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CASSVILLE Democrat

SEPTEMBER 16, 2026 | CASSVILLE-DEMOCRAT.COM

DROUGHT AND BURN BAN

What: County going through extreme or severe drought
Burn Ban: Issued by Barry County commission
More: Agricultural impacts taking effect; elevated risk of fires due to drought

Countywide burn ban issued

Portions of county experiencing extreme drought conditions

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

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The Barry County Commission has issued a countywide burn ban, effective Sept. 10 and until further notice, as the county is in the midst of experiencing extreme or severe drought.

The order states that upon determination by the state fire marshal, a burn ban is appropriate because of exceptional drought, and violating the ban may carry a penalty of up to a Class A misdemeanor.

"The County Commission hereby enacts this Order prohibiting burning on a countywide basis until further notice and until the conditions set forth in section 49.266.3, RSMo., giving rise to this Order no longer exist, except that state agencies responsible for fire management or suppression activities and person conducting agricultural burning using best management practices shall not be subject to the provisions of section 49.266.3, RSMo.," the order states. "And this section, and further, the ability of an individual, organization, or corporation to sell fireworks shall not be affected by the issuance of this burn ban; however, this Order prohibits the explosion or ignition of any missile or skyrocket as the terms 'missile' and 'skyrocket' are defined by the 2012 edition of the American Fireworks Standards Laboratory, but shall not ban the explosion or ignition of any other consumer fireworks as the term 'consumer fireworks' is defined under the section 320.106, RSMo."

According to a press release from the National Weather Service (NWS) in Springfield, Barry County is among the southwest Missouri counties seeing significant deterioration in drought conditions. The NWS reported Sept. 10 that Extreme Drought (D3) had expanded into northern portions of Barry County, while Severe Drought (D2) also had expanded to the central and southern parts of the county, as well as across the region. Southwest Missouri and southeast Kansas were identified as experiencing the worst drought conditions in the state.

The drought has developed rapidly because of a combination of very little rainfall and unusually high temperatures. The NWS reported that precipitation during the previous 30 days had been "well below normal to

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Petroleum leaks investigated

Leak detected at Monett gas station; Cassville Hilltop case revisited

BY SHEILA HARRIS

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Missouri currently has no laws which require property owners and landlords to disclose the presence of hazardous waste sites on nearby properties to prospective buyers and tenants – even though waste from

those sites often has the potential for migrating through soil and groundwater, sometimes miles beyond the source of contamination.

Underground fuel storage tanks (USTs) buried before 1988, the year more stringent tank regulations were implemented by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR), are one source of potential contamination.

Prior to 1988, if a gas station or other business with underground fuel or solvent tanks

closed, their tanks could be sealed and left where they were, contents and all, Ken Koon, former director of the Tanks Section of the DNR, told the Cassville Democrat in a 2024 interview.

"No inspection of the site was required, nor were samples of soil and the tanks' contents taken and recorded," Koon said.

The old tanks, Koon said, are subject to corrosion, and exist in unknown condition, without oversight and not subject to current regulations (<https://tinyurl.com/3p7vypdz>).

According to industry sources, the average lifespan of the USTs typically used before 1988 is 30 years. Many now lie buried on private property, where new property owners have no interest in uncovering liabilities they may have to take responsibility for.

Often, the only way to know that something is amiss with an old UST is when fuel surfaces or show's up in someone's well.

"Then, we might be able to get a search warrant to allow us

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Music, dance, cars shake in Shell Knob



Hudson, with Ignite Dance, of Berryville, Ark., performs a competition award-winning number on the stage at Shakin' in the Shell on Saturday. Kyle Troutman/ktROUTMAN@cassville-democrat.com

FELONY CHARGE

Who: Kevin Ramer II, 34, of Golden
What: Is charged with second-degree assault
More: Ramer is being held in Barry County jail on \$25,000

Man charged with assault after ramming vehicle

Victim pulled shotgun during altercation

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

ktROUTMAN@cassville-democrat.com

A Golden man has been charged with a felony following an altercation where a shotgun was pulled and vehicle was allegedly rammed.

Kevin Ramer II, 34, of Golden, is charged with second-degree assault in relation to the incident.

According to a probable cause statement filed by Cpl. S. Bounds, with the Barry County Sheriff's Office, on Sept. 2 at about 8:21 p.m., the victim reported being confronted by Ramer outside of a grocery store in Eagle Rock regarding money Ramer believed was owed to him.

The victim stated Ramer was allegedly holding a receiver hitch in his hand and threatening him by allegedly stating words to the effect of, "I'm going to beat you to death," or "I'm going to beat you down."

The victim said he walks to his vehicle and told Ramer to put the receiver hitch away and calm down, and Ramer allegedly continued to pursue and threaten him.

The victim then retrieved a shotgun from his vehicle and pointed it toward Ramer, stating he told Ramer he would shoot him in the kneecaps if necessary.

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Exeter fire chief hangs up his hat

Chadd retires 40 years to the day he began service

BY SHEILA HARRIS

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Friday, Sept. 11, 2026, marked 40 years of service for Exeter Fire Protection District Chief Donnie Chadd, who decided that it was a good day to retire.

A retirement reception was held in his honor Saturday at the Exeter Fire Station, where an overflow crowd of family, friends and fellow fire department personnel congratulated him and wished him well.

Chadd began serving as a volunteer fireman with the Exeter district on Sept. 11, 1986, two weeks after he and his wife, Kim, got married.

Chadd said the department has come a long way since that day, when he joined as a 25-year-old newlywed.

"Back then, members of the rural fire district paid dues, and we operated with only one truck and no equipment," Chadd said.

In 1986, the department operated from a "small, two-bay station with a half-dirt floor," according to an Exeter Fire District Facebook post.

According to Chadd, around 2008, he doesn't remember the exact year, the Exeter Fire

Protection District changed from a membership-base to a tax district.

"One year, we got a FEMA grant for an engine," Chadd said. "And, we borrowed money, bought land and built our current fire station."

Chadd said, for several years afterward, the fire district hosted an annual fundraiser, a BBQ dinner, in order to make the mortgage payment.

Those days are past. The fire station, now paid for, houses seven engines, with two more ready to go into service, Chadd said.

"We'll need to expand the building as soon as funds allow," he said, forgetting for

a moment that he's officially retired.

Chadd said that last year, the Exeter Fire Protection District responded to 382 calls.

"About 85% of our calls are for medical emergencies," he said. "The fire department gets dispatched before the ambulance, no matter what the situation is."

The Exeter Fire Protection

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NEWS BRIEFS

12 Pioneer Families reunion Sept. 20

The 92nd annual reunion of the 12 Pioneer Families of Southwest Missouri and the surrounding areas will be held on Sept. 20 at the Monett City Park Casino, located at 101 S. Lincoln Ave. in Monett’s South Park. Descendants and persons interested in local history are welcome. Doors open at 11 a.m. The potluck lunch begins at 1 p.m. and the family meeting commences at 2 p.m. Additional information is available by emailing 12pioneerfammilies@gmail.com.

Capps Creek Road District to meet

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

Barry County Museum changes hours

Effective immediately, the hours at the Barry County Museum have changed. The Museum is open Wednesdays through Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Absentee voting begins Sept. 22 for Nov. 3 General Election

The last day to register to vote in the Nov. 3 General Election is Oct. 7. People may register to vote at the County Clerk’s Office or the Monett Chamber of Commerce. Please notify the Clerk’s Office if there has been an address or name change for a currently registered voter. Photo ID is required to vote in the November General Election. Absentee voting starts Sept. 22 at the Barry County Clerk’s Office in Cassville, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Two (2) week in-person, no excuse absentee voting begins Oct. 20. If unable to vote in person, a voter may send a written request to the office of: Joyce Ennis, 700 Main St. Suite 2, Cassville, MO 65625 or fax to: 417-847-5311. The office will need: name, physical address, mailing address, date of birth, last four digits of Social Security number, phone number, reason for voting absentee, and signature. Those who live in the Monett area can go by the Monett Chamber Office and fill out the absentee application. Chamber staff will fax it to the Clerk’s Office. Absentee applications are also available at sos.mo.gov. For more information, people may call the Barry County Clerk’s Office at 417-847-2561 or email jennis@barrycountyclerk.com or ajohnson@barrycountyclerk.com.

Cassville Branch Library hosting events

The Cassville Branch Library will host the following events in the coming week: Today (Wednesday), Tot Time, 9:30 a.m., Storytime, 10 a.m., Scrapbook 5 p.m.; Thursday, Teen Craft: Bag Charms, 3:30 p.m. (registration required), Adult Craft: Burlap Pumpkins, 5:30 p.m. (registration and \$5 fee required), Touch a Truck at Crowder College, 5-7 p.m.; Friday, Adult Craft: Wood Sunflower p.m.; Saturday, Women’s Self Defense with Barry County Sheriff’s Office, 9 a.m. (free with registration), Crochet/Knitting Class, 10 a.m.; Monday, Family Paint Night, 5:30 p.m. (registration and \$5 fee required); Tuesday, Tot Time, 9:30 a.m., Storytime, 10 a.m., Homeschool, 11 a.m., Adult Craft: Fairy Light Jar, 5:30 p.m. (registration and \$5 fee required).

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, hand-made 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.

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.

LOCAL

All hands on deck!



Jacob Terry, left, 7, watches his father, Tim Terry, of Cassville, puts screws a bed frame being built by Sleep in Heavenly Peace volunteers on Saturday at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Cassville. Kyle Troutman/kt Troutman@cassville-democrat.com



Shannon Davis, of Cassville, puts holes in lumber for a bed frame being built by Sleep in Heavenly Peace volunteers on Saturday at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Cassville. Kyle Troutman/kt Troutman@cassville-democrat.com



Larry Benson, of rural Cassville, puts screws into part of a bed frame while volunteering at the Sleep In Heavenly Peace bed build at Emmanuel Baptist Church on Saturday morning. Based in Exeter, Sleep in Heavenly Peace constructs beds for local children who do not have beds of their own. Kyle Troutman/kt Troutman@cassville-democrat.com

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CORRECTIONS

The *Cassville Democrat* corrects factual errors or clarifies information promptly and courteously. If you have a correction or clarification, please email Publisher Kyle Troutman at kt Troutman@cassville-democrat.com.

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Music, dance, cars shake in Shell Knob



The Woodwind Chamber Group from the 135th Army Band plays “The Tango” during an opening performance on the stage at Shakin’ in the Shell on Saturday. The annual event featured a day full of performances, presentations, vendors, food and the Classic & Custom Car Show. Kyle Troutman/ktoutman@cassville-democrat.com



Rachel Dougherty (Scott), of Joplin (formerly of Cassville), smiles as she picks out a purchase at the Cristina Scrunchies & More booth, a Pea Ridge, Ark., business set up at Shakin’ in the Shell on Saturday. Kyle Troutman/ktoutman@cassville-democrat.com



Stacey Price, of Exeter, fashions a balloon display while volunteering for the Shell Knob Chamber of Commerce at Shakin’ in the Shell on Saturday. Price also operates Balloons By Stacey. Kyle Troutman/ktoutman@cassville-democrat.com

Barry County
Health Corner



Show Me Healthy Women offers free screenings

Show Me Healthy Women (SMHW) offers free breast and cervical cancer screenings for Missouri women who meet age, income and insurance guidelines.

SMHW began in 1992, and is Missouri’s implementation of the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP). SMHW is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and several national, regional and local partner organizations. There are provider locations throughout the state, including local public health agencies, federally qualified health centers, hospitals, private physician offices and not for profit health centers.

Screening Services Provided: Clinical breast exams (CBE), Screening mammograms for women age 50-64, Screening mammograms for women 40-49 using donated funds (if available), Pap tests, and Pelvic exams.

Diagnostic Services Provided: Specialist consultation (breast and cervical), Diagnostic mammograms, Ultrasound, Fine needle aspiration, Cold knife conization (diagnostic purposes), Breast biopsies, Loop electrode biopsy (LEEP), and Colposcopy (with or without biopsy).

Cervical Cancer Screenings for Women who have had a Hysterectomy: Due to cervical cancer or dysplasia are eligible for CBE, pelvic examination and Pap test, or due to any reason other than cervical cancer or dysplasia are eligible for one Pap test and pelvic examination to determine the absence or presence of the cervix, or due to conditions other than cervical cancer or dysplasia and the cervix is absent are eligible for a CBE.

Age Guidelines: Women Age 21-64 are eligible for cervical cancer screening services, clinical breast exam (CBE) and diagnostic follow-up for abnormal results. Women Age 40-64 are eligible for breast and cervical cancer screening services, clinical breast exam (CBE) and diagnostic follow-up for abnormal results. Women Over Age 64 who do not have Medicare Part B may also receive services through the program.

Income Guidelines: Clients must have a household income at or below 250 percent of the federal poverty income guidelines. Adjusted gross income on tax return or net amount on pay stub determines income eligibility.

Women with MO HealthNet, Medicare Part B or HMO health coverage are not eligible for SMHW.

Anyone with questions or wanting to schedule an appointment may call the Barry County Health Department at 417-847-2114. The Department is open Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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

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COMMENTARY

PUBLISHER'S VIEW



KYLE TROUTMAN

May the odds be in our favor

I don't often write about national politics in this space, but this week, I'm making an exception.

I used to be big into politics, taking a side on every issue — often against the opinions of my own family — and arguing tooth and nail in person or on social media to try to get someone to see a side of an issue they had not previously considered.

As I get older, now at the seasoned age of 38, I have become less and less interested in national politics for one main reason — it's an absolute mess.

I was only in 8th grade on Sept. 11, 2001. That day for me, like many, many others across the country, was unlike any other in many of our lifetimes that we'd experienced as a nation. In the aftermath, we largely came together. Partisanship was set aside and, for a time, we were united in a way that is a far, far cry from where we stand today.

Following George W. Bush's two terms, Barack Obama took office, and the slow descent into madness began. Partisanship again began taking root, and it really started hitting hard after Donald Trump was elected to his first term.

Many people — about four out of five in this county — have voted for Trump each time he has appeared on the ballot. When he first appeared on the scene, I was as interested in his campaign. His brutal honesty, his machismo, his willingness to say things others might not, all of that was attractive at first.

Alas, he lost me midway through that campaign when he made fun of a disabled reporter on stage at one of his rallies. As a journalist, and more importantly a lifelong amputee who had been the target of exactly the same kinds of ableist bullying in my youth, I could not in good conscience support someone who would behave that way on the national stage.

His win over Hillary Clinton also did not surprise me. She had too many skeletons in the closet, too much history and been embedded in politics too long compared to Trump, who offered a new path Republicans and many moderates found much more appealing than another Clinton administration.

Trump's first term was fine, I suppose. As an Independent frustrated with both parties, the first Trump term and Biden's one term were about equal to me. Lots of talk, not a lot of action, and very little leadership that truly moved the country forward in a way that benefitted the average American.

As Biden's term came to a close, when he was still running against Trump in the 2024 election, I felt like we couldn't get much lower. Neither of those candidates were ones I would be proud to cast a vote for, nor really was Kamala Harris when she took over Biden's campaign in its dying embers.

As expected, Trump was elected again, and though I'm not a Trump fan, I fully respect that he is the president and he has a job to do.

Unfortunately, going on two years in, things look pretty dire. Inflation has slowed since the Biden era, but the absence of relief to our pocketbooks in the form of health insurance, grocery costs and gas prices, among other costs of living, is not making our lives any easier.

In two months, we have midterm elections, which may have the potential to shake up national politics more than normal. That brings me to my point of this column to begin with — we may as well be at rock bottom.

Last week, at the first-ever National Midterm Republican Convention, the president did two things I never thought I would see.

First, he made an impossible promise to give American adults \$5,000 if Republicans retain control of the House and Senate. Is that where we are? Blatantly, unapologetically attempting to buy votes?

The saddest part is, many people who don't know any better — that he made arguably the emptiest campaign promise in modern history — may vote outside of their beliefs and values for a phantom paycheck.

Second, the president encouraged attendees at "Trumpapalooza" to join him in a pledge. Just after saying, "We want honesty in our elections and we want honesty in our country," he dove into a pledge that almost immediately encouraged attendees to "Cheat like hell, like they do," and vote whether you are registered or not. And if that wasn't enough, he followed it up with, "You know what happens if you don't vote? You go to hell."

This all makes for great TV, but when it comes to what we should expect from the leader of the free world, we should be appalled. Whether it's Trump, Biden, Obama, Bush, Clinton, Harris — or anyone else — there's no place in our nation for this kind of behavior and speech, at least not in the kind of country I hope to live in.

Here's to the 2028 presidential election and hopefully both parties putting up candidates worthy of receiving votes. May the odds ever be in our favor..

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

Fall is the time to improve your raised-bed soil

As summer begins to wind down in Barry County, many gardeners are looking at raised beds that do not look quite as good as they did in May.

Plants may be tired, soil levels may have dropped, and after months of growing tomatoes, peppers, squash and other vegetables, it can seem as though the soil itself is tired.

Fall is an excellent time to give that soil some attention.

Good soil is one of the most important parts of a successful vegetable garden. Raised beds have many advantages, but they need regular care. Organic matter breaks down over time, plants remove nutrients and the soil can settle and become compacted. Instead of waiting until spring to deal with these problems, gardeners can get a head start now.

After vegetable plants have finished producing, remove dead plants, weeds and other debris. Healthy plant material can be composted. Plants that had serious disease problems are generally better kept out of a home compost pile unless you know your compost reaches temperatures sufficient to destroy the pathogens.

The garden doesn't have to be perfectly bare and spotless for winter. The goal is to remove problem material while protecting and improving the soil.

One of the simplest ways to improve a raised bed is to add finished compost. Compost adds organic matter and helps improve soil structure. It can improve water movement and aeration in heavier soils and help lighter soils hold water and nutrients.

Spread finished compost over the surface of the raised bed. It can be lightly worked into the upper portion of the soil or left near the surface for earthworms and other soil organisms to gradually incorporate.

More fertilizer does not always mean better soil. Before adding lime, phosphorus, potassium or other fertilizers, consider having your garden soil tested. A soil test can tell you the soil's pH and nutrient levels and help determine what actually needs to be added. Testing can save money and prevent gardeners from applying nutrients the soil already has.

The University of Missouri Extension office in Barry County can help you get your soil tested. Gardeners can bring a soil sample to the local Extension office for testing and receive information that can help them understand



what their garden soil needs. This is a valuable local resource for gardeners who aren't sure how much fertilizer or lime to add. Fall is a convenient time to test because you have time to make recommended changes before the next gardening season.

A raised bed doesn't necessarily have to sit empty all winter. Cover crops can help protect and improve garden soil. Missouri gardeners can use crops such as cereal rye or other appropriate cover crops after vegetables have been harvested.

Cover crops can help reduce erosion, improve soil structure and add organic matter when the plant material eventually decomposes. Some legumes can also contribute nitrogen when properly managed. A small raised bed is a good place to experiment with a cover crop without committing a large garden area.

Those bags of leaves we rake every fall are also valuable organic material. Leaves can be composted and eventually returned to the garden instead of being treated simply as waste. Shredded leaves can also be used as mulch. A layer of organic mulch helps protect the soil surface, conserve moisture and slowly add organic matter as it breaks down.

Gardeners sometimes think improving soil means turning it over repeatedly, but excessive digging isn't necessary in an established raised bed. Add organic matter, keep people from walking in the beds and allow roots, earthworms, microorganisms and other soil life to help maintain good soil structure.

One advantage of raised beds is that gardeners can reach plants from the sides without stepping on and compacting the growing area.

You don't have to replace all the soil in a raised bed every year. In most cases, improving what you already have is less expensive and easier. Adding organic matter regularly, testing the soil when needed

and protecting the soil between crops can make a noticeable difference over several growing seasons.

At the Barry County Community Garden, healthy soil is especially important because productive soil means more vegetables can be harvested and shared with people in our community. When we put our gardens to bed this fall, let's not think of it as the end of the gardening season.

Think of it as the beginning of next year's garden. A little work on your soil this fall can mean healthier plants, better harvests and fewer problems next spring.

The Barry County Community Garden also needs the community's help as we finish another growing season and prepare for next year. Fall volunteers are needed to help harvest remaining vegetables, pull weeds, remove spent plants, clean and prepare raised beds, spread compost and complete general garden cleanup. You don't have to be an experienced gardener to volunteer. Even an hour of your time can help.

Financial donations are also important. Donations help purchase compost and soil amendments, seeds, vegetable plants, fertilizer, mulch, irrigation supplies, tools and other materials needed to keep the garden productive. Donations of useful garden supplies are also appreciated. Every contribution helps us continue growing fresh produce for people in our community.

Those wishing to make a financial contribution may send donations for the Barry County Community Garden to the MU Extension office in Barry County, 700 Main St., Suite 4, Cassville, MO 65625. For information about donating supplies or volunteering, contact Melissa Hamilton at 417-592-0432 or Melissa.hamilton1969@gmail.com, or email info@harvickfarms.com.

The Barry County Community Garden belongs to our community, and its success depends on people willing to give a little time, support or resources. By working together this fall, we can put the garden to bed in good condition and give it a strong start for another season of growing and giving in Barry County.

Melissa Hamilton is a dedicated volunteer with the Barry County Community Garden and a Barry County Master Gardener. She may be reached at melissa.hamilton1969@gmail.com.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“In June 1991, the groundwater well serving both the SOS Convenience Store and a restaurant was found to be contaminated with volatile organic compounds. Analysis of samples from the SOS Convenience Store well from 1991 through 1993 indicated the presence of various gasoline-related constituents, including benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene, and methyl-tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE), as well as 1,2-dichloroethane. The plume was suspected to have originated from leaking underground storage tanks at one or more nearby gasoline stations with regulated underground storage tanks”

— A DNR INVESTIGATION AT AND NEAR THE PROPERTY OF THE L & L CONVENIENCE STORE AT HILLTOP, SOUTH OF CASSVILLE

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THROUGH THE YEARS

50 years ago

Sept. 22, 1976
— NEW HUD PROJECT REQUESTS
BEING DEVELOPED IN COUNTY

With over a quarter of a million dollars spent in Barry County projects during the past two years, communities will soon be getting in line for further assistance from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The HUD grants have poured \$296,810 in federal funds in projects benefiting five communities during the period since 1975. County and community officials were in meetings last week with HUD officials to determine interest in a 1977 program, according to Howard Bounous, county clerk. In addition to the clerk, county officials attending included Presiding Judge Nolan McNeill and George Ulmer, engineer. City officials in the meeting included Mayor Bill Hemphill of Purdy, Mayor Boone McQueen and Dr. R. A. Mutrix of Wheaton. Bounous explained this week communities, which will make applications on an individual basis, have until November 30 to make their desires known. From the initial request lists, priorities will be established by the federal agency. The clerk also said his office had available a lengthy list of improvements eligible in small communities under the HUD program. Since 1975, Purdy, Monett, Cassville, Wheaton and Exeter have participated in the program through the Barry County court. As the supervising agency, the three-member court handled development of the requests, seeing them through awarding of contracts. Projects included in the past programs have included a community center and park improvements at Purdy costing \$42,810; community center and office building remodeling in Cassville costing \$76,000; community center in Monett at a dollar figure of \$82,000; sewer and street improvements at Wheaton with \$23,000 expenditure and new well and pump at Exeter costing \$73,000. Officials noted the Cassville project is nearing completion with check-off of the building status scheduled this week between Ulmer and the contractor, Lester Prewitt and Son. The four other projects are completed and functioning according to Ulmer. The lengthy process of making application for communities wishing to take part will receive assistance from the county agencies involved. The HUD program makes federal funds available for projects within rural communities which do not have the fiscal capability of achieving priority programs. Bounous said local officials have no determination of the priority of fund releases in the state. County officials expect from three to six projects to be submitted for the 1977 program from Barry County within now and the deadline date.

40 years ago

Sept. 24, 1986
— EAGLE ROCK IN STATE FUNDING
PROGRAM; COMMERCE HELPING

The Table Rock Lake community of Eagle Rock has become involved in the Missouri Neighborhood Assistance Program for improvements to their area. And, Commerce Bank of Barry County is a healthy first contributor of \$10,000 to the effort. Presentation of the funds will be September 26, at the Eagle Rock Community Center. In a public program, Commerce's Eagle Rock banking center manager Gary Dunnam will make the presentation to Paul Bledsoe, president of the community's Chamber of Commerce. Bill Easley, president of the Cassville bank which has the facility at Eagle Rock, said the funds would be presented to the community to "do with as they see fit in the development of the area." Commerce has operated a facility at Eagle Rock for eight years. The unincorporated community between Roaring River State Park and Table Rock



40 YEARS AGO: MASONS GROUND BREAKING: For just under 100 years, Cassville Masonic meetings have been on the east side of the public square. When a building at 17th and Main is completed next year, they will change locations. Ground breaking ceremonies for the structure took place Monday, with these members and officials present. In front, John Starchman, Jim LeCompte, master; Bill Everett, Charles Donica, district deputy master; Richard Auernheimer, K. C. Winston, all building committee members, turn the first shovels. In the back are Bill Trobaugh, Gene Huspeck, Alberta Reed, Jewell Farwell and Veda Boley, representing the Eastern Star; Glen Linebarger, Ray Farwell, Bob Johnston, Clyde King, Clell Wade, Bill LeCompte and Doyle Nickle. Democrat file photo

Lake has been in the process of improvements for several years. Most recently, those efforts have been expedited, spearheaded by both a C of C and Community Association. Community folks taking a lead in the state NAP program have been Imogene Dunklin, executive director of application, Roy Smith, vice-president and Claudine Jenkins as secretary of the board of directors. Jewell Farwell is project director. Programs in the community have an extensive list of debt repayment and new projects that are estimated to run in the neighborhood of \$63,000. Further into their schedule of projects are physical improvements to their property and exercise equipment that would cost another \$26,000. Rounding-out library and cultural arts plans is an expenditure of just under \$10,000. Eagle Rock community improvements are based around the center located on Highway 86 just north of a development area and the lake reservoir. Once the site of a rural school, the property is under long-term lease with the Cassville R-4 school district. The one-time Eagle Rock rural school district became part of the Cassville schools in a reorganization program in 1971. The ambitious program of the community over a period of time will be establishment of a library and cultural arts center at the development area of the old school and two other buildings provided by past efforts. Included would be central heating and air conditioning. The center area is used extensively for Eagle Rock projects, including the annual fall Arts and Crafts Festival. Sidewings, floor coverings, roof repairs and other capital projects are in a middle phase of the program. The major effort will be targeted for between building covered walkways, parking lot improvements, debt retirement, stage and bleachers, sound system, outside barbecue meal service to elderly, security system, and other factors. The Missouri Neighborhood Assistance Program was designed by the state Community Economic Development

and provides for businesses helping their community efforts through financial contributions. In partial recognition of the assistance, tax credits are permitted. — PROPERTY VALUE REVIEW BY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE UNDERWAY

Complying with Missouri law that real estate parcels in a county must be reviewed for assessment value every two years, Glen D. Nicoll, Barry County assessor, has sent crews into various communities to begin the task. The assessor said this week he expects to complete the job in six months. "A pair of part time employees in the field and two extra clerical workers are needed for the review," Nicoll said. Field supervisor Wayne Johnson and Nicoll will assist Charles Saunders and Patrick McLean. Nicoll said the crews were in rural Purdy this week and will work the McDowell and Jenkins communities next week. Review will be accomplished completely in the over 22,000 parcels between now and the January 1, 1987 deadline. Included will be depreciation rates to commercial buildings. Nicoll also said the state law requires approximately 7,500 parcels of agricultural land to be refigured with new values. He speculated new legislation required would reduce these values for 1987. Added personnel and expense to the county, which has been in delicate financial conditions since reassessment costs of approximately \$1 million were absorbed over a three-year period, this time will be reimbursed by the State of Missouri. Nicoll said the reimbursement, up to \$60,000 would be based on \$3 per parcel for the first 20,000 property listings. Beyond that, there is an on-going formula under which the state will bear costs. Nicoll, who has been assessor since 1970, most usually has run unopposed for the office. Asked this week if the added expenditure could in any way damage the county's financial condition, the assessor replied, "No, state reimbursement could actually help in relieving some other expenses of this office." The assessor was also asked if the reassessment

up-date costs and program could become a legitimate political issue this election? Nicoll responded that it "should not be, it is just following the letter of the law and that's what public officials are supposed to do," he responded. State mandated reassessment has been credited with being a major factor in financial problems being experienced by rural county governments. Increased valuations, which were followed by levy rollbacks, did not produce more than natural growth amounts of revenue for government agencies. Prior to reassessment Barry County's assessed valuation was just over \$50 million. The 1986 assessed valuation figure was \$132 million, says deputy assessor June Smith. Windfalls of tax revenue to agencies of government were not possible under the program which originated out of legal action filed in St. Louis. Missouri Tax commission review of all tax levies are required prior to public hearings held by all agencies.

30 years ago

Sept. 17, 1996
— MAJOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS
MOVE FORWARD ON SCHEDULE

This summer's dry weather has a positive side. The lack of rain has allowed three major construction projects in the Cassville area to move ahead on schedule.

Barry County Jail

The 4,000-square-foot addition to the Barry County Jail is only six weeks from completion. David Cox, a foreman for Branco Construction, said the block work is finished, the detention modules are secured, the preliminary wiring and plumbing is roughed in, and the iron work is done. Final roofing work will begin this week. Presiding Commissioner Cherry Warren said once the roof is on, the project "should come to a head pretty fast." Warren said the project is still within the original contract price of \$529,000 plus architectural fees. "I think we're very close to the contract amount," Warren said.

Once the jail addition is completed, there will be room for the county to house 16 additional prisoners. Commissioners pointed out that the addition was designed for ease of expansion. "The next go around would be to add eight more modules and 32 more beds," Warren said.

Roaring River Lodge Complex

Excavation work has dominated crews at the site of the new \$4 million lodge complex at Roaring River State Park. Steve Helm, project supervisor for Edgewater Construction, said at present his men are working on a new highway entry system. He said turn lanes for both lines of traffic on Highway 112 and a new highway entrance will be installed for easier access to the new lodge. Excavation for the main drive to the lodge has been completed. Foundation work for the building is scheduled to begin next week. "We'll work at an accelerated schedule to get it (the lodge) up and out of the ground before cold weather hits," Helm said. Helm said the project is on schedule so far. "We suffered a couple of minor delays, which are expected at the front end of a job this size," Helm said. A construction crew of about six people has been working on the project for 62 days. When the project is moving forward at full speed, Helm said he expects to employ as many as 40.

Barry Electric Headquarters

Bill Shiveley, general manager at Barry Electric, said construction at the co-operative's new headquarters is within one day of the proposed construction schedule. According to Shiveley, water and electrical lines are in, the site pad is finished and the west highway entrance is completed. Crews have also poured the floor for the wire storage building and poured the walls for the transformer dock. In the next week, construction crews are scheduled to begin pouring column footings and grade beams on the west wall of the

warehouse. "Someone has been working everyday since we broke ground in July," Shiveley said.

— OVERALL VISITOR NUMBERS ON TABLE ROCK ARE INCREASING

Visitation numbers are down at Corps parks in Barry County. Visitor numbers at Table Rock Lake through the month of August reveal that over 1.8 million more people were attracted to the lake area this year than last. The numbers, provided by the Army Corps of Engineers' office in Branson, show an approximate 21 percent increase in visitation on the lake. From October, 1995, through August, 1996, a total of 9,327,376 people visited Table Rock as compared to 7,448,357 for the same period last year. The biggest increases in visitor numbers could be traced to Table Rock State Park and Kimberling City State Park, two Corps-operated public use areas near Branson. According to Jeff Farquhar, park ranger in charge of reports and analysis, the increase in visitors could also be attributed to the fact that the Corps now counts attendance on the Branson Belle in its overall visitation figures. The paddleboat accounts for about 40,000 visitors each month. Despite the overall increase in visitors, Corps-operated parks on the Barry County portion of the lake have experienced a decrease in visitor numbers. Farquhar provided visitation numbers for Big M, Campbell Point, Eagle Rock, Viola and Viney Creek public use areas, all of which showed drops in visitor totals. Numbers used are for an 11-month period ranging from October through August. Total visitation at the five parks stood at 201,895 in 1996, a 7.8 percent decrease from the 219,053 visitor total in 1995. Big M's and Eagle Rock's park usage decreased by 8 percent. The visitor total for both parks was 39,768 for the period of October 1995 through August 1996 as compared to 43,403 during the same time last season. Campbell Point numbers reflect an 11.2 percent drop in use of the public park. Visitor numbers in 1995 were 72,526 as compared to 64,402 this year. Viney Creek's visitation levels remained almost steady. There was a difference of only 175 visitors between the 1995 and 1996 seasons. During the first 11 months of the 1995 season, there were 31,475 visitors at Viney Creek as compared to 31,300 this season. Overall visitation at Viola lowered by 5.6 percent from 28,246 in 1995 to 26,657 in 1996. Farquhar said even though visitation numbers are down at these parks, total fees are up. He said a stricter enforcement policy on user fees has resulted in more fees collected but may have affected visitation numbers by turning some park users away. Farquhar added that the lake's operating level has been almost perfect all year.

Haven of the Ozarks Pet of the Week

Hi there — I'm Waylon, a 2-month-old black and white Border Collie/Terrier pup, and I'm ready to bring joy into your home! At a petite 12.6 pounds, I'm small enough to cuddle but big enough for adventure — plus, I'm already great with cats, so blended households are totally my thing. I'm an affectionate, friendly, and playful little guy who loves making new friends. My adoption fee is \$150, and I'm waiting to meet you at the shelter. Adopters can complete an application at www.havenoftheoazarks.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



FREE VACCINE CLINIC

Hosted by Haven of the Ozarks Animal Sanctuary
www.havenoftheoazarks.org

Date: September 19, 2026
Time: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Location: 9617 Farm Road 2190, Washburn, MO
Limit: 2 pets per vehicle
No appointments - join the wait line (must be in line by 10:45 AM)
Limited to 50 pets
Pets must be friendly!

- Vaccines Offered:
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Cats must be in a carrier

ONE pet per carrier



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OBITUARIES



HARRY ALLEN SHUMAN

Harry Allen Shuman, of Butterfield, Missouri, passed away on September 12, 2026, at the age of 72. Harry was born on September 7, 1954, in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, to Arden and Arlene Shuman. Harry proudly served his country in the United States Army from 1974 to 1992. It was during his time in the Army that he met Greta, who was also serving in the military. The two married on March 17, 1984, and went on to share 42 years of marriage, building a life and family together. Following his military service, Harry continued working hard to provide for his family and later retired from Tyson Foods.

Harry is survived by his wife, Greta Shuman; his children, Nathaniel Shuman, Patrick (Ashley) Shuman, Heidi (Scott) McClure, Jennifer, and Michelle; and his grandchildren, Paige, Gabriel, Jameson, and Madison, who lovingly knew him as Pop-pop. He is also survived by his brothers, Robert (Jackie) Shuman, Doug (Cindy) Shuman, and Paul Shuman. Harry was preceded in death by his parents, Arden and Arlene Shuman, and his sisters, Debbie Shuman and Barbara Shuman. To his grandchildren, he will always be Pop-Pop. To his family, he leaves behind a lifetime of memories, stories, and moments that will continue to be carried with them for years to come. Arrangements are under the direction of White Funeral Home and Crematory.

PAID OBITUARY

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DEATH NOTICE

Diane Larson of Shell Knob, Mo passed away on August 26, 2026 in Springfield Missouri. For full obituary visit: <https://www.nelsonfuneral.com>

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Having a grand time!



Cassville second-grader Hadley Crain, left, smiles at her grandparents, Shelly Ickes, middle, and Daryl Ickes, of Washburn, after the trio completed a word search activity during Grandparents Day. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com



Chrissy Hancock, of Purdy, helps her grandson, Cassville kindergartener Grayson Hancock, pick a read during the Book Fair at Cassville set up during Grandparents Day on Thursday. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com



Cassville pre-school student Boone Burton puts a sticker on a picture frame as part of a Grandparents Day activity with his Mimi, Carri Cowherd, of Cassville. The Title I event on Thursday for Cassville Primary School and Cassville Intermediate School students allowed grandparents to visit their grandchildren's classrooms for activities, free sugar cookies and the Book Fair. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Drought: Monthly outlook calls for high temps

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

nonexistent” in some areas. The first seven days of September were the warmest start to September on record at the Springfield climate site, according to the statement. The heat and lack of rain have caused soil and vegetation conditions to deteriorate rapidly. Agriculture is already seeing some of the most significant effects. The NWS reported an increasing number of severe drought observations, including reports from areas outside the formally designated D2 drought zone. Reported impacts include: Crop yield losses, increased need for supplemental livestock feeding, reduced pasture and

forage, little or no pasture regrowth, browning grass, increased invasive plants and weeds, oncreasing dust and deteriorating air quality caused by dry soils, drying ponds, increased dependence on wells (some of which are running low), and heat stress on cattle, including reported cattle deaths in some instances. Soil moisture is particularly concerning. The NWS reported that soil moisture was well below normal, falling between the 1st and 10th percentiles in many locations across southern Missouri. The drought is also beginning to show up in waterways. USGS data cited by the NWS showed that most streamflows across the region were normal to below normal, with some isolated stream gauges registering much-below-normal flows, below the 10th

percentile. Drought also presents an elevated fire danger, and the NWS has seen a modest increase in fire activity, particularly in areas classified D1 through D3, suggesting an early start to the fire season. Isolated instances of extreme fire behavior are possible where fuels have become sufficiently dry and preheated. However, the broader September and October outlook calls for near-normal probabilities of significant wildfire potential in Missouri and Kansas, with higher-than-normal probabilities in neighboring areas to the south. There is some potential relief in the short-term forecast. The NWS expected several chances for rain during the following week, with most locations forecast to receive roughly 0.5 to 2.5 inches, although

rainfall could vary considerably and some areas could receive locally higher amounts from multiple thunderstorms. But, the forecast does not suggest the drought is over. The Climate Prediction Center continued to identify much of southwest Missouri as being at risk for rapid-onset drought and extreme heat during Sept. 17-23. Areas that had already experienced rapid-onset drought were expected to see conditions persist or worsen. The monthly outlook calls for above-normal temperatures to continue through September, and despite anticipated rainfall, precipitation for the month is expected to finish below normal on average. The longer-range drought outlook calls for drought to develop or persist over the next one to three months.

Charge: Bond stays at \$25K cash only

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

The victim stated Ramer subsequently entered his truck, placed it in revers and accelerated, allegedly ramming the victim's vehicle and causing property damage to the rear driver's side door of the vehicle. Bounds said in the statement Ramer alleged-

ly admitted to confronting the victim at the location regarding money the victim owed him. Bounds said the charge was filed due to Ramer allegedly ramming the victim's vehicle while the victim was in the vicinity, placing the victim's life in danger. He also stated he

believes Ramer poses a danger to the victim, community or any other person because he allegedly put the victim in danger and rammed a vehicle in a public parking lot with other customers in the area. Bounds also noted Ramer has been found guilty of two counts of forger and one count of battery in Berryville, Ark., and Eureka Springs, Ark., courts in 2014. Ramer was booked into the Barry County jail on a cash only bond of 25,000. He has been arraigned, and bond modification as denied in a hearing held on Sept. 10 in the courtroom of Judge Robert Foulke. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for Sept. 24 at 10 a.m. in Foulke's court.

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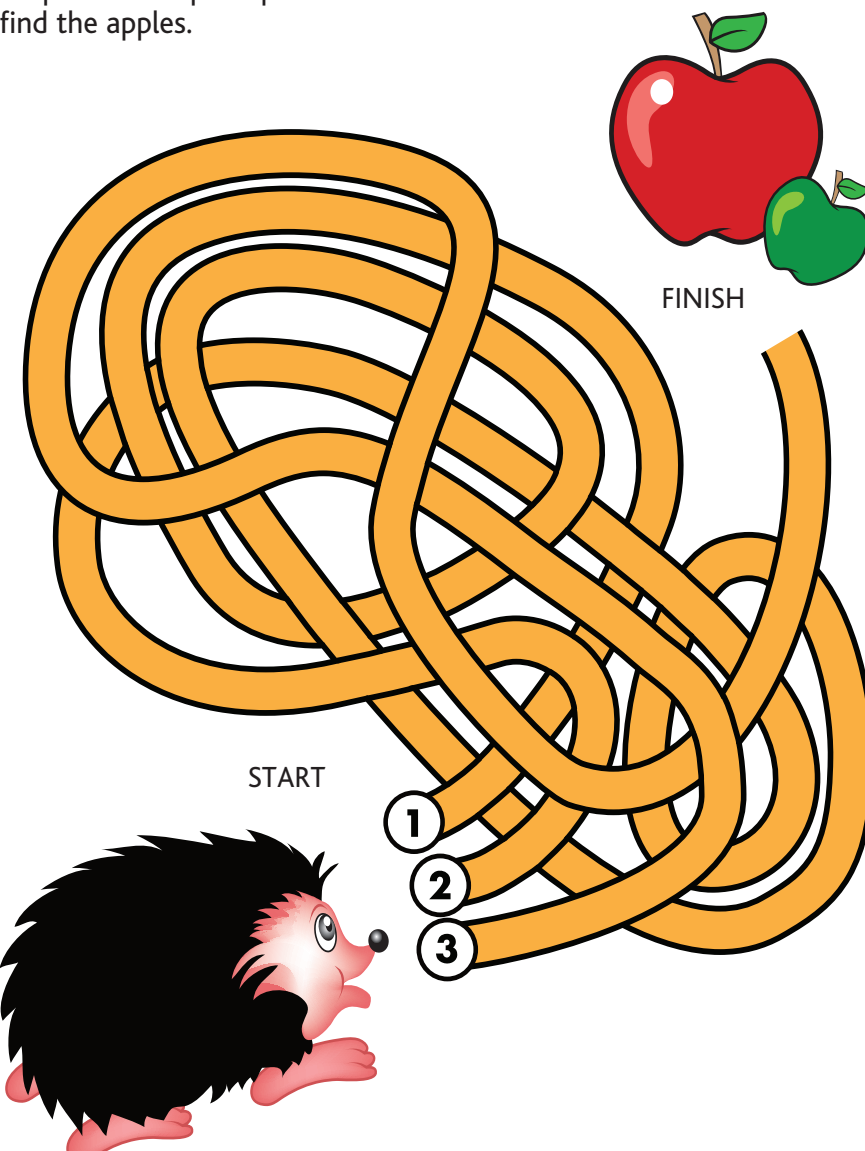
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JUST kidding

Q: How do you fix a cracked pumpkin?

A: With a pumpkin patch.

JUST kidding

Q: What do you call a funny mountain?

A: Hill-arious.

JUST kidding

Q: What do you call a fake noodle?

A: An Im-pasta.

TWINZ

Which two are exactly alike?



ANSWER: 1 + 8



For the up-and-coming artist



Sudoku 6 x 6

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

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

1	4	9	5	2	8
8	5	2	1	4	9
5	8	1	2	9	4
2	9	4	8	5	1
4	2	8	9	1	5
9	1	5	4	8	2

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"It is not the healthy who
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- Matthew 9:12



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BIBLE VERSE:

“If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.”

— 2 TIMOTHY 1:13-14

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Two, 10,000-gallon, fuel-storage tanks, as well as gas distribution lines, will be replaced at Rapid Roberts, in Monett, after approximately 50 gallons of gasoline was released into the ground from a line to one of the gas dispensers on June 17. The fuel storage tanks have been in the ground since the mid-1980s, said Rapid Roberts' director of compliance, Steve Makoski. Sheila Harris/sheilaharrisads@gmail.com

Leaks: Hilltop site referred to DNR's Tanks Section for follow up in 1993

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

to look for the problem," Koon said, in 2024.

Some of the pre-1988 tanks are still being used commercially.

The DNR is currently overseeing an active investigation in Monett.

In Cassville, a case involving a petroleum leak that caused contamination in wells in the Hilltop area, south of town, during the late 1980s and early 1990s, remains on "Active" status with the DNR.

In Monett, Bobbi Koepke, with Environmental Works in Springfield, called the DNR's Environmental Emergency Response (EER) Spill Line on June 17, after fuel was discovered coming up in cracks at the edges of the parking lot at Rapid Roberts, at 914 Central.

According to the EER's Incident Report, the "approximate 50-gallon release" was due to an "equipment malfunction/failure."

Steve Makoski, Director of Compliance for Rapid Roberts' corporate headquarters in Springfield, said the two, 10,000-gallon fuel tanks at the convenience store had been in the ground since the mid-1980s.

After excavation around the pumps and tanks, Makoski said that the tanks themselves didn't appear to be leaking.

"With the cathodic protection we use, tanks can last as long as 40-50 years," Makoski said.

Cathodic protection (CP) typically involves energizing ions to create a protective shield for steel tanks.

"A [distribution] line to one of our pumps appeared to be the source of the fuel release," Makoski said.

Before excavation work began, Rapid Robert's contractor, Environmental Works, alerted neighbors to the fuel release, and drilled monitoring wells to determine whether gasoline had impacted the groundwater.

"There is contamination in the ground," said Angela Oravetz, Environmental Program Manager for the DNR's Environmental Remediation Program.

"Water sampling is occurring at the facility as well as at surrounding properties," Oravetz said.

In a separate email, Kristen Doran, Drinking Water Section Chief, with DNR's Southwest Regional Office, stated that her department collected two special samples near the fuel release on Aug. 4, to determine if product had entered into the main waterline of Monett's distribution system.

"Both of these samples were non-detect for petroleum products," Doran stated.

Doran indicated that additional water sampling will be conducted.

According to the

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) commonly found in petroleum fuels and solvents include a variety of chemicals: some man-made, and "some which may have short and long-term adverse health effects."

In southwest Missouri's fractured karst bedrock, VOCs and other contaminants can enter groundwater and migrate rapidly.

Petroleum in groundwater and soil can allow potentially harmful vapors to rise into businesses and homes through pathways created by building foundations and sewer lines.

Skip Schaller, Monett city utilities superintendent, said he believes gasoline had been leaking at the Rapid Roberts' site for an undetermined amount of time.

"It appears that some of it [has] migrated off the property," he stated.

Schaller said there's still "more work to do to determine the extent [of migration]," and that Environmental Works is waiting to receive proper work-zone signage before beginning sampling below Central Avenue.

The Tank Section of the DNR will be overseeing the remediation process.

Makoski said Rapid Roberts plans to replace their old fuel storage tanks with newer, upgraded tanks, when they replace the fuel distribution lines.

Eric Hoyle, DNR Environmental Program Specialist, said the department is currently awaiting "the completion of release investigation and underground storage tank closure activities," which could begin the week of Sept. 14. After the completion of the initial investigation and the closure of the old tanks are complete, Hoyle said Rapid Roberts will be required to conduct additional site investigations regarding the extent of the release and any unacceptable risks associated with the remaining contamination.

In Cassville, Hoyle said that an investigation at and near the property of the L

& L Convenience Store at Hilltop, south of Cassville, is still considered open and active, even though remediation at the site was abandoned in 2009.

According to a Jan. 4, 1989, article in The Cassville Democrat, in 1988, traces of petroleum were found in the private well of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Miller, residents of the Hilltop area. The discovery prompted further investigations.

A March 11, 1992, article in the Cassville Democrat reports that Hilltop resident, Dennis Hurst, petitioned the Cassville city council to allow him to temporarily hook into the city's water main because his well — which served six duplexes and a residence — was contaminated.

The City granted him permission.

Over 30 years later, Hoyle said that the Hilltop investigation is still considered open and active, because neither the extent of off-property migration, nor the source of the petroleum that showed up in neighborhood wells had ever been pinpointed.

A DNR summary of the Hilltop site reports that it was "the location of a plume of volatile organic compounds in groundwater."

"In June 1991, the groundwater well serving both the SOS Convenience Store and a restaurant was found to be contaminated with volatile organic compounds," the report states.

The investigation at the site was conducted by the DNR Superfund Section in

1992.

"Analysis of samples from the SOS Convenience Store well from 1991 through 1993 indicated the presence of various gasoline-related constituents, including benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene, and methyl-tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE), as well as 1,2-dichloroethane," the DNR summary states. "The plume was suspected to have originated from leaking underground storage tanks at one or more nearby gasoline stations with regulated underground storage tanks."

According to the report, "No cleanup activity occurred at the site under Superfund oversight."

The site was referred to the department's Tanks Section for follow up in October 1993 (<https://tinyurl.com/bdf3dc9>).

Hoyle said it appears that any remediation that may have occurred at the L&L Convenience Store at Hilltop was abandoned on Jan. 27, 2009.

"The responsible party [for the fuel release] was determined to be unable to financially complete remediation activities, [and] it appears the current owners of the property, who are not responsible for this release, have not expressed an intention to continue those activities," Hoyle said. "The last report documenting contaminated soil and/or groundwater [at the site] received by the department was a Source Investigation dated May 2, 2001."

Hoyle said it doesn't appear that enough infor-

mation has been submitted to the department to determine the impacts of migration off of the property.

"The source of the contamination is still unknown at this time," Hoyle said. "The department is aware of two currently active underground storage tanks and two former underground storage tanks [at the Hilltop site]. Two 10,000-gallon tanks, storing regular unleaded gasoline and diesel fuel, respectively, remain in use; one 4,000-gallon tank has been closed in place; and one 4,000-gallon tank was removed in 2013."

Richard Asbill, Cassville city administrator, said city water serves L&L Convenience Store and Sportsman's Corner, on the west side of Highway 112, at Hilltop.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, over 581,000 releases from underground storage tanks have been confirmed across the US, as of September 2025.

Nearly 528,000 contaminated sites have been cleaned up, the agency said, but about 54,000 sites

remained to be cleaned up, at that time.

Many other tanks remain underground in unknown condition, Koon said.

Although in Missouri there are no laws requiring property owners and landlords to disclose the presence of neighboring USTs and hazardous waste sites, buyers and renters can conduct their own due diligence.

The DNR's website features an environmental site-tracking tool at <https://tinyurl.com/2s4e-hpt2>. The tool discloses the sites of current and past hazardous waste investigations, as well as reported underground storage tanks - both those currently in use, and tanks which were closed in place prior to current regulations.

The EPA maintains a similar mapping tool to track Superfund sites at <https://tinyurl.com/msb-cph3d>.

Residents who suspect that petroleum is impacting soil or water on their property may contact the DNR's Southwest Regional Office at 417-891-4300.

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Donnie Chad, retiring Exeter Fire Chief, opens a gift from his grandchildren, while his wife, Kim, left, looks on, during a retirement reception for Chadd, held at the Exeter Fire Station on Saturday. Sheila Harris/sheilaharrisads@gmail.com

Chadd: Will pray for safety of firefighters

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

District works in conjunction with the Cassville and Butterfield districts to provide mutual aid, or “auto aid,” Chadd said.

“Whenever a call goes out for one of them, we respond, too,” he said.

The Exeter Fire District has a roster of 16 volunteers, most of whom showed up — in uniform — to congratulate Chadd on his retirement.

Fire Chief Ron Brown, of El Dorado Springs, traveled 100 miles south to congratulate his friend on his retirement.

Exeter’s assistant fire chief, David Newman — whose wife Mickie also volunteers for the fire district — said he’s going to miss Chadd.

“We started volunteering for the district at the same time 40 years ago,” he said. “Donnie’s like a brother to me.”

Newman said that being a family-member of a firefighter can be stressful.

“Aside from the safety factor, we’re basically on call around the clock, so that means we’re away from home a lot on the nights and weekends.”

Kim Chadd said she’s



Donnie Chadd, retiring Exeter Fire Chief, poses with his grandchildren, front to back: Madilynn Massey, Cason Massey and Chadd Phillips, during a retirement reception for Chadd, held at the Exeter Fire Station on Saturday. Sheila Harris/sheilaharrisads@gmail.com

proud of her husband for being so dedicated to the town. “He’s done a wonderful job for our community,” she said. “I’m thankful to

the Lord for keeping him safe for all of these years.”

Donnie Chadd said that after his retirement from the fire district, he plans to spend more time with his wife and their five grandkids.

When asked if he had any parting words for the Exeter volunteer firemen and women who will carry on without him, Chadd said, “I will continue to pray for their safety, every day.”



Donnie Chad, right, retiring Exeter Fire Chief, visits with El Dorado Springs fire chief, Ron Brown, left, at a retirement reception held in Chadd's honor on Saturday at the Exeter fire station. Sheila Harris/sheilaharrisads@gmail.com

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MONDAY SEPTEMBER	TUESDAY SEPTEMBER	WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER	THURSDAY SEPTEMBER	FRIDAY SEPTEMBER
21	22	23	24	25
Pizza Pasta Bake	Pot Roast w/ Gravy	Smoked Pork Chop*	Salisbury Steak	Chicken Strips
Tossed Salad	Baby Bakers	Scalloped Potatoes	Whole Grain Pasta	Roasted Potatoes
Capri Veggies	Roast Carrots	Antiqua Veggies	Broccoli	Green Beans
Garlic Stick	Whole Grain Roll	Whole Grain Roll	Carrots	Whole Grain Roll
Yellow Cake w/ Chocolate Frosting	Strawberry Cake	Carrot Cake	Chocolate Cake	Assorted Cookies

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WILDCATS SOCCER

Record: 4-3 as of Monday
Weekend result: Win over Marshfield, draw with Willard and loss to Lebanon
Next up: Cassville travels to Crocker on Monday, hosts Monett on Tuesday

Wildcats start hot, staying cool

Cassville soccer team averaging 1.7 goals per game

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com
The Cassville's boys soccer team has started the season at 4-3 against teams mostly a class or two higher, yet for the past two weeks, the team has had to deal with a unique way to prepare — indoors.

Curtis Ray, Cassville boys soccer coach, said frequent practices at the Rock Gym have presented a unique challenge to a season in which the team has started strong.

"We haven't had [outdoor] practices in a week and a half with the heat index and the wet bulb," Ray said. "We've actually had to be inside a lot. So, I think it's been actually closer to two weeks or so since we've had an actual real practice outside."

The circumstances have required Cassville to share limited indoor space and adjust its routine, but the Wildcats are not alone.

"With MSHSAA, the wet bulb applies to everybody," Ray said. "There's certain markers. A practice can be two hours max, but sometimes, you can only get in one hour, or you may have to stay inside. Everyone's having to adjust; everyone's have to do something different. It's not like we're the only ones out here, so we've just got to push through that mental aspect and go play," Ray said.

The Wildcats have faced a challenging early schedule, including the Webb City tournament, where Class 3 Cassville played teams at least one, and in some cases two, classes higher.

The Wildcats held their own in the tournament, according to Ray, defeating Hillcrest, 5-2, and Webb City, 2-0, before falling in a close 1-0 championship match against Republic.

"The Republic game could have gone either way," Ray said. "They got their bouncing ball to go in, and we couldn't get ours to go in, and that was obviously the difference."

Cassville followed the tournament by defeating Bolivar at home in overtime, a result Ray said was particularly important for future district seeding.

"That in helps us put ourselves in our own driver's seat, so to speak, going toward districts," Ray said.

The Wildcats then played three games in a tournament over the weekend, defeating Marshfield, 2-1, tying Willard, 1-1, and losing to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5B

A WIN BY THE BOOKENDS



Cassville's Masin Bryan gives a battle cry after the Wildcats sealed a 28-25 victory over Seneca on Friday. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Wildcats defeat Seneca for first time since 2020

BY KYLE TROUTMAN

ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com
Over the last five years, the Cassville football team has fallen to Seneca seven times and been shutout three times — but not on Friday.

With a strong first quarter and a resilient fourth quarter, the Wildcats, ranked No. 3 in Class 3 going into the contest, produced a 28-25 victory over the No. 3 ranked defending state champion Indians. The Wildcats rallied twice in the fourth quarter, scoring 14 points in the final 6:28 and making an end zone stand in the final seconds to preserve the win.

For senior lineman Harley Madison, the victory carried extra significance after Cassville's 33-27 loss to Seneca in the season opener a year ago.

"I feel so many emotions," he said after the game. "I've been waiting for a long time to beat them. It feels so good. That whole last drive, I couldn't even look up. There was so much just nervousness and excitement, and that kind of similar to Monett, but I feel like this one meant a lot more to me."

Cassville appeared to have control early, jumping to a 14-0 lead in the first quarter.

The Wildcats opened the scoring with a 22-yard touchdown run by Mace Bredeson. After Spencer Drollinger helped pin Seneca deep on the ensuing kickoff, Cassville forced a turnover on downs and quickly went back to work.

Bredeson caught a long pass at the Seneca 17, and after the Wildcats moved inside the 10, Kellen Weldy powered his



Cassville's Kamden Beebe scores a touchdown in the 28-25 win over Seneca on Friday. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

way into the end zone on a 9-yard touchdown run to make it 14-0 with 2:26 left in the opening frame.

Seneca answered with a touchdown in the second quarter, then scored again with 28 seconds left in the half after a Cassville field goal attempt came up short. The Indians missed the extra point, leaving Cassville with a 14-13 halftime lead.

Seneca then took control of the third quarter.

The Indians put together a long opening

drive of the second half, using their running game to move 80 yards before scoring on a 3-yard run. A failed 2-point conversion left Seneca ahead 19-14 with 6:53 remaining in the third.

Cassville's next possession ended with an interception, and Seneca carried its lead into the fourth quarter.

"We just kept fighting," said Clay Weldy, Cassville coach. "I told at halftime, hey, we

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5B

Mighty Mites recognized at Seneca contest



The Cassville Mighty Mite football teams and cheer squads were recognized at halftime of the Cassville-Seneca football game on Friday night, with each participant having their name called and getting an opportunity to wave to the crowd. The program is for youth in grades 3-6. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com



Football

9/18	McDonald County	Away	7:00 pm
9/25	East Newton	Away	7:00 pm
10/2	Lamar	Home	7:00 pm
10/9	Miller Career Academy	Home	7:00 pm
10/17	Mt. Vernon	Away	1:00 pm
10/23	Nevada	Away	7:00 pm

Cross Country

9/17	Willard	Away	4:00 pm
9/29	Lamar	Away	4:00 pm
10/6	Cassville	Home	4:00 pm
10/13	Hollister	Away	4:00 pm
10/20	Big 8 Championships (in Seneca)	Away	
10/24	Reeds Spring	Away	4:00 pm

Boys Soccer

9/21	Crocker	Neutral	5:00 pm
9/22	Monett	Home	5:00 pm
9/26	Greenwood Classic	Away	
9/29	McDonald County	Away	5:00 pm
10/1	New Heights Christian	Away	5:00 pm
10/5	Central	Home	5:00 pm
10/6	Aurora	Away	5:00 pm
10/8	Logan-Rogersville	Away	5:00 pm
10/13	Monett	Away	5:00 pm
10/15	Carl Junction	Away	5:00 pm
10/20	McDonald County	Home	5:00 pm
10/22	Greenwood	Home	5:00 pm
10/26	Clinton (in Springfield)	Neutral	5:00 pm

Softball

9/17	Monett	Home	V, JV	5:00 pm
9/18-19	Branson Festival	Neutral	V	
9/21	Neosho	Away	JV	4:30 pm
9/22	Aurora	Away	V, JV	5:00 pm
9/24	McDonald County	Away	V, JV	5:00 pm
9/29	Nevada	Home	V, JV	5:00 pm
10/1	Seneca	Home	V, JV	5:00 pm
10/2-3	Hillcrest Softball Tournament	Away	V	
10/5	Aurora	Home	V, JV	5:00 pm
10/6	Monett	Away	V, JV	5:00 pm
10/8	Central	Away	V	5:00 pm
10/10	Bolivar	Away	V	10:00 AM
10/10	Joplin (in Bolivar)	Neutral	V	12:00 PM
10/12	Neosho	Home	V, JV	5:00 pm

Girls Golf

9/16	Mt Vernon Match	Away	
9/21	7th Annual Carthage Invitational	Away	
9/24	Cassville Girls Golf Tournament	Home	
9/30	Clever Tournament	Away	
10/1	Monett Match	Away	
10/5	Big 8 Conference Tournament (in Carthage)	Away	

Volleyball

9/17	Seneca	Home	V, JV, Fr	5:00 pm
9/19	Buffalo Lady Bison Inv.	Neutral	V	
9/21	Diamond	Home	V, JV, Fr	4:30 pm
9/22	Reeds Spring	Away	V, JV, Fr	4:30 pm
9/24	Nevada	Away	V, JV, Fr	4:30 pm
9/26	Mustang Volleyball Classic	Neutral	V	
9/29	Lamar	Home	V, JV, Fr	4:30 pm
10/1	Monett	Away	V, JV, Fr	4:30 pm
10/3	Mt. Vernon October Aces Tournament	Neutral	V	
10/3	Mt. Vernon October Aces JV Tournament	Neutral	JV	
10/6	East Newton	Home	V, JV, Fr	4:30 pm
10/8	McDonald County	Away	V, JV, Fr	4:30 pm

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In Re: The Matter of: M.J.E., a minor, TRINITY L. COOK and HUNTER W. COOK, Petitioners, v. JOHN DOE, Respondent. Case Number: 26BR-JU00069

NOTICE UPON ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

The State of Missouri to: John Doe, the unknown father of the minor child M.J.E. 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 termination of parental rights and adoption. The names of all parties to said action are stated above in the caption hereof and the name and address of the attorney for Petitioners is: Harry D. Schwartz, 702 West Street, P.O. Box 276, 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 2nd day of September 2026, judgment by default

MUSICIANS WANTED
Cassville United Methodist Church seeks musicians to assist in worship, specifically keyboard and vocal. This is a part-time time paid position. Inquire with Pastor Jeff at 417-847-2328.

HUGE SALE
Farm Road 1240, across from Beaver Storage in Golden. Every Fri. & Sat. in Sept. from 9 am – 3 pm. **Everything must go.**

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.

HELP WANTED
The City of Washburn is accepting applications for a Water Utility Position. This role supports the daily operation, maintenance, and monitoring of the municipal water and wastewater systems. *Preferred Qualifications (Not Required):*
• Level D Wastewater Treatment Certificate
• DS Water Distribution Level 2 Certificate
Compensation:
• Pay will depend on experience
How to Apply: Applications available at Washburn City Hall, 321 Main St, Washburn, MO 65772
Completed applications must be turned in to the City Clerk at Washburn City Hall
For Questions Contact Washburn City Hall at 417-826-5242.

will be rendered against you. Witness my hand and the seal of the Circuit Court this 27th day of August 2026. Craig Williams

by Kami Stanton Clerk
Dates of Publication in the Cassville Democrat:
1st Publication: September 2, 2026
2nd Publication: September 9, 2026
3rd Publication: September 16, 2026
4th Publication: September 23, 2026
1st insertion 09/02/2026
34-37

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI AT CASSVILLE

In re the Matter of: KALEB JOEL MATHIAS OUTHOUSE Case No. 26BR-DR0100

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF CHANGE OF NAME

NOTICE OF CHANGE OF NAME

On the 25th day of August, 2026 the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri entered Judgment in Case No. 26BR-DR00100, changing the name of Kaleb Joel Mathias Outhouse to Kaleb Joel Mathias Colf. ELLIS, CUPPS, HERRIN & SCHWARTZ Harry D. Schwartz #73292 Attorney for Petitioner P.O. Box 276 Cassville, MO 65625 (417) 847-2734; fax (417)847-5643 Published in Cassville Democrat
Dates of Publication: September 2, 2026 September 9, 2026 September 16, 2026 1st insertion 09/02/2026 34-36

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue and authority of an Execution, Numbers 26-EXEC-89 and 26-EXEC-96 (in Case Number 24BR-CC00109), issued rom the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Barry County, Missouri,

returnable on l) q t and to me, as Sheriff, directed and delivered, in favor of Plaintiff, Helen M. Hagerman, and against Defendants, Kevin Woodley and Christina Woodley, I have levied upon and seized all the right, title, interest and estate of said Defendants, in and to the following described real estate, situate in the County of Barry and State of Missouri, to wit:

A PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 22 RANGE 25 WEST, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI. BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 22 RANGE 25 WEST; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 47 SECONDS EAST 417.48 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 24 MINUTES 13 SECONDS EAST 404.76 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 02 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 18 SECONDS EAST 279.86 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE NORTH 88 DEGREES 02 MINUTES 15 SECONDS EAST 77.48 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 61 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 09 SECONDS EAST 19.87 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 84 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 1 1 SECONDS EAST 140.66 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 27 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 45 SECONDS WEST 96.54 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 26 SECONDS EAST 50.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 28 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST 209.00 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 57 MINUTES 58 SECONDS WEST 49.78 FEET; THENCE NORTH 42 DEGREES 45 MINUTES 54 SECONDS WEST 125.66 FEET; THENCE NORTH 02 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 18 SECONDS WEST 199.74 FEET; TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SUBJECT TO ANY AND ALL ENCUMBRANCES AND RIGHTS RECORDED OR UNRECORDED. EXCEPT RIGHTS OF OTHERS IN AND TO DRIVEWAY EASEMENT AS SHOWN ON SURVEY OF JMARK SURVEYING NO. 18-493, DATED 11/15/2018. TOGETHER WITH AND SUBJECT TO: 10 FOOT DRIVEWAY EASEMENT. A PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 22 RANGE 25 WEST, BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI. BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: A DRIVEWAY EASEMENT BEING 10.00 FEET IN WIDTH LYING 5 FEET EACH SIDE OF A CENTERLINE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 22 RANGE 25 WEST; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 47 SECONDS EAST 417.48 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 24 MINUTES 13 SECONDS EAST 404.76 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 02 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 18 SECONDS EAST 279.86 FEET; THENCE NORTH 88 DEGREES 02 MINUTES 15 SECONDS EAST 77.48 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 61 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 09 SECONDS EAST 5.70 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE HEREIN DESCRIBED CENTERLINE: THENCE SOUTH 10 DEGREES 16 MINUTES 05 SECONDS WEST ALONG SAID CENTERLINE 47.55 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 01 DEGREES 29 MINUTES 21 SECONDS WEST ALONG SAID CENTERLINE 62.42 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 30 DEGREES 36 MINUTES

REAL ESTATE AUCTION

Saturday, Sept. 19, 2026 — 10 AM

Location: Cassville, MO. From Cassville go South on hwy 76 (112), 2 miles then go East on Hwy 76 for 9.6 miles. Turn left on FR 1200 (Lohmar Tower). Go 2 miles to property line and 2.6 miles to the cabin. (2020 Fr 2180, Cassville MO)

112 ACRES M/L SELLING IN (2) TRACTS



Tract #1: 88 Acres m/l fenced, pasture & timber, nice bottom pastures, creek, great for cattle, horses or just a hunting retreat, nice farm. It also has a shop building approx. 30'x30' with concrete floor and elect and a shared well with the cabin. **Tract #2:** Country cabin charm. 2 Bedroom, 1 1/2 bath. Hardwood floors, kitchen with custom cabinets, outside is rustic with lap siding, inside is nice. With this cabin you will also get 24 ac m/l, mostly wooded with a couple of flat cleared acres on top. Great deer & turkey hunting !!! **Note:** If a person wants it all, just be the one that outbids everyone else, on both tracts. Set on the front porch and enjoy your own paradise here in the Ozark hills. Call 417-847-2507 to preview the property before auction time. How often does 100 plus acres come up for auction, almost never !!!! See you there. **Real Estate Terms:** Qualified buyers only w/pre-approved bank letter of approval. Nonrefundable 10% paid day of auction w/balance due in cash or certified funds within 30-45 days. Buyers and sellers will be responsible for their own portion of their closing cost. Taxes will be prorated to the date of closing. Sells as is where is with no warranties or guarantees. Bidders, buyers, or agent of the buyer are responsible for conducting own inspection of property prior to auction and should rely solely upon their own due diligence and inspection. This property is offered with absolutely no contingencies of any kind, no contingencies on financing, surveys, appraisals, or final walk throughs. Seller has the right to accept or reject final bid. A 10% buyer's premium will apply on Real Estate. Any announcements made on the day of auction supersede any and all printed material.

Owner: Josilyne Creason & Grace Hurst



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



Auctioneer:
Parker Stumpff
AR State Champion Auctioneer
#2352



www.stumpffauction.com

417-847-2507

ESTATE AUCTION

Monday, Sept. 21, 2026 — 10 AM

Location: Golden, MO. From the Jct's of Hwy 86 & Hwy J across from Shumaker Tire, take J Hwy 1 mile. Stay straight on Hwy RA and go 2.6 miles. Turn right on FR 1250 and go 1/10 mile to auction. (25321 FR 2265, Golden MO)

TOOLS – ZERO TURN MOWER – LOG SPLITTER – GUNS – GUN SAFES – MISC BUILDING ITEMS – FURNITURE & APPLIANCES – HOUSEHOLD – MISC



Table Rock Lake Front Real Estate: Lake front, 3 bedroom 2 bath brick & vinyl home with basement. Fantastic views of Table Rock Lake. Enter this home into the foyer with coat closet, open floor plan to the kitchen, dining & living room. The living room has large windows looking out to Table Rock Lake, and vaulted ceiling. There is a door leading to a nice enclosed sun porch with vaulted ceiling, a door leading out to a raised deck overlooking the lake. The kitchen features custom oak cabinets, double SS sink, built in microwave/hood, GE gas range/oven, Refrigerator/Freezer & a center kitchen island. The dining area is next to the kitchen with large windows. Now down the hall where you will find bedroom #1 with window & closet, a full bathroom with utility area, a linen closet, Bedroom #2 with windows & closet and the master bedroom with ceiling fan, his & hers, closets and a French door leading out to the sun porch. **Downstairs:** Could be a man cave, hobby room, family room, etc. with windows looking out o the lake. A French door leading out to the bottom deck, lakeside. Also in the basement is a ¾ bathroom, a hobby room and a mech/storage room and a door leading to the 3 car garage, a storage room & a garden storage room. **Outside:** Table Rock Lake Front with fantastic views. A detached garage/work shop, a storage shed and a large shop/garage. All are lakefront and all on 2 ½ lots. **Note:** With the passing of Mr. Krutz, Mrs. Krutz has decided to sell this beautiful lake property and move to be closer to her kids. This property is lake front and has fantastic views of Table Rock Lake. Mr. Krutz liked working in the shop, lots of tools & misc shop items. Call 417-847-2507 to learn more about the Real Estate or to preregister or go to www.stumpffauction.com. See you there. **Terms:** Cash, good check or credit card with 2 forms of current ID. Must have current driver's license to obtain bidder number. If paying with credit card a 5% convenience fee will apply. All sells as is where is with no warranty expressed or implied. Any announcements made day of auction supersede any and all printed material. **Real Estate Terms:** Qualified buyers only w/pre-approved bank letter of approval. Nonrefundable 10% paid day of auction w/balance due in cash or certified funds within 30-45 days. Buyers and sellers will be responsible for their own portion of their closing cost. Taxes will be prorated to the date of closing. Sells as is where is with no warranties or guarantees. Bidders, buyers, or agent of the buyer are responsible for conducting own inspection of property prior to auction and should rely solely upon their own due diligence and inspection. This property is offered with absolutely no contingencies of any kind, no contingencies on financing, surveys, appraisals, or final walk throughs. Seller has the right to accept or reject final bid. A 10% buyer's premium will apply on Real Estate. Any announcements made on the day of auction supersede any and all printed material.

Owner: Jolene Krutz



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



Auctioneer:
Parker Stumpff
AR State Champion Auctioneer
#2352



www.stumpffauction.com

417-847-2507

58 SECONDS WEST ALONG SAID CENTERLINE 239.28 FEET TO THE NORTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY OF MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY 39 AS NOW LOCATED, ALSO BEING THE POINT OF TERMINUS OF SAID DRIVEWAY EASEMENT. SIDELINES OF SAID EASEMENT TO BE LENGTHENED AND SHORTENED AT THE APPROPRIATE LINES. and I will on October 5, 2026, between the hours of nine o'clock in the forenoon and five o'clock in the afternoon of that day, more particularly at 1 :00pm at the East front door (facing Main Street) of the County Court House 700 Main St., Cassville, Barry County,

State of Missouri, sell at public vendue, for cash, to the highest bidder, all the right, title, interest and estate of the above-named Defendants, in and to said real estate, to satisfy said execution and costs.
By: Danny Boyd
Sheriff of Barry County
Date: August 25,2026
Attorney for Sheriff: James A. Pettit
200 S. Elliot
P.O. Box 148
Aurora Mo. 65605
417-678-1287
Dates of Publication
9/9/2026, 9/16/2026,
9/23/2026, 9/30/2026
1st insertion 9/9/26
35-38

SCOTT REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY CENTER FLU VACCINE BID SPECIFICATIONS

The Monett Scott Regional Technology Center is accepting bids to administer flu vaccines to 118 students and instructors. Vaccinations must be provided on-site at the Scott Regional Technology Center, with scheduling coordinated

through Heather Schmidly (SRTC) and Amanda Guatney (GoCAPS). All vaccines must be administered on or before the first week of October.
Monett Schools
710 9th Street
Monett, Mo
Only insertion 09/16/26
36

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI AT CASSVILLE

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF: LANAE LEAVITT and CORBIN GONZALO PHILLIPS LANAE LEAVITT, Petitioner, vs. CORBIN GONZALO PHILLIPS, Respondent. CASE NO. 26BR-DR00120

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION NOTICE

The State of Missouri to; CORBIN GONZALO PHILLIPS. You are hereby notified that an action has been



3rd Generation Auction Service

ALL TYPES OF AUCTIONS

Brad Holder Brent Ferguson Carl Hendrix
417-689-5582 479-531-3252 417-342-4370

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3B

commenced against you in the Circuit Court for the County of Barry, Missouri, the object, and general nature of which is a PETITION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE. The names of all the parties to said suit are stated above in the caption hereof and the name and address of the attorney for petitioner's is:

DARWIN E. GROOMER,
GROOMER LAW FIRM,
L.L.C.
206 E. BROADWAY,
MONETT, MISSOURI,
65708;
TELEPHONE: (417) 235-7834.

You are further notified that, unless you file an answer or other pleading or shall otherwise appear and defend against the aforesaid petition within 30 days after the 16th day of SEPTEMBER , 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 the seal of the circuit court this 8th day of SEPTEMBER 2026.

FIRST PUBLICATION:
SEPTEMBER 16, 2026
SECOND PUBLICATION:
SEPTEMBER 23, 2026
THIRD PUBLICATION:
SEPTEMBER 30, 2026
FOURTH PUBLICATION:
OCTOBER 06, 2026
Craig Williams
Circuit Clerk
BY KATIE CORREIA/DC
Deputy Clerk
1st insertion 09/16/26
36-39

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

BULMARO ORTIZ and
CLAUDIA ORTIZ-
MEDRANO,
husband and wife,
Plaintiffs,
VS.
MILLSAP & SINGER,
P.C., JEREMY W. RUPP and
NOEMI M. URBINA-RUPP,
husband and wife,
LEONARDO SALAS and
ROSA E. SALAS,
husband and wife,
DALE WILSON, DONNA
DAVIS HOTCHKISS,
BERTRAM E. WILSON, and
ADOLFO SALAS PEREZ
and EMERALDA SALAS
SERRANO,
husband and wife,
and their heirs, grantees,
devises successors,
consorts, and assigns,
Defendants.
26BR-CC00137

**NOTICE UPON ORDER
FOR PUBLICATION OF
NOTICE**

THE STATE OF MISSOURI
TO:
JEREMY W. RUPP and
NOEMIM. URBINA-RUPP,
husband and wife
LEONARDO SALAS and
ROSA E. SALAS,
husband and wife,
DALE WILSON, DONNA
DAVIS HOTCHKISS,
BERTRAM E. WILSON,
ADOLFO SALAS PEREZ
and ESMERALDA SALAS
SERRANO,
husband and wife,
and their heirs, grantees,
devises, 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:
Beginning at the Northwest
corner of the Northeast
Quarter of the Northwest
Quarter of Section 20,
Township 23, Range 27,
thence East 740 feet; thence
South 221.76 feet; thence
West 115 feet; thence South
135 feet; thence West 150
feet for a point of beginning;
thence South 135 feet to
North Boundary line of
roadway; thence East 100
feet; thence North 135 feet;
thence West 100 feet to the
point of beginning being a
part of the Northwest Quarter,
Section 20, Township 23,
Range 21, Barry County,
Missouri (also known as
part of Block 3 in Sherwood
Forest Subdivision, as per
the recorded Plat thereof).

AND
Lot 7(7) Block Nine (9)
in Monett Town Company's
Townsite of Monett, Barry
County, Missouri. Subject
to any easements, rights of
way or restrictions of record
or in fact.

AND
Lot Thirteen (13) in Block
One (1) in Clutters Addition to
Monett, 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 Plaintiffs 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 16th day of
September 2026, judgment
by de fault 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 9th
day of September 2026.

CRAIG WILLIAMS,
Circuit Clerk
By KamiStanton
Deputy Clerk
1st Publication:
September 16, 2026
2nd Publication:
September 23, 2026
3rd Publication:
September 30, 2026
4th Publication:
October 1, 2026
36-39

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

IN RE:
THE NAME CHANGE OF
JOSHUA PHILLIP WOOD,
Petitioner,
Case No. 26BR-DR00117

**NOTICE OF CHANGE OF
NAME**

Public notice is hereby
given that on the 1st day
of September 2026, by an
Order of the Circuit Court of
Barry County, Missouri,
Case No. 26BR-DR00117,
the name of JOSHUA
PHILLIP WOOD
was changed to JOSHUA
LEE PENA.

Filed September 1, 2026
Craig Williams
Circuit Clerk
1st insertion 09/16/26
36-38

PROBATE

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

IN THE ESTATE OF
GEORGE E. BENTON,
JR.,
Deceased.
Case No.
25BR-PR00189

**NOTICE OF FILING OF
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT
AND SCHEDULE
OF PROPOSED
DISTRIBUTION
(Sec. 473.840, RsMo)**

You are hereby notified
that the undersigned
independent personal
representative will file the
final statement of account,
containing a schedule of
proposed distribution of
the assets of the estate, in
the Probate Division of
the Circuit Court of Barry County,
Missouri on September 28,
2026. If no objections to
the statement of account or
schedule of distribution are
filed within twenty (20) days
after the filing thereof, the
undersigned independent
personal representative will
distribute in accordance with
the schedule of proposed
distribution contained in the
statement of account.

If no proceeding is
commenced in the court
within six months after the
filing of the statement of
account, each independent
personal representative is
thereby discharged from
further claim of demand by
any interested person.

Sandra L. Means-Benton,
Personal Representative
Mark McFarland, MO SC
#57332
mmcfarland@hinklaw.com
8711 Penrose Lane #400
Lenexa, Kansas 66219
Telephone: (913) 345-9205
09/02/2026

LEGALS

Tractors - Construction, Farm & Cattle Equipment - Trucks - Pickups - Trailers - UTVs & ATVs



See our Website
For more
Info. & Pictures

9:00 AM *Saturday September 19th* 9:00AM

Location: 4149 F.R. 2050 Pierce City Mo. 65723

Directions: From Jct Hwy. 60 & Hwy 97 take Hwy. 97 south 4 mi then left on F.R. 2050 1 mi. to sale.

Trucks - Trailers - SxS - ATV's
1994 White/GMC WB 10 Wheeler with FASSI F330SE Knuckle Boom Crane, Cummins, 10spd. (Good Solid Crane Truck, Runs & Works Perfect);
1995 International 4900, DT466, Auto. 10ft. Flatbed (only shows 13,941 mi.);
2018 Ford F-250 Ext Cab, 2wd. with Professionally Installed 6.0 GM Vortec Motor, Auto (Great Truck);
2015 Ford F-250 Crew, 4x4, 6.2, Auto (265,xxx mi.);
2011 Ford F-250 Ext.4x4, 6.2, Auto, (197,xxx mi.);
2011 Ford F-250 Ext.4x4, 6.2, Auto, (324,xxx mi.);
2008 Chevrolet 2500HD 4x4, 6.0, Auto, Single Cab, No Bed (193,xxx mi.)
2008 Chevrolet 2500HD 2wd, 6.0, Auto, Single Cab, Utility Bed (289,xxx mi.);
2004 Dodge 3500 4x4, Diesel, Auto. 6ft. C&M Steel Flatbed, (513,xxx mi);
2005 GMC 1500 Crew Cab 4x4, 5.3, Auto, (311,xxx mi);
2004 Dodge 2500 4x4, Diesel, Auto. (277,xxx mi);
2003 Ford E-550 Cargo Van, 7.3 Diesel, Auto, with 7k Kohler Generator, former marine service truck (Extra Clean with only 36,xxx mi);
2003 Chevrolet 2500 Ext. Cab 4x4, 6.0, Auto, (167,xxx mi);
2003 Chevrolet 3500 Single Cab 2wd, 6.0, Auto, Utility Bed (170,xxx mi);
2001 Chevrolet 3500HD, 8.1 Vortec, 5 Spd, 12ft. Flatbed, (129,xxx mi.);
2001 Ford F-350 Crew Cab 2wd, Diesel, Auto. (300,xxx mi.);
2000 Chevrolet 1500 Ext Cab 4x4, 5.3, Auto (146,xxx mi);
1999 Ford F-450 4x4, Diesel, Auto, with Service Bed & Altec AT35-G Bucket Boom (300,xxx mi.);
1998 Ford F-350 4x4, Diesel, Auto, Utility Bed, (308,xxx mi.);
1998 Chevrolet 2500 4x4, (200,xxx mi. Knocks);
2007 Chevrolet Suburban LT 4x4, (240,xxx mi);
2004 Nissan Armada 4x4 SUV (Camo., No Title);
2012 Range Rover 4x4 SUV (Camo. 240,xxx mi.);
2026 Tj Trailers Gooseneck Drive Over Fender Trailer 102" X 26' (New only pulled 50 miles);
2023 PJ Trailers 40ft Flatbed Goosneck Trailer with Dove & Flip Over Ramps (Elec. over Air Ride);
2020 H&H 40 ft., 32ft. Floor with 8ft. Overmck Storage, 21k Triple Axel Enclosed Car Trailer, Elec. Jacks, Gooseneck or 5th Wheel (Like Brand New);
2020 Iron Bull 30ft. Gooseneck Flatbed Trailer with Hyd. Dovetail;
(2) 2013 32ft.Load Trail Loadmax Dual Tandem Gooseneck Trailers with Hyd. Dovetails;
Starlite 30ft. Gooseneck Flatbed (Needs Floor);
Featherlite 24ft. X 7ft. All Aluminum Stock Trailer;
1987 32FT Gooseneck Triple Axle Stock Trailer;
Blair 20ft. Gooseneck Stock Trailer;
Sure-Trac 14ft x 7ft V Nose Cargo Trailer with Barn Doors, Side Door & Sliding Side Window;
Jet 22ft. Single Hopper, Single Axle Grain Trailer;
Older Wabash 53ft. Drop Deck Spread Axle Equipment Trailer;
2016 Polaris Ranger 570 Crew 4 Seater (2122 hrs.);
11ft. Truck Mount Snow Plow;
2026 GMC Shorlted Bed, Rt. Damage, No Tailgate;
2019 GMC Denali Dually Bed (Very Good);
2017 Dodge SWB Pickup Bed (Very Good);
Ranch Hand Style Bumper;

Track Loader
Skid Steer - Mini Excavators
Construction Equipment
Caterpillar 963 Track Loader (Runs & Operates Good but injector pump needs attention);
Terex TC37 Mini Excavator, Open, (2528 hrs);
Takeuchi TB216H Hybrid Mini Excavator, Open, Diesel or 3 Phase (2215 hrs);
Takeuchi TB216 Mini Excavator, Open, (2487 hrs);
Takeuchi TB016 Mini Excavator, Open, (4701 hrs);
Genie S-60 Telescope 60ft. Boom Lift (5143 hrs.);
Mustang 2022 Skidsteer (6138 hrs) Not Running;
New 72" Flat Plate Compactor for Skid Steer;
(4) 6ft. Skid Steer Brush Hogs by Wolverine, JCT & Topcat;
(3) New Sets Skid Steer Pallet Forks with Sideshift; PTO Adapter Three Point Hitch for Skid Steer;
New 74" Skid Steer Rock Bucket;
79" Skid Steer Smooth Bucket;
79" Skid Steer Tooth Bucket;
90" Snow Plow Blade for Skid Steer;
Swede Way APL21 7ft. Skid Steer Snow Plow;
Neal HP9500 Asphalt Paving Machine, (Runs & Operates as it should);
Hypac C754A Double Drum Vibratory Roller;
Altec AT35-G & AT37-G Boom Bucket Lifts, (Both were working good when removed);

Tractors - Farm Equipment
John Deere 5065E Tractor, 4x4, Cab & Loader, 12spd., Shuttle, (Nice Tractor with only 1481 hrs.);
John Deere 5220 Tractor, 2wd, Cab & Loader, 9spd, (Nice Tractor with only 1529 hrs.);
2018 Mahindra 6075 PST Tractor, 4x4, Cab & Loader (Runs perfect but WILL NOT MOVE, only 824 hrs.);
Case 970 Tractor, Cab & Loader (6959 hrs.);
Vermeer R2300 Hydraulic Twin V Rake (Nice);
John Deere 705 Hydraulic Twin RollBar Rake;
M&W BF8, 8 Wheel Bi-Fold Wheel Rake;
Galfre GS-520-4 4 Basket Tedder;
Sitrex 2GL-302 2 Basket Tedder;
Bush Hog 3008-2, 8ft. Brush Hog, 3pt.;
Older Rhino 15ft. Batwing Brush Hog;
Big Bee 3pt. 6ft. PTO Finish Mower;
Swisher Postmaster Towable Post/Fence Trimmer;
Worksaver HPD16 3pt. Hydraulic Post Driver;
Bush Hog 1445 27ft. Tandem Folding Disk;
11ft. Heavy Offset Arena/ Foodplot Disk;
3pt. 14ft. Cultivator;
3pt. 8ft. Cultivator;
Clark 300 Gallon Pull Type Boom Sprayer;
Bestway 3 Pt. 250 Gallon PTO Boomless Sprayer;
15ft. Pasture Drag;
Leinbach Post Hole Auger;
Titan UM72 3pt. 6ft. PTO Tiller;
Farm Star 3pt, 500 lb. Seeder/Spreader (Like New);
GrainOvator 20-20 PTO Auger Feed Wagon (Good);
Dew Eze 265 Slide In Round Bale Mover;
3 Pt. Round Bale Un-Roller;
(2) Swenson Stainless 13' Slide in Salt Spreader Beds;
Antique John Deere Model L. Manure Spreader;
3pt. Hydraulic Wood Splitter;
Skid Steer Mount Bale Spike;
Switch Blade Side Mount 5ft. Sickle Bar Mower;
CATTEAC Hydraulic Squeeze Chute;
Headgate;
Central City Single Head Livestock Scale;
(12) 8ft. Concrete Feed Troughs with Ends;
Tobb 3 Ton Bulk Feed Bin;
(3) 3 Ton Portable Creep Feeders w/ Calf Gates;
Lil KreepR II Calf Creep Feeder;
Older My-D Han-D 12v. Cube Feeder;
Homemade Cattle Panel Trailer;
50ft X 50ft. Red Iron Building Frame (Used);



Shipping Containers
(2) 40 ft. Shipping Containers (Good Floors);
Tools - Misc.
Vogelsang VX136 Rotary Lobe Wastewater/Irrigation Complete Pump Assembly (Never Used);
50ft X 50ft. Red Iron Building Frame (Used);
(17) New Jeld-Wen Vinyl Windows;
(20) 28ft. Used Trusses;
Lg. Lot Misc. Shop Related Items;
(5) 100 Gallon Steel Fuel Transfer Tanks;
2500 gallon Poly Storage Tank on Stand;
2000 gallon Poly Storage Tank;
250 gallon Poly Storage Tank;
5000 gallon Steel Diesel Tank;
(6) 300 gallon Farm Fuel Tanks;
(7) 48" x 48" Concrete Manholes;
(10) 30" x 6Ft. Concrete Culverts;
(50+) White Plastic 55 Gallon Barrels (Clean);
Auctioneers Note
Way to much to list here. See our website for a full list

Foster Auction & Appraisal Service
www.fosterauctions-service.com
Email: bidnewsold@aol.com



AT CASSVILLE

In the Estate of:
EMMETT LENDELL
COCKRUM,
Deceased
Case No.
26BR-PR00023

NOTICE OF FILING OF
FINAL SETTLEMENT
AND PETITION FOR
DISTRIBUTION

TO ALL PERSONS
INTERESTED IN THE
ESTATE OF
EMMETT LENDELL
COCKRUM,
deceased:
You are hereby notified that
the undersigned Personal
Representative will file a Final
Settlement and Petition for
determination of the persons
who are the successors in
interest to the personal/real
estate of the decedent and of
the extent and character of
their
interest therein and for
distribution of such property,
on October 30, 2026, or as
may be
continued by the Court,
and that any objections or
exceptions to such Final
Settlement or
Petition or any item thereof
must be in writing and filed
within twenty days after the
filing of such Final
Settlement.
HARRY D. SCHWARTZ,
Attorney
SAM MADSEN,
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR
Ellis, Cupps, Herrin
& Schwartz Personal
Representative
P. O. Box 276
Cassville, MO 65625
(417)847-2734
Dates of Publication –
9/9/26, 9/16/26, 9/23/26,
9/30/26
THE ABOVE
REFERENCED DATE IS NOT
A COURT APPEARANCE
DATE.
It is an estimated date as
to when the Final Settlement
will be filed with the court.
1st insertion 09/09/26
35-38

**CIRCUIT, BARRY COUNTY,
MISSOURI
JUDGE OR DIVISION:
PROBATE**

In the Estate of
ROXANNE L MCINTIRE,
Deceased.
Case Number:
26BR-PR00112

NOTICE OF LETTERS
OF ADMINISTRATION
GRANTED
(SUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION)

To All Persons Interested in
the Estate of
ROXANNE L MCINTIRE,
Decedent:
On August 26, 2026, the
following individual was
appointed the personal
representative of the estate
of
ROXANNE L MCINTIRE,
decedent,
by the Probate Division
of the Circuit Court of Barry
County, Missouri.
The personal
representative's name and
business address is:
TEDDY L MCINTIRE,
7315 FARM RD 1095 ,
PURDY, MO 65734.
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:

August 31, 2025
Craig Williams,
Circuit Clerk
by S. Parker,
Probate Clerk
Date of first publication:
September 9, 2026
Date of second publication:
September 16, 2026
Date of third publication:
September 23, 2026
Date of fourth publication:
September 30, 2026
Receipt of this notice by
mail should not be construed
by the recipient to indicate
that the recipient necessarily
has a beneficial interest in the
estate. The nature and extent
of any person's interest, if
any, can be determined from
the files and records of this
estate in the Probate Division
of the above referenced
Circuit Court.
1st insertion 09/09/26
35-38

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

In the Estate of
GARY JAMES AKES,
Deceased.
Case Number:
26BR-PR00111

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

To All Persons Interested in
the Estate of
GARY JAMES AKES,
Decedent:
On AUGUST 25, 2026,
the following individual was
appointed the personal
representative of the estate
of
GARY JAMES AKES,
decedent,
by the Probate Division
of the Circuit Court of Barry

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4B
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:

JAMES A AKES,
5264 W 1600 RD,
PARKER, KS 66072

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

CODY ALAN FENTON,
500 W. MAIN ST. STE. 401,
BRANSON, MO 65616,
(417) 335-3550

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

CODY ALAN FENTON,
500 W. MAIN ST. STE. 401,
BRANSON, MO 65616,
(417) 335-3550

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:

August 5, 2026
Date of first publication:
September 9, 2026
Date of second publication:
September 16, 2026
Date of third publication:
September 23, 2026
Date of fourth publication:
September 30, 2026

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

1st insertion 09/09/26
35-38

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

In the Estate of ALVAH E CASSITY,
Deceased.
Case Number:
26BR-PR00109

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

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of
ALVAH E CASSITY,
Decedent:

On August 21, 2026, the last will of Decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was appointed the personal representative of the estate of

ALVAH E CASSITY,

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 name and business address of the personal representative is:

AARON CASSITY,
15784 STATE HWY K,
AURORA, MO 65605

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

JAMES J RANDALL,
PO BOX 151,
405 BROADWAY,
MONETT, MO 65708,
(417) 235-8688.

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

July 25, 2026
Date of first publication:
September 16, 2026
Date of second publication:
September 23, 2026
Date of third publication:
September 30, 2026
Date of fourth publication:
October 7, 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.

36-39

TRUSTEE'S SALES

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S
SALE**

For default in the payment of debt secured by a deed of trust executed by

Raymond Lewis Buchanan, Jr.,

dated March 5, 2021, and recorded on March 8, 2021, Document No. 202101424, in Book No. 21, at Page 1424 and re-recorded on March 10, 2021, Document No. 202101530, in Book No. 21, at Page 1501 in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, Barry County, Missouri, the undersigned Successor Trustee will on September 23, 2026, at 10:30 AM, at the East Front Door of the Barry County Courthouse, Cassville, Missouri, sell at public vendue to the highest bidder for cash:

All of Lots 54 and 55, Turkey mountain Estates East 2nd Subdivision, In Barry County, Missouri, commonly known as 23125 Walnut Ln, Shell Knob, MO, 65747

subject to all prior easements, restrictions, reservations, covenants and encumbrances now of record, if any, to satisfy the debt and costs.

SouthLaw, P.C. Successor Trustee

First Publication:
August 26, 2026.

For more information, visit www.southlaw.com

NOTICE

Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. §1692c(b), no information concerning the collection of this debt may be given without the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction. The debt collector is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose (Casefile No. 260468-1098568).

1st insertion 08/26/26
33-36

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S
SALE**

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

2 Wiseman Enterprises, LLC,

a Missouri limited liability company, dated October 9, 2025, and recorded on October 16, 2025, in the office of the Stone County Recorder of Deeds as Instrument Number 202500010975, and describing the following real

property:

ALL OF LOTS 4 AND 5, BLOCK A, UNIT NO. 1, TURNER'S ESTATE SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF, PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 65, STONE COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE, STONE COUNTY, MISSOURI;

SUBJECT TO EASEMENT DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

A PART OF LOT 4, BLOCK A, TURNER'S ESTATES UNIT NO. 1, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF, PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 65, STONE COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE, STONE COUNTY, MISSOURI, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 4, BLOCK A; THENCE SOUTH 68°09'35" WEST ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF LOT 4 A DISTANCE OF 114.14 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION OF A BUILDING BEING THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 68°09'35" WEST ALONG SAID SOUTH LINE 3.00 FEET TO THE SOUTHWEST EDGE OF AN EXISTING BUILDING; THENCE NORTH 19°32'38" WEST ALONG SAID BUILDING TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID BUILDING; THENCE NORTH 71°21'17" EAST ALONG SAID BUILDING 3.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; CONTAINING .25 SQUARE FEET, MORE OR LESS.

at the request of the legal holder of the note who has elected to declare the entire indebtedness due and payable, and in accordance with the provisions of the Deed of Trust, the undersigned Trustee will on Friday, September 18, 2026, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., particularly at 10:00 a.m., outside the north door of the old Stone County Courthouse, 108 E. 4th Street, Galena, Missouri, 65656 sell the property at public venue to the highest bidder for cash to satisfy said debts and costs.

Cody A. Fenton,
Successor Trustee
Fenton & Grimwood,
Attorneys at Law, LLC
500 W. Main St., Suite 401
Branson, MO 65616
(417) 335-3550
1st insertion 8/26/26
33-36

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S
SALE**

For default in the payment of debt secured by a deed of trust executed by

David E. Cockrell,
dated March 31, 2008, and recorded on April 1, 2008, in Book No. 08, at Page 1980 in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, Barry County, Missouri, the undersigned Successor Trustee will on September 28, 2026, at 12:00 PM, at the East Front Door of the Barry County Courthouse, Cassville, Missouri, sell at public vendue to the highest bidder for cash:

LOT ELEVEN (11) IN PUGH'S ADDITION TO PURDY, BARRY COUNTY MISSOURI AS PER THE RECORDED PLAT

THEREOF, commonly known as 207 S Caledonia, Purdy, MO, 65734

subject to all prior easements, restrictions, reservations, covenants and encumbrances now of record, if any, to satisfy the debt and costs.

SouthLaw, P.C. Successor Trustee

First Publication:
September 2, 2026.

For more information, visit www.southlaw.com

NOTICE

Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. §1692c(b), no information concerning the collection of this debt may be given without the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction. The debt collector is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose (Casefile No. 223048-1100382).

1st insertion 09/02/26
34-37

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S
SALE**

For default in the payment of debt secured by a deed of trust executed by

Benjamin Lee Miller;

Chris Tina Miller,

dated April 30, 2018, and recorded on May 3, 2018, Document No. 201800006274 in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, Stone County, Missouri, the undersigned Successor Trustee will on September 30, 2026, at 10:00 AM, at the North Door of the Stone County Courthouse, Galena, Missouri, sell at public vendue to the highest bidder for cash:

ALL THAT PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 18, TOWNSHIP 26 NORTH, RANGE 24 WEST, STONE COUNTY, MISSOURI, LYING NORTH AND WEST OF COUNTY ROAD NO. 13-30, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 18; THENCE SOUTH 88°40'08" EAST, ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 18, 579.17 FEET TO THE CENTERLINE (C/L) OF COUNTY ROAD NO. 13-30; THENCE ALONG A SEGMENT OF A CURVE TO THE LEFT, ALONG SAID C/L, SAID CURVE HAVING A RADIUS OF 208.05 FEET, AN ARC LENGTH OF 228.59 FEET AND A CHORD WHICH BEARS SOUTH 52°53'56" WEST, 217.26 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 21°25'25" WEST, ALONG SAID C/L, 64.33 FEET; THENCE ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT, ALONG SAID C/L, SAID CURVE HAVING A RADIUS OF 1129.37 FEET, AN ARC LENGTH OF 250.84 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 34°08'57" WEST, ALONG SAID C/L, 274.29 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 36°42'10" WEST, ALONG SAID C/L, 204.09 FEET TO

THE INTERSECTION OF SAID C/L WITH THE WEST LINE OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 18; THENCE NORTH 00°43'51" EAST, ALONG THE WEST LINE OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 18, 816.55 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, EXCEPT ANY PART DEEDED, TAKEN OR USED FOR ROAD PURPOSES, commonly known as 1549 Elm Springs Rd, Aurora, MO, 65605

subject to all prior easements, restrictions, reservations, covenants and encumbrances now of record, if any, to satisfy the debt and costs.

SouthLaw, P.C. Successor Trustee

First Publication:
September 2, 2026.

For more information, visit www.southlaw.com

NOTICE

Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. §1692c(b), no information concerning the collection of this debt may be given without the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction. The debt collector is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose (Casefile No. 261306-1102086).

1st insertion 09/02/26
34-37

**NOTICE OF SUCCESSOR
TRUSTEE'S SALE**

In re: Michael J. King,
unmarried man

Default having been made in the payment of certain monthly installments on a Note described in and secured by Deed of Trust executed by Michael J. King, unmarried man, dated September 8, 2020, and recorded September 15, 2020, in Book 20, Page 5417, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for the County of Barry, State of Missouri; the undersigned Successor Trustee, at the request of the legal holder of said Note, who has elected to declare the entire indebtedness due and payable, will on October 1, 2026, at 1:00 P.M., at the at the East front door of the Barry County Courthouse, in the city of Cassville, 700 Main St, Cassville, MO 65625 sell at public vendue to the highest bidder for cash, the following real estate described in said Deed of Trust and situated in the County of Barry, State of Missouri, to wit;

A TRACT OF LAND LYING NORTH AND EAST OF THE EXISTING COUNTRY ROAD LOCATED IN THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 25, TOWNSHIP 23 NORTH, RANGE 27 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M. IN BARRY COUNTY, MISSOURI DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 25, TOWNSHIP 23 NORTH, RANGE 27 WEST, THEN RUNNING

NORTHERLY ALONG THE WEST LINE OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER 935 FEET, THENCE EAST 935 FEET THENCE SOUTH 935 FEET TO THE SOUTH LINE OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST SECTION 25, TOWNSHIP 23 NORTH, RANGE 27 WEST, THENCE WESTERLY ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST OF SECTION 25, TOWNSHIP 23 NORTH, RANGE 27 WEST TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

Together with all improvements thereon known and numbered as 17640 Farm Road 1150, Cassville, Missouri 65625 for the purpose of satisfying said indebtedness, the costs of executing this trust, and the present taxes, if any, due and paid by the holder.

singers corp,
Successor Trustee

By: Michael P. Gaughan
12701 W. 87th Street

Parkway, Suite 200
Lenexa, KS 66215

Email: saleinfo@lewisricekc.com

SINGERS CORP, AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE, IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY

INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

(King, Michael J., 14537-66308, Publication Start: 09/09/2026, Newspaper: Cassville Democrat)

1st insertion 09/09/26
35-38

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S
SALE**

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

AMY MARIE WASHINGTON

dated 9/9/2022 and recorded on 9/12/2022 in BOOK 22 PAGE 5827, in the Recorder's office for Barry County, Missouri. The successor trustee will on October 6, 2026 between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, more particularly at 11:30 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:

LOT 104, EMERALD BEACH ESTATES #5 AS PER THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDERS OFFICE, OF BARRY 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
09/09/2026,
09/16/2026,

09/23/2026,
09/30/2026

CSM File 26-25-01397

NOTE: This office is a debt collector.

1st insertion 09/09/26
35-38

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Cassville's Preston Driskill protects the ball from a Bolivar defender during a district win at home this season. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com



Cassville's Zeb Blankenship head a ball away during a district win over Bolivar at home this season. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com



Cassville's David Rehbach lifts a ball into the box during an attack against Bolivar at home this season. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Soccer: Cassville seeing goal contributions from multiple players on pitch

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

Lebanon, 1-0. Ray said the weekend provided a lesson for the Wildcats.

“One of our goals is to have a certain number of clean sheets this year, and I think there’s moments we need the lessons to learn that every game is important, and I think we overlooked Marshfield a little bit,” he said. “It ended up biting us, and hopefully, it’ll be a good lesson for the team moving forward.”

Despite the outcome, Ray said the Wildcats have been competitive throughout the early season and believe their mistakes, rather than a lack of ability, have contributed to their losses.

“At this point, we really feel like we have beat ourselves in every game,” Ray said. “Every goal that’s been scored on us has been something that was just a mental error, or a lack of work. So right now, we see those goals are really on us, something we can clean up very simply and move forward and start putting more wins in the col-

umn.”

Offensively, at 1.7 goals per game, Cassville has received contributions from throughout its lineup.

Ray pointed to David Rehbach’s performance at the Webb City tournament, including two free kick goals against the host team in the second game, and Preston Driskill’s recent goal contributions. William Ray also scored the overtime winner against Bolivar, and Hugh Tao and Daniel Frazier also contributed goals in the 2-1 victory over Marshfield.

“It’s been a great group effort right now, which is what we want,” Ray said. “We don’t want other teams to be able to target one person. We want them to have to focus on the entirety of the team.”

Driskill, traditionally an outside midfielder, has moved to left back in a positive development. Ray said the senior accepted the position change because of circumstances and has played well at both ends of the field.

“He’s been excellent, not just defending, but in the attack process as well,” Ray said.

Cassville has scored in all but two of its games mentioned, with Republic and Lebanon being the exceptions. Against Lebanon, the Wildcats had multiple opportunities inside 6 yards, but could not finish.

“We had great opportunities, multiple opportunities, and just couldn’t get the ball to bounce the right way,” Ray said.

Looking forward, Ray said the Wildcats believe they have the ability to compete with the teams on their schedule.

“We feel like we should be 7-0 right now, but we’ve got some lessons that we’ve learned along the way, which will push us forward toward districts and conference,” Ray said.

The win over Bolivar has given Cassville an important position in the district picture, particularly with a matchup against rival

Monett approaching Sept. 22. Ray said the Wildcats expect the game to be competitive based on how both teams have performed against their respective schedules.

“In the Monett game, point blank, we want to win,” Ray said. “But, we want to be competitive and have ourselves in a position to be able to win it at the end of the game. Everything we’ve seen from Monett and ourselves, so far, it should be an absolute battle.

“Both of us are squared up with the teams we’ve been facing pretty evenly. And, we believe it’s a game that we can compete in and ultimately win.”

Monett faced Bolivar earlier in the season on the road, falling in penalty kicks, 4-3.

Before the FutBrawl against the Cubs, Cassville will continue working through a demanding schedule and the challenges created by the heat. Ray said the team has tried to

maintain its conditioning despite the altered practice schedule.

“Hydration breaks [in games] have been nice, but we’ve done our best to still keep our conditioning up,” Ray said.

The Wildcats’ tournament schedule also tested that conditioning, with games shifted to the evening because of the heat.

“We played three hard-fought games in the last tournament,” he said. “Conditioning-wise, I’d say Saturday morning, we did see it kind of show up a little bit. Part of that was because of the heat, we had to shift our games to 7:15 p.m. So we weren’t getting back home until 11 p.m., and then have to be up early the next day, whether for school or to head back up to Springfield.”

Ray said those circumstances are part of the lessons he wants his players to learn through sports.

“This is all stuff you’re going to have to deal with in life,” he said. “Team sports

help to prepare you for that, so we’ve got to learn to push through it and not be a victim to it. And understand, we’ve got more than we think we do. So let’s just put it behind us and go play.”

Another life lesson Ray hopes at least one player has learned is the importance of choice. On Friday, Dade “Football coach Clay Weldy and I talked about it, and soccer is first on Dade’s list,” Ray said. “But, I said this is a decision he has to make and learn life lessons from to grow him into a man. So I’m not going to tell him what he has to do.

“And, he chose football. He made every extra point, which was the difference in the game.”

Zajac’s absence did create an opening against Willard, which is when Driskill made the position switch that looks promising.

“Preston moved back there because of Dade being gone, just to fill a hole, and has played phenomenal for two matches,” Ray said.

Football: Wildcats do not want to dwell on win, focused on remainder of season

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got a lead right now. We were up two scores and then our mistakes gave them 13 points.”

Cassville’s defense eventually stopped Seneca on downs early in the fourth quarter, giving the Wildcats another opportunity — they took advantage.

Cassville drove 63 yards, converting several key third downs before Kamden Beebe broke through for a 19-yard touchdown with 6:28 remaining. The score put Cassville back in front 21-19.

Seneca responded immediately.

The Indians drove 55 yards in less than three minutes and regained the lead on a 13-yard quarterback keeper. The Wildcats stifled a third 2-point conversion attempt, leaving the deficit at 4 points, 25-21, with 3:52 remaining.

The Wildcats then delivered the biggest answer of the night.

Braydyn Sizemore recovered Seneca’s onside kick at the Cassville 47, giving the Wildcats preferable field position with 3:52 still on the clock.

Beebe moved the chains, and Jaren Stearns converted a key first down on an option keeper. Stearns then kept the ball again, beating his defender to the outside and racing into the end zone for the go-ahead 25-yard touchdown with 1:10 remaining.

Madison said the offense’s ability to keep moving the ball in the final quarter gave the team confidence to punch in the winner.

“That felt really good,” he said. “When it’s in a situation like that, you can just look and understand that we’re moving the ball. It feels great.”

Seneca, however, wasn’t finished.

The Indians started at their own 20 with one time-out and moved quickly into Cassville territory. A penalty for having 12 players on the field gave Seneca a first down at the Cassville 44 with 26 seconds remaining.

Seneca eventually reached the Cassville 26 and stopped the clock with a spike.

With 13.1 seconds left, the Indians faced third down. A pass fell incomplete, and a holding penalty pushed Seneca back to the 36 with 5.1 seconds remaining.



Cassville's Bodie Hodge breaks up a pass on the final Seneca drive in a 28-25 win over the Indians on Friday. Kyle Troutman/ktroutman@cassville-democrat.com

Kellen Weldy broke up the final pass to the end zone, sending the Cassville student section onto the field in celebration.

Weldy said the Wildcats’ ability to keep fighting through the middle portion of the game ultimately made the difference.

“I thought we were physical; our kids didn’t quit,” Weldy said. “Our kids wanted it tonight, and Seneca’s kids wanted it, too. I was really proud of how our kids fought.”

Cassville’s struggles in the second and third quarters were largely self-inflicted, Weldy said. Penalties repeatedly stalled offensive drives, while defensive breakdowns allowed Seneca to erase the early deficit.

“We have a few things to fix up,” Weldy said. “I told people a week ago, we’re going to know about a lot about ourselves we need to fix. We got a lot of things to fix right now, but we’re playing good football now. We found a way to win in the end.”

Madison saw a similar turning point from the players’ perspective.

“We were really just playing our game to start off,” he said. “In the second and third quarters, we were down on ourselves trying to make excuses, but we came together and we understood that we had to just get it done ourselves.

“We can’t look to the past, and we knew we could do it because we saw at the start of the game if we just all do our jobs, everything would come together, and that’s what we did at the end,” he said.

The Wildcats also had to deal with Seneca’s size and physical running game.

“I feel like we handled it low,” Madison said. “All week, we’ve talked about how big they were. We just needed to play with better pad level and be more aggressive. Coach Weldy harps on how the more aggressive team will win, and that’s just our philosophy.”

Weldy said Seneca’s physicality tested the Wildcats, particularly during the second and third quarters.

“They’re really good at running the football,” he said. “They have big backs back. They have big linemen, and they kind of grind us a little bit. But we find a way to make plays at the end when we needed to.”

The win was especially meaningful given Seneca’s recent success. Weldy noted the Indians had played in three consecutive state championship games and won their conference several times in recent years. Still, he cautioned his players against allowing the victory to become a distraction.

“Any time you play a

team that’s been really good the last five years, it’s good to get a win there,” Weldy said. “In the grand scheme of things, it’s a Week 3 win, and we have got to keep playing. We have a lot of football in front of us.”

Madison echoed that message.

“Obviously, it’s big,” he said. “Like Coach Weldy said earlier, it’s only Week 3, so we got a long road ahead of us. But this is big because we want to earn more home games in districts because we don’t have that many home games — this is just one step forward.”

The Wildcats now turn their attention to the road and a matchup with McDonald County.

Weldy said the team will have plenty to address during the week, including penalties, missed blocking assignments, defensive breakdowns and hydration issues that contributed to cramps.

“I think that will be a big part of this next week, getting ourselves better, so we get ready for next week,” he said.

For Madison, the plan was simple after the biggest win of the season.

“We’ll celebrate tonight and tomorrow, then on Monday, we’re back to work and we’re focused,” he said. “We’re not done.”

Offensively against the Indians, Stearns was 3-for-4 in the air for 85 yards with 1 interception. On the ground, he led rushers with 102 yards on 12 carries and a score. Kamden Beebe had his best

showing of the season so far with 53 yards on 9 carries and a score. Bredeson and Kellen Weldy has 30 and 20 yards, respectively, and each found paydirt once. Bredeson led receivers with 2 catches for 48 yards.

On defense, Carlos Barrientos and Weldy led with 6 tackles and 5 assists each. Masin Bryan

and Spencer Drollinger each contributed 5 tackles and 6 assists, with one of Bryan’s being a tackle for loss. Easton Hughes tallied 1.5 tackles for loss. Weldy also had an interception and caused a fumble, and Bodie Hodge had a pair of pass breakups.

Kickoff in McDonald County on Friday is at 7 p.m.



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