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THE 54 HARDWARE



EDUCATION | A8
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ATHLETE OF THE
MONTH

The Mexico Ledger

Wednesday, October 5, 2022

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Cutting the Ribbon



Missouri Military Academy held a ribbon cutting Saturday as it re-dedicated Brad Calvert Field. Among those attending the ceremony were MMA alumni and school officials, including, from left, Gregg Center '91, Chris Gentry '88, MMA President Richard V. Geraci, Cadet Anthony Melick '23, and Jarrod Magee '97.

[Jeremy Jacob]

MMA re-dedicates Calvert Field

By **JEREMY JACOB**
Sports Editor

Missouri Military Academy hopes many people will come to this field in the future.

On Saturday, MMA held a re-dedication ceremony for its baseball field, Brad Calvert Field, acknowledging all the work finished and planned for the facility. The alumni vs. ca-dets slow-pitch softball game was played on the field after the ceremonies were finished.

All the renovations planned for the field will cost \$850,000 and the school has currently raised \$300,000.

"Generous alumni and friends have supported the project, and we appreciate their continued support as the fundraising campaign is still

ongoing," MMA Director of Marketing & Communications Jennifer O'Donley said.

Phase 1 is complete and involved expanding the playing field, improving the irrigation, and adding a new chain-link fence, scoreboard and 40-vehicle parking lot. The field is in Phase 2 of the renovating process, constructing home and visitor dugouts, restroom, concession stand, press box and parking lot, installing a high-visibility backstop, and adding concrete pads for the bleachers.



MMA alumnus Scott Szopinski, Class of 2004, from Hazleton, Iowa, delivers a pitch.

[Jeremy Jacob]

Phase 3 will involve installing lights on the field so complete games can be played by the younger and inexperienced athletes. For now, junior varsity games are cut short by two to five innings, depending on the length of the varsity game.

"Our players are always excited to play on Brad Calvert Field," MMA baseball coach Tom Roberts said in materials provided by the school. "They want home field advantage. Our cadets deserve a great high school athletic career. Plus, teams always play better at home."

The field was initially built in the mid-1990s and was named after a 1970s middle school cadet that

See MMA, Page A2

Audrain County inmate death under investigation

By **MATT PILGER**
Editor

An inmate death at the Audrain County Jail last week is now being handled by the Cole County Sheriff's Department. Although few details are being released at this time, Audrain County Sheriff Matt Oller says no foul play is suspected.

The identity of the inmate has not been released and the investigation has been turned over to Sheriff John Wheeler and the Cole County Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff Oller says any communication about this should come from them. The Mexico Ledger anticipates a release from Sheriff Wheeler and will provide an update when available.

Wasson suing Noble Health

By **MATT PILGER**
Editor

The latest saga of legal woes for Noble Health Audrain finds a lawsuit brought forth by Jay Wasson of Nixa, who formerly served in the state legislature.

According to court documents Noble Health Audrain, Inc., and William A. Solomon of Overland Park, Kan. are listed as defendants.

The Springfield News-Leader reports that on or around Feb. 17, 2022, Noble Health received a demand promissory note for \$500,000. According to the petition, Solomon guaranteed full and timely payment, however Noble Health defaulted in an email telling them that the company terminated their positions at the Audrain and Callaway Community Hospital.

Since then the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services approved Platinum Health's request to expand temporary suspension of its hospital license at both Mexico and Fulton locations. Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services has given Platinum 90 days to reopen doors at each location.

The licenses for both hospitals will now expire Dec. 20, 2022.

Take 2...

MHS alum nominated for an Emmy

By **MATT PILGER**
Editor



Andy Weber

For a second consecutive year Mexico High School alum Andy Weber has been recognized for his work at KOAT an ABC affiliate in Albuquerque, N.M.

In 2021 Andy won an Emmy for work on a historical documentary. This year Andy was nominated alongside his colleagues for their work on "Missing and Murdered Indigenous People" series, which is a weekly series they do where they help find justice for families, provide resources and highlight the overall issue of this epidemic.

Andy says "this years competition was tough and he did not take home the trophy, however to be nominated alongside everyone's incredible work is amazing. The Rocky Mountain Emmys were held in Arizona this year on Saturday, Oct. 1.



A day in the corn - and sun

Kids of all ages enjoyed the varied festivities as Martinsburg hosted its annual Oktoberfest Sunday. One of the attractions popular with the more youthful attendees was the corn trailer, compliments of POET. The St. Joseph Parish Grounds were bustling all day as weather was ideal and activities abundant. Look inside for more Oktoberfest.

[Matt Pilger]

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Mexico Public Safety Report 54

Mexico Public Safety responded to the following calls for service on Friday, September 30, 2022:

Suspicious activity on West Monroe.

A vehicle break-in at West Central.

Displaying a weapon on South Clark.

A missing juvenile reported at Audrain Road 814.

A fraud on North Washington.

A careless and imprudent driver at the Highway 54 Bypass and Lib-

erty.

Leaving without paying for gas on West Monroe.

Shop lifting at 4820 South Clark.

A stealing or theft on South Muldrow.

Mexico Public Safety went to following calls for service on Saturday, October 1, 2022:

A suspicious vehicle at South Clark.

Shop lifting at 4820 South Clark.

Mexico Public Safety responded to these calls

on Sunday, October 2, 2022:

A suspicious noise on West Street.

A stealing or theft at the Vance Road apartment building.

An animal bite on South Clark.

Threats at Guthrie.

Fireworks on North Wade.

Mexico Public Safety accident report it happened when a vehicle driven by 75-year-old Mary John of Mexico was backing out and hit a parked car on the street.

No injuries were reported.

A two car accident on South Morris at Virginia. According to the Mexico Public Safety accident it happened when a vehicle driven by 23-year-old Joshua Cunningham of Mexico went to turn left into the Mexico Middle School parking lot when another vehicle tried to pass on the left and a collision happened. Both vehicles suffered minor damage. No injuries were reported.



Mexico was selected for filming scenes for an upcoming movie this weekend. Among sites chosen was Dagwood Jr., shown here.

[Matt Pilger]



The MMA Color Guard presents the colors during this weekend's ceremony. From left, they are Bradley Thumbi, Gabriel Iglesias Osorio, Gorka-Aitor Yarte-Zertuche, and Kellan Mugisha.

[Jeremy Jacob]

MMA

Continued from Page A1

died in an accident at the age of 27. His mother back then made a donation to the Academy and was in attendance Saturday when the ribbon was cut for the improved field.

Baseball was one of MMA's first three athletics programs, along with football and track, when the school was established in 1892. The program took a hiatus starting in 2014 and ending in 2019.

Having the baseball program and an upgraded field to go with it accomplishes two goals for the school, as stated at

the ceremony, providing the cadets the opportunity to play on a "world-class" field and be a revenue generator.

The field could generate revenue in the future if used for baseball camps at the college and minor league baseball level, tournaments and college showcases, summer softball or baseball games and advertising on the new fencing. Most importantly, MMA could host district and state tournaments as the field would meet the MSHSAA and NCAA field dimension requirements.

More Martinsburg



Cars lined the streets of Martinsburg and crowds of people gathered for Oktoberfest on Sunday, Oct. 2, at the St. Joseph Church Parish grounds. The day was jam-packed full of activities for everyone, including kettle corn, a quilt raffle, beer and wine garden and topped off with a car show.

[Matt Pilger]

Independent film shoots

By MATT PILGER
Editor

LA Ville Dangereuse, an independent movie will soon make its way to several film festivals.

On Sunday, Oct. 2, actors gathered at three separate locations in Mexico to shoot scenes from the movie that is being produced by Francis Cartel, who is a Mexico resident. The three locations included Dagwood Jr, Graceland at the Audrain County Historical Society Museum and the A.P. Green building. It was a one day shoot.

According to assistant

director Leslie McKeller the movie is about an undercover cop who infiltrates a gang and will try to take down a gang member. The movie includes a cast of 10 and most work at the Fulton State Hospital and are appearing in their first film. Mexico Public Safety posted on their Facebook Page, the morning of the shoot, that people were making an independent movie in Mexico this morning. Some scenes will involve firearms, so as not to alarm the community. A robbery scene was filmed at Dagwood Jr. located at 216 West Promenade Street.

Audrain's Operation Greenlight will honor veterans

In advance of the upcoming Veterans Day holiday, Audrain County officials have announced that the Audrain County Courthouse will be displaying a green light Nov. 7 through the 13 as part of Operation Green Light. This is a new national collaborative initiative of the National Association of Counties (NACo) to support military veterans, as well as raise awareness about the unique challenges faced by many veterans and the resources that are available at the county, state, and federal level to assist veterans and their families.

"Our nation's military members and their families have made immense sacrifices for our safety and security over many decades," said Audrain County Associate Commissioner Tracy R. Graham. "We want to make sure our veterans and their families know that their service mattered, that we are grateful for their sacrifices, and that it is now our turn to make sure they are served by their county government and our community."

In addition to displaying a green light at the County Courthouse, residents and businesses are encouraged to participate by simply changing one light bulb in their house to a green bulb. This can be an exterior light that neighbors and passersby see, or an interior light that sparks a conversation with friends. By shining a green light, we let our veterans know that they are seen, appreciated, and supported. While this event is focused around the week of

Veterans Day (Nov. 7-13), participants are encouraged to continue shining the light year-round. Residents can share their participation on social media using the hashtag #OperationGreenLight.

"Operation Green Light is a way to express our appreciation for the public

service of our veterans," said Audrain County Associate Commissioner Leslie Meyer.

Presiding Commissioner Alan Winders stated, "We encourage the community to join us in displaying a green light for our veterans and to reflect on how we, as a na-

tion and the county, assist our military service members back into civilian life upon completion of their service to our country."

Visit naco.org/operationgreenlight or audraincounty.org for more information and links to resources available to veterans.

LORD'S ACRE SALE &

145TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

WHEN
October 8, 2022
11:30 AM – 3 PM

Dedication Service: 11 AM

WHERE
Maple Grove
United Methodist
Hwy. CC, Rowena, Missouri

FEATURING · Chicken/Ham Dinner · Handmade Quilts · Home Baked Goods · Crafts · Garden Produce · Local Money

TICKETS

\$10 Adults
\$5 Children 5-12
Children under 5 free

LUNCH MENU

Chicken & Ham
Green beans
Corn
Fruit salad
Slaw
Mashed potatoes/gravy
Homemade bread
Homemade apple butter
Homemade pie
Water/iced tea/coffee
Commemorative Cup

BENEFITS

Local ministry and mission in the communities surrounding Maple Grove United Methodist Church

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KCS Holiday Express returns to the rails; kicks off fundraising for the Salvation Army

Kansas City Southern (KCS) has announced the first return to the rails of the KCS Holiday Express train since the start of the pandemic in 2020, and Mexico is one of the stops along the way.

This year, the festive, six-car holiday train with intricate displays inside and out will bring Santa Claus and his elves to visit children and families in 20 communities in eight states. See the full schedule here. In addition, the KCS Holiday Express project will continue its tradition of charitable giving to The Salvation Army.

"KCS is thrilled that we can once again run the Holiday Express train and stop in communities along our rail network," said president and CEO Patrick J. Ottensmeyer. "We are grateful to the donors who continued to support the virtual Holiday Express program the last two years, and look forward to another successful fundraising effort to help The Salvation Army help people who need it most during the holiday season."

The Express will be in Mexico Monday, Dec. 12 at 4 p.m., at 326 South Jefferson St.

An additional Missouri stop will be at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11 at the Higginsville Depot.

Over 21 years, the charitable component of the KCS Holiday Express project has raised well over \$2.6 million. Anyone interested in making a tax-deductible contribution to the 2022 KCS Holiday Express fundraising effort may donate here.

"The support of the KCS Holiday Express goes a long way to delivering Christmas to thousands of children who need it most," said The Salvation Army of Kansas and Western Missouri divisional commander Major Kelly Collins. "From Texas to Missouri and points beyond, all of our officers, staff, volunteers, and especially the people we serve are extremely grateful for the 22-year-long commitment by KCS and the Holiday Express."

The KCS Holiday Express was built on the tradition of the Santa Train, which ran on a segment of the network bought by KCS in 1997. In 2000, a group of warm-hearted employees noticed that the Santa Train was the only Christmas some kids had, and that some kids did not



The Holiday Express is heading to Mexico. [Submitted]

have essential items like coats, hats and gloves, so they committed to elevating the project. In 2001, volunteers transformed a retired freight train to the KCS Holiday Express experience that thousands of people enjoyed for 19 years prior to the start of the pandemic.

In the first 19 years, the KCS Holiday Express train stopped in 20 or more communities in five or six states between Thanksgiving and Christmas. At each stop, visitors could board the train, meet Santa and his elves and tour the inside of three cars of the festive six-car train. These events return in 2022 after not occurring the previous two years. The KCS Holiday Express is free to the

public at all of its stops.

Headquartered in Kansas City, KCS is a transportation holding company that has railroad investments in the U.S., Mexico and Panama. KCS' North American rail holdings and strategic alliances with other North American rail partners are primary components of a unique railway system, linking the commercial and industrial centers of the U.S., Mexico and Canada.

Contact: C. Doniele Carlson, 816-983-1372, dcarlson@kcsouthern.com

United Credit Union hosts After Hours



United Credit Union, Mexico, hosted a fabulous fiesta-themed Business After Hours, on Sept. 13. UCU employs about 60 people in Mexico and almost a hundred in total with locations in Fulton, Vandalia, Moberly, Troy, and Columbia. They also operate a mobile bank. [Submitted Photo]

Mexico Moose Lodge to host open house

The Mexico Moose Lodge will host an open house from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27 at 205 Elmwood, Mexico.

The Moose is about celebrating life together, serving those in the

community, supporting children in need and standing by senior members in their twilight years.

Light refreshments and hor d'oeuvres will be served.

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BINGO

VFW Post 3772 will feature a \$1,000 "Horse Race" during regular Bingo on October 6, 2022.

Total prize money will be \$2250 for this game.

Red Horse: \$1,000 • White Horse: \$500
Blue Horse: \$250 • Each Ball (5): \$100

In addition, the Large Progressive game jackpot will be \$3500.

•Someone may win up to \$5650•

VFW POST 3772

2100 N. JEFFERSON
MEXICO, MO

MARQUETTE MEXICO REAL ESTATE AUCTION

WEDNESDAY, OCT 12TH @ 11 A.M.

AUCTION SERVICES 1010 ROBINHOOD RD, MEXICO, MO

Directions: From Moser's in Mexico, head West on Hwy 22/Monroe St and take the first right turn onto N Kentucky St. At the first stop sign at N Kentucky and W Curtis intersection, turn left onto W Curtis then take first right turn onto Robinhood Rd. Go approx. 0.2 of a mile and auction will be on the right. (Watch for Signs)

Auction Terms: Not responsible for accidents or theft. Additions and deletions may occur. Announcements on day of sale take precedence over all advertisements. Payment due on day of sale in the form of cash, good check or credit card w/convenience fee.

Real Estate Terms & Conditions: Property will sell by confirmation of seller on site. 10% non-refundable earnest down payment due on day of auction in the form of personal check, business check or cashier's check upon signing a purchase agreement immediately following the close of bidding. Since earnest money is non-refundable, MAKE SURE YOUR FINANCING IS IN ORDER. Real Estate is sold on an as is/where is basis and without warranty. Bidding is not contingent upon financing, inspection, or appraisal. All announcements made on the day of auction take precedence over all written advertisements. Closing will be within approximately 30 days of the sale date at True Line Title Company in Mexico, MO.

Fall into Fashion

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

Mexico 4H Center

5 pm Social hour 6 pm Dinner

Fashion Show featuring local vendors

Silent Auction

Tickets are \$25 available via Venmo @ACCIS_INC_2021 or at the ACCIS office, 103 W. Monroe.

For more information call (573) 581-3835

No tickets sold at the door.

Emcee for the evening

Miss Missouri Clare Marie Kuebler

All proceeds benefit

Real Estate
3 bed, 1 bath ranch with sink & toilet in the full basement with a 1 car attached garage. Hardwood floors throughout with carpet covering the living room & hallway and laminate in the kitchen & dining room. Kitchen appliances convey with newer Frigidaire refrigerator, Maytag flat top stove and Maytag dishwasher. The property offers a fenced in back yard and mature trees in the front yard. This home has newer architectural shingles and is nestled in a quiet, pleasant part of town. (DISCLAIMER: the basement has cracks and is shifting and will need professional repairs done) The house is selling absolute and on an as is/where is basis without warranty.

2014 Buick LaCrosse w/41,656 miles, V6, heated & cooled leather and back up camera, very nice and well-maintained car!

Guns/Knives & Nazi Memorabilia
Colt 1849 pocket 31 cal w/stagecoach scene on cylinder (manufactured 1861) - Gerstenberger .32 S&W - Harrington Richardson 1895 .22 rim fire - Foreward Arms F&W .38 double action - Mississippi Arms 12ga single shot - Ward's Western Field Mod. 60 16ga 2 1/2 - Stevens Junior Mod 11-22LR - Winchester Mod 12-16ga - Marlin Mod 90-12ga O/U - Remington Sportsman 58-16ga 2 1/2 vented rib (missing bolt pull) - Ortgies 7.65mm vest pistol w/original 1945 US gov cert for ownership - Nazi binoculars - Nazi buckle - assortment of Nazi pins & metals - Schrade-Walden bowie hunter w/sheath - chrome German bayonet - Masonic sword - full box of 16ga Monark Feder shotgun shells - H1-Power Federal 16ga (box only)

Coins & Jewelry
(2) 1921 Morgan (D) dollars - 1921 Morgan (S) silver dollar - (3) 1922 Peace (S), (2) 1922 (D), 1924, 1926 (S), 1934 (D), 1935 (P), (2) Franklin 1/2 dollars - (8) 1964 Kennedy halves - (1) SLQ - 2 Mercury dimes - (5) silver Canadian coins - (6) Indian head pennies - (2) 1935E \$1 silver certs - (5) 1963 Federal Reserve notes - (9) 1976 \$2 bills - large selection of Nazi coins - 10k baby ring - 14k necklace & earring set w/amethyst stones - 10k Masons ring - 14k Masonic ring w/diamond - 10k Masonic gold band - 14k double head eagle ring w/diamonds - 14k belt buckle ring w/small diamonds - 10k-14k horseshoe ring w/diamonds - 14k eagle necklace medallion - 14k saddle medallion - 14-18k wedding ring (missing stone) - other misc. pcs of gold jewelry - many pieces of 925 sterling jewelry - lots of costume jewelry

Antiques/Vintage & Collectibles
Metal tacklebox full of limb line & trout line tackle - misc. fishing rods & reels - Hawaiian Wiggler lure by Fred Arbogast w/box - Omega Zebco 33 (new in box) - Red Buddy "L" toy truck - US Metal Toy MFG tin toy metal truck or treat jack-o-lantern - set of (12) "stolen from" Pete Oliver drinking glasses - "stolen from" Pete Oliver lighter - lots of small Pete Oliver memorabilia - Schwinn Hawthorn vintage girls bike - larger Plano tackle box full of vintage lures w/original boxes - "Consolidated" Gone with the Wind floral globe style oil lamp - Jaymar child's piano - child's rocking chair "Mary Had a Little Lamb" - lots of Masonic Lodge items - vintage Pyrex Early American Cinderella nesting mixing bowl set - Anchor-Hocking raised number batter bowl & 4 cup measuring cup - Coca-Cola ice pick - Coca-Cola serving tray - boy scout canteen - Wagner 1058 cast iron skillet - Ruckel's 8 gal crock - White Mountain ice cream maker - Tom's 5 cent toasted peanut jar w/good lid - square wash tub w/stand - lots of early to mid-60's girls toys & children books - original Barbie Dream House w/furniture - original Barbie's Fashion Shop - original Barbie corvette - 1960's Barbie, (2) Ken dolls & Skipper (possibly more)

Furniture/Household & Glassware
Bentwood plush glider rocker - Thomasville end table - maroon recliner - nice floral couch - maroon leather La-z-boy recliner - dark oak small wash stand - Seiko 30 day mantel clock - small cherry curio cabinet - kneehole mid-century desk - ornate Eastlake lamp table - Mid-Century dresser & chest of drawers - walnut full size bed & dresser - Lane waterfall cedar chest - Fenton lavender thumb print compote - Fenton cranberry hobnail opalescent bowl - set of electric blue bird figurines - ruby red coin glass dish - multiple other ruby red pieces - LE Smith ruby red moon & stars candy dish - Hummel plates - (7) Hummel figurines - Willow Tree figurines - (4) Fredrick Remington "Western" plates - (2) Fredrick Remington "Indian" plates - Norman Rockwell plates - Royal Copenhagen Christmas plates 1966-1990 - Jim Bean crappie decanter - (3) McCormick Elvis decanter - McCormick mini Elvis decanter - deco floor lamp - Franciscan Earthenware apple pattern dish set - blue cornflower Corningware dishes - Anchor Hocking rooster mixing bowls & measuring cup - other misc. Pyrex dishes - lots of kitchenware (pots, pans, baking dishes & utensils) - Bunn coffee maker - lots of Christmas decor

Appliances & Outdoor
Maytag washer & dryer - older Philips flat screen TV - electric leaf blower - galv minnow buckets - aluminum 16' ext ladder - misc. lawn & gardening tools - misc. outdoor chairs & bleacher seats

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor should be emailed to editor@mexicoledger.com or mailed to The Mexico Ledger, P.O. Box 8, Mexico, MO 65265. They are always welcome. Your letter should be signed and your daytime phone number included (the phone number will not be published). It should be brief (one typed page or two pages handwritten), typed if possible (please not in all capital letters) or clearly hand written. Letters should be in our office by Friday prior to the week you would like to have it included in the paper. The letters can be edited. Neither libelous material or personal attacks are allowed. Readers are limited to one letter per month. Political endorsement letters will be charged at the political ad rate. All letters are published at the discretion of the editor.

Janet Kay Rogers

Janet Kay Rogers, 75, of Jefferson City, passed away Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2022, at Boone Hospital Center.

She was born Feb. 1, 1947, in Montgomery City, to Donald and Emily (Jurgesmeyer) Bowlby.

She was united in marriage on June 24, 1967, at the Kentucky Road Christian Church in Mexico to Robert Marion Rogers who survives at the home.

Janet was a 1965 graduate of Mexico High School and received her license for practical nursing from Audrain Hospital.

She was a member of Bible Baptist Church.

Janet began her career working at St. Joseph Hospital in St. Charles. She then continued her nursing at Phillips Nursing Home in Mexico, and Audrain Medical Center. Later, she worked for more than 10 years at the Missouri Veterans Home in Mexico.

Janet liked to crochet, knit, and read. She loved to cheer on her granddaughters' school activities and sporting events.

Survivors include her husband, Robert; her daughter, Kim (Steve) Bruce, Jefferson City; and two granddaughters, Sophia Bruce, and Abigail Bruce.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and her infant son, Shannon Rogers.

Visitation was at Bible Baptist Church Saturday, Oct. 1, followed by a funeral service with Pastor Randy Dignan, officiating.

Burial was in Hawthorne Memorial Gardens. Memorials are suggested to Bible Baptist Church; Jefferson City High School Jay Band Boosters; or to Capital City High School Cheerleading Boosters.

Services were entrusted to Trimble Funeral Homes – Jefferson City. trimblefunerals.com.



Roy G. Popp

Roy G. Popp, 91, of Martinsburg, passed away Saturday, Oct. 1, 2022, at Boone Hospital in Columbia.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 6, at First Baptist Church in Mexico. Rev. Joseph Pike will officiate. Burial will follow in the Benton City Cemetery.

Visitation will be Wednesday from 5 - 7 p.m. at Pickering Funeral Home.

Roy was born June 21, 1931, in Cole County, Missouri. He was the son of Walter George and Helen Katherine (Stroessner) Popp. On May 21, 1950, in Eldon, he married Bonnie Marie Harbison who survives. They celebrated 72 years of marriage this year.

Roy was born and raised near Brazito, south of Jefferson City. In 1958, he moved his family to Benton City where he was engaged in livestock and grain farming. He was the recipient of numerous agriculture awards in Cole and Audrain counties.

Roy was a member of First Baptist Church in Mexico, serving in many capacities, including Sunday School Teacher and usher. He had a passion for sharing the gospel. He was a member of the Gideons.

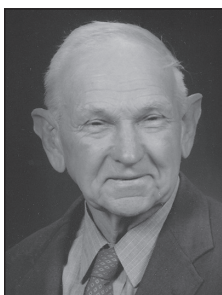
In addition to his wife, Bonnie, survivors include sons, Richard (Debbie) Popp of Tebbetts, Andy (Linda) Popp of Mexico, Larry (Allison) Popp of Atlanta, Ga., Randy (Allison) Popp of Fulton, Doug (Vicki) Norton of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and son-in-law Rodney Galloway of Monroe City.

Roy is survived by grandchildren James Galloway, Christine Galloway Hibdon, Cheryl Galloway, Jennifer Popp Davis, Daniel Popp, Brian Popp, Amy Popp Casey, Nicki Popp, Joshua Popp, Adam Neale, Anna Neale Worthington, Joseph Neale, Lance Popp, Matthew Popp, Karlie Popp, Justin Popp, Doug Norton, Jr., Jennifer Norton McCoy, and 38 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Barbara Galloway, one sister, Mary Helen Popp, and three brothers, Calvin, Ralph, and Lawrence Popp.

Memorials may be given to Gideons International. They may be sent in care of Pickering Funeral Home, 403 N. Western, Mexico, MO 65265.

Condolences to the family may be given at pickeringfh.com.



Linda Huffman is the director of the Children's Therapy and Early Learning School. [Submitted photo]

Huffman is Altrusa guest speaker

Altrusa International, Inc. of Mexico, Missouri met on Sept. 22 at The Oaks at noon for their program meeting. The meeting was called to order by President Roberta Cope followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Linda Huffman was introduced as a guest and committee reports were given.

The Hospitality Committee has reserved The Carlson House for the upcoming Christmas party. A reminder that a wiener roast is planned for the end of October and we will also be attending Sister Act at Presser Hall in December. The Literacy budget was approved. Altrusa will again be donating dictionaries to all third graders in the area. The club received a pin for their banner for being named a Distinguished Club in 2022.

Linda Huffman, director of the Children's Therapy and Early Learning School, was the

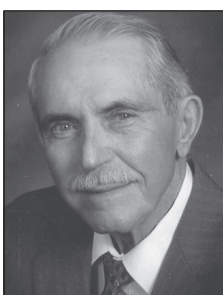
guest speaker. Linda has been director for 12 years and this year the school is celebrating their 70th anniversary. The school provides early childhood special education services to children ages 3-5 who are developmentally delayed and/or disabled to prepare them for kindergarten so they can spend as much time in class as possible. They are "giving a child their words". They have eight staff members and four therapists (occupation, vision, speech and physical therapy) offering a 2 to 1 ratio per child. They are licensed for 25 students but usually have 10 - 15. The children attend three hours each morning.

Members gave "Happy Moments" and recited the benediction to close the meeting.

New members are always welcome to attend. Meetings are held the second and fourth Thursday of each month at noon at The Oaks.

Joe Pursifull

Francis Joseph "Joe" Pursifull, 91, of Louisiana, passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 28, at the Pike County Memorial Hospital. Services were held on Saturday, Oct. 1, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Louisiana. Father Lou Dorn, Deacon Joe Allen (nephew), and Deacon Mark Dobelmann officiated. Burial with full military honors was at the St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Louisiana.



Joe was born on Sept. 15, 1931 in Rolla, to Clarence and Julia Pursifull. He served his country in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He was united in marriage to Mary Joann Carter on April 12, 1958 in Keokuk, Iowa. Joann survives along with their 4 children, Steve (Janet) Pursifull, Roger (Tami) Pursifull, Scott (Wanda) Pursifull, and Tammy (Herb) Lovelace; nine grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and siblings, Bill Pursifull, John Pursifull, Paul Pursifull, Tom Pursifull, Julia Jane Pursifull, Rosemary Byland, and Theresa Appling.

Joe worked 36 years for Union Electric/Ameren as a lineman. The last 64 years of his life have been spent in Louisiana along with his wife and family.

Joe enjoyed fishing with his sons and grandsons. Oh, the big fish stories! He loved spending time with his grandchildren, great grandchildren, and all of the family. He could be found boating on the Mississippi River along with his family and friends for many years. He loved telling stories about his Air Force days and about growing up with his 11 siblings. Joe was an avid baseball fan, having spent many years playing the sport himself, and going to his grandchildren's games.

Following his retirement, he could be found at the Boat Club many times just watching the eagles and enjoying the mighty Mississippi River.

Honorary pallbearers were Jim Pursifull, Raymond Pursifull, George Pursifull, Maureen Ehret, Matthew Pursifull, Ashley Gottman, and Brittany Pursifull. Active pallbearers were grandsons, Brandon Pursifull, Ryan Pursifull, Andrew Pursifull, Corey Lovelace, a nephew Mark Pursifull, and a son in-law Herb Lovelace.

Memorials may be made to Pike County Home Care & Hospice, Elks Scholarship Fund, Louisiana Boat Club Scholarship Fund, or donor's choice.

Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana, was in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be sent at collierfuneral.com.

-Senior Center Menu-

October 5-7

Wednesday: Chili w/ Cheese & Onion; Baked Potato; Fruit; Crackers; Milk; Peach Crisp

Thursday: Baked Chicken; Stewed Tomatoes; AuGratin Potatoes; Bread/Margarine; Milk; Spice Cake

Friday: Chicken & Noodles; Glazed Baby Carrots; Fruit; Bread/Margarine; Milk; Dessert

The Mexico Senior Center is located at 606 East Park Street. The center can also be found on Facebook, @MexicoSeniorCenter.

Looking Back with Don Shire

Elmwood Cemetery Vandalized Dateline October 1, 1982

Forty years ago this month, Ledgerland readers learned that the City of Mexico's Elmwood Cemetery had been vandalized. Ledger headlines read: Vandals Damage Cemetery. About 300 grave markers were knocked over or destroyed in the late night destructive rampage. Some of them were over one hundred years old. Several tall obelisks had been toppled and broken into three or four pieces. In a follow-up story one week later, it was announced that a nineteen-year old adult male of Mexico and two teen juveniles were arrested for vandalism. The nineteen-year old ring leader of the devastation was charged with "property damage in the first degree". At the time of the charging, the adult perpetrator was on bond pending a previous marijuana conviction.

The article also indicated that the City of Mexico would foot the bill for the cemetery vandalism. For more of the history of Mexico visit the

Audrain County Area Genealogical Society in

the basement of the Mexico branch of The Mexico Audrain Public Library.

Don Shire

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	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
Total number copies printed.....	1,600	1,620
Paid circulation — <i>By Mail and Outside the Mail</i>		
1. Mailed Outside - County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies and exchange copies).....	105	112
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Total Paid Distribution.....	1,544	1,589
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1. Free or Nominal Rate Outside - County Copies included on PS Form 3541.....	5	10
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Total Distribution.....	1,470	1,599
Copies not Distributed.....	0	21
Total.....	1,470	1,620
Percent paid.....	96	99
Electronic Copy Circulation		
1. Paid Electronic Copies.....	20	81
2. Total Paid Print Copies Plus Paid Electronic Copies.....	1,435	1,670
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4. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies).....	96	99

We certify that the statements made by us above are correct and complete.
Signed: Tim Schmidt

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LYLE, LYLE (PG, 106 MIN)
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DON'T WORRY DARLING (R, 123 MIN)
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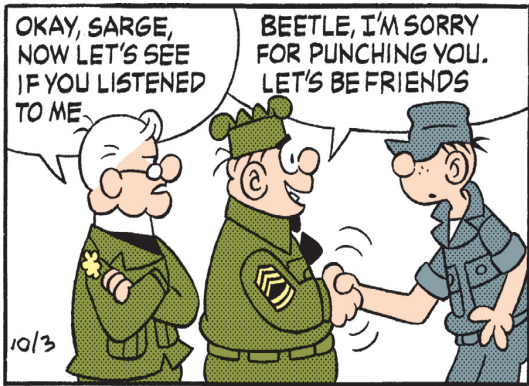
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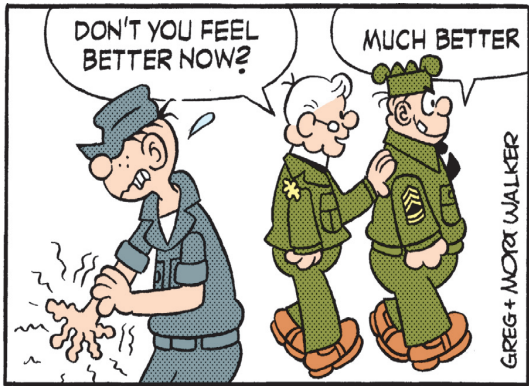
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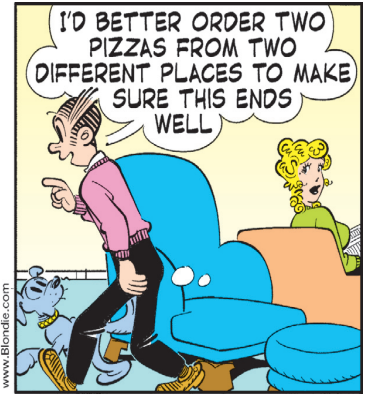
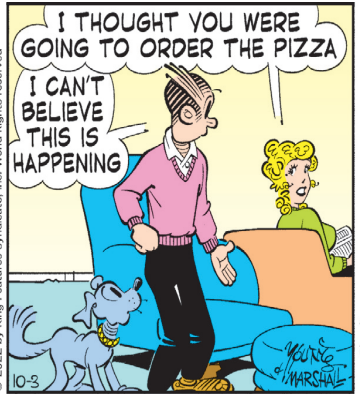
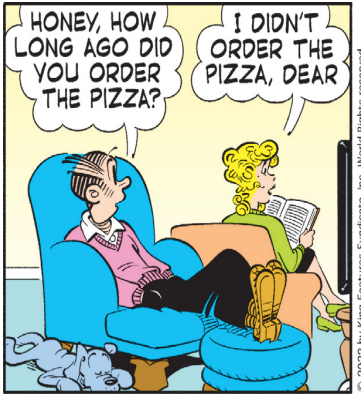
Beetle Bailey



By Mort, Greg and Brian Walker



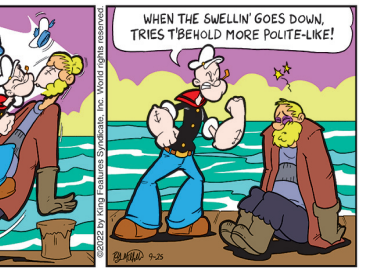
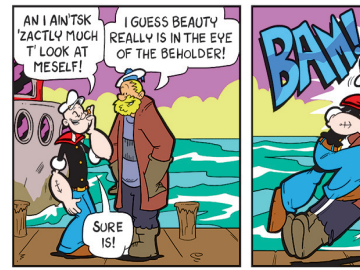
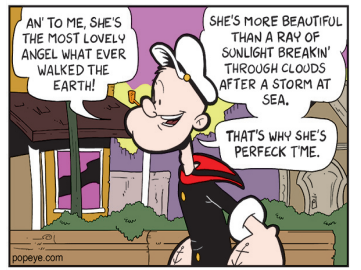
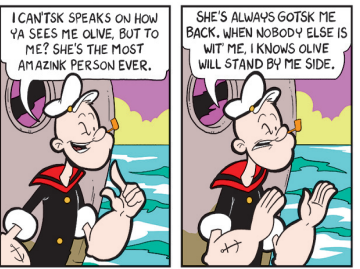
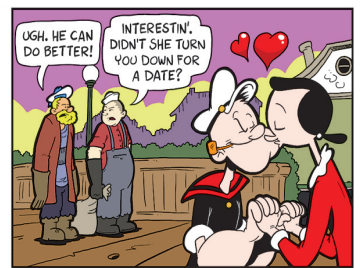
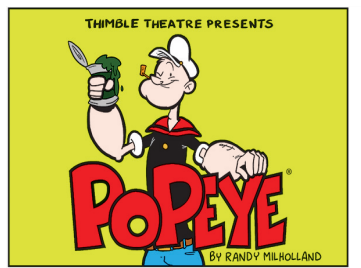
Blondie



Baby Blues

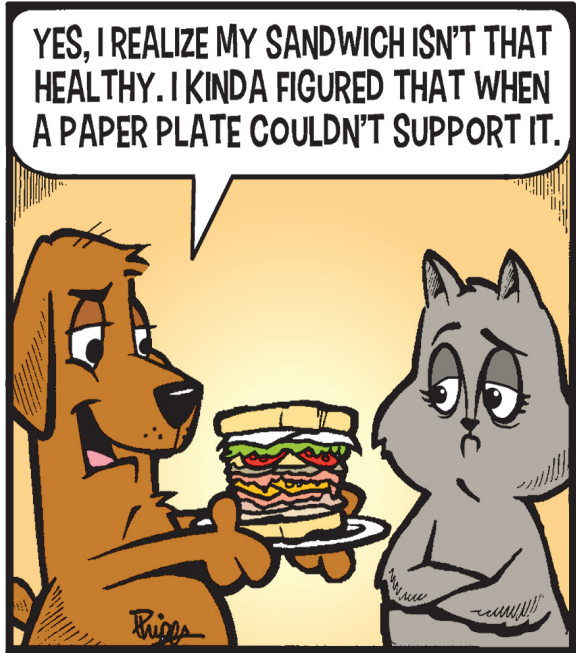


The Spats



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



LAFF - A - DAY



SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Involve

NILATE

Under

BOWEL

Clump

DUBLEN

Signal

WISHLET

TODAY'S WORD



King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Black, in verse
- 5 Galoots
- 9 Stitch
- 12 Oompah band member
- 13 One
- 14 La-la lead-in
- 15 Post-WWII period
- 17 Texas tea
- 18 Hot and humid
- 19 "Haystacks" painter
- 21 Infinitive part
- 22 Follow
- 24 Merit badge holder
- 27 Chopper
- 28 Fury
- 31 Mom's mate
- 32 Morsel
- 33 "Gosh!"
- 34 Dieter's target
- 36 UFO fliers
- 37 Phone inventor
- 38 Small change
- 40 Rocky Balboa's greeting
- 41 Words to live by
- 43 Sounded content
- 47 Grazing land
- 48 Period before one's golden years

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13				14	
15				16					17	
18							19	20		
			21			22	23			
24	25	26			27			28	29	30
31					32				33	
34			35		36			37		
		38	39				40			
41	42					43		44	45	46
47					48	49	50			
51								53		
54									56	

- 6 Italian article
- 7 Showbiz job
- 8 Rose parts
- 9 Prehistoric period
- 10 Canal of song
- 11 Poet Whitman
- 16 "As I see it," in a text
- 20 Owned by us
- 22 Departs
- 23 Tennis barriers
- 24 Beach lotion letters
- 25 MSN alternative
- 26 Period that started with
- 27 Help a hood
- 29 Solidify
- 30 Slithery fish
- 35 Foundation
- 37 Northern
- 39 Wanderer
- 40 Actor Brynner
- 41 Family
- 42 Actress Russo
- 43 Shareable PC files
- 44 Exceptional
- 45 Swelled heads
- 46 Cozy rooms
- 49 Equal (Pref.)
- 50 Use a shovel

DOWN

- 1 LAX guesses
- 2 Cigar remnant
- 3 Slender
- 4 "Broadway Joe"
- 5 Charlie Brown's psychiatrist

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	8			9	1			
4			8		9			
		6		7				3
1			4	3				2
	7				6	5		
		8	2				7	
			5	1		6		
6			7					1
	3				2		4	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- TELEVISION: Which TV cartoon show featured a Great Dane as part of the mystery-solving team?
- MOVIES: Which 1970s movie's tagline is, "You'll never go in the water again"?
- HISTORY: What was the nickname for American soldiers in WWI?
- MEDICAL TERMS: What is dysphonia?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: How many state capitals are named after U.S. presidents?
- ANATOMY: What part of the brain controls language and hearing?
- PSYCHOLOGY: What is the fear represented in metathesiophobia?
- GEOGRAPHY: How many countries are in the United Kingdom?
- FOOD & DRINK: What are the two main ingredients in a meringue?
- U.S. STATES: Which state is home to General Sherman, a sequoia more than 2,000 years old?

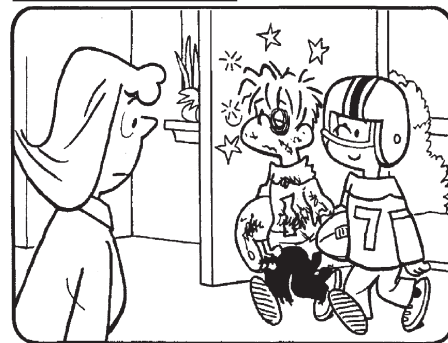
Answers

- "Scooby-Doo, Where Are You?"
- "Jaws."
- Doughboys.
- Having a hoarse or raspy voice.
- Four (Jackson, Mississippi; Lincoln, Nebraska, Madison, Wisconsin, and Jefferson City, Missouri).
- Temporal lobe.
- Fear of change
- Four: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- Egg whites and sugar.
- California.

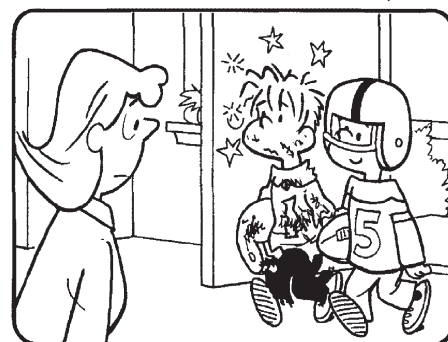
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINGOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Hair is different. 2. Plant is different. 3. Back eye is missing. 4. Stripes are missing. 5. Bush is different. 6. Number is different.

CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: Y equals T

KQZY HB FBT IZJJ Z IVJVMUZYVH
AEIYEBRZJ PXF KQB'P XUBHTIERL
YBRP BA BTYXTY?
Z QELQ-FEVJH MBRH.

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SMODNIM

Today's Word

- 1. Entail
- 2. Below
- 3. Bundle
- 4. Whistle

SCRAMBLERS

What do you call a celebrated fictional spy who's producing tons of output?

S	E	S	S	O	G	O	E	E	N
N	O	N	A	R	S	I	F		
A	N	G	A	S					
G	E	A	G	E	L	D	D	L	E
C	H	R	E	D					
O	A								
F	A	B	E	T	S				
B	E	R	L						
G	E								
P	O	P							
A	X	E							
H	S								
T	O								
M	O	N	E	T					
L	O								
A	T								
T	U	B	A						
T	R	A							
L	J	G	S						

Solution time: 25 mins.

King Crossword

Answers

Answer

8	3	1	9	6	2	7	4	5
6	4	2	7	5	8	3	9	1
7	6	5	3	1	4	6	2	8
3	6	8	2	9	5	1	7	4
2	7	4	1	8	6	9	3	5
1	5	4	3	7	8	6	2	9
6	2	6	5	7	1	4	8	3
4	1	7	8	2	3	6	5	6
5	8	3	6	4	9	6	2	1

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

Answer

Answer

Answer

Answer

Answer

Public welcome to attend Missouri Girls Town's open house, Oct. 8

On Saturday, Oct. 8, Missouri Girls Town invites supporters, corporate partners and interested members of the general public to an Open House on the Missouri Girls Town campus, located at 8548 Jade Rd in Kingdom City. Scheduled for 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., the day includes riding tours of the 23-acre campus, a luncheon catered by Dickey's Barbecue Pit, silent auction, an art expo and live entertainment showcasing the many talents of Mis-

souri Girls Town residents. The open house has been a longtime tradition at Missouri Girls Town, starting in 1959 when the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) of Missouri used the first Open House to introduce the concept of a safe harbor supporting girls who have experienced trauma to the public. Until 2020, open house occurred each year and acted as a homecoming for GFWC members and other supporters. This

year, Girls Town again opens its gates to friends, family and partners to demonstrate the impact the organization has on the lives of girls from throughout the state of Missouri. Missouri Girls Town's mission is "Supporting youth and families by providing therapeutic services and education to empower them to reach their full potential." This comes alive through therapy and residential services and guests have the opportunity to see

our work in action at this event. Missouri Girls Town works to bridge youth and families while working to stop the cycle of abuse and neglect. To participate in this autumnal tradition and learn more about the impactful work done at Missouri Girls Town register at missouri-girls-town-foundation-inc.square.site/. Attendees who select the full experience priced at \$35 will receive a t-shirt, meal ticket, and tote bag.

Vandalia hosts fall citywide sales



Saturday was a bargain shopper's delight in Vandalia as the town hosted its annual fall yard sales. Folks had the opportunity to shop several sales throughout the town, where they could find everything from the everyday to the unusual. Some sales fired up early, with a number of them opening up Friday. Also hosting city sales over the weekend was Auxvasse, which got a boost in traffic from Hatton festival-goers. [Nathan Lilley]

Hatton marks milestone



Hatton hosted its 50th Hatton Craft Fair Saturday, with beautiful weather and plenty of quality vendors - much to the delight of fair-goers. Above are some glimpses of the calm before the shopping storm, as vendors set up for the event. Hatton's next edition - the 51st - will be the first Saturday in October, Oct. 7, 2023. [Nathan Lilley]

— What Was Cooking —

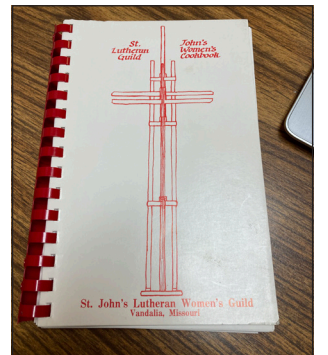
From the St. John's Lutheran Women's Cookbook, Vandalia 1980

Apple Slice By Elsie Frey

- Ingredients**
 2 1/2 c. flour
 1 Tbsp. sugar
 1 egg
 5 c. sliced apples
 2/3 c. crushed corn flakes
 1 c. powdered sugar
 1 c. lard
 1 tsp. Salt
 2/3 c. milk
 1 c. sugar
 1 tsp. Cinnamon
 1 or 2 Tbsp. lemon juice

Directions

Mix first four ingredients together. Beat egg yolk and milk together and add to first mixture. Divide dough into two parts and roll out into rectangles. Mix apples, corn flakes, sugar and cinnamon; spread on one section of dough. Cover the other rectangle of dough and seal edges together. Brush top crust with beaten egg white. Bake for 40 minutes at 400 degrees. Mix powdered sugar and lemon juice and spread on top.



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BULLDOG BITES

News and Insights from Mexico Schools



By: Christine Harper

Ty Lue Community Day of Service

John F. Kennedy once said, "Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country." Although I am not talking about country today, I am talking about community. At Mexico Public Schools, we are very fortunate to have such a giving community. Any time our students have a need, it is met by this community almost immediately. In honor of Mexico native and Head Coach of the Los Angeles Clippers, Tyronn Lue, every year for the last six years, the Mexico Area Chamber of Commerce has held Tyronn Lue Community Day of Service. This year it is October 7th, and the students and staff of Mexico Public Schools are excited to give back to the community that so generously gives to us.

Throughout that day, and the days prior to, MPS students and staff are working to give back to the Mexico community. The students at the Mexico Education Center are making cookies for local Fire and Police Department, as well as the Ambulance District. Students and staff at Mexico Middle School are doing a host of projects from cleaning up parks around town and around the Square to reading to students at Eugene Field to decorating placemats for local nursing homes. The

High School also has several projects they are working on, such as making cards for nursing home residents, making cookies for the Technology Department, making toys for pets and collecting pet food to donate, and making pillow cases for the Rainbow House. Hawthorne is also collecting Animal Shelter donations, picking up trash, and making placemats for nursing homes. The kiddos at McMillan Early Learning Center are making cards for residents at the VA. Eugene Field students will be cleaning up at Lakeview Park and the Historical Society, collecting hygiene products for ACCIS, and decorating placemats for Kings Daughters Home residents. Ag classes at HCC will be making hats for donation and Central Office staff are collecting for ACCIS.

This year, through very generous community donations, students in grades K-5 will have a T-shirt to wear on October 7th for their Community Day of Service. The hope is that each year students participate in Ty Lue Community Service Day, they remember what their community did for them growing up and ask themselves, "What can I do for my community?" Your community will take care of you; if you can, you should take care of it.

September 2022 MHS Students of the Month

Sponsored by the Mexico Elks Lodge

Kali Turlington is the daughter of Kris and Tim Turlington. She is a senior at MHS. She is on the MHS Cross Country Team and the Track Team.

Kali states that after graduation she will miss the people she gets to see every day. Kali plans to attend Mizzou after graduation.



Ty Sims is the son of Katie and Cody Sims. He is a senior at MHS. Ty is on the MHS Football Team and the Baseball Team. He enjoys hunting, fishing and going to the gym in his spare time.

After graduation Ty states he will miss all of his friends, and most definitely the Friday Night Lights.

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September 2022

Certified Staff Employee of the Month



Layne Ray

Staff had this to say:
"Miss Ray is a great teammate & has worked hard during PD for PBIS. She always has a listening ear & provides support for her team. Layne brings a wonderful energy and professionalism to MELC. She is dedicated to making certain her students learn everything they need to be successful."

#BulldogNationAheadofthePack



September 2022

Support Staff Employee of the Month



Dana Hunt

Staff had this to say, "Dana has done an amazing job setting up our new panels this summer. They were completely set up & ready for teachers to begin using from day one. During the training, the speaker was blown away by how prepared Mexico was. We are so lucky to have such a dedicated teach person."

#BulldogNationAheadofthePack



SAVE THE DATE!!



Join Kate's Hallmark Shop from 4-6 p.m. for Trick or Treating in the store. Shop our Moonlight Madness Sale from 6-9 p.m.

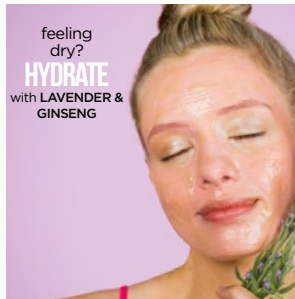
Kate's
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Van-Far Indians Student Of The Month

Student Name: **Kemper Franke**
 Year in School: **Junior**
 Parents Names: **Jamie and Christy Franke**

High School Activities:
 FCA

Q & A with **Kemper Franke**

Favorite Food: Pizza
Favorite Music: Rock
Favorite Restaurant: Olive Garden
Favorite Movie: Star Wars

What is your favorite school memory?

Creating friendships

What are your career goals?

Attend school for ministry

When I am on the internet I go to...

YouTube

What is a motto that you follow?

"You miss 100% of the shots you do not take"

What will you miss most about high school? The fun times that I got to experience with my friends.

What are your hobbies? Hanging out with my friends and watching TV.

If you were principal for a day, what would you change?

I would allow students to have their phones in the hallways.

Who has had the biggest influence on your life and why? My father, because he teaches me right from wrong.



Van-Far Indians Athlete Of The Month

Student Name: **Dalana Gay**
 Year in School: **Sophomore**
 Parents Names: **Jeff and Brandie Gay**

High School Activities: FFA, Yearbook, Student Council, Softball and Basketball

Q & A with **Dalana Gay**

Favorite Pro Sports Team?

USA Softball.

Favorite College Sports Team? Alabama Softball

What is your favorite sports memory?

Every time I pitch, just feeling the backup and being able to trust my fielders.

Who is your favorite athlete? Monica Abbot.

What is your pregame ritual? I have to eat a chicken wrap and take a nap.

What is your favorite part of sports? The friends that you

make throughout the years.

What is a motto you follow? Respect is earned not given.

What will you miss most about high school?


The teachers and coaches that have made me into the person and athlete that I am today.

If you were principal for a day, what would you change? The food the school gives us.

Hobbies? Softball, I am constantly practicing and playing all year long.




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Events on deck

Today

Girls golf

Mexico at Fulton 4 p.m.
Paris at Macon tri meet

Thursday

Softball

Mexico vs Fulton 5 p.m.
Community at Marion County 5 p.m.
North Callaway at Bowling Green 5 p.m.
Centralia vs Palmyra 6:15 p.m.

Paris at Sturgeon 5 p.m.

Volleyball

Mexico at Southern Boone 5:30 p.m.
North Callaway at New Bloomfield 6 p.m.
Centralia vs Russellville 6 p.m.

Boys soccer

MMA vs Canton 5 p.m.

Friday

Football

Mexico vs Kirksville 7 p.m. (Homecoming)
MMA at Principia 7 p.m.

North Callaway at Wright City 7 p.m.

Van-Far at Crystal City 7 p.m.

Centralia vs Highland (Homecoming)

Paris vs Russellville (Homecoming)

Swimming

MMA vs St. Francis Borgia 4 p.m.

Mexico scores 54 in 54 Bowl

Bulldogs, Shivers run around Fulton

BY JEREMY JACOB
Sports Editor

Mexico drove toward its destination and reached it many times Friday.

The Bulldogs repeatedly made trips to the endzone in a 54-7 win against district and North Central Missouri Conference foe Fulton in the latest edition of the 54 Bowl, which Mexico has now won 11 straight times. The scoring output is a season-high and the most since the Bulldogs scored 60 at Warrenton the final week of last year's regular season, and the 418 rushing yards is also a season-high.

Anthony Shivers ran for 197 yards and four touchdowns on 10 carries, scoring two of them from more than 50 yards out and three that were north of 20 yards. Jordan Shelton caught a touchdown pass and ran one on a reverse play, Andrew Runge scored 33 yards out up the middle, and freshman Drew DeMint ran in a score from 20 yards out after the second string entered the game in the fourth quarter. Morgan Grubb had two interceptions.

Shivers brings a speed dimension to Mexico's offense, which is such a valuable weapon any given week, head coach Steve Haag said. He said Shivers likes to run north and south but has stressed that he



Mexico senior running back Anthony Shivers shrugs off a Fulton defender Friday in the Bulldogs' 54-7 victory in the 2022 54 Bowl in Mexico. Shivers ran for 197 yards and four touchdowns.

[Jeremy Jacob]

can reach his destination if he goes east and west as well, which he did on all four of his touchdowns.

"The first thing is we got people blocking and staying on blocks and he gets out there, he doesn't like to run east and west," Haag

said. "It bugs him, but we try to train him, 'Get out there and then make your cut.' Tonight, he did a heck of a job because he got east-west but then he planted and got north-south. Once he did that, it's like he was attached to a joystick."

Haag describes Shivers as a "feel good" runner as in he has some good runs, then he does better and better and can make defenders miss. He did that on a 62-yard

See **MEXICO** on page B2

Centralia balanced in 28-18 win at Clark County

BY JEREMY JACOB
Sports Editor

Centralia's run game wasn't as strong at Clark County, but that didn't deter the Panthers.

In the Clarence Cannon Conference and district matchup, Centralia moved to 3-0 against district opponents this season with a 28-18 win against Clark

County, despite running for 165 yards this week. The Panthers still had 334 yards of total offense — 30 more than the Indians — as quarterback Cullen Bennett threw for 165 yards and a touchdown on 8-for-14 passing, with three of those throws going for at least 20 yards.

Kyden Wilkerson was held

below 100 yards for the first time this year but had 90 yards and a touchdown on 25 carries. Bennett and Breylan Whisler each ran for a touchdown after Centralia was down 12-7 at halftime.

Head coach Tyler Forsee said Clark County has some big kids on the defensive line and smart linebackers that are

able to plug the running lanes.

"We had to really keep grinding there," Forsee said. "They got some big D-line guys, and their linebackers do a good job with making their reads and finding the football. We had to sustain our blocks just a little bit longer."

Bennett threw a touchdown pass to Mattie Robinson for

39 yards in the fourth quarter to tie the game Clark County quarterback Callan Wheeler ran in for a score for the 12-7 advantage.

After Whisler ran in for a touchdown in the third quarter, Brayden Shelton sacked Wheeler to force a fumble that

See **CENTRALIA** on page B2

Crowned O'Neal bestows five touchdowns, 36-16 win vs Van-Far

BY JEREMY JACOB
Sports Editor

It was a night North Callaway quarterback Braydn O'Neal won't forget anytime soon.

At halftime, the senior was crowned homecoming king following his four touchdowns in the first half and finished the game with 208 yards and five touchdowns on 12-for-14 passing in a 36-16 victory against Van-Far. Sergio Moreno caught four of the touchdowns, finishing with six catches for a career-high 154 yards.

Head coach Kevin O'Neal said his quarterback had a big night and had his best night throwing the ball thanks to the game plan North Callaway had prepared for Van-Far.

"We wanted to spread it out, throw the ball a little bit more to get our passing game going," O'Neal said. "He did a good job of reading the defense and making plays when we needed it. We had some coverages that Van-Far runs we thought we could take advantage of. They have a young man up front (Brandon Eoff) that



North Callaway senior quarterback Braydn O'Neal throws a stiff arm to a Louisiana defender Sept. 16 at home. O'Neal threw for five touchdowns in a Friday win against Van-Far, with four going to Sergio Moreno.

[Jeremy Jacob]

is a pretty solid football player. We just felt like we could spread it out and throw it and be effective offensively there."

Moreno was Braydn O'Neal's favorite target again after catch-

ing 14 passes from O'Neal in the four games he played prior to Van-Far. He did sit against Louisiana a couple weeks prior

See **T-BIRDS** on page B2

Van-Far line troubles difference in loss at North Callaway

BY JEREMY JACOB
Sports Editor

Van-Far didn't have its best game at North Callaway. In fact, head coach Lucas Gibson said the Indians' 36-16 loss was their worst performance of the year but with correctable issues.

Van-Far finished with 210 yards on the ground on 45 carries. Nikos Connaway led the team with 89 yards and two touchdowns on 19 carries, and Brandon Eoff gained 53 yards on 13 carries.

North Callaway quarterback Braydn O'Neal threw for 208 yards and five touchdowns on 12-for-14 passing. Gibson said two of the team's lineman were unavailable Friday because of a wedding in Georgia so that affected Van-Far's performance on offense and also when it came to pressuring O'Neal.

"They did a good job blocking us," Gibson said. "He had a long time in the pocket to pick where he wanted to go."

The second quarter was when the pressure subsided, Gibson said, as the first quarter was when the Indians could not only get to O'Neal but also force a turnover. Gage Gibson forced a fumble that was recovered by Tyrece Cole on North Callaway's first drive. Van-Far didn't score off the turnover but tied the game at 8 in the first quarter after a Nikos Connaway ran it from eight yards.

The Thunderbirds' offense took flight, but Van-Far stayed grounded, completing one pass for 24 yards. The Indians scored its next touchdown on a Connaway

See **VAN-FAR** on page B2

MMA nagging injuries contribute to 42-6 early loss at Clinton

BY JEREMY JACOB
Sports Editor

Missouri Military Academy was far from full strength Friday night.

In a week the Colonels dressed 14 players, they lost 42-6 at Clinton in what was a battle of winless teams going into the night. The game had to be called in the third quarter, head coach Robert Rosenbaum said, as too many of MMA's players sustained injuries.

Colton Kahle picked off Clinton (1-5) and returned it 85 yards for a touchdown but was taken out due to knee and head issues. Quarterback Gabriel Canonico will most likely enter concussion protocol after slamming into defense on the turf field. Defensive lineman Seydina Diop was out for the second straight week with an injury, and senior lineman Brett Miles has been dealing with a stinger in his neck.

See **MMA** on page B2

Paris rearranges staff, loses 40-9 to Allen-Jackman, Fayette

BY JEREMY JACOB
Sports Editor

Paris head coach Joseph Utterback is proud of his team considering the week they had.

The Coyotes lost 40-9 on Friday at Lewis and Clark Conference foe Fayette after dealing with a shorter roster and some coaching changes.

Utterback took over as the offensive line coach and delegated offensive coordinator responsibilities to Paul Turner, who was away this week after having a baby. Fayette quarterback Ben Wells threw for 382 yards on 16-for-19 passing, with all six of his touchdowns being complete to Chase Allen-Jackman — 294 yards

on 10 catches.

Paris finished with 172 yards of total offense, with sophomore running back Gatlin Fountain running for 93 yards and a touchdown on eight carries. Reid Ragsdale led the defense with eight tackles, Gunnar Fountain and Owen Totten each

See **PARIS** on page B2

Mexico from page B1

touchdown, making several Hornets miss and breaking tackles along the way to make it 34-7 early in the third quarter at that point.

Prior to that, though, Mexico had to bottle Fulton's offense and quarterback Walker Gohring. Gohring is a multi-sport athlete, playing baseball and basketball, but most importantly, was a wide receiver last year. Haag said this explains his mobility and how he can be slippery as Gohring seemed to be always on the run before finding a receiver open after plays broke down.

"He makes things happen," Haag said. "If he can run around, that means the receivers can run around. Then you have to cover him longer and that just makes it harder on d-backs. We weren't getting much pres-



Mexico senior running back Anthony Shivers is hoisted by his teammates while holding the 54 Bowl trophy Friday after running for four touchdowns in the 54-7 win against Fulton. The trophy is a decommissioned road sign that goes to the winner of the matchup every year.

[Jeremy Jacob]

sure, and then when we did get pressure, we saw him run around and then he had to make some bad choices."

Fulton tied Mexico at 7 in the first quarter after the Hornets capped a 13-play, 70-yard drive that ended with Walker Gohring pitching the ball to Row-

dy Gohring to score on a fourth-and-two play.

The Hornets had another drive in the second quarter that went 13 plays but stalled after the Bulldogs pulled down Gohring for two sacks — Tyler Thoenen on one and Kendry Taylor and Daunte Cline on the oth-

er. After a Shivers 55-yard run made it 21-7 Mexico with two minutes left in the second quarter, Walker Gohring completed a 61-yard pass to Rowdy Gohring to bring Fulton to the red zone and would soon go for the end zone.

Gohring had his target in his sights with Matt McCurdy bearing down on him but found Grubb for a 61-yard interception return. Shivers was able to find the outside route for a 29-yard score and a 28-7 halftime lead. Haag said the Grubb interception was key in keeping Fulton out of the end zone and maintaining momentum for Mexico into the second half.

"When they scored, (Grubb) set under the wrong guy, and he picked up the wrong guy and the guy scored," Haag said. "On that one, he picked out the right guy and he got that pick. He made that right adjustment there."

Fulton wasn't moving

the ball nearly as well as the first half as the Hornets with 11 offensive plays from scrimmage, with three drives ending in punts and the other being another Grubb interception on the pass up the middle. Quarterback Ty Sims gave Mexico its second touchdown off a turnover when he floated the first play from scrimmage to Jordan Shelton for a 20-yard score and a 47-7 lead.

Haag said Mexico definitely wasn't happy with how it played in last week's 49-8 loss at Hannibal so it was nice to see his team respond in a big rivalry game in this one. He said he felt better when he had the chance to see his offense go after Mexico made its first defensive stop.

"We got that stop, and I saw our offense go," Haag said. "I got a little easier because it looked like we were firing on all cylinders. Pretty much any run we did I thought was go-

ing to work."

Mexico (3-3, 2-1 NCMC) snagged district victory after losing its first district matchup this year in a 14-6 Week 2 loss at Southern Boone. Haag said it will be nice to shoot for a No. 3 seed, and the Bulldogs could make up ground in two weeks at Moberly, but next week is going to be a tough one for homecoming.

Kirksville (3-3, 2-1 NCMC) visits for Mexico's homecoming game Friday after losing 45-25 at home to Hannibal in Week 6. The Tigers won last year's meeting 28-14 so Haag said none of the Bulldogs' non-district opponents can be overlooked.

"It will be interesting to see how it falls," Haag said. "I like our chances against any of the district people. I'll play any of them, but we got this tough Kirksville team, Moberly and Warrenton so we need to take care of business there."

Van-Far from page B1

five-yard run, but that was in the fourth quarter after O'Neal had thrown his fourth touchdown to Sergio Moreno.

Gibson said the team was affected by costly penalties, like a chop block erased a long run by Connaway and a pass interference on fourth down gave a North Callaway offensive drive new life, but the offense wasn't at its best. Still, Van-Far had a closer result than last year's 56-0 loss against the Thunderbirds.

"We plugged some guys in this week and tried to roll with it," Gibson said. "We definitely struggled on offense a little bit. We executed some plays, and we didn't turn the ball over. Nikos did throw one pick, but other than that, we didn't turn the ball over. I think, last year, we turned the ball over a lot more. Taking care of the ball, that makes a lot of difference."

Van-Far (1-5, 1-4 EMO) has a matchup this week at district for Crystal City (5-1), who lost 38-36 at undefeated Russellville in Week 6.

T-Birds from page B1

because of injury, but Kevin O'Neal said the chemistry he has with his quarterback was on full display.

"He got back in last week and then this week started on offense," O'Neal said. "Him and Braydn do a good job of understanding defenses and understanding what we want to do in our passing game."

Van-Far was more difficult to beat this season, O'Neal said, as the Indians have kids that don't quit and are "well-coached." North Callaway won 56-0 in last year's meeting but was tied with Van-Far in the first quarter.

First, the Thunderbirds' deep drive into Van-Far territory was stopped because of a lost fumble and then Van-Far quarterback Nikos Connaway scored on an eight-yard run near the end of the first quarter to tie the game at 8. The Thunderbirds were able to pick up long gains through the air.

O'Neal found Moreno for the first time in the second quarter on a 60-yard touchdown, then a 20-yard pass, and finally a 42-yard score to make it 28-8 at halftime.

"We moved the ball well offensively," O'Neal said. "Defensively, we did a fairly good job. Eoff ran the ball hard, and a couple times, they caught us in a blitz we took advantage of and got some chunk yardage from that."

Van-Far (1-5, 1-4 EMO) was able to run for 210 yards, with Eoff getting 53 yards on 13 carries and Connaway going for 89 yards on 19 carries. Connaway ran in another touchdown from five yards, but that was in the fourth quarter after Moreno caught a four-yard touchdown pass in the third quarter.

North Callaway (4-2, 3-1 EMO) travels to Wright City (4-2, 3-1 EMO), who lost 36-14 at Montgomery County in Week 6, on Friday as O'Neal said the Thunderbirds should their hands full.

"They've got some skill kids and some fast players," O'Neal said. "We're going to have our work cut out for us for sure."

Centralia from page B1

was recovered by Evan Brumback deep in Clark County (3-3, 1-3 CCC) territory. On the next play, Wilkerson ran in the end zone from three yards out to make it 21-12 Centralia.

Bennett was able to answer a 42-yard touchdown run by Wheeler earlier in the fourth quarter with a 15-yard scamper later in the quarter. Forsee said he likes how Bennett was able to throw the ball to make the team's offense threatening in multiple ways.

"We have a lot of guys

who can catch the ball," Forsee said. "We're trying to spread that out a little bit more and hopefully will loosen up the defense."

Centralia (5-1, 3-1 CCC) has its homecoming game Friday against Highland (1-5, 0-4 CCC), who lost 52-12 to South Shelby at home in Week 6.

MMA from page B1

Rosenbaum said this isn't a comprehensive list but enough to show MMA's roster has been in flux this season. One of the players that was injured Friday had just joined the team a few days ago.

"We were down a lot of bodies," Rosenbaum said. "I felt like we gave the best effort we could. It was 42-6 and then we started taking substantial injuries. I had no other quarterbacks and we were down to 11 players. So probably 12 minutes into the third quarter, we got the kids off the field and called the game due to injuries."

MMA continued to have its center problems, with the latest issue Friday night being the kid at center having to be moved to running back due to the roster shortage.

"We work on the (center) position tirelessly at practice, so the kids can do it," Rosenbaum said. "For some reason, when they get under stress or they get in a game, they're not always successful at it."

Rosenbaum said kicker Zach Tillock is one positive from the night as he did a nice job kicking off and was even making 45-50 yards field goals in warm-ups. The Colonels just need to develop a team so his services can be used more.

All of these issues cropped up last

week in MMA's 26-6 loss at home to Confluence Academy Prep Charter, Rosenbaum said, making what could have been a more competitive game into what seems to be the status quo for the team this year. Several key injuries and some failed blocking on the line were factors in the loss.

"We competed with them, but we should have played better with them," Rosenbaum said. "The biggest thing this year is just the lack of players and the age of my players and then the injury bug gets you. If you tell me I'm going to have 8-9 guys that go down with pretty much season-ending injuries, that's unheard of in all my years."

MMA (0-6) plays at Principia (0-5), who lost 8-7 at Brentwood, this Friday.

Paris from page B1

had sacks, and Payden Crain had a fumble recovery. The Fayette offense finished with 482 yards of total offense.

The former offensive lineman Utterback said the changes made sense as being the head coach and offensive coordinator is a lot of responsibility plus him taking over the offensive line frees up the defensive coordinator to focus more on the defense.

"I called a lot of my mentors a couple weeks ago," Utterback said. "I was like, 'I got this guy on staff that can do a really good job playcalling.' Maybe I could delegate that to him and allow me to focus on the big picture. I feel like I coach O-line really well so let me do O-line. I felt like that was the best interest of our team."

Just as Paris as a rebuilding program is figuring which spots players fit, the same applies to the coaching staff. Turner couldn't be there because of his new family member so Utterback said Paris had to live by a saying he's heard since he was a kid: "if this is the situation, what is the best we can do for it."

Considering the voluntary rearranging as well as the involuntary in the form of players being injured, Utterback said his players not only gave up but were eager to play even when the game was out of reach in the fourth quarter.

"When you get the seniors looking at you saying, 'Can I go in? I think we can put some points up the board,'" Utterback said. "Two minutes left and we're throwing our JV in there, trying to get our JV offense pieced together, Drew Williams, one of our seniors, is looking at me going, 'Coach can I stay in.' I was like, 'Man, I wish. We got to keep everybody healthy that we can.' I also understand him wanting to just go out there and play football."

Not long after that, sophomore Gatlin Fountain ran for an 89-yard touchdown to give Paris its first touchdown after Paris had a long field goal kicked by Gunnar Fountain in the first quarter.

Fayette (4-2, 3-1 L&C) is a team that has always been aggressive while boasting big numbers, Utterback said, as the Falcons brought some pressure off the edge. This made it challenging for the offensive line, but there is a lot to worry about the position.

"One big thing I was looking for tonight was that our O-line sustained blocks," Utterback said. "In evaluating the O-line, you have to have attention to detail. There's a lot of little intricacies to it. Sustaining blocks, nothing else matters if you're not doing that. I was looking for them to block to the whistle. I know there were several times we did not, but I also know there were several times that we did."

Utterback said the Coyotes kept things simple on offense as they are trying to figure out what they are best at.

"I was pretty sold on the idea all week that we have to get good at something," Utterback said. "I don't want to try to do too much too soon. I feel like a lot of teams fail that way."

Paris (1-5, 0-4 L&C) plays its homecoming game Friday against the undefeated Russellville (6-0), who defeated Crystal City 38-36 at home. The Indians' program is in its third year.

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Centralia toughs through five-set win at home vs district foe Mexico

BY JEREMY JACOB
Sports Editor

Going into Tuesday, Centralia hadn't played a five-set match this season. Mexico had played two.

After dropping the third and fourth sets to Mexico (25-18, 25-17), Centralia took the deciding fifth set 15-11 to win its first five-setter of the year and give Mexico its first five-set loss after being 2-0 previously. The Lady Panthers won the first two sets 25-20 and 26-24 after going on serving runs to overcome a 16-14 deficit in the first and a 14-12 disadvantage in the second set.

Outside hitter Harper Forshee led Centralia with 16 kills, and setter Lexi Cook had 29 assists. Head coach Julie Crum said players like libero Katie Carrico, Morgan Ross, Addison Mabrey and Annika Hombs spread themselves "all over the stats." For Mexico, outside hitter Jessica Stephens led with 21 kills and four service aces, libero Tessa Haefling had a team-high 30 digs, and Ally Wilson led with 18 assists.

Crum said Centralia was going into uncharted territory this season by playing past the third set as the Lady Panthers have either swept or have been swept in previous matches this season. Mexico had five-set victories against Kirksville and Marshall, so Crum said Centralia's mental toughness had to be strong going into a fifth set after struggles in the prior two sets.

"They like to neatly package up their mistakes and carry them all with them and it just weighs them down mentally," Crum said. "Physically, these girls have so much ability, potential and power. I asked them before the fifth set, 'Are you ready for this? Are you ready to come back?' They took the floor, and they didn't let down one time."

Crum said Centralia's energy, communication and focus was all there, which has to be the case against a fundamental Mexico team. The Lady Panthers played "for every single ball" like Crum said they should.

As was the case in the first two sets Centralia went on a run, picking up multiple service aces along the way. In the fifth set, it was Hombs behind the line as Centralia took a 10-6 lead following five straight points. Mexico refused to go away as Mabrey and Ross picked up kills to help close the match.

Mexico head coach Mendie Tutt said she is impressed with the fight the Lady



Centralia junior Morgan Ross strikes a ball through Mexico junior Kaitlin Rose's block Tuesday in the Lady Panthers' five-set win at home.

[Jeremy Jacob]

Bulldogs showed to not only climb back in the match but have a chance for a win. Tutt said Mexico had to adjust to Centralia's "topspin" serve that "goes and then it just falls," but then throughout the third and fourth sets, Mexico placed the ball in spots Centralia wasn't covering, especially the front row.

"We continue playing and continue fighting even though we are down, and that's something we've been focusing on this year," Tutt said. "We served aggressively, we swung aggressively, and we pushed into holes."

At the forefront of Mexico's resurgence were setters Ally Wilson and Lizzie Joiner, who "setting up my hitter so my hitters have something to do" and were good at "moving the ball around so their team couldn't get comfortable." Providing a dose of power was Stephens, whether it was close to the net or far from the net.

In every set from the third set onward, Stephens was serving while the Lady Bulldogs went on runs of at least 4-0 to wrestle back some control. In the third set, Stephens picked up three of Mexico's six service aces on two separate 5-0 runs with her behind the line.

"She is a player that if I ask her to put it in a spot, she can put it there," Tutt said. "That's a great benefit — if I ask her to serve it to a spot, she can serve it there. Having those accuracies as a player is important and is nice to have on the team. She is also a leader on the court too."

Forshee and Ross each picked up kills to cap an 11-3 Centralia run to close

the first set, Mexico was able to tie the second set at 24 but dropped it after a Forshee kill and Lady Bulldog error, Emily Moppin and JacLynn Cline softly finished for final two points in Mexico's victorious third set, and Mexico was able to use some power with Stephens to push through Centralia's blockers in the tying fourth set.

Crum said the Lady Panthers had to make defensive adjustments prior to the fifth set after having several balls hit down in front of them.

"Our defense really struggled to adapt to that," Crum said. "Luckily we had that energy in the fifth set to power through."

In the fifth set, Crum said she had contributions from several girls who provided hits and well-placed tips and knew when to "put the power on and pull it off." Forshee and Raegan Anderson do this well typically, she said, but also had Hombs, Mabrey and Ross pick up key kills.

Centralia (8-6) moves to 3-1 in matches against district opponents this year while Mexico (4-10-1) falls to 3-2. Tutt said the fifth set could have gone either way, but she is glad how the Lady Bulldogs have fared within the district and in long matches.

"We're not going to lay down easy. That's for sure," Tutt said. "If they're going to play us, it's going to be a match."

Centralia hosted Montgomery County (7-7-1) on Wednesday before it welcomes Russellville (11-2) to town Thursday. Mexico plays at Southern Boone (4-7-3) on Thursday

Ladybird underclassmen lead offense in sixth place finish in Centralia

BY JEREMY JACOB
Sports Editor

The young Ladybirds were leading the offense most of the time Saturday in Centralia.

North Callaway finished sixth in the Centralia Tournament after losing 11-1 in five innings to Class 3 No. 3 Chillicothe, defeating Putnam County 12-3 in five innings and dropping the fifth-place game 10-3 to Kirksville. The trio of freshmen Kymorie Myers and Ella Slater and sophomore Faith Cash combined to go 14-for-29 (.483) with nine RBI.

The Ladybirds had a tough first-round matchup with state-ranked Chillicothe and struggled to hold down the Lady Hornets, allowing three home runs and two girls to drive in at least four RBI.

Against Putnam County, Myers, Slater and Cash were 7-for-11 with seven RBI as Myers and Cash each had three hits and Slater picked up her second career varsity home run.

Myers and Slater each finished 3-for-4 against Kirksville with Slater and Jalyn Leible driving in runs, but it wasn't enough for a comeback. Kirksville outthit the Ladybirds 13-10 and scored six unearned runs.

North Callaway honors seniors same night as 15-1 loss to Centralia

The game escaped North Callaway early on Tuesday night, but that there is something that will never escape the Ladybirds.

The team's four seniors — Ellie Bedsworth, Jalyn Leible, Lilly Shafer and Sarah Chapman — were celebrated for their careers as a Ladybird. Centralia defeated North Callaway 15-1 in six innings thanks to two first-inning home runs that made it 3-0, but head coach Mariah McKee said the four's contributions can't be forgotten.

Olivia Knoepflein drove in North Callaway's lone run on a sacrifice fly in the fourth inning, but Centralia's defense prevented the Ladybirds from having more than four hits despite only striking out three times. Ella Slater robbed two home runs in the game.

North Callaway (7-14, 4-4 EMO) travels to Class 3 No. 9 and conference foe Bowling Green (7-1 EMO) on Thursday.

Cross country

North Callaway lands high finishes at home

North Callaway wanted to look good Saturday at home.

Four of the school's runners finished in the top 15 at the North Callaway Cross Country Invite in Kingdom City. Pressley Schmauch had the best finish for North Callaway in the girls 5,000 meters, Grace Rasmussen had a ninth-place time of 23:20.29 in the girls race, and Tristan Young and Brendan Reinhard placed ninth and 14th, respectively, in the boys 5,000 meters.

Out of 28 runners, Schmauch raced to a time of 21:57.73 and Rasmussen had a time of 23:20.29. The boys race had 34 runners, and among them, Young raced to a time of 18:04.41 and Reinhard finished with a time of 18:40.26.

For Paris, Alexandra Tullius was fifth in the girls 5,000 meters, Mairyn Kinnaman was sixth and Landen Chapman finished 13th for the boys. Van-Far's Erin Childs finished 15th in the girls race.

Centralia, Bostick earn CCC cross country championships

The best Centralia's Jozelynn Bostick had finished at the Clarence Cannon Conference Cross Country Championships was second. Had finished.

After finishing as the runner-up the previous two years, the senior was crowned the conference champion after finishing first with a time of 19:40.20. She led the girls in winning another conference title while the boys also took home a title, with JR Leshar taking second with a time of 17:21.80.

MEXICO ROUNDUP: Lady Bulldogs defeat district foes Palmyra, Wright City

BY JEREMY JACOB
Sports Editor

Mexico's run of success against district opponents continued Saturday.

The Lady Bulldogs hosted a Round Robin that involved them, Class 3 No. 10 Southern Boone and district foes Palmyra and Wright City. Mexico won 5-2 against Palmyra at 9 a.m. prior to beating Wright City 12-2 in five innings a couple hours later to move its record against district foes this year to 4-1 while outscoring them 35-15.

In the two games, Mexico had nine extra base hits. Hannah Loyd hit her sixth home run of the year and Jo Thurman increased her season home run total to five, while combining to go 8-for-12 with eight runs and six RBI.

Eboni Mayfield pitched the complete seven innings against Palmyra, allowing seven hits. Emma Cunningham went all five innings against Wright City, allowing six hits.

Mexico (18-11, 5-4 NCMC) hosts North Central Missouri Conference rival and Class 3 No. 2 Fulton (24-6, 8-0 NCMC) on Thursday.

Girls tennis

Four Mexico girls earn all-district honors, Gooch going to sectionals

The quality of tennis was high Saturday in Wentzville, but four Mexico girls rose to the challenge.

That many earned all-district honors at the Class 1 District 7 individual tournament at North Point High School. Katie Gooch finished second in singles, also earning the opportunity to play in sectionals on Saturday, Jyllian Whitworth was third in singles, and Jocelyn Garcia and Estrella Lopez took third-place in doubles.

Mexico focuses on the team district tournament that began Tuesday at North Point, with the championship happening today.

Cross country

Mexico's Peuster finishes in top 15 at Laker Invitational

Mexico had six runners among the top 50 in a sizable field.

Thomas Peuster finished 15th out of 146 in the boys 5,000 meters on Saturday at Laker Invitational in Camdenton, with two others joining him in the top 50. Maggie Ramsey was the top Mexico girl in the 114-runner field in the girls 5,000 meters, finishing 33rd and being one of three Lady Bulldogs in the top 50.

Centralia takes fourth in tournament, fatigues vs state-ranked Hallsville

BY JEREMY JACOB
Sports Editor

It is that time of year in the middle of the month, and for Centralia softball, the Lady Panthers need to battle through fatigue to finish strong. Centralia went 1-2 on Saturday in its home softball tournament, defeating Putnam County 16-1 and losing to a couple Class 3 state top-five opponents Chillicothe 7-3 and Hallsville 5-2.

The Lady Panthers (14-11) lost the third-place game to No. 4 Hallsville (18-3), dropping the first meeting of the year between the district opponents before the Lady Indians return to Centralia on Tuesday. Centralia had two hits, with Hawkins recording two of them and Harper Sontheimer picking up an RBI. The Lady Panthers' two pitchers — Kaelyn Walters and Meredith Wright — walked seven and allowed seven hits.

Head coach Elizabeth Bostick said her pitchers did a great job keeping the Hallsville offense in check as three balls left the infield in the first four innings. Going into Saturday, the Lady Indians were averaging 9.6 runs per game and have averaged at least nine per game in the previous two seasons.

"Hallsville prides themselves on being enormous hitters, and for five or six innings, they didn't get anything out of the infield," Bostick said. "Honestly, as tired as we are and doing what we are, where we're at with how many pitchers and everything we have, I'm not that disappointed."

Centralia lost to Hallsville in last year's Centralia Tournament but allowed 17 runs in the defeat. Bostick remembers not having much pitching then either and will have to endure a tough schedule like the Lady Panthers do every year, already playing 10 games against state-ranked opponents this year.

At this point this season, Bostick said she doesn't have one of her pitchers and No. 4 hitter Makenzi Adkisson available after sustaining a sprain in the 16-1 win Thursday at Clark County. She asked Walters and Wright to shoulder all the innings and they did admirably but acknowledged they reach a "fatigue point" and rely heavily on the defense behind them.

"They're taxed by the time we get to the third game of the day," Bostick said. "The pitching staff really did a good job. My fielders did a great job. We made the plays we're supposed to and did the things we were supposed to do."

Centralia's offense saved three innings for its pitchers in a 16-1 win against Put-

nam County in four innings. Wright drove in five RBI, including three that scored on her first home run of the year, Jozelynn Bostick reached base every time while finishing with four RBI and two hit by pitches, and Wright and Walters struck out seven batters and allowed one hit.

Centralia trailed Chillicothe 4-2 after three innings, but the Lady Hornets started leaving the yard with three home runs. Chillicothe had hit three home runs in its 11-1 previous-round victory against North Callaway. Bostick, Autumn Hawkins and Tilly Fox each had two hits, and the two Lady Panther pitchers struck out nine in seven innings.

Now it was Hallsville matching up with the pitching staff after losing 5-4 to Macon in six innings due to a time limit. The Lady Indians scored their first run in the second inning on a wild pitch, added two in the fifth inning on a two-RBI single following three walks and Delaney Crocker hit a two-RBI insurance home run in the sixth inning, which is when the time limit would go into effect.

Centralia took advantage of three Hallsville errors in the fifth inning to score both of its runs but didn't allow Hallsville to do the same. A big reason why was the catcher Sontheimer behind

the plate, as many balls ended up in the dirt prior to being blocked. Sontheimer even caught a runner trying to take third base on a ball that leaked away from her in the sixth inning.

"You figure how many times she's squatting down in a game, she's squatting down 500 times and you're playing three of those. That's a lot of squats," Bostick said. "She really fought hard for us, and I can speak highly enough of our defense of what they tried to accomplish."

Bostick said Centralia can do better with getting the offense going earlier as has been the case for much of this season but also for much of this season, the Lady Panthers have hung around with those state-ranked opponents. They are 3-7 in those games after Saturday, but in their losses, the margin of victory has been 6.14 runs.

"We really don't get a break," Bostick said. "At some point, I hope that helps us be tough in the postseason."

The Lady Panthers won 15-1 in five innings Tuesday at North Callaway, with home runs by Sontheimer and Wright giving Centralia a 3-0 lead.

Centralia (5-2 CCC) hosted Hallsville again Tuesday and plays at home today against Clarence Cannon Conference foe Palmyra (10-12, 3-3 CCC).

CR-6 falls short in two, wins one in Louisiana

BY JEREMY JACOB
Sports Editor

Community R-6 came very close to being undefeated Saturday in Louisiana.

The Lady Trojans played in a Round Robin against Class 2 No. 5 Elsberry, Louisiana and Mark Twain, defeating Mark Twain 7-3 in the last game but losing the first two by one run. Com-

munity could not outscore Elsberry to lose 11-10 in 10 innings before falling short 9-8 in six innings to Louisiana.

Elsberry scored two runs in the 10th inning, with Community finishing with six hits against the Lady Indians, and Louisiana came back from a 5-3 deficit after two innings.

In all three games, Olivia Kuda went 5-for-11 with five RBI and her second

home run of the year, and Kayla Jett finished 6-for-10 with five RBI and her first home run of the season.

In the win, Mark Twain took a 1-0 first-inning lead before Community scored the next seven runs to get in the driver's seat.

Community (10-12) faced Louisiana again at home Tuesday before it travels to Marion County (3-11) on Thursday.

Community (10-12) faced Louisiana again at home Tuesday before it travels to Marion County (3-11) on Thursday.

October Gardening Tips

By Dhruva Dhakal, PhD, Field Specialist in Agronomy,
University of Missouri Extension in Audrain County

Vegetable Gardening

- Clean up and discard garden debris after frost especially tomato and pepper plants and squash vines that may have had diseased foliage.
- Plant radishes, lettuce and spinach for late harvest. Harvest can continue until spring if winter is mild enough or by season extension techniques such as a low tunnel, cold frame or hot bed.

- Harvest crops such as tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, melons, and sweet potatoes before frost or cover with blankets to protect them from light frost.
- Green tomatoes can be harvested before frost and ripened indoors. Individually wrap fruits in newspaper to keep them for several weeks.

- Finish cleaning up garden areas. Compost only non-diseased foliage and plants. Remove all tomato cages and stakes.
- Harvest winter squash and pumpkins with 2 to 3 inches of stem for better storage.

Fruits and Nuts

- Look for ripened persimmons after the first frost has occurred.
- Protect young fruit trees against mice and rabbits with wire guards around the trunks of young fruit trees.
- Store apples in a cool, dry place or a refrigerator in perforated sacks for good air circulation.

- Sanitation is important. Clean up fruit plantings after harvest. Discard fallen fruit and diseased debris.
- Finish walnut and hickory harvest in October. If harvest is delayed into November, walnuts can develop a bad flavor or squirrels will get them.

- Keep leaves from packing and smothering grass.
- Be sure turf goes into winter with moist — not wet — soil.

Outdoor Flowering Plants & Ornamentals

- Take time to enjoy the fall colors in the landscape!
- Fall is a great time to plant trees and shrubs.
- Spring bulbs can be planted among groundcovers and perennials. As these plants grow in the spring, they will hide the dying bulb foliage.

- Dig cannas, caladiums, elephant ears, gladiolus and dahlias after frost nips their foliage. Allow to dry before storage. Store in a dark, cool, dry place.
- Clean up around your perennial flowers, such as rose and peony. If left on the ground, leaves and stems can harbor diseases and provide convenient places for pests to spend the winter.

- As you clean out the flowerbeds, mark the

spots where late emerging perennials will come up next spring to avoid damaging them while working in the beds.

- Prune dead and diseased branches from trees and shrubs while you can still identify them easily.

- If a tree or shrub had foliar disease problems, remove leaves and dispose of them because old fallen leaves can harbor disease pathogens.

- Fall needle shed of pines is normal. Don't panic if your pine is yellowing and needles start to fall. It will come out of it.

- Put tree guards on young trees to protect against rabbits and deer.

- Leaves can be beneficial to the garden and should not be burned or discarded. Consider using as a mulch or adding to your compost pile.

- If soils are dry, watering shrubs and trees.

- Transplant deciduous trees and shrubs after leaf drop.

- If fertilizer is required for trees, fertilizer can be applied now through April. Fertilizing is best done according to a soil test. For more information, see MU Guide G6865 <https://extension2.missouri.edu/g6865>.

- Delay fall mulching until the ground has cooled.

Lawns

- Mow at regular heights until growth stops.

- Apply lime if soil test indicates need.

- Fertilize moderately after cool days slow leaf growth. Nutrients at this time will encourage root growth and thickening of turf. Soluble nitrogen fertilizers are used more efficiently by turf in late fall.

- Keep leaves from packing and smothering grass.

- Be sure turf goes into winter with moist — not wet — soil.

- Recondition lawn mower. Store mower with clean oil and empty fuel tank.

- Use soluble fertilizer or calcium chloride instead of salt for melting winter ice.

- Leaves should not be left to cover and smother the lawn surface. If feasible, leaves from lawns can be mulched in to the turfgrass without adverse effect - <https://ipm.missouri.edu/meg/2013/10/Want-to-reduce-waste-and-time-Try-mowing-leaves-rather-than-removal/>. Leaves may also be composted or tilled into a garden as a source of organic matter.

- Fall is the time to control certain broadleaf weeds in the lawn including chickweed, white clover, dandelion, wild onion and plantain.

West Valley MCJROTC defeats Missouri Military Academy

West Valley MCJROTC defeated Missouri Military Academy 1141.4 to 1034.2 last week in the National Air Rifle League. With the win, West Valley MCJROTC is in first place overall and first place within their 'Marine Corps Jrotc' conference. They currently have a 1 - 0 record. West Valley MCJROTC was led by Amy Roberts who shot a 290.4. The remaining contributing members were Evelyn Golden, Joey Finnikov, and Ebin Arzac. West Valley MCJROTC is from Fairbanks, Alaska, and is coached by SSgt Travis Walker.

Missouri Military Academy currently has a 0 - 1 record. Missouri Military Academy was led by, Marco Afane who shot a 265.9. The remaining contributing members were Samuel Way, (Required) Hines, and Blake Morais. Missouri Military Academy is from Mexico, and is

coached by Joseph Balvanz.

Next up West Valley MCJROTC will compete against Kelly Walsh MCJROTC from Casper, Wyo. Kelly Walsh MCJROTC currently has a 1 - 0 record. While Missouri Military Academy will compete against Venice MCJROTC from Venice, Fla.. Venice MCJROTC currently has a 0 - 0 record.

These two teams are competing in the Champions Division of the Orion National Air Rifle League. Sponsored by the Orion Scoring System, the league is a national team league for high school teams and junior rifle clubs. The Champions Divisions is the most difficult division in the league. The league has two parts. An eight-week regular season is going on now, where teams compete for their conference's title. Followed by the postseason, comprising two single elimination

tournaments. Only the top 16 teams across all conferences advance to the postseason, to compete for the league title.

In each game the teams compete in what is known as a three-position air rifle match. The match is modeled after Olympic Rifle competitions but adapted to high school age ath-

letes. Each athlete will shoot 10 shots in three different shooting positions, prone, standing, and kneeling. Each shot is worth a maximum of 10.9 points. The sum of points scored in the 30 shots is the athlete's total. The team score is composed of the best four athletes from each team.

REAL ESTATE & PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2022 • 10:00 A.M.
922 CONCORDIA ST., MEXICO, MO



This 3 BR, 2 1/2 Bath home will be sold at Public Auction along with a low mileage 2004 Ford Explorer and a very large collection of fly fishing equipment and misc.

household items on October 29th. Home has full basement, 2 car garage, deck and much more. For more information visit the website www.henke-auction.com or call Richard at 573-473-5515.

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Melahn Insurance Agency opening new office

It's finally happening.

After nearly a year of construction, the new Melahn Insurance Agency office at 3100 Doreli Lane in Mexico, - behind Pearl Motor Company - is complete. Melahn's downtown office at 101 S. Washington Street in Mexico will close at 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 7 and the business will reopen at the new location at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 11. Melahn Insurance Agency offices will be closed on Monday, Oct. 10.

Should clients need immediate assistance with a claim or any other issues our Scott Agency office in Montgomery City will be open on Monday, Oct. 10 for assistance. Clients can contact that office via phone at 573-564-2237.

Opened in 1967, by the Melahn family, Melahn Insurance Agency has been providing insurance and bonds to Mexico and the surrounding communities for 55 years. Melahn Insurance Agency is a full-service independent insurance agency and member of the Keystone Insurance Group, and provides the local community with access to property, casualty, workers' compensation, life, health insurance and bonds. Purchased in 1989 by Scott Agency, Inc. of Montgomery City, Melahn Insurance Agency is a wholly owned subsidiary of Scott Agency, Inc.



HELP OUR VETERANS

The Mexico VFW and Auxiliary, Post 3772 is always accepting the following items for our veterans:

- Lotion • Stamps
- Lip balm
- Simple craft items
- Stick deodorant
- Sweatpants & shirts

Items can be dropped off at
The Mexico Ledger
113 E. Monroe

Thank You for Your Support!

Second Saturdays

CENTRALIA, MO

Join us at "The Church" on October 8th from 10am-3pm

All Things Pumpkin
11am-3pm: Live Music
Young Entrepreneurs Row
Pumpkin Pie Contest

Music, Vendors, Food Trucks and more!

Bring your own chair and stay awhile!
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(217) 653-5262



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The Mexico Ledger

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The Mexico Ledger

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Full and part time positions available. Successful applicant needs to be positive with a good attitude - will train for job duties. Applicant will need to have a high school diploma and be able to pass the drug test.

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New Members
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MU Health Care S.
Clark Medical Building
Security Finance

-What's Happening-

OCT. 5 Mobility tour

Handicap accessible golf carts, provided by M&M Golf Cars, will be used as folks tour Green Estate Park. Tours are available from 1-3 p.m. and groups of six or less are suggested. Pre-registration is by Sept. 30, by calling city hall at 573-581-2100, ext. 234. Tours are free and drivers provided.

**OCT. 7 & 8
Tootsie Roll Drive**
The local Knights of Columbus Council No. 3760 will be holding their annual Tootsie Roll Drive, Friday, Oct. 7 and Saturday, Oct. 8. The Knights will be at the following locations: the intersection of Clark and Jackson Street and Moser's Food Store in Mexico. The annual drive is to raise funds for the local

Children's Therapy and Early Education School in Mexico and the other half is donated to the St. Louis organization for the support of the Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital.

Rustober Fest - New Florence

The 10th Rustober Fest will be held Oct. 7-8 at Old Settlers Park, New Florence. Highlights include hot rods, rat rods, customs, motorcycles, live music, pin-up contest, a swap meet and more. Contact Aaron at 573-808-1150 for more information.

OCT. 7

Tyronn Lue Community Day of Service

Tyronn Lue Community Day of Service is Oct. 7. Watch The Mexico Ledger for more information as the event approaches.

Mexico Area Chamber of Commerce October Calendar

Oct. 5 Chamber Executive Board Meeting @ Chamber - 12 p.m.
Elks Meeting @ Elks Lodge - 6 p.m.
Oct. 6 Mexico Noon Lions Club meeting @ Utterback Crop Insurance - 12 p.m.
Oct. 7 Ty Lue 6th Annual Community Day of Service
Mexico Homecoming
Oct. 8 BBQ Mexico Elk's Lodge 919 @ Moser's - 11-2 p.m.
Oct.11 Village Square Association meeting @ Chamber - 8 a.m.
League of Women Voters Meeting @ Chamber
Oct. 11-13 Wild Bird Expo @ Gold Crest
Oct. 12 Chamber Board Meeting @ Chamber - 11:30 a.m.
Oct.14 Mexico Noon Lions Loaded Potato Bar Luncheon @ Courthouse - 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
St. Brendan Dinner Auction
Oct.16 National Nut Tree Day @ Scattering Fork Outdoor Center - 2-5 p.m.
Oct.18 Dream Factory meeting @ Chamber - 7 p.m.
Oct. 19 Elks Meeting @ Elks Lodge - 6 p.m.
Oct.20 Ambassador Meeting @ Chamber - 10 a.m.
Mexico Noon Lions Club meeting @ Utterback Crop Insurance - Noon
Oct. 21 Fish Fry @ Mexico Elk's Lodge - 4:30-7 p.m.
MMA Family Weekend
Oct. 21-23 "Barefoot in the Park" Production @ PAC Friday/Saturday 7 p.m. Sunday 2 p.m.
Oct. 25 Commerce & Industry dinner @ Fairytale Estates - 5:30 p.m.
Oct. 27 Past President's Lunch
Moonlight Madness @ Downtown square
Oct. 28-30 "Barefoot in the Park" Production @ PAC Friday/Saturday 7 p.m. Sunday 2 p.m.

Oct. 30 Lord's Acre dinner & sale @ United Methodist Church - 4 p.m.
Oct. 31 Trick or Treating @ Pin Oaks Living Center - 4-5 p.m.
Trunk or Treat @ Downtown square - 6-8 p.m.
Every month the Third Wednesday Alzheimer's Support Group @ MO Veterans - 1:30 p.m.
Every Friday Rotary Club meets @ The Oaks - Noon
Every Saturday Farmer's Market downtown Northeast corner of square - 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

LEGALS

IN THE 12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, AUDRAIN COUNTY, MISSOURI

In the Estate of

**LORIE JEAN MARTIEN,
Deceased,**

Case Number: 22AU-PR00083

Notice to Creditors
(Small Estate)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of LORIE JEAN MARTIEN, Decedent:

On SEPTEMBER 22, 2022 a small estate affidavit was filed by the distributees for the decedent under Section 473.097, RSMo, with the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Audrain County, Missouri.

All creditors of the decedent, who died on 10-26-2021, are notified that Section 473.444, RSMo, sets a limitation period that would bar claims one year after the death of the decedent. A creditor may request that this estate be opened for administration.

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

Date of first publication: SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

MELISSA BUCKMAN-YOUNG
210 W. JACKSON STREET
MEXICO, MO 65265

Kristina Knipfel
Clerk,

PUBLICATION DATES: 9/28/22, 10/5/22

LEGALS

IN THE 12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, AUDRAIN COUNTY, MISSOURI

In the Estate of

**DENISE LOUISE TUCKER,
Deceased,**

Case Number: 22AU-PR00084

Notice of Letters Testamentary Granted
(Independent Administration)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of DENISE LOUISE TUCKER, Decedent:

On September 27, 2022, the following individual was appointed the personal representative of the estate of DENISE LOUISE TUCKER, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Audrain County, Missouri. The personal representative's name and address are:

JENNIFER TUCKER
200 W. CENTRAL STREET, MEXICO, MO
65265.

The personal representative may administer the estate independently without adjudication, order, or direction of the Probate Division of the Circuit Court, unless a petition for supervised administration is made to and granted by the court.

The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is:
DAN K. ERDEL, 100 N. JEFFERSON, MEXICO, MO 65265, (573) 581-5280.

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: APRIL 4, 2022
Date of first publication: OCTOBER 5, 2022

Kristina Knipfel
Clerk,

PUBLICATION DATES: 10/5/22, 10/12/22, 10/19/22, 10/26/22

Daigle to sing in all-district choir



Missouri Military Academy Cadet Justyn Daigle, a high school junior from Moberly, Missouri, traveled to Hannibal on Saturday, Sept. 17 to audition for the Missouri State High School Activities Association All-District Choir. He was chosen to participate and will sing with the all-district choir on Nov. 5 in Moberly. He has also earned the opportunity to audition for the all-state choir. [MMA]

LEGALS

IN THE 12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, AUDRAIN COUNTY, MISSOURI

In the Estate of

**BRUCE ALLEN WERBACH,
Deceased,**

Case Number: 22AU-PR00082

Notice to Creditors
(Small Estate)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of BRUCE ALLEN WERBACH, Decedent:

On SEPTEMBER 22, 2022 a small estate affidavit was filed by the distributees for the decedent under Section 473.097, RSMo, with the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Audrain County, Missouri.

All creditors of the decedent, who died on 10-26-2021, are notified that Section 473.444, RSMo, sets a limitation period that would bar claims one year after the death of the decedent. A creditor may request that this estate be opened for administration.

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

Date of first publication: SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

JAMES KENT LOWRY
1200 W STADIUM BLVD, SUITE 200
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65109

Kristina Knipfel
Clerk,

PUBLICATION DATES: 9/28/22, 10/5/22

ACHD to establish award in honor of Bill Johnson

Local Physician is inaugural recipient

The Audrain County Health Department (ACHD) has announced the recipient of its inaugural William "Bill" Johnson Advocate for Public Health Award. ACHD administrator and CEO Craig Brace says the award will be presented to current ACHD Board of Health member and former board chair Dr. Kathleen Weaver. Dr. Weaver will be presented with the award at a dinner and ceremony at the Presser Performing Arts Center on Tuesday, Nov. 8 with a 6 p.m. start time with dinner served at 6:30 p.m. The award ceremony will follow the dinner. The dinner is open to the public and costs \$25 per ticket or \$200 for a table of eight people. The proceeds from the dinner will go to help support the ACHD Team For Assistance program.

"I couldn't think of anyone more worthy of the inaugural award than Dr. Weaver and am pleased the selection committee agrees," said Brace. "She has been a tireless champion for our overall mission of prevent, promote and protect here at the health department."

Dr. Weaver was the chair of the health board when the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020 and only recently stepped away from that role, which allowed Johnson's daughter Jessica Johnson-Ekern to fill the role by a vote of the board. Ekern was elected to the board in the April, 2020 municipal election.

During the response to the pandemic, Weaver was responsible for making sure the health department staff had everything needed to respond in a timely manner to the needs in the county and proper medical protocols were being followed.

"Dr. Weaver was an integral part of our county's response to the pandemic and it was her leadership during it that positioned Audrain County to be one of the leaders in response to the pandemic in the form of mass vaccination clinics we held," Brace said. "Throw in a leadership change in the middle of it in late 2020 and her leadership became even more invaluable. To this day, she remains an integral part of the Audrain County Health Department's Board of Health."

Ekern echoed those sentiments in her reaction to the news Weaver was selected to receive the inaugural award named after her father.

"My dad left such a legacy in the public health world, especially in Audrain County," Ekern said. "To have an award named after him is a true honor and to have someone of the caliber of Dr. Weaver be the first recipient is a fitting tribute."

Johnson was the first administrator of what was then known as the Audrain City-County Health Unit, appointed in 1963. Addressing environmental health issues on both the local and state level, he was a pioneer. Johnson was

responsible for many of the state's ordinances and health policies dealing with this area of public health when it was first being addressed in the late '60s and early 1970s. Recognized statewide and nationwide for his accomplishments in the field, Johnson's environmental health program became a model for other counties and states.

Weaver graduated from the University of California at Irvine School of Medicine and became board certified in orthopedic surgery in 1995. She has been practicing in Mexico since 2001. Before coming to Mexico to establish a practice, She was in residency at the Maricopa Medical Center in Phoenix, Ariz., and then held a fellowship at the Shriner's Hospital for Crippled Children in Honolulu, Hawaii in the pediatric orthopaedic department. She is affiliated with the Moberly Regional Medical Center in Moberly; the Scotland County Memorial Hospital in Memphis, Mo.; and the surgery center of Columbia in Columbia. She is also an associate staff member of the University of Missouri. She is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. She is also a professional member of the American College of Sports Medicine, the Wilderness Medical Society, and the Orthopaedic Trauma Association.

The Audrain County Team for Assistance

program is a not-for-profit corporation under the Audrain County Health Department. Its purpose is to provide temporary help for medications and healthcare services for those that are not able to afford it in Audrain County. The money raised from the awards banquet will benefit this program going forward for the residents of Audrain County.

To reserve a seat to the awards dinner on Tuesday, Nov. 8 at the Presser Performing Arts Center, call the ACHD at 573-581-1332, or online at achd.eventbrite.com. Reservation deadline is November 1st. Tickets are now on sale. A single ticket is \$25 or complete tables are available for up to eight individuals for \$200.

The 2022 Advocate Award selection committee is composed of ACHD Board Chair Jessica Johnson-Ekern, Mexico Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Dana Keller, Audrain County Presiding Commissioner Alan Winders, Arthur Center Executive Director Terry Mackey and ACHD Administrator and CEO Craig Brace.



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Volunteers needed for after-school reading program

Volunteers, aged 50+, are needed to help children in an after-school reading program at the Mexico Area Family YMCA.



- Work with two children in K-5th grade.
- 4-5 PM one day a week.
- Once a week through the school year.
- Background screening is required.
- Training, books, and materials provided.

Contact for information

Mandy Plybon

RSVP Volunteer Coordinator | Oasis Tutoring
aplybon@oasisnet.org | 573-416-3193 (call/text)
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LOCAL NEWS IS STRONGER BECAUSE OF YOU!

Dear readers,

Since taking over ownership of your Mexico Ledger in 2000, we promised we would bring local news back to Audrain County. Week by week, we have fulfilled that promise by placing a renewed focus on local news, local sports, local names and local faces. If it's local, it deserves to be in your newspaper. And we have been thankful for the support from subscribers and advertisers who have helped us publish a better newspaper over the past two years.

Beginning this month, only paid subscribers will receive The Ledger on both Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Like many businesses, our expenses in recent months have risen considerably and forced us to this change. This decision was not taken lightly, and we held off on making this move for as long as financially possible.

While many of the corporate chains are cutting frequency and staff, our independent, family-owned company is committed to making The Ledger even better. The content we produce for our readers will not change. In recent months, we have added staff to bring our readers as much local news and sports as possible.

Through Oct. 12, we are offering a \$40 annual subscription to anyone with an Audrain County mailing address. To redeem this offer, give us a call at 573-581-1111, visit us online at mexicoledger.com/localnews or mail the coupon below. If you are not a paid subscriber, we ask you to consider making us part of your weekly routine and continue to support us so we can make sure we bring you the local coverage you expect and deserve for many years to come.

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The Mexico Ledger

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Share the road this harvest season

This harvest season, the Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety is reminding motorists to keep a watchful eye for slow-moving farm vehicles. Being patient, driving carefully and respecting boundaries are all equally important when driving around farm vehicles.

"It can be easy to forget that farmers are simply doing their jobs when moving equipment from field to field," said Robert Brinkmann, Chairman of the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission and the Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety. "It's important that we as drivers be patient and give them the space they need, so we can all reach our destinations safely."

Motorists that are unfamiliar with farm-

ing communities may not immediately recognize farm equipment on roadways or be aware of the special hazards they present. Lighting and reflector locations on tractors, combines and other farm equipment are different from other motor vehicles. Loads on farm vehicles may be wider than other vehicles, which present special hazards for other motorists when left, right, rear and front projections are not easily recognizable.

The most common collisions occur when the approaching motorist hits a farm vehicle from behind (rear-end collision), or when a passing motorist hits a farm vehicle that is attempting to make a wide left turn (left sideswipe).

The Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety

recommends these simple tips when driving around slow-moving farm machinery:

Be mindful that it's harvest season and keep an eye out for machinery.

Be patient and remember that farmers are just doing their jobs.

Always pass on the left and only when you have clear sight distance.

Always wear your seat belt. It's your best defense in any traffic crash.

Pay full attention to the road and put your cell phone down.

Missouri's strategic highway safety plan, Show-Me Zero, provides more information on how all Missourians can do their part to achieve zero traffic fatalities. The plan can be viewed at www.savemolives.com.



Veterans United employees (from left to right, back row) include Brock Wright, Jared Reichel, Jake Jones, Lois Kay, Johanna Cox, Gabe Heathman, and Alberta Barba. Veterans United employees (from left to right, front row) include Monti Ferrell-Nelson, Erika Pryor, Piper Brintnall, Gary Anspach from OATS Transit, Mariah Journey, and Michelle Benke.
[Submitted]

OATS Transit receives grant from Veterans United Foundation

OATS Transit, a Missouri-based not-for-profit transportation provider, has received a \$10,000 grant from Veterans United Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Veterans United Home Loans.

The funds donated by the Veterans United Foundation will be used by OATS Transit to provide rides to veterans for no fare, and transport veterans to the annual Entrepreneurship Boot Camp hosted by the University of Missouri in Columbia.

OATS Transit provides

service to the VA hospital in Columbia, as well as VA clinics in five neighboring cities. OATS Transit provides transportation to work, medical appointments, essential shopping, nutrition, and other needs to individuals with disabilities, seniors, and rural residents of any age. With a workforce of 565 employees, 17 percent are also veterans.

"We are grateful that organizations like Veterans United are dedicated to giving back to the community," said Gary Anspach,

Mid-Mo regional director. "Without their support, we would not be able to provide as many rides for veterans in the Mid-Mo Region," added Anspach.

Mid-Missouri Veterans seeking a ride should call OATS Transit at 573-449-3789. Information about OATS Transit can be found on the website at www.oatstransit.org, or at facebook.com/oatstransit. OATS Transit is also accepting applications for drivers in the Mid-Missouri area; all openings are listed on the company website.

Find Your Path Career Expo is Nov. 16

The Find Your Path Event began in 2018. It was masterminded by the Mexico Area Chamber of Commerce, Partners For Employment And Education Coalition (PEEC) and Mexico Public Schools as an opportunity to give students a more in depth look at career opportunities and an idea of what the path to those jobs might look like.

PEEC is a group of employers from Audrain County that gather several times a year to discuss workforce challenges and search for solutions. Currently the biggest struggle the Mexico community faces regarding growing the economy is the need for a larger and more qualified workforce. Fortunately,

community leaders and employers began working collectively in 2017 on problem solving and the Find Your Path Event was one of the first steps.

The 2022 Expo will be held Nov. 16 at Mexico High School Sports Complex. All Mexico Public School students in grades eight through 12 as well as Hart Career Center and JAG students (Jobs For America's Graduates will tour the Find Your Path Event.

Over the three previous years, there has been an average of 50 employers participating from the six career paths, with many career clusters within each path represented. Each of the employer's display tags for each of the career clusters they employ as well

as signs indicating if they hire part time or seasonal help and if they offer apprenticeships and internships.

The success stories are numerous, and student and faculty feedback has been very favorable. Most evident is that the employers seem to know no boundaries when it comes to supporting, encouraging, and interesting students in career paths.

Other steps to strengthen the workforce include annual ninth grade manufacturing tours, community wide workshops, training, and certification with AHA Process in Workplace Stability.

To participate, return reservation form to The Mexico Area Chamber of Commerce by Nov. 7.

Auxvasse man dies in two-vehicle accident

Douglas W. Thompson, 88, of Auxvasse, died as a result of a two-vehicle accident that occurred at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 29 at Callaway County Rd. 245 at Route E.

According to the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the accident occurred when the southbound

1999 Nissan Maxima, driven by Thompson, failed to stop at a stop sign and travelled into the path of the westbound 2012 GMC Sierra, driven by Mason C. Sims, 26, of Laddonia. Thompson was pronounced dead at the scene by Callaway County medical examiner, Stacy

Huck. His body was transported to Parker Millard Funeral Home in Columbia.

Sims' vehicle received extensive damage and was towed from the scene; the Maxima was totalled and was also towed. According to the report, neither man was wearing a seatbelt.

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Conveniently located on a gorgeously landscaped double lot, close to the Missouri Military Academy, McMillan Elementary, and just a short drive to downtown Mexico. This home has been lovingly maintained and has so many updates and finishes including a new roof in the last 8 years, a new HVAC system in the last 7, and a new water heater in the last 5. The main level boasts elegance in terms of layout and finishes. The living room features a gas fireplace and beautiful tile floor that extends to the breakfast bar area (which also includes an island and built in wine fridge). The main level bathroom highlights the prestige with a walk in tile shower, a skylight, and Mid-Century Modern style cabinets that match the newly renovated kitchen. The kitchen features Corian countertops that tie in the backsplash, stainless steel appliances and the MCM cabinets. Off the kitchen is the formal dining room that has new flooring and a new centerpiece light fixture. From the dining room, there's an additional flex space that would make a great office, family room or playroom. Up the stairs to the right is the expansive owner's suite which has a true ensuite bathroom, large closets and new flooring that extends throughout the rest of the second level. The owner's bathroom has dual vanities and mirrors and the same MCM cabinets to tie in from downstairs. Just outside the owner's suite is a reading nook with built in shelving and windows that draw in the natural light. Just across the way is the first secondary bedroom which is large in size and has a great built in desk. The next bedroom is a good size and has wood features that give a really nice ambiance. The bathroom off of the secondary bedrooms has a gorgeous walk-in tile shower, new vanity and fixtures. The windows throughout the home are all newer and the back yard is like a private oasis, complete with a large stamped concrete patio and mature perennial landscaping.

This home is sure to impress. You won't want to miss out on this rare find.



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