richardson (English/Writing, Medieval

Studies, International Immersion), a senior who will graduate in December, is headed to Rome, Italy, on a \$3,000 scholarship for a one-month program.

While in Rome, Richardson will study Catholicism, Judaism and Islam in an effort to inform her future career and gain expertise.

As a medieval scholar, Richardson will also learn more about Rome's historical artifacts, relics and monuments. Additionally, she will enhance her International Immersion certificate through an independent research project.

The Gilman Scholarship is granted to U.S. undergraduate students with financial need who demonstrate academic preparedness to participate in a designated program and design service project.

Supported by the U.S. Congress, the Gilman Scholarship is an initiative of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and is aided in its implementation by the Institute of International Education.

For more information about the Gilman Scholarship program, people may visit gilman-scholarship.org.

Masterpieces for Remembering.

Monett
201 West Broadway
(417) 235-3444
1-800-346-9879

Other Convenient Locations
Aurora 1-800-346-9877
Monett 1-800-346-9879
Springfield 1-800-346-9875
& selected representatives throughout the Ozarks

- * The #1 Choice of area families
- * Custom Design by our Artist
- * Serving the Ozarks since 1954
- * Ship Anywhere in the U.S.
- * Recommended by Cemetery Officials
- * Missouri's Largest
- * Quality granite and bronze
- * Complete written guarantee
- * Solid Permanent Foundations
- * Personalized design and lettering

Wommack
Monument Company



Jayden Griffis, a junior at Purdy High School, participated in the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Legislative Shadowing Project on April 22. Contributed photo

Purdy junior shadows Fitzpatrick with FCCLA

Griffis observed process of vetting non-profit organizations

Jayden Griffis, a junior at Purdy High School, participated in the Family,

Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Legislative Shadowing Project on April 22.

Amy Harkey is the local chapter adviser and accompanied Griffis to Jefferson City. Sponsored by the Missouri Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) and the Missouri Educators of Family Consumer Sciences (MoEFCS), the program provides an opportunity for junior and senior high school students to spend a day with their state representative, senator or other public official at the State Capitol. Students observe hearings, meetings and other public duties.

During the experience, Griffis shadowed Missouri State Auditor Scott Fitzpatrick. As part of the day's activities, he was sworn in to be able to attend internal staff meetings. He

observed the process of vetting nonprofit organizations through the State Auditor's office, gaining insight into government accountability and financial oversight.

The Legislative Shadowing Project, now in its 25th year, included a reception and opening session for participants on April 21, where Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Chief of Governmental Affairs Perry Gorrell taught the legislative process and Capitol etiquette to attendees. The shadowing experience allows students to connect their interests in law, public service, civic issues and the political process with their education, as well as with the vision and mission of FCCLA.

The event is designed to help students develop a better understanding of the political process and

its impact on citizens, children and families, and the workforce.

FCCLA attempts to match students with officials from their local school districts whenever possible. Students prepare for the event by becoming familiar with their assigned elected official's responsibilities and current issues. If matched with a legislator, students become knowledgeable about bills introduced and committees on which the legislator serves.

FCCLA is a nonprofit Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) that works intra-curricularly with Family and Consumer Sciences and Human Services Education. Missouri FCCLA has more than 9,700 members in over 330 local chapters, making it the eleventh-largest FCCLA state association in the nation.

FOHN FUNERAL HOME

- Traditional Funerals
- Memorial Funerals
- Graveside Ceremonies
- Basic & Full-Service Cremation
- Preplanned Funeral
- Monuments

Compassionate - Caring - Affordable

Fohn Funeral Home | McQueen Funeral Home
Cassville, Missouri | 417-847-2141 | Wheaton, Missouri | 417-652-7268
www.fohnfuneralhome.com

WHITE FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY
196 Sale Barn Rd., Cassville, MO • 417-847-8400
Crematory on site
To view obituaries, go to www.whitefuneralhome.org

THINK INFORMATION
Cassville Democrat
847-2610

www.cassville-democrat.com

Royal Living Royal Luxury

SUBMITTED CONTENT

Royal Living Royal Luxury offers full-service catering, luxury event planning, and consulting for high-net-worth clients. We specialize in weddings, corporate events, social gatherings, private parties, and Bar Mitzvahs.



Our comprehensive service packages range from \$100,000 to over \$100,000,000.

Please email us at Royallivingroyalluxury@gmail.com or call 404-984-7110 to discuss your special event.



DIAMOND LEVEL CLIENTS
 \$100,000,000 and up
 \$50,000,000
 \$20,000,000
 \$10,000,000

PLATINUM LEVEL CLIENTS
 \$5,000,000 and up
 \$2,000,000
 \$1,000,000
 \$500,000
 \$250,000
 \$100,000
 \$50,000

FULL-SERVICE CATERING, LUXURY PLANNING AND CONSULTING FOR:
 weddings, corporate events, social gatherings, private parties, gala and black-tie formals, large sports and entertainment functions like NCAA college football, NBA, NFL, PGA tour, MLB, *plus* concerts, tours, college campus activities, music and film festivals, conventions, conferences, award shows and movie productions.



Nothing on this paid advertisement should be construed as an offer, invitation, or general solicitation to buy or sell any investment or securities, provide investment advisory services, offer personal recommendations, or engage in any transaction. Therefore, it should not be relied upon in connection with any investment decision. Information on this paid advertisement does not constitute financial, accounting, tax, legal, investment, consulting, or other professional advice or services.



Investment opportunity

BUSINESS PROJECT

\$250,000
 MINIMUM INVESTMENT AMOUNT

3 TO 9 MONTHS
 INVESTMENT TIME HORIZON

UP TO 100%
 RETURNS ON INVESTMENT ROI
**SAFE NOTE available to Accredited Investors.*

Clear Vision New LLC is a multifaceted organization dedicated to funding, creating, marketing, and distributing premier entertainment content. Beyond our core of entertainment operations, we actively invest in and acquire businesses across several key sectors. These sectors include media, professional sports, technology, healthcare, energy, agriculture, and real estate.



**CLEAR VISION
 NEW LLC.**

Clear Vision New LLC is a modern leader in the entertainment industry, specializing in the funding, creation, marketing, distribution, and sale of entertainment content.

Beyond entertainment, we provide funding, investment, and acquisition services for companies across several key sectors, including professional sports, media, technology, healthcare, energy, agriculture, fund of funds, and real estate.

We actively enter into joint venture partnerships with accredited, qualified, and institutional investors to provide global financial backing and support across these industries.



1) Nothing on this paid advertisement should be construed as an offer, invitation, or general solicitation to buy or sell any investment or securities, provide investment advisory services, offer personal recommendations, or engage in any transaction. Therefore, it should not be relied upon in connection with any investment decision. Information on this paid advertisement does not constitute financial, accounting, tax, legal, investment, consulting, or other professional advice or services. 2) Paid advertisement. Not an offer to sell or solicit securities. All investments involve risk, including loss of principal. The publisher does not endorse or guarantee this opportunity.

BLACK GOES BACK!



Purdy softball players celebrate reaching the Final Four after defeating Lockwood, 3-1, in the Class 1 state quarterfinal on May 20. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Purdy tops Lockwood, plays in first Final Four since 2021

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

For the first time since 2021 — when the Lady Eagles won the Class 1 state championship — the Purdy softball team qualified for the Final Four.

Timely small ball, dominant pitching and an early home run sent the Lady Eagles through, securing a 3-1 win over Lockwood on the road on May 20.

Coach Lori Videmschek said Purdy entered the matchup knowing runs would be difficult to come by against Lockwood's ace.

"They're very well coached, and I knew their pitcher was really good," Videmschek said. "You're not going to get a whole lot of hits off her."

Because of that, Purdy spent the week preparing to pressure Lockwood defensively with bunts and aggressive baserunning.

"We worked on putting the bunt down and seeing if they were able to take care of it," Videmschek said. "That was one thing they struggled with a little bit defensively."

Purdy wasted little time creating pressure. After a strikeout in the bottom of the first, Kenzi Postlewait reached on a dropped fly ball in center field. Two batters later, Gabriela Groomer launched a two-run homer to give the Lady Eagles a quick 2-0 lead.

"That was a big charge for us to get on them quick," Videmschek said. "One thing we wanted to do early was score first, and we did."

That cushion proved important in a game that developed into a pitcher's duel.



Purdy's Courtney Patterson is hit by a throw to first as she reaches the bag after laying down a bunt in the Class 1 state quarterfinal against Lockwood on May 20. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Groomer dominated in the circle early, striking out two batters in the second inning and retiring the side in order. In the third, Kierstn Postlewait made a stretching catch in right field before Groomer added another strikeout and induced a groundout back to

the circle, a recurring theme throughout the game, especially on the third out of the inning.

Videmschek said Groomer consistently located pitches in key moments throughout the game.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6B

Frost finishes 4th in high jump in Class 2

Roe, Smith compete in distance runs at Class 2 state

Dylan Frost capped an incredible senior season at Southwest High School by placing tied for 4th with a leap of 1.83 meters in the high jump finals at the 100th running of the Class 2 State Track and Field Championship at Jefferson City High School.

He tied with Senior Patrick White, of Salisbury, who also made his first two jumps.

Frost became the first

SOUTHWEST TRACK AND FIELD

What: Frost takes 4th in high jump

Others: Roe, Smith compete in distance runs

More: Frost is first medalist from Southwest since Robert Humphries in 2024

Southwest All-State track athlete since Robert Humphries pulled off a rare double in the 1600-meter and 3200-meter two years ago. Frost was ranked in the top 5 in the state for most of the season after setting the school record at 6-foot-4 or 1.95 meters.

"We stress consistency to athletes all the time," said Coach Steve Voyak. "He had some nerves at state for sure but he delivered on two critical jumps while a bunch of other guys faltered. He won the high jump at nine meets this season, including conference and district. That's consistency."

"But, I am more proud of his maturation beyond track. His academics were a mess as a freshman and sophomore but he got those fixed as an upper-classman, graduated and has plans beyond high school for a technical college and is considering becoming an electrician."

Additionally, Southwest

Sophomore Sidney Roe ran a 20-second personal record and placed 10th in the 3200-meter run on Friday in 12:20.91. She was also 14th in the 1600-meter run in 5:38.53.

Senior Tobias Smith finished 16th in the 3200-meter run on Friday in 11:14.46. He completed his senior season qualifying for state in both cross country and track.

"Running distance is so unforgiving," Voyak said. "They put in so many miles in the heat, cold, rain, wind. They just run and run and then train some more. Sid overcame some early-season

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6B

CASSVILLE TRACK AND FIELD

What: Two athletes at Class 3 State Track and Field Championship

Who: Hopelyne Thompson and Corbin Rhoads

Results: Both finish in 12th place in pole vault

Cassville vaulters take 12th

Coach: Freshman has bright future in pole vault

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Cassville's pair of pole vaulters competing in the Class 3 State Track and Field Championship matched one another, both taking 12th in their respective competitions.

Senior Corbin Rhoads, who this season set the school record in pole vault, tied for 12th place out of 14 with a height of 3.65 meters. The school record, set at the Wildcat Relays, is 4.35 meters, and Rhoads cleared 4 meters at the sectional meet.

The winner at state, Blair Oaks' Tomas Gonzalez, cleared 4.9 meters.

"I was proud of how well he competed this year," said Clay Weldy, Cassville boys track coach. "He made it to state through a lot of hard work. He walks away with our school record in pole vault, as well. He has a lot to be proud of."

In the girls' competition, freshman Hopelyne Thompson took 12th out of 13, clearing 2.65 meters. The winner, Lawson's Kamryn Florea, cleared 3.45 meters, matched by Claire Page, of Centralia, and Aubryanna Allen, also of Lawson.

Erin Flehmer, Cassville girls track coach, said Thompson has a bright future in the sport.

"Hopelyne was the only freshmen to compete in the class 3 pole vault," Flehmer said. "Opening height was her current personal record, and she cleared with ease. The next height was 9'2 (2.8 meters), and each attempt she was close. She competed well as a freshmen, and her future is bright."

STATE GOLF

Who: Cassville junior Kaleb Artherton

Result: Artherton shot a two-day 165 to finish in 63rd place among 96 competitors

More: Junior already looking forward to senior season

Artherton shoots 165 at state

Junior takes 63rd place in Class 3 tournament

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Cassville junior Kaleb Artherton enjoyed his first state golf championship experience last week, shooting a 165 over two days at Sedalia Country Club to finish in 63rd place among 96 competitors.

Clayton Bagby, Cassville golf coach, said Artherton, who shot a 79 on day one and an 86 on day two, wishes his second day had been better, but the accomplishment is still a point of pride.

"Overall, I think he would have liked to have played better on the second day, but he has a lot to be proud of for the way he finished the season going up to Sedalia and playing an unfamiliar course in tough conditions and shooting in the 70s on day one," Bagby said. "It was two long days for sure. On day one, he was supposed to tee off at 8:30 a.m. but did not actually tee off until 3 p.m., finishing just before dark."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6B

TWINZ

Which two are exactly alike?



ANSWER: 6 AND 10.

KIDS' COLUMNS

A weekly hangout for the young and young at heart

JUST kidding

Q: Which kind of crackers do firemen like in their soup?

A: Firecrackers.

JUST kidding

Q: What has one horn and gives milk?

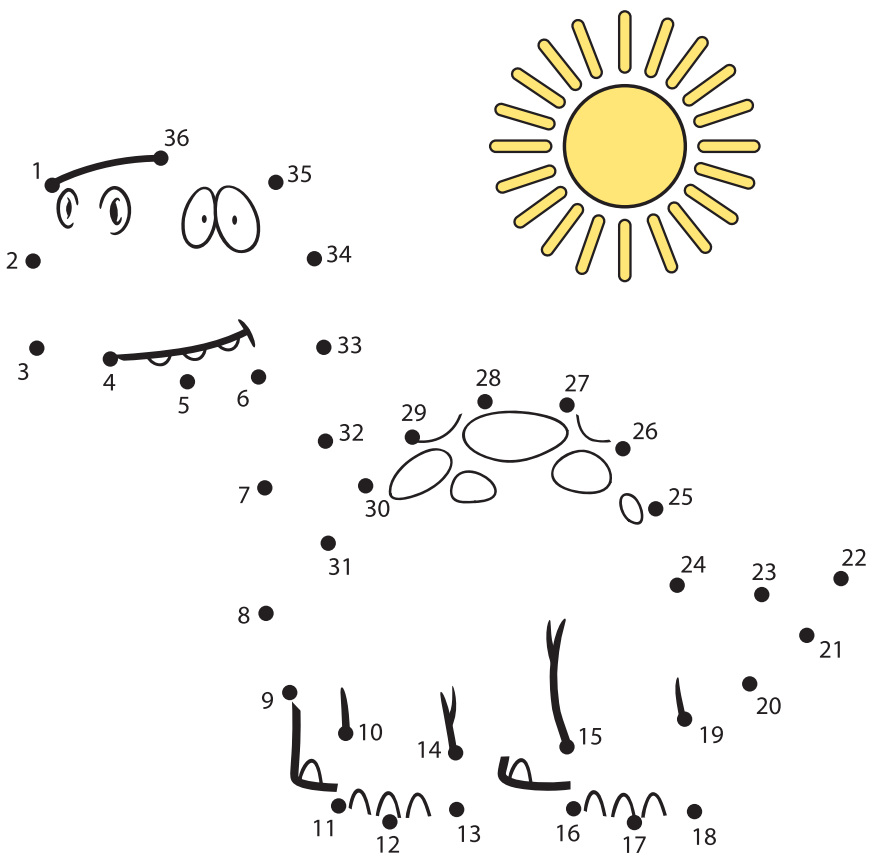
A: A milk truck.

JUST kidding

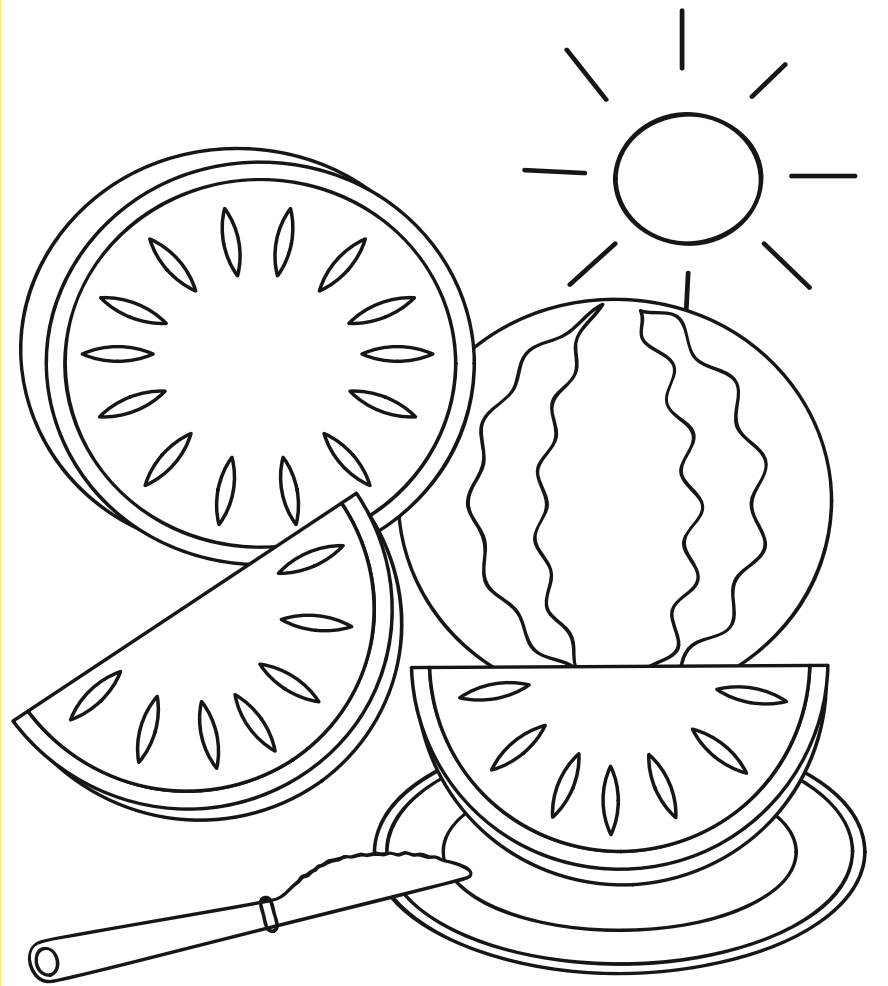
Q: Where does a tree store its stuff?

A: In the trunk.

DOT TO DOT



For the up-and-coming artist



Sudoku 6x6

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

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

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

4	9	5	1	2	3
1	3	2	5	9	4
9	5	4	2	3	1
3	2	1	9	4	5
2	1	3	4	5	6
5	4	5	6	4	2

White Funeral Home and Crematory

We are your locally owned funeral home and crematory, striving to treat everyone like family.

WE HAVE THE ONLY PET CREMATORY IN THE AREA.



196 Sale Barn Road
Cassville, Missouri • 417-847-8400
Shell Knob residents call 417-858-8400

CASSVILLE AREA DEVOTIONAL PAGE

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



BIBLE VERSE:

“My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.”

— JAMES 1:19

CHURCH DIRECTORY

- | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| <p>ANGLICAN
 ST. MARY MAGDALENE
 205 Commercial St., Exeter
 835-2102</p> <p>ASSEMBLY OF GOD
 FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
 Bus. Rt. 37 N., Cassville
 671-8131
 ASSEMBLY OF GOD
 RR 1, Box 1158, Seligman
 662-3333
 ASSEMBLY OF GOD
 Front & Pierce, Exeter
 835-4492
 BRIDGEWAY ASSEMBLY OF GOD
 Hwy. 39 N., Shell Knob
 858-3770
 FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
 209 W. Jefferson, Purdy
 442-3898
 OK ASSEMBLY OF GOD
 6121 Hwy. 90, Washburn, Mo.
 737-9477.
 RIDGLEY ASSEMBLY OF GOD
 16544 FR 1027, Exeter
 846-3513</p> <p>BAPTIST
 BETHLEHEM FREEWILL BAPTIST
 Jct. 76 & JJ Highway
 Rocky Comfort
 BIBLE BAPTIST
 Fasco Rd., Cassville
 847-4871
 BUTTERFIELD FIRST BAPTIST
 10901 Walnut St., Butterfield
 442-7887
 CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
 Exeter, Mo.
 665-1295
 CARR LANE SOUTHERN BAPTIST
 P.O. Box 69, Eagle Rock
 870-577-6025
 CORINTH SOUTHERN BAPTIST
 AA Hwy., Cassville
 847-4165
 EMMANUEL SOUTHERN BAPTIST
 821 Old Exeter Rd., Cassville
 847-3239
 FIRST BAPTIST
 Hwy. YY, Shell Knob
 858-3496
 FIRST BAPTIST
 117 W. Garber St., Fairview
 FIRST BAPTIST</p> | <p>602 West. St., Cassville
 847-2965
 FIRST BAPTIST
 Wheaton
 FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST
 Exeter, 835-5433
 FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST
 104 W. Hwy. J, Golden
 271-3605
 GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
 14970 FR. 1150, Cassville, Mo.
 GRACE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP
 P.O. Box 352, Shell Knob
 858-6868
 GRACE SOUTHERN BAPTIST
 1/2 mi. off 248 corner of FR 2150 & 1150,
 Cassville; 847-4691
 HIS WAY FELLOWSHIP
 Highway 62, 1 mi. N. of Garfield
 847-9289
 MINERAL SPRINGS BAPTIST
 HC #64, Cassville; 846-1115
 MISSION SOUTHERN BAPTIST
 RR 1, Washburn
 826-5232
 MT. OLIVE SOUTHERN BAPTIST
 FR. 2188, Cassville, 417-847-1245
 MT. ZION BAPTIST
 Hwy. 37 S., Washburn
 826-5840
 NEW HOPE BAPTIST
 3 mi. W. of 37 on W Hwy.
 then 3/4 mi. N. to FR 1052, Exeter
 652-3885
 OAK RIDGE MISSIONARY BAPTIST
 16722 State Hwy. 248, Cassville
 Pastor: 501-538-6261
 Local: 417-847-4597
 PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST
 RR 1, Box 1710, Washburn
 435-2319
 PURDY FIRST BAPTIST
 3rd & Washington St., Purdy
 442-7435
 SHILOH BAPTIST
 Hwy. 248, Jenkins
 574-6466
 PROSPERITY BAPTIST CHURCH
 Rocky Comfort
 PRAIRIE HILL BAPTIST
 RR 1, Box 1956, Washburn
 826-5158
 RIDGLEY BAPTIST CHURCH
 Rt. 1, Box 931, Exeter
 652-7884
 ROARING RIVER BAPTIST</p> | <p>HC #881 - Hwy. 86, Eagle Rock
 271-3142
 ROCK SPRINGS BAPTIST
 RR 1, Seligman; 826-5770
 SOLID ROCK SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH
 Rt. 1, Exeter, 652-3592
 VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH
 Business 37 N., Cassville
 826-5295
 VIOLA BAPTIST
 Hwy. 39, Shell Knob
 858-2597
 WASHBURN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
 618 N. 2nd Street, Washburn
 826-5000
 WAYMARK CHURCH
 2581 State Hwy 37
 235-7466
 WHEATON FIRST BAPTIST
 Hwy. 86 & Hwy. A, Wheaton
 652-3898
 WHEATON SOUTHERN BAPTIST
 11676 State Hwy. 86, Wheaton
 PO Box 175, 652-3186</p> <p>CATHOLIC
 HOLY FAMILY PARISH
 Hwy. 39-30, Shell Knob
 858-2518
 ST. EDWARD PARISH
 107 17th St., Cassville
 847-4948</p> <p>CHURCH OF CHRIST
 CASSVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST
 404 State Hwy 248 Cassville, MO, 65625
 Normal worship time, 10 a.m.
 916-539-4708
 cassvillechurchofchrist.com
 CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Hwy. 90 E., Washburn
 826-5890
 CHURCH OF CHRIST
 39 Lake Rd., Shell Knob
 858-3839
 CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Goosetree Hwy. 86, Wheaton
 652-3873
 CHURCH OF CHRIST
 1104 Mill St., Cassville
 847-2374</p> <p>CHURCH OF GOD APOSTOLIC FAITH
 GOLDEN CHURCH OF GOD</p> | <p>Hwy. 86, Golden
 271-3134
 SPIRITUAL STREAMS FELLOWSHIP
 Hwy. 112, Cassville
 846-6339</p> <p>EPISCOPAL
 ST. THOMAS À BECKET
 Hwy. 112 and State Hwy. AA, Cassville
 846-2155</p> <p>LUTHERAN
 COMMUNITY LUTHERAN
 Hwy. 86, Eagle Rock
 271-4383
 PEACE LUTHERAN
 N. Hwy. 39, Shell Knob
 858-3900</p> <p>METHODIST
 ALL FAITH UNITED METHODIST
 Hwy. 86, Eagle Rock
 271-3737
 CASSVILLE UNITED METHODIST
 7th & Gravel, Cassville
 847-2328
 UNITED METHODIST
 Hwy. YY, Shell Knob
 858-6707
 WASHBURN UNITED METHODIST
 Washburn
 Corner of 1st and North, Washburn
 WHEATON UNITED METHODIST
 101 Santee St., Wheaton
 652-3858</p> <p>LATTER-DAY SAINTS
 CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
 Cassville Branch
 3426 County Farm Road
 Sunday, 10 a.m.
 417-986-3161</p> <p>NAZARENE
 CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
 Business Hwy. 37 N., Cassville
 417-619-1498</p> <p>PENTECOSTAL
 LIGHTHOUSE PENTECOSTAL
 Hwy. 86 & P St., Eagle Rock
 271-4929</p> | <p>NEW LIFE TEMPLE
 Business Hwy. 37 N., Cassville
 847-3106
 GRACE POINT FELLOWSHIP
 Washburn Community Building
 479-366-2561
 NEW LIFE TABERNACLE
 30755 State Hwy. 37, Seligman
 662-0076</p> <p>PRESBYTERIAN
 TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN
 Hwy. 39 N., Shell Knob
 858-3902
 WALDENSIAN PRESBYTERIAN
 1 mi. S. of Monett
 235-3337</p> <p>OTHER
 BELIEVERS FULL GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP
 1st. & South St., Washburn
 826-5875
 BLESSING HEIGHTS WORSHIP CENTER
 1107 Farm Rd., Cassville
 847-4061
 CASSVILLE SDA
 Old Exeter Rd. & Hwy. 37, Cassville
 847-3622
 BODY OF CHRIST
 Wheaton, 417-652-3709
 COMMUNITY FAITH CHAPEL
 13372 State Hwy. 248, Cassville
 847-4643
 GOD'S HEALING CENTER
 Seligman, 662-3118
 EAGLE ROCK COMMUNITY CHURCH
 Hwy. 86, Eagle Rock
 342-0516
 FIRST CHRISTIAN
 Hwy. 39 N., Shell Knob
 858-8200
 FIRST CHRISTIAN
 Old Exeter Rd. & Hwy. 37, Cassville
 847-2460
 GOD'S HEALING CENTER
 Seligman, 662-3118
 LAKEVIEW CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 22321 Oak Ridge Drive, Shell Knob
 278-6674
 OZARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 Hwy. 37, N. of Purdy
 442-3361
 REAL LIFE WORSHIP CENTER
 709 W. 10th St., Cassville</p> |
|--|--|---|--|---|

Tyson
 Tyson Foods, Inc.
Monett Plant
 Monett, Mo.
417-236-3140
 Supporting local churches and our Tyson chaplains.

Little Bears Lawn and Tree Care
 MOWING • LANDSCAPING • LAND CLEARING • TREE REMOVAL • STUMP GRINDING
 Patrick Hostetter
 Call for a free quote (Fully Insured)
 870-654-2343 • Littlebearsawnandtree@gmail.com

\$10 LARGE 3-TOPPING
 Pizza Hut
 34 Main St., Cassville • www.pizzahut.com
417-847-5503

Ken's Collision Center
 THE AREA'S FINEST COLLISION REPAIR FACILITY
 712 W. 10th St.
 Cassville, MO 65625
417-847-1200
 www.kencollisioncenter.com

PLACE YOUR AD HERE
 \$10.50 per week!
 Call our office at 417-847-2610 to get started!

COOP BARRY COUNTY FARMERS COOP
 Exeter, Mo.
417-835-3465
 Propane • Farm Diesel • Feed • Fertilizer

Able2 Products Company
 — Serving The Area Since 1972 —
 Hwy. 248, Cassville, MO 65625
417-847-4791

Fohn Funeral Home
 We are here to serve and help you in your time of need.
SERVING ALL FAITHS
 Fohn, Cassville ~ McQueen, Wheaton
417-847-2141

PLACE YOUR AD HERE
 \$10.50 per week!
 Call our office at 417-847-2610 to get started!

TH ROGERS LUMBER COMPANY
 417-847-2123
 407 E. Hwy 248 • Cassville, MO
 www.throgers.com

Everybody likes clean!
BAYWASH CAR WASH
 Two convenient locations to better serve you!
 Across from Walmart Supercenter
 Old Exeter Rd. & Hwy. 76/112
417-846-3711

THE EDISON COMPANY
 808 Edison Rd., Cassville, MO 65625
417-846-0026

CLASSIFIEDS/LEGALS

SPECIAL NOTICE
IMPORTANT INFORMATION:
 Please check your ad the first day of publication. If it contains an error, report it to the *Cassville Democrat*. Errors will be corrected, and credit will be issued for the first day of publications only. The *Cassville Democrat* shall not be liable for any loss or expense that results from the publication (whether published correctly or not) or omission of an advertisement.

LOST PET

LOST DOG: A black long-haired chihuahua with brown markings has been missing since May 12 in the area of Farm Road 1110 on the end south of Highway AA. He answers to the name Alf, weighs about 10-15 pounds, is 15 years old and is people-friendly. Anyone who finds Alf or has any information on his whereabouts is asked to call Linda Sartin at 417-846-0067 or Melissa Sartin at 417-440-1660.

MISCELLANEOUS

BID NOTICE

The City of Exeter is now accepting bids to chip and seal the residential streets. Bids will be accepted until June 8th. Please submit bids to cityofexeter@outlook.com or mail to City of Exeter Po Box 113 Exeter, MO 65647 1st insertion 05/20/26 19-21

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI CASSVILLE

IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF ANTHONY LAVON GRIFFITH Petitioner, Case No. 26BR-DR00060

NOTICE OF CHANGE OF NAME

Public notice is hereby given that on the 4th day of May 2026, by an Order of the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri, Case No. 26BR-DR00060, the name of ANTHONY LAVON GRIFFITH was changed to ANTHONY LAVON WILD. Filed May 4, 2026 Craig Williams Circuit Clerk Judge Jonnie E. Cox 1st insertion 5/20/26 19-21

NOTICE

WW Quarry LLC, 23565 Lawrence 1180, Verona, Missouri 65769, has applied for a Surface Mining Permit from the Department of Natural Resources, Land Reclamation Program, to mine Limestone on 8 acres of land (Site #3023) located in Barry County, Section 26/ Township 25 North/ Range 26 West. This operation will be conducted during the approximate dates of May 17, 2026 to May 1, 2046. Written comments or a request for an informal public meeting may be made by any person with a direct, personal interest in one or more of the factors that the Staff Director may consider in issuing a permit, as required by The Land

Reclamation Act, sections 444.760 to 444.790 RSMo. Mail written comments, or a request for an informal public meeting to: Director, Land Reclamation Program, Department of Natural Resources, PO Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176. All comments and requests for a public meeting must be submitted in writing to the director's office no later than fifteen days following the final public notice publication date. For more information about this process, please contact the Land Reclamation Program by telephone at 573-751-4041. 1st insertion 05/20/26 19-22

SURPLUS PROPERTY BIDS

Ash Special Road district is taking bids for surplus property. Items available for bidding include:
 - Caterpillar Road Grader 140G
 - 88 Model International dump truck, tri-axel
 - Ford New Holland 7740 Almo Brush Cutter
 Sealed bids may be mailed to Ash Road District c/o Harold Shrum at PO Box 462, Washburn, MO 65772.

Bids will be opened on July 10. To view items before bidding, call Shrum at 417-846-6688. 1st insertion May 20 19-20

WHEATON R-III SCHOOL DISTRICT

Request for Proposals for Roofing Services: Library Roof Due: June 12, 2026 Introduction The Wheaton R-III School District (the "District") is seeking proposals from qualified entities interested in performing roofing repair services for the District's library area roof. Background of the District The District, a public school district created, organized, and operating under the Constitution and the laws of the State of Missouri, is an independent body politic and corporate, and a political subdivision of the State of Missouri. The governing body of the District is a seven-member Board of Education. The Administration of the District is headed by the Superintendent. Timeline Request for Proposals Issued May 27, 2026 Question/Inspection Period June 1, 2026 - June 5, 2026 Proposals Due June 12, 2026 Recommendation to Board June 16, 2026 Notice to Proceed June 17, 2026 Contractor Requirements A. All workers must undergo a background check prior to working on site. It shall be the duty of the contractor to conduct the appropriate background checks on its employees and the vendor must agree to share this information

with the District upon request.

B. Contractors must adhere to any minimum wage/prevaling wage requirements associated with the project

C. Contractor must be properly licensed, bonded, and insured

Scope of Work A. Inspection of existing structural elements and material

B. Replacement of existing structural elements and/or materials if necessary

C. Installation of sealing product or replacement of existing roof product as determined necessary by the contractor and agreed by the District

D. Installation and/or replacement of flashing, vents, caps, sealants, and accessories per manufacturer's specifications

E. Work to be completed during normal business hours and all work areas properly secured

F. Project must be completed prior to August 7, 2026

Proposal Requirements A. Provide a description of the company, as well as applicable licenses, bonds, and insurance coverage.

B. Detailed description of the services your entity will provide for the completion of this project along with proposed and/or guaranteed prices and warranty information.

C. Detailed pricing breakdown of services to be provided. This should include, but should not be limited to:

a. Total cost for material repair, removal, and/or replacement

b. Unit cost per item of material to be purchased

c. Any additional costs for materials, permitting, or disposal fees

d. Projected labor costs

e. Total project cost to be incurred by the District

f. All pricing should be firm for the duration of the project pending change orders from the District.

D. Provide the name(s) and resume(s) of the primary supervisor(s) responsible for overseeing the project in its entirety.

E. Provide a brief overview of the company's experience with Missouri public schools, along with prior project descriptions and reference information from at least three recent school or business clients.

F. Briefly indicate any additional relevant information regarding the benefits to the District of selecting your firm as a contractor for this project.

G. Please disclose any conflicts of interest that could present a real or perceived conflict of interest. Additionally, the company should disclose if there are any pending legal or insurance proceedings involving the firm that could affect their ability to complete the project.

Evaluation & Selection Responses will be evaluated based on the overall best plan for the Wheaton R-III School District. The District reserves the right to choose any company, more than one company, or to reject all responses from those submitting proposals. Decisions will be based on:

• The qualifications and experience of the company

• The proposed scope, warranty, and timeline of the project

• Evaluation of past performances and references

• Community/local presence of the company

• Total cost of services

After reviewing all proposals submitted, the District staff responsible for the evaluation will make a recommendation for selection to the District's Board of Education. The Board of Education shall make the final selection of the Company that will provide the services. However, no contract shall be formed and the District shall not be bound to any selection until such time as a final, written contract with

REAL ESTATE AUCTION

Friday June 5th 1:00 PM

Location: 26551 State Hwy YY, Shell Knob MO




Table Rock Lake View Home, 4 bedroom 2.5 bath home nice home with lake view. Walking distance to Table Rock Lake & Shell Knob recreation area. 2 miles to boat ramp and only 4 miles to Campbell Point Marina. Go towww.stumpffauction.com for more info and photos and to reregister for auction day.

Owner: SOS Enterprises



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



Auctioneer:
Parker Stumpff
AR State Champion
Auctioneer
#2352

STUMPF'S

REALTY & AUCTION SERVICE, INC.

www.stumpffauction.com

417-847-2507

the selected Company is approved by the Board of Education. The District reserves the right to negotiate the contract terms with the

Company that will be recommended to, or that is selected by, the Board of Education. The District further

reserves the right to reject any and all Proposals and to waive any "informalities" in the Proposals received whenever such selection, rejection, or waiver is in its best interest. All Proposal documents become public record once a negotiated contract has been executed.

Proposal Submittal Proposals must be submitted by 3 p.m. on June 12, 2026. The District and Board reserve the right to request

interviews on Monday, June 15, 2026, prior to the regular June 2026 School Board meeting. Please send an

electronic copy to: Mr. Chris Paullus Mr. Jeff Pettengill

Superintendent Maintenance Director

Wheaton R-III School District Wheaton R-III School District

116 McCall St, PO Box 249 116 McCall St, PO Box 249

Wheaton, MO 64874 Wheaton, MO 64874

cpaullus@wheatonschools.org jpettingill@wheatonschools.org

417-652-3914 417-652-3914

Please direct all questions to Mr. Chris Paullus and Mr. Jeff Pettengill at the email addresses listed above.

1st insertion 05/27/26 20-21

BID NOTICE

The City of Washburn, Missouri is now accepting sealed bids for upcoming street repair and improvement work within the city limits. Contractors are invited to submit proposals covering asphalt repair, resurfacing, patching, and related roadway maintenance. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked

"Street Repair Bid - City of Washburn," and each submission must include the bidder's full name, address, and contact information.

Bids may be handdelivered to 321 Main Street, Washburn, MO 65772, or mailed to P.O. Box 110, Washburn, MO 65772. All bids must be received by 06/12/2026 to be considered. Late submissions will not be accepted under any circumstances. The City of Washburn reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

1st insertion 05/27/26 20-21

CASSVILLE R-IV BOARD OF EDUCATION VACANCY NOTICE

The Cassville R-IV School District Board of Education is accepting applications from qualified district residents to fill a current vacancy on the Board of Education. Applications will be accepted through Wednesday, June 10, 2026,

at 4:00 p.m. The individual appointed to the position will serve until the next school board election. Applications may be obtained online or picked up at the Cassville R-IV Central Office located at: Cassville R-IV School District 1501 Main Street Cassville, MO 65625 1st insertion 05/27/26 20-21

PROBATE

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

In the Estate of: CHARLES THOMAS TYLER, Deceased 26BR-PR00062

NOTICE OF HEARING

To all persons who claim any interest in the property CHARLES THOMAS TYLER, deceased, as an heir of said decedent or through any heir of said decedent:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in the above court by Charles W. Tyler, for the determination of the heirs of Charles Thomas Tyler, deceased, and of their respective interest as such heirs in and with respect to the following described real property located in Barry County, Missouri, that the decedent owned at the time of his death:

Lot Three in Block Two in Spriggs Twin Coves Number One a subdivision of land located in the West Half of Section Two, Township Twenty one, Range Twenty five, Barry County, Missouri.

Petitioner's attorney is Harry D. Schwartz, whose business address is 702 West Street, P.O. Box 276, Cassville, Missouri 65625.

You are hereby required to appear to answer said petition on June 26th, 2026, at 8:45 o'clock a.m. in the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri, at Cassville, at which time and place said petition will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment may be entered in due course upon said petition.

The Cassville Democrat First Publication: May 6, 2026 Second Publication: May 13, 2026 Third Publication: May 20, 2026 Fourth Publication: May 27, 2026

Craig Williams Circuit Clerk By: S. Parker Probate Clerk 1st insertion 5/6/26 17-20

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI PROBATE DIVISION

At Cassville In the Estate of: Dorothy Joe Karrick, Deceased Estate No. 25BR-PR00153

NOTICE OF FILING OF

FINAL SETTLEMENT AND PETITION FOR DISTRIBUTION

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF DOROTHY JOE KARRICK, 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 about June 18, 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.

CORDELIA F. HERRIN, Attorney DUSTIN EDWARDS Ellis, Cupps, Herrin & Schwartz Personal Representative P. O. Box 276 Cassville, MO 65625 (417)847-2734 Dates of Publication - 5/13/2026, 5/20/2026, 5/27/2026, 6/3/2026

THE ABOVE REFERENCED DATE IS NOT A COURT APPEARANCE DATE. It is an estimated date as to when the Final Settlement will be filed with the court. 1st insertion 05/13/26 18-21

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

In the Estate of JILL H LECOMPTE, Deceased. Case Number: 26BR-PR00063

NOTICE OF LETTERS TESTAMENTARY GRANTED (SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of JILL H LECOMPTE, Decedent: On May 11, 2026, the last will of Decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was appointed personal representative of the estate of JILL H LECOMPTE, decedent by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of BARRY COUNTY, Missouri.

The name and business address of the personal representative is: VICTORIA ZANE HENBEST, 15488 BUSINESS HWY 37, CASSVILLE, MO 65625

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

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI PROBATE DIVISION

At Cassville In the Estate of: Dorothy Joe Karrick, Deceased Estate No. 25BR-PR00153

NOTICE OF FILING OF

BIG M MARINA HIRING

Big M Marina is hiring for all seasonal positions, including cashiers, deck hands, ice cream and pizza counter attendant. People should apply in person at the Marina at 26111 Big M Campground Road, Cassville.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
Cassville, MO

Barry County Health Department seeks full-time, non-exempt Executive Assistant. Duties include payroll, accounts payable/receivable, recordkeeping, board meeting support, and office administration.

Preferred: 3+ years experience in accounting, finance, or administrative support. Strong organizational and computer skills required. Must obtain Notary Public certification.

Pay: \$20-\$22/hour DOE.

Apply in person at 90 Barry County Drive, Cassville, MO, mail to PO Box 207, Cassville, MO 65625, or email info@barrycountyhealth.com.

Apply by May 29. EOE.

CLASSIFIEDS/LEGALS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4B
 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: 05-APR-2026
 Date of first publication: May 20, 2026
 Date of second publication: May 27, 2026
 Date of third publication: June 3, 2026
 Date of fourth publication: June 10, 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 05/20/26 19-22

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

In the Estate of DONALD COOPER, Deceased.
 Case Number: 26BR-PR00069

NOTICE OF LETTERS TESTAMENTARY GRANTED (SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of DONALD COOPER, Decedent:
 On May 18, 2026, the last will of Decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was appointed personal representative of the estate of DONALD COOPER, decedent by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of BARRY COUNTY, Missouri.

The name and business address of the personal representative is:
 JULIADONETTARIGGS, 3109 SOUTH BLACK FOREST AVE, BLUE SPRINGS, MO 64015 The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is: DONALD L CUPPS, ELLIS CUPPS AND HERRIN, 702 WEST STREET, 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: 11-MAR-2026
 Date of first publication: May 27, 2026
 Date of second

publication: June 3, 2026
 Date of third publication: June 10, 2026
 Date of fourth publication: June 17, 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 05/27/26 20-23

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI PROBATE DIVISION

At Cassville In the Estate of: MANUEL GARCIA-FALCON, Deceased Estate No. 25BR-PR00139

NOTICE OF FILING OF FINAL SETTLEMENT AND PETITION FOR DISTRIBUTION

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF MANUEL GARCIA FALCON, 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 July 11, 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 SAM MADSEN, P U B L I C ADMINISTRATOR Ellis, Cupps, Herrin & Schwartz Personal Representative P. O. Box 276 Cassville, MO 65625 (417)847-2734
 Dates of Publication – 5/27/26, 6/3/26, 6/10/26, 6/17/26

THE ABOVE REFERENCED DATE IS NOT A COURT APPEARANCE DATE.

It is an estimated date as to when the Final Settlement will be filed with the court
 1st insertion 05/27/26 20-23

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

IN THE ESTATE OF Mary Jane Lowe DECEASED. ESTATE NO. 26BR-PR00072

NOTICE OF HEARING TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP (SEC. 473.663 RSMO.)

TO: Heather Renee Burke, 26 Sargent Rd., Boxborough, MA 01719
 Lisa Lowe, 731 S Allegheny, Tulsa, OK 74112 and all other persons, known or unknown, interested or claiming an interest in the property hereinbelow described, as an heir, or through an heir, of the above-named decedent.

You are hereby notified that you are entitled to appear and be heard at a hearing to be held JUNE 25, 2026 8:45 o'clock a.m., in the courtroom of the Probate Division at 700 Main Street, Cassville, Missouri, on the petition to determine the heirs of the above-named decedent, who died 05/04/2002 and their respective interests as heirs in the following described property:

Lots numbered 103 and 116, all in Arrow Point Estates Subdivision, as the same appears from the plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 5, at page 132 in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Barry County, State of Missouri, subject to restrictions, covenants, conditions, easements, reservation of rights of way of record.

Dates of Publication: First date of publication: May 27, 2026 Second date of publication: June 3, 2026 Third date of publication: June 10, 2026 Fourth date of publication: June 17, 2026 Dated: May 15, 2026 BAIROY COUNTY Clerk By: S. Parker Deputy Clerk 1st insertion 5/27/26 20-23

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI PROBATE DIVISION

AT CASSVILLE In the Estate of: SHARON PERRY, deceased 26BR-PR00074

NOTICE OF HEARING

To all persons who claim any interest in the property SHARON PERRY, deceased, as an heir of said decedent or through any heir of said decedent:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in the above court by Brian Perry, for the determination of the heirs of Sharon Perry, deceased, and of their respective interest as such heirs in and with respect to the following described real property located in Barry County, Missouri, that the decedent owned at the time of his death:

Tract One: Lots 10, 11, part 12, part 13, Block 2 of Spriggs' Twin Coves No. 1, as per the recorded plat thereof, Barry County, Missouri.

Tract Two: Also, Lot 19, Block 2 of Spriggs' Twin Coves No. 1, as per the recorded plat thereof, Barry County, Missouri. Petitioner's attorney is Harry D. Schwartz, whose business address is 702 West Street, P.O. Box 276, Cassville, Missouri 65625.

You are hereby required to appear to answer said petition on June 26, 2026, at

8:45 o'clock a.m. in the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri, at Cassville, at which time and place said petition will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment may be entered in due course upon said petition.

The Cassville Democrat First Publication: May 27, 2026 Second Publication: June 3, 2026 Third Publication: June 10, 2026 Fourth Publication: June 17, 2026 Probate Clerk Craig Williams, Circuit Clerk by S. Parker, Probate 1st insertion 05/27/26 20-23

TRUSTEE'S SALES

TRUSTEE'S SALE

IN RE: Donald Adamson Jr and Rhonda Adamson, husband and wife Trustee's Sale:

For default in payment of debt and performance of obligation secured by Deed of Trust executed by Donald Adamson Jr and Rhonda Adamson, husband and wife dated April 25, 2019 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Barry County, Missouri in Book 19, Page 2143 the undersigned Successor Trustee, at the request of the legal holder of said Note will on Tuesday, June 9, 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 EIGHTEEN (18) AND 18 FEET OFF THE EAST SIDE OF LOT SEVENTEEN (17) IN BLOCK ONE (1), WOOLSEY'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF MONETT, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI. 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 No: 233957.060926.469584 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: May 13, 2026 05/20/2026, 05/27/2026, 06/03/2026 1st insertion 05/13/26 18-21

TRUSTEE'S SALE

IN RE: Marvin A Fleming, and Cheryl L Ryan, husband and wife Trustee's Sale:

For default in payment of debt and performance of obligation secured by Deed of Trust executed by Marvin A Fleming, and Cheryl L Ryan, husband and wife dated October 29, 2019 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Barry County, Missouri in Book 19, Page 6010 the undersigned Successor Trustee, at the request of the legal holder of said Note will on Tuesday, June 9, 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:

A TRACT OF LAND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE POINT OF INTERSECTION OF THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF THE PUBLIC ROAD AND THE WEST BOUNDARY LINE OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 24, RANGE 26, THENCE SOUTH 204 FEET, THENCE NORTH 204 FEET, THENCE MORE OR LESS, TO THE SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE OF THE PUBLIC ROAD 554 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, BEING SITUATED IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 24, RANGE 26, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI.

to satisfy said debt and cost.

MILLSAP & SINGER, P.C., Successor Trustee 612 Spirit Drive St. Louis, MO 63005 (636) 537-0110 File No: 226221.060926.470537 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: May 13, 2026 05/20/2026, 05/27/2026, 06/03/2026 1st insertion 05/13/26 18-21

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

Default has occurred in the payment of the note described in and secured by the

deed of trust executed by Norman M. Bates, Edward E. Bates and Rebecca Ann Bates on March 23, 2005, and recorded on April 4, 2005, in the office of the Recorder of Deeds for Barry County, Missouri, in Book 05 at Page 2439, and conveying to the trustee the following described property:

TRACT I: ALL LOTS THREE (3) AND FOUR (4) OF WHISKEY FLATS SUBDIVISION, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI, ACCORDNG TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF.

TRACT III: ALL OF LOT SEVEN (7): SUNDOWN ACRES, IN STONE COUNTY, MISSOURI, ACCORDNG TO

RECORDED PLAT THEREOF.

ALSO A PART OF SUNDOWN ACRES, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 7: SUNDOWN ACRES: A SUBDIVISION PER THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF; THENCE WEST 50 FEET; THENCE NORTH 150 FEET; THENCE EAST 50 FEET TO NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 7; THENCE SOUTH FOLLOWING THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT 7. 150 FEET TO POINT OF BEGINNING, IN STONE COUNTY, MISSOURI, ACCORDNG TO THE RECORDED PLAT

TRACT IV: OF LOT TWENTY-EIGHT (28), SECONG ADDITION; SUNDOWN ACRES IN STONE COUNTY

MISSOURI ACCORDNO TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF,

ALSO AN UNDIVIDED 1/10TH INTEREST IN THE WELL AND PUMP LOCATED ON LOT 30, SUNDOWN ACRES, SECOND ADDITION, FOR USE BENEFIT OF LOT 28, INCLUDING EASEMENT ACROSS LOT 30 FOR THE INSTALLATION AND MANTENANCE OF A WATER LINE.

Tract V: Lot 104 of MIRA MONTE SUBDIVISION SECOND ADDITION, Stone County, Missouri according to the recorded plat thereof.

At the request of the legal holder of said note and in accordance with the provisions of the deed

of trust, the undersigned trustee will on June 12, 2026, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., namely at 1 p.m., sell said property at public vendue to the highest bidder, for cash, at the North door of the Stone County Courthouse, 108 E. 4th Street, Galena, Missouri, to satisfy said note and costs.

H. F. Glass, Trustee 1736 East Sunshine – Suite 405 Springfield, MO 65804 (417) 883-6566 1st insertion 05/20/26 19-22

TRUSTEE'S SALE

IN RE: William P Blair III and Amy Blair, husband and wife Trustee's Sale:

For default in payment of debt and performance of obligation secured by Deed of Trust executed by William P Blair III and Amy Blair, husband and wife dated September 8, 2020 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Barry County, Missouri in Book 20, Page 5549 the undersigned Successor Trustee, at the request of the legal holder of said

Note will on Tuesday, June 23, 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:

LOTS 1, 2, AND 3, BLOCK 2, MARSHALL'S FIRST ADDITION TO MONETT, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI. EXCEPT THE EAST 47 FEET OF SAID LOT 3.

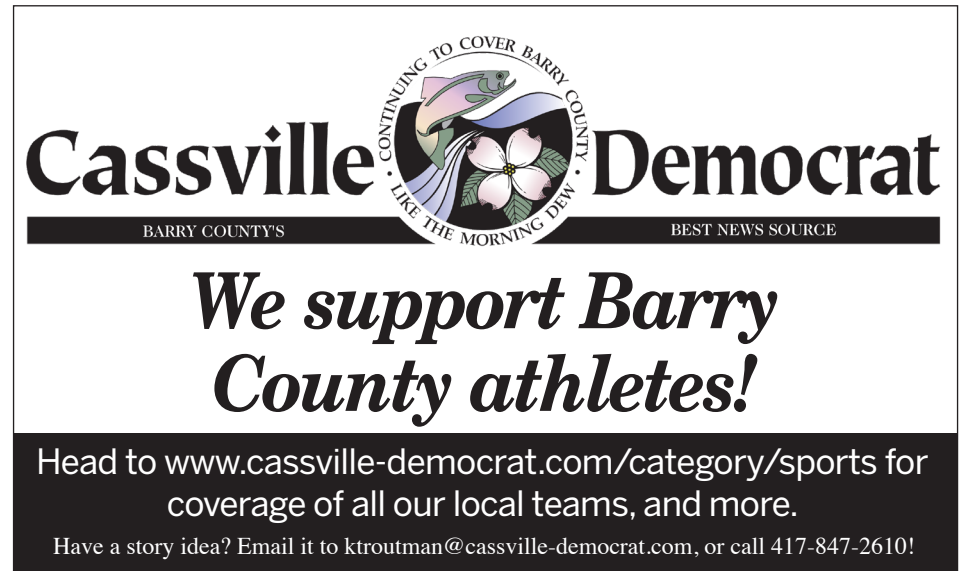
to satisfy said debt and cost.

MILLSAP & SINGER, P.C., Successor Trustee 612 Spirit Drive St. Louis, MO 63005 (636) 537-0110 File No:

234182.062326.470058 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: May 27, 2026 06/03/2026, 06/10/2026, 06/17/2026 1st insertion 05/27/26 20-23

SPORTS



Purdy's Kenzi Postlewait makes a fly ball catch early in the state quarterfinal against Lockwood on May 20. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com



Purdy's Gabriela Groomer connects on a pitch for a 2-run homer in the first inning of the Lady Eagles' 3-1 in over Lockwood in the Class 1 state quarterfinals on May 20. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Purdy: Small ball was key to victory in road trip to Lockwood

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

"She hit her spots really well in key situations," Videmschek said.

Lockwood threatened in the fourth inning after putting runners on second and third with nobody out. A bunt brought home a run on a close call at the plate to trim Purdy's lead to 2-1, but the Lady Eagles avoided further damage with a groundout to its shortstop.

Videmschek called the sequence one of the game's defining moments.

"They had runners at second and third with nobody out, and we were able to get out of that inning with just one run," Videmschek said. "I call that a win situation for us."

Purdy's defense continued to respond under pressure. In the fifth inning, Kenzi Postlewait prevented extra bases with a strong throw from right field, while Groomer struck out two more batters to strand runners and preserve the one-run lead.

The Lady Eagles finally added insurance in the bottom of the fifth through the style of play they had emphasized all week.

Courtney Patterson put down a bunt and was hit in the back by the throw to first, allowing her to take second. Then, Kierstn Postlewait dropped down another bunt, and Lockwood's throw sailed over first base, allowing Patterson to score and allowing Postlewait to advance to third.

Videmschek said those small moments were critical and will remain so in the final two games of the season.

"That's just key things like that — taking advantage of the mishaps they do and putting the ball in play," Videmschek said.

With a 3-1 lead, Groomer closed the door in dominant fashion. She struck out three batters in the sixth inning and added two more strikeouts in the seventh, including the game's final out catching the batter looking.

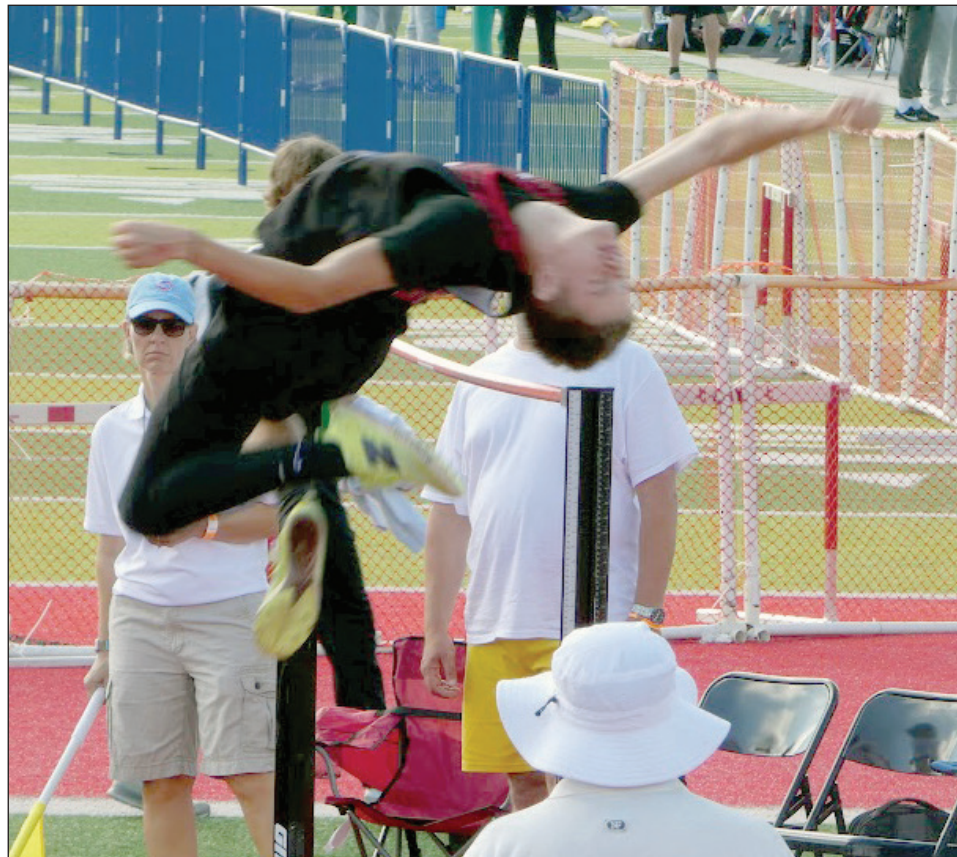
Groomer finished with 10 strikeouts, continuing a milestone postseason run after recording her 1,000th career strikeout during the district championship victory.

"She got a couple strikeouts and got a ground-ball out when we needed it," Videmschek said. "She did a really good job."

Purdy fell to Kingsville, 1-0, in nine innings in the state semifinals on Monday afternoon, then defeated Plato, 6-1, in the third-place game Monday

evening. In the Kingsville game, Chloe Prock and Groomer had 2 hits each, and Courtney Patterson had 1. Groomer struck out 16 batters in 8.2 innings, giving up the 1 earned run.

In the Plato game, Groomer, Lauren Brooks, Andee Vineyard, and Shelby Patterson had 2 hits each. Prock and Sophie Tyson each added 1 hit each. Groomer pitched a full game with 9 Ks and no earned runs, giving up just 1 hit.



Southwest senior Dylan Frost placed 4th in the high jump at the Class 2 Track and Field Championship last week. Contributed photo

Southwest: Smith may run in college

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

injuries and ran a great final race against some staunch competition. And

Tobi's hard work all season ended with a trip to the state meet and now

he is considering running at Crowder College next season."

Shelter Insurance awards pair of scholarships

The Shelter Insurance Foundation recently awarded \$1,500 scholarships to Nevaeh Johnson and Jayci Park, graduates of Cassville and Wheaton high schools.

Shelter Agent Terri DeGraffenreid Brattin sponsored and partially funded this scholarship.

A committee of local high school officials and community leaders selected the local recipients. The committee considered each applicant's scholastic achievements, educational goals, citizenship and moral character, as well as participation and leadership in school

and community activities. The scholarships were awarded without regard to race, color, religion, sex, pregnancy, national origin or ancestry, physical or mental disability, veteran status, genetic information or any other classification protected by federal, state or local law.

Beginning the fall after the recipients' high school graduation Johnson and Park can direct the scholarship funds toward tuition, fees or campus housing for any course of study leading to an academic degree at any accredited college or university. The

scholarship is paid directly to the schools the recipients select.

Johnson and Park received a certificate from Terri Lynn on behalf of the Shelter Foundation.

The Shelter Insurance Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation for charitable and educational purposes. It is sponsored by the Shelter Insurance Companies — offering auto, home, life, farm and business insurance services to customers in 14 states via a network of local insurance agents. The Shelter Insurance Foundation is headquartered in Columbia.

Artherton: Short game was good

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

"On the second day, weather played a major factor. The course was extremely wet from two days of rain, so there was another delayed start at 12:30 p.m., with it misting most of the day."

After day one, Artherton sat in 39th place out of the 96, aided heavily by his short game.

"Kaleb's short game, especially chipping around the green, was very good both days," Bagby said. "He was able to hole out for a birdie and run in a couple of longer putts that led to a very respectable 79 that day."

On day two, Bagby said tee shots and putting were paramount, and a few mishaps here and there led to the 7-stroke difference.

"It wasn't an overly lengthy course, but placement off the tee was very important with some demanding tee shots," Bagby said. "[Artherton] just missed on a few of those that led to a couple of higher numbers. He was battling his swing most of the second day but still did a great job of scrambling and turning in a very respectable 86 on a day that could have gotten away a little bit more."

With the season behind them, Bagby said Artherton's arc of accomplishments is notable, especially given how the season began.

"What Kaleb was able to do down the stretch of the season was very impressive, and he has a lot to be proud of," Bagby said. "I believe an injury in the weight room caused some of his strug-

gle early, even though he wouldn't tell you that, so he played the entire season with pressure on him to perform. I believe that only helped make him better and to be able to score when he needed to most."

Looking toward his senior year, Bagby said Artherton's experience should give him some extra drive in 2027.

"I think this will just drive him, as well as Cheney Kelley, who followed along for the two days, and Dennis Craig to all want to get back next year in their senior years," Bagby said. "Kyle Brown also showed great improvement over the previous year and will be looking to make an impact in that regard also."

TALON MEDIA GROUP
RADIO THAT COVERS AGRICULTURE AND YOUR HOME TOWN AS WELL AS PROVIDING YOU WITH LOCAL AREA AND BRANSON DISCOUNTS

TUNE IN TO OUR STATIONS & CHECK US OUT ON OUR WEBSITE
800-928-5253 235-6041 678-0416

www.radiotalon.com
 KRMO AM 990 · KKBL 95.9 FM · KSWM AM 940 · KQMO 97.7 FM

SB SECURITY BANK OF SOUTHWEST MISSOURI
 Your Locally Owned Independent Bank
 Cassville • Exeter • Wheaton

WILDCAT PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Colton Beebe 	Brendan Flynn
Dennis Craig 	Kierstyn Kalbaugh

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE!
 Call our sales team today at 417-847-2610
Cassville-Democrat.com