



MARIES
COUNTY

Advocate

Municipal election, Tuesday, April 5 — sample ballot on page 10.



Vienna edges Belle in pitchers duel. See page 7.

Maries County R-1 voters have one contested race on April 5

BY LAURA SCHIERMEIER
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VIENNA — Voters in the Maries R-1 School District have decisions to make about whom to vote for during the April 5 Municipal Election as a total of four candidates are running for three positions on the school board.

Incumbent Matt Novak stands alone in his quest for an elected position on the R-1 board. He was appointed to complete the term of former board member Cindy Petershagen, who moved from the school district. He is uncontested for the position.

The decisions by district voters is choosing two board members for the two three-year terms on the school board, in which three district patrons have expressed an interest.

Incumbent R-1 School Board members Joe Barnhart and Dave Long have both filed for reelection.

A newcomer put forth her name to become part of the R-1 board. That being Kacie James.

Board candidates were kind enough to answer a couple of questions about their qualifications and reasons for serving the R-1 School District as a board member. Their answers follow:

JOE BARNHART

Joe Barnhart is a Vienna native and continues to live here today. He went to school at Maries R-1 in Vienna, followed by four years of college at Lincoln University, and then four years of dental school in Kansas City.

Barnhart said he realizes the value of education as a foundation for Maries R-1 students. “Our future depends on the success of our graduates. I want to do everything I can in order to ensure the health and viability of our school moving into the future.”

KACIE JAMES

Kacie Lynne James has mostly lived in Viennasince she was six years old. There was a time when she says she “attempted to move away but I found myself right



Joe Barnhart



Kacie James



Dave Long



Matt Novak

back in this quaint town.”

In 2012, she married Tyler “TC” James and they have four “ornery but amazing children”—Parker, 11, Tanner, 8, Noralynne, 6, and Raelynne, 6, who all attend Maries R-1.

James graduated from Vienna High School in 2004. From there she attended Mizzou. “Turns out, that college is way too big for a small-town girl like

See **Maries R-1 voters** on Page 3

Meet the Candidates: April 5 Belle, Bland municipal elections

The Belle and Bland boards of Aldermen have several open seats in the coming April 5 election. The Maries County Advocate sent out a questionnaire to all declared candidates who are in a contested race for one of the board positions.

The Belle Board of Aldermen has Both Ward 2 seats are open, currently held by Jeanette Struempf and Fred Bethmann. Struempf and Bethmann have both filed to retain their seats as well as candidate Barbara Howarth, who declared her intentions to run against Bethmann.

All board candidates were sent the same questions:

Tell the community about yourself.

What is your connection to the city and community?

What is your primary reason for running for the board of aldermen?

Name a project or law you would like to see accomplished in the near future or set up to be completed in the extended future?

What is something you are satisfied with that you feel the board of aldermen has done well? What is a project you feel you would have voted to accomplish differently?

Bethmann and Howarth were both sent the candidate questionnaire. Bethmann declined to participate.

See **Belle, Bland elections** on Page 5

Belle mayor, Maries County Sheriff answer questions concerning marshal position

BY EDWARD GEHLERT
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BELLE — During a March 14 open forum to discuss Proposition 1, a ballot measure in the April 5 election to eliminate the elected marshal seat and create an appointed chief of police, Mayor Josh Seaver and Maries County Sheriff Chris Heitman answered questions concerning declared candidate Terry Connors.

The forum hosted about 10 visitors, including presenters. One of those present, Ronnie Stockton, asked, “Can you explain what’s going on right now? You got one person that signed up to run and he is not qualified. How does that work?”

Seaver replied, “Under city ordinance, and I believe there’s some state statutes involved there too, he has six months to complete the training.”

Seaver went on to say that currently there is not a qualified candidate for marshal living in the city limits and that is one of the reasons it is important to pass Proposition 1 and appoint a chief of police.

“That’s another reason this is the best option. Proposition 1 is the absolute best option for the city of Belle,” said Seaver.

“That pay has been cut down to how much?” asked Stockton, referring to the decrease in the marshal’s salary that was passed by the board of aldermen.

“\$100 a month,” answered Seaver.

“And he’s still running?” asked Stockton.

“I can’t speak to why. I would of hoped he’d been here tonight. I can’t speak to why he’s running. I mean if he just has genuine concern for the city that’s great but I don’t know,” said Seaver.

The question of who had filed for the position and how long they had lived in Belle was raised by a woman in attendance.

Maries County Sheriff Chris Heitman answered, “It’s the guy who owns the Belle Motel, where most of our drug cases are out of.”

“Three, maybe four or five years,” said Seaver about the length of time Connors has lived in Belle. “I didn’t meet him until 2018 or 2019, somewhere in that neighborhood.”

“You said a minute ago you’re going to have to take over for Maries County. That means we’re going to have to buy two patrol cars. We’re going to have to pay for everything. That’s salary, uniforms, insurance...why did we not do that before we got to this situation?” asked Stockton. “You want to solve this problem but you didn’t want to solve it then. Evidently, something happened and now we’re in this situation where, no offense, we are going to be out a pile of money.”

Seaver said that the city still had all of its police equipment, including a patrol car. Seaver added that the plan the council is looking at to rebuild the police department would take three to five years and that the ability to appoint a chief of police was key. “Where’s this money coming from? We got to rebuild, where’s it coming from?” asked Stockton.

“Representative Sassman filed the bill for us to allow us to be able to put on the ballot one half of one percent sales tax, the same the city of Vienna did to fund their police department. Once that makes it through the state level we’ll be able to place that on the ballot. We have to get it passed through the city, the voters, to do that,” said Seaver.

“What I’m saying...we had a problem then and the answer to that problem was pushing Joe out and contracting with Maries County. Now, we got to start this all over again. Why did we not do something then to keep us out of this now?” asked Stockton.

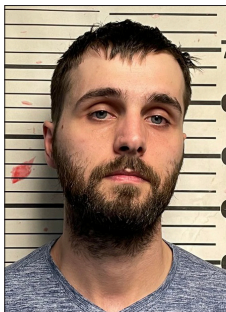
“What we would of had to do was impeach him. That is a very long and very very expensive process,” answered Seaver.

“There has to be other ways around it. You had to work with him,” said Stockton.

“When I took office in 2018, I had every intention of backing the marshal 110 percent,” Seaver said. “That’s what I ran on, was backing him. When I got in office, within a few short

See **Proposition 1** on Page 6

Vienna man arrested, charged in domestic abuse case



William J. Alexander

VIENNA — William J. Alexander, 25, of Vienna, was arrested March 12 by Maries County sheriff’s deputies following a domestic violence report by his former girlfriend that occurred earlier in the day.

According to Missouri Case.net,

Alexander has two charges pending for the case: alleged assault in the third degree — a class E felony and endangering the welfare of a child — second degree.

Alexander was released from the Maries County Jail on March 14 after posting a \$10,000 bond.

According to a probable cause statement from Maries County Deputy Shannon Fannon, the sheriff’s office received multiple reports around early afternoon on March 12 at the intersection of Highway 63 just north of Maries County Road 302 a domestic assault was in progress. However, both parties were gone upon her arrival.

At 3:15 p.m., Asia Davenport, 21, contacted the sheriff’s department to report that she was the victim of the earlier incident.

“Ms. Davenport stated her ex-boyfriend, William Alexander, lost his temper during their discussion, punching her and damaging her vehicle,” Fannon’s report stated. “She agreed to meet with me at the sheriff’s office to provide a voluntary statement.”

According to Chief Major Scott John with the Maries County Sheriff’s Department Belle Division, the parties involved had ended the relationship on Friday.

“Their child (A.A.) is a year-and-a-half-old and (Alexander) is the baby’s father,” John said. “They aren’t married and when she broke up with him on Friday, she said she was leaving to go stay with a friend in Kansas City. Alexander didn’t want her to take the child to Kansas City with her. They were arguing about it on the phone and he asked to come talk to her. She was scared but he promised to stay calm. She was on Highway 63 and pulled off near Maries County Road 302.”

When Alexander arrived, Davenport spoke with him outside of the window of

See **Domestic abuse** on Page 6

Commissioners to contact state representatives, governor, requesting no repeal or pause on gasoline tax increase

BY LAURA SCHIERMEIER
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MARIES COUNTY — The Maries County Commissioners last Thursday expressed their disapproval for a push underway in the Missouri House to repeal or pause the gasoline tax increase, which was passed by the Missouri Legislature last session.

The Maries County road districts rely heavily on the County Aid Road Trust (CART) funds each road district receives. Western District Commissioner Ed Fagre said the CART funds are “what keeps us going all year.” It pays for the labor costs of the road districts and more.

Missouri Association of Counties (MAC) Communications Specialist, David Owen, sent an email to County Clerk Rhonda Rodgers. He stated repealing

this tax “would negatively affect county budgets as well as put our ability to draw down the federal match dollars in jeopardy.” The commissioners were asked to reach out to their representative to let them know the county commission does not want to see this gasoline tax increase (2.5 cents per gallon) be repealed or even paused. “The condition of our state’s roads, bridges, and waterways are vital to the health and safety of our citizens and the economy of the state,” Owen said. “With nearly \$1 billion in unfunded transportation needs each year, we cannot see this funding source repealed.”

Maries County Treasurer Rhonda Slone provided numbers detailing how much money the county road districts receive from the CART funding source. In 2021, the county received \$183,163.62 in CART money. In 2020 it received \$171,716.41, in 2019 it received \$185,255.60, and in 2018 it received \$183,654.02. A

formula is used to determine how much each county receives of the state gasoline tax. MoDOT officials project each penny of the state gas tax is expected to bring in \$41.6 million.

When the Missouri Legislature passed the gasoline tax increase during the last session, the increase in five years time will be 12.5 cents per gallon. It will be implemented at a rate of 2.5 cents per gallon per year. Missouri drivers can keep track of their gasoline purchases and file for a refund of the recent gas tax increase and be refunded that amount. So, now Missourians buying gasoline in their state are paying 2.5 cents more per gallon, and this will increase by that amount for five consecutive years.

For Maries County, this 2.5 cent per gallon increase

See **Commission** on Page 12

Stricklan files for County Treasurer

See Page 4

HSMC receives grant from Three Rivers

See Page 4



BCBA receives \$1,189.52 in honor of Kathy Stanfield

See Page 5

A NEW ADVENTURE

Women abandoned

by DENNIS
WARDEN



I am woman hear me roar in numbers too big to ignore. I remember when Hellen Reddy’s song “I am woman” soared to number one on the Billboard Hot 100 in 1972.

That song became an anthem for feminism in the 70s and made Reddy an international star. I was just 13 years old and had no idea what feminism was.

In 2011, Billboard named her the number-28 adult contemporary artist of all time (the number-9 woman). In 2013, the Chicago Tribune dubbed her the “Queen of ‘70s Pop.”

Sadly, Reddy passed away at the young age of 78 in September 2020. She was a Democrat. I wonder if she is rolling over in her grave?

Women are roaring today and the Democrat party ignores them — specifically in sports. President Joe Biden brought this to the forefront when he issued an executive order, the first day of his administration, saying student-athletes should compete under the sex they identify with. This allows transgender women — biological males who identify as women — to compete with women.

Abigail was the only one of our three children active in sports. The sport she excelled in was competitive acrobatic gymnastics. She competed as part of a women’s pair and a women’s trio in national

and international competitions. Men also compete in this sport. Abby never competed against males. A man’s strength gives him an unfair advantage.

For example, gold medalist Jackie Joyner-Kersey ran the 800-meter competition at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics in 2’11.78. If she were a man, she wouldn’t have even placed in the top 100 among high schoolers in Florida.

Two weeks ago, Lia Thomas became the first transgender athlete to win an NCAA championship. Two years ago, Thomas competed in swimming as a biological male, so we have records to compare.

In 2018-19 Thomas was ranked 65th in the country in the 500-yd freestyle. Now, she has the fastest swim time in the nation as a woman in that category.

Thomas’ best time in the 100 freestyle division as a man was 47.15. At the NCAA Championships, she posted a time of 47.37.

Protests concerning Thomas’ victory include Save Women’s Sports and Women for America. Last week Concerned Women for America revealed they are filing a Title IX complaint against the University of Pennsylvania for “violating Title IX by allowing Thomas to compete on the women’s team,” according to ESPN.

The Democrat party is ignoring these objections from women.

One activist with the group Save Women’s Sports told Fox News Digital, “I was historically liberal. I would say I’m politically homeless now because I don’t think the Democrats care about women and girls.”

Perhaps the most famous transgender woman in the world is Caitlyn Jenner — born William Bruce Jenner. Jenner was an Olympic gold medalist in the 1976 decathlon. Winning 12 of 13 decathlons he competed in, Jenner at one time held the unofficial title of “world’s greatest athlete.”

Jenner said, “In Lia Thomas’s case, I don’t care about her testosterone levels now, for the last year or two. Honestly, I care about her testosterone levels

for the first 16, 17 years of her life. That’s what we are fighting against here.”

Jenner has declined invitations to join an all-women’s golf tournament because of the biological advantage she holds over other competitors.

Thirty states have filed laws to ban transgender girls from competing against biological girls in sports to combat this injustice.

Of course, anyone who feels transgender girls should not be allowed to compete with women in sports must be transphobic and full of hate. Does Caitlyn Jenner hate herself, or does she just hate other men who identify as women?

If this is allowed to continue, transgender athletes — and the Democrat party — will ruin girls’ sports.

It has come to the point that Democrats cannot define the meaning of woman. This was on demonstrated last week when Supreme Court nominee Ketanji Brown Jackson (who was nominated partially based on her sex) refused to define woman.

Let me help. According to the Merriam-Webster online dictionary, a woman is an adult female person. A female being the sex that has the capacity to bear young or produce eggs. Biologically speaking, females have XX chromosomes.

Helen Reddy was a woman.

REPORT FROM THE 6TH DISTRICT

Starting the second half of the session

BY STATE SEN. MIKE BERNSKOETTER

Missouri’s 6th District

The Missouri General Assembly was back in full swing, as we enter the second half of this year’s legislative session.

Between now and the end of session in mid-May, legislative action is sure to pick up the pace as lawmakers strive to send their priorities to the governor’s desk.

One bill I’m hopeful to pass this year is Senate Bill 665, which we discussed on the Senate floor on March 21. This legislation would tie the duration of state jobless benefits to the state’s unemployment rate. Right now, eligible individuals can receive unemployment benefits for up to 20 weeks, regardless of how many jobs are available.

By creating a sliding scale ranging from eight weeks when jobs are plentiful to 20 weeks when the economy falters, I believe SB 665 will help the state support struggling Missourians during difficult times, while also incentivizing individuals to find jobs when they’re available.

Meanwhile, I’m also working on passing some important pieces of agriculture legislation.

Senate Bill 750, which I sponsored, and House Bill 1720 were recently approved by the Senate’s Ag Committee. Both of these bills renew and extend a number of effective ag tax credit programs. The bills also change the family farm breeding livestock loan program to make it more workable for our state’s small farmers.

Senate Bill 750 and HB 1720 also streamlines the regulation and monitoring of anhydrous ammonia,

among other provisions. Both of these pieces of legislation will now head to the Senate floor for the consideration of the full Senate.

Lastly, I’m sure all of us have seen the heart-breaking news and footage coming out of Ukraine following Russia’s invasion over the past month. In light of these events, I presented Senate Resolution 594 to the Senate’s Rules Committee on March 22.

This resolution states that the Missouri Senate proudly stands alongside Ukraine and its people during this horrific and unnecessary war and further condemns Russia’s violent attack on a sovereign nation. I believe this resolution will send a strong message that we support the Ukrainian people during this difficult time and that assaults on liberty and freedom should not be tolerated.

GUEST ECONOMIC COMMENTARY

The proper policy response to today’s inflation

BY DR. MARK W. HENDRICKSON

If you get depressed easily, you may wish to skip this article.

Our country has suffered inflationary bouts to various degrees throughout our history, with perhaps the most severe having occurred during the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, and the 1970s. Sadly, we have never found a quick, clean way to escape inflation.

As those of us above a certain age learned in the early 1980s, the end of a period of inflation can be protracted, problematical, and painful.

A big part of the inflation problem is as much psychological as economic. People start thinking, “I had better buy what I want now, because if I wait, it will cost more and it might not even be available.”

This shifts demand from the future to the present and contributes to the basic inflationary problem of more money chasing the same or fewer goods. The *Wall Street Journal* posted a story on Feb. 7 titled “Two Years Into Pandemic, Shoppers Still Hoarding.”

Inflation is a huge liability for the political party in power.

President Biden has tried to assure Americans that his administration will successfully tackle inflation, but actually there is very little that they can do. In fact, what we have seen so far from Team Biden are examples of things NOT to do.

By far, the most important DON’T at his juncture is: Don’t keep increasing federal spending, especially at a time of record deficits. That would pour more fuel on the inflationary fire. Yet, increasing federal spending has been President Biden’s policy priority for much of the last year as he tenaciously sought passage of

his trillion-dollar-plus Build Back Better plan.

Thank goodness, two Democratic senators, Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona and Joe Manchin of West Virginia, realized the inflationary damage that the federal spending splurge has been causing. They refused to supply the necessary votes to pass BBB despite being cruelly badgered and persecuted by fellow Democrats.

Instead, they placed the country’s welfare above partisan victory, and for that we all owe them our thanks.

President Biden has cited some very real problems with supply chains, but then has adopted and advocated policies that will further crimp supply. These policies include: imposing costly regulations on businesses (an additional \$200 billion of costs in just his first year as president), hinting at price controls, continuing (in spite of gasoline prices having risen 40 percent over the last year) to impede production of fossil fuels, proposing to contain rising drug costs by imposing “steep” taxes on pharmaceutical companies, etc.

One particularly silly policy proposal to fight inflation was President Biden’s announcement on Jan. 3 of a plan to lower meat prices by channeling \$1 billion in subsidies to smaller meat processors and ranchers. The stated goal was to help them compete more effectively with larger competitors. The actual impact will be to put upward pressure on prices as subsidies always do.

By the way, the current high inflation provides a useful opportunity to take a closer look at Modern Monetary Theory, which is all the rage among progressives.

MMT’s prescription for an outburst of inflation such as we have

today is to raise taxes on the private sector so as to reduce private demand, thereby reducing the amount of competition government faces when bidding for economic goods. Yes, for the advocates of MMT, what government wants is more important than what private citizens want.

That of course, is the everyday reality of socialism.

In fact, the afore-mentioned Senator Joe Manchin — one of the heroes who saved us from Build Back Better — urged fellow Democrats on Feb. 10 to gut the Trump-era tax cuts to combat inflation.

Now think about this for a minute: The average American worker, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, has seen real wages fall 1.7 percent over the past year and the middle class is getting priced out of many housing markets. Do you agree with Senator Manchin that increasing taxes should be central to the Biden administration’s plan to combat inflation and rein in the deficit? Manchin and friends will claim that they will only raise taxes on the rich, but there aren’t enough rich people to drive the prices of housing, food, fuel, used cars, etc. higher. It takes tens of millions of people to do that, and so Manchin is endorsing the MMT theory that the way to curb rising prices is to raise taxes on the middle class.

Do you want to pay higher income taxes this year with prices soaring?

I don’t think so.

As a young economist, I thought the proper response to inflation might be a deflationary policy whereby the central bank contracted the supply of money. My wise mentor, Grove City College legend Hans F. Sennholz, said something to this effect: “Inflation is like being shot through the front.

Would you try to fix those injuries by shooting the person through the back (deflation)?”

Both policies are harmful.

Sometimes the best thing you can do is simply let the economy make the necessary adjustments and heal over time.

I will close on a sobering note.

We are a long way from the Fed’s decade-long policy of aiming for 2 percent inflation per year. But even under that policy (with the actual rate averaging 1.63 percent since the year 2000), the dollar has lost about 39 cents of its purchasing power. The reality is that as long as we allow our government to continue engaging in deficit spending and piling up more debt, we are sentencing ourselves to future inflation.

Rather than default outright, we will service our debts with ever-depreciating dollars. It will fall to future generations of Americans to abandon the treachery of fiat currencies, the destructiveness of a politicized central bank equipped with fiat currencies, and the immorality of deficit spending.

Postscript: This was written before Russia invaded Ukraine. I wrote last week about some of the economic repercussions of the invasion. The resulting shortages are likely to cripple production (recessionary) while driving prices of key goods higher (inflationary) all of which portends a return to the stagflationary economic conditions of the late 1970s and early 1980s.

(Dr. Mark W. Hendrickson is a retired adjunct faculty member, economist, and fellow for economic and social policy with the Institute for Faith and Freedom at Grove City College in Grove City, Pa.)

FOR THE RECORD By RALPH VOSS

Forced organ harvesting

If you or a member of your family has been on the waiting list for an organ transplant, you know how long that wait can be. If you have a lot of money, however, an organ transplant can be arranged for you in as little as two weeks.

The organ will come from an individual who is selling a kidney, for example, for between \$3,000 and \$15,000, with the patient paying as much as \$200,000 for the surgery, which includes the cost of the kidney.

That’s one way to get the much-needed organ. This is called consensual organ trafficking and is illegal, but widespread, and accounts for up to 10% of all transplants.

In Communist China there is another way. The government there takes the organs of political enemies, primarily Uyghurs and members of Falun Gong. The latter is a religious movement that has been in existence since ancient times. There are some 100 million practitioners in China. The Uyghurs are an ethnic group from western China that numbers around 12 million. Wholesale persecution of Falun Gong started in 1999, while the Uyghurs have been targeted since 2016, with more than a million in prison camps. The Uyghurs are primarily Muslims.

The Communist leaders of China deny the practice of forced organ harvesting. But the practice has been condemned by legislative bodies all over the world, including the U.S. House of Representatives. In this country the New York Times and Washington Post claim that evidence of the harvesting is slim to non-existent. These two publications no longer report on the subject.

Many other members of the media — in recent reports — say the practice is on-going. If you’ll google forced organ harvesting, I have little doubt that you will conclude that China’s denial of forced organ harvesting is just as big a lie as most of the other claims made by Chinese leaders.

The Epoch Times, a primarily digital newspaper, has frequent reports about organ harvesting and numerous other outrageous activities carried on by China. The Times is a strongly anti-Communist publication — a rarity for this day and age. I strongly urge you to consider a trial subscription, \$1 for two months. It comes on your computer only, not your phone. I think you’ll find it a good read. If you’re interested in COVID, this is a must.

One other thing I would point out is that China is harvesting organs from Muslims. The people of Iran are Muslims. Why would Iran want to deal with China, which is ripping organs out of Muslims? Why does the U.S. want to deal with China or Iran, which would like to remove our organs? Joe Biden can’t wait to give nuclear technology to Iran and good old China is helping good old Joe.

Fiction writers cannot come up with plots this crazy.

I want to close with two points unrelated to organ harvesting.

Joe Biden this past weekend in Poland continued to insert his foot in his mouth when he called for Putin’s removal from office. In short order his own team explained that Biden didn’t mean what he had just said. Biden and his entire team are incompetent. Had Biden not reduced our oil output, Putin’s oil revenues would be about 25 percent of what they have been recently. To reduce his power, it’s not enough to call him names, we need to flood the world with oil, which we can do.

The second point I want to make deals with China. That nation is very powerful, but has a great weakness. China is run by Communists and Communists frequently make huge mistakes. Russia, for example, greatly underestimated how tough it would be to take Ukraine. China is making a mistake of similar magnitude. It is still trying to deal with COVID by lockdown. It is currently locking down Shanghai, a city of 26 million people. This is just one of many areas under lockdown. I doubt if any nation can do this without dire consequences.

If we can survive Biden, we might be able to watch Russia and China self-destruct.

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Historical Society of Maries County receives grant from Three Rivers Community Foundation

The Historical Society of Maries County (HSMC) was privileged to receive a \$1,000 grant from the Three Rivers Helping Hands Community Foundation on Wednesday, March 7, 2022. This grant will directly provide archival materials to preserve photographs and documents in the Research Room, and to purchase inventory materials for the Old Jail Museum, the Felker House, Maries County Building and Hollenbeck House.

“As we continue our quest to make much-needed upgrades in the Research Room, we quickly learned there was much to be done to protect aging documents and photographs housed there,” said HSMC President, Lisa Jones. “Unfortunately, archival materials are expensive. In addition, after the theft at the Old Jail Museum in 2020, we wanted to update the inventory system used previously in all buildings, again an expensive endeavor. Fortunately, with this grant from Three Rivers Helping Hands Community Foundation, we will be able to do both. This will have a lasting impact on our ability to preserve the documents, photographs and memorabilia that represent our Maries County history. We are truly grateful to Three Rivers for this generous endowment.”



THE HSMC recently received a grant from the Three Rivers Helping Hands Community Foundation. Pictured are Foundation Trustee Brenda Kurrelmeyer (left), HSMC Vice President Glenda Baxter, HSMC President Lisa Jones, and Three Rivers Foundation Coordinator Vicki Lange.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Three Rivers Helping Hands Community Foundation was created to assist individuals with catastrophic illness or medical needs, to assist with disaster relief, assist community service providers in their efforts to improve the quality

of life in neighborhoods and communities, and to assist emergency service providers in their efforts to improve the service and support for their community's health, safety and well-being.

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me,” she said. James completed my freshman year on campus and then transferred to Columbia College Online where she earned my Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration with an emphasis in Human Resource Management. James worked in the human resources field for six years, mainly at a staffing agency where she managed over 100 employees. “Although I enjoyed helping people find jobs, I wanted to reach people at a younger age.” In response, she earned her Masters of Elementary Education from Grand Canyon University in 2012 and began her teaching career at Maries R-1 as a 3rd grade teacher. She continued her education, earning her Masters of Elementary Administration.

In 2017, James was offered a position as an Assistant Principal in Fulton, MO. The Fulton School District is similar yet different from Maries R-1. “They are a lot bigger district, and I gained an enormous amount of knowledge,” James said. “However, again my heart kept pulling back to Vienna. Plus, I felt as if I was missing my children growing up due to the long drive to Fulton.

Currently, James works as the youth librarian for Heartland Regional Library. This position allows her to interact with youth and to provide families with valuable resources the public library has to offer. “Fortunately for me, I get to visit students in different school districts to promote my love for reading! When I walk down the hallway at schools, and students recognize me and holler out (although this may be frowned

upon) it brings me joy,” she said.

She is seeking election for the Maries R-1 School Board to help her school district be successful. “My knowledge from being a former teacher and assistant principal makes me an asset to the school board.” She notes communication and building positive relationships are skills she has learned and mastered over the years, which again, are more skills she believes are valuable to the school board. “I have been inside the school district and understand the needs and wants of students and staff,” she said. “Students and staff should be our priority and I’d like to be a part of making those decisions.”

As a former teacher and parent of students at Maries R-1, James said she has seen the positive changes the school has made. “I want to continue to see positive changes for the youth of this community.”

DAVE LONG

Dave Long, 46, Vienna, is a current member of the Maries R-1 School Board. He is seeking reelection to the board for a second term. Long says he likes being part of the Maries R-1 School Board and would like to continue to be a member.

Long is married to Julie (Steuber) Long and they have three children: Brittany, who is employed with the Maries County Soil and Water Conservation District, Alicia, who is a student at State

Technical College, Linn, and Dylan, who is an 8th grader at Maries R-1.

Long works at MFA-Vienna and Argyle, and with his family,

operates a farm.

He is a life-long resident of Maries County, graduating from Maries R-1 in 1993. For the past 21 years he has been a volunteer for the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. He has always been involved with his kids' sports as well as 4-H and FFA activities. Long says he always has the kids and the school at heart. It's important to him.

He is seeking another term on the R-1 School Board because he likes it and feels good about what the school board has accomplished. Long sees positive things happening for the school district and forward movement made possible in part by the ESSER money, which has helped the school achieve some goals it previously could not afford to do.

Long said it is the kids who are his priority. He wants to help the school district continue to move in the right direction. “I’m hoping to help that happen,” he said. Long added that he has tried to be a positive influence on the board with common sense thinking.

“We’ve made some good strides. I want to help it keep going in the right direction,” he said.

MATT NOVAK

Matt Novak was raised in Minneapolis, MN and came to south central Missouri through the Army. After he became stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, he met his wife, Nadine (Finnigan) Novak, who was raised near Dixon. The couple married in 2001 and in 2004, moved to their house close to the southern border of Maries County, so they could remain close to Nadine's family. They have

been raising their three daughters, Sadie, Madeleine and Andrea, in that home ever since.

Novak, 57, attended the University of Minnesota where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology in 1988. He then attended Michigan State University and received a Master's Degree (1995) and a PhD (2002), both in Psychology. He currently works for the Harry S. Truman Veterans' Hospital at the Waynesville Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) as a Clinical Psychologist. He has been there since October 2007. Novak also is a member of the Army Reserve, where he currently holds the rank of Colonel and serves as Chief of Clinical Operations for the Operational Command Post of the 807th Medical Command (Deployment Support) in Salt Lake City, UT. He holds an additional appointment in the Reserves as the United States Army Reserve Clinical Psychology Consultant to the Army Surgeon General.

He wishes to continue serving the Maries R-1 School Board “To continue to improve the quality of the education our students receive and to add to the many physical improvements we have made to the school over the last several years.”

Stricklan files for county treasurer

Another candidate has thrown her hat in the ring for the position of Maries County Treasurer.

Angela R. Stricklan of Vienna, on March 23 filed as a Republican candidate for the county office, which will be vacated by current Treasurer Rhonda Slone, who is retiring at the end of 2022.

Stricklan joins two other Republican candidates, Cindy Wansing and Jordan Rowden, both who filed on March 11.

Also filing for a committeewoman position last week was Denise F. Davis, who filed as Republican Committeewoman for Spring Creek Township.

The filing period closed on March 29.

Brewer Science presents at trade show in Germany

Brewer Science, Inc., a global leader in developing and manufacturing next-generation materials and processes for the microelectronics and optoelectronics industries, will present an innovative way to inexpensively monitor water quality in real time at LOPEC 2022.

Water treatment facilities across the nation bear a huge responsibility on public health. The EPA has set the maximum contaminant level goal for lead in drinking water at zero because lead is a toxic metal that can be harmful to human health even at low levels. With nearly 412,000 deaths attributed to lead contamination annually in the United States, monitoring metal levels in water is a concern of life and death.

Currently, water treatment plants rely on very few sensors within the reservoirs immediately before water treatment. With the sensors only being placed in a few locations, the accuracy of data collection is insufficient for proper treatment, and sometimes leads to overtreated and undertreated water leaving the facility.

Printed water sensors, paired with IIoT technology, integrate automation into water treatment which provides proper chemical usage for water treatment—a benefit to both the environment and the public.

Brewer Science has developed a technology that enables a higher quantity of sensors to be deployed to cover a wider area. With increased sensor deployment, many points in the reservoirs can detect water sample qualities. Additionally, a proactive approach to water quality is enabled by monitoring water samples feeding into the facility, such as natural lakes,

ivers, and streams.

Austin Peters, Device Systems Engineer at Brewer Science, presented on this new development at the LOPEC International trade show and conference in Messe Munchen, Germany, on March 24. The presentation will answer questions including who most benefits from aqueous sensor integration, how effective the sensors can be in the water, why measurements of heavy metals in water need other supporting measurement, and where are aqueous sensors used, and in which capacities?

Brewer Science recently expanded its Smart Devices and Printed Electronics Foundry to include a full range of electronics platforms, including sensors and systems, that are easily integrated into existing processes and products, such as printed temperature sensors, water quality sensors, and condition-monitoring sensors. The complete end-to-end services range from small-scale prototyping and sensor manufacturing to foundry services, user interface design, security protocols, and data-to-cloud capabilities.

“We have adapted sensor technologies that provide condition monitoring in a diverse range of industries based on recent experiences and the needs presented by our customers. This has allowed us to focus on what our customers care about—continuous, real-time monitoring and reporting of data,” said Dr. Adam Scotch, Director of R&D, Smart Devices and PE Foundry at Brewer Science.

Brewer Science is headquartered in Rolla and has a presence in Maries County at its facility located near the airport in Vichy.

HSMC Spring Fling Show is Saturday

It will be a busy day at the Knights Hall in Vienna on Saturday, April 2 when over 50 vendors bring in a plethora of shoppers from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the Spring Fling Craft and Vendor Show.

This special event is sponsored by the Historical Society of Maries County (HSMC).

The show comes at a good time when people are looking for something extra special for Mother's Day and starting their spring shopping. The show's vendors are some of Mid-Missouri's best hand-crafters. A wide variety of merchandise is offered for sale at the spring show.

Welschmeyer's Bank of Hope Relay for Life Team will be serving both breakfast and lunch, with take-outs available.

Margie's Kafe

As of Sunday, April 3rd, our new hours are:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| • Sunday | • Monday |
| • Tuesday | • Friday |
| • Wednesday | • Saturday |
| • Thursday | |

6:30AM – 2:00PM

6:30AM – 7:00PM

* All gift certificates issued by Margie's Kafe need to be used by Friday, April 1, 2022

105 Highway 63 South | Vienna, MO | 573-422-3555

Lenten Fish Fry

Friday, April 1

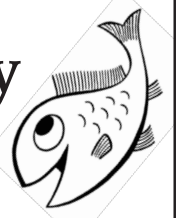
K of C Hall, Argyle
Drive-Thru Only

PLEASE FOLLOW THE SIGNS
Serving 5 to 7 p.m.

\$11 Per Plate

SWAI FILLETS, AU GRATIN POTATOES, BAKED BEANS, SLAW

EVERYONE WELCOME



Community Calendar

Presented by:

The Maries County Bank

Pride in our past... Investing in your future.



Maries County Historical Society Spring Fling Craft and Vendor Show

Saturday, April 2nd | 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Vienna KC Hall
More than 50 vendors will be on site, just in time for Easter & Mothers Day!
Welschmeyer Relay for Life team will be serving breakfast & lunch

Vienna Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Fry

Friday, March 25th & April 8th | 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. | Vienna KC Hall
Serving: Fried Fish Fillets, Hush Puppies, Spiral Potatoes, Baked Beans, Macaroni and Cheese.
\$12.00 per Plate Drive-Thru Only

Guardian Angels Parish Spring Chicken Dinner

Sunday, April 24th | 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. | Brinktown MO.
Drive-Thru & Carry-Out Only! \$13.00 per Meal
Beer Garden, Soda, Kettle Corn and Raffle

First Annual Wine and Sausage Festival

Saturday, April 30th | \$10.00 per person | Maries County Fair Grounds
Live Music, Wine, Beer, Sausage Cookoff, Wine tasting Workshop
Corn Hole Tournament register at 1:00

St. Anthony Spring Festival

Sunday, May 1st | 11:30 - 4:00 p.m. | St. Anthony
Serving: Fried Chicken & Roast Beef Buffet Style or Carry-Outs available
Adults \$13.00 Kids 6-12 \$7.00 5 and under free

Save the Date for Kleffner's Double Trouble Twin Medical Benefit

Saturday, April 30th at the Vienna Eagles Club | Dinner and Auction
Proceeds will help pay hospital expenses for the twins!!

Belle High School Class 2022 Project Graduation ATV/UTV Poker Run

Saturday, April 2nd | Start and Return Belle City Park | Registration 10:30 - Noon
Pull-out at Noon. Rain or Shine \$25.00 per hand, pulled pork meal, \$20.00 for additional hand, and \$7.00 extra meal.
For more info. Call Codi Rohrer 573-690-1045 Lisa Nelson 573-368-9832

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Argyle | Belle | Dixon | Iberia | Owensville | Richland
St. James | St. Robert | Vichy | Vienna | Cuba

AREA OBITUARIES

Janet Fuller
1940-2022

Janet M. Fuller, 82, Belle passed away Thursday, March 24, 2022, at the Phelps County Medical Center in Rolla.

She was born Jan. 17, 1940, a daughter to the late Roy Raymond and Margaret (Detjen) Rascher in St. Louis.

She was united in marriage to Danny Fuller, June 6, 1959. From this union, five children were born. Danny preceded her in death on Jan. 11, 1991.

Janet attended school in St. Louis and had been an area resident since 2001.

Janet was employed as a cook at the St. Louis Juvenile Center and as a housekeeper at the St. Joseph's Hospital in St. Louis as well as at Frene Valley in Owensville.

Janet loved antiques. Collecting them and going shopping for them was a favorite pastime. She enjoyed going out to eat and having lunch with friends, although she was a great cook as well. Her meatloaf and roast were to die for. Janet had a great sense of humor and her faith in God was strong and she read her bible often. She enjoyed planting and raising flowers at her home. Janet loved animals and owned many animals through the years including a goose, a rooster as well as cats and dogs. Above all, Janet's greatest joy was from time spent with her family and she especially enjoyed visits with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She will be missed greatly by her family and friends.

She is preceded in death by parents Roy and Margaret; husband Danny; and brother BoBi Rascher.

Janet is survived by children Terri Hillberry and husband Dan of Eureka, Margaret Fuller of St. Louis, Daniel Fuller and wife Tracy of Monroe City, David Fuller and wife Penny of Belle, and Joshua Fuller and wife Amber of St. Louis; nine grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren with one on the way; sister Delores Scott of Webster Groves; nephew Jacob Roth and many other nieces and nephews; as well as many extended family members and friends.

Graveside services were held Tuesday, March 29, at the Resurrection Cemetery, St. Louis.

Arrangements entrusted to Sassmann's Chapel, Belle.

Larry Vandergriff
1939-2022

Larry "Mack" Vandergriff, 82, passed away March 24, 2022, at SSM St. Mary's Hospital in Jefferson City, surrounded by his loving family.

He was born Aug. 5, 1939, to the late Bernard and Ruby (Gehlert) Vandegriff in Preston.

Mack proudly served his country for three years in the U.S. Army. He graduated from Belle High School with the class of 1960.

He was united in marriage to Willadeen Nowack, Oct. 13, 1962, at the First Baptist Church in Jefferson City.

Mack received his certification as a radiological technologist in 1963 and spent several years traveling with Dr. Joseph Summers to area hospitals working in the x-ray departments. He later spent five years supervising the radiology department at the Lebanon, Missouri hospital. He then moved back home to Belle and spent the remainder of his career as supervisor of the radiology department at the Salem Memorial Hospital. He retired in 2005, to devote his full attention to playing the game of golf.

Through the years, he enjoyed several hobbies and side jobs such as riding in horse shows in the reining class with his horse Baby Doll, quail hunting, refereeing at basketball games, announcing at rodeos, working as a farrier, and helping anyone that would ask with their golf swing.

He was preceded in death by parents Bernard and Ruby; siblings Bill Vandegriff, Jay Vandegriff, Dortha Jones and Kay Martin; and two sisters-in-law and two brothers-in-law.

Mack is survived by wife Willadeen, of 59 years, of the home; sons Aaron David and wife Jana of Ashland, and Gary and wife Lori of Belle; special niece Deana Vandegriff of St. Louis; grandchildren Aaron and wife Kylie of Bland, and Haley Vandegriff of St. Louis; great-grandchildren Rexton and Haven Vandegriff of Bland — they were his greatest enjoyment; and siblings Don Vandegriff of Belle, and Paul Vandegriff and wife Geri of Pacific.

As per Mack's wishes there will be no funeral service. Interment will be a private family gathering at Liberty Cemetery.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Belle-Bland Community Center, Saturday, April 16, from 11 a.m.–2 p.m. You are invited to come and share a memory of Mack with us or just stop in and visit with family members. A light lunch will be served. We loved him deeply and will miss his wit and wisdom.

Arrangements entrusted to Sassmann's Chapel, Belle.

Robert Wieggers
1951-2022

Robert "Bob" S. Wieggers, 70, Rich Fountain, passed away Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at home on the family farm.

He was born June 29, 1951, a son to the late Steven and Leona (Dill) Wieggers in Jefferson City.

Bob was a lifelong Rich Fountain resident living on the same farm he was raised on until his death. He was a hard-working row crop farmer, and he loved his International Harvester equipment. He could work on all of them and loved going to farm auctions to buy

or sell equipment with Doug and/or Daxton Butler. Bob was a jack of all trades and helped others when he could. He hauled rock to help build the levees on the river as well as rock for the Struempfl kilns. He also worked for Butler and Sons for some years as a mechanic working on trucks and tractors, but he always returned to his home on the farm. He loved to bake and grew pumpkins and watermelons that he would give to people. Bob was down to earth and one of a kind. He will be missed greatly by those that knew him.

He was preceded in death by parents Steven and Leona; and brother Fred Wieggers.

Bob is survived by adopted Belle family; several nieces and nephews; many extended family members and friends.

Funeral services were held Saturday, March 26, at Sassmann's Chapel, Belle, with Kevin Runge officiating. Interment will be in the Koenig Cemetery.

Memorials suggested to the Koenig Cemetery.

Arrangements entrusted to Sassmann's Chapel, Belle.

Clyde Withouse
1927-2022

Clyde Withouse was born October 18, 1927, near Belle, and passed away at Gasconade Manor Nursing Home in Owensville, March 21, 2022, at the age of 94 years 5 months. Clyde was the sixth of seven children born to Alfred and Dora (Glover) Withouse. In 1938, the family moved to a farm north of Bland. Clyde lived on that farm from age 11 to age 93.

Through the 8th grade, Clyde and his younger sister Gladys walked to and from the Barbarick School, a one-room schoolhouse about a mile and a half from their home. Clyde graduated from Bland High School in 1946. He worked for a short time at International Shoe Company in Bland, then enlisted in the U.S. Army. He went to Electrician's School at Ft. Belvoir, Va., and was attached to the 50th Engineering Company. Their job was construction, and he spent several months at Ft. Lewis, Wash., and 18 months stationed near Fairbanks, Alaska, at Eielson AFB. This was during the early Cold War days, and his unit installed anti-aircraft defenses.

Clyde was honorably discharged from the Army in late 1951, and returned home to Bland. For a time, he worked various road construction and factory jobs in northwest Missouri, Iowa, St. Louis, and locally. He returned home nearly every weekend when working away. In January 1956, he went to work for Anna Ruskaup at her International Harvester dealership in Owensville. Clyde became a skilled and respected mechanic on trucks, tractors, and all types of machinery. He was known to be particularly good with sensitive and finicky twine knotters on hay balers. He spent many hot summer afternoons in hayfields so that farmers could get their hay baled. Clyde went on to be a part owner of the business, and later worked for Schaeperkoetter's at their Case-IH dealership in Owensville. Clyde retired from full time work in 1992, after a 37-year career.

He continued to do repair work for others in his home shop for many years, well into his late eighties. In 1994, he went back to work part-time for Maries County R2 School as their school bus maintenance mechanic. He again retired in 2001. Clyde was also a cattle farmer his entire life, even operating two beef herds on two farms with his brother Oliver. He was a founding member and active in the Gasconade County Livestock Improvement Association for many years.

On April 2, 1966, Clyde and Judith Marie Ritterbusch were married. One son, John, his pride and joy, was born in 1968. Clyde was completely devoted to his family and church. He served for 45 years as an elder of the Bland Christian Church. He taught Sunday School, and attended every service and board meeting. Clyde and Judy held Bible Study groups in their home in later years. He spent many hours helping to build the current church building in the early 1980's.

Despite being continually busy with work and farming, Clyde loved to garden, and planted a huge garden every year. His specialties were strawberries, tomatoes, sweet corn, and cantaloupe. Many family and friends benefited from his generosity and big garden.

He was preceded in death by wife Judith; parents Alfred and Dora; brothers Austin, Oliver, Larry, Gussie and Joe; and sister Gladys Golden.

Clyde is survived by son John Withouse and wife Danielle of Bland; grandson Tony Withouse of St. Louis; and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Friday, March 25, at Bland Christian Church with interment following at Bland Union Cemetery. Memorials suggested to the Bland Christian Church or the Alzheimer's Association.

Arrangements entrusted to Sassmann's Chapel, Bland.

Take pictures, share during
Library Spirit Week

The Belle and Vienna branches of the Heartland Regional Library System are hosting a fun activity during National Library Spirit Week April 3—9, 2022.

Participants can be creative and have fun posting pictures on the Facebook pages of the Heartland Regional Library-Vienna or Heartland Regional Library-Belle. Each day has a fun theme for the pictures. At the end of the week, there will be a drawing for a chance to win a prize from a local business at each library.

Sunday is Shelfie Sunday. Participants can show their shelves so everyone can see their books, DVDs, collections and more.

Monday is Mindful Monday. Do some yoga poses, meditate, journal, color, take a nature walk, or do something to relax. Then share your photo on the library Facebook page.

Tuesday is Team Tuesday. Show off your favorite team gear.

On Wacky Wednesday, take a photo of your wacky socks, hair, or show everyone your silly side.

Throwback Thursday is a chance to post a picture from a previous decade, or to dress up in your favorite throwback clothes.

Bookface Friday is fun as you can pose behind a book so that you continue the photo on the cover with your own body parts.

Storybook Saturday ends the week, when participants dress up as their favorite storybook character, take a photo and share it on the library's Facebook page.

SENIOR SERVICES

Vienna Senior
Center Lunch

Wednesday, March 23

Ham and Beans, Fried Potatoes, Spinach, Cornbread, Brownie

Thursday, March 24

Sloppy Joes on Bun, Tater Tots, Mediterranean Blend, Pudding

Friday, March 25

Meatloaf or Fish, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Country Blend Vegetables, Assorted Desserts

Monday, March 28

Soft Taco, Tortilla Shell, Mexican Corn, Refried Beans, Ice Cream

Tuesday, March 29

Chicken Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Green Beans, Roll, Banana Pudding

Wednesday, March 30

Polish Sausage on Bun, Sauerkraut, Roasted Potatoes, Pie

Thursday, March 31

Chicken Pot Pie, Salad, Mixed Fruit, Cookie Bars

* Milk is served daily.

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DROP-OFF SERVICES BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

WHAT IS THE PROGRAM?

Safely dispose of your household hazardous waste products containing materials harmful to human health and the environment. Examples include automotive fluids, batteries, stains and varnish, adhesives, household cleaners and chemicals, fluorescent bulbs and toxic, vape products, poisonous or flammable chemicals.



Free HHW drop-off services are available in Rolla and St. Robert, by appointment, for households in Crawford, Dent, Gasconade, Maries, Phelps, Pulaski and Washington counties.

RESIDENTIAL WASTE ONLY! NO LONGER ACCEPTING LATEX PAINT!

For More Information Or To Make A Drop-off Appointment, Contact:

St. Robert Transfer Station:

573-336-5155

saintrobert.com

(click the Services and HHW link)

City of Rolla,

Environmental Services:

573-364-9568

rollacity.org/envs-hhw.shtml

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the Missouri
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MARIES COUNTY ASSOCIATE COURT

HON. JUDGE KERRY ROWDEN, PRESIDING

MARCH 8, 2022

—Chelsey McGarry, 29, pleaded guilty to failure to register motor vehicle and was fined \$75.

—Christopher Youngs, 50, Vichy, failed to appear, show cause order for defendant to appear May 3 for failure to file SATOP. In 2021 defendant pleaded guilty to misdemeanor DWI, was granted a suspended imposition of sentence (SIS) and placed on probation for two years.

—Randy Smith, 43, Holts Summit, failed to appear, warrant ordered with bond set at \$500 cash. Defendant is charged with misdemeanors of resisting/interfering with arrest, detention or stop, failed to signal/gave improper signal when stopping/turning, and owner operated motor vehicle without maintaining financial responsibility-first offense.

—Bobby Smith, 30, St. James, pleaded guilty to infraction of animal trespass and was fined \$25.

—Melissa Pointer, 39, St. James, pleaded guilty to misdemeanor take, attempt to take, or pursue wildlife with aid of artificial light and was fined

\$299.50.

—Troy Watkins, 42, St. James, failed to appear, capias warrant ordered. Defendant having previously failed to appear and required to post cash bond. Defendant is charged with two misdemeanor counts of take, attempt to take, or pursue wildlife with aid of artificial light.

—Joshua Page, 30, Mineral Point, failed to appear, warrant ordered, bond set at \$500 cash. Defendant is charged with misdemeanor driving while revoked/suspended-first offense.

—Makinzee Ryan, 20, Owensville, pleaded guilty to misdemeanor littering-first offense, and was fined \$25.

—Michael Edington, 39, Rolla, failed to appear, warrant ordered with bond set at \$5,000 cash or surety. Defendant is charged with felony third degree assault.

—Dalton Bialczyk, 25, Rolla, pleaded guilty to misdemeanor fish without a permit-MO resident and was fined \$49.50. Also pleaded guilty to misdemeanor take or attempt to take game fish

by grabbing, snagging or gigging and was fined \$74.50. All fines and costs paid in full.

—Everett Roark, 36, St. James and Faron Roark, 40, also of St. James, both pleaded guilty to misdemeanor failure to keep fish and/or wildlife separate and/or identifiable and were each fined \$3.50.

—Deana Oliver, 46, Meta, waived preliminary hearing and was bound over to circuit court, Judge Beger's court, with arraignment March 21. Defendant is charged with the felonies of first degree tampering with motor vehicle, resisting arrest/detention/stop by fleeing, Bac-habitual offender, and misdemeanor driving while revoked/suspended-first offense.

—Alexander Lange, 34, St. James, waived preliminary hearing and was bound over to circuit court, Judge Beger's court on three felony counts of unlawful possession of a firearm.

—Frank Canton, 53, Owensville, is set for preliminary hearing April 5 on the felonies of unlawful use of weapon, resisting/interfering with arrest for a felony, and third degree assault.

News Briefs

THE YAYA’S will host their annual Easter egg hunt, at the Bell city Park, April 16 starting at 10 a.m.

BCBA PLANS SWAP MEET EXTRAVAGANZA AND CAR SHOW

Belle Community Betterment Association (BCBA) will host its annual Swap Meet Extravaganza and Car Show on June 11 at Belle City Park. The event will host vendors with items for sale such as antiques, vintage and flea market items, tools, automotive parts, collectibles and more.

Vendors who are interested in selling at the event should contact Stacey Kelly at 573-259-0407 or register at BelleCBA.org/swapmeet.

Breakfast, lunch and other snacks will be available.

THE BOARDS OF ALDERMEN FOR BELLE AND BLAND are meeting at 10 a.m. at the Board Chambers on April 1 to discuss contracting Belle’s public works department.



BCBA receives \$1,189.52 check in honor of Kathy Stanfield

The Belle Community Betterment Association (BCBA) received a \$1,189.52 check from Accenture, the Blackbaud Giving Fund, in honor of Kathy Stanfield who died Dec. 11, 2021, following a long illness.

Kathy Stanfield’s son James Stanfield works for Accenture, which is based out of Alexandria, WV.

“The employees took up a collection and the company will match the funds up to \$500,” James Stanfield said after the check was presented and added that another check with the matched amount may be forthcoming.

Accenture is a company that is considered a world leader in business and information technology (IT) consulting, according to the company’s description. James Stanfield said he was not included in the process to take up a collection in honor of his mother, but was

asked for input on where the money should be sent in her honor.

“I think she was passionate about helping the community and I am glad my company helped further her vision,” James Stanfield said.

Kathy Stanfield’s husband Ken Stanfield was present to accept the check with BCBA members Stacey Kelly and Vicky Nielsen.

“I thought it was awful nice of them,” Ken Stanfield said. “How would you suspect they’d get wind of this? My son works for their company. I’m proud of him.”

Nielsen said the funds have already been designated to a project that Kathy Stanfield felt passionately about.

“We are designating this to the Flag Park fund because Kathy really wanted to see that done,” Nielsen said. “Kathy was very active in BCBA.”

REPORT FROM THE 62ND DISTRICT

Missouri House of Reps makes progress last week

BY STATE REP. BRUCE SASSMANN
Missouri’s 62nd District

We’re making progress in the House and putting pressure on the Senate.

This past week, we sent 10 new bills to the Senate for their discussion and debate. Three more perfected bills are waiting for third read in the House before being dropped off on the doorstep of the upper chamber. There’s a lot more to do before session ends on May 13.

Two identical bills caught my attention this week. HB 1997 and HB 2167 are related to solar energy tax policy. In the early days of alternative energy, solar panels were encouraged and incentivized for use on residential properties. In 2013, Missouri passed legislation to exempt solar energy equipment from property taxes.

Ten years later, well-funded companies have used this provision in the state tax code to create tax-exempt solar farms in rural Missouri. Single family residential homes are no longer the primary beneficiary of this exemption. These solar farms are taking over agricultural landscapes to create for-profit utility companies.

Representative Kent Haden, sponsor of HB 1997, learned of a proposal to develop over 6,000 acres of solar farms in his legislative district. Federal tax credits further incentivize the creation of these massive solar farms, and diminish tax revenue required to support local governments.

A solar farm in Nixa has become a battleground for this debate. A similar argument has been made in Rolla.

Conversations about eliminating the solar tax exemption have become more common in almost every county. A level playing field regarding taxation is at the heart of the battle between tradition energy systems and new alternative energy systems.

The legislature is in the process of creating a new task force to carefully examine these issues. This new task force will likely offer some solutions before the next legislative session begins January 2023.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my office.

(State Rep. Bruce Sassmann, a Republican from Bland, may be reached at 573-751-1344, or via email to bruce.sassmann@house.mo.gov).

Belle, Bland elections • from page 1



Terry Connors



Kenny Sullinger

Howarth returned her answers: I originally came from this area and moved to St. Louis after graduation from Belle High School. I worked for a St. Louis County School District school for 19 years, a family-owned company that developed shopping centers for 22 years, as an administrative assistant/office manager and moved back “home” in 2005 after working. I then worked in Maries R-2 School Administrative Office for almost six years.

My connection with the community is working with the backpack program for the last 14 years. Something I’m very proud of and so close to my heart.

Just feel that the community and citizens should have an active roll.

A decision, if possible, should be made regarding our police force.

All in all, I feel very proud of the decisions made by the board, but change is always good.

The city of Belle also has two options on the ballot to fill the marshal’s position.

Option one is candidate Terry Connors and option 2 is Proposition 1 to discard the marshal’s position and allow the city board to hire a chief of police.

Connors’ responses address some of the concerns that were brought up on March 14 during an open forum meeting. He was given a separate set of questions due to the nature of his position.

Q: What is your connection to the city and community?

A: I am the owner of Connors Country Lodge in Belle. I bought the motel in 2019.

Q: Why are you running for city marshal?

A: The marshal’s office was set up by the state legislature to be an elected position to prevent corruption by city officials. It is set up as a legal check and balance to prevent corruption in the city government.

Q: How do you plan to meet the qualifications for the public position of city marshal?

A: I will apply to be able to receive POST certification from prior experience in the law enforcement

understanding of POST certification, until Connors is certified he cannot write a citation or make an arrest. Weston also stated he will need to contact POST to determine the actual number of hours he will need because the number in Belle Ordinance 200.010 concerning the hour training requirements for the marshal may be too low.

BLAND ELECTIONS

The Bland Board of Aldermen will see contested races in the April 5 election with three candidates for Aldermen At-Large and two candidates for mayor.

The two aldermen at-large seats each have two-year terms, as well as a two-term mayoral seat.

The Maries County Advocate asked the three Bland Board of Aldermen candidates and one mayoral candidate to participate in a “Meet the Candidates” questionnaire in preparation for the April 5 municipal elections.

Candidates for the two Aldermen At-Large seats are Matt Dittman, Marrilee Spurgeon (running as a write-in) and incumbent Jane Vandegriffe. The newspaper did not receive responses to requests to participate in the questionnaire from either Dittman or Vandegriffe.

Spurgeon is a write-in candidate. In order for votes for Spurgeon to county, her name must be spelled correctly.

She submitted the following answers to the above questions about her candidacy for the Alderman At-Large position:

My name is Merrilee Spurgeon. I have lived in and around Bland all my life and I graduated from

school here and have had a business here. I graduated college at East Central with a degree in business management and marketing.

Growing up in Bland was a privilege. The town was full of people and businesses. The churches were full. There was a sense of community. And even if we didn’t always see eye to eye, people seemed to care for each other. I felt safe.

I am running for alderman because I want to be part of bringing at

See **Elections** on Page 6



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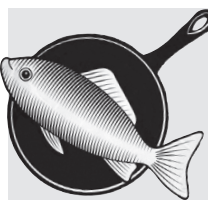
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First conservation agent in state to have AED in vehicle

The Maries-Osage Ambulance District (MOAD) recently donated an automated external defibrillator (AED) to Maries County Conservation Agent Tex Rabenau. Besides being a conservation agent, Rabenau is also a paramedic. MOAD recently upgraded its cardiac equipment and the MOAD board voted to donate the surplus property to various community organizations. Rabenau is the first conservation agent in Missouri to receive an AED for his vehicle. Pictured are MOAD EMT Hanna Testerman and Paramedic Bruce Grotewiel, with Agent Tex Rabenau.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



Proposition 1 • from page 1

months I started seeing the cracks. There was a lot of things that I’ve never aired out, and I never will air out, that didn’t jive up.”

“You let it slide...and you let it slide and we got to this point,” said Stockton.

“I let it slide but when I realized what was actually happening I started bucking against him. Him and I had some pretty good rounds about it,” said Seaver. “Some pretty good rounds that were never made public.”

Seaver told those gathered that now the city is in a position to implement a solid police force over the next few years.

Seaver said, “There was a huge issue there and the only way out of it was either disband it and start over; do something different, or try to impeach him — which is no less than a three or four-year process and all the expense to the taxpayers.”

“Right now we are in a better situation than we have ever been in. We know exactly what it’s going to cost us. We know exactly year to year what police service is going to cost. We know exactly what we’re getting. Before, we didn’t have a clue. We could budget \$170,000 and he’d spend \$240,000.”

“Nobody was overseeing it?” asked Stockton.

“There was no way to oversee it,” said Seaver. “He wasn’t accountable to anybody.”

“All the years prior to him, the city marshal had to answer for everything. He always did,” said Stockton.

“He didn’t really have to answer to anybody. We got fortunate where you had some marshals that would,” replied Seaver.

“Now you’re wanting to do this. How many

times has this been brought up and it keeps getting voted down?” asked Stockton. “Do you think the public’s still going to stand behind the council?”

“I would hope that people would understand that this is the best path forward for the city,” said Seaver. “The elected marshal position is going the way of the buffalo all over the state of Missouri.”

Stockton said that the city board may say that an appointed police chief is the answer but that citizens were upset because they did not have a say in it.

“That’s why we’re bringing it to the people again. You are getting a say in it. It’s about accountability. With an elected marshal there is no accountability,” replied Seaver.

“All of this other stuff that happened should have never happened,” said Stockton.

“I agree,” said Seaver. “I’m 100 percent in agreement with you.”

Even with the city still in possession of law enforcement equipment, there will still be some costs to cover. Seaver said during the meeting that grants were available and asked Heitman for his input.

Heitman said that there were quite a few grants available that the city would be eligible for and then he addressed the issue of the elected marshal position.

“The problem right now with what’s going on is finding a qualified candidate that’s willing to run for marshal, even if the pay was still \$32,000 a year. Owensville pays their chief 60-some thousand a year. Getting someone that’s qualified to come in here and run; you just don’t have the pool of people that you used to have,” Heitman said.

“It’s just not Maries County, all the counties

got the same problem. We can hire a chief of police, he gets a couple years under his belt he can run someplace else. Where’s that going to put us? We’re going to be right back to square one,” said Stockton.

“What’s the answer?” Heitman asked.

“I don’t know,” said Stockton. “It should have been solved years ago before we got to this point.”

Heitmann said that recruiting people is an issue for the city because, even though the benefits are great, the low pay is a deterrent.

“You’d get more qualified people to come with higher pay. They have fantastic benefits, you won’t find a place with better benefits, and that’s a huge part of it but it’s going to be hard to get someone to move to town and realistically stay for a while,” said Heitman.

“I’ve done a lot of reading on this and it’s just not Maries County or Gasconade. It’s statewide. They train these guys, they’re there for two years, three years then they go someplace else,” said Stockton.

“That’s how the sheriff’s office is too. I hire a lot of people out of the academy. I’m fortunate enough to work at the police academy. The problem is now you have someone that’s running for marshal who, I can tell you, will not pass the standards of our police academy. It’s going to cost the city money. Hopefully, he’ll do the right thing and withdraw his candidacy,” said Heitman.

According to city attorney Mary Weston’s understanding of POST certification, until Connors is certified he cannot write a citation or make an arrest. Weston also said he will need to contact POST to determine the actual number of hours he will need because the number in Belle Ordinance 200.010 concerning training requirements for the marshal may be too low.

Election • from page 5

least some of that life back. I have no great solution. No one does, but I feel that if we try, we can at least had in the right direction. It will take all of us to do this.

I would like to see more people get involved. Every idea should be heard and considered. Maybe I can be one voice that helps you be heard.

Our town looks tired, we clean it up, finish our current projects and try to attract more business, more people to town. Give them a reason to move here, welcome them.

I would like for you to consider writing my name in on April 5. It has to be spelled right to count. Together I feel we can make Bland a safer more productive place to live.

In the mayoral race, one candidate was declared and a second filed to be a write-in.

Former Bland mayor Lee Medlock stepped down on Feb. 28 from his position. His resignation listed personal and health reasons. According to Alderman Diana Mayfield, Medlock has already written a second resignation if he wins the April 5 election.

Kenny Sullinger later filed for mayor as a write-in candidate. His name is not listed on the ballot and must be spelled correctly to be considered a legitimate candidate.

Sullinger submitted the following answers to the above questions:

I’m Kenny Sullinger. I’ve lived in Belle, Bland and Owensville for 69 years. I worked for the Rock Island on Burlington R.R. for 13 years, and 22 years for Operating Engineers Local 513. Owned four businesses dating at the age of 20-years-old.

I moved to Bland, Mo., in December 2016.

I would like to see Bland grow. I’ve seen volunteers working, trying to keep the town neat and clean, that showed me they had pride in their town. With my business experience, I’m hoping to make it a better place to live.

After the water tower is completed, I would like to see streets repaved and abandoned homes

and property cleaned up and find industry to move to Bland.

Citizens working together trying to keep it neat and clean.

The citizens of Bland have

also been asked to vote “yes” on Proposition 1: Shall the City of Bland, Gasconade County, Missouri, renew the Parks Sales Tax of one-half of one percent for ten

years for the purpose of funding for local parks?

The ballot measure is requesting the continuation of a tax that already exists to support the city park.

Domestic abuse • from page 1

his truck. The argument escalated and he grabbed her shirt to pull her in. She got away and ran to her car, but her blocked her in with his truck.”

Fannon’s report of the incident provided further information.

According to her statement, Alexander was calm at first while he was speaking with her. Davenport was standing outside of the vehicle’s window when Alexander lost his temper, grabbed her by the hoodie and bra, mid-chest, with his hand, and pulled her into his vehicle where she was to face to face with him.

During the altercation, Alexander was screaming at Davenport and making her scared for her safety, according to the report. She was able to get away and run back to her vehicle where she locked to doors and rolled up the windows. She tried to leave, but Alexander moved his vehicle and blocked her exit.

Davenport reported that she rolled down her window a small amount to ask Alexander to move. Alexander grabbed her window and attempted to break it or get it open and was able to reach inside and roll the window down. When it opened, he grabbed her by the hair and punched her with his left hand at least three times on the left side of her face while she was trying to cover her face with her hands, according to Davenport.

According to the report, after he hit Davenport, he unlocked the doors and went to the passenger side backseat of the vehicle to comfort his one-year-old son (A.A.) who was crying, before returning to Davenport and crying while apologizing for hitting her.

Fannon took photos of Davenport’s injuries that occurred during the assault. She received a busted and swollen left upper lip, a black eye, an approximate one-inch-long laceration and a large swollen contusion on her left forehead under the hairline. The Maries Osage Ambulance District responded to the sheriff’s office to assess her injuries and recommended she seek medical treatment at the Emergency Room for possible stitches and to see if her orbital bone was fractured.

Davenport’s car had a dash

camera that captured the abuse.

“This domestic abuse victim decided that she was not going to be a victim so she authorized and encouraged us to release pictures of the bruises on the side of her face,” John said. “We posted a 16-second video on the Office of Maries County Sheriff Chris Heitman Facebook page.”

Following the filing of the witness statement, the Maries County Sheriff’s Department requested and received a warrant for Alexander’s arrest.

At approximately 6 p.m., Fannon went to the 11000 block of Maries County Road 336 with deputies Tiffany Johnson and John and took Alexander into custody without incident.

At the sheriff’s office, Alexander was told his Miranda Rights and agreed to cooperate and answer questions in an interview.

According to the report, Alexander stated he would be willing to tell deputies everything. During his statement, he admitted to all the details except for how many times he hit her.

“He believed he had only “landed” one punch but when confronted with her injuries, he did not deny he caused all three,” Fannon’s report said. “Alexander was very remorseful and was indicating he desired help with his anger issues.”

Alexander is due back in Maries County Circuit Court on April 5 for a counsel status hearing.

John said he admires Davenport for her bravery to speak out against domestic violence.

“She is being braver than any domestic violence victim I have had in the past and we need as many victims to speak out about this hidden crime as possible,” John said. “This is a crime that goes on behind closed doors.”

Davenport has been speaking out about her experience on Facebook.

“I just wanna say thank you, everyone, for the supportive messages, I appreciate it a lot,” Davenport wrote. “I will not let this define me. It’s a bump in the road of my story. If anyone wants to message me feel free. I’m sorry if I don’t reply right away I have a lot going on but I’ll try my best.”



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ISAIAH SULLINGER (above, right) gets in position to field a ball in front of second base while Belle Tiger teammate Sam Willis (behind Sullinger) hustles to back him up in the event the ball gets by the Tiger second baseman during Stoutland Tournament action Friday afternoon. **BAYRD VANSKOY** (below) throws one of his 92 pitches helping Vienna's Eagles to a 1-0 victory over their in-county rivals as part of the rain-shortened Stoutland Tournament.

PHOTOS BY WILL JOHNSON

Vienna edges Belle in pitcher's duel

BY WILL JOHNSON
SPORTS EDITOR

wjohnson@wardpub.com

STOUTLAND — Waiting around.

That is what Belle's Tigers and Vienna's Eagles were doing prior to their scheduled showdown Friday afternoon as part of the rain-shortened Stoutland Spring Baseball Tournament.

This came about because the previous contest between Laquey and Crocker wound up going 11 innings before Crocker pulled out a 12-11 victory.

Originally scheduled for 2 p.m., at Stoutland, Friday's Maries County showdown did not get underway until around 3:15 p.m., due to the prior game needing extra innings to decide a winner.

Zeros were a common theme throughout the first six innings between the Tigers and Eagles with Vienna's Bayrd Vanscoy and Belle's Glayden Woodruff locked in a classic pitcher's duel.

It was not until the top of the seventh inning when a Tanner Nichols doubled to left field and eventually scored the game's lone run on a passed giving Vienna the 1-0 win over their Maries County neighbors to the east.

Vienna's Lucas Magner was the game's first base runner on a one-out single in the top of the second inning before he was left stranded at second base.

Belle's first base runner came in the form of an Isaiah Sullinger one-out single in the bottom of the second inning. He moved to second on a two-out walk from Woodruff before both runners were left stranded after

See **Vienna edges** on Page 11



KADENCE GEORGE (above) lands in the sand of the long jump during a recent track practice session at Vienna High School (VHS). VHS Track competed last night (Tuesday) at Cuba while their middle school counterparts were also in Fatima.

BHS, VHS track teams open seasons at St. James, Osage

BY WILL JOHNSON
SPORTS EDITOR

wjohnson@wardpub.com

Robbed of their meet at Hermann last Thursday due to inclement weather, Belle High School track athletes opened their season last Tuesday at St. James while Vienna's Eagles and Lady Eagles started their track campaign at School of the Osage Friday night.

Winning events for Vienna at Osage Friday night included Riley Rosentreter in the girl's pole vault clearing 2.74 meters and Andrea Novak in the girl's long jump with a leap of 4.51m.

Ava Kloeppel also posted a second-place mark of 9.63m in the girl's shot put.

Max Steffen (1.75m) and Danniell Casey (11.46m) placed third in the boy's high jump and shot put events respectively.

Casey also posted a second-place throw of 41.70m in the boy's javelin.

Placing sixth in the boy's 4x200-meter relay in 2:00.15 was the Eagle quartet of Landon Carnes, Garret Jones, Jackson Kilmer and Casey.

Also taking third in 2:01.07 during the girl's 4x200m relay was the Lady Eagle team of Tori Schulte, Aubrey Reeves, Kadence George and Madison Weeks.

Last Tuesday at the St. James Open, both Belle Lady Tiger and Tiger track teams placed sixth in their respective team standings.

Leading the Tigers with second-place finishes were Corey McDaniel with a time of 12:11.82 in the boy's 3200-meter run and Keith Rose clearing 1.80m in the boy's high jump.

Tajel McDaniel also posted a second-place time of 15:19.86 in the girl's 3200m run for Belle's Lady Tigers.

Finishing behind McDaniel, Baylar Smith placed third in the 3200m run with a time of 12:24.78.

Belle's boys 4x800m relay team of Barrett Finnegan, Baylar Smith, Rose and McDnaiel placed third in 9:55.14.

Also taking fourth in a time of 4:26.44 was the Tiger 4x400-meter relay team of Will Does, Lukas Smith, Rose and Finnegan.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

VIENNA MIDDLE School's season-opening track meet from last Thursday that was canceled due to inclement weather has been rescheduled for Monday, April 4 with field events beginning at 3 p.m., and running events scheduled to start at 3:45 p.m.

BRYCE GEHLERT'S Belle Tiger baseball team saw their season-opening double-header at Southwest Baptist University (SBU) from Saturday, March 19 against Marion C. Early and Crocker postponed due to rain and wet field conditions. Those games have been rescheduled for Friday, April 15 in Bolivar at 11 a.m., against Marion C. Early and 1 p.m., against Crocker.

TIM EVAN'S Belle High School golf team saw their scheduled road match from last Tuesday against Calvary Lutheran canceled due to inclement weather. A make-up date had not been set.

BELLE HIGH SCHOOL track and field athletes saw their track meet at Hermann scheduled for last Thursday canceled due to inclement weather. That meet has been rescheduled for Monday, April 18 at Bearcat Memorial Stadium with field events beginning at 4 p.m.

SPRING SPORTS schedules are subject to change at any time due to inclement weather or wet and unplayable field conditions.

MEAGAN FISHER'S Belle Lady Tiger soccer team saw their scheduled home match last Thursday against Fatima's Lady Comets canceled due to inclement weather and unplayable field conditions. That contest has been rescheduled for Thursday, May 5 at 5 p.m., at the Belle-Bland Soccer Complex. Their match with Owensville from last night (Tuesday) was postponed due to a scheduling conflict with officials and will now be played on Friday, April 22 at 5:30 p.m., in Owensville.

BHS SPORTS THIS WEEK

Tiger Baseball
3/31 BHS vs. New Haven 5 p.m. (Varsity only)
4/1 BHS at Dixon 5 p.m.
4/6 BHS at Stoutland 5 p.m.

Lady Tiger Soccer
4/1 BHS at Smithton 5 p.m.
4/5 BHS at St. James 5 p.m.
4/6-9 BHS at Dixon Tourn. TBA

Tiger Golf
3/30 BHS at Russellville Tournament 8:30 a.m.
4/5 GVC Meet at Pine Ridge Golf Course 9 a.m.

BHS Track and Field
3/31 BHS at Linn 1 p.m.
4/5 BHS at Fatima 3 p.m.

BMS Track and Field
3/31 BMS at Bourbon 3:30 p.m.
4/4 BMS at Vienna 3:30 p.m. (Rescheduled from 3/24)
4/6 BMS at St. James 3:30 p.m.

VHS SPORTS THIS WEEK

Eagle Baseball
4/1 VHS vs. Cuba 5 p.m.
4/2 VHS V DH vs. Stover at Stoutland 11 a.m.
4/5 VHS at Bourbon 4:30 p.m.

VHS Track
3/31 BHS at Linn 1 p.m.

VMS Track
3/31 VMS at Bourbon 3:30 p.m.
4/4 VMS Eagle Classic Field events begin at 3 p.m., with running events starting at 3:45 p.m. (Rescheduled from 3/24)
4/6 VMS at St. James 3:30 p.m.



Bland's 8th grade Lady Bears sweep Gasconade County foes

BY WILL JOHNSON
SPORTS EDITOR
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Pick up their teammates. That was the goal Friday night for Bland's eighth-grade Lady Bear volleyball team after their seventh-grade counterparts were swept in two sets by Owensville, 25-10 and 25-7.

Losing a close first set 25-22 to the visiting Dutchgirls, Bland's eighth-grade Lady Bears battled back to win the next two sets to take the match in three sets by scores of 22-25, 25-15 and 15-10.

Jumping out to a 4-0 lead in game one on four service points from Saige Garner, Bland suddenly saw themselves trailing 7-6 before Piper Marsee helped the Lady Bears to a 10-7 lead near the midway point of game one.

Aside from an Adalyn Walters ace and a Marsee kill, Bland was not able to get into an offensive rhythm before dropping a close first set to Owensville.

Trailing 6-4 early in game two, Walters put the Lady Bears on her shoulders serving four aces among the next seven points helping Bland to an 11-6 lead midway through the second set.

Seeing the Dutchgirls get back to within two points at 15-13, service runs from Lydia Jones, Marsee and Walters helped Bland even the match at a set apiece.

Down 7-6 midway through the third and deciding set, Walters came

through again serving three aces out of eight points helping the Lady Bears end their season on a winning note in three sets over Owensville.

Adding that victory to their three-set win over Hermann earlier in the season gave Bland Gasconade County middle school volleyball bragging rights for a year.

Additional Lady Bears on the eighth-grade team not previously mentioned include Anastyn Lansford Cylee Reed, Ava Feeler and Nolie Finnegan.

Prior to the eighth-grade match, Bland's seventh-grade Lady Bears had a challenge on their hands with the 15-0 Owensville seventh-grade Dutchgirls making the short trek west on Highway 28 to Bland.

Trailing early in both sets, the Lady Bears simply had no answer for Owensville's balanced team attack.

Falling 25-10 and game one,

Bland got a service point each from Alexis Stockton and Grace Locklin. Stockton also recorded a kill giving Bland their 10th point.

Elayna White served the opening point of game two before an error allowed Owensville to score eight of the next nine points leaving the Lady Bears trailing 9-2 in game two.

Scoring the remainder of their points on Owensville service errors, Bland ended their season seeing Owensville cap an undefeated 16-0 campaign.

Seventh-grade Lady Bears also on the roster throughout the season included Layla Workman, Makayla Jones, Madison Demos, Peyton Lansford, Skylee Railey, Rashel Cox and Aubrey Reed.

Bland Middle School will wrap up their sports season this school year with several track and field meets throughout the months of March, April and May.



BLAND 8TH GRADE Lady Bear volleyball players and their parents (top) were recognized prior to their final match of the season Friday night against Owensville at Bland Middle School. Team members (top, from left) honored were Elayna White, Alexis Stockton, Grace Locklin, Rashel Cox, Ava Feeler, Saige Garner, Adalyn Walters, Anastyn Lansford and Cylee Reed. **PIPER MARSEE** (above) eyes the volleyball as she sends it back over to Owensville's side of the net during the eighth-grade match in which the Lady Bears won in three sets over the visiting Dutchgirls 22-25, 25-15 and 15-10.

PHOTOS BY WILL JOHNSON

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LEGALS

1 Administrator's Notices

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Judge or Division: PROBATE
Case Number: 22MS-PR00010
In the Estate of DAVID NEIL
VAUGHAN, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

(Small Estate)

To All Persons Interested in the
Estate of DAVID NEIL VAUGHAN,
Decedent.

On March 15, 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 Maries County,
Missouri.

All creditors of the decedent, who
died on May 21, 2012, are notified that
Section 473.444, RSMo, sets a limita-
tion 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 inter-
est, if any, may possibly be determined
from the affidavit on this estate filed in
the Probate Division of the Circuit Court
of Maries County, Missouri.

Date of first publication: March
30, 2022.

/s/ Angela Stricklan, Clerk

Published in the Maries County Ad-
vocate on: March 30, and April 6, 2022.

2t-033022 mca

First Impressions are important!

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1 Administrator's Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
MARIES COUNTY, STATE OF
MISSOURI

Case No.: 22MS-CC00021
In Re the Matter of: EDJB,
DOB: 12/02/2016,

Minor,
By His Next of Friend: DANIELA A.
McCLURE, Petitioner.

ORDER FOR SERVICE
BY PUBLICATION BY
PUBLICATION OF NOTICE
The State of Missouri to: DAMON
JOSEPH BETTS:

You are hereby notified that an action
for change of name has been commenced
in the Circuit Court of Maries County,
Missouri, by Petition, the object and
general nature of which is to change
the name of the minor child, EDJB, by
Petitioner, DANIELA A. McCLURE.

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

DAVID M. LOWE,
117 N. Benton Street,
Waynesville, Missouri 65583.

You are further notified that, unless
you file an answer or other pleading
or shall otherwise appear and defend
against the aforesaid Petition within
forty-five (45) days after the 9th day of
March 2022, judgment by default will
be rendered against you and the name
change will be ordered in accordance
with the Petition filed herein.

It is ordered that a copy hereof
be published according to law in the
Maries County Advocate, a newspaper
of general circulation published in the
County of Maries, State of Missouri. A
true copy from the record.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of
the Circuit Court, County of Maries,
State of Missouri, the 28th day of
February, 2022.

Mark Buschmann, Clerk
of the Circuit Court

Publish in the Maries County
Advocate on: March 9, March 16, March
23, and March 30, 2022.

4t-030922 gcr

1 Administrator's Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE:

NOTICE OF
MARIES COUNTY
BANCORP, INC.

ANNUAL
STOCKHOLDERS
MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the
annual meeting of the stockholders of
the Maries County Bancorp, Inc. will
be held at The Maries County Bank
in the City of Vienna, Missouri on
Tuesday, April 12, 2022 and the said
meeting to be convened at ten o'clock
a.m. and to continue at least three
hours unless the object of which the
meeting was called be accomplished
sooner.

The purpose for which this meeting
is called to elect directors for the
said Maries County Bancorp, Inc.
to serve during the ensuing year and
for transaction of any other business
which may come before the meeting.

CARL HENDERSON
President/CEO

(To be published in the Maries
County Advocate on March 30 and
April 6, 2022.)

2t-033022 mca

Legal notices continued on page 11

PRINTING

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out local news online at:
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THE CITY OF VIENNA, MISSOURI
SUMMER HELP WANTED

The City of Vienna is seeking applicants for summer
employment. Job duties include mowing, weed eating, park
maintenance and other various outdoor jobs from Mid-May
thru Mid-August. Must be able to work in extreme heat and
have a valid drivers license. Applications available at City Hall
and are being accepted until all positions are filled.

Starting pay is minimum wage. EOE

OFFICIAL POLLING LOCATIONS
MARIES COUNTY MUNICIPAL ELECTION
APRIL 5, 2022

PRECINCT	LOCATIONS	ADDRESS
BELLE	St. Alexander's Catholic Church	Third & Tellman Street, Belle
BRINKTOWN	Guardian Angels Parish Hall	Hwy. N, Brinktown
HAYDEN HEIGHTS	Kenner Church	County Road 505, Dixon
HODGEVILLE	Vichy Firehouse	Hwy 63, Vichy
MASON RIDGE	Mason Ridge Community Church	Hwy. 133, Meta
SAFE	Broadway Baptist Church	Hwy. 68, Vichy
SANTEE	Santee Church	Hwy. 133, Dixon
VICHY	Vichy Firehouse	Hwy. 63, Vichy
VIENNA	Knights of Columbus Hall	Sixth & Coffey Street, Vienna

The polling places will be open from the hours of **6:00AM until 7:00PM** during which time any person properly
registered to vote in the county/city will be given the opportunity to cast his or her ballot. Further notice is given
that in the event of an emergency, a centralized polling place will be located at the Maries County Courthouse.

Done by order of the County Clerk of the County of Maries, this 17th day of March, 2022.

(seal)

Rhonda Rodgers
Maries Co Clerk/Election Authority

NOTICE OF GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that a General Municipal Election will be held
in Maries County, Missouri on **Tuesday, April 5, 2022**

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice, like this .
Use the marking device provided.

CANDIDATES: Complete the oval next to the name of the Candidate for
whom you wish to vote.

PROPOSITIONS OR QUESTIONS: If you are in FAVOR of the proposition or
question, complete the oval next to the word YES. If you are OPPOSED to
the proposition or question, complete the oval next to the word NO.

WRITE-IN: To vote for a person whose name is not on the ballot, write his
or her name in the blank space provided for such purposes and complete
the oval next to the space provided.

CITY OF BELLE FOR MAYOR
TWO YEAR TERM
(VOTE FOR ONE)

JOSH SEAVER ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐

CITY OF BELLE FOR MARSHAL
FOUR YEAR TERM
(VOTE FOR ONE)

TERRY CONNORS ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐

CITY OF BELLE FOR ALDERMAN WARD ONE
TWO YEAR TERM
(VOTE FOR ONE)

JEANETTE STRUEMPH ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐

CITY OF BELLE FOR ALDERMAN WARD ONE
ONE YEAR TERM
(VOTE FOR ONE)

FREDERICK ANTHONY BETHMANN, JR. ☐
BARBARA S. HOWARTH ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐

CITY OF BELLE FOR ALDERMAN WARD TWO
TWO YEAR TERM
(VOTE FOR ONE)

SUNDI JO GRAHAM ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐

PROPOSITION 1

Shall the Board of Aldermen of the City of Belle, Missouri, provide by
Ordinance for the appointment of a Chief of Police as provided for by the
Statutes of the State of Missouri?

YES ☐
NO ☐

MARIES COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1

Proposition 1: To choose by ballot two (2) directors who shall serve as
members of the Board of Education of said school district for a term of
three (3) years each.

(VOTE FOR TWO [2])

DAVID LONG ☐
KACIE JAMES ☐
JOSEPH BARNHART ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐

MARIES COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
(VOTE FOR ONE [1])

Proposition 1: To choose by ballot one (1) director who shall serve as
a member of the Board of Education of said school district for a term of
one (1) year.

MATTHEW NOVAK ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐

VILLAGE OF ARGYLE
FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TWO YEAR TERM
(VOTE FOR THREE [3])

KYM BRUNNERT ☐
FELICIA WIEBERG ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐

DIXON R-1 SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF PULASKI COUNTY

Proposition 1: To choose by ballot two (2) directors who shall serve as
members of the Board of Education of said school district for a term of
three (3) years each.

(VOTE FOR TWO [2])

ZACHARY K. SHEPHERD ☐
DOUGLAS W. ROAM ☐
DEREK A. ROLLINS ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐

ST. JAMES R-I SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF PHELPS COUNTY

Proposition 1: To choose by ballot two (2) directors who shall serve as
members of the Board of Education of said school district for a term of
three (3) years each.

(VOTE FOR TWO [2])

TINA SPURGEON ☐
SANDRA (SANDI) BAST ☐
JUSTIN LORTS ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐

ST. JAMES R-I SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF PHELPS COUNTY

Proposition 1: To choose by ballot one (1) director who shall serve as
members of the Board of Education of said school district for a term of
two (2) years.

(VOTE FOR ONE [1])

LARRY RINEHART ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐

NO ELECTION AS PER RSMO. 115.124

If the number of candidates who have filed for a particular office
is equal to the number of positions in that office to be filled by the
election, no election shall be held for such office, and the candidates
shall assume the responsibilities of their offices at the same time and
in the same manner as if they had been elected. The following contains
the names of the candidates that shall assume the responsibilities of
office under this section.

Iberia Rural
Fire Protection District
BOARD MEMBER
Robert Murray
Donald "Jeff" Zink

Vienna Volunteer
Fire Protection District
BOARD MEMBER
Larry Kampeter

St. James
Fire Protection District
BOARD MEMBER
John Smallwood
David Verkamp

Dixon Ambulance District
Mike Liebig
Laura Jacobs

Maries Osage
Ambulance District
Board Member
Sub-District #1 - Laura Miller
Sub-District #4 - Laura Stratman

St. James Ambulance District
Sub-District #1 - Sarah
Higginbotham
Sub-District #4 - Lisa Bauman

Maries R-II School
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Dawn Hicks
Joey Butler, II

St. Elizabeth R-IV School
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Andy Oligschlaeger
Jacob Kliethermes
Hannah Libbert

Rolla Public Schools
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Jessica Barron
James "Jim" Packard

Meta Fire & Rescue
Protection District

Bland Fire Protection District

St. Elizabeth Fire District

Rolla Rural
Fire Protection District
BOARD MEMBER
Brian Dean

NOTICE OF VOTER REGISTRATION
ACCESSIBILITY

FURTHER NOTICE IS GIVEN that at least one-half of the sites
provided for voter registration shall be accessible to handi-
capped persons (RSMo 115.140). In addition, a disabled or
elderly citizen may register to vote by alternative means in-
cluding registration by mail, and curbside registration.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON REGISTRATION AND VOT-
ING: Persons may contact their local election authority by
telephone at 573-422-3388 or by mail at P.O. Box 205, Vien-
na, MO 65582.

The Missouri Secretary of State's Office provides a toll free
number for persons with hearing impairments who have
access to a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD).
TDD users may call 800-669-8683 to obtain information on
voter registration, polling place location and accessibility, ab-
sentee balloting, and other election-related services available
in their local jurisdictions and from the State of Missouri.

Rhonda Rodgers
(S) Maries County Clerk

Public Notices & Classifieds

Wednesday, March 30, 2022 • Page 10

MARIES COUNTY
Advocate

Classified Ads: \$3.00 for first 10 words, extra words 10¢ each. Reruns 50¢ less. Classified display ads \$5.00 per col. inch

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FREE LINE ADS TO SUBSCRIBERS! Some exclusions apply; real estate listings, business and help wanted ads are not eligible. Call for details. FREE LINE ADS TO SUBSCRIBERS!

Legal notices continued from page 10

1 Administrator's Notices

IN THE 25TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, MARIES COUNTY, MISSOURI
Judge or Division: PROBATE
Case Number: 22MS-PR00007
In the Estate of DONLEY JOEL DAKE, Deceased.

NOTICE OF LETTERS TESTAMENTARY GRANTED
(Independent Administration)
To All Persons Interested in the Estate of DONLEY JOEL DAKE, Decedent:

On March 1, 2022, the last will of the decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individuals were appointed the co-personal representatives of the estate of DONLEY JOEL DAKE, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Maries County, Missouri. The co-personal representatives 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 names, business address(es) and phone number(s) of the co-personal representatives are:

WILLIAM DAKE,
828 State Hwy 32,
Buffalo, MO 65622
and MICHELLE SPURGEON,
15295 Hwy 133,
Dixon, MO 65459
The co-personal representatives' attorney's name, business address(es) and phone number(s) is:
STEPHEN ANTHONY REHAGEN,
312 E Capitol Ave,
Jefferson City, MO 65101,
573-635-7166.

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: January 28, 2022.

Date of first publication: March 9, 2022.

/s/ Angela Stricklan Clerk
Published in the Maries County Advocate on: March 9, March 16, March 23, and March 30, 2022.

4t-030922 mca

1 Administrator's Notices

IN THE 25TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, MARIES COUNTY, MISSOURI

Judge or Division: PROBATE
Case Number: 22MS-PR00008
In the Estate of JAMIE WITHOUSE, Deceased.

NOTICE OF LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION GRANTED
(Supervised Administration)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of JAMIE WITHOUSE, Decedent:

On March 11, 2022, the following individuals were appointed the co-personal representatives of the estate of JAMIE WITHOUSE, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Maries County, Missouri. The co-personal representatives' business addresses and phone numbers are:

KELSI KLIEATHERMES,
1802 Nichols Ridge Rd,
Holts Summit, MO 65043
KATELYN SANDS,
18826 State Road O,
Rolla, MO 65401.

The co-personal representatives' attorney's name, business address and phone number is:

AMANDA LYN GRELLNER,
P O Box 800,
Linn, Mo 65051.

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: January 12, 2022.

Date of first publication: March 30, 2022.

/s/ Angela Stricklan, Clerk
Published in the Maries County Advocate on: March 30, April 6, April 13, and April 20, 2022.

4t-063021 mca

1 Administrator's Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF MARIES, STATE OF MISSOURI

Cause No.: 22MS-CC00007

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO RULE 54.12(C) OF THE MISSOURI RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

A. ALL TAKE NOTICE THAT AN ACTION HAS BEEN COMMENCED IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MARIES COUNTY, MISSOURI, TO WIT:

SIMPLIHOMES, LLC, Plaintiff, vs. FIRSTPLUS FINANCIAL INC. Defendant, and JOHN DOE AND OR JANE DOE, being all other persons and or entities unknown claiming any right, title, estate, lie or interest in the real property described in Plaintiff's Petition to Quiet Title and for Declaratory Judgment, adverse to Plaintiff's ownership, or any cloud on Plaintiff's title thereto, Defendants.

B. Plaintiff has instituted an action to Quiet Title to certain "Property", as defined in Plaintiff's Petition to Quiet Title and seeking a judgment quieting and vesting title in favor of Plaintiff to the exclusion of all others, including Defendants, in and to the "Property", and for such other relief as this Court would deem just and proper.

The Property being the subject of this litigation is legally described as:

ALL THAT PART OF THE NORTH-EAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTH-WEST QUARTER OF SECTION 13, TOWNSHIP 38 NORTH, RANGE 11 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M. DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER; THENCE NORTH 84 DEGREES 35 MINUTES WEST 350 FEET ALONG THE SOUTHLINE OF SAID NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER TO THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE TRACT HEREIN DESCRIBED; THENCE CONTINUING NORTH 84 DEGREES 35 MINUTES WEST 910 FEET ALONG THE SOUTHLINE OF SAID NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SOUTHWEST QUARTER TO THE CENTERLINE OF THE COUNTY ROAD; THENCE NORTH 40 DEGREES EAST 388.8 FEET AND NORTH 38 DEGREES 43 MINUTES EAST 101.5 FEET ALONG THE SAID CENTERLINE; THENCE SOUTH 51 DEGREES EAST 752.9 FEET TO THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE TRACT HEREIN DESCRIBED; CONTAINING 4.25 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. DESCRIPTION PER SURVEY (0C-78-132) MADE BY J.T. POWELL SUBJECT TO ANY EASEMENTS OF RECORD AND SUBJECT TO RIGHT OF WAY OF ALL EXISTING PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ROADS.

C. This action was commenced by and through Plaintiff's counsel, to wit:

DWAYNE A. JOHNSON #38354
The Johnson Law Firm, LLC
220 Salt Lick Road
St. Peters, MO 63376
(636) 970-3700
(636) 262-9759 facsimile
Dwayne@johnsonlawfirm.net

D. That a judgment by default will be entered against any defendant not filing an answer or other pleading with this Court or otherwise appearing before this Court and defending itself within forty-five (45) days after the date of first publication, or such other time as the Court may fix by order.

E. The date of the first publication is March 16, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

The Johnson Law Firm, LLC,
/s/ Dwayne A. Johnson
Dwayne A. Johnson, #38354
Attorney for Plaintiff
220 Salt Lick Road
St. Peters, MO 63376
T: (636) 970-3700
F: (636) 229-9759
dwayne@johnsonlawfirm.net

Electronically filed: Maries; March 02, 2022; 10:25 AM.

Published in the Maries County Advocate on: March 16, March 23, March 30, and April 6, 2022.

4t-031620 mca

ANNOUNCEMENTS

0070 No Hunting or Fishing

NO TRESPASSING, HUNTING or FISHING without owner permission on the properties of 10687 and 10935 Maries County Road #611.

NO TRESPASSING, HUNTING OR FISHING on the properties of E.M. (Marlow) Smith at 17898 Maries Road 522, Vichy, MO without land-owner permission.

NO HUNTING/TRESPASSING on the Wagner Property: Deborah A. and Tim Stratman, located at 12216 Hwy. 63 South, Vienna by day or night without permission. Includes all property.

NO HUNTING/TRESPASSING on the property of Stephan & Cynthia Puscian, 3951 Holt Road, Bland, MO 65014 by day or night without permission.

NOTICE: IF you would like to have your property listed in the **No Hunting/No Trespassing** section of the Gasconade County Republican for as little as \$60.00 per year, call 437-2323 for details.

SERVICES

0200 Miscellaneous

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WANTED TO RENT

0450 Miscellaneous

WANTED: Pasture/Hay ground to rent. Call (573)690-1249.

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FOR RENT - REAL EST.

0580 Business Property

FOR RENT: 4100 sq. ft. building in Canaan, Mo. Central heat & air. \$700. a month with first month and deposit. (573)437-7833.

0590 Rural Property

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0700 Miscellaneous

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0850 Miscellaneous

BOURBON RV CENTER: Over 200 units. www.bourbonrv.com. (636)667-9476. Over 40 years.

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- Clinical Nursing Adjunct Instructor
- Substitute Aviation Maintenance Instructor

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- Accounting Assistant
- Activity Center Coordinator
- Admissions Representative
- Admission Representative for On-Campus Recruiting
- Custodian
- Executive Assistant to the President
- Financial Services Coordinator
- Head Cashier
- Head, Library Learning Services
- Human Resource Generalist - Compliance and Employee Development

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Sunday School: **9:30AM**
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- JC Harker - Salesperson, 573-301-2632
- Evelyn Horine - Broker/Salesperson, 573-842-8734
- Mike Fanning - Salesperson, 573-257-7445
- Tracy Patton-Shiver - Salesperson, 573-291-2878
- Pam James - Salesperson, 573-619-9012
- Derek Faherty, Salesperson, 573-433-4548
- Steve Deaton, Salesperson, 660-815-0274

classified ads

To Buy, Sell, Rent or Hire use The Republican/Ad Mart Classified ads. Phone (573) 437-2323.



LANDON KLOEPPPEL (above, center) looks a thrown ball into his glove from Vienna Eagle pitcher Will Veasman on an attempted pickoff play against St. Elizabeth's Hornets Monday night at Vienna City Park. Vienna dropped the varsity game 4-0 to St. Elizabeth before they bounced back to edge the visiting Hornets 2-1 in the junior varsity contest.

PHOTO BY JACOB WARDEN

Vienna edges • from page 7

Vanscoy struck out one of his 13 batters during the game.

Duncan Wilkinson reached on a Belle error in the top of the third inning for Vienna advancing to third base before being left stranded.

Sam Willis started a two-out rally for Belle in the bottom of the third with a double before a Carter Kinkead walk extended it.

However, Vanscoy induced an inning-ending ground out to end the inning and keep the game scoreless through three innings.

Woodruff pitched around a two-error in the top of the fourth inning thanks to one of his five strikeouts.

Sullinger led off the bottom of the fourth with a double before two Vanscoy strikeouts and a fly out to third base left him stranded and the score remained knotted at 0-0 through four innings.

Vienna's offense rallied in the top of the fifth inning threatening to break the scoreless tie.

Will Veasman started things off with a one-out single before Wilkinson reached on another error.

A two-out single from Eli Hayes loaded the bases for Colin John before he lined out to center field leaving the bases full of Eagles allowing Woodruff to escape the jam.

Belle also had a shot at breaking

the scoreless tie in the bottom of the fifth inning.

Willis started a two-out rally for the Tigers by reaching on a dropped third strike.

Kinkead followed with a single before a ground out to Vanscoy ended the inning keep the 0-0 stalemate in tact through five innings.

Inning number six was full of strikes as Woodruff recorded two strikeouts while Vanscoy worked around a two-out single by his Tiger counterpart before striking out the side.

After scoring their aforementioned run in the top of the seventh inning, Vanscoy went into the bot-

tom of the seventh inning looking to finish what he started.

Striking out the side to end the game, Vanscoy needed just 92 pitches to earn the complete game shutout scattering five hits and two walks while striking out a baker's dozen.

Both county baseball teams return to action Friday with Cory Nicholson's Vienna squad hosting Cuba's Wildcats in a Gasconade Valley Conference (GVC) showdown while Bryce Gehlert's Tigers travel west on Highway 28 to Dixon to face the Bulldogs. Both contests have a scheduled 5 p.m., first pitch.



Cheyenne Struempfh hits first collegiate softball home run for Hannibal-LaGrange University

Former Belle Lady Tigers softball player Cheyenne Struempfh (above) hit her first college softball home run for Hannibal-LaGrange University (HLGU) during their recent spring break trip to Kissimmee, FL, back on Thursday, March 17.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



Future Belle Lady Tiger volleyball players hit the court at Owensville

Fourth-grade Belle Lady Tiger volleyball players competed Friday night in tournament action at Owensville High School in one of three pools. Watching the ball over the net (top, from left) are Lady Tiger players Lilliana Willen, Charleigh Elrod and Ava Basham. Lucie Scott (above) serves the ball over towards the other side of the net.

PHOTOS BY DENNIS WARDEN

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Commission

• from page 1

means about \$60,000 more per year to be used for roads. In the 2022 budget, the commissioners budgeted \$247,759 in CART funds for the year. After five years and the full 12.5 cents per gallon gasoline increase is effective, they anticipate receiving about \$300,000 more in CART funds annually.

Presiding Commissioner Victor Stratman said people have worked for years to get the gasoline tax increase passed. It would be a shame to repeal the tax increase, which was needed so badly, when so much time, effort, cost and energy went into getting a modest increase.

Missouri roads and bridges are deteriorating and more funding is needed just to maintain them. Stratman said they tried to get the state's gasoline tax increased using the initiative petition process, but voters continued to reject it, but by a narrow margin. Finally, in the last session, the Missouri Legislature was successful in passing the tax and the governor signed it.

"We have to keep our roads in good shape," Stratman said. "We don't have another source of revenue." The commissioners agreed the state's roads need work.

Emails will be sent to State Rep. Bruce Sassmann (62nd) and Maries County's potential state rep. in 2023, Bennie Cook (142nd). Fagre said it is a good idea to email Governor Parson as well because he has to sign any bill passed by the State Legislature.

Fagre said, "If they take it away, we'll never get it back."

LAWSUIT

Maries County Prosecuting Attorney Anthony "Tony" Skouby was at the commission meeting briefly Thursday morning. He spoke with Eastern District Commissioner Doug Drewel who has been doing some research about past road workers who graded and put white rock on MCR 306 all the way to the Gasconade River at the Fish Hollow Access. Petitioners Eugene and Jacqueline Appel of St. Louis, have filed a petition for declaratory judgment on the public versus private nature of the road and river access. They want to limit access by the public to the Fish Hollow River Access, which they believe is private property. The petition is in the Circuit Court of Judge John Beger.

Skouby asked Drewel to get as many records as he can to support the county's side of the lawsuit. The county's position is that MCR 306 is a county road all the way to the access. County tax dollars and county road workers have maintained the road for as long as anyone can remember. Drewel said Maries County has



PHOTO BY LAURA SCHIERMEIER

THE NEW bridge over the Tavern Creek on MCR #608 is open to local traffic. Western District Commissioner Ed Fagre said the guard rails will be put on the bridge soon. The new bridge replaced an old bridge at the crossing using the BRO bridge replacement program. The county uses this federal program administered by MoDOT, but it's a long process to get a bridge replaced, because Maries County is a small county and it takes a long time to build up soft match needed to afford the local match on these projects.

paid for all of the white rock used on that road.

SHERIFF'S RAISE

The commissioners said MAC lost the lawsuit asking a court to determine the raise given to county sheriff's included in a bill in the Missouri Legislature covering many subjects, was deemed to be constitutional and the raise, too.

They said Maries County is paying Sheriff Heitman the raise, which will be an increase of about \$30,000 annually, phased in incrementally over a period of five years.

DONATED WORK

Fagre reported Tommie Roberds, Michael French, and Jim Humphrey donated their labor on Saturday, March 12 to work on the road to the Fulkerson Cemetery. Vienna man Coad Stricklan, who died on March 10, was buried in that cemetery on March 14.

RADIOS FOR VIENNA FIRE

Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Chief, Mike Smith, called to talk to the commissioners about the fire department's request for ARPA money to buy radios. As he has not heard anything from the commissioners, he wanted to know how close they are to receiving the funds, if the fire department is "still in the running for it" or if the request meets the ARPA requirements.

Drewel said the county won't receive the remaining portion of the ARPA money until May. Stratman said they won't make a decision until they have the cash in hand. Smith said there is a long lead time to get the radios. He said he wanted to stay in touch and didn't know if they need to look elsewhere for funding. Drewel said if there is more money out there, it's not a bad idea to keep trying to find it. Smith said the firemen want to upgrade their radios to work with the new Maries County 911 Dispatch Center equipment.

HIRED

The commissioners hired Paul Johnston as a contracted labor handyman who will work when they have tasks in the courthouse

that need his attention. There are several projects they want him to work on including putting up window blinds, cleaning vents, and HVAC work.

Fagre said recently when an air conditioner unit froze up, he was surprised when the technician they called said all it needed was the filter changed. He was surprised this had not been done as there is a large amount of filters in the janitor's closet ready to be used.

ONE AND A HALF

Maries-Osage Ambulance District (MOAD) Administrator Carla Butler was at the Thursday commission meeting. She said in early March the Maries County Commission had agreed to provide ARPA funds to MOAD to pay for one and a half Stryker medical power load systems, equipment service plan, accessories, and installation. The total cost of the lift system request, with needed accessories, was \$54,270.

However, Butler said two MOAD staff members approached Osage County about paying for one and a half systems and they were told Osage County will not open up the ARPA funding to other entities until it uses it to pay for some other items the county commissioners wants to fund. Osage County is not saying yes or no to MOAD, but it did say it won't be anytime soon.

In response to this, Butler said she asked the MOAD board to pick up half of the cost on one power load system. The MOAD board wanted to know if Maries County was okay with doing it this way before they move forward. She said they can't count on Osage County approving the funding. Also, she does not want to lose out on the \$8,000 discount from the manufacturer, Stryker. She told the commissioners, "This is a vital piece of equipment." She asked the commissioners if they are still interested in helping MOAD get the power load systems.

Fagre said "I think MOAD needs it."

Drewel said, "I'm still where I was at. You can buy two units and absorb the cost of half of one."

Butler expressed her appreciation to the Maries County Commission, saying the power load systems "are a big help to the district."

Stratman said they are supposed to get the money in May. Butler said the power load systems are set to arrive in August.

In early March when MOAD staff met with the commissioners, they also agreed to assist in purchasing a McGrath Laryngoscope and various size blades for \$2,048. IT Manager Shane Sweno also helped MOAD to arrange communications equipment for the ambulances at a cost of \$3,706, for a total cost of \$60,300 for everything.

49 CENTS

Drewel said he thinks they need to increase the mileage reimbursement for county employees. If they drive a vehicle and receive the current 40 cents per mile reimbursement, it basically covers the cost of gasoline, but not wear and tear on the vehicle. It was noted the federal mileage rate is 58.5 cents per mile and the state's rate, they thought, is 49 cent per mile. Drewel made a motion to increase the mileage rate to what the state pays and the commissioners approved it. The new rate is effective April 1, 2022.

NO POLAR POWER TAXES

Former Presiding Commissioner Ray Schwartze was at the meeting briefly. He brought a copy of the Jefferson City newspaper with a story about a solar power system planned for Callaway County in New Bloomfield. His concern is that Missouri exempts solar power system from property taxes and he wanted the commissioners to be aware of it. It will take legislation to change this.

Also he said if agricultural land, which is taxed at 12 percent, is changed to commercial usage, the tax, according to the assessor, would increase to 32 percent.

The company that will own the solar farm to be located on Maries County's high prairie, Invenergy, Drewel said told them the company would absorb any tax increases on the property.

The Hen House Boutique Spring Open House

Saturday, April 2 9AM to 3PM

The Vienna Historical Society Craft Show at the Knights of Columbus Hall is also April 2, 9AM-2PM.

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