



MAN CHARGED FOR STEALING PIPE FITTINGS — PAGE 2A

<<< WILDCATS WANT ANOTHER TITLE SHOT

Cassville returns 12 starters from squad that reached district 'ship. — 1B

CASSVILLE Democrat

AUGUST 19, 2026 | CASSVILLE-DEMOCRAT.COM

Flock cameras controversial

Monett uses 4 cameras; Seligman cancels contract due to 'overwhelming opposition'

BY SHEILA HARRIS

sheilaharrisads@gmail.com

Kyle Kuhn, of Cassville, a military veteran and a past employee of local law enforcement agencies, is not bashful about vocalizing his distrust of the interconnected Flock digital camera systems being used by law enforcement agencies

FLOCK CAMERAS

What: Automated License Plate Readers in Barry County
Where: Monett uses four Flock cameras that can take still images of vehicles
More: Seligman Police Department recently cancelled its contract with Flock after a public poll was conducted to gather feedback

across the nation.

Flock is a brand name for a linked, digital camera system known generically as "Automated License Plate

Readers," or ALPRs.

"People are going about their own business, and are generally unaware that their individual rights are slowly being stripped away," Kuhn said.

Flock appears to have a large share of the ALPR market. According to its website, the company offers "a complete solution with one accountable partner" – itself. The system, states Flock, is capable of integrating ALPR, video, audio and drone technology, with every component designed, installed

and supported by Flock.

Flock ALPR cameras can be accessed by local law enforcement subscribers across the nation.

A recent investigative report states that high-tech Flock systems currently pool data collected from over 120,000 cameras in 6,000 law enforcement agencies across 49 states (<https://tinyurl.com/bde6x-tx4>).

"American citizens don't want to be watched all the time,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6A

CITY OF CASSVILLE

What: Has extended contract with Ecowaste Solutions (formerly CARDS) for trash and recycling service for one year
Rates: Company can request rate hike of up to 5% in January 2027
More: City administrator said new management team has been proactive resolving issues

City extends trash service contract

City admin: New management taking proactive approach

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

kttroutman@cassville-democrat.com

The city of Cassville has extended its contract with Ecowaste Solutions (formerly CARDS) for supplying trash and recycling services, citing improvements in communication and resolving issues as a reason for the extension.

Jon Horner, Cassville mayor, said if the city was to seek bids for trash service, it would have to do so in August or September.

"The recommendation was that Ecowaste Solutions has worked to be a good partner and has been addressing issues that come up," he said. "This is a one-year renewal or extension of the contract, and we will reevaluate next year if it is in the best interest of the residents to put the service out for bid."

CARDS, based in northwest Arkansas, won the city's contract in 2023 and began service in January 2024, taking over from Waste Management, based in Springfield.

Richard Asbill, Cassville city administrator, said the early years of service presented challenges not uncommon to switching companies, and the city was receiving numerous complaints about lack of service or missed recycling pickups.

"We have worked with Ecowaste Solutions management to address those, and they've recently made several management changes, so now we have a group of representatives we work well with," he said. "They are responsive to our questions and issues, and they have a certain number of days to get those corrected. They have been very responsive in the last 18-20 months compared to the first 18-20 months."

Asbill said initially, the city would not learn of issues like a broken down truck or driver availability until the day after pickup, leading to multiple complaints.

"We now have regular meetings and discuss status and progress, and we have a more consistent driver base we are able to work with," he said. "Their facilitator is good about calling or texting when issues happen, and good communication can solve

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FELONY ARREST

Who: Nicholas Blevins, 36, of Golden
What: Is charged with second-degree burglary, knowingly burning or exploding, first-degree property damage and stealing (\$750 or more)
Bond: Is set at \$75,000, cash only

Man charged for setting car on fire

3 people inside adjacent residence at time of blaze

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

kttroutman@cassville-democrat.com

A Golden man has been charged with four felonies after allegedly setting a vehicle on fire.

Nicholas Blevins, 36, of Golden, is charged with second-degree burglary, knowingly burning or exploding, first-degree property damage and stealing (\$750 or more).

According to a probable cause statement filed by Deputy L. Shearburn, with the Barry County Sheriff's office, deputies were dispatched to a vehicle fire in Golden at about 2:20 a.m. on Aug. 9.

Upon his arrival, Shearburn said he observed a white 2011 Toyota Four-Runner that had significant damage to the rear of the vehicle from what appeared to be a fire. Upon further investigation, Shearburn said the gas cap was open and he observed what appeared to be napkins shoved into the neck of the tube that connects to the gas tank.

Shearburn spoke with a wit-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3A

Families find fun at Roaring River



Cole Vaughn, of Alma, Ark., helps his daughter, AnaLee Vaughn, 7, fish for trout during Family Fishing Day at Roaring River State Park on Saturday. Formerly the second Kids' Fishing Day of the year, Family Fishing Day allowed everyone in the family to fish together, instead of an area marked off only for children to fish. Kids' tags were free, and multiple booths and activities were set up around Zone 1. Kyle Troutman/kttroutman@cassville-democrat.com

2 charged after toddler found on Highway 76

Juvenile allegedly left residence during party, walked onto Highway 76

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

kttroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Two individuals have been charged with a felony after a toddler was found wandering in the middle of Highway 76 south of Cassville.

Skyla Beck, 24, and Tyler Swadley, 24, both of Cassville, are each charged with first-degree endangering the welfare of a child.

According to a probable

FELONY ARREST

Who: Skyla Beck, 24, and Tyler Swadley, 24, both of Cassville
What: Are each charged with first-degree endangering the welfare of a child
Bonds: Each are being held on \$100,000, cash only bonds

cause statement filed by Cpl. C. Bray, with the Barry County Sheriff's Office, on Aug. 3, Beck and Swadley were inside their residence having a party with friends and other neighbors. While inside the residence, a juvenile child under the age of 4 was allegedly able to exit the residence through a west-facing exterior door and proceeded to

walk to Highway 76, about 50 yards from the residence.

The juvenile then walked onto Highway 76 in the middle of the roadway during high levels of traffic. According to Beck, she did not realize the child was missing for approximately 6 minutes, and according to Swadley, he did not realize the child was missing.

According to a witness, the juvenile was seen standing on the center double yellow line of Highway 76, and both northbound and southbound lanes of traffic were stopped.

Bray said in the statement Beck and Swadley pose a danger to the juvenile because the child was in immediate danger

of sustaining serious physical injury or death. Also, due to Beck's and Swadley's alleged negligence, the incident caused a major traffic violation to the motoring public, and luckily, there were no injuries.

Beck and Swadley were booked into the Barry County jail at about 5:50 p.m. on Aug. 3, and both their initial bonds were set at \$100,000 each, cash only. They have each been arraigned and pleaded not guilty, and bond hearings were held on Thursday in the courtroom of Judge Robert Foulke.

Beck's bond was modified to \$50,000, cash only.

Swadley was denied bond modification.



NEWS BRIEFS

Pancake breakfast at First Christian

A Free Pancake Breakfast will be offered Sept. 5 from 9-11 a.m. at First Christian Church of Cassville, located at 905 Old Exeter Road in Cassville.

2026 Southwest yearbooks to be distributed

The 2026 Southwest school yearbooks will be distributed between Aug. 24-28, according to Advisor Steve Voyak. About 125 of the 175 books were pre-sold but some are still available for sale at \$25. People who would like to order one, or did not receive one that was purchased, may e-mail Voyak at svoyak@swr5.net.

Cassville High School purging records

Cassville High School will be purging the cumulative school records for the graduating class of 2021. Anyone who would like to have their records must pick them up in person at Cassville High School between 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the 2026-20207 school year. If anyone is unable to pick them up in person and would like someone else do it, the office must get a signed request before they may be released.

Cassville Back to School information released

The Cassville school district has released Back to School information for the 2026-2027 school year. The first day of school is Aug. 25. New students may register via email to lsanders@csr4.org or calling 417-847-2221. More information like district communication tools, food service information and building level information (including Stop, Drop and Go information and school supply lists for each building), may be found at <https://tinyurl.com/4z88xrsw>.

Cassville Branch Library hosting events

The Cassville Branch Library will host the following events in the coming week: Friday, Craft Corner, 12-2 p.m.; Saturday, Crochet/Knitting Class, 10 a.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 fort more information. Produce from the garden goes to the Cassville Pantry. New members and/ or volunteers may come and reserve a plot.

Cassville Farmers' Market open on Saturdays

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

Lessons offered before Seligman's Saturday dances

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

OATS rides available in Barry County

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

Man charged for stealing pipe fittings

Suspect allegedly attempted to scrap property belonging to city

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

kttroutman@cassville-democrat.com

A Cassville man has been charged with a felony and a misdemeanor for allegedly stealing pipe fittings belonging to the city of Cassville and attempting to scrap the metal at a local business.

Justin Youngblood, 36, of Cassville, is charged with stealing (\$750 or more) and misdemeanor first-degree trespassing.

According to a probable cause statement filed by Det. Sleeth, with the Barry County Sheriff's Office, on July 17 at approximately 3:42 p.m., Rebel Recycling contacted the Cassville Police

Department regarding water pipe fittings that had been brought in to be scrapped.

The male who brought the fittings in was allegedly identified through a driver's license photograph provided by Rebel Recycling as Youngblood.

A photograph of the pipe fittings was also provided and shown to the Cassville Public Works Director, who confirmed the fittings belonged to the city and had allegedly been taken from a secured, fenced lot at 700 Mill Street.

Sleeth responded to the lot and examined the area where the fittings were allegedly stored, and two large circular rust marks on a wooden pallet corresponding to the locations where the fittings had previously sat. The patterns allegedly appeared to match the fittings recovered at Rebel Recycling.

On June 27, Cassville Police

responded to a call for service in which Youngblood had allegedly trespassed on a property by crawling under a gate. The property is immediately adjacent to the lot from which the fittings were allegedly stolen.

The total value of the fittings is \$1,921.90.

Sleeth noted in the report Youngblood had multiple prior felony convictions for stealing and burglary from 2009 to 2025, and he is currently under probation or parole.

Youngbloood was booked into the Barry County jail at 11:32 a.m. on Aug. 7, and he is being held on a cash-only bond of \$50,000.

He has been arraigned and has pleaded not guilty, and a bond hearing was held on Thursday in the courtroom of Judge Robert Foulke, where bond modification was denied.

Families find fun at Roaring River



Landon Yates, left, 6, and his brother, Layton Yates, 5, both of Bentonville, Ark., complete color pages at a booth at Family Fishing Day on Saturday at Roaring River State Park. Kyle Troutman/kttroutman@cassville-democrat.com



Ryder Ellenburg, 10, of Willard, smiles as he plays the winning piece in a game of jumbo Connect 4 at Family Fishing Day on Saturday at Roaring River State Park. Kyle Troutman/kttroutman@cassville-democrat.com



Elanore McGuire, 4, of Adrian, proudly shows off her painted creation at one of the booths at Family Fishing Day on Saturday at Roaring River State Park. Kyle Troutman/kttroutman@cassville-democrat.com



Easton Hayes, 11, of Diamond, prepares to cast into one of the pools at Family Fishing Day on Saturday at Roaring River State Park. Kyle Troutman/kttroutman@cassville-democrat.com



Hunter Cornett, 12, of Shidler, Okla., lets his line loose at the casting contest booth at Family Fishing Day on Saturday at Roaring River State Park. Kyle Troutman/kttroutman@cassville-democrat.com

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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.

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

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

LOCAL

23 join Cassville teaching staff



The Cassville R-IV School District will welcome 23 new members to the Wildcat teaching staff during the 2026-27 school year. New staff members spent some time on campus last week learning about the district, meeting their coworkers, completing staff training and preparing for their students. The Cassville Area Chamber of Commerce members provided welcome bags that were given to each new staff member during their first day of training. Front row, from left: Audrey Lowe, Melody Phillips, Cathy Nunley, Misty Hall, Liz Nichols, Angela Kellner, Brittany Hunter, Carrie Kuhn, Macy Scott and Stacy Parks. Back row: Christian Beck, Dayton Shaw, Paige Huddleston, Keri Givens, Alyssa Dorris, Angela Pendergraft, Matthew Ritchie, Bonnie Dalton, DJ Miller, Zach Shotwell, Hope Kitchens, Michelle Hilburn and Katelyn Brisco-Brindley. Contributed photo

Barry County Health Corner



Back-to-school immunizations available

Did you know that immunization programs are considered one of the most important public health achievements in the world? Together with clean water and improved access to health care, immunizations have contributed to most countries' life expectancy.

According to data from the World Health Organization, vaccination campaigns prevent 4 to 5 million deaths annually worldwide. The Barry County Health Department offers all required vaccinations for school on a walk-in basis from Monday through Thursday until 5 p.m.

Most eighth-grade students will require Tdap and meningitis vaccines, seniors will need meningitis vaccines, and kindergartners will need Dtap, Polio, MMR and Varicella vaccines. We offer combination vaccines for students who are previously up to date on their vaccinations.

We also now have a combination vaccination for teens 16 years and older that protects against 5 different bacterial strains of meningitis (A,C,W,Y, and B). These are the most common strains that can be fatal, according to CDC (Centers for Disease Control).

Back to School will be here before you know it, so beat the rush and come in for your vaccinations today. You can do your part in keeping our community healthy by vaccinating yourself and your children against vaccine-preventable diseases.

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.

Exeter Class of 1976 celebrates 50th Reunion



The Exeter High School graduating class of 1976 celebrated their 50th year class reunion on Aug. 8 at the home of Tim and Sarah Marney. The evening was full of great food, lots of laughter, sharing of memories and games. Those in attendance included, from left: Donna Hensley (Mattingly), Byron Stephens, Anita Purvis, Scott Stephens, Shirley Beck (Shockley), Tim Marney and Gayle Daniels (England). Contributed photo

Fire: Bond modification denied, remains \$75K cash

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

ness who said they had screenshots of Blevins stating, "Call her, get her on the phone," and telling her to, "get outside because [expletive] is about to start burning."

Blevins also allegedly sent other messages referencing watching the vehicle burn down. Shearburn

sai dBlevins had fled the scene before his arrival but stayed in the area and directed first responders to the vehicle fire's location.

The victim said the vehicle was valued at \$17,500, and there was approximately, \$2,000 in \$100 bills located in the

glove compartment of the vehicle, and the victim can no longer locate the cash.

Shearburn said when Blevins allegedly set the vehicle on fire, it was located next to a residential structure with three individuals asleep inside.

Blevins was booked into the Barry County

jail at 3:42 a.m. on Aug. 9, and he is being held on a cash-only bond of \$75,000. He has been arraigned and has pleaded not guilty. A bond hearing was held on Thursday in the courtroom of Judge Robert Foulke, where bond modification was denied.

Trash: Rates stay unchanged through Jan. 1, 2027

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

challenges."

Asbill said one tool that has proved useful is cameras on trucks, allowing Ecowaste Solutions to send timestamped photos correlating to pickup complaints.

"Ecowaste Solutions has also said they want to do even better, so we believe they value our business and relationship, and they are receptive to our needs," Asbill said.

The initial three-year contract allows for the city to extend three more years, and the City Council elected to take those extension on a year-by-year basis.

"I appreciate the mayor and council choosing to go one year at a time, because that puts us in a good position if service dips to make a change," Asbill said. "The pricing in the market is not unreasonable — it's right there — and we could put it to bid, but that may mean increases could lead us to paying more in year two of a new contract than what we are paying now."

Asbill said rates will stay the same through Jan. 1, 2027, when Ecowaste Solutions will have the opportunity to request a rate increase of up to 5%, a cap set in the contract.

"Bidding it out could increase that cap," Asbill said. "The city is very aware trash service is a major part of city operations and people's lives, and it is not

always perfect, but we are in a better place than we were two years ago and will continue to make improvements. And, if not, we can re-bid for other services."

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COMMENTARY

PUBLISHER'S VIEW



KYLE TROUTMAN

Routines we live by

The longest summer ever is nearing its end. In less than a week, school will be back in session after being out since the first week of May, and as a parent of two, I have no shame in admitting I could not be more excited. This summer has been a fun one. From pool days to vacations and birthday parties to lazy Sundays, our family has packed as much fun into the past few months as possible. As amazing as it has been, there's one major factor of our lives that has been sorely lacking — routines.

Bed times have been far too late, and morning wake ups have been as much a struggle as the inevitable 10 p.m. put downs. Our family's back-to-school routine begins in earnest on tax-free weekend. This year, we opted to take advantage of Arkansas' tax-free weekend, as it was a week before Missouri's and fit our birthday party schedule better. We spent a day battling crowds at Target, TJ Maxx and Shoe Carnival nailing down school supplies, outfits that are the right size and shoes that actually fit feet that grow faster than our lawn after a summer rainstorm.

As we get closer to the first day, we make attempts to taper down the hour of bedtime to 8:30 p.m. We still have a few days to make that stick, but if tradition holds, it won't be easy. My favorite part of the new school year is the first-day drop-off. It takes at least three days to nail down the proper outfits for day one, even though we'd allegedly determined them weeks prior at Target. Ultimately, the final first-day outfit will be decided the day of.

The best part of that day is the photo right before we leave the house. That's a tradition that we never skip, and over the years, it has given us a tangible view of the kids' growth in the most adorable and happy way.

These are traditions I did not have as a child, so to get to create new ones with my kids is something special.

A realization that comes along with that is that we are abundantly blessed. Many families across Barry County struggle with limited incomes and many need assistance making sure their children have everything they need to be successful in school.

One thing about kids though, is they fall into routines they are handed. And when it's hardest, they shine brightest.

Almost every community in Barry County has some kind of backpack program that provides school supplies, shoes, backpacks (obviously), and more.

Speaking to those who don't have to utilize them, those programs mean more than you think. There are few things that mean as much to a child as a new backpack, a new pair of shoes and a full set of supplies on the first day of school.

How children interact on a first day of school — when it comes to making new friends and being comfortable in their surroundings — is heavily dependent on being set up to succeed.

No matter how they reach success, it's paramount. We as a community are quite good about routinely making sure our school children are well-prepared.

It's a point of pride we should take, even if it's not easy. We're all in it together.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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



COMMUNITY VOICES

The people who taught us

It is back-to-school time. Clean slate. Sharpened pencils. Keen minds. Beating hearts. Across our community, backpacks are being filled, classrooms prepared, schedules printed and first-day clothes selected. Teachers are putting names to faces. Students are figuring out where they belong. Parents are adjusting household routines to the familiar rhythms of another school year. It is a wondrous time of year. Every August the future holds hope, optimism and excitement.

But witnessing another school year launch, gives me pause. Today, I am thinking less about the teachers our students are about to meet and more about the teachers from my past. Teachers who formed me, teachers who selflessly cared about my learning, who were patient in the slow understanding I exhibited.

I am thinking about Mrs. Reaume from 4th grade who broke the news of JFK's assassination thereby introducing our class to what a national tragedy was. Thank you, Mr. Wilson, for helping me overcome the fear of public speaking. Mr. Sanzenbacher, I was never able to express my gratitude for introducing me to creative writing. Ms. Gartz, thank you for demonstrating what it means to be a dedicated teacher. And the list goes on...

You too? The teachers in your life who made a difference are many I would wager. Think out loud and name them and why they played a role in showing you the right path. Maybe it was an elementary teacher who somehow made a shy child feel noticed. A high school English teacher who introduced us to a book we still think about. A coach who demanded more from us than we thought we had. A college professor who challenged something we had always assumed to be true.

Decades pass and the gratitude remains; the lessons are now ones perhaps you teach. How little of the curriculum we remember.

I cannot imagine many adults sitting around the dinner table reminiscing fondly about the worksheet they completed on a gray October afternoon in seventh grade. Few of us



TERRY HELD

remember the questions on a particular test or what grade we received on an assignment long ago.

But the people, we remember their names, what they said and did. They are not forgotten. We remember the teacher who wrote something encouraging across the top of a paper. We remember someone laughing with us. We remember being called upon when we desperately hoped to remain invisible. We remember a teacher discovering something in us before we had discovered it ourselves.

Their memory gives us a glow about ourselves. Even the challenging teachers, the ones who demanded we strive forward. We remember the one who would not accept our halfhearted effort. And sometimes the lesson was not about algebra or history or biology. No, it was more about showing up, finishing what we started, learning the art of listening attentively, defending an idea, admitting when we were wrong, getting up and starting again after we failed.

One of the best lessons for me was, learning that there are people in the world who see things differently than I do.

In my classes at Crowder, they are filled to the max. And with all those faces the first goal is to recognize them. Learn their names and make certain they are seen and heard. Its not all about knowledge transfer. Much of a student's success comes from a feeling of belonging to something bigger than themselves. That somehow the gift of learning should always be for the greater good, not

simply self-elevation. School, or maybe better said, education does that. When they learn the importance of being seen they will repeat that good will habit in their life.

And teachers aren't the only people who teach us. Parents teach. Grandparents teach. Coaches teach. Pastors teach. Employers and coworkers teach. Friends teach. Sometimes strangers teach us something without ever knowing they did. We learn from each other, in the classroom and after the final bell rings.

Perhaps that is why the beginning of a school year still carries such possibility. Somewhere in our community this August, a student is about to walk into a classroom and meet someone he or she will remember 40 years from now.

Neither of them knows it yet. The teacher probably won't recognize the moment when it happens. There will be no music playing in the background, no dramatic announcement, no indication that this particular conversation matters more than hundreds of others. It may be nothing more than a question. A comment written in the margin. A book recommendation. An expectation that says, "I think you can do better than this." Or simply an adult paying attention at precisely the moment a young person needs someone to pay attention.

So as another school year begins, perhaps those of us who haven't carried a backpack in many years have a little homework of our own. Remember the people who taught you. Better yet, if you are fortunate enough that one of them is still around, tell them. Watch them light up. You just gave back a little of what they gave you.

That's an easy A — for the greater good.

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

STATE VIEW

Missouri campaigns draw \$75M in big donations, much of it from undisclosed donors

Roughly \$75 million in large-dollar donations poured into Missouri politics this year.

That's a lot of cash for an election year with no governor or U.S. Senate race.

Where did all that money go? More than \$42 million flowed to committees fighting over constitutional amendments, referendums and other ballot measures. Amendments 4 and 5, the Republican-backed proposals that 80% of voters rejected earlier this month, consumed tens of millions before a vote was cast.

And there's still more to come, with the November abortion fight already pulling in millions in donations and campaigns over congressional redistricting and the initiative process still fighting for a spot on the ballot.

Missouri requires contributions over \$5,000 to be separately reported to the state ethics commission within 48 hours, creating a running record of the biggest checks. And no one has cut more big checks this year than the Missouri REALTORS.

The trade association has put \$7.3 million into Missouri campaigns this year, all but \$25,000 of it

aimed at ballot fights. That is more than twice the total from this year's biggest individual donor and nearly four times what retired investor Rex Sinquefeld has contributed.

For years, Sinquefeld was the name most closely associated with big political checks in Missouri. He has given \$1.98 million this year.

But he is no longer No. 1 among individuals. Mike Rayner, a retired businessman from Town and Country, has given \$3.1 million this year, making him Missouri's largest individual political donor so far.

There is another difference between Rayner and Sinquefeld and many of the biggest players on the list: We know who they are.

Roughly \$23 million in large donations came through advocacy nonprofits that do not publicly disclose their donors.

Missouri Action gave \$6.5 million. Secure Missouri gave \$2.95 million. Missouri Promise Inc. gave just over \$2 million. American Policy Coalition gave \$2.05 million. The Fairness Project gave \$1.75 million.

There are plenty more

farther down the list.

Most of that anonymous money was concentrated in support of Amendment 5, the GOP-backed plan to overhaul Missouri's tax code. But the dark money pendulum swings in the other ideological direction if you include donations late last year to the campaign seeking to overturn Missouri's gerrymandered congressional map. Well over \$4 million came from groups that don't disclose their donors.

Federal tax law generally allows these nonprofits to keep their contributors private. So a Missourian who gives \$100 to a candidate can have their name and address show up on a campaign finance report. But when a nonprofit drops \$1 million into a campaign, the trail may stop at the name of an organization and a mailing address.

That doesn't necessarily mean the source of every dollar is unknowable. Sometimes you can piece together funding through tax records, grant disclosures or other public filings. Health Forward Foundation, for example, wasn't counted here as dark money because the origin of its wealth, a

legacy healthcare endowment, is a matter of public record.

But for much of the money, the public has no right to know who supplied it. In some cases, we may never know.

About one-quarter of the large contributions came from addresses outside Missouri. But even that number can be misleading. Missouri Action and Secure Missouri use Missouri addresses. That tells you where the check was mailed from. It doesn't tell you where the money actually came from.

Missouri voters are increasingly being asked to settle some of the state's biggest policy questions themselves. They just may never know who spent millions trying to persuade them.

Jason Hancock has spent two decades covering politics and policy for news organizations across the Midwest, with most of that time focused on the Missouri statehouse as a reporter for The Kansas City Star. A three-time National Headliner Award winner, he helped launch The Missouri Independent in October 2020 and serves as its editor-in-chief.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Bidding it out could increase that cap. The city is very aware trash service is a major part of city operations and people’s lives, and it is not always perfect, but we are in a better place than we were two years ago and will continue to make improvements. And, if not, we can re-bid for other services.”

— RICHARD ASBILL, CASSVILLE CITY ADMINISTRATOR, ON THE CITY'S RENEWAL OF ITS CONTRACT WITH ECOWASTE SOLUTIONS (FORMERLY CARDS)

50 years ago

Aug. 25, 1976
— EXETER ENROLLMENT UP OVER PREVIOUS YEAR

Exeter, the first district in Barry County to commence classes, has an increase of two pupils enrolled at the start of classes compared to last year. Superintendent John Black reported this week the total students on campus with the Monday start was 278, compared to 276 last year. A breakdown of the 186 in K-8 classes has the following: Kindergarten 24, first 15, second 23, third 19, fourth 19, fifth 21, sixth 15, seventh 23 and eighth 27. High school enrollment, total 92, is broken as follows: freshmen 25, sophomores 30, juniors 19 and seniors 18. Black said the district was still anxious to move into a new classroom building being completed. Classes have also been rearranged in the elementary department because of storm damage to the building roof two weeks ago.

— TOURISM FIGURES JUMP IN PRE-LABOR DAY REPORT

As the vacationland of the Barry County Ozarks prepares for Labor Day, the last summer holiday and braces for the Flaming Fall Review, most existing records on visitor numbers are being broken. Roaring River Sate Park and the portion of Table Rock Lake from the central area to Beaver Dam are included in report figures. For instance, fisherman numbers at Roaring River are due for a healthy increase this year, according, to Charles Curry, hatchery superintendent. During the period March 1 through August 23, a total of 64,775 tags have been sold. This compares to 59,936 from March 1 through the month of August last year. John Harden, park superintendent, said camping unit numbers last year through August 31 totaled 18,585 for this department in the park To-date this year 19,441 units have been recorded. Total visitors in the park for the same report figures have 368,095 last year but down slightly to 336,460 to-date. This figure could catch-up or show an increase by the time another 10 days pass. Jim Rogers, accommodation concessionaire at the park, reports total use of motel and cabin units through the pre-Labor Day holiday last year had 15,705 guests. This year, again as Monday, the number stood at 16,503. Mrs. Francis Dell, restaurant concessionaire, said this division of the park was experiencing good increases in patronage this year. This past weekend was among one of the busiest for Mr. and Mrs. Dell since opening weekend. Table Rock Lake, which had some drop-off during the spring months, mostly due to weather conditions, experienced healthy increases during the summer months. Many resorts reported capacity patronage during July and August. Public use areas followed the same pattern. Throughout the vacation-land, tourist facilities are making preparations during the last week of August for the big influx of people into the area for Labor Day. Then, the next rush of people to the Ozarks will be mid-October for the Flaming Fall Review of color change in the forests. Observers, including Jim Roles, ranger of the Cassville district of Mark Twain National Forest, expect a bountiful show this year due to heavy foliage on the trees. Roles pointed i toward ample supplies of moisture in this area during the late spring and early summer as creating the situation that will mean deep color transitions as fall rolls around. Roles places the color start at October 20. Generally, the Cassville Chamber of Commerce and associations concerned with the lake communities of Shell Knob, Viola, Golden and Eagle Rock, are predicting a banner year overall for the recreation area. Like the Ozark Playgrounds Association said this week, “Nobody can hold a candle to the Ozarks when it comes to activities and sights in the autumn months.

40 years ago

Aug. 27, 1986
— ENROLLMENTS, PROJECTIONS PUT PUPIL NUMBERS ON INCREASE

If enrollments of schools

underway and projections for pupil numbers on those campuses yet to start are correct, Barry County will show an increase in student numbers. The new school year started Thursday for a ma-fority or schools. Cassville opened classes this (Wednesday) morning. Monett and Shell Knob will begin the new year after Labor Day holiday. Figures indicate this year’s enrollment will run near the 5,025 number, which would be an overall increase of 31 trom last year. The 1985 start enrollment stood at 4,994 for first day classes. Of the county’s eight districts, Cassville, Wheaton, Jenkins and Shell Knob either have or are anticipating increases. Reports from those who have started classes included the following: Southwest of Washburn reported a slight decrease in student numbers with 703 on campus this year. The figure stood at 718 at the beginning of last year, reports superintendent Richard Reavis. This year’s breakdown of students at Southwest had 364 in kindergarten through sixth grade, 114 in grades seven and eight, and 225 in high school. Wheaton was one of the districts growing, with 378 pupils, compared to 302 last year. Superintendent Sheldon Buxton said there were 232 in grades kindergarten through seventh grade and 146 in eight through Exeter’s enrollment is down five pupils at opening, said superintendent Marvin Sprague. This year’s total was 305, compared to 310 at this time last year. The Exeter breakdown had 163 in kindergarten through sixth grade and 142 in grades seven through Purdy had a decrease of about 20 pupils at an early Monday count reported by superintendent Dr. Richard Place. Purdy’s total was 501 this year, compared to 521 at opening last year. The Purdy divisions had 282 in elementary and 219 in high school. Jenkins had a 12-pupil increase for the rural elementary unit. In grades one through eight, the enrollment this year is 88, compared to 76 last year, says principal Charley Moore. In the projection departments, Cassville and Shell Knob are anticipating good increases. Superintendent Dan Bailey said Cassville should have 1,439 in classes for the opening. That would be about 36 above the 1,403. reported at opening last year. Bailey said division reports project kindergarten through fourth grade at 559, grades five through eight in the middle school 405 and high school at 475. Principal Bill Hadlow of Shell Knob projects his enrollment at the 135 level for the rural elementary unit. Last year Shell Knob started the year with 128 enrolled. Figures for the possible increase included using the 1,476 figure of last year for the Monett schools. Dr. Ralph scott, superintendent, said classes would begin Tuesday, September 2. All districts said the initial student numbers could well increase with additional enrollments after the Labor Day holiday. The administrators said it was not uncommon for families to wait until after holiday vacations to enroll youngsters. Monett and Shell Knob are the only county districts following Missouri recommendations for starts after Labor Day. Previous year enrollments indicate county schools have reversed a trend toward fewer school age children experienced several years ago. A review of the numbers include: 1978 - 4,495; 1979 - 4,754; 1980 - 4,736; 1981 - 4,534; 1982 - 4,659; 1983 - 4,772; 1984 - 4,829; and 1985 - 4,994.

— POOL AT STATE PARK DELAYED IN BID PLAN

Plans to open bids on over three-quarters of a million dollars in work at Roaring River State Park September 2 have been delayed. The major number of items will be bid September 4 to avoid the Labor Day weekend, but the swimming pool will be delayed until mid-October. Ken Apperson, regional supervisor for the park, was in Roaring River this week reviewing plans for assorted projects. Apperson said change in design of the pool project resulted in the delay. He said the



40 YEARS AGO: FLAT CREEK’S ALWAYS AVAILABLE — She’s been around for years, and some of the swimming holes are the same. Even though youngsters have a way of finding new methods of cooling themselves, This foursome was in Flat Creek during a warm afternoon Tuesday, they included Brian Fletcher, Jason Nape, Pat Boys and Dwain Sewell. And, their new method included riding a bike out of Rocky Edmondson Memorial Park and into the deep hole. They threw in some fancy jumping off a six-foot bank just for kicks. The particular stretch of water enjoyed by the youngsters is between the park and Cassville schools campus. Democrat file photo

park system had assurances from Springfield engineers that revisions would be made by September 15 in time for an October 15 award. Boyd Holcomb, park superintendent, said seven other projects would be let on September 4. Expected to cost just under one million dollars, improvements are slanted toward completion and use beginning next year. Assurances that the park would have a pool next season will require targeting Memorial Day weekend for an opening. Apperson said this would be possible through requirements in the contract awarded. Other projects at the park will include total renovation of camp ground two, renovation of all five bath house facilities, projects at lodge to finish exterior work, installation of all electric in camp ground one with paving, paving projects at lodge and old Bass Lake bath house. Further work at Camp Smokey group facility is also planned. Financing the projects is Missouri’s sales tax funds that are divided between the park systial tem and Soil Conservation Service. Pre-bid meetings at Roaring River last week did not attract much contractor interest. Park officials said this was not an indication of lack of bidding interest. The park’s new swimming pool is scheduled to be located across Dry Hollow from the restaurant facilities. The old pool at the Park Lodge was demolished last year, leaving Roaring River without the facility for this entire season. The proposed new pool would be slightly larger than the old 75’x45’, plus providing for a wading pool 12’x24’. A service and concession area would also be constructed. A deck area would be double that of the pool.

30 years ago

Aug. 21, 1996
— “SAFE AND SOBER” DWI CAMPAIGN NETS 197 ARRESTS IN BARRY COUNTY

Barry County was one of five counties in southwest Missouri targeted by the Show-Me Safe and Sober” campaign, a cooperative effort between the Missouri Division of Highway Safety and the Missouri State Highway Patrol to remove intoxicated drivers from Missouri highways. Fourteen “Safe and Sober” operations have been conducted in two dif-

ferent southwest Missouri regions. One region is comprised of Barry, McDonald and Newton counties and a second includes Stone and Taney counties. Each troop-er who participates in the project is assigned to one of these regions and works four consecutive days, 12 hours each day. The troop-er’s primary objective is the detection and arrest of impaired drivers. Any indicator of impairment observed by the trooper results in a traffic stop and investigation into that driver’s ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. As a result of the Safe and Sober” campaign, there have been a total of 197 arrests made in Barry County through July 5, according to a summary report provided by Highway Patrol Sergeant Terry Moore. Of that total, there were 173 misdemeanor or traffic arrests, 21 misdemeanor criminal arrests and three felony arrests. A further breakdown of arrests is as follows: 18, driving while intoxicated; 1, felony DWI; 52, speeding; 7, child restraint; 13, seat belt; 83, miscellaneous traffic violations; 21, misdemeanor criminal arrests; and 2, “other” felony arrests. The “Safe and Sober” campaign in the tri-county region of Barry,

McDonald and Newton netted a total of 2,037 arrests and 294 warnings. Of that total, there were 1,840 misdemeanor traffic arrests, 158 misdemeanor criminal arrests and 39 felony arrests. The report shows that there were 197 misdemeanor DWI arrests and 16 felony DWI arrests made during the first 13-weeks of the campaign. According to patrol reports, the majority of drivers arrested on DWIs in the region were in the 30 to 39 age range. Moore said he “Safe and Sober” campaign in Barry County has ended. It continues in Stone and Taney Counties through Labor Day.

— HILLBILLY INDUSTRIAL DRAWS 19 TEAMS TO CASSVILLE COURSE

For the 11th year in a row, the Cassville Golf Course played host to the Hillbilly Industrial Golf Tournament, an annual event sponsored by the Cassville Chamber of Commerce, the Industrial Development Corporation and the city of Cassville. This year’s Hillbilly took place on Aug. 15 and 16 with 19 four-man teams competing in the two round, 36-hole tournament. First place honors were captured by the team of Randy Stockton, representing Arning Industries, Randy King, King & King

Enterprises, Chip Lawson, First State Bank, and Clark Flanary, representing the chamber. They turned in a score of 128. The second place winners were: Mark Smith, chamber; Tom Van Hooser, SO MO Containers; Gard Gibson, Forest Products; and Chris Pitcheck, Peiker Piatchek. They had a two-day total of 129. Third place went to the team of Landon Fletcher, Security Bank, James Bryant, chamber, and Stu Gatley and T. L. Nelson, FASCO. They shot a 131. Other teams are listed below.

- Tom Cardin, C of C; George Kirk, George’s; Richard Beeson, FASCO; and Mike Sharp, Cof C
- Gary Hayward, Arning Industries; Wayne Hendrix, C of C; Jerry Finley, GTE; and Michael Piatchek, Peiker Piatchek.
- Stan Kelley, Boatmen’s Bank; Rick Boyer, GTE; Jim Peiker, Peiker Piatchek; and Bob Garrison, FASCO.
- Donnie Treadwell, C of C; Mark McNay, SO MO Containers; Gary Cooper, Cooper Equipment; and Galen Shoemaker, Missouri Gas Energy.
- Fred Arning, Arning Industries; Phil McElroy, George’s; Marv Vandekieft, Ruan Leasing; and Lynn Hoover, Forest Products.
- J. B. Nations, C of C; John Hendricks, Luck “E” Strike; Bob Mitchell, C of C; and Byron Tucker, C of C.
- Gary Fields, Security Bank; Ken House, House Handle Co.; Chuck Willard, Thorco; and Mike Cooper, George’s.
- Bob Allen, C of C; Rick Harvey, GTE; Mark Cooper, Thorco; and Mark Bromley, George’s.

- Mike Schlichtman, Cassville Democrat; James Wilson, Fowler Equipment; Dave Shelley, FASCO; and Curt Roland, Thorco.
- Steve Chasteen, FASCO; Tom Arnold, GTE; Jon White, Boatmen’s Bank; and Jon Horner, Commerce Bank.
- Dennis Ledgerwood, FASCO; Doug Miller, George’s; Howard Keister, GTE; and David Cole, C of C.

- Mike Riehn, C of C; Dave Dewitt, Schlumberger; David Howard, Thorco; and Rick Neill, C of C.
- Truman Baker, Boatmen’s Bank; Carl Bell, George’s; Doyle Cooper, Cooper Equipment; and J. C. Duncan, C of C.
- J. C. Gillispie, George’s; Danny Vanzandt, Luck “E” Strike; Jimmy Stephens, C of C; and John Starchman, C of C.
- Jim Fohn, C of C; John Walters, C of C; Don Klein, Thorco; and Ron Richardson, C of C.
- Gary Schaffer, Luck “E” Strike; Terry Stone, BFI; Bill Brandenburger, BFI; and Don Reynolds, Cof C. The Hillbilly is organized each year by a special golf tournament committee. This year’s committee members were Bob Mitchell, Bob Allen, Fred Arning, Stan Kelley Mark Smith. They were assisted by Sonja Chasteen, the chamber’s managing secretary. Mitchell said the tournament is put on each year as a “thank you to the area’s job providers.”

Haven of the Ozarks Pet of the Week



Hi, I'm Lorelai, a 3-year-old white Shih Tzu with a heart as sweet as they come. I'm a petite girl weighing just 20 pounds, and I'm gentle and cuddly — the perfect lap dog for someone looking for a devoted companion. I get along wonderfully with cats, so if you have feline friends at home, we'll be the best of buddies! My adoption fee is \$200, and I'm ready to cuddle my way into your heart. My sister Rory looks just like me and would love a home too, although we don't need to stay together. Adopters can complete an application at www.havenoftheozarks.org/adopt. No appointment is needed. The Haven is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., seven days a week. All Haven of the Ozarks pets are fixed, up to date on their vaccinations, and microchipped. For more information, people may email havenozarksanctuary@gmail.com, or call at 417-835-3647. Contributed photo

LOCAL

Flock: Purdy, Wheaton, Washburn do not have cameras; County has some

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

especially not by a private company gathering data,” Kuhn said.

Richard Asbill, Cassville city administrator, said the Cassville Police Department does not contract with Flock, nor does it use ALPR cameras.

Asbill believes that ALPRs are an effective tool for public safety when used appropriately. With a background in public school administration, Asbill said most people would agree with using whatever technology is available to keep children safe.

However, Asbill is also a strong proponent of privacy.

“Most people have expectations of privacy when they’re [in their own cars], driving down the road,” he said. “While the use of ALPR technology is an important tool in tracking a stolen vehicle, or tracking a stolen child with an Amber Alert, unfortunately, that technology has been misused. It’s created public mistrust, and rightfully so.”

In recent headlining news stories, personnel

with access to Flock systems have used the cameras to unlawfully track or stalk wives, ex-wives, romantic interests and citizens who voiced criticism about government policies.

In northern Barry County, the Monett Police Department (MPD) uses four fixed Flock cameras in strategic, high-traffic-flow locations.

While the Flock website indicates that mobile and portable Flock applications are also available from the company, the MPD does not use them.

Dennis Camp, Monett interim chief of police, said Monett’s cameras are in fixed locations and record only still images of vehicles and their license plates.

“The cameras cannot record video, nor is there a feature that can be ‘turned on’ to allow for video,” Camp said. “The cameras are motion-activated by cars only — not people or bikes — and they do not take images at regular intervals [aside from motion activation by autos].”

Det. Sgt. Scott

“The cameras cannot record video, nor is there a feature that can be ‘turned on’ to allow for video,” Camp said. “The cameras are motion-activated by cars only — not people or bikes — and they do not take images at regular intervals [aside from motion activation by autos].”

DENNIS CAMP, MONETT INTERIM POLICE CHIEF
On the capabilities of the four Flock cameras used in Monett

Landreth, with the MPD’s investigative unit, calls the Flock system one of the most useful pieces of technology the department has.

“It’s an investigative tool, but only a tool,” Landreth said. “Flock can generate leads, but those leads must be verified by human law enforcement agents.”

Landreth cited the case of a local vehicle break-in, where the perpetrator was tracked and arrested because of the vehicle he was driving, which had been rented in Florida.

“Local crimes used to be committed by local people,” Landreth said. “But now, we’re seeing more people from out of state. ALPRs just point us in the right direction.”

Camp said before an enforcement action can be taken, an officer must independently locate the vehicle, verify the plate through the Missouri Uniform Law Enforcement System (MULES), and consider the circumstances observed.

“A Flock alert by itself is not a substitute for an officer’s judgment or investigation,” Camp said.

The criteria for an ALPR search must include the vehicle’s license plate number and a reason for the search, Landreth said.

“If we don’t have a license plate number, we can’t do a search,” he said.

Landreth said the Flock cameras do not use facial recognition.

“Our Flock cameras cannot see inside vehicles, nor identify drivers,” Landreth said.

The cameras record an image of the exterior of the vehicle and limited details such as the license plate, vehicle characteristics, date, time and the camera’s location.

Camp said Monett has eight employees with access to the city’s four flock cameras.

“We conduct monthly audits on the system to ensure that employees are not abusing it,” he said.

Camp said suspicious activity that might indicate abuse could include multiple searches for the same license plate number within a relatively short time span.

“We’ve never found any abuses within our own system,” he said.

Camp said the Monett Police Department has used the Flock ALPR system since 2024.

use, however, according to KCUR’s report, federal law enforcement would like in on ALPR capabilities.

The FBI wants to buy access to ALPRs, “Which would likely allow the agency to track the movements of vehicles — and by extension people — across the country without a warrant,” according to 404 Media, as quoted by KCUR (<https://tinyurl.com/y9p5v4uw>).

In Monett, Camp said Flock cameras are not — and cannot be — used for immigration enforcement.

However, according to KCUR, the city of Dayton, Ohio, discontinued the use of Flock’s data “after it found more than 7,000 searches relating to immigration enforcement made by outside entities.”

In Missouri, House Bill 3192 was introduced by Representative LaKeySha Bosley, D-St. Louis, in February 2026.

The bill detailed what purposes ALPRs could be used for, including criminal investigations when there’s reasonable suspicion a crime has been committed, as well as for investigations involving missing or endangered persons. The proposed bill stated that the cameras could not be used for general surveillance, immigration enforcement or to monitor people who [weren’t] breaking the law.

The bill gained headway, but was referred to the “Emerging Issues” committee in May, to await further action.

Asbill believes safeguards for ALPR use are important.

“We can’t benefit from Flock if we don’t maintain the trust of the public,” he said.

Kuhn said he’s not trying to be a stick in the mud by speaking out against Flock cameras.

“Today, it’s hard to know what’s real and what’s not when you’re online,” he said. “Using AI technology, [any of us] could be made to appear as though we had committed a crime that we didn’t commit, so why hand someone the added ability to follow us around if they don’t like what we say?”

However, in spite of ALPRs’ current uses and its potential for abuse, Kuhn, Asbill and the MPD all agree that Flock technology, in its current state, is far less invasive than a Smart phone and its apps:

a device that most people carry around.

According to the MPD, a smart phone knows who you communicate with and the internet searches you conduct, and often knows where you are, knows where you shop and sells or shares information for advertising purposes.

An ALPR camera, on the other hand, only collects license plate information to be retained for 30 days, unless it’s retained as criminal evidence, the MPD said.

An ALPR’s primary purpose, according to a printed FAQ handout from the MPD, is for public safety and criminal investigations.

“The goal should never be choosing between liberty and public safety,” the MPD handout states. “Communities should expect both.”

Paris Lewbel, Flock spokesperson, told KCUR news that last year, “The company supported more than 1 million criminal investigations and incidents, assisted an estimated 20% of solved cases in jurisdictions where its technology is deployed, and helped locate more than 10,000 missing persons.”

In spite of ways that ALPRs are used to benefit communities, members of some of those same communities are weighing the cameras’ benefits against the risks to their personal privacy.

In southern Barry County, the Seligman Police Department recently cancelled its contract with Flock after a public poll was conducted to gather community feedback.

A cancellation letter addressed to Flock was included in minutes from Seligman’s Aug. 10 Board of Alderman meeting. The city’s Flock contract, which included three fixed cameras, was cancelled, in part, because of “overwhelming opposition to continuing the use of [the system],” the minutes state.

The cities of Purdy, Wheaton and Washburn do not use ALPR cameras.

Danny Boyd, Barry County sheriff, said the Sheriff’s Office does use the Flock system. Boyd was unavailable for further comment before press time.

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JUST kidding

Q: How do you stop an astronaut's baby from crying?
A: Rocket.

JUST kidding

Q: What do you call a duck that gets all A's?
A: A wise quacker.

JUST kidding

Q: How do you talk to a giant?
A: Use big words.

DOT TO DOT

Private eye

Which of these is the opossum's shadow

ANSWER: 5

Sudoku 6 x 6

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

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

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RETURNS ON INVESTMENT ROI
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LADY BULLDOGS
VOLLEYBALL

What: Season begins on Sept. 1 at home against Sheldon
Returning: Six varsity contributors
More: Team adjusting to new coach's expectations, system

Wheaton volleyball enters new era

Squad returns 6 varsity players, growing into new system

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

The Wheaton volleyball will embark on its 2026 season with a new coach, a new structure and a roster that has already given the squad plenty of reasons to be optimistic.

Kacy Whitley, incoming Wheaton volleyball coach, has set an ambitious goal for her first season, with the Bulldogs aiming to contend for a district championship and make a deep postseason run.

"This season will demand hard work, leadership, and a complete team effort, and we're ready to rise to the occasion," she said.

The Lady Bulldogs' summer numbers and competitiveness have helped reinforce those expectations. Whitley said the depth of players participating this summer has been exciting, especially as the team adjusts to changes within the program.

"With a new coach and a shift of structure within the program, it has been an adjustment for them," Whitley said. "They are a very competitive group who have been rising to the challenges I've set before them."

Wheaton returns a strong group of experienced players, including six players who contributed at the varsity level last

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5B

'CATS CRAVING ANOTHER SHOT AT 'SHIP



Cassville football players join Head Coach Clay Weldy for post-practice team talk at the Wildcats' team camp at William Jewel this summer. Contributed photo

12 starters return from team that played for district title

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

With a dozen starters returning to the fold, the Cassville football team is looking to return to being a district title holder.

Cassville enters the season with a veteran core, a challenging schedule and an emphasis on improving each week. The Wildcats return 12 starters and 19 lettermen from last year's 8-4 team, which finished tied for second in the Big 8 Conference and reached the Class 3, District 6 championship game.

Cassville opened last season 1-3 before winning seven consecutive games and advancing to the title bout, where it fell to Seneca, which went on to win the Class 3 state championship. Cassville defeated Reeds Spring 52-0 and Mount Vernon 27-14 in their first two district games.

"Our goal as a team is to get better as the season progresses," said Clay Weldy, head coach. "We want to see improvements each week of the season. We want to be playing our best football when districts begin."

Cassville's experience is spread across

WILDCATS FOOTBALL

What: Season begins on Aug. 28 at home against Monett for the Barry County Brawl
Returning: 12 starters and 19 total lettermen
More: Quarterback, strong running backs and defensive backs look to make mark on squad

both sides of the ball, giving the Wildcats a foundation to build around after losing 10 starters and 12 lettermen.

The Wildcats return their starting quarterback, three running backs, two offensive linemen, a tight end and several wide receivers. Weldy said those returners will form the core of the offense.

Jaren Stearns returns for his senior season after starting under center last year.

"Jaren did an outstanding job running our offense," Weldy said. "We will need him to continue to progress and have a big senior year for us."

Stearns earned All-District honors at quarterback and was an honorable mention All-Southwest Missouri Football Coaches Association selection.

Behind him, Cassville returns several

experienced players capable of carrying a significant workload.

Kamden Beebe, a senior running back, defensive back and returner, earned first-team All-State and first-team All-Conference honors as a returner last season. He also was named All-District and first-team All-SWFBFA as a returner, while earning second-team All-Conference honors at running back and honorable mention All-SWFBFA recognition at the position.

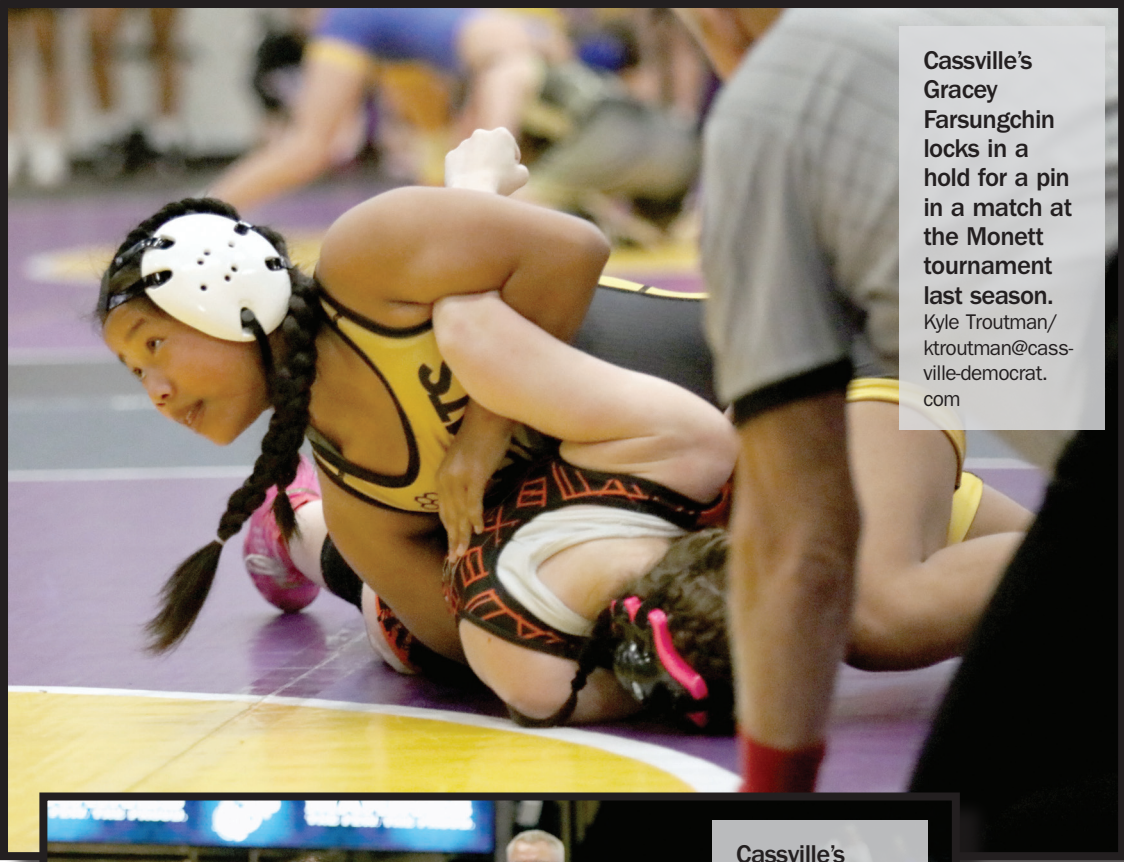
"Kamden had a huge year for us on special teams; he also was explosive for us on offense at running back," Weldy said. "We are hoping he is explosive for us again on offense and special teams."

Easton Hughes also returns as a senior after starting at linebacker and running back the previous two seasons. Hughes earned second-team All-Conference and All-District honors at linebacker, along with second-team All-SWFBFA recognition.

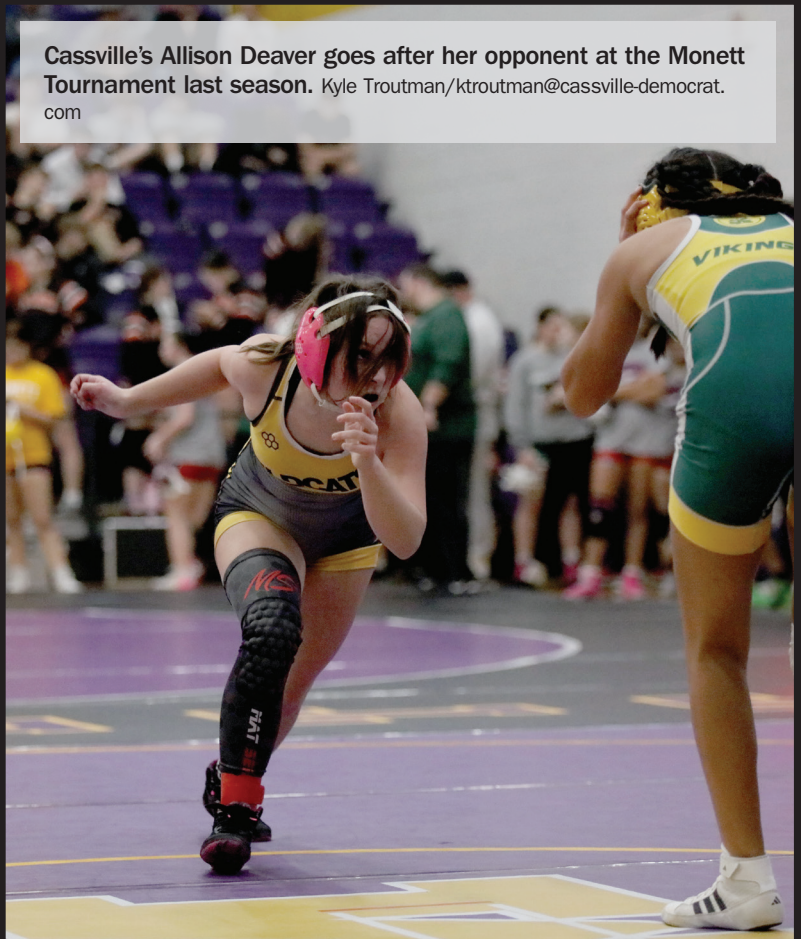
"He's been a major contributor on both sides of the ball for us, and will need to be

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8B

Year in Photos — Cassville girls wrestling



Cassville's Gracey Farsungchin locks in a hold for a pin in a match at the Monett tournament last season. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com



Cassville's Allison Deaver goes after her opponent at the Monett Tournament last season. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com



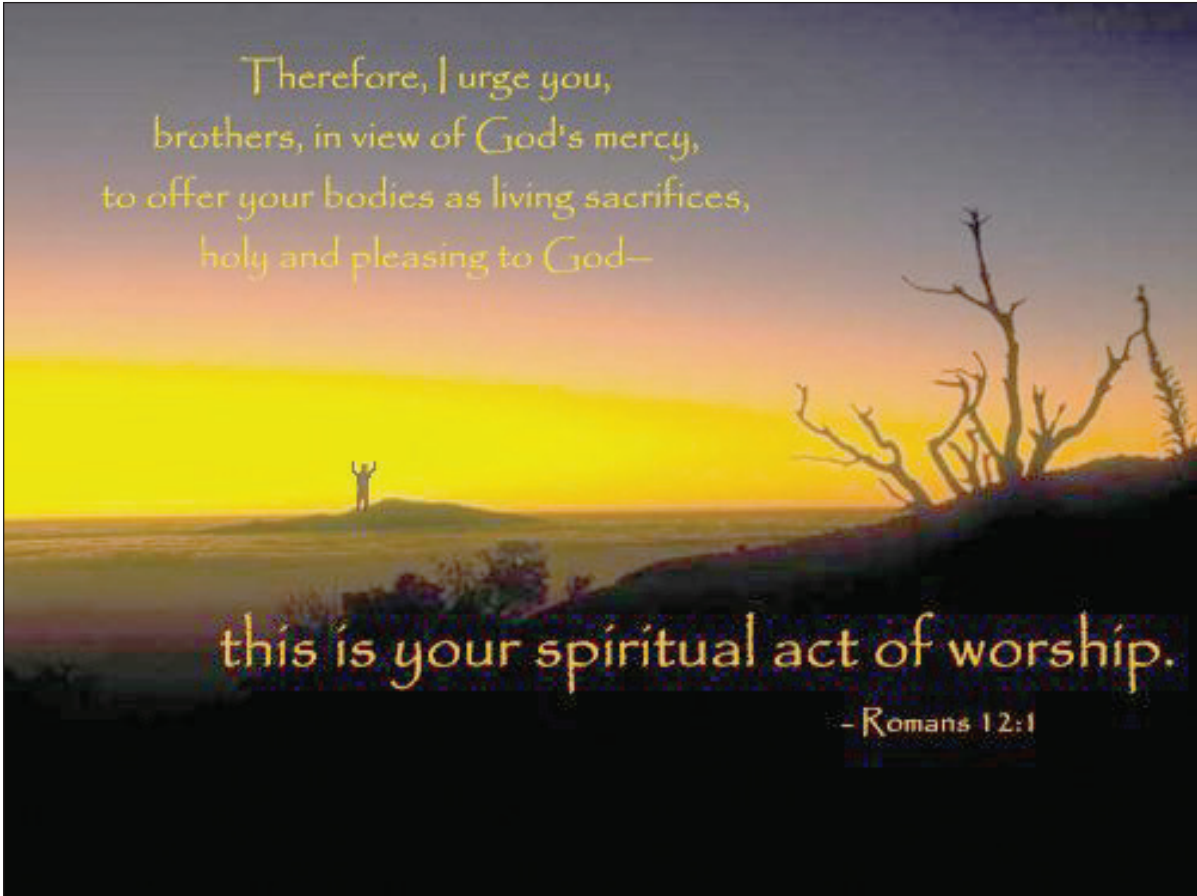
Cassville's Analeigh Winchell battles her semi-final opponent at the state championships last season. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com



Cassville's Myah Dunfee scores takedown points in a match at the Monett Tournament last season. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

CASSVILLE AREA DEVOTIONAL PAGE

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



BIBLE VERSE:

“Let him who boasts boast in the Lord.” For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends.”

— 2 CORINTHIANS 10:17-18

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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.

HOUSING SOUGHT

SEEKING HOUSING: Retired man, good health, clean and quiet seeks sleeping room or basement/ garage apartment. Easy-going and able to help with yard and house chores. References available on request. Call Steve at 417-896-0015.

PETS

FREE KITTENS: To good home, 4 months old. In Cassville. Call 479-502-7117.

REUNION

FAMILY REUNION: The Allen Family reunion will be held in Cassville at the American Legion Building at 473 State Hwy 76 Cassville, Mo 65625. Turn at the tank. Sunday September 5th, 2026. 11 a.m. until you get tired of seeing our smiling faces.

MISCELLANEOUS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI AT CASSVILLE

CITY OF CASSVILLE
Plaintiff,
Vs.
WILLIAM J. HENBEST,
and his Unknown Heirs,
Grantees, Devises,
Successors, Consorts, and
Assigns,

CHARLES H. LANEY, and
his
Unknown Heirs, Grantees,
Devises.
Successors, Consorts, and
Assigns, and

CHARLA MURPHY,
Defendants.

NOTICE UPON ORDER
FOR PUBLICATION OF

**NOTICE
THE STATE OF MISSOURI
TO**

26BR-CC00116
Defendants,
William J. Henbest and
Charles H., Lancy, their
unknown heirs, grantees,
devises successors,
consorts and assigns.
YOU ARE HEREBY
NOTIFIED that an action has
been commenced against
you in the Circuit Court for
the County of Barry, Missouri,
the object and general nature
of which is for pursuance
and condemnation for the
following described property
in Barry County, Missouri:
All of Lots Four (4), Five (5)
Six (6). Seven (7). Eight (8)
and Nine (9)
Block Four (4) Smith and
Hayes Addition to the City of
Cassville, Missouri.

The names of all the
parties to said suit are stated
above in the caption hereof
and the

same and address of the
attorney for Plaintiffs is
Cordelia F. Herrin. P.O.
Box 276,
702 West Street, Cassville
MO 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 5th day of August, 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 from the
record.

WITNESS my hand and
seal of the Circuit Court this
29th day of July, 2026.

CRAIG WILLIAMS,
Circuit Clerk,

By Kami Stanton
Clerk

1st Publication:
August 5. 2026
2nd Publication:
August 12, 2026
3rd Publication:
August 19. 2026
4th Publication:
August 26, 2026
1st Insertion 08/05/26
30-33

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

In the Matter of:
L. J. M.
A female minor child.
Estate No.
25BR-DR00142

**NOTICE UPON ORDER
FOR SERVICE BY
PUBLICATION**

The State of Missouri to
Chloe Miles natural mother
and the natural father Joseph
Hall:

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

Court of the County of
Barry, State of Missouri,
the object and general
nature of which is Petition
for Termination of Parental
Rights and Adoption.

The names of all parties to
the said suit are stated above
in the caption hereof and the
name and address of the
attorney for petitioner is

James J. Randall,
405 Broadway,
P.O. Box 151, Monett, MO
65708.

You are further notified
that, unless you file an
answer or pleading or shall
otherwise appear and defend
against the aforesaid petition
within forty-five (45) days
after the 5th day of AUGUST,
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.

Witness my hand and seal
of the Circuit Court, State
of Missouri, the 28th day of
July, 2026.

Craig Williams
Circuit clerk
By KATIE CORREIA
D/C

First Publication:
AUGUST 05, 2026
Second Publication:
AUGUST 12, 2026
Third Publication:
AUGUST 19, 2026
Fourth Publication:
AUGUST 26, 2026
1st insertion 08/05/26
30-33

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

In re THE MARRIAGE OF:
VUE VANCHAL,
Petitioner,
and
PA HOUA VUE,
Respondent.
Case No.
26BR-DR00105

**NOTICE UPON ORDER
FOR SERVICE BY
PUBLICATION**

THE STATE OF MISSOURI
TO:
The Respondent PA HOUA
VUE

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

The names of all parties
to said action are stated
above in the caption hereof
and the name and address
of the attorney for Petitioner
is Blake B. Fields of the Law
Office of

Blake B. Fields, LLC,
605 Main Street, Cassville,
Missouri 65625.

You are further notified that,
unless you file an answer or
other pleading or otherwise
appear and defend against
this action within forty-five
(45) days after AUGUST 05.
2026, judgment by default
will be entered against you.

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

A true copy from the
record.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4B

2 AUCTIONS - SAME DAY

DAY 1 OF 3-DAY FARM & BUSINESS AUCTIONS

Thursday, Aug. 20, 2026 — 10 AM & 2 PM

Locations: 10:00 AM Location: Aurora, MO. (29 North Elliott St, Aurora MO)
2:00 PM Location: Marionville, MO. (501 S. Frisco Ste B, Marionville MO)

CONSTRUCTION ITEMS -BATH TUBS - CABINETS - DOORS - FORK LIFTS - GENERATOR



1st Auction 10:00 AM: Lots of construction related items !!!! The Gold's were in the construction business for several years and are no longer in that line of work so both auctions, the 10 AM and the 2 PM have "A LOT" of construction related items. Approx 50 or 60 step in bathtubs, several are brand new, some are used, Safe Step & American Standard. Some with shower kits. To buy these units new, they are very expensive so contractors, here's your opportunity to cash in on some deals – (9) Safe Step doors – shower pans – tub ext kits – (11) 16" Shiplap – misc panel doors – (11) 1x4x8 primed trim – (3) 2 1/4 door and window trim – (15) 2x6x10 – (14) used primed base – (12) Castle brook black shadow shingle bundles – (1) 4160 shower – (15) 24"x24" carpet tiles (gray) – vanity – (3) filing cabinets – (1) 15"x13" butcher block countertop – (9) 24" doors – (5) 30" doors – (4) 32" doors – (3) 36" doors – (12) 4' fluorescent lights – (13) used 2x4x8 – (30 new 2x4x8 – (2) 24" wood doors(1) 36" exterior steel door – (1) 30" exterior door – (3) 24" pocket doors – (1) 36" pocket door – (12) 8' arm rack – (4) 4x6 metal shelf racks – (4) 42"x12 arm racks – (12) Safe Step doors – (23) American Standard handicap grab bars – (7) toilets – (23) 37.95 sq ft bamboo – (23) 2x12x12 – (15) 2x6x11 – (4) Display racks – Craftsman small tool boxes – lots of American Standard parts – (17) American Standard drain assembly kits – (43) 16x16 carpet tiles – Bow Flex – desk chairs – misc lumber – fork lift – many more items not listed.

2nd Auction 2:00 PM: Safe Step & American Standard walk in tubs new and used – toilets – faucets – plumbing parts – tub surrounds – shower pans – electrical supplies – several breaker boxes and breakers – 200 amp generator transfer switch – dry wall lift – Yale forklift – 3 sections of scaffold – several handicap grab bars – roll around shop carts – large old Iowa College safe – lots of pallet racks – pallet jacks – lots of shower corners, pans, etc – forklift pallet extensions – house trim – roll around tool chest – transmission jacks – RRC 750 refrigerant recovery, reclaim & charging station – lots of acrylic – truck tool boxes – Power vac 5250 watt generator – misc household – (2) natural gas hang heaters – generator with Honda engine – lots of glass shower doors & tracks – Shark bite & pex fittings – GFCI plugs – wall plate brackets – many more items not listed. **Note:** Both of these locations will have a lot of construction items new and used. Lots of walk in tubs & accessories, forklifts, a really nice old time safe, much much more. 10:00 AM Aurora, 2:00 PM Marionville. Bring your trucks & trailers and don't forget this is a 3 day auction for the Gold's. With the dispersal of farm equipment, cargo vans, misc box trucks, campers & more on Friday and then on Saturday the rental store dispersal in Marionville, formerly Rural Missouri Rental, selling Real Estate, trucks, skid steer, lifts, trailers, tools, mini X, attachments & much more. **Terms:** Cash, good check with bank letter of credit or credit card. Credit cards will have a 5% convenience fee. If paying with a check, a bank letter of credit will be needed to remove any large items. Some of the larger items will sell with reserve. All sells as is where is with no warranty or guarantee expressed or implied. Any announcements day of sale supersede any and all printed material.



Auctioneer:
Donnie Stumpff
MO & AR State Cham-
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Auctioneer:
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HUGE SALE

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Apply at careers.usventure.com

WIC NUTRITIONIST FULL-TIME

The Barry County Health Department is seeking a full-time non-exempt WIC Nutritionist to join our Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) team. The successful candidate will provide nutrition education and counseling to pregnant and postpartum women, infants, and children while promoting healthy lifestyles and breastfeeding support. Minimum qualifications apply. Complete job description, qualifications, application, and instructions for applying are available on our website: www.barrycountyhealth.com Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Barry County Health Department is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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AUCTION AUCTION AUCTION

PARTIAL FARM DISPERSAL & BUSINESS DISPERSAL (DAY 2)

Friday, Aug. 21, 2026 — 10 AM

Locations: Aurora, MO. From downtown Aurora take Olive St. 1.7 miles then go Northwest on Hwy 39 for 5.1 miles. Auction on left. (17045 Hwy 39, Aurora MO).

FARM EQUIPMENT – FARM RELATED ITEMS – TRAILERS – BOX TRUCKS – DUMP TRUCK – AUTOMOBILES – OFFICE FURNITURE & FURNITURE – BOAT – CAMPER – TOOLS – AUTOMOTIVE PARTS & TOOLS – ANT PEDDLE TRACTOR – LOTS OF SCRAP – MUCH MUCH MORE



Farm Equipment: 2012, 9' New Holland 617 disk mower – Mahindra 851 front end loader – 40' tandem dual gooseneck flatbed trailer – gooseneck Trav along 24" 2 cut gates, stock trailer (rough) – 2011 Ford F350, 6.7 power stroke diesel, crew cab, 4x4 with hay bed (sells w/owner confirmation) – 12' Gooseneck stock trailer, no title, needs work – old Belarus 805 tractor for parts – 3 pt angle blade – 3 pt 6' box blade – HD 3pt bale spike – 5' brush hog – post drive bit – rock breaker bit – approx. (20) 5'x12' portable panels – (3) farm fuel tanks on stands – 1976 Ford F750 dump truck, high and low – Case 450 track loader. **Trailers:** 3 semi trailers, 53' – racking support for semi – several bumper pull box trailers, various sizes 14'-28' – some have damage – stock trailers – flat bed trailer. **Box Trucks:** 2008 GMC Savanna box truck, AC, newer motor – 2008 GMC 18' box truck w/aluminum ramp – 1999 GMC C 6500, 24' box truck with lift gate (bad engine) – 1994 Freightliner, 12 valve Cummings 26' box truck w/lift gate – (3) GMC 16' box trucks for parts. **Vehicles:** 1993 Ford F350, tandem duals, 7.3 power stroke turbo diesel, emits fire flames, show truck – 1996 Dodge SLT Laramie, 5.2 liter, 5 sp, short wheel bed, w/nice wheels & tires – 2015 Ford transit connect, 2.5 liter – 2000 Ford F150 XL, single cab, 4.6 liter V8, Standard shift – 2017 Dodge Ram 2500, 4x2, crew cab, auto, 6.4 liter – 2003 Chevy Malibu, 3.1 liter V6 – 2014 Dodge Ram CV Tradesman Cargo van – 1996 GMC rollback, automatic w/3116 cat – 1989 Ford XLT single cab, fixer upper – 1969 Cougar, no engine, new transmission & misc parts, project collector – 1997 Ford F350 cab & frame (only) – 1992 F250 XLT, ext cab, bad motor. **Campers:** 2019 Coleman Lantern 281 BH, Bumper pull camper w/living room/kitchen slide out – 1998 Mallard by Fleetwood 275B, 5th wheel camper w/living room/kitchen slide out. **Boats:** 1988 VIP boat w/inboard motor & trailer(needs work) – old Bass Buggy tri toon w/trailer (for parts) – old boat & trailer (for trailer or parts). **Tools:** Pak Master 50 plasma cutter – (3) large 220 upright air compressors – CEMBK10 tire balancer – mdl #7C – 950 WPA tire changer, up to 20" wheels – floor buffer – 1950's/60's Robinaire AC machine – antifreeze coolant flush machine – old AC machine – wall mount hydraulic press – elect over hydraulic pump – torch bottles – jacks – misc push mowers – misc automotive parts & tools – wheel barrow – (2) 48" sheet metal brakes. Tires: All kinds of used tires, ATV tires, new skid tire. ATV's: Honda TRX 125, 4 wheeler – Polaris Hawk eye 4x4, 250 4 wheeler – Polaris Explorer 300, 2 stroke (bad engine). ****LOTS OF SCRAP IRON & MISC**** **Collectibles:** Old MD65 ERTL peddle tractor – Haviland China – ant dresser & more. **Office Furniture & Misc Furniture:** Several office desk, L shape computer desks, office chairs, credenza's, misc office furniture, approx. (15) TV's used for monitors – several custom cabinets – several rolls & remnants of carpets, different sizes. **Misc:** Misc bamboo flooring – side by side refrigerator/ freezer – Omni cube box, from ice truck – Hyster 3000 lb fork lift (needs parts) – misc concrete blocks – approx. 20 white sheets of 26 ga shop metal – several sheets of brown shop metal – box trailer tie down straps – pipe or wood rack – pallet racking – shop shelving – 2015 Ford F350 fed, gooseneck hitch, receiver hitch – (2) steel flat beds for trucks – (2) Spectrum kayaks – many more items not listed **Note:** This is day 2 of a 3 day auction. The Gold's have closed out their construction business so this is a partial farm dispersal & a business dispersal. Lots of parking so bring your trucks and trailers, catering & porta potty on site. See you Friday Aug 21st, 10:00 AM then on Saturday Aug 22nd in Marionville MO. We will sell the rental business with real estate on Hwy 60, equipment & tools. **Terms:** Cash, good check with bank letter of credit or credit card. Credit cards will have a 5% convenience fee. If paying with a check, a bank letter of credit will be needed to remove any large items. Some of the larger items will sell with reserve. All sells as is where is with no warranty or guarantee expressed or implied. Any announcements day of sale supersede any and all printed material.



Auctioneer:
Donnie Stumpff
MO & AR State Cham-
pion Auctioneer
#1409 | PB00051442



Owner: Clay & Kerry Gold
STUMPF'S
REALTY & AUCTION SERVICE, INC.
www.stumpffauction.com
417-847-2507



Auctioneer:
Parker Stumpff
AR State Champion
Auctioneer
#2352

CLASSIFIEDS/LEGALS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3B
Witness my hand and the seal of the Circuit Court this 28th day of JULY 2026
Dated: JULY 28, 2026
Craig Williams
CIRCUIT CLERK
BY KATIE CORREIA/DC
First Publication:
AUGUST 05, 2026
Second Publication:
AUGUST 12, 2026
Third Publication:
AUGUST 19, 2026
Fourth Publication:
AUGUST 26, 2026
1st insertion 08/05/26
30-33

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF BARRY COUNTY,
MISSOURI AT CASSVILLE

MACKA PROPERTIES,
LLC,
PLAINTIFF,
VS.
Steve Blankenship, in his capacity as Presiding Commissioner of Barry County, Gene Robbins, in his capacity as Southern Commissioner of Barry County, Gary Schad, in his capacity as Northern Commissioner of Barry County;
AND
The Village of Emerald Beach;
AND

Robert W. Cannon, Mercedes Cannon, George D. Sinn, Shirley L. Sinn, Charles V. Petty, Lois E. Petty, Richard L. Ott, Doris J. Ott, The Richard L. & Doris J. Ott Revocable Living Trust, Madge H. Renard, Michael D. Darling, Raymond & Betty Nelson Trust, David J. Fuller, Richard Thomison, Patricia Thomison, George J. Cindrich, Harry S.M. Bates, Jr., Iris P. Bates, Fred W. Klaus, Virginia P. Klaus, Diane L. Carlson, Richard Blunden, Mary Blunden, Tracey Crook, Harold G. Chapman, Helen A. Chapman, John T. Drake, Ernestine Drake, Kenneth Brechbill, Donna Brechbill, Chris M. Pedersen, Clair Dickinson, Ethel Dickenson, Donald J. Pazsek, Margaret L. Pazsek, Richard E. Saxton, Cynthia Barnes, Lloyd Bletche, Muriel Bletche, Evelyn Schauer, Lee Gummow, Kenneth L. Silvers, Sharon K. Silvers, Steve M. Coring, Marti J. Coring, Rod Pappé, Betty Lou Holeman, Lloyd O. Holeman, Bettie A. Holman, Lloyd O. & Bettie A. Holeman Trust, Gary W. Coltrane, Virginia J. Coltrane, Juanita J. Dannenberg, Eric Chambers, Robert L. Twitchell, Iller Family Revocable Trust, Alfred J. Iller, Trustee, Marguerite J. Iller, Trustee, Daren A. Linnell, Jr., Jule P. Foster, Patricia L. Burford, John Burford, Loyd E Gilmore, Susan C. Gilmore, Tarrie L. Ruark, Jerry L. Ruark, Tina Marie Hillhouse, Timothy A. Hillhouse, EdDee Ma Hillhouse, Lowell C. Duncan, Jr., Loretta Mae Chase, Carol Jean Smith, Olga Lee Lewis, Lelia F. Melugin, Joan M. Weng, Edward F. Hornof, G.E. Durbin, Louise Durbin, Donald D. Row Revocable Trust, C.W. Ross, Lester & Edith Purdom Trust, Charles D. Powell, and Iona M. Powell, and their heirs, grantees, devisees, consorts, successors, and assigns;
DEFENDANTS.

NOTICE UPON ORDER
FOR PUBLICATION OF
NOTICE

THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO:
Robert W. Cannon, Mercedes Cannon, Gerge D. Sinn, Shirley L. Sinn, Charles V. Petty, Lois E. Petty, Richard L. Ott, Doris J. Ott, The Richard L. & Doris J. Ott Revocable Living Trust, Madge H. Renard, Michael D. Darling, Raymond & Betty Nelson Trust, David J. Fuller, Richard Thomison, Patricia Thomison, George J. Cindrich, Harry S.M. Bates, Jr., Iris P. Bates, Fred W. Klaus, Virginia P. Klaus, Diane L. Carlson, Richard Blunden, Mary Blunden, Tracey Crook, Harold G. Chapman, Helen A. Chapman, John T. Drake, Ernestine Drake, Kenneth Brechbill, Donna Brechbill, Chris M. Pedersen, Clair Dickinson, Ethel Dickenson, Donald J. Pazsek, Margaret L. Pazsek, Richard E. Saxton, Cynthia Barnes, Lloyd Bletche, Muriel Bletche, Evelyn Schauer, Lee Gummow, Kenneth L. Silvers, Sharon K. Silvers, Steve M. Coring, Marti J. Coring, Rod Pappé, Betty Lou Holeman, Lloyd O. Holeman, Bettie A. Holman, Lloyd O. & Bettie A. Holeman Trust, Gary W.

Coltrane, Virginia J. Coltrane, Juanita J. Dannenberg, Eric Chambers, Robert L. Twitchell, Iller Family Revocable Trust, Alfred J. Iller, Trustee, Marguerite J. Iller, Trustee, Daren A. Linnell, Jr., Jule P. Foster, Patricia L. Burford, John Burford, Loyd E Gilmore, Susan C. Gilmore, Tarrie L. Ruark, Jerry L. Ruark, Tina Marie Hillhouse, Timothy A. Hillhouse, EdDee Ma Hillhouse, Lowell C. Duncan, Jr., Loretta Mae Chase, Carol Jean Smith, Olga Lee Lewis, Lelia F. Melugin, Joan M. Weng, Edward F. Hornof, G.E. Durbin, Louise Durbin, Donald D. Row Revocable Trust, C.W. Ross, Lester & Edith Purdom Trust, Charles D. Powell, and Iona M. Powell, and their heirs, grantees, devisees, consorts, successors, and assigns; but if they shall be deceased, then their unknown heirs, grantees, consorts, spouses or successors of those of them who shall be deceased.
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action has been commenced against you in the Circuit Court for the County of Barry, Missouri, the object and general nature of which is to quiet title to the following described property in Barry County, Missouri:

Lots 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 & 33 of Bob White Subdivision as per the recorded plat thereof, Barry County Missouri.
Lots 100, 101, 102, 141, 142, 146, 163, 164 & 213, of Emerald Beach Estates No. 1 Subdivision as per the recorded plat thereof, Barry County Missouri.
Lots 1, 113, 129 & 131 of Emerald Beach Estates No. 3 Subdivision as per the recorded plat thereof, Barry County Missouri.
Lots 19, 29, 31, 104, 110, 119, 144, 146, 147, 148, 160 & 161 of Emerald Beach Estates No. 4 Subdivision as per the recorded plat thereof, Barry County Missouri.
Lots 152, 193, 207, 208, 216, 250, 251, 253, 254, 263, 275 & 277 of Emerald Beach Estates No. 5 Subdivision as per the recorded plat thereof, Barry County Missouri.
Lot 29 of Emerald Beach Estates No. 6 Subdivision as per the recorded plat thereof, Barry County Missouri.
Lots 4, 7, 8, 9, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, & 30 of Emerald Beach Estates No.
8 Subdivision as per the recorded plat thereof, 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 Cordelia F. Herrin, P.O. Box 276,

702 West Street, Cassville, Missouri 65625.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that, unless you file an answer or other pleading or shall otherwise appear and defend against the aforesaid Petition within 45 days after the 19th day of August 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 from the record.
WITNESS my hand and seal of the Circuit Court this 13th day of August, 2026.
CRAIG WILLIAMS, Circuit Clerk
By Kami Stanton
1st Publication:
August 19th, 2026
2nd Publication:
August 26, 2026
3rd Publication:
September 2, 2026
4th Publication:
September 9, 2026
1st insertion 08/19/26
32-35

NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING

Pioneer Road District of Barry County will hold a public hearing to adapt 2026 tax rate.
The meeting will be held at Wheaton Fire Department, at 7:00 p.m. On Wednesday , August 26, 2026
2026 Current Year Assessed Valuations are,
Real Estate \$1,852,440
Personal Property \$728,036.

Total \$2,580,476.
2025 Prior Year Assessed Valuations were:
Real Estate \$1,826,498.
Personal Property \$663,882.
Total \$2,490,380.
2025 Tax Rate Ceiling was .02041
2026 Tax Rate Ceiling .02041
Only insertion 8/19/26
32

PROBATE

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

In the Estate of
COY E CUMMINS,
Deceased.
Case Number:
26BR-PR00089

NOTICE OF LETTERS
OF ADMINISTRATION
GRANTED
(SUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of
COY E CUMMINS,
Decedent:
On JULY 13, 2026, the following individual was appointed the personal representative of the estate of COY E CUMMINS, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri.
The personal representative's name and business address is:
JOCELYN A CUMMINS,
PO BOX CASSVILLE, MO 65625
The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is:
HARRY DANIEL SCHWARTZ,
702 WEST ST,
PO BOX 276,
CASSVILLE, MO 65625,
417-847-2734.

All creditors of said 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:
25-JAN-2026
Date of first publication:
JULY 29, 2026
Date of second publication:
AUGUST 5, 2026
Date of third publication:
AUGUST 12, 2026
Date of fourth publication:
AUGUST 19, 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 07/29/26
29-32

THE CIRCUIT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
BARRY COUNTY,
MISSOURI

In the Estate of:
Lilly Petersen
Deceased.
Estate No.
26BR-PR00002

NOTICE OF FILING OF
FINAL SETTLEMENT
AND PETITION FOR
DISTRIBUTION

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Lilly Petersen, Deceased:
You are hereby notified that the undersigned Personal Representative will file a Final Settlement and Petition for determination

AUCTION AUCTION AUCTION

RENTAL BUSINESS CLOSE OUT AUCTION!!!!

Saturday, Aug. 22, 2026 — 10 AM

Locations: Marionville, MO. Across from the Marionville Police Station. (19321 Western, Marionville Mo)

REAL ESTATE – MINI X – SKID STEER – LIFTS – SHOW TRUCK - TRAILERS – TRUCKS – IMPLEMENTS – TOOLS – MUCH MORE



Real Estate: 9 Acres m/l selling in 2 Tracs. Tract # 1: Formerly The Rural Missouri Rental Building. The building is 30'X32' with 1 bathroom, a show room, 2 office spaces, mech room, 2 entry doors, on 1 acre m/l with parking area & pipe fence around the perimeter, also utility poles with lights. The building has Central Heat & Air & 200 Amp Electrical service, Also a storage shed & billboard that could be rented or used for your business. Has a Well & Septic. Very busy, hwy 60 frontage, plus county road frontage on 2 sides. The state of Missouri shows a traffic count of 12,000 plus per day. We will offer this Tract 1st! **Tract #2:** Boarders Tract #1, 8 Acres M/L open land with lots of hwy 60 frontage & county road frontage. Great location for storage buildings, Car lots, or any type of business that needs good Visibility.

Skid Steer: 2017 T 450 Bobcat Skid Steer w/tracks. **Mini X:** Takeuchi TB 216 Mini X – Lifts: JLG 400 s, 40' boom lift with diesel engine, generator with power to boom – JLG mdl G642A telehandler 40' boom, cab with heat & air, diesel engine – Skyjack SJ111, 3219 scissor lift. **Trailers:** 6'x10' dump trailer – 5'x8' drop gate utility trailer. **Trucks:** 2013 Ford F550, 6.7 power stroke diesel, dually, crew cab, 4x2, flat bed, only 118xxx miles, automatic. – 2005 Chevy 3500, single cab, automatic, flat bed – 2015 GMC Savanna cargo van, 6.0-liter V8 – 2014 Ford E350 box truck. - WALK BEHIND DITCH WITCH C 14 – COMMERCIAL WOODCHIPPER W/NEW 4.5 LITER, 80 HP, JOHN DEERE ENGINE. **Implements:** Skid steer 12" hole auger – quick attach skid steer trencher – front load pallet forks – 3pt Frontier 5' brush hog – 3pt 5' brush hog – 3pt Frontier 6' box blade (new) – skid steer 6' quick attach brush cutter – 12" & 18" Mini X buckets. FLA GRO 100,000,000 BTU, heater/generator combo, self contained, Yanmar 1.1 liter 3 cyl engine, 67 amp, very expensive new, used to dry out flooded homes, hotels, etc. Also bed bug machine (w/owner confirmation). **Tools:** Dewalt 225 psi air compressor – Firman 6700 watt generator – Karcher 196 cc pressure washer – Reddy torpedo heater – ast Dewalt cordless tools (new) – 150 psi air compressor – Earthquake 209 cc rear tire tiller – Earthquake 99cc front tire tiller – Central machine concrete tamper – Trash pump – Trash pump hose- 2-wheel dolly- Grinders- Drills- Paint mixer- Stihl concrete Saw- Carpet Stretcher- Tile Cutter- Kerosene heater - Carpet Stretcher for concrete – Nail guns- Hardwood Stapler – Tongue & Groove hardwood Stapler – Commercial hot glue gun - Dewalt drywall Screw gun – Large Sewer Snake – Receiver Hitches – Floor Buffer – Emergency Tri Angle Kits – Vinyl Roller – Portable Work Lights (new) – Drywall Lift – Upright Air Compressor – Transmission jack – Pipe Bender – Truck Tool Boxes – 8' step ladder – ½ spool of 5/8 cable – Chop Saw with stand – Table saw – Alum. Ext. ladder – Bosch – hammer drill – Ext. Cords – Misc. Step ladder's – Misc. Contractors tools. **Misc.:** Misc. Office Furniture – TV Monitors – Printer – Office Counter – Sm. Frigidaire Refrigerator/ Freezer – More items not listed. **Note:** Mr.& Mrs. Gold have shut down the rental business. For the person looking to open a rental business here is a great opportunity, we will sell the real estate 1st thing promptly at 10:00 AM, then the equipment & tools. This Real Estate is located on a very busy Hwy 60 with a state Traffic count of over 12,000 Automobiles per day. This property would be a fantastic location for anything. Marionville is on the move with a new McDonald's soon and just a short drive to Republic, don't miss the chance. Call Stumpff's Realty & Auction to preview The Real Estate before auction day or to pre-register. 417-847-2507. **Terms:** Cash, good check with bank letter of credit or credit card. Credit cards will have a 5% convenience fee. If paying with a check, a bank letter of credit will be needed to remove any large items. Some of the larger items will sell with reserve. All sells as is where is with no warranty or guarantee expressed or implied. Any announcements day of sale supersede any and all printed material.

Owner: Clay & Kerry Gold



Auctioneer:
Donnie Stumpff
MO & AR State Cham-
pion Auctioneer
#1409 | PB00051442



www.stumpffauction.com

417-847-2507



Auctioneer:
Parker Stumpff
AR State Champion
Auctioneer
#2352

of the persons who are the successors in interest to the personal / real property of the decedent and of the extent and character of their interest therein and for distribution of such property, in the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri, on July, 2026, or as may be continued by the Court, and that any objections or exceptions for such Final Settlement or Petition or any item thereof must be in writing and filed within twenty days after the filing of such Final Settlement.
James Randall
Attorney
1. Jarrell David Rhea
Personal Representative
405 E Broadway. Monett, Mo 65708
Address
Service of the within notice is acknowledged at
July 15.22, 29 and August 5.2026
Dates of Publication
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SERVICE OF NOTICE
Monett on July 7, 2026.
PROOF OF MAILING OF COPY OF NOTICE OF FILING OF FINAL SETTLEMENT AND PETITION FOR DISTRIBUTION
Samantha Prescott, on that state(s) that a copy of the above Notice was mailed by the undersigned on July 7, 2026
by ordinary mail, according to law, to:

Heirs
Kelly Rhea 236 South 485 West, Providence, Ut 84332
Karren Stonehouse 5094 FR 1090, Monett, Mo 65708

Kimberly Sprague PO Box 97, Blue Grass Ia, 52726
Kurtis Stonehouse 9602 Cypress Brook Rd, Tampa Fl 33647
Kathryn Swanson 528 1" Ave, Silivis, Il 61282
Kris Haley 2007 W George Washington, Davenport, Ia 52804

The foregoing is made under oath or affirmation and its representations are true and correct to the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, subject to the penalties of making a false affidavit or declaration.
1st insertion 7/29/26
29-32

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

In the Estate of GARTH REED,
Deceased.
Case Number: 26BR-PR00098

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
(SMALL ESTATE)

To All Persons Interested in

the Estate of
GARTH REED,
Decedent.
On JULY 28, 2026 a small estate affidavit was filed by the distributees for the decedent under Section 473.097, RSMo, with the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of BARRY COUNTY Missouri.
All creditors of Decedent, who died on February 19, 2026, are notified that Section 473.444, RSMo, sets a limitation period that would bar claims one year after the death of Decedent. A creditor may request that this estate be opened for administration.
Receipt of this notice should not be construed by the recipient to indicate that the recipient may possibly have a beneficial interest in the estate. The nature and extent of any person's interest, if any, may possibly be determined from the affidavit on this estate filed in the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of BARRY COUNTY Missouri.
Date of first publication is AUGUST 12, 2026.
Date of second publication is AUGUST 19, 2026.
Craig Williams, Circuit Clerk
by S. Parker, Probate Clerk
1st insertion 8/12/26
31-32

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5B

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4B

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

In the Estate of ALTINA L PIASECKI, Deceased.
Case Number: 26BR-PR00101

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

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of ALTINA L PIASECKI, Decedent:

On AUGUST 3, 2026, the last will of Decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was appointed the personal representative of the estate of ALTINA L PIASECKI, 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 and business address is:

TRISHA L EPPS,
708 WILLIAM STREET,
HUTCHINSON, KS 67501

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

TOBIN R DUNN,
620 W REPUBLIC RD
SUITE 104,
SPRINGFIELD, MO 65807,
(417) 851-5888

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

TOBIN R DUNN,
620 W REPUBLIC RD
SUITE 104,
SPRINGFIELD, MO 65807,
(417) 851-5888

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:

December 2, 2025
Date of first publication:
August 19, 2026
Date of second publication:
August 26, 2026
Date of third publication:
September 2, 2026
Date of fourth publication:
September 9, 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 08/12/26
32-35

TRUSTEE'S SALES

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 (270) FEET

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 ONE

HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (125) FEET], THENCE IN A NORTHERLY 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.

ALSO A STRIP OF LAND THREE (3) FEET WIDE OFF THE ENTIRE EAST SIDE OF THE

F O L L O W I N G 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 SOUTH LINE OF

OUT LOT THIRTY-EIGHT (38), THENCE WEST 70 FEET, THENCE NORTH

TO PLACE OF BEGINNING AND 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

I N F O R M A T I O N 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 in-formation 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_1st insertion 07/01/26
25-33

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

A default has accrued on a certain note secured by a deed of trust executed by, JAMES L PETERS

dated 2/4/2025 and recorded on 2/18/2025 in BOOK 25 PAGE 745, in the Recorder's office for Barry County, Missouri. The successor trustee will on August 21, 2026 between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, more particularly at 10:00 AM, at the East Front Door of the Barry County Courthouse, 700 Main Street, Cassville, Missouri sell at public venue to the highest bidder for cash (certified funds only), the following real estate:

THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED REAL PROPERTY, LYING, BEING AND SITUATE IN THE COUNTY OF BARRY AND STATE OF MISSOURI, TO WIT:

ALL OF LOTS SEVEN (7), EIGHT (8), NINE (9), TEN (10), ELEVEN (11) AND TWELVE (12), IN ELKINS ADDITION TO WHEATON, BARRY COUNTY AS PER RECORDED PLAT THEREOF.

EXCEPT:

ALL THAT PART OF LOTS 12, 11, 10, 9, 8 AND 7 ELKINS ADDITION TO WHEATON DESCRIBED AS: BEGINNING AT A POINT THAT IS 60 FEET WEST AND 62 FEET SOUTH OF THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT 12 IN ELKINS ADDITION TO WHEATON, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI THENCE NORTH 62 FEET TO THE NORTH LINE OF LOT 12; THENCE WEST 63 FEET MORE OR LESS TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 12; THENCE SOUTH ALONG THE WEST LINE OF LOTS 12, 11, 10, 9, 8 AND 7 A DISTANCE OF 150 FEET TO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 7; THENCE EAST ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LOT 7 A DISTANCE OF 104 FEET; THENCE LEAVING SAID LOT LINE NORTH 52 FEE; THENCE IN A NORTHWESTERLY DIRECTION 54.5 MORE OR LESS TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

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

CSM Foreclosure Trustee Corp.

Successor Trustee (800) 652-4080

4x
07/29/2026,
08/05/2026,
08/12/2026,
08/19/2026
CSM File 26-26-01206

NOTE: This office is a debt collector.

1st insertion 7/29/26
29-32

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

A default has accrued on a certain note secured by a deed of trust executed by, GEORGIA L. CHRISTENSEN dated 6/29/2010 and recorded on 7/6/2010 in BOOK 10 PAGE 3216, in the Recorder's office for Barry County, Missouri. The successor trustee will on September 8, 2026 between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, more particularly at 12:00 PM, at the East Front Door of the Barry County Courthouse, 700 Main Street, Cassville, Missouri sell at public venue to the highest bidder for cash (certified funds only), the following real estate:

LOT SEVENTEEN (17) IN BLOCK EIGHT (8) IN ORIGINAL TOWN OF MONETT, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI, SALZER'S SUBDIVISION.

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

CSM Foreclosure Trustee Corp.

Successor Trustee (800) 652-4080
4x
08/12/2026,
08/19/2026,
08/26/2026,
09/02/2026
CSM File 26-26-01124
NOTE: This office is a debt collector.
1st insertion 08/12/26
31-34

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

A default has accrued on a certain note secured by a deed of trust executed by, ROBERT R. SKINNER dated 1/12/2022 and recorded on 1/19/2022 in

INSTRUMENT NUMBER 202200000965, in the Recorder's office for Stone County, Missouri. The successor trustee will on September 4, 2026 between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, more particularly at 12:00 PM, at the North Front Door of the Stone County Courthouse, 108 E. 4th Street, Galena, Missouri sell at public venue to the highest bidder for cash (certified funds only), the following real estate:

ALL OF LOT FIFTY-FIVE (55), SWISS VILLA, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF, IN PLAT BOOK 6 PAGE 3, STONE

COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE, STONE COUNTY, MISSOURI.

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

CSM Foreclosure Trustee Corp.

Successor Trustee (800) 652-4080

4x
08/12/2026,
08/19/2026,
08/26/2026,
09/02/2026
CSM File 26-26-00971

NOTE: This office is a debt collector.

1st insertion 08/12/26
31-34



Wheaton's Lily Walling sends a ball over the net in action at Southwest Volleyfest last season. Kyle Troutman/kt troutman@cassville-democrat.com

Wheaton: New coach encouraged

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

season.

Junior Ava Bui returns as the libero after recording 214 digs last season. Senior Avery Schlessman also returns after producing 97 kills and 270 digs, while senior Lily Walling posted a 93-percent serving rate and 253 digs.

Senior Mallory Royer will see more action at the net as an outside hitter, while junior Morgan Crandall returns at middle hitter after recording 109 kills last season. Senior Shayle Prewitt will continue directing the offense as the team's setter.

The Lady Bulldogs also have four newcomers expected to compete for varsity roles. Juniors Alesha Hang, Lexi Krueger and Yami Vazquez, along with sophomore Sydney Walling, have already shown significant development despite having limited statistics from last season.

"These newcomers will be ones to watch," Whitley said. "Stats were limited for them last year, but they are already showing large gains and leadership among the varsity round up."

The senior class will provide the Bulldogs with an important foundation as they transition into Whitley's system.

Royer, Schlessman, Walling and Prewitt will be counted on not only for their production, but also for their leadership and communication.

"They are athletes I can trust to do things correctly and I never have to ask them to give me more," Whitley said. "They show up every day and they put in the work."

Whitley believes Wheaton's willingness to compete is already one of its biggest strengths.

"They want to compete and want to prove that on the court," she said.

The Lady Bulldogs have several options offensively and experience defensively.

"They are stepping up to the challenges set before them and excelling," Whitley said. "We have a strong number in hitters, the strength in two setters,



Wheaton's Morgan Crandall hits a ball during a contest at Southwest Volleyfest last season. Kyle Troutman/kt troutman@cassville-democrat.com

and experienced defensive specialists."

The biggest challenge may be getting all those pieces working together consistently. Wheaton is implementing new formations while incorporating several players into expanded varsity roles, and Whitley said establishing continuity will be an important part of the season.

"Gaining continuity in the new formations and adjusting to incoming varsity players that are expected to fill some big shoes [will be areas for improvement]," she said.

The schedule will give the Lady Bulldogs plenty of opportunities to develop. Wheaton will spend a significant amount of the season on the road, but Whitley believes the strength of the schedule is appropriate for where the program wants to go.

"We will continue to build and develop throughout the season and check off boxes, laying the foundation for a successful post-season run," she said.

Rather than identifying one particular game for fans to attend, Whitley wants the community to support the Bulldogs throughout the season.

"[We want fans to attend] all of them," she said. "We want support and encouragement to pack the stands and show the girls their hard work does not go unnoticed from the Bulldog community. We want the bleachers full."

With a mixture of returning production, senior leadership and newcomers pushing for varsity opportunities, Whitley believes Wheaton is already developing the competitive mindset needed to reach its goals.

The Lady Bulldogs' new coach has been encouraged by the team's response to the changes and the work put in during the summer. Now the challenge will be carrying that competitiveness into the regular season and building toward the postseason.

The Lady Bulldogs' regular season begins on Sept. 1 at home against Sheldon.



Cassville football players line up for a drill at the Wildcats' team camp at William Jewel this summer. Contributed photo



Cassville's Bodie Hodge rises for a catch at the Wildcats' team camp at William Jewel this summer. Contributed photo

Wildcats: Returners will be counted on for leadership, especially seniors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

a leader for us this season," Weldy said.

Masin Bryan, another senior running back and linebacker, has been a two-year starter at linebacker and started at running back last season.

"Masin had a good off season gaining some strength in the weight room, and we are hoping it pays off this fall," Weldy said.

The offensive line will feature experienced players including seniors Jayce Magula, Harley Madison and Izaak Henbest, along with juniors and other returning players.

"Jayce started for us at tackle his sophomore and junior years," Weldy said. "He has grown a lot this off-season and we are hoping he's leader for us upfront this season. Harley has been a two-year starter for us at tackle. We need him to be a leader up front for us."

Magula was a second-team All-Conference offensive lineman and honorable mention All-SWFBCA selection last season.

Cassville also returns senior wide receiver and defensive back Carlos Barrientos, junior wide receiver and defensive back Mace Bredeson and several other players who will compete for roles in the passing game.

"Carlos has started at defensive back the last two years and started for us at wide receiver, as well," Weldy said. "He has a really good frame, and we are hoping he has big year for us. Mace had a really good sophomore year at wide receiver for us and he played some defensive back for us as well," Weldy said. "We need him to be a big

play guy again for us this year."

On defense, the Wildcats return three defensive linemen who started at some point last season, two linebackers and two players with significant experience in the secondary.

"These returners will be the strength of our defense," Weldy said.

Van Thang, a junior defensive lineman, was an honorable mention All-Conference selection last season. He played throughout the defensive line last year despite being undersized and enters this season with added size.

"Van played all over the place for us on the defensive line last year," Weldy said. "He was very undersized but had success with quickness and tenacity. He has put on some solid muscle in the offseason and we are excited to see what he does this season."

Ricky Norris, a senior defensive lineman, has started the past two seasons at defensive tackle.

"Ricky is a high motor kid, and we need him to continue to make plays for us down in the trenches," Weldy said.

Zach Myers, a junior tight end and defensive lineman, also brings two

years of starting experience at defensive end and several starts at tight end.

"We think he has the potential to be a really good player for us the next two years," Weldy said.

The Wildcats also return Hughes and Bryan on defense, senior linebacker and wide receiver Baxton Cornell, and additional experienced players across the starting 11.

Preston Driskill returns as a junior kicker after earning second-team All-Conference and second-team All-SWFBCA honors last season.

Cassville will also have several newcomers competing for playing time, including juniors Braydyn Sizemore, Brody Howell, Carson Hutchens, Carson Thomas and Brandt Reuter, along with sophomores Brody Moller, Bodie Hodge, Josiah Meshell, Mquade Farris, Wylan Farris, Spencer Drollinger, Jayden Ritchie, Tyler Annecharico, Kanaan Madison and Cash Smith.

Among the newcomers are several players who could add depth throughout the roster, with positions represented across the offensive and defensive lines, backfield, receiving corps, secondary and quarterback.

The Wildcats' roster also includes several family connections. Mquade and Wylan Farris are twin brothers, Jaren and Kaden Stearns are brothers, and Kellen Weldy is the coach's son.

Cassville will face a schedule that includes all of its Big 8 opponents, along with Springfield Central.

"We play in the Big 8, so everyone is a rival and every game is a big game," Weldy said. "However, our game with Monett has a traveling trophy and is called the Barry County Brawl so there's always a little extra for that game."

The Barry County Brawl will open the regular season Aug. 28 at Wildcat Stadium. Cassville will then travel to Aurora on Sept. 4 before hosting Seneca on Sept. 11.

Cassville travels to McDonald County on Sept. 18 and East Newton on Sept. 24, then hosts Lamar on Oct. 2 and Springfield Central on Oct. 9. The regular season concludes with road games at Mount Vernon on Oct. 17 and Nevada on Oct. 23.

The schedule also

includes a jamboree with Willard, Parkview and Bolivar on Aug. 21 at Willard.

Cassville's returning players will be counted on to provide leadership, particularly the seniors who have already established themselves on both sides of the ball.

Cassville won two state championships, in 2008 and 2009, finished state runner-up in 2019 and reached the state semifinals in 2020.

After reaching the district championship game last year, for the first time since winning it in 2020, the Wildcats will look to use their returning experience to make another postseason push. Yet, the Wildcats' stated focus for 2026 is progression rather than looking too far ahead.

"We want to see improvements each week of the season," Weldy said. "We want to be playing our best football when districts begin."

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WILDCAT PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Carlos Barrientos

Liberty Hilburn

Lyndsie Vanderhoef

Preston Driskill

CASSVILLE SENIOR CENTER

Weekly Menu

WEEK OF AUGUST 24-28, 2026

MONDAY AUGUST 24	TUESDAY AUGUST 25	WEDNESDAY AUGUST 26	THURSDAY AUGUST 27	FRIDAY AUGUST 28
Chicken Teriyaki Brown Rice Broccoli Fresh Fruit Salad Chocolate Cream Pie	Honey Garlic Chicken Kale & Ancient Grains Roasted Brussel Sprouts Peas & Carrots Pineapple Upside Down Cake	BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich* Parmesan Roasted Potatoes Coleslaw Corn Salad Peanut Butter Bars	Pepper Steak Mashed Potatoes Roasted Veggie Medley Hot Roll Eclair Dessert	Grill Day! Hamburgers or Hot Dogs Potato Salad Coleslaw Cucumber Salad Cherry Crisp

Salad Bar

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday

BOWL \$2.00
PLATE \$4.00

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SERVING HOURS: 11:00 AM — 12:30 PM

Suggested donation:
\$4.00 for those 60 and over
\$8.00 for those 59 and under

*On days pork is served, and alternate is available upon request