



**SELIGMAN MAN CHARGED WITH STATUTORY RAPE, SODOMY — PAGE 2A**



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 Lady Eagles finish in third place in Class 1 softball. — **1B**

# CASSVILLE Democrat

JULY 1, 2026 | CASSVILLE-DEMOCRAT.COM

## CITY OF CASSVILLE

**What:** Has approved contract with Axon for body cameras, in-car cameras and tasers  
**Cost:** \$377,478.78 over 10 years, with annual payments of \$37,747  
**More:** Contract includes new body cameras every 2.5-3 years and new in-car cameras and tasers every 5 years

## City signs cameras, tasers contract

\$377K agreement over 10 years to update police equipment

**BY KYLE TROUTMAN**

kt troutman@cassville-democrat.com  
 The city of Cassville has entered a 10-year contract with Axon to update Cassville Police Department camera and taser equipment.

The contract, at a total cost of \$377,478.78 over the 10 years, denotes annual payments of \$37,747, with the contract requiring new approval every 5 years.

The contract includes the following;

- 13 body worn cameras
- Seven in-car cameras
- 13 Taser 10s with cartridges
- Training package for Taser 10 that includes VR headset and tablet
- Training to certify five personnel as instructors
- All vehicle installations included
- New body cameras every 2.5-3 years
- New in-car cameras every 5 years
- New Taser 10s every 5 years
- 2026 prices locked in through duration of contract

Cassville Police Chief Donnie Privett said the contract will keep officers equipped with up-to-date body cameras, in-car cameras and Tasers for the next decade while locking in current pricing against future increases.

The contract replaces a

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## Mayor charged with perjury

Seligman mayor was on probation when he declared for alderman role

**BY KYLE TROUTMAN**

kt troutman@cassville-democrat.com

The mayor of Seligman has been charged with two felonies for allegedly failing to disclose he was a convicted felon on declaration of candidacy paperwork in 2015 and 2016.

### FELONY CHARGES

**Who:** Michael Avers, born 1964, of Seligman

**What:** Is charged with two counts of perjury in a procedure not involving a felony

**More:** Criminal summons issued

Michael Avers, born 1964, of Seligman, is charged with two counts of perjury in a procedure not involving a felony.

According to a probable cause statement filed by J.L. Mason, with the Missouri

State Highway Patrol, on April 13, 2015, Avers was sworn in as a West Ward alderman for the city of Seligman, and he was sworn in for a second term on April 11, 2016.

prior to serving each term, Avers allegedly signed multiple documents related to serving as a public official, including an "Official Declaration of Candidacy" informing the candidate he or she cannot be a convicted felon and serve as a public official. The document informs the candidate

being a convicted felon is a disqualifying factor under Missouri Statute 115.306.

On the listed dates, Avers allegedly signed documents indicating he understood the requirements of holding public office, and he allegedly signed an "Oath of Office" on both dates, solemnly swearing and/or affirming that he possessed all the qualifications prescribed by law.

On Jan. 12, the city of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7A

## RESIDENTS VOICE CONCERNS ABOUT CASSVILLE STORAGE TANK



Richard Asbill, Cassville city administrator, spoke to a panel of Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) agents during a Thursday public meeting at Crowder College in Neosho. Asbill voiced concerns to the DNR about the potentially negative environmental and economic impacts on Cassville, of a proposed storage tank to be located near the city, which will contain food and meat-processing residuals. Contributed photo

## Mayor, city admin speak at DNR meeting in Neosho

**BY SHEILA HARRIS**

sheilaharrisads@gmail.com

About 30 people attended a public meeting at Crowder College in Neosho, hosted by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR), on Thursday.

The in-person meeting was one of two meetings scheduled by the DNR in response to area residents' concerns about the proposed construction of three storage tanks designed to hold food and meat-processing residuals (commonly called "sludge") until they can be land-applied to area farms.

A follow-up, virtual meeting was held on Monday.

HydroAg Environmental, LLC, proposes to build a sludge storage tank two miles north of Cassville, east of Farm Road 1095, on property owned by Mike Henbest. Denali Water Solutions has also applied for a permit to construct a sludge storage tank near Wentworth and another near Humansville.

All three sludge tanks will have a storage capacity of over 900,000 gallons, with 12 inches of freeboard space required between the surface of the sludge and

the top of the tank. Weekly checks of liquid levels in the tanks will be required to ensure 12 inches of freeboard above them.

Permit applications for Denali's and HydroAg's proposed storage tanks were signed by the same representative, and use the same post office box in Russellville, Ark., as their business address.

In their announcement of the public meeting, the DNR requested that comments be limited to concerns about the proposed storage tanks, but many residents viewed it as an

opportunity to have their say regarding the entire land-application practice.

Of the more than 10 residents who spoke, most cited concerns about the smell of the land-applied sludge, which, they say, is unlike the smells associated with traditional farming practices.

Jon Horner and Richard Asbill, mayor and city

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7A



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# LOCAL

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Quilts of Valor presentation at Senior Center

The Cassville Senior Center will host a special presentation of Quilts of Valor to previously nominated veterans on July 10 at 11 a.m. during the lunch hour. The public is welcome to attend this presentation. This event is presented for the second time in Cassville thanks to the Quilts of Valor from Kimberling City.

### Hidden underground history panel in Monett

Join the Monett Historical Society for a special open panel discussion on the legendary Monett Muddy Cave (also known as the Monett City Park Cave) on July 21 at 7 p.m. at the Monett Historical Society Museum, located at 422 Broadway in Monett. Hosted by Robert Painter, Mike Randall, Rusty Morris, and author E. A. Hilton, BS. Explore stories of early 1900s explorations, underground rivers, deep drop-offs, rumored connections to Pierce City, its use as a quarry/trash dump, and why it was sealed around 1918. The event is free and open to the public.

### Take a walk down memory lane

Take a walk down memory lane in downtown Monett from 1887 to now. Come share what once was and appreciate the diverse places of business that Monett Broadway has welcomed over the years. The event is for ages 18-and-older, and it is from 5-6 p.m. on July 23, starting at the Monett Historical Society and Museum, located at 422 Broadway in Monett.

### Wheaton Road District to meet

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

### Voter registration through July 8

The last day to register to vote is July 8 for those who are not current registered voters of Barry County and who wish to vote in the Aug. 4 Primary Election. People may register to vote at the County Clerk's Office or the Monett Chamber of Commerce. Please notify the Barry County Clerk's office of any address or name change. Photo ID required to vote in the August Primary Election. Absentee voting starts June 23 at the Barry County Clerk's Office in Cassville, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Two week in-person, no excuse absentee voting begins July 21. If unable to vote in person, a voter may send a written request to the office of: Joyce Ennis, 700 Main St. Suite 2, Cassville, MO 65625 or fax to: 417-847-5311. The office will need: Name, physical address, mailing address, date of birth, last four digits of Social Security number, phone number, party, reason for voting absentee and signature. Those who live in the Monett area can go by the Monett Chamber Office and fill out the absentee application. They will fax it to the Barry County Clerk's office. Absentee applications are also available at sos.mo.gov. For more information, call the Barry County Clerk's Office at 417-847-2561 or email jennis@barrycountyclerk.com or ajohnson@barrycountyclerk.com

### Cassville Water Quality Report available

The City of Cassville's water quality report for the year 2025 is now available online at <https://dnrservices.mo.gov/ccr/MO5010144.pdf>. The document, also called a Consumer Confidence Report, provides important information about the City's efforts to provide safe drinking water. Residents can find detailed information about where their drinking water comes from as well as what trace elements (contaminants) have been detected. Residents can call City Hall at 847-4441 to obtain a printed copy of the report or to obtain more information on the municipal water system.

### 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., Book Club, 5:30 p.m.; Friday, closed; Saturday, closed; Tuesday, Tot Time, 9:30 a.m., Story Time, 10 a.m., Scrapbooking, 5:30 p.m.; Wednesday, Teen Book Club, 3:30 p.m.

### 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.

### 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](http://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.

# Seligman man charged with statutory rape, sodomy

### 22-year-old facing pair of felonies for alleged relationship with teen

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

kt troutman@cassville-democrat.com  
A Seligman man is charged with two felonies after allegedly having a sexual relationship with a teenager in 2025.

Francisco Marquez, 22, of Seligman, is charged with second-degree statutory rape and second-degree statutory sodomy.

According to a probable cause statement filed by Det. Billy Forester, with the Barry County Sheriff's Office, on Feb. 4, Forester took a report from the Missouri Department of Public Service's Children's division for an alleged sexual assault against a juvenile under the age of 16.

On Feb. 11, during a forensic interview, the victim disclosed that Marquez

had made contact via SnapChat, and the two attended the same church. The victim said they communicated with Marquez for a brief period after he added them on the app, and Marquez began sending sexually explicit images of himself. The victim said Marquez eventually proposed that he would drive to the victim's house and pick the victim up after their parents went to bed.

The victim said on an unknown date in June 2025, they met Marquez down the road from the house between midnight and 1 a.m. The victim said after a brief conversation in Marquez's car, he allegedly asked the victim to move to the back seat and perform oral sex, and the victim agreed. The victim said this occurred 10-15 times between the first occurrence in June 2025 and when the victim ended the sexual relationship in July 2025.

Additionally, the victim disclosed during the same period, Marquez and the victim allegedly engaged in intercourse three or four times, saying Marquez did not ejaculate in her because he had a pregnant fiancée the time.

The victim said they have known Marquez for a long time through attending the same church, and Marquez knew the victim's age because he has a younger sister the same age.

Since Feb. 13, Forester had attempted to contact Marquez multiple times to schedule an interview, without success. As of March 4, Marquez had not returned any requests for a phone call.

Marquez was arrested on June 24 and booked into the Barry County jail on no bond. A bond appearance hearing is scheduled for Thursday at 9 a.m. in the courtroom of Judge Robert Foulke.

## Best in show!



Cassville's Easton Long, 12, Bri Still, 16, and Mason Long, 15, displayed their bulls following the Grand and Reserve Champion competition at the Barry County Fair on Saturday. Pictured at far left is Dawson Summers, of Lawrence County who earned the Grand Champion title. Gwendylan Harmon/Special to the Cassville Democrat



Cooper Burchett, 16, stands beside his Reserve Champion bull following the competition at the Barry County Fair, held at Circle M Meats north of Butterfield on Saturday. The award recognizes the bull as the second-highest placing entry in its division, reflecting the quality of the animal and the preparation involved in showing it. Gwendylan Harmon/Special to the Cassville Democrat



Katie, 8, seated watching and tending to her baby goat this Saturday at the Barry County Fair. Gwendylan Harmon/Special to the Cassville Democrat



Cassville's Katie Tucker, 17, proudly displays her Best in Show-winning hen at the Barry County Fair after earning the event's highest poultry award. Gwendylan Harmon/Special to the Cassville Democrat

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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 [kttroutman@cassville-democrat.com](mailto:kttroutman@cassville-democrat.com).

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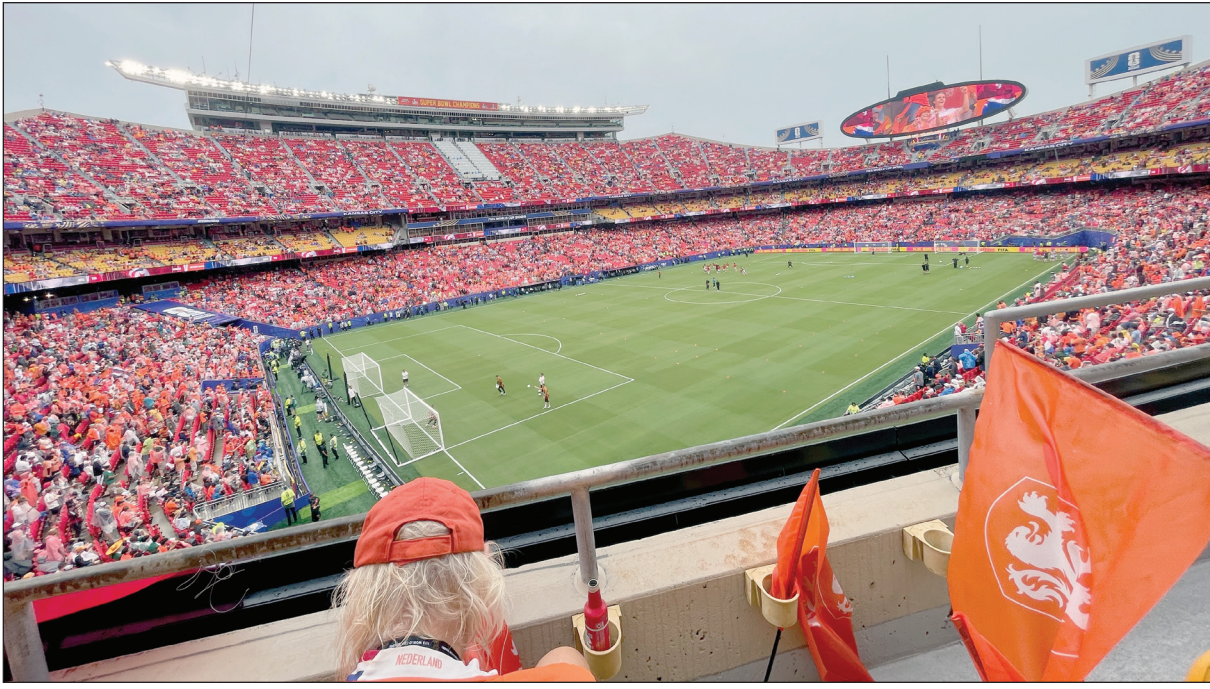
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# COMMENTARY

## PUBLISHER'S VIEW



Cassville Democrat Publisher Kyle Troutman is pictured attending the Austria-Algeria FIFA World Cup game on Saturday. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Cassville Democrat Publisher Kyle Troutman's view at the Netherlands-Tunisia FIFA World Cup game on Thursday. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

### An experience and a pride



KYLE TROUTMAN

Thursday through Saturday, I left our little corner of Missouri to enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime experience, sharing in the love of the world's game as we approach our 250th birthday as a nation.

Thursday morning, I embarked on my journey to Kansas City to attend two FIFA World Cup games at Arrowhead Stadium, and it was an experience that did not disappoint.

Going directly to catch a bus to the stadium, I was met with a sea of orange at the Netherlands-Tunisia contest. Rain did not stop the game, nor did it stop the mostly Dutch fans from delivering an atmosphere unlike any other.

I have been to a few Chiefs games at Arrowhead, but the World Cup is a different ballgame. My single seat was on the second level by the corner flag above the south goal.

Having bought the one ticket, I was unsure what the fanbase around me would look like. To my right were two older gentlemen who traveled from the Netherlands to see the game. The pair were highly critical of their nation's play, but they obviously enjoyed the 3-1 victory. To my left was another Dutchman who now lives in Maine. Dressed in orange from head to toe, he sported a giant orange cowboy hat and the Netherlands flag painted on both cheeks. The whole section, from one corner flag and behind the goal to the other, was lively, chanting, singing and cheering non-stop for Holland.

In total, more than 68,000 people were in attendance — nearly twice the population of Barry County. When peo-

ple say the atmosphere in a stadium is electric, words hardly do it justice. For a lifelong soccer fan, it was a dream come true.

On Friday, I caught a bus to the FIFA Fan Festival at the WWI Museum and Memorial, again surprised and delighted with the atmosphere. The gates opened at 2 p.m. for the France-Norway contest, and the line to get in to the park stretched a literal mile down the street and in front of Union Station, taking me about 45 minutes to reach the end of the line and make my way back to the park entrance.

Inside, it was all smiles. People of all backgrounds, ethnicities and social statuses enjoyed watching the game on the many big screens together, and there were multiple booths with interactive games, like the Home Depot booth with a 15-second juggling challenge. I had 27 touches on the ball in that 15 seconds and scored some oohs for a nearly perfect

around the world trick. Fun — while it's a plain word, it's the best one I can use to describe the experience.

Saturday, after sleeping in and recouping for a while, I made my way back to Arrowhead for the Austria-Algeria game, a 9 p.m. kickoff under the lights. Before making my way into the stadium, I wandered around the fan experience area, which included a live DJ, a small-sided field where kids could play mini games, and the most fun part of all, a juggling circle with a bona-fide freestyler who shared his skills and his ball with anyone who wanted a touch.

Again, I pulled off a bit of trickery, a skill the freestyler had not performed, which garnered a cheer from the circle and a few high fives.

Making my way to my seat, this time near midfield in the lower bowl, I was not expecting much from the game itself given the implications for both teams. I was not rooting for either team really, just for a good game — and boy, did I get one.

The 3-3 contest saw two goals scored in the final four minutes, with Austria netting the last one to ensure they advanced to the knockout round.

As much as I underestimated the game, I grossly underestimated the atmosphere. Nearly 70,000 people, a full house, were in attendance, with the Algeria faithful waving their flags and singing all game long behind one goal, and the Austrian fans with their scarves and drums providing a different but equally lively cheering section.

All six times the ball went in the net, I leapt out of my seat with everyone

around me. The second Algeria goal also garnered a high five from the fan two seats over, as we had just been saying Riyhad Mahrez should get the ball more, and when he did, he scored.

Driving home on Sunday, I was still buzzing. Even today (Monday), I'm watching games with a different perspective having been at two.

Reflecting on the whole experience, one thing stands out above the rest — the togetherness of the fans and the worldliness of it all. There were so many different kinds of people I met or interacted with over the three days, and US soccer fans have been showing up and showing out.

I've always been proud to be American, but being part of an event where we are hosting people from all over the world, welcoming them in the true American — and Barry County — way with a smile and mutual respect, I couldn't help but feel a immense sense of pride.

What better way to celebrate our 250th birthday than creating little melting pots all across the country and showing the world the best of what America has to offer?

Maybe I'm still just buzzing, but I can't think of one.

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

### COMMUNITY VOICES

### First one out of the boat

George, sitting in his rocking chair on his front porch at his heavenly home looks over to his wife, and says, "Well Martha, who would have ever believed that this little experiment in liberty we help set up in 1776 would have lasted two hundred and fifty years?"

Martha replies, "And just think George, they wanted you to be king."

"Well Martha, you would have been an awesome queen, but I had been away for the better part of 30 years and I was ready to come home to you and to Mount Vernon. Besides, I was tired of all of the fussing between Jefferson and Hamilton about the way this new country should be going, and I've wondered sometimes how things would have been different if Hamilton would have survived that duel with that irascible Aaron Burr. But this country was very lucky to have Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Jefferson, Benjamin



LYNN HILBURN

Franklin, Thomas Paine, the Adams family and the 56 brave men who signed the Declaration of Independence and the thousands of soldiers and shopkeepers who joined me in this fight for liberty and independence from one of the greatest powers/empires to have ever existed."

Yes, thanks to the writing ability of Thomas Jefferson who wrote the Declaration of Independence with just minor changes, especially from Benjamin Franklin. Thanks to Thomas Paine, John Adams, John Quincy Adams, and Benjamin Franklin for reminding everyone that this did need to be a government

by a United States, not just a group of colonies.

Hamilton was a brilliant administrator, politician and financier who advocated a federal bank and a one currency system so that the United States could collect tariffs and pay off their war debts. James Madison, with the help of 55 colleagues, wrote the United States Constitution and look how well it has held up for 250 years with only 27 amendments. Isn't that amazing?

What is meant by first one out of the boat? It means being one of the first ones who stand for liberty, who will/did put their own well being back as a second thought to standing up for and protecting the liberty and independence of this great country.

Such as: Being one of the first farmers who fired the shots against the Great British Army in the New England conflicts during the Revolutionary War.

Being one of the first ones out of the boat when Washington crossed the Delaware.

Being one of those lonely soldiers who spent the winter at Valley Forge when Washington could barely get them a pair of new socks, let alone a pair of new pair of boots or a paycheck.

Being one of those 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence who knew their name was going to be put on a treason list and that, if they were caught, they would but to death.

Being one of those who led the charges in the battles of the Civil War because you were willing to die for what their country or side believed in.

Being one of those proud Americans that when the world entered into chaos in 1917, they stepped out of the trenches when called upon to fight to preserve freedom for our European allies. Over 820 Barry County young men served in World War One.

Being one of the over 2,150 Barry County young men and women who, when tyranny arose again, answered the call to leave their homes and to go overseas to preserve liberty and freedom for thousands of people throughout the world. For the farm boy who said "any darn fool can drive a truck, I wanna be in the Air Force," and who flew dozens of bombing raids over Germany in a invention/contraption that had only been around for 20 or so years built by somebody that probably only had a month's worth of training. Scary.

But mainly for being one of the first guys out of the boat at Normandy or on the beaches of Okinawa or all the islands in Southeast Asia. Can you imagine jumping out of those boats in three feet of water, wearing 40 pounds of gear with machine guns firing at you? This to me is/was Bravery to the NTH degree.

For being the ones who realized there were terror-

ists on a hijacked plane, knowing that they might die, but if they didn't do something thousands of people may die, but they said, "Are you guys ready. Let's roll."

To our police and fire departments and other first responders who face hazards every day, especially to the firemen who were going up the stairs when everybody else was fleeing down the stairs to escape the Twin Towers on 9/11. Wow!

For all of our young men and women who have served in our Armed Forces in all of our wars, including the Desert Storm Wars, let us remember that freedom is not free. Someone, somewhere had to put their life on the line for you to enjoy this freedom, and liberty is not just the ability to go down Walmart and buy what you want for snacks.

Liberty is having the freedom to say what you want to say without being thrown in jail, as long as you don't cause a riot. Liberty is the ability to worship the way you want to without being persecuted or being demanded to believe a certain way. Liberty is the ability to own as many guns as you want to in this country, as long as you obey the laws.

Liberty and freedom in this grand old United States of America means that you can go out and do or be just about anything you want to be as long as you're willing to work for it. As you know, or should know, there are many

countries in which you have very little choice in what you're going to do, what religion you worship, how much money are you going to make or even who you're going to marry.

Missouri and Barry County has always been a place where courage grows. From our first settlers who carved out an existence on this wild frontier, to the soldiers who crossed oceans to defend liberty, to the ones who stayed home who strengthened our communities — Barry County has never failed to answer the call.

On this 4th of July, on this 250th anniversary of this great idea, let us honor and thank our past leaders and heroes and let us pray for present and future leaders that they may as make as many a wise decision as our forefathers did in setting up this great country.

May God bless our veterans, may God bless Barry County and may God forever bless the United States of America.

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

### 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.



## 50 years ago

July 7, 1976  
— YOUTH LIVESTOCK SHOW EVENTS FOR JULY 24

The sixth annual Barry County Youth Livestock Show date has been set for Saturday, July 24. The annual event is sponsored jointly by the Cassville Chamber of Commerce, Barry County 4-H Clubs and Future Farmers of America chapters. With a total of \$900 in premiums, judging will be in the Rotary Club's Bill Hailey Arena, northwest of Cassville. Stock must be in pens by 6:30 p.m., with the show to begin at 7 p.m. Show officers will include Jerry Yarnall, Cassville, chairman; Greg Holmes, Wheaton, secretary; Kevin Butler, Wheaton, treasurer; and Michelle Morris, Cassville, reporter. Superintendents will include Larry Wallace, Southwest, swine; Mark Moller, Purdy, assistant swine; Greg Holmes, Wheaton, and David Horner, Cassville, beef; and Ricky Schmidt, Monett, and John Cowherd, Cassville, dairy. Judges for events will include Jim Kyle of Marionville, dairy, and Glen Cole, Choate, Okla., livestock. Dr. Eugene Miekley will be veterinarian in charge. Eligibility rules state, "Any boy or girl under 21 years of age residing, attending school or belonging to a 4-H club in Barry County can show." In addition to the cash premiums awarded on the Danish point system, trophies and ribbons will be presented. Future Farmers chapter advisors scheduled to assist with show events include Leonard McGee, Purdy; Dennis Epperly, Cassville; Gene Courdin, Wheaton; and John Hobbs, Southwest of Washburn. Full show information and folders are available by contacting participating organizations or Roger Marcoot of the University of Missouri Extension Service, who is coordinating the Chamber of Commerce participation in the event.

— POLICY, COACH AND PLAYGROUND COVERED DURING R-4 SESSION

The Cassville Board of Education spent until midnight Tuesday covering review of school policy, hiring a head football coach and discussing playground improvements as the main points of an agenda. Superintendent Ronald Evans said the board would be back in session this coming Monday night, making three meetings in as many weeks. All six members — Charles Thompson, Herschel Stehlik, Freddie Evans, Ronald Stewart, Carroll Craig and Spiz Stephens — attended the session. Employed as head football coach for the coming year was Gary Flood, head of the junior high program at Carl Junction High School. Flood, a Kansas State University of Pittsburg graduate in 1969, has been with the Big 13 school since college graduation. He holds a master's degree from there. He will also teach general science. The Flood family will be moving here in the near future. Mrs. Flood is a registered nurse, and they have one small daughter. His salary was set at \$10,666.66. Flood has been in both the junior and senior high athletic departments at Carl Junction during his seven years there. Superintendent Evans said the board was considering a cooperative program of playground improvements through the Missouri National Guard. Principal Don Trotter is in touch with officials of the Pierce City unit regarding equipment from the National Guard accomplishing improvements in the east part of the campus. Reviews of policy handbook changes took a major part of the meeting, which included a brief executive session to discuss personnel. In other business, Laverne Hilburn was awarded a \$450 contract for repair of the old gym and middle school roofs. Locks in buildings were ordered changed due



**30 YEARS AGO: QUACK! QUACK!** — The Wheaton Community Club sponsored a registered duck race June 29 as part of the 45th Annual Wheaton Barbecue. Pictured spraying water to propel over 300 plastic ducks to the finish line, from left to right, are: David Shockley, David Harris, Jim Doherty and Leroy Ellison, all of Wheaton. Winners in the contest were: Greg Holmes, Wheaton, first place, \$1,000; and Landon Fletcher, Cassville, second place, \$500. The barbecue attracted a huge crowd with over 1,400 dinners served. The group was entertained by the Wheaton Community Chair and the Next of Kin band. Democrat file photo

to the number of keys available. The step was made for better building security. Superintendent Evans was allowed \$750 and Trotter \$200 in expenses involved in functions prior to their July 1 contract obligations.

## 40 years ago

July 9, 1986  
— PAST DUE BILLS, TAXES AND HIGH WEEDS COUNCIL TARGET

Cassville City Council is adopting a tougher approach to past-due water bills, unpaid property taxes and high weeds. In session Tuesday night, the council took tough stands on eliminating the three problem areas in city government. All members of the council were on hand when Ralph Boggess, a resident of Oak Hill Estates, presented a petition calling for cleanup of problem areas in that section of town. There were 21 signers on the petition. Mayor Rolland Meador explained the city would begin a program Monday of mowing weeds and then attaching costs to tax bills. "Apparently we haven't reached some folks who are not taking care of their property," Meador said. Notices have been sent to troublesome areas, and council action received affirmative responses from aldermen Bob Mizer, Bill Shiveley, Sue Brattin and Gary Fields. Concerning past-due water bills, Meador said instructions had been issued that service would be discontinued in 60 days on unpaid bills. "Termination will be in relation to the ordinances, in 60 days, because the longer problems are permitted to go the worse they get," Mayor Meador said. One bill before council for adjustment, which amounted to under \$200 resulting from leaking lines, received no action by the council. Bud Reed had submitted the bill. In a water-related problem, Rainbow Motel had billed city government for \$134 for stains, etc., resulting from water cut-off on a main inside city limits in the south part of town. When service was resumed, the outside-city-limits customer experienced residue in the lines. City crews said they understood all customers on the outside-city-limits line had been notified of the pending work. Council took no action on paying the bill. Collector of Revenue Opal Santee said Monday night she had been instructed by city attorney Don Cupps to prepare a back-tax list that will be published for sale later this month. The number of parcels and amount involved would be determined later. Council action included acceptance of an \$800 bid from Brothers Tractor and Implement

for purchase of a brush cutter. Also opened was a \$5.85-per-foot bid from Pope Construction of Aurora for installing curb and guttering. The city pays \$4 on the cost. Program availability is on a first-come, first-served basis while finances last. Clerk Jo Ledgerwood said the bills payable amounted to \$1,629.

— 29 STREET PROJECTS IN CASSVILLE

Final decisions on Cassville's street improvement program this summer have been reached, with work to begin on seven hot-mix overlay applications and 22 chip-and-seal projects in the near future. Hutchens Construction Co. of Cassville holds the \$59,160 contract for completion. George Ulmer, consulting engineer, said the hot-mix overlay projects would consist of a 1.1-mile total. Approximately four miles of chip-and-seal applications will be included. According to Cassville City Council approval, hot-mix projects will include: Oak Hill Cemetery Road, from Seventh Street to end; East 12th from Mill to Fair; West 16th from Main to High; Partridge Drive from Highway Y to city limits; Gravel from West 14th to West 17th; Second Street from West to Sky; and High Street from Fifth to Seventh. The chip-and-seal projects currently in the program include: First Street and Old Exeter Road, repair of damaged area; West Eighth from Townsend to Sky; West Fifth from High to Sky; Oak from First to Eighth; Mountain from Third to Eighth; Sky from First to Eighth; East 18th from Main to Highway Y; High from Seventh to Eighth; Kenney Drive from Highway 37 to city limits; West 17th from Main to High; Ivy from 14th to 15th; Oak Hill, repair of damaged area; Luney Drive from 15th to end; High from 14th to 17th; Rosedale Drive from LaRay to Valley; Keith from LaRay to Valley; Kathy, County Road to County Road; 19th from Highway 37 to end; Southern Hills, repair of damaged area; West 12th from Main to Townsend; County Road, 14th to Highway 37; and West 13th from Main to Townsend. Last year street work amounted to a total of \$133,753.01, including over \$9,000 in engineering costs. This year the total project will run \$63,892, including engineering. Street work currently on the schedule by the council consists of 48 percent of last year's projects. Cutbacks were ordered due to water refunds resulting from court action last year. Council is using a greater percentage of sales tax revenue this year for

general purposes.

## 30 years ago

July 3, 1996  
— CHS GRAD WAS AT CLINTON'S SIDE DURING MEMORIAL SERVICE

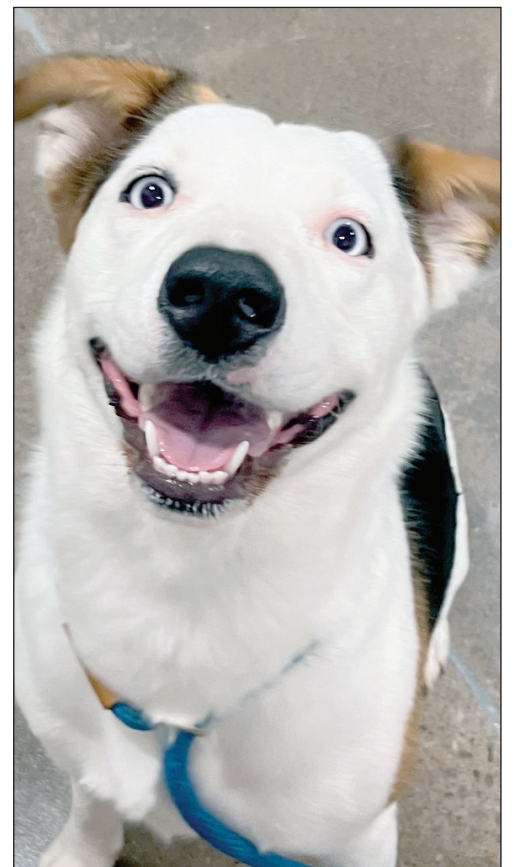
As millions of Americans watched President Clinton eulogize the 19 servicemen killed in last week's bombing of a U.S. Air Force housing complex in Saudi Arabia, some viewers might have noticed the airman who escorted Clinton in and out of the memorial service held Sunday at Eglin Air Force Base in north-west Florida. The man pictured at Clinton's side was Chief Master Sgt. Troy A. Lowe, a 1968 graduate of Cassville High School and current senior enlisted advisor to the 33rd Fighter Wing based at Eglin. Lowe's involvement in the memorial service was personal. He had previously served in Saudi Arabia as a member of the 33rd Fighter Wing's 58th Squadron and knew 12 of the men who were killed in the bombing attack. These men were all members of his wing. Lowe said another 10 received critical injuries from the explosion. As senior enlisted advisor, it is Lowe's job to serve as liaison between the enlisted men and the wing commander. All of the casualties from the 33rd were enlisted men, some of whom were Lowe's good friends. "We're a fairly small unit and because of that smallness we're really close," Lowe said. "That's why it's been pretty devastating. We're a close, tight-knit organization. We rely on each other." Lowe first heard about the tragedy while he was on leave in Tallahassee. He said he had spent most of the day last Tuesday getting his oldest son, Jeff, ready to attend college at Florida State in the fall. When he got to his hotel room that night, he turned on the television and heard a report on the bombing. Lowe said initially he didn't realize his wing had fallen victim to the attack. It was in a later broadcast that Lowe saw a map and realized men from his wing were stationed near where the bomb exploded. He then called back to base and discovered that the bomb had "hit close." "My first reaction was, 'It could have been me,'" Lowe said. "All the men

in our wing have served at some time in Saudi Arabia." Lowe said he was in Saudi for a five-month deployment that began in January 1994. He said during the mission he lived in the high-rise next to the one that was bombed. During his stay in Saudi, he would run around the perimeter of the complex in the evenings, passing the bomb site each time. Once Lowe returned to Eglin from Tallahassee last Wednesday, he was immersed in a 24-hour operation that focused on accounting for all the men who were stationed in Saudi at the time of the bombing. Ironically, the group of 215 were due to end their deployment two days after the bomb attack. Lowe worked 18-hour days up until the memorial service on Sunday. One of his duties was to meet the planes arriving from Saudi. He said the main body of uninjured servicemen arrived back on the base Friday afternoon. Lowe said it was a "joyous, emotional" reunion. The wounded arrived home Saturday afternoon, followed by a plane carrying support crews that arrived early Sunday morning. Lowe also helped make sure the families of the deceased arrived safely and were taken care of "every hour of the day." Lowe said initially he did not think he'd be involved with the president's visit. "But because all the wounded and deceased were enlisted members, the White House staff wanted me to be involved." Lowe's primary function was to brief the president before he visited with each of the deceaseds' families. Family members were taken to private rooms where the president visited with each family individually. "Before the president would go in to meet with the families, I would brief him," Lowe said. "I brought the information about the deceased down to a personal level for the president. For instance, I would tell the president an airman's nickname or what he did for the wing ... any little thing that might be a comfort to the family and make the president more comfortable." Lowe said the president was visibly shaken after talking with several of the families. "I felt it was a very

difficult situation for him," Lowe said. Following visits with the families, Lowe traveled in the president's motorcade to the service, which was held in a flag-draped hangar on the base. Lowe walked behind the president to his seat and sat beside him during the service. Lowe said he was definitely moved by President Clinton's 10-minute speech. "One thing the president said during his speech that really stuck with me was his reference to the wing's nickname — The Nomads. The president said, 'Our nomads have ceased their wandering. They've come home for the final time.' I felt the words were appropriate." Lowe said his wing has a long history of military accomplishments that date back to World War II. He said the 58th Squadron that was victimized by the bombing actually shot down more enemy planes than any other squadron during the Gulf War. Lowe also feels sure the wing's mission and bravery will continue. "Our commitment and mission has not ended. Our goal is to get our people back and move on." Lowe's most difficult moment during the past week might have been when he stood up in front of his congregation as a newly ordained deacon Sunday night. He spoke about the difficulties his wing had faced and read each victim's name. When asked how he made it through the heartache, Lowe said he was thankful the Lord was with him. "I don't think I would have made it without Him." Lowe's military career spans 22 years. He joined the Air Force in February 1971 after being drafted upon his graduation from Crowder College. After completing basic training, Lowe was assigned to Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base in Kansas City. In September 1972, Lowe was sent to Vietnam and served there until the cease-fire agreement was signed. He finished his tour in Thailand. After Thailand, he was stationed at a string of different bases, including Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland and Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, N.M. In 1978, Lowe separated from the Air Force and came back home to work for Barry Electric. After three years, Lowe went back on active duty and was stationed at Cannon Air Force Base in New Mexico and Bitburg Air Force Base in Germany. Lowe was in Germany until December 1986 when he was transferred to Eglin. He has been there ever since. Currently, Lowe, his wife, Linda (Lowder), and their two sons, Jeff, 21, and Eric, 16, live in Niceville, Fla., a small community located near the base. Lowe said Niceville reminds him a lot of Cassville. Lowe's parents are J.B. Lowe and the late Nadine Lowe of Cassville. Linda's parents are CMSgt. (Ret.) William T. and Rita Lowder of Butterfield.

## Haven of the Ozarks Pet of the Week

Hi, I'm Tippy! I'm a 1-year-old Australian Shepherd mix with bright blue eyes and a tri-color coat. I'm already spayed and housetrained. I'm adventurous and playful with a smart mind that loves to learn. I should warn you I've learned how to open storm doors and simple latches so you'll have to watch me carefully. I'm great with other dogs and kids, making me a perfect fit for most active households. Fair warning: I'd do best without any feline siblings. I'm a little too rough with them, and I do get nervous during storms and fireworks. I'll be your loyal companion for hikes, water adventures, and all the window-gazing in between. Adopters can complete an application at [www.havenoftheozarks.org/adopt](http://www.havenoftheozarks.org/adopt). No appointment is needed. The Haven is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., seven days a week. All Haven of the Ozarks pets are fixed, up to date on their vaccinations, and microchipped. For more information, people may email [havenozarksanctuary@gmail.com](mailto:havenozarksanctuary@gmail.com), or call at 417-835-3647. Contributed photo



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**JEANETTA  
JOSEPHINE  
BROWN**

Jeanetta Josephine Brown, 90, of Exeter, Mo., passed away at her home on June 26, 2026 surrounded by her family.

She was born on November 9, 1935 in Davis City, Iowa to George Oscar and Inez Josephine (Hogue) Dunbar, who preceded her in death.

Also preceding her in death was her husband, Billy Ray Brown; her son-in-law, David Griffin; her grandson, Bobby Holland; great-great-granddaughter, Iris Marina; five brothers and three sisters.

Survivors include her son, Larry Ray Brown of Exeter, Mo.; her daugh-

ters, Teresa Griffin of Bashor, Kan., Carolyn Holland and her husband Larry of Pahrump, Nev., Linda Rajean Marlowe and her husband Phillip of Cassville, Mo., Sandra Shockley and her husband Ron of Exeter, Mo., Laura Hollingsworth of Exeter, Mo., and Ruby Ellen Brown of Springfield, Mo.; 13 grandchildren; 34 great grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren, with another one on the way and numerous nieces, nephews, and friends who will cherish her memory.

She graduated from Cassville High School in Cassville, Mo. with the Class of 1953. She worked in the motor repair department at FASCO Industries in Cassville until her retirement in 1995. She also owned and operated the Skelly Station in Butterfield, Mo., and Bates Corner in Cassville, Mo. She was baptized at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Cassville.

A memorial graveside service honoring Jeanetta will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at Maplewood Cemetery

in Exeter, Mo., under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville. Jamey Grey will conduct the service.

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Visit [www.fohnfuneralhome.com](http://www.fohnfuneralhome.com) for online obituaries, guestbooks and private condolences



**JO ANN CORN**

Jo Ann Corn, 83, of Seligman, Mo., passed away on Friday, June 26, 2026, at her home surrounded by her loving family.

She was born on January 24, 1943, in Bush, Ark., to Orville and Ruby (Robinette) Lundy. She is preceded in

death by her husband Johnny Corn; two brothers, her twin that died at birth, and Billy Lundy; and one sister Elsie Corn.

Survivors include three sons, Richard D. Corn, of Afton, Oklah., Robert "Little Bob" Corn, of Grove, Oklah., and Ron Corn and his wife, Angie, of Seligman; six grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.

She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and friend.

She was very active in the Seligman Senior Center, her church family at the First Baptist Church of Seligman, and numerous community events.

A graveside service will be held Wednesday, July 1, 2026, at Seligman City Cemetery with Pastor Brent Ferguson officiating; the family will receive friends from 11:00 until the time of service at White Funeral Home and Crematory in Cassville, Mo.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and entrusted to the funeral home.

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

**White Funeral Home**  
and Crematory  
Online condolences and webcasting of the funeral services may be found at [www.whitefuneralhome.org](http://www.whitefuneralhome.org)  
417-847-8100 or 417-858-8400



**MISTY DAWN  
HICKS HIPKINS**

Misty Dawn Hicks Hipkins, 46, of Stella, Mo., passed away on June 26, 2026, at her home in Stella. She was born on June 23, 1980, in Monett, Mo., to Lonnie and Eileen Hicks, who preceded her in death.

Also preceding her in

death was two brothers, Keith Burwell and Jason Burwell; and one sister, Brittany Burwell.

Survivors include her husband Robert "Ross" Hipkins; three daughters, Hailey Hipkins of the home, Savanna Hipkins of Purdy, Mo., and Kyla Hicks and Julie England of Joplin, Mo.; siblings, Eddie Burwell of Exeter, Mo.; Sheila and Keith Young, affectionately known as "Nana and Pa," of Ridgley, Mo.; Dean and Misty Burwell of Joplin, Mo.; Wendy and Terry Testerman of Cassville, Mo.; Debbie Hicks of Cassville, Mo.; and Wendy Smith and James Tacker of Lebanon, Mo., and four adopted grandbabies.

Her adventurous spirit and appreciation for life's simple treasures brought joy to those around her.

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

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and Crematory  
Online condolences and webcasting of the funeral services may be found at [www.whitefuneralhome.org](http://www.whitefuneralhome.org)  
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## Contract: New tasers to replace model deemed obsolete

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

five-year agreement that expired in early June and follows nearly a year of research into available options.

"I had been working about this time last year on getting pricing and quotes together for the

renewal and seeing if we were going to stay with Axon or go a different way," Privett said. "In the middle of that, we discovered that the pricing was significantly more than what we anticipated."

As he reviewed the department's previous agreement, Privett discovered the lower annual payments under the former contract had been made possible by a large upfront investment.

"In 2021, we paid \$87,000 down on the equipment, and that was able to get our yearly contract price down to \$12,000 and some change," Privett said. "We utilized the American Rescue Plan Act COVID money. I was unaware that we did that. I just thought we got a \$12,000-a-year contract."

When the renewal

proposal arrived, the higher annual cost initially caught Privett off guard.

"When I went to get the renewal from Axon and they hit me with the \$37,000 a year, I was like, 'No, no, no, no,'" Privett said.

After evaluating proposals from five vendors, Privett said remaining with Axon ultimately offered the best long-term value.

"We looked at the cost, and I had five different quotes from five different vendors," Privett said. "One of them had a pretty decent price, and then they said they don't offer vehicle installations. You have to find that yourself."

Finding an installer presented another challenge.

"The people I talked to about installing it couldn't even talk to me about it unless we had the product in our hand that they could look at," Privett said.

The experiences of other agencies also factored into the department's decision.

"When I was in Command College, there were 41 of us in that class, and the majority of them used Axon or were going to Axon," Privett said. "The ones that couldn't go to Axon, it boiled down to pricing."

"We locked in 2026 pricing for cameras, both hardware and software, for the next 10 years. We also locked in Tasers — 13 of those, to be exact

— that replace our very aged Taser X26Ps that are basically obsolete unless you buy them from third parties."

Beyond the equipment itself, the contract includes officer training and technology services.

"That also covers training, certification for instructors and cartridges for the length of the contract that we don't have to pay for because it's part of our contract price," Privett said.

The agreement also maintains the department's digital evidence system.

"It handles all the video," Privett said. "We can integrate body cam, dash cam, do our redactions for FOIA requests and open records requests. It does it all."

Changing vendors would have created additional expenses, he said.

"Staying with Axon, we weren't having to go back and pay for our data or pay for a license so somebody could access our data if we were to go with a different vendor," Privett said.

Privett said locking in pricing now also protects the city from anticipated increases.

"The contract locks us in at the pricing right now versus having to rebuy them in five years," Privett said. "They anticipate a 7% increase in five years. That's why we went with a 10-year contract."

Even if the agreement is not renewed at the end

of its term, the department will still have modern equipment.

"It puts us with cameras for the next 10 to 15 years," Privett said. "If you don't renew the contract at the end of the 10 years, you'll have new equipment. You can make it another five years with a usage agreement."

The department also plans to seek assistance through a grant program to offset costs.

"We're hoping to use the contributions of the Blue Shield grant program to help offset some of this contract cost," Privett said. "I've heard anywhere from \$20,000 to \$30,000, but I don't have an exact figure."

Most of the new equipment has already arrived, and installation is expected soon.

"I think I've got pretty much everything here in my office," Privett said. "I'm just waiting on communication from Axon for when they're going to come down to train our instructors and do the vehicle installs."

Ultimately, Privett said the investment is about ensuring officers have the tools they need while protecting both law enforcement and the public.

"It was a huge purchase, and I understand that," Privett said. "I don't want to put an officer out here on the street without a body camera. It's best all around for everybody if we're able to have those."

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# Round up for veterans this July with Missouri State Parks

Beginning July 1, Missouri State Parks is offering visitors to state parks and historic sites the opportunity to honor the men and women who have served the country through the Veterans Roundup Program.

Visitors will have the chance to round up their purchases to the nearest dollar, with the funds raised going to programs that recognize and benefit veterans.

"Every contribution, no matter how small, helps support events,

such as the popular Hero Deer Hunt and Veteran Deer Hunt," a State Parks press release said.

"Our parks are places of reflection, connection and community," said Laura Hendrickson, Missouri State Parks director. "This initiative is about more than just raising funds. It is a purposeful way to express our gratitude for the service, sacrifice and commitment for those who have served our country. Veterans' contributions have helped preserve the

freedoms and opportunities we enjoy every day."

Normally, the money raised from the round up program is used at the park where the purchase is made. However, in July all funds raised will go toward helping fund special events and programs for veterans.

For more information on state parks and historic sites, visit [mostateparks.com](http://mostateparks.com). The Division of State Parks is part of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

## Barry County Health Corner



### A bad septic system is a crappy problem

Septic systems are the unsung heroes of public health, treating wastewater for roughly one in five U.S. homes.

When functioning properly, your septic system safely filters dangerous bacteria, viruses, and excess nutrients out of household sewage before recycling the water back into the environment.

The Barry County Health Department helps ensure onsite septic systems are sized and designed to allow for proper treatment of wastewater to protect our community by permitting new systems, replacement systems and repairs.

To protect your household, community and the environment around you contact the Barry County Health Department at 417-847-2114 before repairing, replacing or installing a septic system.

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

## Mayor: Criminal summons issued; initial appearance set for Aug. 13

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Seligman was hosting its monthly Board of Aldermen meeting, and at some point during the open meeting, Avers allegedly stated he was a convicted felon. Seligman Police Chief Matt Phillips was in attendance at the meeting and heard the admission, and the meeting was recorded on video. On Jan. 13, Phillips contacted the Patrol to initiate an investigation,

citing a conflict of interest.

On March 4, Mason interviewed Avers and informed him of the documents signed prior to becoming an alderman. Per the documents, Avers allegedly acknowledged that he was not a convicted felon. Avers allegedly admitted that he read and signed the legal document and was aware a felony conviction

was a disqualifying factor. Avers also indicated, to his knowledge, he was not a convicted felon.

Per Avers' criminal history report, On Oct. 26, 2011, he was arrested for two counts of felony distribution, delivery or manufacture of a controlled substance, and two counts of first-degree endangering the welfare of a child.

On April 26, 2012, Avers pleaded guilty to all three counts and received a suspended imposition of sentence (probation) on the charges.

Five years of probation on the drug charge was completed on April 27, 2017. Avers also received five years of probation on each of the child endangerment charges. According to the criminal history report,

Avers completed probation on one of the charges on Dec. 4, 2013, and the second on April 27, 2017.

Mason said as a result of the convictions, Avers would have been disqualified from serving as a public official until his probation had been completed, however, Avers allegedly signed multiple documents in 2015 and 2016 indicating he pos-

sessed the requirements to hold public office.

A criminal summons was issued to Avers on June 22 for a hearing on July 30 at 8:30 a.m. in the courtroom of Judge Robert Foulke. Following a motion for continuance filed by his attorney, Michael Riehn, Avers is scheduled for an initial appearance on Aug. 13 at 8:30 a.m. in Foulke's courtroom.

## Concerns: Draft permit requires 24/7 leak protection equipment

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

administrator for the city of Cassville, respectively, were among those in attendance at the public meeting.

"It's not just the storage tanks and their contents that I'm worried about," Horner said. "The tanks are being built for a purpose, and that purpose will include land-applying sludge to fields around here.

"Denali already has a bad track record. We've had two major spills in Barry County, alone, and we don't yet know what the long-term impact of those spills will be."

Almost three years ago, a sludge tanker overturned and spilled its load along Missouri Highway 76, east of

Cassville, near Lohmer Tower. In December 2022, another tanker split open and spilled its contents on private property on Washburn Prairie, a sensitive area within Roaring River Spring's 47-square-mile recharge area.

"Cassville is called the 'City of Seven Valleys' for a good reason," Horner said. "Those valleys funnel water into Flat Creek and Roaring River Spring. We don't want the odor of land-applied sludge impacting visitors to Cassville and Roaring River State Park. Nor do we want it impacting the spring water itself."

More than one million people visit Roaring River State Park every

year, which ranks in the top five most-visited of Missouri's 93 state parks and historic sites.

Horner also expressed concern about the long-term impact of sludge-application on property values.

"We've been hearing from citizens and business owners who fear what will become of our town if it starts smelling like sludge," Horner said. "Cassville takes great pride in being called 'America's Real Hometown - the Home of Roaring River State Park.' We don't want the stigma associated with sludge to harm our well-earned image."

As the city administrator of Cassville, Asbill

is familiar with the operation of the city's wastewater treatment facility, which he compared to that of Cassville wastewater-residual sludge storage tank, planned for a site just a mile or so north of a known cave system: Crystal Caverns.

"We have someone monitoring Cassville's wastewater system around the clock - 24/7," Asbill said. "But, that isn't in the plans for this proposed wastewater storage tank. It could be hours or days before anybody became aware of a problem if one developed."

The DNR's draft permit for the storage tanks includes the requirement for a 24/7 leak-detection

system that will sound an alert if there's a leak from the storage tank, but there is no requirement for an around-the-clock physical presence. Leak detection equipment must be checked monthly, to ensure that it's in working order.

Any unauthorized leaks or discharges must be reported to the DNR as soon as possible within 24 hours, the draft permit states.

Horner questioned why the DNR proposes to permit the land-application of sludge at all in Missouri.

"Why are they letting Arkansas businesses bring Arkansas' and other states' waste into Missouri to use us for

a dumping ground?" Horner asked.

The question has yet to be answered.

Cassville resident Don Craig isn't optimistic that Thursday's DNR meeting accomplished much.

"The meeting was a formality; just a box they had to check," he said.

Heather Peters, chief of the Water Pollution Section of the DNR, stated that her department will move forward with perfecting the language of land-application permits for food and meat-processing residuals after the storage tank permits are approved.

The draft permit for the Cassville storage tank can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/55asbm7r>.

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# ELECTION 2026



## BARRY COUNTY PRESIDING COMMISSIONER



**Editor's note:** The following Q&As represent the candidates' views verbatim, as submitted via email in response to our questions, and have not been edited. The Republican Primary will be held Aug. 4, with voters allowed to select one candidate. The top vote-getter will be unopposed in the Nov. 3 General Election. - KT

**1. Why do you want to win this position?**  
I am running for re election because I care about the future of our county and want to help it to grow and thrive and be a place our kids and grandkids can find good jobs and be able to stay in Barry County and prosper. We can do that by focusing on economic development updating vital infrastructure and maintaining strict fiscal responsibility with our tax dollars.

**2. What are your qualifications to be Presiding Commissioner?**  
I can say that owning operating and managing a dairy farm and a cow calf beef operation, being the fire chief at Jenkins Fire Department for a couple of years, working in the construction field for a few years and being a squad leader when I was in the Marine Corps and serving as a reserve deputy sheriff have all helped me to be diversified in my knowledge. Serving as commissioner for the last 3 and a half years I have learned even more. I believe that being well rounded in your life experiences is one of the main qualifications.

**3. What are the biggest financial challenges facing the county currently?**  
Right now the county is probably in the best financial shape we have ever been in so I would say our biggest challenge making sure we stay that way.

**4. Do you believe the commission is currently**



**Steve Blankenship**

**spending taxpayer dollars efficiently? Why or why not?**

Yes I do. We go over the budget very carefully every year with the other office holders and try to be very conservative with every dollar and we have come in under budget the last couple of years.

**5. What areas of county spending would you prioritize, and where would you look for savings or cuts?**

Since I have been in office I have made Law Enforcement one of my priorities as well as infrastructure such as bridges in the county. As I said in question 4 we go over our budget very close, I won't say there is not room for improvement but between the treasurer clerk and the three commissioners we don't have much wasteful spending. We are being

Audited by the state auditor, just a routine audit we will see if they have any suggestions on where we can improve. I'm sure they will.

**6. What role should the county play in future growth in Cassville, Monett, the lake area and other smaller towns in the county?**

As the presiding commissioner I sat on the Missouri Association of Counties [MAC] community and economic development steering committee last year and the cities of Cassville, Monett, Mt Vernon, Aurora and Barry and Lawrence counties are working on an regional economic alliance plan to help all of our area grow economically. The county and cities And small communities have to work together to bring growth to our area.

**1. Why do you want to win this position?**  
I love Barry County. Over the last ten years, I've had the opportunity to serve alongside a lot of great people and organizations throughout our communities. I've seen firsthand what makes this county special and I want to help protect those things while also helping us prepare for the future. I believe Barry County's best days are still ahead of us and I'd be honored to play a role in that.

**2. What are your qualifications to be Presiding Commissioner?**  
I've spent much of the last decade serving in volunteer leadership roles throughout Barry County. I've served on the Cassville School Board, Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, Barry County Fair Board, South Barry County Ambulance Board, Cassville Community Foundation, Mineral Springs Special Road District, and other community organizations. More importantly, those experiences have allowed me to work alongside people from all walks of life and better understand the needs of our county.

**3. What are the biggest financial challenges facing the county currently?**  
One of the biggest challenges is the uncertainty surrounding future funding and tax policy at the state level. County government has to continue providing essential services while being prepared to



**Chad Johnson**

adapt to changes that may impact local revenues and budgets.

**4. Do you believe the commission is currently spending taxpayer dollars efficiently? Why or why not?**

Overall, yes. County government has a responsibility to be a good steward of taxpayer dollars, and I believe the current commission takes that responsibility seriously. That doesn't mean there aren't always opportunities to improve, but I believe decisions should be made thoughtfully and with the taxpayers in mind.

**5. What areas of county spending would you prioritize, and where would you look for savings or cuts?**

My priority would be making sure our county offices, emergency services, roads,

and infrastructure have the resources they need to serve residents effectively. Before looking at cuts, I would want to understand where efficiencies can be found and make sure taxpayer dollars are being used in the most effective way possible.

**6. What role should the county play in future growth in Cassville, Monett, the lake area and other smaller towns in the county?**

The county should be a partner. Every community in Barry County has unique needs and opportunities, but we all benefit when we work together. I believe strong communication and collaboration between county government, cities, schools, businesses, and community organizations will help us accomplish far more than working independently.



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## Cassville Health Care hosts carnival



A handmade quilt, displayed by Shelia, left, was created with the help of six residents over the course of a month. The quilt was being sold as a fundraiser at the Cassville Health Care and Rehabilitation carnival on Friday to benefit the facility's resident activity program. Gwendylan Harmon/Special to the Cassville Democrat



Attendees were served complimentary slushies by the Kona Ice truck throughout the Cassville Health Care and Rehabilitation carnival on Friday. Gwendylan Harmon/Special to the Cassville Democrat



One of the most popular attractions outside the Cassville Health Care and Rehabilitation carnival on Friday was the dunk tank, where attendees could pay \$5 for the chance to dunk a participant. Gwendylan Harmon/Special to the Cassville Democrat



Social Services Director Tammy poses with a baby goat from the petting zoo during the Cassville Health Care and Rehabilitation carnival on Friday. Gwendylan Harmon/Special to the Cassville Democrat

# 50TH ANNUAL FIRE AND THUNDER FIREWORKS

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## EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS



Purdy's Gabriella Groomer, left, Lauren Brooks and Coach Lori Videmschek celebrate the Lady Eagles' victory in the state quarterfinal game against Lockwood. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

# Lady Eagles softball meets goals, takes 3rd in Class 1

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

A 3-6 start to the season was no setback or the relatively young Purdy softball team, as the Lady Eagles turned their results around to wind up taking third place in Class 1 with a 6-1 win over Plato to cap an 18-9 campaign.

Purdy softball coach Lori Videmschek said the Eagles' return to the Final Four and third-place finish at state was a product of a young team figuring things out as the season progressed, then playing some of its best softball when it mattered most.

"They did better than I thought we would do," Videmschek said. "I thought we would have a chance, but I didn't know if we could get past Lockwood. That was going to be a real key test for us."

Purdy's season did not begin with the type of

### PURDY SOFTBALL

Record: 18-9

Last result: 6-1 win over Plato to take third place in Class 1

More: Team proud of third-place finish at state

record that would suggest a state-trophy finish. Videmschek said the Lady Eagles opened the year at 3-6, but much of that came against a difficult early schedule.

"I think the only Class 1 schools that we played the first 10 games were Sweet Springs and Lockwood," she said. "Everybody else was teams like Diamond, which we beat, Ash Grove, Mount Vernon and Springfield Catholic. We started off pretty rough."

Videmschek said the Lady Eagles never splintered through that stretch, instead staying together long enough to discover what kind of team they could become.

"The kids held things together," she said. "They started taking things out and they just continued to work hard and we did what we needed to do to win."

After the slow start, Purdy rattled off 9 wins in its next 10 games.

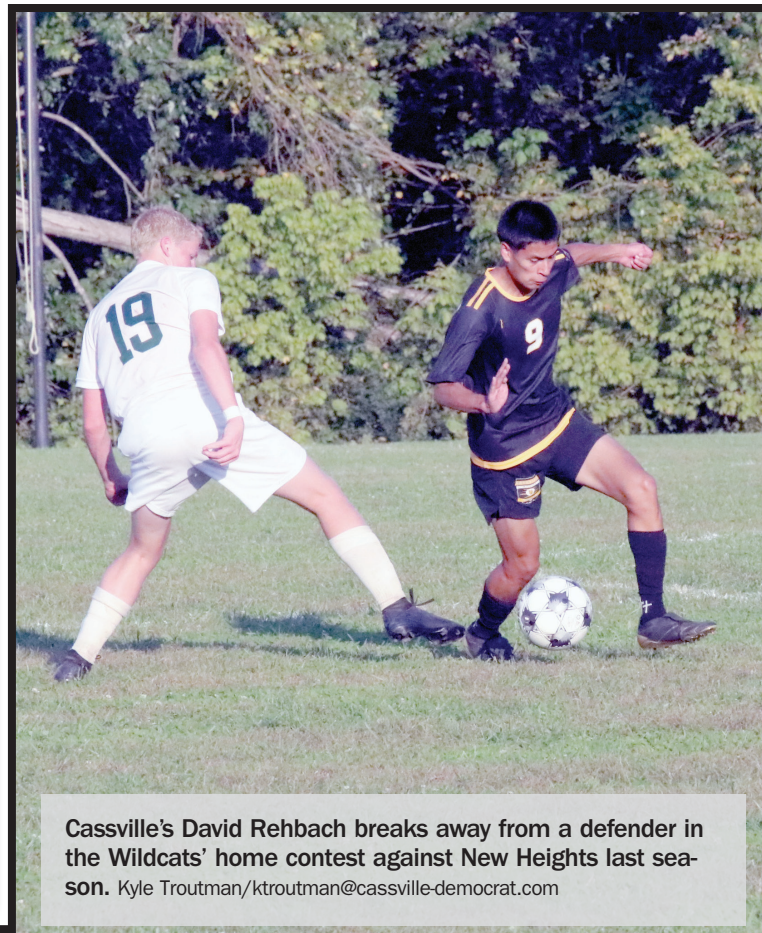
"I think we finally figured it out what it's going to take to get better," Videmschek said. "We started working a little different in our preparation and at practice. I think a little bit of it was these kids had to get out of their comfort zone, to understand what it takes to get out of their comfort zone and work a little harder to win."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7B

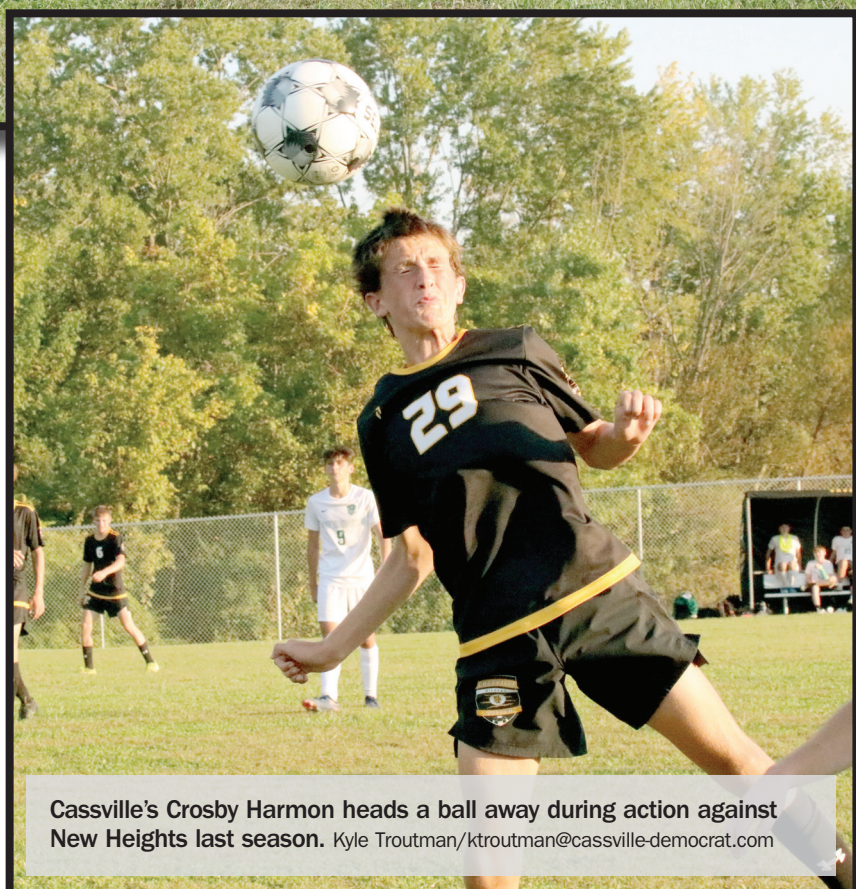
## Year in Photos — Cassville boys soccer



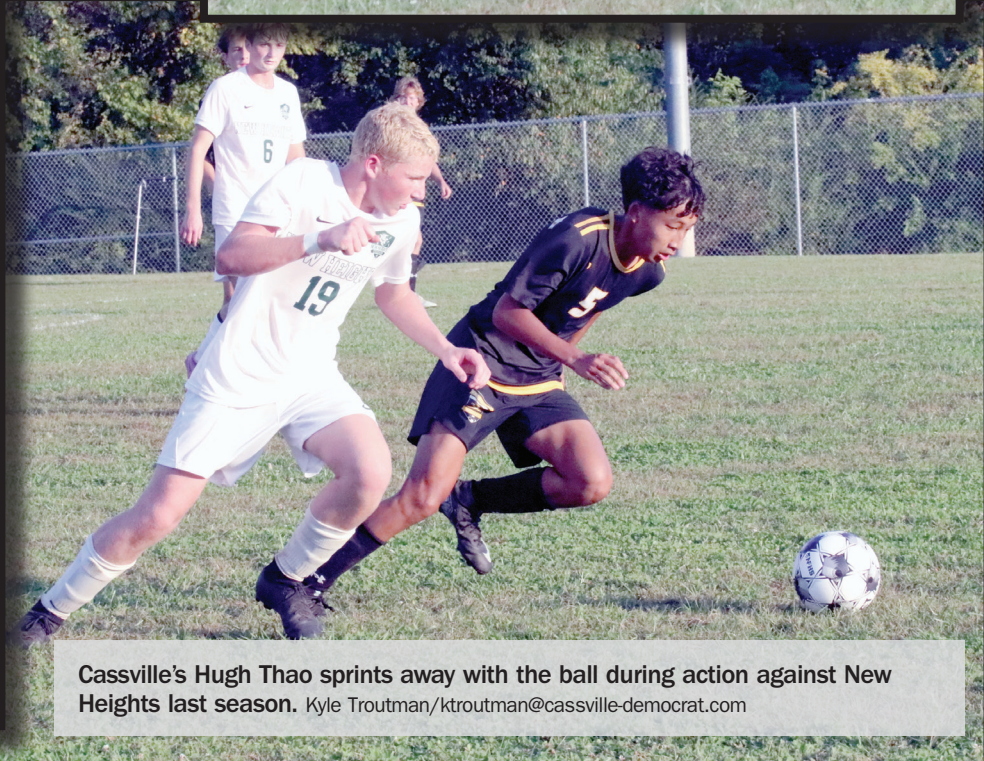
Cassville's Kaid Williams protects the ball from a New Heights defender in a home contest last season. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com



Cassville's David Rehbach breaks away from a defender in the Wildcats' home contest against New Heights last season. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com



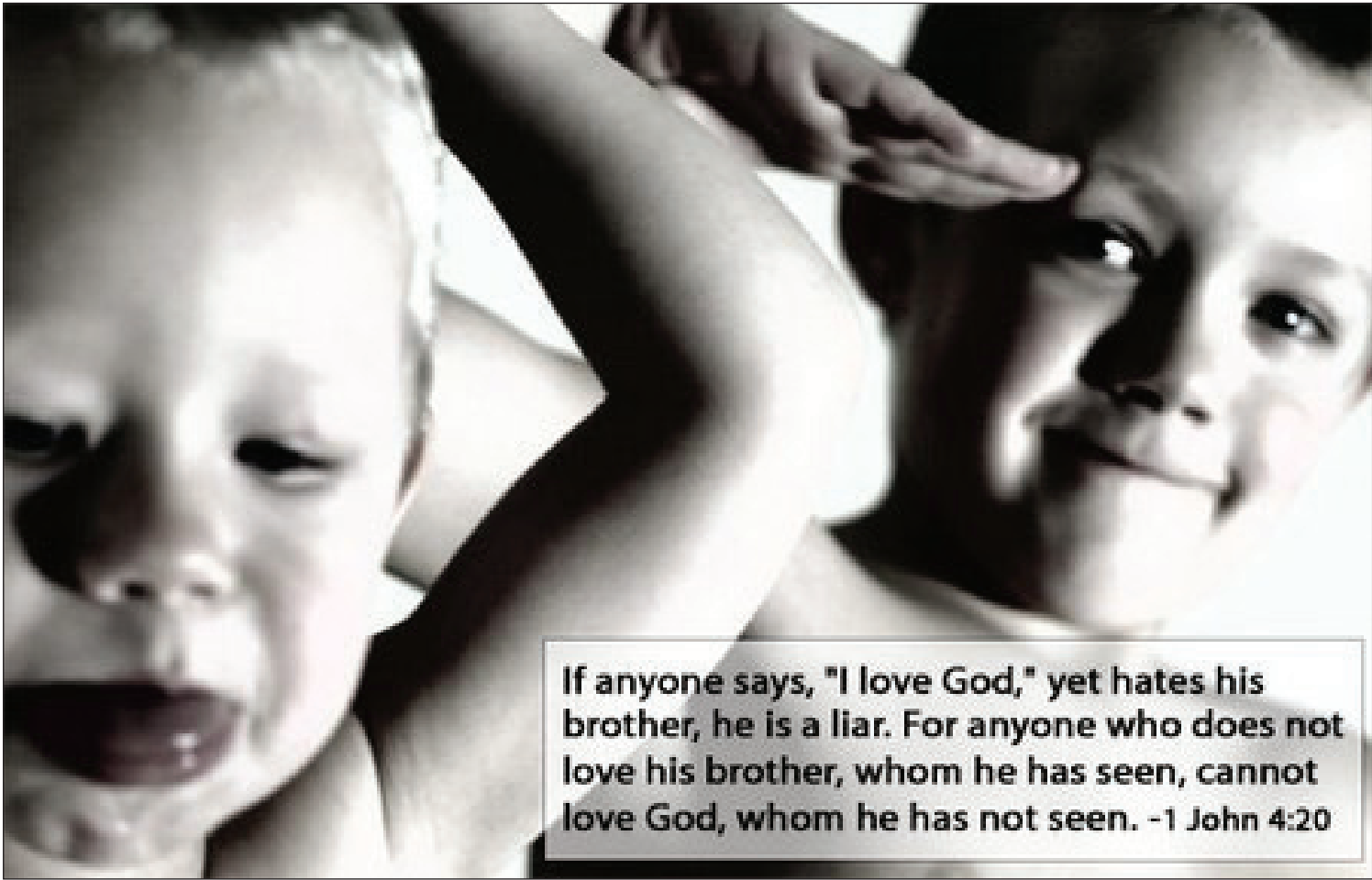
Cassville's Crosby Harmon heads a ball away during action against New Heights last season. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com



Cassville's Hugh Thao sprints away with the ball during action against New Heights last season. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

# CASSVILLE AREA DEVOTIONAL PAGE

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If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. -1 John 4:20

## BIBLE VERSE:

"The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your love, O Lord, endures forever — do not abandon the works of your hands."

— PSALM 138:8

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EDWARD PARISH</b><br/>                 107 17th St., Cassville<br/>                 847-4948</p> <p><b>CHURCH OF CHRIST</b><br/> <b>CASSVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST</b><br/>                 404 State Hwy 248 Cassville, MO, 65625<br/>                 Normal worship time, 10 a.m.<br/>                 916-539-4708<br/>                 cassvillechurchofchrist.com<br/> <b>CHURCH OF CHRIST</b><br/>                 Hwy. 90 E., Washburn<br/>                 826-5890<br/> <b>CHURCH OF CHRIST</b><br/>                 39 Lake Rd., Shell Knob<br/>                 858-3839<br/> <b>CHURCH OF CHRIST</b><br/>                 Goosetree Hwy. 86, Wheaton<br/>                 652-3873<br/> <b>CHURCH OF CHRIST</b><br/>                 1104 Mill St., Cassville<br/>                 847-2374</p> <p><b>CHURCH OF GOD APOSTOLIC FAITH</b><br/> <b>GOLDEN CHURCH OF GOD</b></p> | <p>Hwy. 86, Golden<br/>                 271-3134<br/> <b>SPIRITUAL STREAMS FELLOWSHIP</b><br/>                 Hwy. 112, Cassville<br/>                 846-6339</p> <p><b>EPISCOPAL</b><br/> <b>ST. THOMAS À BECKET</b><br/>                 Hwy. 112 and State Hwy. AA, Cassville<br/>                 846-2155</p> <p><b>LUTHERAN</b><br/> <b>COMMUNITY LUTHERAN</b><br/>                 Hwy. 86, Eagle Rock<br/>                 271-4383<br/> <b>PEACE LUTHERAN</b><br/>                 N. Hwy. 39, Shell Knob<br/>                 858-3900</p> <p><b>METHODIST</b><br/> <b>ALL FAITH UNITED METHODIST</b><br/>                 Hwy. 86, Eagle Rock<br/>                 271-3737<br/> <b>CASSVILLE UNITED METHODIST</b><br/>                 7th &amp; Gravel, Cassville<br/>                 847-2328<br/> <b>UNITED METHODIST</b><br/>                 Hwy. YY, Shell Knob<br/>                 858-6707<br/> <b>WASHBURN UNITED METHODIST</b><br/>                 Washburn<br/>                 Corner of 1st and North, Washburn<br/> <b>WHEATON UNITED METHODIST</b><br/>                 101 Santee St., Wheaton<br/>                 652-3858</p> <p><b>THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS</b><br/> <b>CASSVILLE BRANCH</b><br/>                 3426 County Farm Road<br/>                 Sunday, 10 a.m.<br/>                 417-986-3161</p> <p><b>NAZARENE</b><br/> <b>CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b><br/>                 Business Hwy. 37 N., Cassville<br/>                 417-619-1498</p> <p><b>PENTECOSTAL</b><br/> <b>LIGHTHOUSE PENTECOSTAL</b><br/>                 Hwy. 86 &amp; P St., Eagle Rock<br/>                 271-4929</p> | <p><b>NEW LIFE TEMPLE</b><br/>                 Business Hwy. 37 N., Cassville<br/>                 847-3106<br/> <b>GRACE POINT FELLOWSHIP</b><br/>                 Washburn Community Building<br/>                 479-366-2561<br/> <b>NEW LIFE TABERNACLE</b><br/>                 30755 State Hwy. 37, Seligman<br/>                 662-0076</p> <p><b>PRESBYTERIAN</b><br/> <b>TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN</b><br/>                 Hwy. 39 N., Shell Knob<br/>                 858-3902<br/> <b>WALDENSIAN PRESBYTERIAN</b><br/>                 1 mi. S. of Monett<br/>                 235-3337</p> <p><b>OTHER</b><br/> <b>BELIEVERS FULL GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP</b><br/>                 1st. &amp; South St., Washburn<br/>                 826-5875<br/> <b>BLESSING HEIGHTS WORSHIP CENTER</b><br/>                 1107 Farm Rd., Cassville<br/>                 847-4061<br/> <b>CASSVILLE SDA</b><br/>                 Old Exeter Rd. &amp; Hwy. 37, Cassville<br/>                 847-3622<br/> <b>BODY OF CHRIST</b><br/>                 Wheaton, 417-652-3709<br/> <b>COMMUNITY FAITH CHAPEL</b><br/>                 13372 State Hwy. 248, Cassville<br/>                 847-4643<br/> <b>GOD'S HEALING CENTER</b><br/>                 Seligman, 662-3118<br/> <b>EAGLE ROCK COMMUNITY CHURCH</b><br/>                 Hwy. 86, Eagle Rock<br/>                 342-0516<br/> <b>FIRST CHRISTIAN</b><br/>                 Hwy. 39 N., Shell Knob<br/>                 858-8200<br/> <b>FIRST CHRISTIAN</b><br/>                 Old Exeter Rd. &amp; Hwy. 37, Cassville<br/>                 847-2460<br/> <b>GOD'S HEALING CENTER</b><br/>                 Seligman, 662-3118<br/> <b>LAKEIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b><br/>                 22321 Oak Ridge Drive, Shell Knob<br/>                 278-6674<br/> <b>OZARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b><br/>                 Hwy. 37, N. of Purdy<br/>                 442-3361<br/> <b>REAL LIFE WORSHIP CENTER</b><br/>                 709 W. 10th St., Cassville</p> |
|--|--|---|---|--|

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# 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**

**NOTICE OF CHANGE IN CONTROL OF A STATE MEMBER BANK OR BANK HOLDING COMPANY**

John H. Garrett, individually and as Trustee of each of the Filip J. Garrett Bank Trust u/a/d March 20, 2024, Sara E. Garrett Bank Trust u/a/d March 20, 2024, John H. Garrett Bank Trust u/a/d March 20, 2024, and Ida M. Garrett Bank Trust u/a/d March 20, 2024, all of Southport, North Carolina, Jeffrey S. Scott, individually and as Trustee of each of the Hayden Scott Trust created under the Sharon K. Garrett Revocable Trust dated November 1, 2000, as amended, and the Avery Scott Trust created under the Sharon K. Garrett Revocable Trust dated November 1, 2000, as amended, all of Purdy, Missouri, Tyler Scott, Purdy, Missouri, Shelby McCaffrey, Purdy, Missouri, Richard W. Scott, Purdy, Missouri, Sara E. Garrett, Springfield, Missouri, Ida M. Garrett, Springfield, Missouri, and Filip J. Garrett, Springfield, Missouri, a group acting in concert, intend to apply to the Federal Reserve Board for permission to acquire 25 percent or more of the shares and thereby control of Purdy Bancshares, Inc., Monett, Missouri. Purdy Bancshares, Inc. controls First State Bank of Purdy, Purdy, Missouri. The Federal Reserve considers a number of factors in deciding whether to approve the notice.

You are invited to submit comments in writing on this notice to the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, P.O. Box 442, St. Louis, MO 63166-0442. Comments may also be submitted electronically to comments.applications@stls.frb.org. The comment period will not end before July 7, 2026, and may be somewhat longer. The Board's procedures for processing applications may be found at 12 C.F.R. Part 262.25. To obtain a copy of the Federal Reserve Board's procedures, or if you need more information about how to submit your comments on the notice, contact Holly Rieser, Senior Manager, at (314) 444-4713. The Federal Reserve will consider your comments and any request for a public meeting or formal hearing on the notice if they are received in writing by the Reserve Bank on or before the last day of the comment period.

1st insertion 06/17/26  
 23-26

**BIDS**

The City of Seligman is accepting bids to clear approximately 450' of fence line with trees and brush, then install a new 5 strand barb wire fence.

Bids will be accepted through August 3rd. Additional information can be found on the City website under the parks & recreation page.

1st insertion 07/01/26  
 25-27

**NOTICE**

Pioneer Road District Quarterly Meeting  
 July 23rd at 7:00 pm at the Wheaton Volunteer Fire Department building  
 407 E Hurlbut in Wheaton.  
 Only insertion 07/01/26  
 25

**BIDS**

The Shell Knob School District #78 is soliciting **PROPANE BIDS** for the 2026-2027 school year. Specifications and Information may be obtained by emailing Christy Copeland at copeland@shellknob78.com. All bids should be sealed and mailed or hand-delivered to the Shell Knob School Board, 24400 State Highway 39, Shell Knob, MO. 65747. All bids must be received by 3:00 P.M. July 15, 2026. All bids will be opened at the regular board meeting on July 20, 2026 and the successful bidder will be determined. The Board reserves the right to accept/reject any or all bids.

By Order of the Shell Knob Board of Education  
 Christy Copeland, Board Secretary  
 Only insertion 07/01/26  
 25

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

MADALENA C. RACANELLI, Plaintiff,  
 Vs.  
 ROCKY ELSEY

If they be living or their unborn or unknown Heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, donees, alienees, legatees, administrators, executors, guardians, mortgagees, trustees, consorts and legal representatives, spouses and all Other persons, corporations or successors claiming by, through and under them.

Case No: 26BR-CC 00091  
 Defendants.

**NOTICE OF ORDER OF PUBLICATION**

The State of Missouri is Defendant,  
 Rocky Elsey  
**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** that an action has been commenced against

you in the Circuit Court, Barry County, Missouri, the object and general nature of which is a Quiet Title Suit, and which affects the following described Property:

All of Lots 5 and 6, Block 4, Oklahoma Addition to the City of Wheaton, Barry County, Missouri.

The names of all the parties to said suit are stated above in the caption hereof and the name and address of the attorney for Plaintiff is Blake B. Fields, 605 Main Street, Cassville, Missouri, 65625.

**YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED** that, unless you file an answer or other pleading or shall otherwise appear and defend against the aforesaid Petition within 45 days after the 1st day of July 2026, judgment by default will be rendered against you.

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

A true copy for the record.  
 Witness by hand and the seal of the circuit court this 25th day of June 2026.  
 Craig Williams  
 BY H.C.  
 Barry County Circuit Clerk

FIRST PUBLICATION: 07/01/2026

SECOND PUBLICATION: 07/08/2026

THIRD PUBLICATION: 07/15/2026

FOURTH PUBLICATION: 07/22/2026

1st insertion 07/01/26  
 25-28

**PROBATE**

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

In the Estate of ELDON WAYNE GILLENWATER, Deceased.  
 Case Number: 26BR-

PR00079

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

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of ELDON WAYNE GILLENWATER, Decedent:

On JUNE 3, 2026, the last will of Decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was appointed personal representative of the estate of ELDON WAYNE GILLENWATER, decedent by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of BARRY COUNTY, Missouri.

The name and business address of the personal representative is:  
 ELDON GILLENWATER JR,  
 27015 FARM ROAD 1197,  
 EAGLE ROCK, MO 65641-8122

The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is:  
 HARRY D SCHWARTZ,  
 702 WEST ST, PO BOX 276,  
 CASSVILLE, MO 65625,  
 417-847-2734.

All creditors of said decedent are notified to file claims in court within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice or if a copy of this notice was mailed to, or served upon, such creditor by the personal representative, then within two months from the date it was mailed or served, whichever is later, or be forever barred to the fullest extent permissible by law. Such six-month period and such two-month period do not extend the limitation period that would bar claims one year after Decedent's death, as

provided in Section 473.444, RSMo, or any other applicable limitation periods. Nothing in Section 473.033, RSMo, shall be construed to bar any action against a decedent's liability insurance carrier through a defendant ad litem pursuant to Section 537.021, RSMo.

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

Date of first publication: JUNE 10, 2026

Date of second publication: JUNE 17, 2026

Date of third publication: JUNE 24, 2026

Date of fourth publication: JULY 1, 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 06/10/26  
 22-25

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

In the Estate of JOANNA OGANESYAN, Deceased.  
 Case Number: 26BR-PR00058

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

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of JOANNA OGANESYAN, Decedent:

On May 29, 2026, the following individual was appointed the personal representative of the estate of JOANNA OGANESYAN, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri.

The personal representative's business address is:  
 SAM MADSEN,  
 102 WEST STREET, SUITE 5,  
 CASSVILLE, MO 65625.

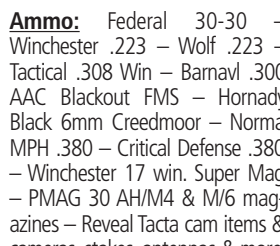
The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is:  
 HARRY DANIEL SCHWARTZ,  
 702 WEST ST, PO BOX 276,  
 CASSVILLE, MO 65625,  
 417-847-2734.

## REAL ESTATE AUCTION

**Monday, July 6, 2026 — 10 AM**

**Location:** 24920 St. Hwy 39, Shell Knob MO

**COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE – GUNS – AMMO – LOT'S OF COMMERCIAL SHELVING – MISC HARDWARE – MISC AUTOMOTIVE ITEMS – TOOLS – TRAILER – MISC**



**Ammo:** Federal 30-30 – Winchester .223 – Wolf .223 – Tactical .308 Win – Barnavl .300 AAC Blackout FMS – Hornady Black 6mm Creedmoor – Norma MPH .380 – Critical Defense .380 – Winchester 17 win. Super Mag – PMAG 30 AH/M4 & M/6 magazines – Reveal Tacta cam items & cameras, stakes, antennas & more.  
**Guns:** Glock 9mm – Heritage Rough Rider revolver .22 cal – Polymer 80 P80 – Keltec PLR.22 – Smith & Wesson M&P 9 Shield – Mossberg ATR 243 – Remington mdl 1100, 12 ga – Lead Star AR 15. 223 – Zaviar Arms Z15. **Shelving:** Gondola double sided shelving – lots of Industrial adjustable metal shelving – Kobalt wire shelving & more. **Tools:** US General roll around tool chest – pallet jack – (2) dolly's – misc wrenches – misc sockets – Dayco fact finder – collapsible shovels – sq shovel – scraper – shop stools – wire strippers. **Trailer:** 16' tandem axle, flat bed, drop gate trailer (new tires). **Hardware:** Copper washers – Hairpins – cotter pins – lynch pins – grease fittings – universal devis pins – studs – nuts & bolts – casters – pegboard hooks. **Automotive Items:** Hub bearings – vac plugs – head light screws – pilot brushings – external snap rings – carb clips – devis's – O ring assortment – automotive light bulbs – oil filters – Peak anti freeze – GM wheel. **Misc:** Die Cast cars & trucks – Rockford Fosgate motorsports audio, speakers, etc – car audio etc – JBL kicker – cast iron skillet – old food grinder – Yeti thermos – cleaning supplies – light bulbs – flood lights – misc wall & home décor – heat lights – 3 bar stools – large wicker chair – roll around cart – mirror – school desk – trash cans – patio storm shell for a TV – teak wood stool – display racks – large counter – misc wire – misc rope, more items not listed. **Commercial Real Estate:** Rusty has owned this building and operated the parts store in Shell Knob for over 20 years and not its time to let someone else have this fantastic location to make it what they want. This building is set up to have 2 separate store fronts with very little modification. Also many of the items to be sold are new or like new. Call 417-847-2507 to preview the real estate before auction day or to pre register. Go to [www.stumpffauction.com](http://www.stumpffauction.com) for more pictures and info. **Terms:** Cash or good check or credit card with 2 forms of current ID. Must have current drivers license to obtain bidders number. If buying guns pay with cash or credit card only!!!! If paying by check on large items, items will be held until check clears the auction co. bank. If paying with credit card a 5% convenience fee will apply. All sells as is where is with no warranty expressed or implied. Any announcements made day of auction supersede any and all printed material. **Commercial building:** This building is approx. 2,800 sq ft. It is a one story, red iron steel frame building. It has a steel roof & new steel siding on three sides. On the interior, the building was currently used as a retail auto parts store. The customer area is finished with vinyl tile flooring & the rear storage area has carpet flooring. The interior walls are lined & the building has a suspended acoustic tile ceiling. The rear of the building has a power roll up garage door with keypad entry for delivery of large items or freight. The building is heated & cooled with a HVAC system. The building is protected by a high quality security system. This system has a full battery & cellular backup. It monitors all doors and for motion. There is also a HD multi camera surveillance system inside and out. The building is located in the heart of Shell Knob on busy 39 Highway & has 100' of highway frontage. This location has a good car count & great walk in customer traffic. The property is approximately .5 acres & measures irregularly. Approx. 100'x200'. In front of the building is approx. 5,000 sq ft of concrete paved parking lot with paved entry. There is a well, well house & a 7 1/2 ft tall chain link fence on the back of the property. The security fence has 3 strand razor wire & measures approx. 50'x40'. Could be split to make 2 commercial locations. Hwy 39 frontage across from the Plaza. Previously Rusty's Auto Parts. 24920 St. Hwy 39. Great location for anything commercial. Call 417-847-2507 to view property before auction date. **Real Estate Terms:** Qualified buyers only w/pre-approved bank letter of approval. Nonrefundable 10% paid day of auction w/balance due in cash or certified funds within 30-45 days. Buyers and sellers will be responsible for their own portion of their closing cost. Taxes will be prorated to the date of close. Sells as is where is with no warranties or guarantees. Bidders, buyers, or agent of the buyer are responsible for conducting own inspection of property prior to auction and should rely solely upon their own due diligence and survey. This property is offered with absolutely no contingencies of any kind, no contingencies on financing, surveys, appraisals, or final walk throughs. Seller has the right to accept or reject final bid. A 10% buyer's premium will apply on Real Estate. Any announcements made day of auction supersede any and all printed material.

**Owner: Rusty Rickard**



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



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

**417-847-2507**



**Auctioneer:**  
 Parker Stumpff  
 AR State Champion  
 Auctioneer  
 #2352

July 1, 2026

Receipt of this notice by mail should not be construed by the recipient to indicate that the recipient necessarily has a beneficial interest in the estate. The nature and extent of any person's interest, if any, can be determined from the files and records of this estate in the Probate Division of the above referenced Circuit Court.  
 1st insertion 06/10/26  
 22-25

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

In the Estate of JANET LAVERNE SUMMERS, Deceased.  
 Case Number: 26BR-PR00064

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

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of JANET LAVERNE SUMMERS, Decedent:

On MAY 29, 2026, the following individual was appointed the personal representative of the estate of JANET LAVERNE SUMMERS, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri.

The personal representative's name and business address is:

SARA SUMMERS,  
 1722 LAME DEER RIDGE RD,  
 PROCTOR, OK 74457

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

JAMES J RANDALL,  
 P O BOX 151,  
 405 BROADWAY,  
 MONETT, MO 65708,  
 417-235-8688

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

S A M A N T H A PRESCOTT,  
 405 BROADWAY STREET,  
 MONETT, MO 65708,  
 417-235-8688

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

# CLASSIFIEDS/LEGALS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3B  
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: MARCH 22, 2026

Date of first publication: JUNE 10, 2026

Date of second publication: JUNE 17, 2026

Date of third publication: JUNE 24, 2026

Date of fourth publication: JULY 1, 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 06/10/26  
22-25

### IN THE 39TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI PROBATE

In the Estate of JAMES LAWRENCE HOUSER, Decedent.  
Case Number: 26BR-PR00056

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

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

On MAY 29, 2026, the last will of Decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was appointed personal representative of the estate of JAMES LAWRENCE HOUSER, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri.

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

WILLIAM D. HOUSER, 10000 N. CENTRAL EXPWY, STE. 800, DALLAS, TX 75231

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

ANGELA C. ARTHERTON, 10388 FARM ROAD 2172, CASSVILLE, MO 65625, (870) 688-0619

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

ANGELA C. ARTHERTON, 10388 FARM ROAD 2172, CASSVILLE, MO 65625, (870) 688-0619

All creditors of said decedent are notified to file claims in court within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice or if a copy of this notice was mailed to, or served upon, such creditor by the personal representative, then within two months from the date it was mailed or served, whichever is later, or be forever barred to the fullest extent permissible by law. Such six-month period 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 first publication: JUNE 24, 2026

Date of second publication: JULY 1, 2026

Date of third publication: JULY 8, 2026

Date of fourth publication: JULY 15, 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 06/24/26  
24-27

### IN THE 39TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI PROBATE

In the Estate of STEPHEN A. PEIFFER, Decedent.  
Case Number: 26BR-PR00076

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of STEPHEN A. PEIFFER, Decedent:

On MAY 26, 2026, the following individual was appointed the personal

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 06/17/26  
23-26

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

In the Estate of DORIS M. VAUGHAN, Decedent.  
case Number: 26BR-PR00073

NOTICE OF LETTERS TESTAMENTARY GRANTED (SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION) TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF

DORIS M. VAUGHAN, Decedent:

On MAY 28, 2026, the last will of Decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was appointed personal representative of the estate of DORIS M. VAUGHAN, decedent by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of BARRY COUNTY, Missouri.

The name and business address of the personal representative is:

LAURIE ETTER, 1316 6TH ST, MONETT MO 65708-1131

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

RYAN F RICKETTS, 278 SOUTH HIGHWAY SIXTY PO BOX 517, MARIONVILLE, MO 65705, 417-258-7000

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 insurance carrier through a defendant ad litem pursuant to Section 537.021, RSMo.

Date of the decedent's death: 09-JUL-2025

Date of first publication: JUNE 24, 2026

Date of second publication: JULY 1, 2026

Date of third publication: JULY 8, 2026

Date of fourth publication: JULY 15, 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 06/24/26  
24-27

### IN THE 39TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI PROBATE

In the Estate of STEPHEN A. PEIFFER, Decedent.  
(Independent Administration - Non-Resident Fiduciary)

On MAY 26, 2026, the following individual was appointed the personal

representative of the estate of STEPHEN A. PEIFFER, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri. The personal representative may administer the estate independently without adjudication, order, or

direction of the Probate Division of the Circuit Court, unless a petition for supervised administration is made to and granted by the court.

The personal representative's name is: LAURA K PEIFFER

The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is: EDWARD E COX, 105 W VAN BUREN, PO BOX 518, CENTERVILLE, IA

On MAY 26, 2026, the following individual was appointed the personal

representative of the estate of STEPHEN A. PEIFFER, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri. The personal representative may administer the estate independently without adjudication, order, or

direction of the Probate Division of the Circuit Court, unless a petition for supervised administration is made to and granted by the court.

The personal representative's name is: LAURA K PEIFFER

The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is: EDWARD E COX, 105 W VAN BUREN, PO BOX 518, CENTERVILLE, IA

## PURDY PWS Public Water System ID Number: MO5010667 2025 Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report)

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made to provide safe drinking water.

### Attention!

Este informe contiene información muy importante. Tradúscalo o preguntéle a alguien que lo entienda bien. [Translated: This report contains very important information. Translate or ask someone who understands this very well.]

### What is the source of my water?

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

### Our water comes from the following source(s):

Source Name	Type
WELL #1 WASHINGTON & 6TH	GROUND WATER
WELL #2 GABBY GIBBONS	GROUND WATER
WELL #3 WASHINGTON & FRONT	GROUND WATER

### Source Water Assessment

The Department of Natural Resources conducted a source water assessment to determine the susceptibility of our water source to potential contaminants. This process involved the establishment of source water area delineations for each well or surface water intake and then a contaminant inventory was performed within those delineated areas to assess potential threats to each source. Assessment maps and summary information sheets are available on the internet at <https://drinkingwater.missouri.edu/>. The Missouri Source Water Protection and Assessment maps and information sheets provide a foundation upon which a more comprehensive source water protection plan can be developed.

### Why are there contaminants in my water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

### Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- A. **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- B. **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- C. **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- D. **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- E. **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Department of Natural Resources prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department of Health regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

### Is our water system meeting other rules that govern our operations?

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources regulates our water system and requires us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. Our system has been assigned the identification number MO5010667 for the purposes of tracking our test results. Last year, we tested for a variety of contaminants. The detectable results of these tests are on the following pages of this report. Any violations of state requirements or standards will be further explained later in this report.

### How might I become actively involved?

If you would like to observe the decision-making process that affect drinking water quality or if you have any further questions about your drinking water report, please call us at 417-442-3273 to inquire about scheduled meetings or contact persons.

### Do I need to take any special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

### Terms and Abbreviations

- Population:** 1100. This is the equivalent residential population served including non-bill paying customers.
- 90th percentile:** For Lead and Copper testing, 10% of test results are above this level and 90% are below this level.
- AL:** Action Level, or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- HAAs:** Haloacetic Acids (mono-, di- and tri-chloroacetic acid, and mono- and di-bromoacetic acid) as a group.
- LRAA:** Locational Running Annual Average, or the locational average of sample analytical results for samples taken during the previous four calendar quarters.
- MCLG:** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- MCL:** Maximum Contaminant Level, or the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- n/a:** not applicable.
- nd:** not detectable at testing limits.
- NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, used to measure cloudiness in drinking water.
- ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter.
- ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter.
- RAA:** Running Annual Average, or the average of sample analytical results for samples taken during the previous four calendar quarters.
- Range of Results:** Shows the lowest and highest levels found during a testing period. If only one sample was taken, then this number equals the Highest Test Result or Highest Value.
- SMCL:** Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level, or the secondary standards that are non-enforceable guidelines for contaminants and may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor or color) in drinking water. EPA recommends these standards but does not require water systems to comply.
- TT:** Treatment Technique, or a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- THM:** Total Trihalomethanes (chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform) as a group.



## PURDY PWS Public Water System ID Number: MO5010667 2025 Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) Contaminants Report

PURDY PWS will provide a printed hard copy of the CCR upon request. To request a copy of this report to be mailed, please call us at 417-442-3273. The CCR can also be found on the internet at [www.dnr.mo.gov/ccr/MO5010667.pdf](http://www.dnr.mo.gov/ccr/MO5010667.pdf).

The state has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Records with a sample year more than one year old are still considered representative. No data older than 5 years need be included. If more than one sample is collected during the monitoring period, the Range of Sampled Results will show the lowest and highest tested results. The Highest Test Result, Highest LRAA, or Highest Value must be below the maximum contaminant level (MCL) or the contaminant has exceeded the level of health based standards and a violation is issued to the water system.

### Regulated Contaminants

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Test Result	Range of Sampled Result(s) (low - high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
BARIUM	3/25/2025	0.0322	0.0223 - 0.0322	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Monitoring Period	Highest LRAA	Range of Sampled Result(s) (low - high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
THM	DBPDUAL-01	2025	3	2.85 - 2.85	ppb	80	0	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper	Date	90th Percentile: 90% of your water utility levels were less than	Range of Sampled Results (low - high)	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER	2023 - 2025	0.0457	0.0062 - 0.0608	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of Natural Deposits
LEAD	2023 - 2025	1.21	0 - 1.28	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of Natural Deposits

Radionuclides	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range of Sampled Result(s)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
COMBINED RADIUM (-226 & -228)	10/24/2024	3	3	pCi/l	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
COMBINED URANIUM	10/31/2023	2	1.56 - 2	µg/l	30		Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA PARTICLE ACTIVITY	10/24/2024	10.1	10.1	pCi/l	15		Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA, EXCL. RADON & URANIUM	10/31/2023	6.1	4.2 - 6.1	pCi/l	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
RADIUM-226	10/24/2024	3	3	pCi/l	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits

### Violations and Health Effects Information

During the 2025 calendar year, we had the below noted violation(s) of drinking water regulations.

Compliance Period	Analyte	Type
No Violations Occurred in the Calendar Year of 2025		

### Special Lead and Copper Notice:

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. PURDY PWS is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing water system owned and controlled lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials in the portion of the service line you own, within your home plumbing, and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

All contaminant sample results from past and present compliance monitoring are available online at the Missouri DNR Drinking Water Watch website at [www.dnr.mo.gov/DWW/](http://www.dnr.mo.gov/DWW/). To see the Lead and Copper results, enter your water system's name in the box titled 'Water System Name', then select 'Find Water Systems' at the bottom of the page. On the next screen, click on the Water System Number. At the top of the next page, under the Help column, click on 'Other Chemical Results by Analyte'. Scroll down to Lead and click the blue Analyte Code (1030). A Sample Collection Date range may need to be entered. The Lead and Copper locations will be displayed under the heading 'Sample Comments'. Scroll to find your location and click on the Sample No. for results. If you assisted the water system in taking a Lead and Copper sample but cannot find your location on the list, please contact PURDY PWS for your results.

A service line inventory was required to be prepared and can be requested from PURDY PWS.

## PURDY PWS Public Water System ID Number: MO5010667 2025 Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) Optional Monitoring (not required by EPA) Optional Contaminants

Monitoring is not required for optional contaminants.

Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Your Water System Highest Sampled Result	Range of Sampled Result(s) (low - high)	Unit	SMCL
ALKALINITY, CaCO3 STABILITY	3/25/2025	456	221 - 456	MG/L	
CALCIUM	3/25/2025	47.3	46.2 - 47.3	MG/L	
CHLORIDE	3/25/2025	6.49	0 - 6.49	MG/L	250
HARDNESS, CARBONATE	3/25/2025	203	201 - 203	MG/L	
IRON	3/25/2025	0.552	0.0767 - 0.552	MG/L	0.3
MAGNESIUM	3/25/2025	21.2	20.1 - 21.2	MG/L	
MANGANESE	3/25/2025	0.00933	0.00125 - 0.00933	MG/L	0.05
NICKEL	3/25/2025	0.00359	0.0016 - 0.00359	MG/L	0.1
PH	3/25/2025	8.18	7.89 - 8.18	PH	8.5
POTASSIUM	3/25/2025	1.51	1.39 - 1.51	MG/L	
SODIUM	3/25/2025	6.84	4.38 - 6.84	MG/L	
SULFATE	3/25/2025	18.1	14.3 - 18.1	MG/L	250
TDS	3/25/2025	220	216 - 220	MG/L	500
ZINC	3/25/2025	0.0908	0.00629 - 0.0908	MG/L	5

Secondary standards are non-enforceable guidelines for contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor or color) in drinking water. EPA recommends these standards but does not require water systems to comply.

Notice of Letters of Administration Granted (Independent Administration - Non-Resident Fiduciary)

On MAY 26, 2026, the following individual was appointed the personal

representative of the estate of STEPHEN A. PEIFFER, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri. The personal representative may administer the estate independently without adjudication, order, or

direction of the Probate Division of the Circuit Court, unless a petition for supervised administration is made to and granted by the court.

The personal representative's name is: LAURA K PEIFFER

The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is: EDWARD E COX, 105 W VAN BUREN, PO BOX 518, CENTERVILLE, IA

On MAY 26, 2026, the following individual was appointed the personal

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The personal representative's name is: LAURA K PEIFFER

The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is: EDWARD E COX, 105 W VAN BUREN, PO BOX 518, CENTERVILLE, IA

# LEGALS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4B  
52544,  
641-856-3251  
The non-resident personal representative's designated agent's name, business address, and phone number is:  
RUSSELL D. COX,  
1531 E MONROE STREET,  
SPRINGFIELD, MO 65802,  
(417) 380-0916  
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: 15-FEB-2026  
Date of first publication: JULY 1, 2026  
Date of second publication: JULY 8, 2026  
Date of third publication: JULY 15, 2026  
Date of fourth publication: JULY 22, 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 07/01/26 27-30

SUBDIVISION, PHASE I, AN ADDITION TO THE CITY OF MONETT, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF.  
to satisfy said debt and cost.  
MILLSAP & SINGER, P.C.,  
Successor Trustee  
612 Spirit Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63005  
(636) 537-0110  
File No: 234649.072126.471016 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:  
June 24, 2026  
07/01/2026,  
07/08/2026,  
07/15/2026  
1st Insertion 06/24/26 24-27

singers corp,  
Successor Trustee  
By: /s/ Michael P. Gaughan  
Michael P. Gaughan  
12701 W. 87th Street  
Parkway, Suite 200  
Lenexa, KS 66215  
Email: saleinfo@lewisricekc.com  
SINGERS CORP, AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE, IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.  
1st insertion 07/01/26 25-28

### NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

Default having been made in the payment of that certain note secured by Deed of Trust executed by Jonathan L. Reed And Amber R. Reed, Husband And Wife, dated 11/8/2021, recorded on 11/9/2021, as Instrument No. 202107685, in Book 21, Page 7569, Rerecorded on 2/14/2022 as Book No. 22, Page 958, Office of Recorder of Deeds, Barry County, Missouri. The Successor Trustee will on 8/31/2026, between the hours of 9:00 o'clock A.M. and 5:00 P.M. more particularly at 1:15 PM, at the East Door of the Court House, City of Cassville, Barry County, 102 West Street, Suite 2, Cassville, Missouri 65625, sell at public venue to the highest bidder for cash, the following real estate:  
ALL OF THE WEST SIXTY-TWO AND ONE-HALF (62 1/2) FEET OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED TRACT OF LAND, TO-WIT: BEGINNING TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY EAST OF THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF OUT LOT NUMBER THIRTY-EIGHT (38) IN THE CITY OF CASSVILLE, MISSOURI, LOCATED IN THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION TWENTY-NINE (29), TOWNSHIP TWENTY-THREE (23), RANGE TWENTY-SEVEN (27), BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI, THENCE EAST ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (125) FEET, THENCE IN A SOUTHERLY DIRECTION TO THE SOUTH LINE OF OUT LOT NUMBER THIRTY-EIGHT (38), THENCE IN A WESTERLY DIRECTION ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (125) FEET, THENCE THE SOUTH LINE OF OUT LOT NUMBER THIRTY-EIGHT (38), THENCE IN A WESTERLY DIRECTION TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, SAME BEING A STRIP OF LAND SIXTY-TWO AND ONE-HALF (62 1/2) FEET WIDE EAST AND WEST AND TWO HUNDRED (200) FEET, MORE OR LESS IN LENGTH RUNNING NORTH AND SOUTH.

### NOTICE OF SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE'S SALE

In re: John Bowman and Sandra Bowman, husband and wife  
Default having been made in the payment of certain monthly installments on a Note described in and secured by Deed of Trust executed by John Bowman and Sandra Bowman, husband and wife, dated August 15, 1996, and recorded August 19, 1996, in Book 96, Page 5444, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for the County of Barry, State of Missouri; the undersigned Successor Trustee, at the request of the legal holder of said Note, who has elected to declare the entire indebtedness due and payable, will on July 24, 2026, at 1:30 P.M., at the at the East front door of the Barry County Courthouse, in the city of Cassville, 700 Main St, Cassville, MO 65625 sell at public vendue to the highest bidder for cash, the following real estate described in said Deed of Trust and situated in the County of Barry, State of Missouri, to wit:  
BEGINNING AT A POINT 7.5 FEET SOUTH AND 27.0 FEET WEST OF THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 25 NORTH, RANGE 25 WEST, THENCE NORTH 250.0 FEET, THENCE WEST 200.0 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 250.0 FEET THENCE EAST 200.0 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, BARRY COUNTY MISSOURI.  
Together with all improvements thereon known and numbered as Rt. 2, Box 240A, Crane, Missouri 65633 for the purpose of satisfying said indebtedness, the costs of executing this trust, and the present taxes, if any, due and paid by the holder.

### TRUSTEE'S SALES

#### TRUSTEE'S SALE

IN RE:  
James Hughes  
Trustee's Sale:  
For default in payment of debt and performance of obligation secured by Deed of Trust executed by James Hughes dated February 13, 2024 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Barry County, Missouri in Book 24, Page 707 the undersigned Successor Trustee, at the request of the legal holder of said Note will on Tuesday, July 21, 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:  
ALL OF LOT THREE (3), TIMBER CREEK

## BOAT SLIP AUCTION

### Friday, July 10 — 1 PM

**Location:** 26068 N. Royal Point Drive, Shell Knob MO




(4) 12x30 boat slips, in dock with 10x66 swim deck, 1 slip with lift. Permit # 8282. All deck concrete-swim deck on end. 1/2 under roof, asphalt road access. **Boat Slip Terms:** Cash, good check or credit card with 2 forms of current ID. Qualified buyers only with bank letter of credit. Sells as is where is with no warranty or guarantee expressed or implied. Ownership transfers with bill of sale. If paying by check, bill of sale will not be recorded until check clears the bank. Balance paid in full day of auction. If paying by check, buyer will need 2 checks day of auction. A 10% buyer's premium will apply. Sells with owner confirmation. Any announcements made day of auction supersede any and all printed material



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



www.stumpffauction.com

## 417-847-2507



Auctioneer:  
Parker Stumpff  
AR State Champion  
Auctioneer  
#2352

## LAND AUCTION — LAND AUCTION

### Friday, July 10 — 10 AM

**Location:** From Cassville Mo go East on Hwy 248, 5.5 miles. Turn Right on FR 1160 to Fr 2155. Turn left, go approx. 1 mile to auction. Several ways to get to this property, you could also come from Hwy 76, this is mineral springs area.

**Selling:** Land only, 44 acres m/l. Wooded, county road frontage, great deer & turkey hunting, build your dream home, etc. **Note:** Selling land only so be on time. Auction won't last long. Ridge tops are beautiful, need a utv/atv or 4x4 to get to the ridge top, selling Friday July 10th at 10:00 AM. Go to www.stumpffauction.com for terms and conditions..



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



www.stumpffauction.com

## 417-847-2507



Auctioneer:  
Parker Stumpff  
AR State Champion  
Auctioneer  
#2352

ALSO A STRIP OF LAND THREE (3) FEET WIDE OFF THE ENTIRE EAST SIDE OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED TRACT OF LAND; BEGINNING 200 FEET EAST OF THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF OUT LOT THIRTY-EIGHT (38) IN THE CITY OF CASSVILLE, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI, LOCATED IN THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION TWENTY-NINE (29), TOWNSHIP TWENTY-THREE (23), RANGE TWENTY-SEVEN (27), BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI, THENCE EAST ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (125) FEET, THENCE IN A SOUTHERLY DIRECTION TO THE SOUTH LINE OF OUT LOT NUMBER THIRTY-EIGHT (38), THENCE IN A WESTERLY DIRECTION ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (125) FEET, THENCE THE SOUTH LINE OF OUT LOT NUMBER THIRTY-EIGHT (38), THENCE IN A WESTERLY DIRECTION TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, SAME BEING A STRIP OF LAND 70 FEET WIDE RUNNING EAST AND WEST AND 200 FEET LONG, MORE OR LESS, RUNNING NORTH AND SOUTH. LESS ANY PART THEREOF, IF ANY, TAKEN OR USED FOR ROAD PURPOSES

SUBJECT TO ANY EASEMENTS, RIGHTS OF WAY OR RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD OR FACT. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN BRACKETS HAS BEEN ADDED TO MORE ACCURATELY REFLECT THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION)  
For the purpose of satisfying said indebtedness and the costs of executing this trust.  
Vylla Solutions - Missouri, LLC  
Successor Trustee  
TS No.: 26-40447  
Pub Commences: 7/1/2026  
By: NFPDS  
Website: www.xome.com  
Purported address: 304 W 14TH ST, CASSVILLE, MO 65625  
Please be advised that the trustee may require entity or trust bidders at this trustee's sale to provide information, documentation and/or certification of the vesting instructions and the data required to be reported pursuant

to FinCEN regulations effective for transfers of residential real property to covered transferees on or after March 1, 2026. The required information must be provided to the trustee before a trustee's deed will be issued for covered transfers. The Buyer may be required to pay charges associated with the gathering and reporting of information to FinCEN. Additional information regarding these regulations and the required transferee information and certifications can be found at:  
<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/08/29/2024-19198/anti-money-laundering-regulations-for-residential-real-estate-transfers> and [https://www.fincen.gov/rre-faqs#D\\_](https://www.fincen.gov/rre-faqs#D_)  
1st insertion 07/01/26 25-33  
Visit us online at: [cassville-democrat.com](http://cassville-democrat.com)



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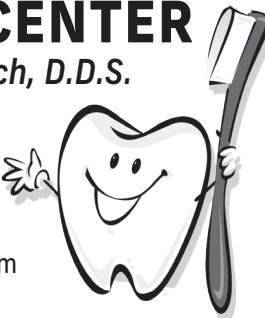
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In each row, circle the item that DOES NOT go with the others.

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## JUST kidding

Q: What do you call a group of disorganized cats?  
A: A cat-tastrophe!

## JUST kidding

Q: Where do sheep get their hair cut?  
A: The baa-baa shop!

## JUST kidding

Q: Where do hamburgers go dancing?  
A: A meat-ball!

# Amazing maze

Help the pirate find the treasure chest.

# For the up-and-coming artist

# Sudoku 6 x 6

△		×			
		○	+	△	
◇		+	△		
×			◇		+
	□				◇
				□	

COMPLETE EACH GRID WITH THESE SIX SYMBOLS.  
Symbols can only appear once in each line, once in each column and once in each box of six squares. Each box of six squares is marked by darker lines. Some symbols are already included in each box to help you get started. Don't forget: a symbol can't be repeated in the same line, column or box.

▽	□	○	◇	×	+
◇	+	×	▽	□	○
+	○	◇	□	▽	×
□	×	▽	+	○	◇
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Purdy's Kenzi Postlewait lays down a bunt in the state quarterfinal game against Lockwood. Kyle Troutman/ktoutman@cassville-democrat.com



Purdy's Gabriella Groomer lets a pitch go in the state quarterfinal game against Lockwood. Kyle Troutman/ktoutman@cassville-democrat.com

## Purdy: Thid-place win over Plato one of cleanest performances of season

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

Videmschek pointed to a loss at Crane as a turning point.

"We went down to Crane, and we played probably our worst ball game we played all year and got beat," she said. "I think that was a turning point for us because we didn't play well. We had a lot of attitude. We were tired from playing 10 games in seven days, but we figured out that this is what we got to do to get better. That was a turning point for us."

From there, Purdy began to play more efficiently offensively and more confidently in key situations.

"Gabriella Groomer pitched it well all year," Videmschek said. "Defensively, we did what we needed to do to win games. Offensively, we had some kids change some things around and do a little bit more bunting and we started getting some key hits with key runners on situational hitting — getting a runner at first, moving her to second on a bunt and then taking a base hit and being able to score."

"We started doing those things. We started manufacturing runs, and that was a big thing for us."

That approach became especially important in Purdy's 3-1 state quarterfinal win over Lockwood, the victory Videmschek repeatedly pointed to as one of the defining moments of the season.

"I think now the Lockwood game was a big one," Videmschek said. "Going into that, we knew what their pitcher Kallie Griffin could do, and we knew how athletic that team was."

Videmschek said the Eagles entered the game knowing they likely would not generate many clean hits and would need to create offense in other ways.

"We had a game plan of what we wanted to do, and that was bunt the ball

and make them make the plays," she said. "Because I knew hitting wasn't going to come up. We weren't going to get a lot of hits off her. I thought if we could put the ball in play, it would make them make the errors, and that's what we did."

Purdy's execution in that game matched the plan almost exactly, Videmschek said, with the Eagles putting the ball in play, bunting effectively and defending at a high level behind pitcher Groomer.

"Defensively we played very well against them," Videmschek said. "G pitched well, but when they did get runners on, we had answers for them defensively."

Videmschek said the Lady Eagles also played with a freedom and looseness that allowed them to enjoy the moment rather than tighten up under pressure.

"They played and they had a good time," she said. "We had a lot of fun playing that game. Kids have to play loose. They have to play loose and enjoy it, and it seems like when they do that, things start playing a lot better and things turn your way."

The win over Lockwood sent Purdy to the Final Four, a stage Videmschek said is special for any program, particularly one with a relatively young roster.

"Whenever you get to the Final Four, that's an awesome feeling," Videmschek said. "Very few kids get that opportunity to play in a final four."

Purdy opened state play against Kingsville and suffered a 1-0 extra-inning loss, a game Videmschek said had some missed opportunities.

"We had options, three or four innings with bases loaded nobody out," she said. "We just couldn't put the bunt down like we needed to. We'd been doing that all year and we just struggled with it a little

bit in that game. I think a little bit is nerves, because we're pretty young. I think they were a little tight that first game and nervous because a lot of these kids had never been to a final four before. This was a new level they had ever been to."

"I think if we could have played a little looser at the plate, I think we could have done some things and scored some runs. But we had our opportunities. It was there. We just couldn't get the ball in play when we needed to at that time."

Kingsville scored the winning run in extra innings by stealing home, a play Videmschek said she saw coming but could not stop in time.

"I hollered out after the first pitch," she said. "I said, 'You better be ready. She'll steal home. You gotta keep an eye on her.' You just got to look at her. You gotta look her back. It was just one of those moments, and it happened, and they scored, and they beat us."

Videmschek's message to her team afterward was simple — the semifinal was over, and there was

still hardware to play for.

"I told the kids, 'Hey, there's only two teams that get to make their season and win on the very last game,'" she said. "We can't do anything about the Kingsville game. I know it hurts, but we've got to move on and get ready and try to win third place."

The Lady Eagles responded in the third-place game against Plato, turning in one of their cleanest performances of the postseason to close the year with a state trophy.

"I said, 'Just go out there and just play hard, play for your school, play for each other,'" Videmschek said. "They played very loose. We bunted the ball. We hit the ball. We ran. We did some things very well against them, and they had fun and we won."

That result won Purdy third place in Class 1, an accomplishment Videmschek said should not be diminished by the disappointment of coming one win short of the championship game.

"Third place is nothing to hold your head low

about," Videmschek said. "That was just a great opportunity for us."

Looking back, Videmschek said one of the most satisfying parts of the season was watching a group that started 3-6 and endured injuries, lineup changes and a difficult schedule grow into a team capable of winning a district title, beating Lockwood in the quarterfinals and finishing on the podium at state.

"This was probably one of the most enjoyable years that I've had coaching a team," Videmschek said. "And it's strictly because they had fun with one another."

"There wasn't any drama, and the kids just had fun," she said. "They came to practice with a good attitude. And they worked hard and it was just a really close-knit group and it was fun to coach them this year."

Videmschek said that perspective makes the season even more impressive considering where it began.

"If you would have told me after our jamboree and

after first 10 ball games that we'd win our district and win our quarterfinal game, I would have bet a hundred bucks," Videmschek said. "It was rough. I'm not gonna lie. It was tough."

"But the kids did an outstanding job," she said. "Super proud of them."

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<b>Keely Bailey</b>	<b>Isaac Luney</b>

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